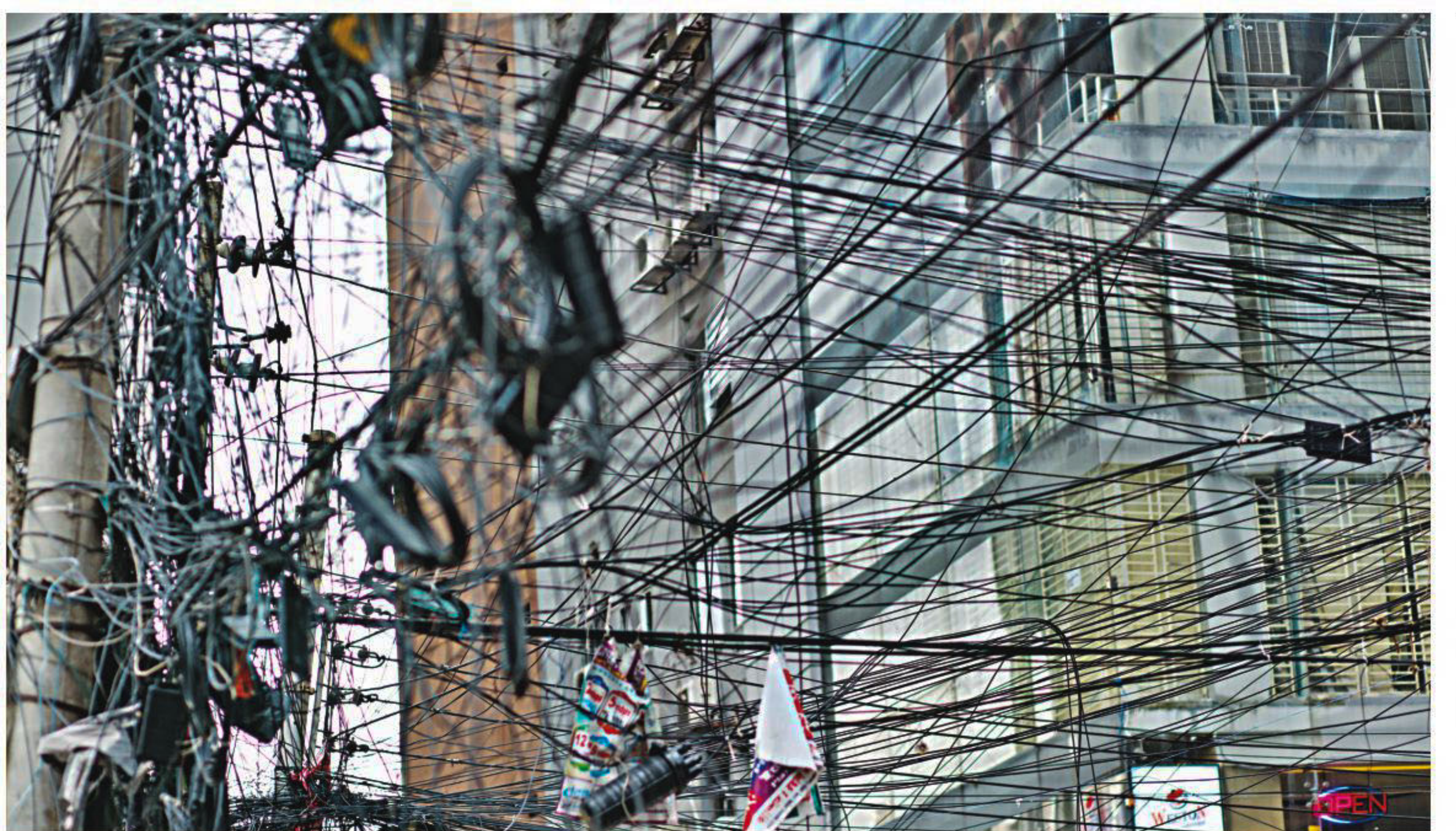




YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
H 34.0 L 27.4	H 32.7 L 26.9	H 31.9 L 25.1	H 32.5 L 25.5	H 35.6 L 26.7	H 35.0 L 27.3	H 34.2 L 25.5	H 32.4 L 26.8	H 30.7 L 25.0

Light to moderate rain/thundershowers with temporary gusty wind is likely to occur over Rangpur, Mymensingh, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Khulna & Barisal divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi & Dhaka divisions with moderate to heavy falls in the next 24 hours till 6:00pm today. UNB said quoting the Met office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:50pm and rises tomorrow at 5:15am.



WHAT A TANGLED WEB WE WEAVE... Dhaka has become a city of cables. Densely cluttered web of cables dangling between utility poles throughout the city not only adds to visual pollution, but also runs the risk of electrical and fire hazards. This photo was taken in Paltan area recently.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

ASK REPORT

Number of 'shootout' victims on the rise

As are cases of violence against women, children

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As many as 275 people have fallen victim to extra-judicial killings in the last six months till June 30 this year, says Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK).

Of them, 239 were killed in "crossfire" with law enforcers. Last year, the number was 144, according to the rights body.

