

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
	H 35.0 L 27.4	H 34.0 L 28.0	H 34.0 L 26.6	H 34.3 L 26.0	H 35.9 L 27.0	H 35.1 L 26.5	H 35.0 L 26.8	H 32.6 L 26.6	H 31.7 L 25.8

Light to moderate rain/thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka, Mymensingh, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions till 6:00pm today. Country's highest temperature 37.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and lowest 24.2 degree in Sreemangal, said UNB quoting Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:29pm and rises tomorrow at 5:35am.

CU shuttle train takes a toll on students

Seating capacity not increased in four years, despite accidents and risky commute

MD ABBAS, CU

The recent train accident that crippled a Chittagong University student this month at the university railway station has sparked outrage among fellows and calls for immediate action to address the acute transport crisis and the risky shuttle train journey that the students have been enduring for almost a decade.

A postgraduate student of sociology, Rabiul Alam, lost both legs on August 6 as a shuttle train ran him over at Sholoshohor Railway Station while he was hurriedly crossing the rail tracks to get on one of the three shuttle trains which often carry passengers double or triple their capacity.

The hour-long journey by shuttle trains has turned into a nightmare for students.

As CU is located in Hathazari upazila, 22km off the city, most of the 18,000 students, out of the total 28,000, who live outside the campus, have to solely depend on the shuttle train. In addition, the resident students often need to take the train to the city.

The train service was launched in 1980 in cooperation with Bangladesh Railway. In 2014, a Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (Demu) train was added. Since then, there have been

only these three trains, each with six to seven compartments, sometimes even fewer.

Each train can seat 1,080 students but most of the time more than 2,500 travel in one train during the rush hour. They make nine trips to the university every day, hence are supposed to carry no more than 10,000 students. But the number of students who need to travel to the university a day is almost double the number.

Four years ago, in 2014, there were 23,000 students at CU, which has risen to 28,000 now. However, the authorities did not increase the capacity of the shuttle train.

As a result, many students travel standing in the compartments, sitting on the spaces around the locomotive or the stairs, and some sitting on the rooftop, risking their lives.

In 2016, a third-year Bangla student, Aminul Islam Anik, lost his leg while he was hurriedly getting on a shuttle train. In 2008, Mahmudul Hasan Mamun, a third-year accounting student, died after he fell off the roof of a shuttle train, while in 2006 a third-year student of Bangla, Sabina Yasmin, was killed while getting on a moving train at the university station.

Shahidul Alam, a fourth-year student of



In a packed shuttle train of Chittagong University, two students sit at the door. Many others have to travel in the same way, and also on the rooftop, as the capacity of the trains is well exceeded by the number of students. Overcrowding, inset, makes the commuting risky for students, but there has been no initiative to address the crisis.



FILE PHOTO

Teen stabbed to death over altercation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cig

A teenager died after being stabbed by another teenager over altercation at Double Mooring area in Chittagong on Friday night.

The deceased was identified as Imtiaz Hasan Mahin, 15, hailing from Agrabad area. Mahin is an eighth grader of Kolokakoli High School of the area.

Asiqur Rahman, assistant commissioner (Double Mooring) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) told The Daily Star that police arrested the killer, Md Shahed, and recovered the knife used in the attack from his possession.

Mahin was talking to his friends at a shop near his residence and at one stage an altercation ensued with the owner of the shop, who is of same age as Mahin, he said.

"Mahin punched the boy, who in retaliation stabbed Mahin leaving him seriously injured," the officer said, adding that the eighth grader died in Chittagong Medical College Hospital at 10:00pm. Filing of a case was under process until the report was filed.

Comprehensive

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city in the world," he said. The capital's playgrounds, parks and water bodies are also in a very poor state, he added.

Dhaka is the second least liveable city in the world while Damascus is the worst, according to the annual global survey of Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), published a few days back.

Abu Naser Khan, chairperson of Poba, presided over the programme where Md Abdus Sobhan, its general secretary, also spoke.

CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT AT JU Admission test of evening programme foiled

JU CORRESPONDENT

The scheduled admission test for the evening master's programme in Chemistry at Jahangirnagar University (JU) was postponed yesterday amid protests.

