

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 32.8   L 26.6	H 33.0   L 26.7	H 34.0   L 25.5	H 34.2   L 26.4	H 31.5   L 26.5	H 31.4   L 24.0	H 33.5   L 26.5	H 30.8   L 26.4

Light to moderate rain is likely at places in eight divisions including Dhaka, Khulna and Chittagong, reports UNB. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:41pm and rises tomorrow at 5:52am. Country's highest temperature 35.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Tarash and lowest 23.8 in Patuakhali.

## Mobile court jails three youths for rape attempt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A mobile court yesterday sentenced three youths to one-year imprisonment each for attempting to rape a woman in Boalkhali upazila of Chittagong on Tuesday night.

The convicts are Robiul Hossain, 18, of Noalkhali, Shamol Chandra Nath, 19, of Khagrachhari and Rana Chowdhury, 19, of Boalkhali upazila.

They took the woman, who was looking for her lost husband, to a field in Guchagram area saying that her husband lives there, said Officer-in-Charge of Boalkhali Police Station Md Salahuddin.

Hearing her screams, locals caught them red-handed and handed over to police after giving a mass beating.



A resident of Balurmash slum in the capital's Hazaribagh stares blankly at the fire-damaged rubble, while firefighters continue to douse the blaze yesterday. The fire, originating from an earthen oven around 1:50pm, gutted 360 shanties and was brought under control after an hour's effort by eight fire fighting units. No casualties were reported and the reason behind the origin of the fire could not be ascertained immediately.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Bogra road crash takes six lives

8 others die in Tangail, Jessore, Sylhet

CITY DESK

Six women, including two members of a family, were killed and 20 people injured in a head-on collision between two buses on Bogra-Dhaka highway in Kashipara area of Shibganj upazila in Bogra yesterday.

The deceased were Doly Khatun, 30, her mother Julekha Begum, 60, of Bogra, Lila Khatun, 25, of Dinajpur, Monowara Begum, 65, of Dhaka, Piobala, 55, of Gaibandha and another unidentified woman.

Police said five people died on the spot while another died on the way to hospital. Locals, fire fighters and police conducted the rescue operation after the incident and rushed the injured to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital and Upazila Hospital.

In Tangail, four people were killed and five others injured when a cement-laden truck fell into a roadside ditch as the driver lost control over the vehicle on Bangabandhu Bridge connecting road in Jokarchar area of Kalihati upazila yesterday.

Three of the deceased were identified as Soheli, 35, of Pabna, Sujon, 38, of Gaibandha and Afsar, 55, of Bogra.

Mohammad Asabur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Bangabandhu Bridge East Police Station, said four passengers travelling on top cement bags died on the spot after being crushed under them as the truck fell into the ditch.

The injured were admitted to Tangail Medical College Hospital.

In Jessore, a five-year-old girl was killed and her

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

## Man, son killed as wall collapses in Ctg alley

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Tousif had been very busy for the last couple of days.

Ever since his father informed that they were going on a vacation to India next month, the 13-year-old had started packing and planning.

The seventh grader's joy multiplied when his father, Masudul Huq, 40, a businessman of Boluar Dighir Par area of Chittagong city, promised that they will travel by airplane.

Yesterday, Masudul planned to go to a travel agency in No-2 Gate Area. But first, he had to drop his younger daughter, Taus, a student of class III, at her school.

The teenager, Tousif Mahid, kept on requesting his father to take him with them, while his mother decided to stay home.

So, the father, son and daughter left home around 11:00am and dropped Taus at school in Patharghata area.

Masudul, to save time, took a shortcut through a narrow alley to go to the main road for transportation, while Tousif kept on asking about the trip.

As they were walking past a field of Saint Placid's High School and College, a portion of the field's wall collapsed on them.



Masudul Huq and Tousif Mahid

Critically injured, the duo was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where they were declared brought dead around 1:30pm, said Assistant Sub-inspector Pankaj Barua of CMCH.