Incidents of "shootouts" spiked up recently amid the ongoing nation-wide anti-narcotics crackdown that began in May.

Among the 239, 176 were killed in so-called shootouts since May 15 amid the anti-drug drive, said a half-yearly report published by ASK on human rights situation in the country.

The report mentioned the killing of Teknaf municipal councillor Akramul Haque and said the unverified audio clips provided by the victim's family to journalists created controversy over the law enforcers' involvement in the incident.

The rights body has prepared the report based on its own findings and it was published in eight leading national dailies.

Meanwhile, 24 people were killed in shootings over various causes by members of the law enforcement agencies while 12 others died from torture, heart attack, other ailments or mysterious reasons in custody.

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE

According to the report, the number of victims of enforced disappearance and abductions allegedly by law enforcers declined this year compared to the first half of 2017.

This year, 3 persons were picked up by plainclothes men, identifying themselves as law enforcers, while in 2017, some 44 were victims of such incidents.

However, none of the law enforcement agency had admitted picking up any of them.

On the other hand, at least 145 incidents of political violence also took place till June 30, resulting in 16 deaths and 1,998 inju-

ries, ASK also said in its report.

RAPE, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Incidents of rape saw a sharp rise this year, with 427 women being victims of sexual violence between January and June, which is 147 more than that of last year.

Thirty-seven were killed after rape and three committed suicide while 57 others escaped attempted rape.

Moreover, 58 women were sexually harassed during the corresponding time and three of them committed suicide. In the last six months, four men were killed for protesting sexual harassment, the report added.

Besides, at least 204 women fell victim to domestic violence; 144 of them were killed

2018 (UP TO JUNE)	
Victims of 'shootout'	239
Victims of enforced disappearance, abductions	3
Violence against women	427
Violence against children	856

SOURCE: ASK

and 30 others committed suicide. Alongside, 30 women became victims of physical abuse.

The ASK report said 112 women were victims of dowry-related issues; of them, 44 were killed, four committed suicide while 52 others suffered physical injuries.

The report further said 25 domestic workers were tortured. Six of them died due to mysterious reasons.

Fourteen other women were victims of acid violence and three victims to arbitration and Fatwa.

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Violence against children saw steep rise in the country this year, said the report.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Jails overflowing with inmates

Can accommodate 36,614; currently housing over 83,000

UNB, Dhaka

Jails across the country are overflowing with nearly three times more inmates than their capacity thanks to the wholesale arrest of people during the ongoing anti-narcotic drive, causing immense sufferings to the prisoners.

The jail authorities said they are facing an uphill task to accommodate the growing number of prisoners, especially in the frontier districts, as those are overcrowded well above their capacity.

Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Kazi Reazul Hoque and noted rights activist Nur Khan voiced deep concern over the violation of prisoners' human and legal rights in the heavily-packed jails.

They said law enforcers should not arrest anyone without any specific allegation while courts need to ensure quick disposal of cases and the judges should grant bail without delay in bailable cases.

They also think there is no reason to keep people unnecessarily in jail before they are convicted as the trial can be going on keeping the accused out of prisons if they are not hardened criminals and militants.

Sources at the Department of Prisons said the country's 68 jails can

accommodate 36,614 prisoners. Usually, the jails house over 70,000 prisoners. But there are now around 83,350 prisoners as of June 24.

Among the total prisoners, the officials said, around 35,815 have been put behind bars in drug-related cases. Of them, around 5,218 prisoners, including 189 women, were convicted in drug-related cases while about 19,000 are under-trial prisoners.

The number of prisoners started

rising abruptly when the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) launched the country-wide anti-narcotic drive on May 4.

The crackdown on drug peddlers and addicts got intensified further as police started a special anti-narcotic drive across the country on May 18.

Around 30,489 suspected drug traders and users have been arrested till June 21 since May 18.

Besides, 20 lakh pieces of Yaba pills,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Gazipur and Khulna city elections 'controlled'

Says Shujan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Civil society platform Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) yesterday at a meeting said that Gazipur and Khulna City Corporation polls were "controlled".

Shujan also stressed the need for raising voices to put pressure on the Election Commission for holding free, fair and impartial elections in Rajshahi, Barisal and Sylhet city corporations. "Controlled election gives birth to controlled democracy which is no democracy at all," Badiul Alam Majumdar, Shujan Secretary, said at the meeting.

Shujan organised the programme, titled "Citizens' thoughts: upcoming city corporation election" at a hotel in Sylhet, a Shujan release said.

In his speech, the Shujan secretary said elections at

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Findings misrepresented

Says EWG about media coverage of its GCC polls monitoring

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Working Group (EWG) issued a statement on Friday claiming that its monitoring of Gazipur City Corporation (GCC) polls was published inappropriately in some media reports.

After the June 26 GCC polls, EWG arranged a press conference on Thursday to share its findings on the election, says a EWG release. A statement provided to the media in this regard read EWG observers found 159 electoral irregularities in 46.5 percent of the centres they had visited.

However, this information has been used inappropriately in some news reports, it claims in the release.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

PROPER USE OF BUDGET Institutional structure for char people urgent

Experts tell Unnayan Shamannay-Oxfam dialogue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should form a particular institutional structure for char people to properly use budget allocated to them, experts said yesterday.

