

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA

36.1 | 28.1

MYMENSINGH

35.0 | 28.5

CHITTAGONG

34.0 | 26.6

SYLHET

35.0 | 26.8

RAJSHAHI

37.6 | 27.6

RANGPUR

36.7 | 27.4

KHULNA

35.6 | 27.6

BARISAL

34.7 | 27.8

COX'S BAZAR

32.6 | 26.0

Appeal for help
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shweta Shatabdhi Esh, a young poet who received an "Asheyga Foyez award-2017", has been suffering from a blood disorder "Thalassemia" since she was six months old, said a press release.

Because of hormone imbalance, her liver has swelled up yielding different physical complications. Nearly incapacitated, Shweta is now in bed and for her better treatment she needs to be taken to India immediately.

Her elder sister Madin Esh said it is impossible for the family to bear Shweta's treatment cost which is around Tk 30 lakh.

Therefore, her family seeks help from well-off members of the society.

Shweta obtained honours and masters degree from Dhaka University.

Financial assistance can be sent to Shatabdhi Esh, Account no: 341 26636, Dhaka University corporate branch, Janata Bank Ltd, bKash no: 01914867687 (Shweta's personal number).

Why NRHC

FROM PAGE 3

Barrister Halim told The Daily Star that the NRHC is supposed to frame rules and make necessary recommendations to the government against any human rights violation.

The commission has failed to do so, he added.



Vendors with their makeshift stalls clog a large portion of a footpath in the capital's Farmgate area. The clogging also spills over the street, impeding pedestrian and vehicular movement. Despite numerous drives by the authorities concerned, most of the Dhaka footpaths remain under the grips of hawkers. The situation intensifies ahead of Eid. The photo was taken in front of Tejgaon College yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

4 die in road crashes

CITY DESK

Four people, including a cop, were killed in road accidents in four districts yesterday and on Wednesday.

In Dinajpur, an assistant sub-inspector of police was killed as his motorcycle was rammed by a truck on Choraghat-Polashbari road in Sonamukhi village under Choraghat upazila on Wednesday evening.

The deceased, Fazir Ahmed, 35, of Chhakbari village in Dinajpur Sadar, was posted to Polashbari Police Station in Gaibandha.

In Jessor, a schoolgirl was killed as a truck ran her over in front of Niamatpur Dakkhil Madrasa in Chhawgachha upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Tamimia Khatun, 15, daughter of Sahidul Islam of Patikila, was a class-IX student of Haji Sahijan Ali High School. She was returning home from the school. Police arrested the truck driver Jahangir Hossain.

In Nilphamari, Rafigul Islam, son of Abdul Jobbar, died on the spot as a truck hit his bicycle on Nilphamari-Saidpur road at Kazi Khatir Bazar yesterday.

Locals caught the truck driver and his helper and handed them over to police, said police.

In Gopalganj Sadar, Sofikur Alom Qasim, 42, of Modhopur was killed as a truck rammed his motorcycle on Dhaka-Kulna Highway in Karotgoni area on Wednesday night.

Railway gears up for Eid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Railway will add 171 more coaches to the existing 1,161, said Railways Minister Mazibul Haque yesterday.

Also, it will operate seven pairs of special trains from June 23 to 25 and June 28 to July 3 on different routes. In addition, all weekly holiday for the intercity trains has been cancelled from June 21 to Eid day, he added.

The minister was briefing media at the Railay Bhaban in the capital about his ministry's preparation for the upcoming Eid-ul-Fitr to ensure a hassle-free journey for holidaymakers, says a press release.

Advance tickets will be sold at Dhaka and Chittagong stations from 8:00am on June 12. A passenger will be able to purchase highest four tickets. Maitree train service will remain closed for June 25 and 26.

Return tickets for Dhaka will be sold at Rajshahi, Khulna, Dinajpur and Lalmonirhat stations from 8:00am.

