



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 33.8 L 26.8

CHITTAGONG H 33.8 L 26.5

SYLHET H 36.4 L 27.6

RAJSHAHI H 32.5 L 25.6

KHULNA H 33.2 L 27.5

BARISAL H 30.8 L 25.5

RANGPUR H 33.2 L 25.2

COX'S BAZAR H 32.4 L 25.6

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:40pm and rises tomorrow at 5:29am. Country's highest temperature 36.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sylhet and the lowest 24.2 degree Celsius in Tetulia.

NHRC gets new chief, members

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday appointed former bureaucrat Kazi Reazul Hoque as the chairman of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and six new members.

Kazi Reazul, a former secretary, joined the office yesterday, filling the post that had remained vacant since Prof Mizanur Rahman completed his tenure on June 22.

Earlier, Kazi Reazul had served as a full-time member till June 22, 2016 from 2010.

The new chairman told The Daily Star that his office will work with a view to making people aware about human rights and prioritise its protection.

The commission will also work to raise awareness against terrorism and

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To stay against militancy, people from all strata take oath at Dinajpur Gor-e-Shaheed Boro Maidan in the town yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Thousands take anti-militancy oath

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

People from all walks of life irrespective of age, sex, and class gathered at Dinajpur Gor-e-Shaheed Boro Maidan in Dinajpur town yesterday morning to protest against militancy and terrorism.

The 3.5 square kilometre ground in front of the deputy commissioner's (DC) office brimmed with students and teachers of educational institutions, government and non government officials, members of law enforcement agencies, politicians, cultural organisations and traders.

Holding festoons, placards and banners containing slogans against violence, militancy and terrorism, thousands of people kept on singing patriotic songs and chanting slogans, denouncing militancy.

The two-hour event, which started around 10:00am, was organised by the DC office, where Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali was the chief guest. "Terrorism and militancy is a global problem now...All have to be united," the foreign minister said, adding that the country had faced many attacks bravely.

M Iqbalur Rahim, whip of JS, urged the people to remain patient as the government is trying to improve the situation.

Ruhul Amin, SP of Dinajpur, urged all to inform the law enforcement agencies if they have any information against militant organisations or activities.

Thousands of people took oath at the event to remain patriotic and vigilant, administered by the foreign minister. Later an anti-militancy procession was brought out. The event was chaired by Mir Khairul Islam, DC of Dinajpur, where Col Zakir Hossain, sector commander of Dinajpur BGB, also spoke.

Bachelor tenants to hold protest rally Aug 11

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bachelor tenants will hold a token rally in the capital on August 11, protesting alleged harassment by landlords and law enforcers in the wake of the recent terror attacks across the country.

Carrying pillows with them, they will hold the rally under the banner of Bharatia Parishad, an organisation of tenants, in front of Jatiya Press Club between 8:00pm and 9:00pm on that day, Bahrain-e-Sultan Bahar, the organisation's president, told a press conference in the city's Nirmal Sen Auditorium yesterday.

The Parishad also put forward a four-point demand including ensuring safe and secure accommodations for bachelor tenants in Dhaka.

SAARC HOME MINISTERS' MEETING STARTS TODAY Fighting terror tops agenda

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Fight against terrorism and violent extremism, liberalisation of visas, trafficking in narcotic drugs, immigration issues and smuggling of small arms will dominate the two-day South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (Saarc) home ministers' meeting beginning in Islamabad today.

The conference is taking place at a time when the member countries are facing common challenges of terrorism and violent extremism and it would call for cooperation with each other.

The home ministers are expected to voice concern over the new threats and ask Saarc member countries to chalk out strategies to check radical groups and extremist ideologies.

The three-tier meeting will begin at the joint secretary-level and then move on to secretary-level today and the home minister-level meetings tomorrow, diplomatic sources said.

Bangladesh Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal is not attending the meeting apparently due to escalation of diplomatic tension over Pakistan's reaction after executions of the war criminals in Bangladesh and the withdrawal of each others' diplo-

mats from Dhaka and Islamabad in recent months.

However, Bangladesh High Commissioner in Islamabad Tarik Ahsan will lead the delegation comprising the senior officials of the ministries of home and foreign affairs.

"I will not travel to Islamabad to attend the meeting. It is not mandatory for a minister to attend Saarc ministerial meeting and Bangladesh will be represented by our high commissioner there," Asaduzzaman Khan told the media in New Delhi on July 27.

The meeting will discuss regional cooperation on a number of security-related matters and take stock of regional security mechanisms, said diplomatic sources.

