

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 34.4 L 27.5	H 33.5 L 26.2	H 32.8 L 26.7	H 35.8 L 27.5	H 34.6 L 26.7	H 33.6 L 26.8	H 31.7 L 27.0	H 32.0 L 26.2

Light to moderate rain/thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty/squally wind is likely to occur at many places over Rangpur, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Khulna and Barisal divisions in the next 24 hours. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:06pm and rises tomorrow at 5:44am.

## 8 including 3 foreigners held for 'fraud'

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The Detective Branch of police claimed to have arrested eight persons including three foreign nationals allegedly for fraudulence in the capital on Friday night.

The detainees have been identified as Biplab Laskar, Harunur Rashid alias Kamal, Rezaul Islam, Md Kawsar, Shawkat Ali, and three Nigerians Chukwa Emmanuel alias Ubenna, Michael Boumname alias Eugene and David alias Uchenna Nicholas.

The suspects were nabbed at Mohammadpur and Baridhara, and 67 cheques and 15 ATM cards, 16 cell phones and a laptop were seized from their possession, Abdul Baten, joint commissioner (DB) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, told a press briefing at DMP media centre yesterday.

The detainees cheated people by sending text messages about winning handsome amounts of

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**A plastic bag being handed to the buyer of a sacrificial animal in the capital's Gabtoli cattle market yesterday, courtesy of Dhaka North City Corporation's initiative to aid the disposal of animal waste. Inset, a mobile court of the Department of Livestock Services and Rapid Action Battalion the same day checks if a bull in the market has been administered illegal drugs to make it look more attractive to customers.**

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



## A fatal journey home

**CITY DESK**

What is more shocking than the news that you have lost your homeward-bound dear ones just a few days before a forthcoming family gathering?

This was the fate of Aduri, a seventh grader, who lost almost all of her family members in a deadly traffic accident on the Dhaka-Tangail highway in Tangail Sadar upazila yesterday.

They all were heading home to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha.

The accident took place around 1:00pm when a Bogra-bound cement-laden truck they were on board fell into a roadside ditch in the area after colliding head-on with an empty bus as the former's driver lost control while talking to the driver of another running vehicle, said Mohammad Jahangir Alam, in-charge of Elega Highway Police Outpost, reports our correspondent.

It left five persons riding on the truck dead and eleven others critically injured.

The deceased were: Aduri's father Jogodish Pramanik, 45, of Nondigram in Bogra, who was a garment employee at a Gazipur factory; mother Nondon Rani, 36, and sister Ranjana, 10, and neighbour Bir Bala, 50.

The identity of the other victim, aged about 35, could not be ascertained immediately. Fire Service and Civil Defence personnel recovered the dead bodies, Jahangir added.

Law enforcers accompanied by locals rescued the injured and rushed them to Tangail Medical College Hospital.

Around 18 to 20 people including the five dead and 11 injured boarded the truck after fixing Tk 300 per head as fare, since they failed to bag bus tickets to reach home thanks to the Eid rush.

The accident resulted in an hour-long tailback in the area.

Our staff correspondent in Chittagong adds; a person was killed and his son injured as a bus rammed their motorcycle on the Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway in Satkania upazila of the district yesterday.

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## 648 spots for slaughtering in Dhaka north

**Waste to be cleaned in 48 hours, says Annisul**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Dhaka North City Corporation has designated a total of 648 sites for an organised slaughtering of sacrificial animals and better waste management during the Eid-ul-Azha, said its mayor Annisul Huq at a press conference on the DNCC office premises in the capital's Gulshan yesterday.

Of them, 196 sites will have services like water supply, Imams and butchers, he said, adding that over two lakh polythene bags will be distributed among the city dwellers for

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# Sales pick up, prices high

### Cattle buyers wait for the last day before Eid for purchase

**HELEMUL ALAM**

There is still two more days left before Eid-ul-Azha, and the sale of cattle at different markets of the capital got momentum yesterday.

Though a good number of cattle have reached markets with many more on the way, cattle traders are still charging Tk 10,000 to Tk 15,000 more compared to last year's prices for a mid-sized bull.

The price is still high for all sizes of cows and bulls.

The price, however, dropped yesterday compared to Thursday and many customers are waiting for further drops in prices and have decided to purchase cattle observing the market for one more day.

"I have come to the cattle market at Eastern Housing in Mirpur-6 to observe the market. I stayed there till

2:00pm but did not get any suitable offer. I will come back again tomorrow," said Anisur Rahman, a resident of Pallabi yesterday.

Arif, a resident of Monipur, who paid Tk 41,000 for a bull, said the price was around Tk 10,000 more than what he paid last year during the same time.

The price of cattle last year was low till two days before Eid but those who went to the market during the morning of the day before Eid had to pay a higher price.

Many of those customers came to the market early this year but did not find high prices compared to last year.

Many traders on the other hand are still not happy as they are not getting benefits as per their expectations and have started to sell their cattle by dropping the expected price in panic.

"I was hoping to make a profit of at

least Tk 10,000 for each bull but I have made a profit of only Tk 20,000 after selling five. I fear that the price might drop as the supply is good," said Tauhidul, a trader of Chuadanga, who brought 17 bulls at the Eastern Housing cattle market.

The price of goats is also high this year. "I have purchased a goat for Tk 9,000 which was Tk 7,500 around last year," said Anwar Hossain, a Pallabi resident.

Ismail Hossain, a goat trader at the cattle market, demanded Tk 80,000 for a goat weighing around 50kg. He said for the last three years he reared the goat and will not sell if he does not get at least Tk 60,000.

