

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 32.6 L 27.5	CHITTAGONG H 32.7 L 26.6	SYLHET H 34.3 L 25.5	RAJSHAHI H 34.4 L 26.4	KHULNA H 32.7 L 26.4	BARISAL H 32.6 L 25.8	RANGPUR H 34.0 L 27.3	COX'S BAZAR H 31.2 L 25.5
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Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind will likely occur at many places over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Barisal, Mymensingh, Rangpur, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions with moderately heavy falls at places over the country in the next 24 hours. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:29pm and rises tomorrow at 05:35am.

**LAND GRABBING CASE
HC asks
Bashundhara
boss, 5 officials
to surrender**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked Bashundhara Group Chairman Ahmed Akbar Sobhan Shah Alam and five others to surrender to a Gazipur court within eight weeks in a 2010 land-related case.

Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice JBM Hassan passed the order after hearing three petitions filed by the accused seeking extension of bail the HC granted them earlier in the case.

Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Shaikh AKM Moniruzzaman Kabir told The Daily Star that the six were asked to surrender after he told the bench that they got their bail extended several times from 2011.

Md Mukhlesur Rahman Khan, assistant land officer of Shafipur union land office, filed the case on May 13, 2010 against them on charges of grabbing government lands, removing soil from there and threatening a government official on

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Commuters face suffocating dust while travelling the worn out Signal Ghar road in Haliashar area of the port city. Road dust due to unplanned digging of roads for installing utility lines and lack of proper repairment has become a major source of air pollution causing health hazards to the city dwellers. The photo was taken on Tuesday near Chittagong Women Polytechnic Institute.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

**BNP's Rizvi
sent to jail in
arson cases**

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sent BNP Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed to jail after rejecting his five bail petitions in connection with five arson attack cases.

Judge Kamrul Hossain Mollah of Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka passed the order after he surrendered to it seeking bail. The cases were filed with different police stations of the capital during the BNP-led 20-party alliance's anti-government movement in 2013 and 2015.

The same court granted him bail in another arson case filed early last year, in which Khaleda Zia is also an accused. Earlier the court issued arrest warrant against him in connection with the cases. Rizvi is accused in around 50 cases.

Terming the incident inhuman, Khaleda demanded Rizvi's immediate release. In a statement, she said, "...I think justice is not reflected as the court rejected his bail plea."

"Though Rizvi's name was not in the FIR, police implicated him out of political vengeance," alleged the BNP chief.

**Yaba arrives in Dhaka
from Ctg as cargo**

**Says Rab after seizing 90,000 tablets,
6,000 bottles of Phensedyl in Ctg**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Smugglers are using goods transport agencies to send Yaba tablets from Chittagong to Dhaka, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) said yesterday, after seizing 90,000 pills the night before.

The consignments of the illegal drug were found in cartons of electric bulbs and cost around Tk 3.6 crore, Rab-7 officials told a press briefing at its headquarters in the port city.

On information, Rab teams raided New Al Amin Transport Agency and New Shimul Transport Agency, both on DT Road, Wednesday evening and recovered 20,000 and 70,000 tablets respectively. They also arrested two men -- Ahammed Noor, 48, of Patiya, and Md Rasel, 29, of Baklia -- who had dropped the cartons there.

Quoting the duo, Commanding Officer of Rab-7 Col Miftah Uddin Ahmed said, "In the last two months, eight consignments were sent from one fake address -- Jashim Electronic House, 74 Asadganj, Kotwali. We presume that each consignment contained 70,000 to 90,000 Yaba tablets." The addresses of the two receivers were also fake, he added. The packages were sent to Ramesh Sarkar Electronics on Elephant Road, Dhaka and Sagar Lighting House in Nawabpur, Dhaka, none of which exists.

The Rab officer said that along with their smuggling partner, Md Selim, a union chairman of Patiya upazila, they used to collect Yaba from one Md Jahangir, 35 of Anwara upazila, who owns and rents out trawlers and brings the drug from Teknaf. Jahangir receives supplies from two others, Aaylen Hossain, 48, and Md Belal Hossain, 35, who allegedly smuggle in the drug from Myanmar, Col Miftah said. The two were arrested, he added.

