

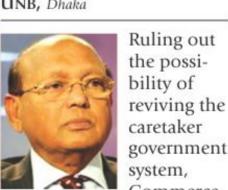
WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 33.4 L 25.4	MYMENSINGH H 32.5 L 26.2	CHITTAGONG H 34.2 L 26.0	SYLHET H 34.2 L 25.5	RAJSHAHI H 32.6 L 26.8	RANGPUR H 31.2 L 25.3	KHULNA H 32.5 L 26.5	BARISAL H 32.4 L 25.8	COX'S BAZAR H 33.1 L 25.5
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Light to moderate rain is likely to occur at many places over Sylhet, Chittagong, Khulna and Barisal divisions and at a few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Mymensingh and Dhaka divisions with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over the country till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:21pm and rises tomorrow at 5:39am, said Met office said.

No chance of reviving caretaker govt system: Tofail



UNB, Dhaka

Ruling out the possibility of reviving the caretaker government system, Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed yesterday said the caretaker government system has been buried in Bangladesh. "If anyone tries to get involved in caretaker government issue, his hands will get burnt," warned the minister while talking to reporters after a bilateral meeting with Qatar's Ambassador to Bangladesh Ahmed Mohamed al-Dehaimi at the secretariat.

He said if anyone thinks that the caretaker government system will come back centering the 16th amendment verdict that will be a great mistake. "We didn't make any comment within 10 days of the verdict. But BNP is talking too much over the verdict. I'm sure Fakhru and Moudud didn't read the observations in the verdict," said the minister.

Responding to a question whether the Chief Justice is being pressurised after the annulment of the 16th amendment, Tofail said many people have been embarrassed over CJ's observations. It is the chief justice who can resolve the crisis, he added.

"He can remove the irrelevant statements from the verdict. We'll present our statements in the next session of national parliament. We've been doing homework on this issue," the minister added.



A boatload of sacrificial animals heading for Dhaka ahead of Eid-ul-Azha. Usually cattle are transported by truck, but on the occasion of this Eid, boats also carry them as the demand rises manifold. The photo was taken from Postogola bridge yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Clean Dhaka on mind

City corporations prepare for tackling waste generated during Eid

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

With the Eid-ul-Azha celebration just a few days away, the two Dhaka city corporations are taking preparations to tackle the challenge of cleaning an additional 18,000 tonnes of waste to be generated from sacrificial animals to be slaughtered on the occasion.

Apart from specifying designated spots for slaughtering the animals, the corporations will use hotlines, apps and social media to receive complaints of untreated waste for expediting and easing the cleaning process that usually begins from the noon of Eid day.

Last year, Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) and Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) faced criticism as blood mixed with drain water submerged many city roads somewhat dampening the mood of the festivity.

Considering that it might rain on Eid day (September 2), DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon on Thursday at a meeting called upon the city dwellers to slaughter the sacrificial animals at dry places and remain alert so that blood does not get mixed with stagnant water.

About 4.15 lakh sacrificial animals are estimated to be slaughtered in Dhaka. Last year the estimated figure was 3.6 lakh.

This year, DSCC fixed a total of 625 designated spots for slaughter of sacrificial animals while its northern counterpart has fixed 546 places.

There will be water tanks for cleaning and transportation facilities to carry meat home.

Since 2015, the city corporations are providing the facilities to speed up waste management, but few people responded to their initiatives.

The corporations could not force people to slaughter at the designated spots as it is a sensitive matter. They rather rely on campaigns to encourage people.

Locals, however, said they have seen little efforts at ward levels in this regard.

Makbul, a Jatrabari resident, said, "It's a good initiative. But rather than arranging grand political rallies, the councillors should spend time on campaigns to convince people to slaughter animals at desig-

STEPS TAKEN BY DSCC, DNCC

- 1,171 slaughtering spots
- Water tank for cleaning
- Transportation to carry meat home
- Hotline, app, social media for complaints

ated spots."

Skeptical of the corporations' promise of service, Akbar Ali, a Moghbazar resident, said, "Fearing hassle, neither my neighbours nor I went to the designated spots."

Mamunur Rashid, who slaughtered a sacrificial animal at a designated spot last year, said, "If councillors and influential people set examples by slaughtering sacrificial animals at the designated spots, others will be encouraged to do so."

Kazi Zahirul Islam Manik, councillor of Mirpur-10, said they will request people to slaughter animals on avenues instead of lanes. "We'll try to convince them by saying if they slaughter cattle on the avenues, we'll complete cleaning by 11:00am."

He said if people slaughter sacrificial animals in front of their houses, it will take longer to clean up.

Wahidul Hasan Milton, councillor of a portion of Khilgaon area (south), said they have fixed three spots in the area where labourers will dump household cattle waste. "Additional 10-15 vans will be hired to speed up waste management."

The councillor, however, is worried about waterlogging. "About 80 percent drains in my area are blocked as the Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) is carrying out its repairing works. So if it rains on Eid day, our efforts will go in vain."

Mostaba Zaman, ward councillor of Shantinagar area, said drainage system has improved in his area recently.

"Earlier, it would take four to five hours for water to recede. Now it takes an hour. However, I will request residents through Imams during Juma prayers not to pour blood of sacrificial animals on road," he said.

Taking to The Daily Star, DNCC Chief Waste Management Officer Commodore MA Razzak said they are planning to clean waste in the shortest possible time.