**GARBAGE BAGS**

Both Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) and Dhaka North City

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## ZILA PARISHAD LAW Remove electoral college system

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Speakers, including local government experts, yesterday called upon the government to amend the existing zila parishad law for holding elections on the basis of universal adult franchise instead of the electoral college system.

Addressing a programme on the law Shushashoner Jannoy Nagorik (SHUJAN), a platform advocating for good governance, organised in the capital's Dhaka Reporters Unity, they also suggested including a provision describing jurisdiction and areas of works of zila parishads.

The cabinet on August 29 approved the draft of Zila Parishad (Amendment) Bill, 2016, clarifying that "electoral colleges" will be formed with public representatives from all tiers for zila parishad elections.

According to the proposed amendment, an electoral college will be formed to elect a 21-member body for each

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# In the middle of nowhere



**A house at Shantipur village in the middle of two haors in Sunamganj.**

PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA

**MINTU DESHWARA, back from Bishwambarpur**

From a distance, it seems like Shantipur is floating on water.

The village, in the middle of two haors -- Angaruli on the west and Korochar on the east, falls under Bishwambarpur upazila of Sunamganj.

Not only during the rainy seasons, boats are more or less the only mode of transportation there, since there is water everywhere.

The village, comprising around 60-70 families, is not like every other village. It is detached from the rest of the country. There is no sign of development. They do not have a proper road network, school for children, or hospital.

When this correspondent visited the village he found most of the villagers had a blank stare with eyes as murky as the water surrounding their flimsy tin houses and broken bamboo fences, set up for protection themselves from waves. Even though Eid is just a few days away, the celebration does not promise to bring any hope or change in their lives.

"We are constantly passing our days in fear of tidal water," said Joynal Mia, an elderly resident. He said most of the villagers are labourers during the dry season and at other times they survive by catching fish.

"Every year we put up bamboo fences to save our houses. But building a proper fencing costs a lot of money, which we do not have," said villager Jamaluddin.

"There is also no school for our children. They have to go to the neighbouring villages by boat. But during high tides, we cannot send them to school," said his wife Mafia Begum.

When this correspondent asked the villagers how they are planning to spend their Eid, they all gave a mirthless smile.

"My concern is to repair my house first. How can I think of Eid?" said Shanur Mia, 53.

"Eid for us is just another day full of struggle..." said Nargis Begum, while showing her bamboo fence. The worried mother said the flimsy fence would not be able to protect her house from another wave.

"During the rainy seasons, we mostly survive by catching fish. But I cannot even catch fish in front of my house anymore," said Akkel Mia, 38, while pointing towards the water body around 100 yards from his house. He said it has been leased out for fish farming.

"Once there used to be huge hijal and karach trees in the haor areas, which offered protection against the waves. Due to unabated felling of those by some unscrupulous people, now the last defence of the haor people is gone," said Abdul Karim Kim, general secretary of Bapa, Sylhet chapter.

Villager Abdul Alim said they badly need a permanent embankment on the east side of the haor and sought the government's intervention. He said the embankment will not only save them from tidal waves, but also facilitate better access to education and healthcare. The rest of the villagers echoed this.

Contacted, Dipok Kumar Das, deputy-divisional engineer of Water Development Board (WDB), Sunamganj, said, "We have already submitted a proposal for an embankment to the main office."

"We know the people of Shantipur are suffering. We need WDB's support regarding the construction of an embankment," said Enamul Kabir Emon, district administrator, Sunamganj.

## Bangladesh on track to enter top 30 economies by 2030: UN

**UNB, Dhaka**

With two decades of six percent growth per year, Bangladesh is on track to become one of top-30 economies by 2030 despite "serious" security challenges, says the United States.

"Bangladesh while facing serious security challenges has gone from a food importer to a food exporter," said US Deputy Assistant Secretary Angela Aggeler when addressing the East-West Center International Media Conference in New Delhi Friday.

Aggeler said each of the countries in the region has a unique set of challenges, but also presents tremendous opportunities..

# CHITTAGONG CITY CORPORATION Waste collectors yet to start door to door visit

**SHAHADAT HOSSAIN, Ctg**

Although the door-to-door garbage collection programme of Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) was supposed to start in August as per a CCC declaration, the authorities could not do so.

CCC Mayor AJM Nasir Uddin on August 1 inaugurated the programme in seven CCC wards through handing over bins to two housewives at Barik Mia High School in the city.

Seven wards such as Pashchim Sholoshahar, Shulokbahar, Bagmonirum, Enayetbazar, Uttar Patantuli, Al-karan and Gosaildanga were initially brought under the waste removal programme.

Conceding the delay, Shaibal Das Sumon, chairman of CCC Waste Management Standing Committee, said it was a new endeavour in this city. So, it would take time to start its implementation in full swing.

"About two lakh bins are required for the seven wards, and distributing such a huge number of bins is also a time-consuming task," he reasoned, hoping to finish the work by this month.

The official added, "Hopefully, we can go for waste collection and removal from next month in these wards."

They will start distributing bins in nine more wards soon after the Eid-ul-Azha, Sumon informed.

Contacted, Md Morshed Alam, councillor of Shulokbahar Ward, said 30,000 out of about 75,000 required bins have been distributed in his ward.

The rest will be distributed within this month, he said.

Enayetbazar Ward Councillor Md Solim Ullah said they have so far provided about 10,000 bins to households, shops and other

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**A man waits for a ride next to a billboard put up by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police as part of an awareness programme to alert the city dwellers to not to get on board of any private vehicles in order to protect themselves from possible kidnapping. Due to unavailability of service or scarcity of space inside public transports, many take refuge of these vehicles during rush hours or public holidays, which may cause an avoidable accident putting their lives at risk. The photo was taken in the capital's Technical Mor area near Gabtoli bus terminal.**

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMO