

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA H 34.4 L 27.5	CHITTAGONG H 33.5 L 26.8	SYLHET H 34.9 L 25.8	RAJSHAHI H 35.2 L 26.9	KHULNA H 34.3 L 26.4	BARISAL H 33.2 L 26.5	RANGPUR H 33.4 L 26.4	COX'S BAZAR H 32.0 L 26.0
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Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:07pm and rises tomorrow at 5:44am. Country's highest temperature 35.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and the lowest 25.3 in Rangamati.

TANGENTS
BY IHTISHAM KABIR



Brahminy kite with lunch. PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

A Bird's Flight

Very few things in nature delight us as the flight of birds. When it takes off into the sky, a bird fills us with wonder and becomes a symbol of freedom because it defies gravity which otherwise binds the rest of us, like a chain, to this earth.

There are many ways that birds fly. The height and speed, flapping (or not) of wings, angle of the body, trajectory of motion, even the silhouette against the sky – these factors, as well as others, vary from bird to bird. So much so, that the flight of each species is unique like a signature. After watching many flights, we can develop an intuition for this signature.

I'll give you an example. Last winter I was out in Purbachol, near a grove of bamboo and other trees, chasing some small birds, when for a split second, I saw part of a large brown wing in the sky through the canopy before it disappeared. Logic said that the wing belonged to a Brahminy kite, a very common bird with large brown wings. But my gut sensed something about the wing's motion that was unlike a kite's. I imagined the bird's trajectory and followed it, searching over the treetops. Eventually I spotted it perched on a tall bamboo. It turned out to be a rare oriental honey buzzard!

What is common among birds in flight is that their wings generate a force to counteract gravity. This upward force, called lift, must exceed gravity for the bird to become airborne. Obviously the heavier the bird is, the stronger the lift needed. In addition, a

forward force, called a thrust, keeps the bird moving ahead.

Common small birds, such as sparrows or magpie robins (doels), fly fast in a straight line. However, the woodpecker's flight path is undulating. It goes up and down, like a wave. Birds which spend a lot of time on the ground, such as a coucal, are slow fliers as a rule. If threatened they take off clumsily and land in a spot close by.

On the other hand, the fastest living being on this planet is a peregrine falcon. From high up, it performs a move called a "stoop", essentially diving straight down with its wings tucked in. Assisted by gravity, it reaches speeds exceeding 200 km/hour. Even at that speed, it makes fine adjustments in its trajectory, hitting the neck of its prey (usually another bird such as a pigeon) and breaking it instantaneously.

Closer to home, the drongo's (fingey's) flight is supremely acrobatic. When it hunts for insects close to the ground, it shows remarkable control over its movements, hovering and rapidly changing direction and speed. Kingfishers often fly fast and low, almost touching water, diving for fish. Smaller birds in the skies, such as swifts, will sometimes abruptly change direction and shoot straight up. Chances are, they are catching an insect in flight, but are too far for us to see that with the naked eye.

So the next time you see a bird in the sky, you might want to watch its flight carefully. Who knows, nature might reveal one of her secrets to you!

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Low supply, high price

Cattle traders in capital eye good profit if trend continues

HELEMUL ALAM

The sale of sacrificial animals in the capital was very poor yesterday though only three days remain till the Eid-ul-Azha.

Traders on the other hand are still charging high aiming to get a good profit this year as they are considering the supply of cattle still low compared to the last year.

They said if the trend continues they will be able to get a good profit selling the sacrificial animals.

The bulls of different size are being charged almost double compared to the last year. A medium size bull was around Tk 70,000 last year, which is around Tk 1.2 lakh to Tk

1.5 lakh this year.

Customers are still observing the market and waiting for more supply for which the number of sale is very low, said traders.

"We purchased a bull for Tk 48,000 last year, which is around Tk 85,000 this year..." said Imran Hossain, a resident of Laxmibazar who came to the cattle market at Sadeque Hossain Khoka field and its adjoining areas.

He said as the number of Indian cow is very low, people are depending on local cows but still the supply is not satisfactory.

If the cattle supply does not increase in the next few days, people will have to purchase the bulls at a

much higher price, said Faruk Ahmed, a Jatrabari resident, who came to Dhupkhola cattle market to purchase a bull.

Cattle traders are blaming high purchase price, transport cost and additional price of fodders for the high price.

Pintu, a cattle trader of Pabna who brought six bulls to Dhupkhola market, could sell a bull for Tk 50,000 yesterday, which was around Tk 30,000 last year.

"I had to pay an additional Tk 20,000 to Tk 30,000 this year while purchasing a bull, for which my selling price also went up," said Bappi, a trader of Jhinidah, who brought 18 bulls to Dhupkhola cattle

market around one week back.

FREE FAKE NOTE DETECTION MACHINE

As the chance of using fake note in the cattle market is very high, like other years different commercial banks have already set up a fake note detecting machine at every cattle market.

"We are working at Sadeque Hossain Khoka field from Thursday as per the order of the Bangladesh Bank and will continue the free service to both traders and customers till Eid," said Abdur Rahim Mazumder, a junior officer of NCC Bank.

SMUGGLING OF DUMBA (SHEEP)

Our Lalmonirhat correspondent

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Road crashes kill four

CITY DESK

Four people were killed and 34 others injured in road accidents yesterday and on Thursday.

In Comilla, two persons were killed and four others injured as a bus of Modina Paribahan collided head-on with a pick-up van at Baburchi in Chaudagram of yesterday.

Identities of the dead passengers of the pick-up van could not be known immediately.

The injured were shifted to Comilla Medical College Hospital.

