

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 31.3 | L 26.6

CHITTAGONG
H 29.2 | L 26.5

SYLHET
H 32.8 | L 26.4

RAJSHAHI
H 31.4 | L 27.4

KHULNA
H 29.2 | L 27.5

BARISAL
H 31.3 | L 27.0

RANGPUR
H 30.0 | L 25.5

COX'S BAZAR
H 28.3 | L 25.8

Day and night temperature may fall slightly over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:50pm and rises tomorrow at 5:16am. Country's highest temperature 33.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Srirangal and the lowest 25.5 degree Celsius in Rangpur, Rajarhat and Tetulia.

Unbearable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The pain is unbearable for Komakichi Okamura who lost his 32-year-old son Makoto Okamura to Friday's savage attacks on a restaurant in the capital.

Makoto is one of the seven Japanese nationals who died in the militant siege. One survived with a gunshot wound. All eight were working for three Tokyo-based consulting firms on a Japanese government-funded infrastructure project.

"This is something so unbearable as a parent. I have no idea how I can face him, to be honest," Komakichi told the Japanese media in front of his house yesterday.

He said he told his son to be careful before he left. "That was the last conversation I had with him on the telephone."

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Japanese State Minister for Foreign Affairs Seiji Kihara calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Gono Bhaban in the capital yesterday, where the premier expressed her firm resolve to find out the root of the Friday night's terrorist attack on a café at Gulshan, which killed seven Japanese nationals, among others.

PHOTO: PMO

WATER CRISIS IN WEST SHEWRAPARA
I walk half km daily to fetch water

Says resident

HELEMIJ ALAM

Lutfunnesa is a woman on a mission. Everyday she wakes up early and heads out to fetch water from another area, which is around half a kilometre from her West Shewrapara residence.

Not only does she have to make the trip multiple times while fasting, carrying the heavy load has also become immensely painful for her.

"I have to go through this ordeal to meet the demand of my family everyday," she said.

"It is really painful as I remain tired and my entire body aches," said Lutfunnesa, a resident of Iqbal Road of West Shewrapara.

This has become a regular scenario in the capital's West Shewrapara, where over 1,000 residents are facing a severe water crisis for the last couple of weeks as capacity of a designated pump has been reduced by around 50 percent due to the depletion of the ground water level.

Many have to fetch water from other areas on foot or through rickshaws or rickshaw-vans.

Initially the residents purchased water from Wasa. As the demand grew, residents had to purchase around 20 jars of water everyday spending Tk 800, said Farida, owner of a five-storey building at Pirerbagh Road.

The persons who deliver the water jars take Tk 30 to deliver a jar on the ground floor and Tk 40 for the upper floors, she added.

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It's a heinous attack: Police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The police headquarters yesterday issued a statement, strongly reviling the heinous terrorist attack on the Holey Artisan Café in the capital's Gulshan area.

In the statement, it said the police force rushed to the spot instantly and tried to bring the situation under control with courage, efficiency and professionalism.

Two courageous police officials--Senior Assistant Commissioner of Detective Branch of the Police Md Rabiul Karim and Officer-in-Charge of Banani Police Station Md Salauddin Khan -- embraced martyrdom during the gunfight with the gunmen, mentions the statement, adding that 20 other police personnel were seriously injured in the incident.

Inspector General of Police (IGP) AKM Shahidul Hoque too strongly condemned the brutal killing and expressed deep shock and sorrow at the deaths of the two police officials, it adds.

Apart from praying for the departed souls of the police officials, the IGP

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Gulshan massacre draws huge condemnation

STAR REPORT

Foreign countries and their missions in Dhaka, leaders of journalists' associations and political leaders yesterday and on Saturday stoutly denounced the barbaric terrorist attack on a café in the capital's 28 Gulshan area on Friday, which left 28 people dead, including 20 hostages, most of whom were foreign nationals.

They also extend condolences to the bereaved families and relatives of all the victims.

CANADA

The Canadian government issued a statement yesterday in connection with the incident, denouncing the heinous attack and assuring the Bangladesh government of extending all-out support to fight terrorism.

"We condemn this attack in the strongest terms," Canadian High Commissioner to Dhaka Benoit-Pierre Laramée said in the statement, adding that Canada has stood with Bangladesh for over 40 years, supporting its development.

"The Government of Canada expresses its deepest sympathies to the loved ones of the victims, including the brave officers of the Bangladesh security forces," he added.

DENMARK

"I strongly condemn the terror attack on innocent civilians that took place at a

restaurant in Dhaka Friday night, where terrorists killed 20 people," Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs Kristian Jensen said in a statement yesterday, reports UNB.

