

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAH	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 32.5 L 23.8	H 30.4 L 24.3	H 33.8 L 23.2	H 32.0 L 22.4	H 32.6 L 23.5	H 32.0 L 23.4	H 32.0 L 20.8	H 32.2 L 24.0

Day temperature may rise slightly and night temperature may fall slightly over the country, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:20pm and rises tomorrow at 6:05am. Country's highest temperature 33.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sylhet and lowest 15.7 in Tentulia.

CU BCL men hack fellow, injure another

CU CORRESPONDENT

A group of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists of Chittagong University (CU) unit allegedly hacked a leader of the same unit on the campus on Saturday night.

Seriously injured, Tayeful Haque Topu, vice president of the unit, was first taken to the university medical centre and later to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH). His physical condition is stable, but he is not out of danger yet, said CMCH physicians.

Topu, a graduate student of economics, bore multiple hacking marks in his head, forehead and legs, his brother Anifal Haque Tapu quoted the physicians as saying.

Some 12 masked BCL men of Banglar Mukh, a campus-based BCL group, armed with sharp weapons and machetes attacked Topu when he was chatting with his friends in front of a tea stall near Abdur Rab Hall. "They hacked him [Topu] indiscriminately," said his friend Mizanur Rahman Mizan, also BCL hospitality secretary of the same unit.

"When I went there to rescue him, they also attacked me and later fled the scene," added Mizan.

Later they were rescued by other leaders.

Meanwhile, Mizan filed a case with Hathazari Police Station yesterday against 13 BCL men including CU BCL leader Abu Bakar Toha, Central Committee Assistant Secretary Diaz Irfan Chowdhury, CU unit Vice President Mohammad Maman in this connection.

Md Balal, officer-in-charge of the police station, said they were trying to arrest the accused.

Diaz and Mamun masterminded the attack to destabilise the campus while their followers carried it out, an allegation of CU BCL President Md Alamgir Tipu, denied by Diaz, who

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People look on bleakly at the subsided portion of a road over the Padma river embankment in Shekher Chalk area of Rajshahi city yesterday. Around 60 meters of the newly constructed road and walkway subsided on Friday night putting the near-by dwellers at risk.

PHOTO: ANWAR ALI

Panic after Rajshahi city embankment subsides

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A huge portion of the Padma river embankment subsided in Shekher Chalk area of Rajshahi city on Friday night unleashing panic among the dwellers.

Over a hundred people in the area are living in fear as cracks have also developed in some of their houses along the road, the dwellers said.

They said the cracks on the road started appearing on October 21, and huge chunks of land subsided on Friday night.

Around 60 meters of a newly constructed road over the town protection embankment and walkway along the road subsided more than three feet, said Ashrafal Haque, chief engineer of Rajshahi City Corporation.

During the last month's flood, water leaked through old blocks of the

embankment, which made it vulnerable, said Mokhesur Rahman, executive engineer of Rajshahi Water Development Board.

He said a char in the middle of the river was being washed away, which also created a pressure on the left bank. The embankment was constructed in the late 90s and was not maintained properly, he added.

During a visit yesterday, cracks were seen on the road and floors of several houses. The villagers were seen putting bamboo poles into ground, which they said will be able to keep the embankment stable.

"We're living in constant fear now," said Sajeda Begum, a resident of the area.

Other residents of the area -- Idris, Kalam, Alamgir and Khokon echoed her. "I woke up hearing a loud thud

around midnight. Later I saw the portion caved in," said Meherun Nesa, a middle-aged woman. She said the cracks in her house were increasing.

"Though the road and walkway were constructed not more than a year ago, the walkway subsided repeatedly during its construction and the city corporation had to repair it three times," alleged her neighbour Mohammad Idris.

Contacted, Ashrafal Haque, RCC chief engineer, said they did not hear any complaint during the construction work. "As it is on the river bank, we have ensured its sustainability and durability."

"The repair work will start in the coming dry season," said Mokhesur Rahman, executive engineer of Rajshahi WDB.

BNP may boycott Dist Council polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-led 20-party alliance yesterday hinted at boycotting the upcoming District Council polls scheduled to be held in December.

Most of its top leaders, at a meeting at BNP's Nayapaltn headquarters, said the elections will not be held through direct participation of voters. So the election procedure "is tantamount to violation of the constitution", they said.

However, BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, who chaired the meeting, told reporters at a briefing that the chiefs of the 20-party will take their final decision soon on the participation in the local body elections.

Meeting sources said leaders of the 20-party discussed that it will be very tough for their candidates to win the District Council polls as they have very few elected public representatives in different local government bodies.

Moreover, they said most of their elected representatives in local government bodies are either behind bars or on the run.

According to the District Council (Amendment) Bill, 2016, only the elected representatives of local government

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DEVELOPMENT WORK DNCC defied rules when felling trees

Says Info Commission

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Information Commission yesterday found that Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) did not "properly follow rules" when felling four big trees in Banani area for its drainage and footpath development work few months back.

