

WEATHER
FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S
TEMPERATURES

DHAKA

H 35.6 | L 27.4

MYMENSINGH

H 35.7 | L 26.5

CHATTGRAM

H 35.2 | L 28.0

SYLHET

H 34.8 | L 26.9

RAJSHAH

H 35.4 | L 26.4

RANGPUR

H 35.2 | L 26.4

KHULNA

H 36.0 | L 27.0

BARISHAL

H 36.0 | L 26.4

COX'S BAZAR

H 35.2 | L 27.4

Light to moderate rain/thundershowers with temporary gusty wind may occur at one or two places over Khulna, Barishal, Chattogram and Sylhet divisions in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today, UNB said quoting the Met office. The sun sets in the capital today at 05:59pm and rises tomorrow at 5:46am.

CROSS-BORDER RAIL LINK Tk 80cr project may be placed at Ecne today

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Bangladesh and India are going to re-open another rail link between Chilahati in Nilphamari and Haldibari in Siliguri to boost sub-regional trade and tourism.

A Tk 80 crore project may be placed at the Ecne meeting today for setting up 7 kilometre broad-gauge rail track in Bangladesh part. Delhi will set up 4km rail line from Haldibari to India-Bangladesh border.

According to the proposal, once the project is complete, a network will be established to facilitate import and export activities of India's north-east, Nepal and Bhutan through Mongla port in Bangladesh.

Passengers and goods could also be transported between India and Bangladesh through the rail line.

A railway ministry official said at the India-Bangladesh inter-government meeting in 2015 the decision to set up

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Workers install razor wire on the railing of a bridge at Hatirjheel in Dhaka recently. The authorities concerned took the initiative to prevent visitors from sitting on the railings, inset, and ensure their safety.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

No need to amend constitution for non- party polls-time govt Says Moudud

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Standing Committee Member Moudud Ahmed yesterday said an election-time government like the one in 1991 can be formed without amending the constitution to hold the next general election in a free, fair and inclusive manner.

"Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, the then Chief Justice, became head of the interim government in 1991 -- going beyond the constitution. It was later rectified through the 11th amendment. We can follow that now for holding the upcoming general election in a free and fair manner," he said.

Speaking at a programme in Dhaka, Moudud, a former law minister, said, "The constitution cannot be a barrier to people's welfare as it is meant for people."

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been saying that the next general election will be held as per the constitution, under her administration. Like that of 2013, a polls-time government will be formed by reconstituting the existing cabinet, she said.

BNP boycotted the January 5, 2014 election, demanding polls under a non-partisan interim administration, and still maintains the stance.

The government is saying that a polls-time government will be formed to oversee the next general election but there is nothing about such government in the constitution, Moudud claimed.

"It means they want to form the polls-time government, going beyond the constitution. If that can be done, a non-party neutral government can also be formed as per our demand, going beyond the constitution," he said.

Nasir Uddin Ahmed Pintu Smrity Sangsad arranged the programme at Jatiya Press Club, demanding immediate

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SC upholds first-class division for Shahidul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday upheld a High Court (HC) order asking government to provide first-class division facilities in jail to internationally-acclaimed photographer Shahidul Alam.

Appellate Division's chamber judge Justice M Imman Ali dropped the government stay petition against the HC order from its hearing list and asked to move a leave-to-appeal petition before the court.

"The previous HC order on September 5 that granted first-class division facilities in jail for Shahidul will now remain in force," his lawyer Barrister Jyotirmoy Barua said.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam appeared for the government, while Barrister Sara Hossain stood for Shahidul.

On September 5, HC bench of Justice Borhanuddin and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman passed the order following a writ petition filed by Shahidul's wife Prof Rahnuma Ahmed.

The 63-year-old photographer is now in Dhaka central jail in a case filed under the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Act for "spreading propaganda and false information against the government".

Shahidul was picked up by law enforcers from his home in the capital's Dhanmondi area on the night of August 5. The following day, police filed the case against him.

