

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES DHAKA H 34.1 L 26.0 CHITTAGONG H 33.5 L 26.3 SYLHET H 33.0 L 24.6 RAJSHAHI H 33.0 L 26.4 KHULNA H 34.5 L 25.8 BARISAL H 33.2 L 26.20 RANGPUR H 26.0 L 25.5 COX'S BAZAR H 33.0 L 26.0

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Khulna and Mymensingh divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in the next 24 hours. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:51pm and rises tomorrow at 5:49am.

SYLHET AGLOW IN SPIRIT OF DURGA PUJA

Getting ready to sing to goddess

MINTU DESHWARA

While walking around many a road in Mirjagangal of Sylhet city, one would be welcomed by rhythmic sounds since the workers there are busy making and repairing musical instruments, which are in great demand as part of the celebration of Durga Puja.

The makers of these instruments -- Bangla dhol, dhak (big drum), khol, dholok, dugi, khamok, naal, tabla and khonjori -- are busy trying to meet their orders.

Percussion instruments including dhak and dhol are an integral part of Durga Puja, said Moloy Malakar of Mohajon Potty, a maker of the area. "The pricing varies for the instruments starting from Tk 2,000 and the repair work starts from Tk 500," he added.

"I came to buy a khonjori and dugi for my house," said Shyam Bishwas of Zokiganj. "The atmosphere is very vibrant with people walking around the market and the rhythmic sound coming from the shops."

Many musicians were also seen swarming the area repairing their old and damaged instruments.

"Musicians, devoid of work just a few days back, are now busy," smiled Sankar Malakar, an artiste, who came to repair a dhol.

Milon Malakar, a shop owner of the area, said a week before the celebration they get very busy with orders and their earnings also increase.

Other musical instrument shop owners and makers including Dilip Rishi, Subrata Malakar, Babu Rishi and Pabitra Rishi echoed him.

General Secretary of Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad in Sylhet Rajat Kanti said people of all religion will enjoy the occasion in harmony.

"Extra security measures will be taken to ensure a peaceful atmosphere," said DIG of Sylhet Range Mizanur Rahman.



Percussion instrument-makers busy making musical instruments in Mirjagangal of Sylhet city, which are in great demand as part of the celebration of Durga Puja. The photo was taken recently. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR



An artisan prepares an idol of goddess Durga in Dariapara area of Sylhet. With Durga Puja around the corner, the sculptors are passing busy times putting the final touches to the idols. The photo was taken recently. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Giving the final touches

DWOHA CHOWDHURY

Autumn days wane toward the inevitable colder weather ahead -- this is how the writers wrote about the season as it marks the transition from summer to winter.

But to Hindu devotees, autumn is a season of festival. It is the season when goddess Durga visits her father's resident on earth from heaven.

The Hindu community arranges their biggest celebration of devotion to welcome and celebrate her staying by observing Durga Puja, which begins on October 7 this year.

As part of the celebration, mandaps (temporary temples) have been set up all over Sylhet division.

According to Puja Udjapan Parishad, around 2,500 mandaps have been set up in the division, including 600 in Sylhet district and 45 in the city.

The sculptors are also busy putting final touches on the idols.

Durga Puja is not only a time of worship but also a celebration of beautiful artistry

that is very indigenous, said the sculptors of Lamabazar area.

The area is also abuzz with people visiting to see the craftsmanship.

"We all are eagerly awaiting the festival. But we have a day's vacation for the five-day festival," said Debobrota Chowdhury, a visitor.

"It is a process -- the creation of the idols, from clay to ornamentation, which involves many rituals," said Sagar Paul, a sculptor of the area. "Every statue is sculpted and painted using techniques that have been around for generations," he said.

Usually it costs around Tk 20,000 to one lakh to create a full set of idols. A complete set has Durga, Lakshmi, Saraswati, Kartik, Ganesh, a lion and an idol of Ashur -- the evil power, said the idol makers.

"But it is not the same anymore. A sculptor cannot make his living by this. The selling price has not increased compared to our living cost and raw material prices," said Sankar Paul, a sculptor.

"We need intervention of the authorities concerned regarding this," he added.

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute Joydebpur, Gazipur-1701

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-১৪ (২০১৬-১৭)

Table with 2 columns: সক্রিয়/বিভাগের নাম and বিবরণ. Lists various agricultural equipment and services for purchase.

Table with 4 columns: ক্রম নং, কাজের নাম, দরপত্র জামানত (টাকার পরিমাণ), দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য (প্রতিসেট) অফেরতযোগ্য, কাজ সম্পাদনের সময়সীমা. Lists contract details for spare parts and accessories.

Table with 2 columns: ক্রম নং and বিবরণ. Lists various agricultural equipment and services for purchase.

Stay on HC order

FROM PAGE 3 The chamber judge of the Appellate Division may hold hearing on the petition next week, Attorney General Mahubub Alam told The Daily Star yesterday.

Following a petition, the HC on September 8 declared illegal a 2014 government's decision voiding the guerrilla fighters' recognition as freedom fighters and directed it to recognise its 2,367 members and give them status, dignity and facilities on a par with freedom fighters.

The ministry issued a gazette in July 2013 proclaiming the members of the guerilla force, including Comrade Moni Singh and NAP President Prof.Mozaffar Ahmed, freedom fighters. The two were advisers to the government-in-exile in 1971.

Dipan killing

FROM PAGE 3 A supporter of pro-Jamaat-e-Islami student body Islami Chhatra Shibir, Rigan, along with several other militants, also received training on firearms, including on AK-22 rifles, when they were staying in militant dens in the capital over the course of a year, according to his statement.