A big amount of budget is allocated for development of char people, but almost the entire budget remains useless due to a lack of an institution, they told a dialogue.

Unnayan Shamannay, a non-governmental

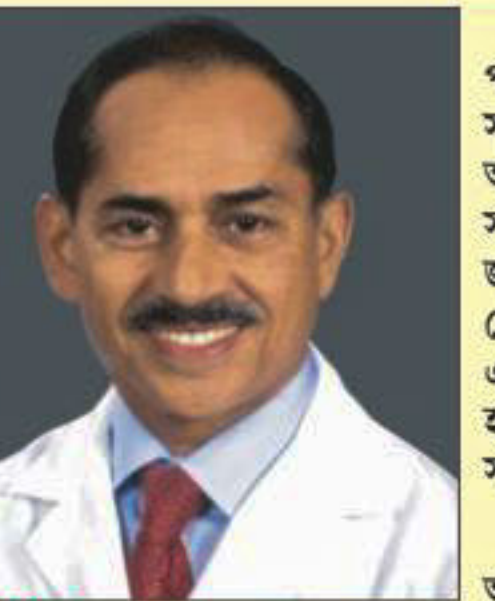
research organisation, in association with Oxfam, organised the dialogue at Biam auditorium in Dhaka.

They also demanded building enough infrastructures like roads, solar power generators and cold storages in char areas and ensuring fair price for the crops produced by char farmers.

National Char Alliance Chairman Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled said, "After our long efforts, the current finance minister

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

যুক্তরাষ্ট্রে কলোরেক্টাল সার্জারি কনফারেন্সে STARR অপারেশন এর উপর বৈজ্ঞানিক প্রবন্ধ উপস্থাপন



প্রফেসর ডাঃ একেএম ফজলুল হক (বাংলাদেশ এবং উপমহাদেশের পাইওনিয়ার কলোরেক্টাল সার্জন, কলোরেক্টাল সার্জারীতে বিশ্বব্যাপী সর্বাধিক সংখ্যক সফল অপারেশন সম্পাদনকারী সার্জন) বিগত ১৯-২৩ মে ২০১৮ যুক্তরাষ্ট্রের ন্যাশভিলে অনুষ্ঠিত আমেরিকান সোসাইটি অব কোলন এন্ড রেক্টাল সার্জিন্স এর আন্তর্জাতিক সম্মেলনে যোগদান শেষে দেশে ফিরেছেন। উক্ত কনফারেন্সে ৫২ টি দেশ থেকে ১৯৬৫ জন সার্জন যোগদান করেন। উক্ত কনফারেন্সে ফিউলা সম্পর্কে বিশেষজ্ঞ প্যানেল এই রোগটি শতকরা ২০-৪০ ভাগ ক্ষেত্রে আবার হতে পারে বলে অভিমত প্রকাশ করেন। এতে আলোচনায় অংশ নিয়ে প্রফেসর ডাঃ হক বলেন যে, তিনি ২২ বৎসরে কয়েক হাজার ফিউলা অপারেশন করেছেন। তার অভিজ্ঞতা অনুসারে এ রোগটি আবার হওয়ার সম্ভাবনা শতকরা তিন ভাগের মত।

উক্ত সম্মেলনে বাধামুক্ত মলত্যাগের (Obstructed defecation) সর্বাধিক অপারেশন (STARR Operation) এর উপর ডাঃ আসিফ আলমাস হক, রেজিষ্টার, সার্জারি বিভাগ, বারডেম, একটি বৈজ্ঞানিক প্রবন্ধ উপস্থাপন করেন। যে সমস্ত রোগী অনেক কোথ দিয়েও পায়খানা ক্রিমার করতে পারেন না অথবা মলবারে আঙ্গুল দিয়ে চাপ দিয়ে পায়খানা করেন তাদের জন্য এই অপারেশন উপকারী। উল্লেখ্য যে প্রফেসর ডাঃ হক ২০১১ সালে বাংলাদেশে প্রথম STARR অপারেশন শুরু করেন এবং ইতিমধ্যে এজাতীয় বহু অপারেশন সাকসেসের সাথে সম্পাদন করেছেন।

ইডেন মাল্টি-কেয়ার হসপিটাল
৭৫৩ সাত-মসজিদ রোড, আবাহনী মাঠের দক্ষিণ পশ্চিমে, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা। ফোন: ০২-৫৮১৫০০৭-১০
মোবাইল: ০১৭৫৫-৬৯৭১৭৩, ০১৭৫৫-৬৯৭১৭৪, ০১৭৫৫-৬৯৭১৭৫, ০১৭৫৫-৬৯৭১৭৬
www.profdrakmfazlulhaque.com, www.piles.care

www.apollohaka.com

WELLNESS for LIVING

Mini hole surgery

Knee & Hip replacement

Ligament surgery

Day to day pain management & Wellness

Apollo Hospitals Dhaka proudly inaugurates
JOINT CARE AND WELLNESS CENTER
with holistic services to reach new dimension in Health Care.

Appointment & Emergency
10678