

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
	H 33.7 L 27.8	H 33.0 L 25.5	H 31.2 L 26.0	H 32.8 L 25.2	H 35.0 L 26.2	H 34.0 L 26.0	H 33.0 L 27.0	H 31.4 L 26.7	H 28.0 L 25.0

Light to moderate rain/thundershowers with temporary gusty wind may occur at many places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi, Rangpur & Mymensingh 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 06:16pm and rises tomorrow at 5:41am. City/Town temperatures in Celsius: Max: Min: Morning Evening

A tragic demise

11yr old electrocuted to death
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eleven-year-old Aman was waiting in front of Gandaria High School in Old Dhaka yesterday, waiting for his school's shift to begin.

As he went to sit in the security guard's shed adjacent to the school gate and leaned against one of the iron poles, the fifth-grader was electrocuted and knocked unconscious.

He was immediately taken to a nearby hospital and later shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), where doctors declared him dead.

Aman and his mother lived in a small rented house in Sutrapur Natun Rasta area in Old Dhaka. His father, a bus-helper, died six months ago and his mother worked as a domestic help to make ends meet, said Aman's uncle Abdul Khaleque.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



MAKING A LIVING OFF A DYING ART... Circus artist Biplob jumps through a ring of knives at Karwan Bazar in Dhaka. The 25-year-old youth trained in various circus acts including this one since childhood. It is a family profession he inherited. A resident of Keraniganj and father of one, Biplob had been involved with now-defunct Sonar Bangla Circus, a well-known circus company of the near past. He went solo and continued with this profession after the company closed. His weekly income stands at around Tk 3,000. The photo was taken on Friday.

USE OF EVM IN NAT'L POLLS
Ershad, left-leaning parties apprehensive

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad yesterday expressed his skepticism over the Election Commission's (EC) decision to use Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in the upcoming general election and underscored the need for more rectification of the decision.

Meanwhile, Workers Party of Bangladesh and the Left Democratic Alliance yesterday in separate statements expressed their apprehension over using the technology in the upcoming polls.

Speaking at a programme at the Jatiya Party's Banan office in Dhaka, Ershad said, "The EVMs should not be imposed on the voters as there is confusion about the system in people's mind."

"Many people in the country still cannot put thumb impressions. How will they vote by pressing the buttons of EVM?" Ershad said.

However, Ershad, also special envoy to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, said his party will clear its stance over the issue through an extended meeting to be held on Wednesday.

Amid strong opposition from one election commissioner, the Election Commission on August 30 decided to send a proposal to the government for amending the Representation of the People Order (RPO) so it can use Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in the national election to be held at the end of December.

The JP chief also asked the authorities concerned to take opinions from all political parties before using the system in the elections.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Kidnapped boy rescued in capital

UNB, Kushtia

Police rescued an eight-year-old boy, who was abducted from Kushtia's Kumarkhali upazila on August 17, from the capital's Shyampur area on Friday night.

The law enforcers also arrested Saidur Rahman, 38, of Kashipur village in Kumarkhali upazila.

Saidur kidnapped Maruf Sheikh, 8, son of Ariful Sheikh and Anwara Begum of the village, from their residence in the afternoon on August 17, and took him to the capital.

Later, he demanded Tk 5 lakh as ransom from the boy's family, said Sub-inspector Rajib Hasan of Kumarkhali Model Police Station.

After tracking the cellphone of the kidnapper, police managed to rescue the boy, he added.

ROHINGYA REPATRIATION
Int'l human rights law the only reasonable framework

International conference told
DU CORRESPONDENT

The implementation of international human rights law is the only reasonable framework on the safe, voluntary, and dignified return of Rohingya refugees in line with international standards, said speakers at an international conference on Rohingya crisis yesterday.

The criminology department of Dhaka University organised the two-day conference titled "Rohingya: Politics, Ethnic Cleansing and Uncertainty" at the Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Building of the university.

Assistant professor of Hong Kong University Kelley Loper presented the keynote titled "The Rohingya, the search for solution and the potential of international human rights law" at the conference.

"In light of the recent persecution on Rohingya people, the persistence of serious human rights violation and protracted displacement of them, several scholars have criticised the human rights movement for failing to play an active role during the time," said Kelley in her keynote.

Only the international human rights law provides a pragmatic, practical and principled framework for anchoring and informing more effective and realistic responses to such human rights violation, she said.

The professor said the process of implementing the law is long and drawn out, involves complex interactions among a range of actors at the international, regional and domestic levels.

"But human rights law nevertheless provides an indispensable roadmap that may, hopefully, eventually persuade and deliver real change, and overdue justice," she added.

Inaugurating the session, DU Vice Chancellor Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman also emphasised implementing the human rights law.

The VC claimed that the Myanmar government is trying to delay the repatriation process, and urged the international organisations to continue putting pressure on Myanmar for smooth

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

UNFIT VEHICLES
Transport owners, workers resume drives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Vigilance teams of transport owners and workers yesterday resumed checking documents of vehicles and drivers at several points in the capital after an around two-week Eid break.

Meanwhile, traffic police filed at least four cases against four drivers for not having valid driving licences while plying Airport Road in Shewra area.

Three vehicles were impounded in GPO area while another team in Sayedabad terminal prevented 15 vehicles from plying the road for not having proper documents, said a member of the vigilance team.

