

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
	H 33.0 L 21.6	H 33.7 L 19.7	H 31.7 L 22.6	H 33.7 L 19.7	H 31.6 L 20.4	H 31.2 L 19.5	H 33.0 L 21.4	H 33.2 L 20.5	H 32.6 L 25.0

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius and day temperature may fall slightly over the country, Met Office said. **The sun sets in the capital today at 5:16pm and rises tomorrow at 6:09am.**



# Waited for the right time!

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Pedestrians used to face difficulty while walking on the footpath of Indira Road and the one adjacent to busy Farmgate intersection in the capital, as the walkways were always crammed with street vendors.

And women were the worst sufferers as they hardly managed to navigate their way through the encroached footpaths.

However, the authorities concerned have freed the walkways, paving the way for the pedestrians to walk on the footpaths without any impediment. But the clearing drive raises eyebrows as it has been conducted at a time when the eight-day Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) is going on in the capital.

Sharmin Shila, a commuter from Mirpur, said, "I barely found the footpaths and adjoining road passable, as they were swarming with makeshift kitchen shops and countless vendors blocking pedestrians' movement."

Though she appreciated the move to clear the footpaths from illegal occupation, she asked why the authorities could not keep the road free always.

SM Ajiur Rahman, a zonal executive officer of Dhaka North City Corporation, said they along with the police had cleared the road on the eve of ongoing CPC.

Dhaka is hosting the 63rd annual CPC on November 1-8 with over 500 parliamentarians, parliamentary staff and decision makers from across the Commonwealth taking part in it.

The DNCC official said they had to evict some of the encroachers while the rest moved away voluntarily.

They will "keep the road and footpaths free from occupation", he said.

In a similar drive, the authorities freed the road and footpaths during the 136th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly in Dhaka in April.

**Pedestrians enjoy a free walk on the footpath of Indira Road near Farmgate intersection in the capital. Dhaka North City Corporation with the help of police freed the footpath a few days back on the occasion of ongoing Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in the city. The photo was taken yesterday.**

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

# Haunted by spectre of violence

*Ctg College, Mohsin college authorities keep dormitories closed for two years*

**MD ABBAS, CU**

Government Chittagong College and Government Haji Muhammad Mohsin College in Chittagong city have failed to provide accommodation to students for the last two years, forcing them to reside in small private dormitories.

Mohsin college has two hostels which could accommodate 200 students, while Chittagong College has four for about 500 students.

But on December 16, 2015, all the six dormitories were closed following a clash between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Islami Chhatra Shibir on the Chittagong College campus.

Three students were injured while 60 Shibir activists were detained by police following the two-hour clash.

Since then, students of both colleges, situated opposite each other, are managing in private dormitories.

A fourth-year student of Chittagong College, Md Asaduzzaman, has to commute between his and college regularly because he cannot stay in the hostel.

"I have to travel for about three hours from Anwara upazila to Chawkbazar area every day, and it takes around Tk 200 for each round trip," he said.

"Often I fail to reach college on time due to traffic. It would have been a great mental, physical and financial relief for me if I had a chance to live in the college dormitory."

Md Dil Newaz, a higher secondary-level student of Government Haji Muhammad Mohsin College, of Bashkhali upazila, said, "I have to largely depend on tutoring for my hostel rent as my family is not well-off. Moreover, we are four people living in one small room in the hostel, which can accommodate only two. The environment inside the room is therefore not much favourable for studies."

While talking to this correspondent, most of the students who come from outside the city expressed their dissatisfaction over the indifference of the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to reopen the dormitories.

Maymun Uddin Mamun, a Bangladesh Chhatra League leader of Mohsin College, said they urged the authorities concerned several times to reopen the dormitories but did not get any response.

Female students, especially the newly-enrolled, are the worst sufferers. They are forced to reside in different private hostels in the city with various problems.

"In my hostel, we do not get water in time. It does not even have any hygienic bathroom or toilet," said Jannatul Mawa, a mathematics student of Chittagong College.

Before the closure, both colleges had faced dominance of Shibir activists since early 80s, according to BCL leaders.

**BISWAJIT MURDER**  
**State plea for stay on acquittal of 4 turned down**  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The Supreme Court yesterday cleared the way for four accused, who got acquitted by the High Court of the sensational Biswajit murder case, to walk out of jail.

Chamber judge of the Appellate Division of the SC Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain dropped from its hearing list three petitions filed by the government seeking stay on the acquittal of the four accused.

The SC chamber judge's order means that there is

# POSSESSING GRENADES

## 4 JMB men jailed

**COURT CORRESPONDENT**

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced four militants of banned outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) to 12 years' rigorous imprisonment in a case filed for possessing grenades and explosives in August 2007.

The convicts are: Isahak Sheikh, Anach Ali, Md Rafiqul Islam and Khalil Mia.

Judge Nityananda Sarkar of the Special Tribunal-7 of Dhaka handed down the verdict.

