

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 29.8 L 25.6	MYMENSINGH H 28.5 L 25.6	CHITTAGONG H 27.2 L 24.6	SYLHET H 28.9 L 25.2	RAJSHAHI H 31.7 L 25.3	RANGPUR H 28.9 L 25.8	KHULNA H 30.5 L 25.6	BARISAL H 29.0 L 25.8	COX'S BAZAR H 30.0 L 26.0
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Light to moderate rain/thundershowers with temporary gusty wind and lightning flashes may occur at most places over Rangpur, Sylhet, Mymensingh & Chittagong divisions and at many places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal divisions with moderate to very heavy falls at places over the country 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 5:16am.



AN UNNECESSARY ACT OF FORCE

A large contingent of police, decked up in riot gear and with a prison van and an armored personnel carrier on standby, took position in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday afternoon, well in advance of a rally called under the banner of 'Concerned Guardians and Citizens', protesting the recent assaults on quota reform activists. Before a human chain could form, the police threatened anyone standing there with arrest, snatched banners from protesters and picked up two prominent rights activists in the face of peaceful defiance from other participants. The police also roughed up a number of participants, including a Dhaka University teacher. The protesters later took position on the street with placards.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN, RASHED SHUMON, PRABIR DAS



No one has informed me of the attack: DU proctor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

While multiple incidents of assault on quota reform activists in Dhaka University caused furore on the campus and grabbed media and public attention for the last three days, DU Proctor AKM Golam Rabbani seemed to have waited for someone to inform him about the attacks.

"No one has informed me of the attack," he told reporters at the gates of this office yesterday after a group of students, under the banner "Students against Repression", went up to him seeking explanation of his inaction.

On Saturday, alleged activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League assaulted students who were demanding quota reform in civil service, near DU Central Library premises. More attacks on them followed in the next two days.

The university authorities have been silent in this regard.

The proctor is responsible for the discipline and conduct of students

within the campus, outside residential halls. In the wake of the ongoing incident, his stance was somewhat unusual, as he sought a "written complaint" before taking any action.

"I would take action if anyone files a written complaint about the attacks," said Golam Rabbani while replying to a question.

However, bombarded by questions, the proctor said they are investigating the incident of "violence", and have made little progress in this end.

In addition, he also warned of actions against those who are "trying to agitate the peaceful educational environment" on the campus.

The proctor claimed those who come under attack usually do not give testimony if they are called, thus authorities cannot know about the incident.

He urged the protestors to assist the university administration by providing information on the attacks.

In February, students of public universities and jobseekers, under the

banner of "Bangladesh Sadharan Chhatra Adhikar Sangrakkhan Parishad", waged a movement demanding reform in the quota for civil service.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in the parliament on April 11, spoke about abolishing all types of quotas in public jobs.

However, as no gazette notification was issued in this regard, the protesters started an indefinite boycott of classes and examinations at all universities and colleges on May 14.

On May 21, quota reform leaders postponed their boycott of exams, considering it was Ramadan and that the strike might cause session jams.

On Saturday, as the leaders were about to hold a press conference to brief journalists on their next course of action at DU, they were attacked allegedly by Bangladesh Chhatra League men in which seven quota reforms protesters were injured.

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HIT-AND-RUN IN MIRPUR BUBT students issue 72-hour ultimatum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students of Bangladesh University of Business and Technology (BUBT) yesterday lifted their road blockade in Mirpur after issuing a 72-hour ultimatum to authorities, to arrest the bus driver who killed a fellow student.

The students withdrew the blockade around 4:00pm after police officials assured them of arresting the Dishari Paribahan bus driver responsible for the hit-and-run that killed Masud Rana, a final year BBA student at BUBT, said Jakir Hossain, an agitating student of the university.

Earlier, around 10:00am, several hundred BUBT students gathered at Sony Cinema roundabout and National Zoo Road in Mirpur for the second consecutive day, protesting the death of Masud, who was run over on the same road on Monday.

Just the day before, on Sunday, a bus of Bashumati Paribahan in a similar hit-and-run on Kalshi flyover caused the death of Shahriar Sourov Sejan, 28.

Anwar Hossain, officer-in-charge of Shah Ali Police Station, told The Daily Star that they were trying to arrest the driver of the Dishari Paribahan bus.

COMMUTERS SUFFER FOR SECOND DAY Commute through the area ground to a halt as students continued their agitation for the second day.

Traffic snarl-ups spilled over to surrounding roads, causing sufferings to thousands, especially children, women and the elderly.

Before the road blockade was withdrawn, this correspondent found sixty-two year old Fozila Begum near the Sony Cinema roundabout, struggling to carry her belongings in both hands.