The drive would continue, he added.

Dhaka Road Transport Owners' Association (DRTOA) President Abul Kalam said they checked over 500 vehicles at Mohakhali bus terminal and found that all the vehicles had valid papers.

On August 8, in light of the recent student protest demanding safe roads, DRTOA decided not to allow anyone run services on the basis of daily contracts with drivers and helpers, and to abolish the system. They also decided to check documents at the terminals.

The next day, it formed four vigilance teams to conduct its raids.

Meanwhile, the traffic department of Dhaka Metropolitan Police filed 2,921 cases and collected around Tk 15.46 lakh in fines during a daylong drive against traffic rule violators in Dhaka on Friday.

Some 30 vehicles were also dumped, reports UNB.

In Natore, the district administration yesterday conducted drives to stop unauthorised vehicles on Natore-Pabna-Rajshahi highway.

Two mobile courts in Bonbelghoria area of Natore Sadar upazila filed 12 cases and collected Tk 3,700 from 12 drivers, reports our correspondent.

Shaheena Khatun, deputy commissioner of Natore, said the drive would continue.



From left, Dhaka Ahsania Mission President Kazi Rafiqueul Alam, Barrister Rafique-ul Haque, Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology Treasurer Prof Kazi Shariful Alam, Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain and National Professor Anisuzzaman during the ceremony at the university in Dhaka yesterday.

Law university is now a call of time: CJ

Barrister Rafique-ul Haque felicitated with Ahsanullah medal
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain yesterday said establishing a university dedicated solely to law education for the development of the state's law and justice branch is now a call of time.

He made the observation at a ceremony awarding noted jurist Barrister Rafique-ul Haque with the "Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah Gold Medal-2017" in the capital. Charity organisation Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) arranged the ceremony at Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) in the capital.

"I will urge the country's learned and well-off lawyers, including barrister Rafique-ul Haque, to establish at least one full-fledged law university like our neighbouring country which will help enriching the legal education, its qualitative standard and research," he told the ceremony as the chief guest.

"I believe they will be ever remembered by the future generation of law professionals for such initiative," he added.

DAM has been awarding individuals with the prestigious medal, named after eminent social reformer Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah, since 1986. Individuals are nominated for the medal for their outstanding contributions to building the society, said the organisers.

Barrister Rafique received the award for his contributions as a lawyer and his social activism beyond professional boundaries, they said.

Saying Barrister Rafique "is an institution and is a class by himself", the CJ said, "His contributions to protecting the image of the judiciary and establishing rule of law has been immense."

Speaking of his contributions, National Professor Anisuzzaman said, "I respectfully recall his social contributions beyond his duties as a lawyer, especially those in the fields of education and health."

Born in 1935 to an elite Muslim family, Rafique-ul Haque took law as profession in 1960 as an advocate at the Kolkata (then Calcutta) High Court in India.

He started practicing at the Dhaka High Court in 1962 and at the Pakistan Supreme Court in 1965.

In 1975, he started his career as a senior advocate of the Appellate Division of Bangladesh Supreme Court. He was appointed as the country's attorney general in 1990.

Alongside his professional duties,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

BARAPUKURIA COAL SCAM
Technical committee to evaluate system loss

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Petrobangla has formulated a technical committee to evaluate the system losses into the 1.45 lakh tonnes of coal disappearance incident of Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Ltd (BCMCL) in Parbatipur upazila of Dinajpur.

The market price of the disappeared coal is Tk 230 crore.

The committee was formulated on August 28, a day before its former managing director Habib Uddin Ahmed told reporters that the coal disappearance was nothing but a system loss, which had never been estimated since the commercial production of BCMCL started back in 2005. He made the remarks after coming out from the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) office in Dhaka, following an interrogation by ACC in connection with the missing coal.

Abul Monsur Faizullah, chairman of Petrobangla, on July 28 hinted at forming a technical committee to evaluate the technical aspects of the mine.

Mahbub Sarwar, director (production sharing contract) of Petrobangla, was made head of the seven-member body.

Other members are Professor Chowdhury Kamruzzaman, department of Geology, University of Dhaka; Professor Dr Md Shafiqul Islam, department of Petroleum and Mining Engineering, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology; Mokbul E-Elahi, former director (mine and mineralogy and planning) of Petrobangla; AKM Shamsuddin, former managing director of Paschimanchal Gas Company Ltd (PGCL) in Sirajganj; Md Akbar Ali, director (geology), Geological Survey of Bangladesh, and SM Habibur Rahman, general manager (engineering) of Petrobangla.

The committee has been asked to submit its findings to the chairman of Petrobangla

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Six caught with 40,000 yaba pills

UNB, Dhaka

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday detained six people in possession of 40,000 yaba pills from inside a microbus in the city's Golapbag area.

The elite force also seized uniforms of a fake security service company "SISS" including caps, name badges and reflector belts from their possession.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-10 challenged a microbus in the area around 5:10pm and recovered the consignment, said ASP Jahid Hasan of Rab-10.

During preliminary interrogation, the detainees reportedly revealed to Rab that they used to bring the drugs from Teknaf, before sending them to various districts.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visits a museum on historic March 7 speech inside "March 7 Bhaban" after inaugurating the building at Rokeya Hall of Dhaka University yesterday.