The Commission holding a hearing in its office fixed November 20 for further hearing, as DNCC Secretary Md Nabirul Islam who took part in the hearing failed to provide proper information.

The tree felling guideline was not properly followed in this case and there was a negligence from the DNCC engineering department, which is why Information Commission decided to give final decision after hearing the engineering department officials, said Chief Information Commissioner Prof Dr Golam Rahman.

Shamsul Bari, a resident in the area, filed a complaint with the Commission accusing DNCC of not giving him information about the tree felling despite seeking it twice under the Right to Information Act (RTI).

He first sought the information on May 3 and then on July 12.

In his application to DNCC, the resident wanted to know under which rules the city corporation felled his two trees in front of his house and two other trees of his neighbour.

Workers involved in the drainage development work told Shamsul that the trees were felled for getting the drain straight and building footpath on it, he said.

Among the trees, a 40-year-old Bakul (Maulsari) tree was planted by his wife who died two years back, he claimed.

DNCC did, however, not fell another seven trees on the road though they, too, impede the drainage

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Pedestrians walk past a traffic signal post, leaning over the street, near the capital's Panthapath and Green Road intersection yesterday. The post has been left in this precarious position for a long time, which needs immediate intervention of the authorities concerned before any accident takes place.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

SC extends stay on recognition of 2,367 special guerrillas as FFs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday extended for two weeks its earlier order that had stayed a High Court judgment directing the government to recognise 2,367 members of a guerrilla force as freedom fighters.

On September 8, the High Court, in response to a writ petition, directed the government to recognise 2,367 members of the guerrilla force, who participated in the 1971 Liberation War, as freedom fighters.

The government in early October submitted a petition to the SC seeking a stay on the HC verdict. On October 9, the SC stayed the HC verdict till yesterday and sent the stay petition to the Appellate Division for its hearing.

ELECTION COMMISSION FORMATION Quader dismisses any dialogue with BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Newly elected ruling Awami League (AL) General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday dismissed any possibility of a dialogue with BNP over the formation of a new Election Commission (EC).

"Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hold dialogue in the interests... But I think there is no need of a dialogue right now," he responded to a query over BNP's dialogue demand. The present EC's tenure expires in February next year.

The EC will be constituted through a search committee like before, Quader, also the road transport and bridges minister, told a discussion, "Development and Contemporary Politics" Secretariat Reporters Forum organised at Bangladesh Secretariat.

On BNP's participation in the next elections, he said BNP would not repeat its mistake of boycotting the 2014 election. "They will take part... in a well organised manner," he said.

Replying to another question, he said if the BNP does not participate in the next election, the country would continue moving forward as it was doing now. He said BNP's main problem was fear which it could not overcome.

MILITANTS PREPARING FOR BIGGER ATTACKS

Quader said communalism and militancy were the major challenges for the AL-led government.

Militant activities seems to have lessened following action taken by law enforcers and enactment of the government's zero tolerance policy but it does not mean that militants left Bangladesh, he said.

"...maybe militants are preparing for bigger attacks. Big attacks might come because silence indicates a storm," he said.

Replying to another query, he said the AL, as a big party and family, had some problems which they would fix.

"Already messages have been sent to those, who have been committing misdeeds, to correct themselves. If they do not correct themselves, their nominations will be questioned in the next elections," he said.

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JU to probe 'ragging' of female students

JU CORRESPONDENT

The Pritilata Hall authorities of Jahangirnagar University formed a four-member committee on Saturday night to investigate the allegation of ragging of female students by seniors.

Prof Koushik Saha, the hall provost, told The Daily Star that the probe committee -- headed by Nazmul Islam, associate professor and warden of the hall -- was asked to submit its report within seven days.

The probe body was formed after a fine arts student and resident of the hall on Saturday submitted a written complaint to the proctor against three female activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) of Pritilata Hall unit for allegedly threatening her as she protested the incidents of harassment in the name of ragging.

According to her complaint, during a general meeting of the hall on October 25, she raised the issue of ragging of freshers by the seniors in the hall and strongly protested it.

At this, Sopna, a masters student and president of Pritilata hall unit BCL, called the girl into her room on that night and threatened to drive her out of the hall. At that time, the other BCL activists -- Esha, and Umaiya Tonzua -- were also present in the room, she added.

1st ever in Bangladesh

Blue Ocean Strategy Summit

THE WESTIN DHAKA 03, December, 2016

Keynote Speaker 1
Dr. Joerg Niessing
INSEAD, France

Basic concepts of Blue Ocean Strategy & how to use it to create powerful brand.

Keynote Speaker 2
Mr. Prahlad Kakar
Advertising Guru, India

How to build a Blue Ocean Brand through various options of integrated marketing communications

Distinguished Panel Speakers

Aftab Mahmud Khurshid
Group CMO, RSG

Gitanka Debdeep Datta
Vice President, MasterCard

Zafar Sobhan
Editor, Dhaka Tribune

Distinguished Panel Speakers

Mr. Prateesh Nair
Co-Speaker
Co-Founder & Director of Prahlad Kakar School of Branding & Entrepreneurship

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