Unaware of the ongoing road blockade, she had arrived at Gabtoli Bus Terminal around 2:00pm from Manikganj and was going to her house at Mirpur 10. With no mode of transport available, the frail elderly woman had to make frequent rest stops

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DIPAN MURDER Court sets 25th deadline for probe report

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday set its 25th deadline for the detective branch (DB) of police, to submit the probe report of the murder case of publisher Faisal Arefin Dipan.

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Ahsan Habib set the date to July 31, after DB Inspector Fazlur Rahman, also the investigating officer (IO) in the case, failed to submit any report by yesterday.

However, the IO did not give any reasons for the delay, court sources said.

Earlier on May 27, another Dhaka court had asked detectives to submit the report by yesterday.

Dipan, 43, publisher of Jagriti Prokashoni, was hacked to death at his office in Dhaka's Shahbagh in October 2015.

His wife Razia Rahman filed a murder case, accusing unknown persons.

Detectives have arrested three members of banned militant outfit Ansarullah Bangla Team, who have all confessed to their involvement in the killing.

Want to see a dramatically different Bangladesh: Bernicat

UNB, Dhaka

US Ambassador to Bangladesh Marcia Bernicat yesterday said she expects to see a dramatically different country -- more advanced and developed one -- when she comes to visit Bangladesh after her tenure.

"While I'll be sad to leave Bangladesh, I already know I'll return. When I'll come back to visit, I expect to see a dramatically different country," she said while delivering her speech at the US Independence Day reception.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali attended the programme as the chief guest. Planetary scientist and flight controller Dr Tess Caswell was also present.

Americans all over the world will celebrate this holiday with families and friends today, July 4. This is Bernicat's last Independence Day celebration as US ambassador to Bangladesh.

She said they need to support "non-violent, free, fair, and credible elections" that reflect the will of people.

"So as I conclude my time here in Bangladesh, I ask the government of Bangladesh and the people of Bangladesh for the same thing I ask of my own government and my own people," Ambassador Bernicat said.

The US envoy said wisdom and determination of Bangladeshi people created an independent, secular, and democratic nation, and 47 years later the same wisdom and determination launched the Bangabandhu Satellite into the space.

"I believe the same wisdom and determination will fulfill the dream of a Sonar Bangla for future generations," she added.

1,000 DU students to receive free copies of Star for a year



Sitting from right, Shishir Bhattacharjee, director of IML at DU; Anis A Khan, managing director of Trust Bank Ltd; Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman, VC of DU; and Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star; with students at the event yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some 1,000 resident students of Dhaka University will get a copy of The Daily Star each, free of cost, at their dormitories for the next one year.

Since 2012, The Daily Star with the support of Mutual Trust Bank Ltd has been serving free copies of the country's largest English daily to select DU resident students, chosen every year on the basis of merit and their family's economic background.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star; Anis A Khan, managing director and chief executive officer (CEO) of Mutual Trust Bank; and Prof Dr Akhtaruzzaman, vice chancellor of DU; launched this year's programme at an event titled "Promoting Knowledge Season 7", at the auditorium of Institute of Modern Languages (IML) of DU yesterday.

Commending the initiative, Akhtaruzzaman said students will

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ROHINGYA CRISIS WB calls for global support

BSS, Dhaka

World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim yesterday said Bangladesh needs more support from the world to help a million Rohingyas as he concluded his two-day visit.

President Kim, along with United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres, visited the Kutupalong camp in Cox's Bazar, the largest and most densely populated forcibly-displaced Rohingya settlement in the world, said a World Bank media release yesterday.

"I saw firsthand the sheer scale of the crisis and spoke with women and men facing extreme hardships. They are waiting for a chance to return to their village. Bangladesh has done a great service by keeping its borders open and supporting the Rohingyas. But much more needs to be done as monsoon rains, natural disasters and disease outbreaks are increasing. The international community needs to step up support," said Kim.

Kim and Guterres interacted with Rohingya women and men and visited the transit camp, health centres and women-friendly spaces.

On Sunday, Kim met the prime minister and the finance minister, foreign minister and other senior government officials.

While commending Bangladesh for its generosity in providing shelter for the Rohingyas, he emphasised the World Bank's commitment to help the host community and the displaced people. "The World Bank will help Bangladesh sustain its impressive development progress while managing the dire situation created by this large influx. We have mobilised US \$480 million grant-based support, which will help build country capacity to deal with the crisis," he said.

HC summons railway DG over compensation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned the director general of Bangladesh Railway to appear before it on August 14, for not complying with its directive over paying compensation to parents of four-year-old Jihad, who died after falling into a deep shaft in Dhaka's Shahjahanpur area in 2014.

Amzad Hossain, director general of Bangladesh railway, was ordered to appear before the HC bench of Justice Md Ashfaqul Islam and Justice Mohammad Ali by the deadline and explain why his office did not pay the compensation.

The HC bench yesterday

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