DEPARTURE FROM DHAKA, CTG

TICKET SELLING DATES	DEPARTURE DATES
June 12	June 21
June 13	June 22
June 14	June 23
June 15	June 24
June 16	June 25

RETURN TO DHAKA

TICKET SELLING DATES	DEPARTURE DATES
June 19	June 28
June 20	June 29
June 21	June 30
June 22	July 01
June 23	July 02

Three killed by lightning

FROM PAGE 3

dead. Critically injured Amir is undergoing treatment at the hospital.

Meanwhile, Ashadul Haque of Nama Genda area in Savar was critically injured by lightning while he was going home. He was rushed to a local hospital where doctors declared him dead.

Lawyer Baset terms reports

FROM PAGE 4

Association premises.

On Tuesday an HC bench kept Advocate Baset waiting in the courtroom for around half an hour and rebuked him for the illegal address. Abdul Kuddus Khan, a victim in an attempted murder case, although the bench rejected his bail petition and ordered police to send him to jail.

Yesterday, Advocate Baset described the incident of releasing Kuddus from police custody and bringing him back to the courtroom at the HC's directive and then handing him over to police.

He said he might have trouble properly hearing the HC order of rejecting the bail petition of Kuddus and sending him to jail.

Amnesty Int'l urges govt

FROM PAGE 3

protection and safety.

Expressing concern, another human rights organisation named Front Line Defenders said Islamist groups had given her threat because she worked for human rights and peace.

Meanwhile, Bangladeshi Hindu Buddha Christian Oliya Parishad and Bangladeshi Uddhi Shilpogosthi also expressed grave concern over the threat.

The Oliya Parishad said threats on human rights defenders and continuous attack on minority groups have made the future of Bangladesh alarming.

Moudud's plea challenging

FROM PAGE 3

and Justice Md Ataur Rahman Khan passed the order after a brief hearing on the petition yesterday.

Moudud was evicted from his three-decade-long residence yesterday as he lost the legal battle over the ownership of the house worth Tk 300 crore in the capital's Gulshan.

Rain or thunderstorms accompanied by temporary gust or equally wind is likely to occur at a few places over Rangpur, Mymensingh, Sylhet, Chittagong, Dhaka and Barisal divisions till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. A mild heat wave is sweeping over Rangpur division and the regions of Dhaka, Dhaka, Feni, Feni, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Sylhet, Chittagong and Barisal, said Met Office. The sun sets in

NEWS IN brief

RU admission tests begin on Oct 22

RU CORRESPONDENT

Admission tests for the honours programme of Rajshahi University under 2017-18 academic session will be held from October 22 to 23.

The decision came yesterday at a meeting of the admission sub-committee of the university. Further details will be announced later, said an official.

Fakhru visits ailing Hajefat chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday paid a visit to ailing Hajefat-e-Islami Chief Shah Ahmed Shafi.

Fakhru along with party's Vice-Chairman Mir Nasir Uddin went to a private hospital around 2:00am where Shafi is being treated, said syrul Kabir Khan, an official of BNP chairman's press wing.

Ittekhbar new treasurer of IUB

CITY DESK



Khander Md Iftekhar Haider has been appointed as the treasurer of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) for a four-year term.

Before his retirement from the government service, he worked as the secretary to the Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment, said a press release.

He joined the civil service of Bangladesh in 1983 as a member of BCS administrative cadre and held important positions both in secretariat and field administration.

HC halts construction of Ctg swimming pool till July 2

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a status quo till July 2 on construction of a swimming pool in the outer stadium of Chittagong.

It issued a ruling asking the authorities concerned of the government to explain in four weeks why they should not be directed to take steps to protect the outer stadium.

The HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice Md Ataur Rahman Khan came up with the order and rule after hearing a writ petition filed by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh seeking necessary orders to protect the outer stadium.

Shahana Begum passes away

CITY DESK



Shahana Begum, former senior scientific officer of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), died yesterday at Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore. She was 65, said a press release.

Dr Shahana, wife of Enayet Husain Siraj, a director of Impress Group and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), was suffering from cancer for a long time.

