



YESTERDAY'S
TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 34.9 L 27.2

MYMENSINGH
H 33.2 L 26.5

CHITTAGONG
H 33.0 L 25.9

SYLHET
H 33.8 L 25.5

RAJSHAHI
H 35.8 L 26.8

RANGPUR
H 33.7 L 27.0

KHULNA
H 34.5 L 27.4

BARISAL
H 33.4 L 27.2

COX'S BAZAR
H 32.3 L 26.2

Light to moderate rain/thunder showers with temporary gusty wind may occur at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong & Sylhet divisions with moderate to heavy falls at places over the country in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today, UNB said quoting the Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:34pm and rises tomorrow at 5:33am. Max: Min: Morning Evening



SO MUCH FOR TRAFFIC WEEK: A policeman rides his motorbike on the wrong side right down the middle of a busy road, with a pillion rider sans helmet. Pedestrians, drivers and bikers on city streets are often blamed for violating traffic rules but when a law enforcer breaks the law in broad daylight, one must wonder what the recent student movement for safe roads, or the ongoing traffic week, has accomplished. The photo was taken from the Segun Bagicha area in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

'People want to see law enforcers follow the law first'

Says ACC chairman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People want to see law enforcers themselves following laws, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Chairman Iqbal Mahmood said yesterday.

Speaking about the traffic chaos on the streets during a views-exchange meeting on 'Role of FM Radio in Preventing Corruption and Best Practices' organised by ACC at its Segunbagicha headquarters, he said phenomena like vehicles plying on the wrong side and jaywalking despite footbridges being present need to be stopped. "People want to see that we, who enforce laws, follow the law first," he said.

Highlighting ACC's initiatives in ensuring rule of law, he said the commission has conducted the highest number of drives against irregularities at Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA). A number of cases have been filed and arrests have been made but still there is no end to complaints against them, the ACC chief said, adding that the commission is closely monitoring BRTA's activities.

Thousands of complaints are filed to the ACC through various media including its complaint hotline number 106, Mahmood said, adding that the commission cannot take actions against most of these because they are outside its jurisdiction. This sends a wrong message to the complainant and frustrates them, he said, seeking support of the FM radios to publicise ACC's mandate.

Among others, Shams Sumon of Radio Bhumi, Abdul Awal from People's Radio, Shoyebul Haque from Radio Today and Talat Mahmood from ABC Radio spoke at the programme.

Won't allow unfit vehicles on roads: IGP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police will not allow any unfit vehicles on the streets ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Mohammad Javed Patwary said yesterday.

"Such vehicles will be impounded and action will be taken against drivers without valid licences," he said during a press conference at police headquarters in the capital.

Such action is necessary to relieve passenger sufferings as illegal and unfit vehicles running on long routes often break down and cause severe congestions on the roads.

Additionally, police will also take necessary measures to prevent incidents of launce capsizes caused by overloading, he said.

For a smoother vehicular movement on roads, police have been instructed not to intercept vehicles carrying sacrificial animals while the traders have been urged to mention the names of their destination markets in banners or signs attached to

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Nawshaba denied bail, admitted to DMCH

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday denied a petition seeking bail for actress Quazi Nawshaba Ahmed in a case filed under the ICT Act for allegedly spreading rumours on social media about the student protests for safe roads.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Md Asaduzzaman Nur passed the order after her lawyer AH Imrul Qausar filed the petition, seeking bail for the actress upon completion of her 6-day remand in two phases.

Meanwhile, Nawshaba was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in the afternoon after she fell ill.

The court was dissatisfied with Investigation Officer Rafiqul Islam, also an inspector of Cyber Crime Unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, for not producing

Nawshaba during yesterday's proceedings, and instead allowing her to be taken to hospital without the court's directive.

The IO said he hurriedly took her to DMCH for treatment as she fell sick at the court premises. He said he informed general recording officer concerned about the matter.

Nawshaba was taken to DMCH around 3:30pm, DMP Deputy Commissioner (Media) Masudur Rahman told The Daily Star.

She was taken to the medicine ward where doctors examined her. They said she was suffering from dysentery and was sent to a diagnostic centre for a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scan.

Around 10:30pm, the actress was admitted to the neuro surgery ward at DMCH as doctors said the MRI report shows problems in her spinal cord. She had a surgery before,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

Legal loopholes enabling early marriages: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rules have not yet been formulated under the Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017, giving rise to misuse of the law, rights activists said yesterday.

Since there is a lack of willingness from the government side to discuss the matter, the non-government and rights organisations should gather data from the areas where they work against child marriages on how legal obligations are bypassed to marry off underage girls, speakers said at a views-exchange meeting organised by We Can, a countrywide programme aimed for behavioural change against violence against women, with support from Global Affairs Canada and Oxfam.