"We would request people to use our services at the designated spots and cooperate with us to clean the city," he said.

"Also, we are asking people not to throw unused parts of the sacrificial animals here and there as those contribute to waterlogging and pollute the environment."

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Is it okay to use firearm for mere joy?

AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

In a recent video, two men were seen firing two blank shots in succession from the same shotgun. They used the firearm to inaugurate a month-long football tournament on a school playground of Dhamrai, on the outskirts of the capital, but locals said it created panic in the area, while children present there got scared due to the loud noise.

The incident happened on August 18, Friday.

Titled "Kalampur Premier League", the tournament was organised by Kalampur Bazar Byabsayee Bonik Samity. The inaugural ceremony was held on the playground of Valum Ataur Rahman Khan School and College.

Surrounded by a small crowd including guests, players, and a few children, local deed writer Golam Moulou Firoz first fired the gun. It was celebrated by clapping. Then the president of Kalampur Bazar Byabsayee

Bonik Samity, Robiul Karim, took it and fired a second blank shot. As he prepared to fire, most of the people in the crowd were seen covering their ears with hands. The second shot was also followed by another round of clapping.

The Daily Star got a video footage of the tournament inauguration session.

When asked, the two men claimed that it was a licensed firearm and they used the blank shots "just for joy". But according to rules, a privately-owned licensed firearm can only be used for self-defence.

President of Kalampur Bazar Bonik Shomity Robul Karim, who is also known as a local activist of the Awami League, said the shotgun was owned by deed writer Golam Moulou Firoz, and it was licensed.

When asked why he used another man's firearm, Robiul Karim said people who were present during the inaugural session "requested us to use the firearm for mere joy."

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GULSHAN CAFÉ ATTACK

Court wants probe report by Oct 10

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday again asked the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) to submit by October 10 the probe report of a case filed over the Holey Artisan Bakery attack in Gulshan.

Metropolitan Magistrate Nurunnahar Yeasmin passed the order after Humayun Kabir, an inspector of the CTTC and also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, failed to submit the report. With this, the CTTC got 11 time extensions for doing so.

Earlier, the CTTC unit arrested six people, including five suspected militants and a former private university teacher. Of them, five "militants" gave confessional statements before magistrates on different dates.

The arrestees are Hasnat Reza Karim, a former teacher of North South University, Mizanur Rahman alias Boro Mizan, an active operative of JMB; Zahangir Alam alias Rajib Gandhi, one of the "key planners" of the attack; Rakibul Hasan alias Regan, Sohel Mahfuz, grenade supplier of the

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina hands over a cheque of Tk 30 lakh to film actress Anwara Begum as financial assistance, at the former's official residence Gono Bhaban yesterday. Rumana Islam Mukti, daughter of Anwara, was present there. A few days back, a newspaper report drew the prime minister's attention, in which Anwara said she did not want assistance but rather she wanted her dues paid for treatment of her ailing husband, reports UNB. Popularly known as Anwara, she acted in more than 600 movies as of 2015.

PHOTO: PID



Traffic is everywhere. With enormous amounts of money, flyovers are being built one after another for faster travel of vehicles and reducing traffic jams in Dhaka city. But nothing seems to be working. Traffic congestion has become an inseparable part of the lives of the city residents, eating up their valuable hours and creating an economic burden on the entire population. The photo was taken at Satrasta intersection in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

ACC hotline swarming with complaints

Received over 1.57 lakh calls in one month; inquiries about five allegations begin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In the last one month, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) received more than one and a half lakh calls from different parts of the country over various allegations including corruption through its hotline.

Of the total allegations, ACC officials sorted out 400 and sent those to the commission to decide on the next course of action.

On July 27, ACC launched the toll-free hotline number to receive graft allegations. Until yesterday, it received a total of 1,57,514 phone calls, said ACC sources.

Pranab Kumar Bhattacharya, public relations officer (PRO) of ACC, yesterday said they had already begun inquiry of five allegations.

One allegation is made against a chairman and members of a union parishad (UP) for irregularities in the government's food for work programme, he said.

Pranab also said they are inquiring into the allegations of irregularities against a civil surgeon in procuring medical equipment, against the officials of a land office for demanding bribe, against a person who has amassed wealth beyond the known source of income, and a government official for pocketing public money through forgery.

He said they are not disclosing the identities of the "graft suspects" for the sake of proper inquiry.

The process of beginning inquiries into five other allegations are underway, said the commission officials.

Earlier, ACC Director AKM Zayed Hossain Khan, who is supervising the helpline, said about 50 percent of the complaints came from Rajshahi, Rangpur and Khulna divisions and 23 percent of the total complaints were against bribery.

In case of bribery, ACC encourages people to inform them prior to the bribe incident as they could net the accused red-handed.

Every day, five officials receive calls by rotation on four shifts, stretching for two hours.

ACC Chairman Iqbal Mahmood had earlier directed his officials to respond to calls cordially.

Justice Shamsuddin's comments contemptuous

Claims Fakhru

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday claimed that the recent comments of former Justice A H M Shamsuddin Choudhury about Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha were "tantamount to contempt of court."

"The language and words Mr Shamsuddin used in his remarks, it seems to me that he does not have the competence to be a judge. He made indecent comments on the chief justice. This is certainly contempt of court and I think he should be tried for

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