



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 35.0 L 23.5

MYMENSINGH H 34.0 L 23.2

CHITTAGONG H 31.0 L 25.7

SYLHET H 28.5 L 23.0

RAJSHAHI H 36.5 L 24.6

RANGPUR H 34.4 L 24.8

KHULNA H 36.0 L 27.2

BARISAL H 34.5 L 23.2

COX'S BAZAR H 32.7 L 27.4

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at most places over Mymensingh, Sylhet and Chittagong divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Barisal & Rangpur divisions till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:43pm and rises tomorrow at 5:11 am. Country's highest temperature 37.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and lowest 23.0 degree in Sylhet and Sreemangal.

Hold talks with political parties

Khaleda urges EC
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday urged the Election Commission to arrange a free and fair national election after holding talks with the political parties.

She also asked the incumbent commission to overlook any demand of the government.

"Don't listen to the government's demand and hold talks with the political parties. And then you will take a decision of holding a free and fair election," she said.

Khaleda came up with the remarks at an iftar programme for party leaders and activists at a convention centre in the capital.

The former premier said, "If a fair election is held, the Awami League will realise whether it has ground under its feet or not and how much connected it is to the people."

Khaleda said the people would not accept any election under Sheikh Hasina's administration because the "government is not pro-people".

"So, the government should be ousted. But it is not the duty of BNP alone; everyone has responsibility. There has to be unity to overthrow the government."

Criticising the proposed budget, she said the price of daily essentials would go up due to the tax burden. The chances of corruption will also increase, she added.

Urging the government not to hike the price of gas, Khaleda said the government did not take people's sufferings into consideration.

She also accused ruling party men of siphoning a huge amount of money off the country, and said the people involved with this were out of reach.

CLEANING DRIVE A SHAM?



Waste being removed from a portion of Deb Dholaiakhal, left. The work has been going on under supervision of the Water Development Board, which has hired a contractor to do the job. Even though cleaning of the important water body is essential, makeshift structures, right, such as shanties and shops continue to be built encroaching on it. For that reason, despite the cleaning, it gets clogged up at various points due to the waste dumped by residents and shopkeepers. When asked, the contractor in-charge of the cleaning drive said he has been directed to clean the canal only, not demolish the illegally built structures. He also alleged that the structures were built by some influential people who might "create problems" if they tried to remove those. The photos were taken Friday at East Dholaiakhal point.



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Rickshaws slow Dhaka down: Experts

UNB, Dhaka

Even though Bangladesh wants to become a middle-income country by 2021 with its fast growing economy, its capital is still clogged with rickshaws, thanks to the city authorities' indifference to develop a mass transport system, and formulate an effective plan to get rid of the slow-moving three-wheelers.

Talking to the news agency, urban expert and former University Grants Commission (UGC) chairman Prof Nazrul Islam, CPD distinguished fellow Prof Mustafizur Rahman and Buet Professor Sarwar Jahan said the capital city should have a modern and motorised transport system, keeping pace with the country's economic progress.

A lack of a feasible long-term urban transport plan as well as a comprehensive phase-out programme, weakness in transport management and in enforcement of law, and inadequate mass transport are the reasons why the capital cannot get rid of rickshaws, the added.

The average speed of motorised vehicles on the city streets is about 20km per hour, but those are forced to run within the speed of 7-8 km an hour because of the movement of uncontrolled rickshaws on important thoroughfares.

According to the transport experts, the government should focus on making the mass transport system stronger with proper planning, enforcing traffic laws and ensuring effective traffic management and better use of the existing

roads and railways by banning rickshaws on main city streets to reduce the capital's traffic jams and restore discipline in transport sector.

Statistics, provided by the city authorities and Dhaka Metropolitan Police's traffic department, show that there are 12-13 lakh rickshaws in the capital, but only 87,000 of those are legal.

Although many of the capital's main roads have long been made off limits to rickshaws, the non-motorised vehicles have been plying freely on those due to relaxed law enforcement.

Prof Nazrul Islam said rickshaw is one kind of mass transport which provides personal service to people.

"In developed countries, taxis usually provide such service to commuters. But, in Dhaka city we

do not have available taxis or auto-rickshaws to replace rickshaws," he added.

He said public transports like bus and auto-rickshaw, taxi together with commuter train service can be the alternative to rickshaw.

The metro rail will be very helpful to reduce people's dependence on rickshaws, he added.

Before pulling out rickshaws from the city, Prof Mustafiz said the government must ensure alternative jobs for the rickshaw-pullers by setting up new industries, factories and giving incentives.