The information can be presented to the government to press for immediate formulation of rules under the act, as suggested at the discussion titled "One year following the enactment of Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017 and the current scenario" at the Dhaka office of Manusher Jonno Foundation,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



Speakers at the discussion, titled "One year following the enactment of Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017 and the current scenario" at the Dhaka office of Manusher Jonno Foundation.

PHOTO: STAR



Indian politician Anindya Gopal Mitra calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Dhaka-Delhi relationship at new height

PM says to visiting BJP leader

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said, "Relations between Bangladesh and India have now reached a new height as both the countries duly value each other."

The prime minister said this when Dr Anindya Gopal Mitra, state executive member and adviser to BJP president in West Bengal of India, met her at her office.

Briefing reporters following the meeting, PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim said Dr Mitra also echoed the PM's observation made on the Indo-Bangla relationship.

Hasina told Dr Mitra that the people of Bangladesh always express their gratitude towards the people and government of India for their all-out support to Bangladesh and its people during the Liberation War in 1971.

After the assassination of Father of the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Govt to provide housing, loans to 20,000 ultra-poor families in urban areas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is going to provide housing and loans to 20,000 ultra-poor families in city corporations and municipal areas, with an aim to reduce urban poverty.

The disbursement will be made under a project titled "National Urban Poverty Reduction Programme", at a cost of Tk 826 crore. A planning ministry official said it will be placed today at a meeting of the Executive Committee of National Economic Council (Ecne).

DFID and UNDP will provide about Tk 698 crore of the budget as grants, with the government providing the rest. The project's tenure will be till 2023.

According to the project proposal, 5,000 ultra-poor families will each be given a two-room flat free of cost, while 15,000 ultra-poor families will be given interest-free loans under community housing development fund.

The 20,000 families will be provided with basic services like water connections, sanitation, drainage and approach road facilities under the project.

Criteria for selecting the beneficiaries will be determined when the project is approved, according to planning ministry sources.

The flats and house building facilities will be given to residents of 11 city corporations and 25 municipalities, particularly those located along

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Khaleda's bails granted, extended, cancelled -- all in a day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court granted bail to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in a defamation case, extended her bail in a corruption case and cancelled one in a vandalism case.

Meanwhile, she filed a petition with the HC, seeking bail in another defamation case.

All of the above took place in a single day, yesterday.

BAIL IN DEFAMATION CASE

The HC bench of Justice Muhammad Abdul Hafiz and Justice Kashef Hussain granted a six-month bail to the BNP chief in a defamation case filed in Narail for making derogatory remarks on martyrs of the Liberation War and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The bench passed the order after hearing her bail petition.

On December 21, 2015, Khaleda at a discussion at the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh in Dhaka raised questions about the actual number of Liberation War martyrs saying,

"There're controversies over how many were martyred in the Liberation War. There're also many books and documents on the controversies."

Raihan Farooque Imam of Naragati in Narail filed the case with the Cognisance Court on December 24, 2015.

BAIL EXTENDED IN GRAFT CASE

The HC extended till October 3 its earlier order that granted bail to Khaleda in Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case, in which she is currently serving a five-year jail term.

The bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman passed the order following a prayer moved by Khaleda's lawyer Advocate AJ Mohammad Ali, seeking extension of her bail.

On March 12, the HC granted four months' bail to Khaleda in the case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission. The bail order expired on July 12. Since then, the HC bench extended the bail order five times.

Yesterday, the same HC bench heard for the 15th day the appeal filed by

Khaleda, challenging the lower court verdict that convicted her in the case.

Khaleda's lawyers Advocate AJ Mohammad Ali and Advocate Abdur Rezak Khan read out from the paper book and placed arguments before the bench.

The bench adjourned the appeal hearing till October 2, said ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Sarkar.

BAIL CANCELLED IN VANDALISM CASE

Meanwhile, the HC cancelled its earlier order that granted a six-month bail to Khaleda in a case filed for vandalising a covered-van in Comilla's Chouddagram area on January 25, 2015.

It, however, directed the trial court concerned to dispose of her bail petition within seven days after receiving the order. The bench of Justice AKM Asaduzzaman and Justice SM Mozibur Rahman passed the order.

The HC on May 28 granted a six-month bail to her.

On June 26, the SC's Appellate Division

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Apollo Welcomes Prof. Dr. S.M. Ishaque

We are pleased to announce that Prof. Dr. S.M. Ishaque has joined as full-time Senior Consultant in Gastroenterology. He brings with him over 2 decades of rich experience and expertise.

With more than 50000+ UGI Endoscopy, 5000+ Colonoscopy, 3000+ ERCPs, he is one amongst the few top Gastroenterologists of the country. He has worked at National Institute of Health, Singapore, All India Institute of Medical Science, India & BSMU throughout his illustrious career.

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