As announced before, the JU unit of Progotisheel Chhatra Jote (PCJ) took position in front of the Chemistry department building where the admission test was supposed to be held.

The PCJ activists kept the entryway to the building blocked between 9:00am and 11:00am.

Mohammad Didar, a PCJ leader and also the general secretary of JU Chhatra Front, said, "The authorities have been compelled to postpone the admission

test through our protest... We will resist again if they [the authorities] make further attempt to take the admission test..."

"We'll resist all types of commercialisation on the campus, especially the evening course in the university," he added.

Earlier, on August 11, PCJ at a press conference declared that they would resist Friday's admission test.

Speaking with journalists yesterday, Prof Kaushik Saha, coordinator of the evening programme, confirmed the postponement of the test.

However, the chairman of the Chemistry department, Prof Nurul Abser, refused to make any comment about the

BCL man stabbed by fellow activist

JU CORRESPONDENT

A member of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) stabbed a fellow activist at Mir Mosharraf Hossain Hall of Jahangirnagar University yesterday.

Mokarram Hossain Shiblu, a third-year student of philosophy and activist of the hall unit, was admitted to the university medical centre.

Shiblu submitted a complaint to the proctor and the hall provost, accusing Al Razi, a third-year student of government and politics, of stabbing him at the hall around noon as he had an altercation with him earlier.

Some other BCL activists rescued the victim. Friends said Shiblu got injured in both hands.

Contacted, Al Razi admitted the incident, but said it was just a "scuffle", not an "attack". "I met Shiblu to get my money back

WOMAN KILLED IN MALAYSIA Body reaches home after 43 days

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

The body of a Bangladeshi woman, who was killed allegedly by her husband in Malaysia at the beginning of last month, arrived in Patuakhali yesterday, after 43 days.

Sajeda-e-Bulbul, 29, was buried at Patuakhali Muslim Graveyard after a namaz-e-janaza held at Patuakhali Boro Jam-e-Mosque.

The body of Sajeda, daughter of Anisur Rahman from Adalatpara area in Patuakhali town, was cut into seven pieces allegedly by her husband Shahjada on July 5. Then he packed the body in a suitcase and dumped it in a forest.

Police recovered the body and

informed a relative of Bulbul in Malaysia, who identified the victim.

The relative then informed Sajeda's family in Patuakhali, said Bulbul's mother Momotaj Begum.

Momotaj had said she requested Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to take steps to bring back the body of her daughter.

Victim's sister Khadija Parvin Upama said Shahjada often tortured her sister for dowry. Sajeda had filed a case in this regard with Shah Ali Police Station in Dhaka, she added.

Shahjada then took Sajeda and their daughter to Malaysia on December 3, 2016, saying she could



The graduating students with the guests at the ceremony.

UP member held with VGF rice

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

A Union Parishad member was arrested with 30 sacks of rice for Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) from Bepari Dangi village of Sadarpur upazila in Faridpur on Thursday.

The arrestee is Ayanal Bepari, 39, a member of Ward 6 in Akter Char union. He was produced before a Faridpur court yesterday, which sent him to jail.

The government decided to distribute 20kg rice per person among 1,212 destitute people in the union under the VGF programme, said locals. The UP member misappropriated 30 sacks of rice during distribution.

Jubair Rahman, AC (land) in Sadarpur, said, "We caught him red-handed with the rice."

Subroto Golder, SI of Sadarpur Police Station, said a case was filed.

Innovation key to tackle climate change

Workshop told

CITY DESK

Bangladesh needs innovative programmes to face the adverse impacts of climate change as it tries to become a middle-income economy, said Secretary of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Abdullah Al Mohsin Chowdhury.

He was addressing a workshop on "innovative climate resilient livelihoods", organised jointly by the ministry and UNDP at Ban Bhaban in Dhaka Tuesday.

He also lauded the innovations of the Integrating Community-based Adaptation into Afforestation and Reforestation (ICBA-AR) project, which aims to decrease climate change vulnerability of five most affected coastal districts -- Noakhali, Bhola, Barguna, Patuakhali and Pirojpur -- through sustainable livelihood adaptation.