Dr Sarwar said 40 percent of the total trips of the city commuters are now being made with rickshaws as there is no alternative to those three-wheelers providing door-to-door service.

A year on

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DB has so far arrested seven persons in connection with the murder case.

The arrestees are: Md Anwar, Md Moteleb Miya alias Md Wasim, Ehteshamul Haque alias Bhola, Md Shahjahan, Saidul Sikder Shakur -- Musa's elder brother, Md Shazaman alias Robin, and Abu Nasar Gunnu.

During investigation, police did not find the link of Robin and Gunnu with the murder while five others were shown arrested with specific charges in the murder case, said DB sources. Two other accused -- Nurun Nabi and Rashed -- were killed in a gunfight with police on July 5 last year.

4 bodies left at RMC morgue for over 2 years

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Four bodies, three of them are unidentified, have been left in the morgue of Rangpur Medical College for over two years.

According to the Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH) officials, the bodies have already become decomposed as the freezer has been out of order for long.

Mahmood Hossain, ward master of RMCH, said police identified one of the bodies as of Nipa Rani, daughter Akhoy Kumar of Bamnia village in Nilphamari.

But after autopsy, her body was kept at the morgue as a case filed by a Muslim family claiming the body is still pending with a Nilphamari court, said the RMCH official.

Nipa committed suicide in 2013.

Among the other bodies, two were of hospital patients who died while undergoing treatment in 2015, said Hossain, adding, details of another body are unavailable. MA Basar, a lawyer of Rangpur, said RMCH can bury the bodies as unclaimed after taking permission from a court but they were negligent in doing so.

Contacted, Dr Moudud Hossain, director of RMCH, said he is unaware of the issue as he took his charge a month ago.

He would find out a solution to bury the bodies soon, he added.

RCC mulls

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However, some officials of the corporation think the expansion process needs both strong political campaign and time that the present mayor does not have for its implementation.

The corporation officials said they are preparing the proposal for expanding its area roughly up to 350 square kilometres -- over three and a half times bigger than the present area of 97 square kilometres.

"It is a long process that needs nearly two and a half years," said RCC Executive Engineer (planning) Golam Murshed, adding that they would submit the plan to the concerned body of the government within this year.

The plan of expansion was first taken in 2011-12, with Awami League leader Khairuzzaman Liton at the helm of RCC. It did not progress during his tenure.

Elected in June 2013, Bulbul took up the plan again. But he failed as he was suspended on May 7, 2015. Reinstating on April 2 this year, Bulbul revived the project.

The mayor said the corporation is also working on another plan for turning Rajshahi into a "smart city".



The iftar menu is never completed without muri (puffed rice). Not only its consumption over time has increased, the demand has also gone up. Workers are now busy producing this iftar essential in Narayanganj's Pagla Dhapa area, where many factories produce muri year-round. But the recent flood caused a shortage of rice supply. According to the owners of the muri factories, they are not getting the desired amount of rice, which eventually resulted in less production. The factories now sell muri for over Tk 60 a kg compared to last year's Tk 45 during the fasting month, while it is now over Tk 70 per kg at retail markets. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

BCL leaders give death

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to suspend the three students for a year, said he added.

On May 30 evening, the BCL leaders threatened Agnibina Hall Provost Md Ruhul Amin and its House Tutor Sanjoy Kumar Mukherjee that they would shoot them dead and create a tense situation on the campus if they did not allocate some hall seats according to their suggestions.

The teachers lodged two general diaries with Trishal Police Station the following day. Meanwhile, five BCL activists of Barisal University unit were injured in a factional clash on Friday night. Of the injured, Alamin, Enamul and Sakib were admitted to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.

Additional police were deployed at Sher-E-Bangla Hall and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall.

Activist Naim Hossain Imran arranged an iftar party for the pro-Awami League student organisation at Habib Hotel and Restaurant on the campus on Friday, but his rival faction, led by BCL activists Shaon and Rubel, boycotted it and gathered in BU administration building area after iftar which ensued the clash, said witnesses and sources.

The two factions clashed with each other with machetes, sticks and rods around 10:30pm and later they broke windowpanes of two rooms at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall. On information, police went to the spot and controlled the situation, said Mizanur Rahman, in-charge of BU Campus Police Camp. Additional police were deployed on the campus.

WB okays

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the project could rise by an estimated 34 percent by the end of the project."

Although the RMG sector constitutes 82 percent of exports, employment growth in the sector has stalled, said the WB.

However, the non-RMG manufacturing sectors have been generating about 300,000 new jobs annually since 2010.