Contacted over the phone, the transport agency authorities denied knowing that the cartons contained Yaba. Separately, Rab-7 also seized 6,000 bottles of Phensedyl, worth Tk 50 lakh, while checking a truck in Saltgola area of Chittagong city yesterday.

**PM for OIC's proactive
anti-terror role**

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to play a more proactive role against terrorism, saying it could take initiatives to bring together conflict-affected countries without interfering in internal affairs.

"Muslim countries should sit together and resolve their problems without external interference," she said, observing that no human rights organisation had raised voice in the past against the killing of children, women and innocent people by Israel.

She said these welcoming OIC Secretary General Iyad Ameen Madani at his official residence Gono Bhaban, stated her press secretary, Ihsanul Karim.

Ihsanul said discussions centred on mutual interests, including ongoing conflicts in Muslim-populated regions.

Terrorism has emerged as a global problem and terrorists killing innocent people in the name of Islam are ultimately undermining the religion, said Hasina, adding "We have zero tolerance to terrorism in any form and manifestation."

Madani expressed profound shock at lives lost in the recent terror attacks in Bangladesh.

"Terrorism and cyber crimes are on the rise since 1990," he said, adding that the OIC was determined to play an effective role in combating terrorism and member states would have to actively participate.

He also emphasised addressing the root causes of youngsters getting involved in terrorism, saying they were being motivated with false hopes that sacrificing their lives would lead to rewards.

He informed Hasina of taking some measures for reconciling conflicting groups in Muslim countries.

Appreciating Bangladesh's socio-economic development, Madani showed keen interest in Palli Sanchoy Bank, which makes use of micro deposits of marginal people.



**Bangladesh gives India
temporary route permit**

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and India yesterday signed a deal on the route permit for carrying petroleum goods from Assam to Tripura through the territory of Bangladesh on humanitarian grounds.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in Dhaka to facilitate carrying of motor spirit, high speed diesel, superior kerosene oil and liquefied petroleum gas, as the roads from Assam to Tripura were badly damaged by the recent floods.

Trucks carrying the petroleum goods will ply the Dawki (Meghalaya)-Tamabil (Bangladesh)-Chatlapur (Bangladesh) - Kailashar (Tripura) route.

This is a short-term deal and Indian trucks and lorry carrying fuel will ply through Bangladesh territory till September 30, said foreign ministry officials. They said the government of India would pay the required fees for the use and maintenance of the roads.

"Based on the request by the Government of India, the Government of Bangladesh has granted permission for the movement of petroleum goods on humanitarian grounds through the territory of Bangladesh till September 2016," said a press release of the High Commission of India.

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), a public agency, and the Roads and Highways Department of (RHD) of Bangladesh signed the deal.

Bangladesh and India allowed each other to use their territories to transfer goods from one place to another and to a third country in the past in addition to arrangements under the existing transit and transshipment deals.

**Joypurhat DB
official found
dead in police
lines pond**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Police rescued the body of a Detective Branch official from a pond inside Police Lines in Joypurhat yesterday.

Shah Alam, 32, an assistant sub-inspector of Joypurhat DB of police, was a resident of Chatmohar upazila in Pabna.

As he was absent from the routine roll call at Police Lines, his colleagues started searching for him. Some of them saw him swimming in the pond, according to the colleagues.

Later a team of Joypurhat Fire service and Civil Defence found his body at the bottom of the pond after a frantic search and rescued it around 9:00pm.

Joypurhat police said he might have suffered a cardiac arrest while swimming, adding that he knew swimming.

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**JnU students to continue
demo for dormitories**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The agitated students of Jagannath University yesterday for the second time called for a class boycott on Sunday to press home their demand for the construction of dormitories on the land of Dhaka's old central jail.

They also announced to march towards Prime Minister's Office on Monday if they do not get any positive response from the authorities concerned by Sunday.

In the morning, the students started demonstration on the campus, boycotting classes and locking the campus entrances.

They gathered there around 7:30am and tried to bar students, teachers and administrative staff from entering the campus.

Later they staged a demonstration setting fire to several tyres on the road in front of the university.

AMITY UNIVERSITY KOLKATA

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