Chief Conservator of Forest Mohammed Shafiqul Alam Chowdhury, among others, was present on the occasion, while over 50 participants took part in the workshop.



Four die in road crashes

STAR REPORT

Four people including a Brac official were killed in separate road accidents in Panchagarh, Naogaon, Jhenidah and Gazipur on Thursday and yesterday.

In Panchagarh, a man was killed after his bicycle was hit by a car on Boda-Debiganj road in Boda Sadar upazila on Thursday, reports our Thakurgaon correspondent.

The man was identified as Rahmat Ali, 40.

In Naogaon, Brac official Shafiqul Islam, 30, was killed on Patnitala-Mahadebpur highway on Thursday, reports UNB.

Parimal Kumar, officer-in-charge of Patnitala Police Station, said the accident occurred when two motorbikes collided.

In Jhenidah, an unidentified man was killed when a vehicle knocked him down on Jhenidah-Chuadanga road on Thursday.

In Gazipur, a woman was killed when a covered van ran her over on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway's Chandna intersection yesterday.

Sunnydale bids farewell to class of 2018

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Graduation is a day of equal parts happiness and nostalgia for students, who bid adieu to the educational institution they essentially grew up in, leaving behind memories but also looking forward to a bright future.

Some 74 students of Sunnydale School, one of the leading English medium schools of the country, went through the bittersweet experience yesterday, at the A-level 2018 batch graduation ceremony held at the capital's Golf Garden.

With this ceremony, the school recognised the academic accomplishments of the students, and also gave farewell to them.

Reflecting on his time at the school, valedictorian Md Rifat said, "All these year of discipline have made us version of ourselves." He hoped that all his peers would make the school and the nation proud in the years to come.

Rahman, consultant surgeon, Central Hospital (Dhaka), said, "Love your work. Stick to your determination." He also advised them to explore their talents at the fields they are good at.

Special guest Mahmood Hasan, former ambassador and secretary of Bangladesh government, advised them to practise curiosity, perseverance and gratitude. "Embrace curiosity, passion and perseverance. Let them guide you in your journey," he said addressing the students. Life will have disappointments but students must deal with them with a positive attitude, he said.

Tazeen Ahmed, principal of the school, asked her students to be good human beings before anything else, and follow principles of simple living and high thinking.

Dr Tanvir Ahmed Khan, chairman of the school's board of directors, said, "My request to you is to not forget your past. Remember the support of your parents and teachers, and always love your country."

Bangabandhu's ideals must be spread among new generation

Says education minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ideology of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman must be spread among the new generation, said Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid in a discussion yesterday.

Dhaka University Alumni Association (DUAA) organised the discussion marking the 43rd death anniversary of Bangabandhu and National Mourning Day at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban of Dhaka University in the capital, according to a press release.

"Freedom for the Bangalee people was the sole dream of Father of the Nation. His whole life he struggled for it. His ideology must be spread among the new generation," the minister said.

Pro-VC (admin) Prof Muhammad Samad, DUAA President and Managing Director of Ha-Meem Group AK Azad and President of Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) Prof ASM Maksud Kamal also spoke at the programme.

PM greets Raushan, Ershad on Eid

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has greeted Leader of the Opposition Raushan Ershad and PM's Special Envoy and Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.

The premier extended her greetings by sending Eid cards to them separately on Thursday.

PM's protocol officer SM Khurshid-ul-Alam, on behalf of her, handed over the Eid cards to Raushan's assistant private secretary AKM Abdur Rahim Bhuiyan and Ershad's assistant private secretary Md Monjurul Islam.

Hashem Chowdhury passes away

CITY DESK

Md Hashem Chowdhury, additional managing director and chief operating officer of Mutual Trust Bank Limited (MTB), passed away at United Hospital in Dhaka on Thursday, aged 58, says a press release.

His namaz-e-janaza was held at Bashundhara Boro Masjid after Fazr prayers yesterday. Later, the body was brought to his village home in Chouddagram of Comilla. His Quikhani will also be held there.

A doa mahfil will be held after Asr prayers tomorrow at MTB Centre, 26 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan 1, Dhaka and another one at Gulshan Azad Mosque on August 25.