According to the prosecution, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) raided a house in Pallabi on August 2, 2007, and arrested the four along with grenades and bomb-making materials.

Sub-inspector Khandaker Mizanur Rahman of Rab-11, filed the case against them with Pallabi Police Station under the explosives substances act.

After an investigation, police pressed charges against the four on August 28 the same year and the court framed charges against them on November 22.

# 22 holidays in 2018

**BSS, Dhaka**

The cabinet yesterday approved 22 public holidays for the year 2018.

The approval was given at the weekly meeting of the cabinet held at Prime Minister's Office with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Briefing reporters at Bangladesh Secretariat after the meeting, Cabinet Secretary M Shaiful Alam said 14 days will be observed as ordinary public holidays and eight days will be observed under the executive order.

The cabinet secretary said public holidays will be observed on February 21 (International Mother Language Day), March 20

# Some pro-AL teachers out to destabilise DU

*Says rival group while protesting 'assault of proctor' by colleague*



**The human chain on Dhaka University campus yesterday.**

**DU CORRESPONDENT**

A faction of pro-Awami League Blue Panel teachers of Dhaka University formed a human chain on the campus yesterday where they made a counter-allegation that Proctor Prof AKM Golam Rabbani was assaulted by one of his colleagues.

The teachers loyal to Vice Chancellor Prof Akhtaruzzaman organised the programme at Aparajeyo Bangla, a day after the other faction held a human chain at the same venue, demanding removal of Prof Rabbani as proctor for allegedly attacking and injuring sociology professor AKM Jamal Uddin during a

# Ruet Shibir president arrested

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, RU**

Police arrested the president of Islami Chhatra Shibir of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) unit on the campus for "planning subversive activities".

Nasir Uddin is a student of electrical and electronic engineering department of the university, confirmed Motihar police.

Mehedi Hasan, officer-in-charge of Motihar Police Station, said Nasir was held on the Ruet campus. Earlier, several cases were filed against him over sabotage charges. But the OC refused to disclose any further details regarding the cases.



**Shopkeepers busy stocking up new blankets ahead of the winter at Zahoor Hawker Market in Chittagong city. The photo was taken on Sunday.**

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



**A panhandler solicits money from a passenger of a vehicle that stopped on Bijoyagar Link Road in the capital on Sunday. The panhandling prohibition sign, posted on the median by the Department of Social Services, is a glaring example that without creating awareness or ensuring motivation, substitute income and enforcement, spending money on expensive signs does not work.**

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

# RP SHAHA KILLING

## ICT wants charges, if any, on Dec 7

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday asked the prosecution to press charges, if have any, on December 7 in a case filed over the abduction and killing of philanthropist Ranada Prasad Shaha (RP Shaha), and his son in 1971.

Prosecutor Rana Dasgupta sought two more months to press charges but the tribunal gave one month time in this regard.

Meanwhile, the tribunal yesterday directed the prosecution to submit investigation report, if have any, on December 4 in a case filed against three Nogaon men for allegedly committing crimes during the Liberation War.

# LEAVING COTTON INSIDE ABDOMEN

## Arrest Patuakhali 'fake' doctor: HC

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The High Court yesterday directed the police to immediately arrest Rajon Das, an alleged fake doctor of a clinic in Patuakhali, for leaving cotton inside the abdomen of a woman after operating on her in March this year.

The court also ordered the officer in charge of Baufal Police Station in Patuakhali to produce Rajon Das before it by November 15 for using a false medical practicing certificate.

The HC bench of Justice Salma Masud Chowdhury and Justice AKM Zahirul Hoque passed the order following an inquiry report submitted by the civil surgeon of Patuakhali, Assistant Arobindu Kumar Roy told The Daily Star.

In the report, the civil surgeon said Rajon Das, who conducted operation of a woman leaving cotton inside her abdomen in March this year, was fake doctor and used false certificate, he added.

On August 23 this year, the same bench issued a suomoto (voluntary) rule following a report on the incident published in the Prothom Alo on July 22.

According to the report, the cotton was brought from the abdomen of one Maksud Begum, 25, wife of Russel Sardar from Bilbilas village in Baufal upazila, through an operation on July 12 after she was admitted to the hospital in a critical condition.

Advocate Shamsuddin Babul appeared for the civil surgeon.

# Apon owners sent to jail

**COURT CORRESPONDENT**

Three owners of Apan Jewellers were sent to jail yesterday after completion of their one-day remand in connection with three money laundering cases in Dhaka.

The accused are: Dildar Ahmed Selim, Gulzar Ahmed and Azad Ahmed.

Two metropolitan magistrates of Dhaka passed orders after three investigation officers produced them before the court.

Earlier on November 2, two courts placed the three on a one-day remand each in the cases.

Dildar is the father of Banani rape case accused Shafat Ahmed.

On October 23, two Dhaka courts issued arrest warrants against the three owners. On August 12, The Criminal Investigation Department filed five cases against them.

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