Nine Italians, seven Japanese, two Bangladeshis, one Indian and one Bangladesh-born US citizen along with two police officers were killed in the Gulshan attack.

Ctg students protest rise

FROM PAGE 3 It would be very difficult for them to do well in the examinations unless the time is increased, they added.

They also urged the government to repeal the decision and reinstate the previous system of answering six creative questions. Mortuza Hossain, a HSC student of Chittagong College, said they cannot answer seven questions in only two and a half hours' time.

While addressing a rally brought out by the students, Nurul Azim Rony, Chittagong city unit general secretary of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), said the students' demand was rational and showed solidarity with them.



CU student's life hinges on surgery

MD ABBAS, CU

"My son told me that he would visit home to enjoy the forthcoming Durga Puja with family after his university announced vacation, but now he is struggling for life at hospital," a teary mother, Mitu Rani Mitra, said.

Mitu's son Sumit Mitra, a first year law student of Chittagong University (CU), has been admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) after being injured in a tragic traffic accident on Friday night in the CU Gate No. 1 area of Hathazari upazila in Chittagong.

"I talked to my beloved son over the phone just two hours before the accident," wailed his physically challenged mother while she was talking to The Daily Star.

Sumit hailing from Sathkhira Sadar upazila also lost his father Sondip Mitra two months ago.

Witnesses, however, said the accident took place around 8:30am when a CNG-run auto-rickshaw hit him from behind while he was heading towards his mess after giving tuition to his students.

Locals rushed Sumit to Hathazari Green Hospital, one of his fellows quoted CU Assistant Proctor Pranab Mitra as saying. He was shifted to CMCH as his condition deteriorated.

Quoting Neurosurgeon Prof Kamal Uddin, CMCH Assistant Registrar Dr Narayan Dhar said, "Because of excessive internal bleeding, his brain was totally damaged."

His condition keeps deteriorating, and he is now on life support at the intensive care unit, added Narayan. "We still could not go for a surgery as his blood pressure has not been normal," he said, adding that if his condition will not improve within 72 hours, they have to go for a surgery on which his fate will depend. "Few can survive such surgery," informed Dr Narayan.

NEWS IN brief

British Council reopens today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT After around two months, the offices of the British Council will resume today, the authorities announced yesterday.

"After the temporary closure to carry out necessary renovation works, The British Council is now ready to welcome everyone back to their premises in Chittagong, Sylhet and Dhaka," said a press release from the council.

The international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations temporarily closed its offices in Bangladesh on July 27 to review their security procedures.

High-level Chinese team due today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT A high-level Chinese team comprising security and protocol personnel of President Xi Jinping will arrive in Dhaka this morning to finalise the dates of his visit.

Though Jinping is expected to arrive in Dhaka on October 13 or 14, but a Chinese embassy diplomat yesterday said the date was not fixed yet.

Sources said the team will meet foreign ministry and security officials tomorrow and discuss the arrangement of meetings and places to be visited by the Chinese president, including the National Memorial at Savar and Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi 32.

10,000 illegal gas connections cut off

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narshingdi A mobile court yesterday severed 10,000 illegal Titas Gas connections to different houses in 13 villages of Narshingdi Sadar upazila.

Touhidul, deputy director general manager of Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Ltd of the Narshingdi region, said a syndicate in exchange for money illegally gave the connections from gas transmission lines of industries in the area, causing a huge loss to the government revenue.

Ctg Wasa worker injured in clash between rival unions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg A worker of Chittagong Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) was injured in a clash between two groups of workers at the workplace in Agrabad yesterday morning.

Injured Rezwan Hossain, 40, an assistant at the store division of mode-1, was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital with head injuries.

According to other workers, some 12 workers of a rival union attacked Rezwan and his co-workers as they had a heated exchange with him in the morning over holding a rally at Mode-1 Agrabad office at the same time.

Obituary

CITY DESK Abdul Mannan Ahmed, an executive director of NITA Company Ltd and a member of the Bar Council, died at Singapore General Hospital on Friday, said a press release.

He was the eldest son of late Justice Abu Md Abdullah.

apartments BASHUNDHARA PALTAN MALIBAGH MIRPUR ARAMBAGH SHANTINAGAR RAMPURA RAZABAZAR any Prime location DOM-INNO Creating Inspiration 01833-168294 01817-143882 01817-143884 Dom-Inno House House 13, Road 7, Block F, Banani, Dhaka 1213 9871806-10, 9872167, 9872169 E-mail: sales@dominno-bd.com www.dominno-bd.com

ADMISSION Professional Accountants (CA, CMA, CPA, ACCA, etc.) have one of the best employment opportunities worldwide Test on October 01, 2016 Join AIS and be the Future Leader BBA in Accounting & Information Systems (BBA in AIS) Course waiver is allowed for partly qualified (CA, CMA, CPA, ACCA etc.) professional accountants 13 full-time faculty members in accounting Unique Features of UIU BBA in AIS: UIU is the pioneering private university to offer BBA in AIS. ICMAB has recently granted courses exemption in CMA business level to UIU graduates. ACCA Bangladesh offers financial incentives to UIU graduates. Outgoing batches of students of BBA in AIS have already employed in reputed local & multi-national firms. UIU Bhaban: House # 80, Road # 8/A (Old-15) Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209 Phone: 9125913-6 Mob.: 01745581074, 01745581422, 01914001470, Fax: 9118170