The brick wall was around 70 years old and became weak as the field was being raised and heavy vehicle was used to level the soil, said Ali Akbar, senior station officer of Nandankanan Fire Station.

"My uncle was planning a trip with his family, but now everything has turned upside down. My aunt is too grief-stricken to speak," said Md Hasnat, Masudul's nephew.

The victims' family claimed that an excavator was being used there, which hit the wall, causing it to collapse. Also the wall was in a derelict state, but no repair work was done, they alleged.

Contacted, Ali Akbar said he did not see any such vehicles there.

Meanwhile, Prodig Louis Rozario, principal of the school, told reporters, "We have started renovation work of the field, which could not be completed due to rain. We are deeply saddened by the incident."

## No security threat during Durga Puja

Claims DMP boss

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is no apparent security threat regarding the celebration of Durga Puja, the biggest religious festival of the Hindu community, said Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia yesterday.

"We have no information of possible militant attack," he told reporters after visiting overall preparations of the festival at Dhakeswari National Temple in the capital.

Police are carefully observing the situation and have already taken adequate security measures for peaceful celebration, the DMP boss added.

No bags, sharp weapons and flammable substance will be allowed inside mandaps (altars). Use of fireworks and crackers has already been prohibited.

This year, the festival will be celebrated at around 226 mandaps in Dhaka city.

CCTV surveillance and archways will be installed in the important temples to ensure full-proof security of the devotees.

At the procession leading to the immersion of the idol, no outsiders will be allowed to infiltrate except for those joining directly for those joining directly from the mandaps.

Idol-immersion points including Waize ghat, Turag and Mohammadpur area will be made luminous.

The devotees have been requested not to plunge into the river during the immersion of the idols to avoid potential hazards.

## HC asks 3 lifers, another to surrender before court

Also directs lower court to deliver fresh judgement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court has directed four accused of Commodore (ret'd) Ghulam Rabbani killing case to surrender to the trial court in eight weeks.

The HC passed the order in a full judgement which was released on Tuesday, court sources said. The Daily Star collected a copy of the judgement yesterday.

Rabbani, a former managing director of Korean Export Processing Zone (KEPZ) and a former aide-de-camp of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, was shot in the throat by criminals at Muradpur in Chittagong on his way to the KEPZ on April 11, 2004.



RABBANI MURDER

Thirteen days later, Rabbani, who also had been a vital prosecution witness in both the Bangabandhu murder and the jail killing cases, succumbed to his injuries at Bumrungrad Hospital in Bangkok.

Rabbani was killed following a conflict between him and a few of his colleagues at the KEPZ over his appointment as its MD, and termination of two employees of the KEPZ before and after his appointment.

The four accused are former general manager of the KEPZ Abu Naser Chowdhury, its former chief security officer Humayun Kabir Chowdhury

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

## 2 drug addicts killed by peer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two drug addicts were allegedly killed by one of their fellows following an altercation over distribution of hemp in the capital's Shabbagh area on Tuesday night.

The deceased were Moteleb and Habib, both aged around 35.

Abu Bakar Siddique, officer-in-charge of Shabbagh Police Station, said one Soheli stabbed Moteleb indiscriminately with a sharp weapon on a footbridge at Shabbagh intersection around 11:30pm.

Soheli also attacked Habib when he tried to save Moteleb, the OCS said.

Doctors pronounced Moteleb dead after he was taken to Birdem Hospital while Habib died around 2:00am at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.



Family members of Masudul Huq and Tousif Mahid, too hurt to express their grief.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

### STAR WEEKEND

in other news...

**The Star Weekend has an array of interesting articles for you. This week our spotlight is on the life and works of Sankar Dhar, an artisan who has made quite the name in sculpting. We also have a tribute to prolific and legendary writer Syed Shamsul Haq. Don't forget to grab your copy of the Star Weekend, tomorrow, Friday!**

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