Rajnath Singh, India's home minister, will travel to Pakistan for the regional gathering but will not hold bilateral talks at a time when a surge of violence in disputed Kashmir has escalated rivalry between the nuclear-armed neighbours.

Both the countries will discuss issues of their concern and work towards solutions, if the meeting on the sidelines takes place.

The last meeting of Saarc interior/home ministers' conference was held in Kathmandu in 2014.

GULSHAN ATTACK Rupnagar house caretaker remanded

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed a caretaker of a house in the capital's Rupnagar area on a two-day remand for his alleged involvement in renting out a flat to one of the suspected Gulshan café attackers.

Detectives arrested Daud Patwary, 31, of Begumganj in Noakhali, for letting the flat to one Ismail Hossain allegedly involved in the Gulshan café attack, said court sources.

Metropolitan Magistrate Nurunnahar Yeasmin passed the order after Inspector Humayun Kabir of the counterterrorism unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, produced him before the court with a seven-day remand prayer.

Earlier, Daud was shown

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JAPANESE VICTIMS OF CAFE ATTACK Memorial service held in Tokyo

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Relatives and friends bid farewell at a memorial service in Tokyo to the seven Japanese victims of last month's terrorist attack in Bangladesh, with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and other government officials in attendance.

The ceremony was held yesterday, a month after the attack in Dhaka that left 20 people dead, including the seven Japanese aid workers involved in a project for the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

Jica President Shinichi Kitaoka vowed during the ceremony to strengthen safety measures in cooperation with the government, according to the aid agency. The event, which was closed to the media, was attended by around 900 people, Jica said.

"I felt a strong resentment after seeing the bereaved families in deep sorrow," Abe told reporters at his office after attending the ceremony.

He reiterated Japan's intention not to give way to terrorism, saying, "We will continue to offer assistance to Bangladesh."

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Another Sust student held as militant suspect

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Another student of the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology was arrested by law enforcers on the campus yesterday for his alleged involvement in militancy.

The arrestee is Iffat Ahmed Chowdhury Nahid, a fourth year student of industrial and production engineering and son of Khaled Ahmed Chowdhury of Nijkura village in Osmaninagar upazila, said Shahporar police and Rashed Talukder, acting proctor of Sust.

On July 19, Abdul Aziz, another student of the same batch of the department and a suspected coordinator of Ansarulla Bangla Team, was arrested by the anti-militancy unit.

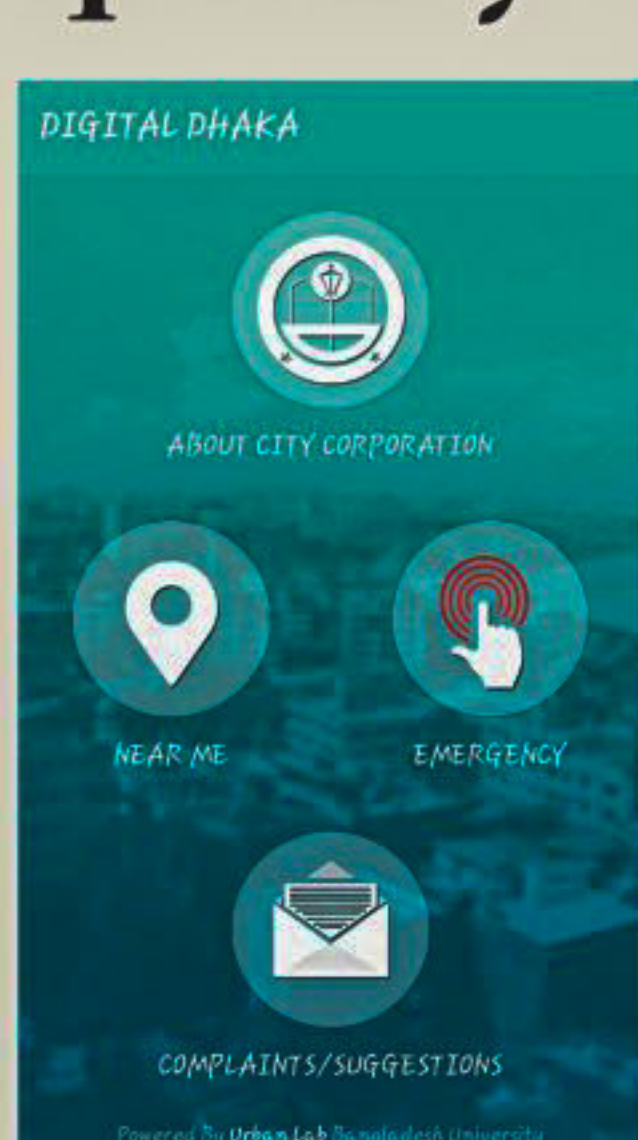
DNCC mobile app to ensure quality services

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) yesterday inaugurated a Digital DNCC App - Nogor, for ensuring quality service and enhancing security of its dwellers within a short time.