The minister said such meaningless violence was completely unacceptable and must be fought.

"Our strongest response is to stay united and not let our democracy, liberty and way of life fall into fear and despair," mentioned Jensen, adding, "I express my deepest compassion for the victims and their bereaved [family members]. They are in my thoughts."

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the embassy in Dhaka are in close contact with the Bangladeshi authorities and they are monitoring the situation closely, he further said.

SWITZERLAND

Ambassador of Switzerland to Bangladesh Christian Fotsch also denounced the brutal act and simultaneously underlined the need for taking proper measures to eradicate militancy.

He said, "The recent series of attacks witnessed in this beautiful country is an aberration from that tradition which is strongly held by a vast majority of the Bangladeshis. Appropriate measures are to be taken to prevent the spread of violent extremism and to bring the perpetrators of the attacks to justice," reports our diplomatic correspondent.

Anti-terrorism strategy faltering

Says US-based Bangladeshi professor

Ali Riaz

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh needs to have a national unity shunning the blame game to fight back and combat violent extremism, said a renowned global analyst.

"Bangladesh society has always rejected violent extremism. It's time to create an environment where the strength of civil society and of common citizens can be harnessed to combat the menace," Prof Ali Riaz, chair of the Department of Politics and Government at the Illinois State University, told the news agency.

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HAZARIBAGH TANNERIES
Restrictions don't stop rawhide supply

UNB, Dhaka

Defying all the pressures and many government deadlines, tanneries in the capital's Hazaribagh area are continuing their operation in full swing with regular rawhide supply.

Visiting 10-12 tanneries, including Helal Tannery, Luna Tannery, Milon Tannery, Amin Tannery and LIB Tannery, the news agency has recently found the factories continuing operations normally with rawhide stocks as usual.

Saiful Islam, a technician of Milon Tannery, said, "Our factory is in regular operation. Rawhide supply is now normal. The supply was stalled for 20-22 days."

Supervisor of Helal Tannery Rashed Uddin also said his factory remains in production.

Chairman of Bangladesh Tanners Association Shaheen Ahmed also admitted

TIMELINE 2016

- Jan 10 Govt sets a 72-hour ultimatum for tannery relocation by March 30
- Apr 1 Govt stops rawhide supply
- Apr 3 Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation extends deadline to Apr 10
- June 16 HC orders 154 tanneries to pay Tk 50,000 per day each in compensation for damaging environment
- June 27 Tanners petition for a stay on HC order
- June 28 SC stays the order till July 17

that now they are not facing any problem with regard to rawhide supply to Hazaribagh.

"Some 50-60 tanneries, out of 155, will

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Sammilita Sangskritik Jote holds a candlelight vigil at Central Shaheed Minar in the capital yesterday, mourning for those killed in the heinous terrorist attack on the Holey Artisan Bakery in Gulshan on Friday.

PHOTO: STAR

Terrorists had 'Sehri'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The terrorists who stormed a Gulshan restaurant and killed 20 hostages on Friday night opted to have Sehri, the last meal for fasting, with an Italian dish at the restaurant.

Around 2:00am, they directed the chefs to cook for them as they would fast the next day.

After hearing the names of the dishes, the terrorists ordered the chefs to prepare sea bass fillet, an Italian dish, available at that time.

They took the meal and offered them to eat too for fasting, an eyewitness told The Daily Star, preferring not to be named.

They were linked with homegrown JMB: IGP

UNB, Dhaka

Inspector General of Police (IGP) AKM Shahidul Hoque yesterday said the five militants whose identities were made public after the Gulshan attack, have links with the banned militant outfit Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB).

The IGP came up with the information while talking to reporters after visiting two police constables --Alamgir and Kabir -- injured in the Gulshan attack, at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in the afternoon.

The attackers whose images were published were involved in militant activities and their identities were found. Police are working to dig out more information, he said.

Earlier on Saturday, security forces recovered the bodies of 20 foreign nationals launching a commando operation at a café at Gulshan when six attackers and two policemen were also killed after terrorists held hostage a good number of people in it.

Thirteen people, including a Japanese citizen and two Sri Lankan nationals, were rescued during the operation.

The police headquarters disclosed the names of the deadly attackers on Saturday night. Among the six attackers, five were identified as Akash, Bikash, Don, Badhon and Ripon, while identity of the rest could not be confirmed.

Eid Mubarak

অবিচল আস্থার বছর

একটি ইতিহাসের স্মরণিকা ১৫ বছরের আস্থা

BRAC BANK
আস্থা অবিচল