In Chittagong, a helper of a bus driver was killed and around 15 passengers were injured as the bus plunged into a ditch beside Chittagong-Dhaka highway in Sitakunda upazila yesterday.

The deceased was Md Babu, 23, of Demra in Dhaka.

The accident occurred as the Cox's Bazar-bound bus was trying to overtake a lorry. Babu was killed as he tried to jump out of the bus and his head was smashed under the vehicle, said police.

In Dinajpur, Abul Hossain, 30, of Fakirpara village, was killed as a truck hit his motorcycle near Bhatgaon village in Kaharol upazila on Thursday night.

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Although the traders in the capital are eyeing high profit during this year's Eid due to a cattle shortage, this livestock carrier on the Buriganga river surely is a welcoming sign for the buyers. The photo was taken from the Postogola bridge in Jurain yesterday. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

4 BCL men arrested over extortion attempt

Sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Police arrested three Bangladesh Chhatra League leaders and an activist in Meherpur Government College area on Thursday night on the charge of demanding extortion money from a medicine trader in the district bus stand area earlier in the day.

A group of BCL men, led by Mahfuzur Rahman Polen, president of the dissolved committee of the town unit of BCL, demanded Tk 10,000 from Abu Taleb, said Mehedi Hasan, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Meherpur Sadar Police Station.

They left the spot when locals rushed to the spot hearing Taleb's cry for help.

The arrestees are the college unit joint conveners Tariqul Islam Likhon and Mafuzur Rahman, and activist Jweel Hossain.

Taleb filed a written complaint against the four with the police station.

A Meherpur court sent them to jail when they were produced before it yesterday, said Officer-in-Charge Iqbal Bahar Choudhury.

Eleven Asian nations agree to create emergency health fund

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eleven Asian countries, including Bangladesh, yesterday agreed to establish a dedicated fund to build health emergency preparedness.

"The new funding stream will allow the countries to invest in infrastructure and human resources that will enhance preparedness," said Dr Poonam Khetratal Singh, regional director of World Health Organization, responsible for South-East Asia.

The decision came at the WHO's regional committee meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka, attended by the health ministers and senior health ministry officials of the region, which is one of the most disaster-prone, says a press release.

The countries of the region include Bangladesh, Bhutan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, the Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

Recent earthquakes, cyclones and floods have caused health emergencies in the South-East Asia Region which has also been threatened by a range of emerging diseases, including SARS, MERS CoV, pandemic influenza and Zika virus.

Enhancing health security is a critical component for WHO's public health mission, said Dr Khetratal, adding that the new funding stream is an expression of solidarity shared within the region, and recognition that preparedness is less costly than response.

The members also took a resolution, calling for promoting physical activity, as they observed insufficient physical activity is a major contributor to rising rates of non-communicable diseases in the region, with four-fifth

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Two children found dead in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday recovered bodies of two children from different areas in the capital.

They were identified as Saif, a first grader, and Shamim, a sixth grader.

Shamim's body was recovered from a drain and that of Saif from a septic tank, said Abdul Kuddus Fakir, officer-in-charge of Sabujbagh Police Station.

They both had been missing since Thursday, added the OC.

Saif went to his maternal grandparents' home at Nandipara. After having breakfast on Thursday, he went out to play and

did not return home, said his uncle Atauddin.

His body was found floating inside a septic tank of their house yesterday after a frantic search, he added.

There was a cardboard sheet on the tank. The boy fell into it when he stepped on the sheet, said police.

On the other hand, Shamim fell into a drain at Basabo on Thursday, said Sabujbagh police, adding that fire fighters found his body in the drain following a harrowing search.

The bodies were sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

4 robbers held after gunfight

BSS, Narsingdi

Police arrested four robbers with firearms and sharp weapons after a gunfight at Basail area in the town yesterday.

Police said some 10 robbers masquerading as tenants entered Maksudar Kabir Fardous' house and held them at gun point.

As the family shouted, locals surrounded the house and informed police who opened fire while chasing the gang. The robbers also returned fire, police added.

After half an hour, police arrested the four and seized two pistols, several bullets and a machete.



People of Keraniganj form a human chain in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday protesting the killing of Baser Rony, president of Bangladesh Chhatra League of Satka Union in Keraniganj. Rony, also a businessman, was allegedly abducted on August 31 and then his body was found at a local jungle in a deformed state on September 5. PHOTO: STAR

India says it supports war crime trial in Bangladesh

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

India has said it supports the war crimes trials in Bangladesh under which the perpetrators were being brought to justice.

"India has been supportive of a judicial process under the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) of Bangladesh to address the pending issue of justice for war crimes committed during the movement for the independence of Bangladesh in 1971," India's External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Vikas Swarup said in response to media queries

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Too hurt to survive



STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Its fate was more or less sealed by the time bruised and battered it was brought to the Chittagong Zoo on Friday.

The rescued porcupine died there yesterday morning due to excessive bleeding, said Dr Shahadat Hossain, the zoo's veterinary officer.

He said it did not take any food since it was brought there.

A passerby rescued the rodent from Bouddha Mandir area after it was captured from Jangal Salimpur and severely beaten by its captor and his sons and then kept tied with a nylon rope for selling.

KMP takes steps to prevent hide smuggling

BSS, Khulna

The Khulna Metropolitan Police authorities have decided to set up 16 make-shift check posts at different strategic locations of the southwestern industrial city to prevent smuggling of sacrificial cattle hides during Eid-ul-Azha.

KMP Commissioner Nibash Chandra said police would also keep a vigil against black marketing of hides. CCTV cameras, currency screening machines and others electronic devices have been installed at cattle markets and shopping malls to check and track down frauds, extortionists and duping gangs, he added.