Urban Lab of Bangladesh University made the application under the corporation's guidance that will also enhance the dwellers' security.

Through the app anyone can place complaints directly to the DNCC authorities by taking photographs of the roads, lampposts, garbage, illegal occupations, or corruption, which will be automatically sent to



them and will be displayed on a digital board at the offices of DNCC, the officials said.

Besides, the application could also be used in security purposes. Anyone can trace or alert his or her family members by using the "SOS" feature to send text, photo or audio messages, regarding their whereabouts, they said, adding that the family will also continue to receive their updates after short intervals.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain inaugurated the application at the capital's Krishibid Institute Bangladesh, chaired

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Newborn rescued from dustbin finds home

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A newborn baby, who was rescued from a dustbin near the capital's Badda Post Office 23 days ago, has found a new home.

The authorities of Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where the infant underwent treatment, handed him over to Chhotomoni Nibas, a shelter for lost or abandoned kids of up to seven years, in Azimpur yesterday morning through the Department of Social Welfare, DMCH Deputy Director Khawaja Abdul Gafur told The Daily Star.

Hearing screams, locals found the infant, wrapped in polythene, inside the dustbin on July 10 and informed police who with the help of a local woman, rescued the newborn and hospitalised the baby at DMCH.

The hospital authorities provided treatment to the infant who was two-three days old and weighed around 2.8kg. The infant underwent treatment and was cured fully, Gafur said.

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Dhaka Medical College Hospital authorities handing over the newborn to the officials of Chhotomoni Nibas at DMCH yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

তেসরা আগস্ট



আজ আমাদের শুভ জন্মদিন

প্রিয় বন্ধু, আজকের দিনে বড় ইচ্ছে করে, এক্সিম পরিবারের ১১ লক্ষ সহযাত্রীকে নিয়ে খোলা আকাশের নিচে কোথাও একত্রিত হই - মনের কথা কই। অনেক খুঁজেও পাইনি এমন কোন উদ্যান কিংবা মিলনায়তন - যেখানে এই বিশাল পরিবারের মহামিলন হতে পারতো। আর তাই, স্বারম্ব হলাম কাগজ আর কলমের।

হে সাথী, তোমাকে নিয়েইতো শুরু করেছিলাম - হাজার মাইলের প্রথম পদক্ষেপ-তেসরা আগস্ট, ১৯৯৯-এর এই দিনটিতে। তুমিই দেখিয়েছিলে, আজকের এ বিশাল স্বপ্ন - ১৭টি বছর আগে। আকারে - আয়তনে, গুণগত মানে, কর্মসংস্থানে, বিনিয়োগে, সামাজিক দায়বদ্ধতায় - স্বপ্ন সফলের অনবদ্য এক গল্পের নাম এক্সিম ব্যাংক, যা আজ রূপকথাকেও হারিয়ে দিলো।

আমরা আজ ১০৭টি শাখা নিয়ে শুধু স্বদেশের মাটিতেই বিস্তৃত নই, সুদূর ইউরোপ - আমেরিকা - অস্ট্রেলিয়া - কানাডায়ও রয়েছে আমাদের স্বপ্নের ঠিকানা - যা, জাতির গর্বের পতাকা বহন করে। শাওনো দিনে - আজকের এ ক্ষণে - জন্মের শুভলগ্নে - কি বলে অভিবাদন জানাবো তোমায়? ঘনকালো মেঘে ঢাকা শ্রাবণের আকাশ - যখন কদম ফুটেছে ডালে ডালে - এমন দিনে আমাদের ভালোলাগা অনুভূতিগুলোকে তোমাদের মাঝে বিলিয়ে দেয়ার জন্যেই এ লেখনী।

যাঁর আশীর্বাদে এ ব্যাংকটির জন্ম - আমাদের আজকের এই আনন্দের দিনে পরম শ্রদ্ধায় স্মরণ করছি - জাতির জনকের সুযোগ্যা কন্যা, সফল সরকার প্রধান, মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনা-কে। আমরা তাঁর সুস্বাস্থ্য ও দীর্ঘজীবন কামনা করছি।

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