He was placed on a seven-day remand and was sent to jail on August 13.

'Give us till December 31 to update documents'

Transport owners urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Road Transport Owners Association (DRTOA) yesterday requested the government to give them time until December 31 to update their vehicles' documents.

"If owners fail to update their documents within December 31, action can be taken [against owners]. Like [the offer given regarding] driving licence, we are requesting to give us time till December 31 to update documents," Khondaker Enayet Ullah, general secretary of DRTOA, said.

He was speaking at the special general meeting of DRTOA at Mohanagar Natya Mancha in the capital's Gulistan. The meeting was held to discuss how public transport can be operated in the city in a more disciplined way.

Enayet made the request after around a dozen bus owners told the meeting that they were facing problems as law enforcers are being strict about checking documents, following the student protests for safe roads.

Following the request of transport owners and workers, last month the government allowed until December 31 to meet the requirement of experience for licence to drive

medium and heavy vehicles.

A person having a professional driving licence for light vehicles and one year of experience can now drive medium-sized vehicles. Similarly, a person having a professional driving licence for medium-sized vehicles can operate heavy vehicles until December 31, as per the gazette issued by the Road Transport and Bridges Ministry on August 16.

Enayet said the number of bus owners wanting to update their documents exceeds the capacity of the two offices of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), which provide fitness and other clearance.

"I want to make the request to the road transport and bridges ministry through the media," he said, amidst applause from transport owners.

Enayet said they have held meetings with transport owners separately, sent letters to them and even formed four vigilance teams to bring discipline in the transport sector in Dhaka city.

"As we didn't get expected response, we have convened today's special general meeting," he said, adding, "All of you [owners]

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JS body submits report on road transport bill

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary committee yesterday placed its report to the parliament on the much-talked about Road Transport Bill, recommending some changes in the proposed law.

It, however, did not address criticisms against the act, including the "lenient" nature of punishment over deaths caused by reckless driving.

Scrutinising the bill, the standing committee on road transport and bridges ministry at a meeting on Saturday decided to recommend changes to sections 25(2), 43(4) and 54 of the proposed law.

Akabbur Hossain, chief of the JS body, yesterday placed the report before the house.

The proposed law is likely to pass in the current session of parliament scheduled to continue till September 20, sources at the parliament secretariat told The Daily Star.

On Thursday, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader placed the bill in parliament, which then sent it to the parliamentary standing committee for scrutiny. The House body was asked to submit its report within a week.

PROPOSED CHANGES

Section 54 deals with formation of a trustee board to manage funds for the injured in road accidents, or family

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Road crashes kill two in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two people were killed and one injured in road accidents in Dhaka in the last two days.

Yesterday afternoon, a motorbike ridesharing passenger was killed and the biker was injured after a bus hit the bike from behind near Khilkhet on Airport Road, a duty officer of Khilkhet Police Station said.

Police seized the bus of Snigdha Paribahan and the bike from the spot. The biker was identified as Sabbir, 34, but the passenger's identity could not be known.

Locals rushed them to Kurmitola General Hospital. They were shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared the passenger dead, said Bacchu Miah, sub-inspector of DMCH police outpost.

Meanwhile an auto-rickshaw driver was killed when a bus hit his

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- Candidates should have minimum CGPA 3.00 out of 4.00 in Graduation and 4.00 out of 5.00 in SSC & HSC or equivalent results in "O" and "A" Level exams.

Job Requirements

- Dedicated, self-motivated and career focused
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Excellent ability in speaking and writing both Bangla and English
- Proficiency in computer literacy & sound analytical ability
- Willing to work anywhere in the country
- Age not over 30 years as on September 30, 2018.

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Job Requirements

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- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Excellent ability in speaking and writing both Bangla and English
- Proficiency in computer literacy & sound analytical ability
- Willing to work anywhere in the country
- Age not over 30 years as on September 30, 2018.

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