She left behind her son, daughter and grandchildren.

Her son, Md. Aslam-e-Janaza will be held today on Chittagong's premises in Tejgaon at 11:30am and the second one at Sabji Bagan Jame Masjid in Eskaton after the Imaum prayers.

She will be buried at Banani graveyard.

MPs demand removal

FROM PAGE 3

"WE WANT NO ELECTION"

Jatiya Party lawmaker Khosher Ara Haque, elected from reserved seats for women yesterday told parliament that they want no election and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina should remain in power for five to ten years.

Asked about the reason behind her argument, she told The Daily Star that she wants peace. "As the national elections cause deaths of innocent people, I talked against the election and continuation of the present government." She said the status of the leader of the opposition Fauzan Ershad should remain unchanged in the next parliament.

Khosher Ara also criticised BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia for speaking against the PM.

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ACC asked to sue business tycoon Moosa He 'dodged Tk 2.15cr in luxury car taxes' STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate (CIID) yesterday asked the National Board of Revenue to sue controversial business tycoon Moosa Bin Shamsher on charges of dodging tax on a luxury car.

The CIID also sought a probe from the National Board of Revenue to see Moosa for money laundering charges.

Moinal Khan, director general of the CIID, said recently Moosa was registered with the BRB office in Bhola with a bill of entry showing Tk 17 lakh was paid in taxes on the car. But investigation found that no bill of entry was submitted to the Chittagong Customs House, while Moosa was supposed to pay a tax of Tk 2.15 crore for the vehicle, he said.

We stand by Sultanam Kamal

FROM PAGE 3

"She speaks without fear. Many people may not like it," she added.

Shahriar Kabir, president of Ekatturer Ghatak Dal Nirmul Committee, said after Hefajat's 2013 mayhem and suing of its activists and followers, the prime minister promised not to give them any chance to repeat such an incident.

The movement needs to explain why it was given space now," he added.

Narayanganj-based cultural activist Rafiul Kabir, whose son Taqi was kidnapped and murdered four years ago, said it was imperative to find out whether the incident involving Sultanam Kamal aimed at serving vested interests.

Rafiul, who is now facing a lawsuit filed by Hefajat, said the Islamist group was trying to sue him.

Dhaka University's Prof Gittara Nasreen said progressive minds should come under a single platform to identify the evil forces playing from behind and launch a movement against those.

Nasreen, a former member of the Awami League, said Bangladesh Bank should already stepped into a dark era by giving space to Islamist groups like Hefajat.

Former deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank Khondak Ibrahim Khaled said there was no scope to tolerate those who threatened Sultanam. The culprits should be

brought under book immediately, he said.

Women's rights activist Malena Begum urged the progressive people to wage a movement against communal forces.

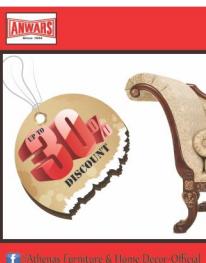
Economist Prof Abul Barkat said the threat against Sultanam was linked to the move to turn the country into a communal and militant state.

Moderated by Nijera Kori coordinator Shahriar Kabir, rights activist Hameeda Hossain and cultural personalities Syed Hasan Imam and Sar Zaker, among others, attended the programme.

On June 2, Hefajat leaders from a rally in front of Baitul Mukarram gave an ultimatum to the government to arrest Sultanam within 24 hours or send her into exile. Hefajat's threat came after a recent television talk show, now available on YouTube.

Hosted by DU teacher Robiul Ferdous, the programme was participated by Baitul Mukarram's leader Shahriar, Shakhat Hossain, Gonograma Mancha spokesman Imran Harker, and former Awami League lawmaker Apu Utkal.

At the talk show, referring to the status of Sultanam on the Supreme Court premises, Shakhat Hossain said there should be no religious structures on the court premises, Sultanam told The Daily Star. "I said, yes, I agree with you. There should be no religious structures on the court premises. Not even mosques," she said.



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