Light manufacturing sub-sectors, which are labour intensive and employ women, have expanded employment by 4.3 percent annually since 2010.

The project will build on this momentum, and help increase the number of firms directly exporting in targeted sectors by about 29 percent.

The credit from the World Bank's International Development Association, which provides grants or zero-interest loans, has a 38-year term, including a six-year grace period, and a service charge of 0.75 percent.

The World Bank was among the first development partners to support Bangladesh following its independence.

Since then, the World Bank has committed nearly \$26 billion in grants and interest-free credits to Bangladesh.

JU dorms reopen Thursday

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limit of 30km per hour from Bismail area to the campus.

They welcomed the syndicate's decisions to reopen the dormitories and compensate the victims' families but criticised the authorities for not taking any decision regarding the case's withdrawal.

JU Teachers-Students Unity Platform also criticised the authorities for that.

"We will form a human chain on JU Shaheed Minar premises around 11:00am today," said Prof Nassem Akhter Hossain, convener of the platform, at a press conference on the campus yesterday.

Meanwhile, a section of JU students at a press conference at Dhaka University's Madhur Canteen reiterated the demands, reports a correspondent. Oliur Rahman Sani, a JU English department student, read out a written statement.

Earlier on May 27, two JU students -- Nazmul Hasan Rana, 24, of marketing department, and Arafat, 24, of microbiology, were killed as a bus rammed a human-haulier carrying them on the Dhaka-Aricha highway in C&B bus stand area of Savar around 5:00am.

Following the incident, hundreds of students blocked the highway in front of the university's main entrance and Joy Bangla

Gate separately around noon.

At least 10 persons, including students, a JU official and two journalists, were injured when police and Bangladesh Chhatra League activists of JU unit tried to disperse the demonstrators in three separate incidents.

Later that day, demanding punishment for the BCL men, students laid siege to the VC's residence. Following that, 42 JU students were detained by the law enforcers as the JU registrar filed the case with Ashulia Police Station on May 28 against 50 students mentioning the names of 31, bringing allegation that the students have carried out vandalism on the campus during the agitation.

However, the students were released on bail the next day. The JU authorities also asked all the residential students to vacate their dormitories by May 28.

A six-member probe body was formed on May 28, led by Prof Asit Baron Paul, which was asked to submit a report within 10 days. The Teachers-Students Unity Platform, however, demanded formation of a new probe body as they claimed the current one has two JU syndicate members.

Meanwhile, expressing solidarity with the JU students, over 50 students and teachers of South Asian University formed a human chain on its campus in New Delhi, India, yesterday.

PDB suffers loss of Tk 7,135cr

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during the period. Of the expenditure, the production expense stands at Tk 30,035.64 crore, while its other operational expense is Tk 2,408 crore including the non-operational expense of Tk 1,407.48 crore. PDB neither paid any income tax nor any profit to the national

exchequer. However, it contributed Tk 1,613.50 crore to the state coffer, while it spent Tk 378.64 crore on debt servicing and invested Tk 5,682.69 crore in the capital investment.

Its wealth totals Tk 6,4011 crore, and the size of its workforce is 20,858, the budget document shows.

Phone : +8802-9562878
Fax : +880-2-9563591
Mobil : +88-01730013947
E-mail : pd@urprajuk.com
helalyrajuk@yahoo.com
www: rajukdhaka.gov.bd



Project Implementation Unit (PIU)
Urban Resilience Project: RAJUK Part
RAJUK Commercial Complex Cum Car
Parking Building (8th & 9th Floor)
Gulshan- 1, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh

Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (RAJUK)

Memo No: 25.39.0000.154.14.041.16/176

June 03, 2017

CORRIGENDUM NOTICE-1 :REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

"Consultancy Services for Professional Accreditation Program in RAJUK"
Urban Resilience Unit (URU)
Subcomponent C3(Package No: URP/RAJUK/S-8)

Corrigendum to the EOI notice of Package No. URP/RAJUK/S-8of the captioned consultancy service is hereby modified as follows:

Points of Discussion	Previous	Modified
Deadline of Submission of EOI	Reference: Clause 11 of primary EOI Notice	
	June 04, 2017	July 12, 2017

This is to mention that all other information and terms given in the primary EOI notice will remain unchanged.

(Abdul Latif Helaly)
Project Director

Urban Resilience Project: RAJUK Part
RAJUK Commercial Complex cum Car Parking Building (Level: 9&10)
Road No:17,19,20
Gulshan 1, Dhaka-1212
Email: pd@urprajuk.com, helalyrajuk@yahoo.com
Website: www.rajukdhaka.gov.bd