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# CLIMATE CHANGE FALLOUT It's causing infectious diseases more

Says WB report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Distinct weather variations like hotter and longer summers, warmer winters and extended monsoon are leading to an increase in infectious diseases in Bangladesh, reveals a World Bank report released yesterday.

The weather patterns are also affecting mental health, especially of those living in big cities like Dhaka and Chattogram. The most vulnerable are children, the elderly and those with physical disabilities, the report said.

Titled "Climate Afflictions Report", it finds a link between shifting climatic conditions and the increase in respiratory, waterborne, and mosquito-borne diseases, as well as mental health issues.

It was prepared after gathering data from 15,000 people and 3,600 households throughout the monsoon and dry seasons.

The summers are getting hotter and longer, winters are warmer, and the monsoon season now spans from February to October, the report reads.

Bangladesh's temperature has increased by 0.5 degrees Celsius over the past 44 years and is predicted to rise by another 1.4 degrees by 2050.

The pattern of rainfall has also changed. The average monthly rainfall during the peak of monsoon -- from June to August -- has decreased by approximately 60mm. But between 1991 and 2019, the mean monthly rainfall during

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A train travels on rails that have gone under water after a not so heavy rain near Jurain Rail Gate area in the capital yesterday. Due to poor storm-water drainage, nearly a kilometre of the rail lines were under water.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

# ACC sues former chief justice Sinha

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday filed a case against former



chief justice Surendra Kumar Sinha for allegedly amassing over Tk 7 crore illegally.

ACC Deputy Director Gulshan Anowar Prodhan filed the case with its Integrated District Office in Dhaka.

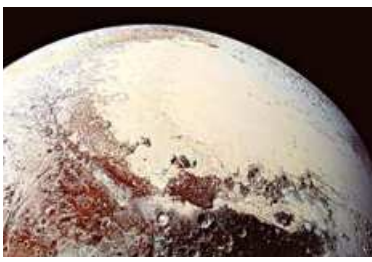
In an inquiry related to corruption allegations against Sinha, the ACC found that he spent the money to construct a nine-storey building in Uttara on a plot registered in his brother's name.

Investigators found that the former chief justice was allotted a plot in Rajuk's Uttara Residential Area.

"Later, by misusing power he managed to get his brother Narendra Kumar Sinha an allotment of a 3-katha plot in Rajuk's Purbachal project area.

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# Pluto's atmosphere disappearing



MAIL ONLINE

Pluto's atmosphere is disappearing as the dwarf planet moves further away from the sun, a new study has revealed.

Pluto takes 248 Earth years to complete a single orbit of the Sun, and its distance varies from its closest point of 30 AU (2.7 billion miles), to 50 AU (4.6 billion miles).

Researchers from Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio deployed telescopes at various sites in the US and Mexico to observe the distant world as it passed in front of a star, briefly backlighting

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# ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

## New US aid for Pakistan

OCTOBER 8, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

### US AID FOR RELIEF IN EAST PAKISTAN

Pakistan and the US today signed an agreement in Islamabad under which the US would provide an additional 50 million rupees for relief work in East Pakistan. The aid allocated from surplus US funds in Pakistan was a new American response to an appeal from the UN Secretary General U Thant for international relief in the province.

### ON THE WAR FRONT

A Pakistani patrol was ambushed today. Three Pakistanis were killed and one was injured in the operation. The guerillas returned to base without suffering any losses.

A raiding party laid in wait near Pakistani defence at Guthuma in the evening. That was the usual time for Pakistanis to fall in for evening roll-call. As soon as the roll-call was over and the Pakistanis were about to disperse, the raiding party opened up with LMG and mortar fire. Ten Pakistani soldiers were killed in the raid. The guerillas disappeared in the darkness of the night and returned to base safely.

In the Rangpur-Dinajpur-Rajshahi sector, Mukti Bahini encountered a party of Pakistani troops and razakars and killed four troops and two razakars near Meherpur. The same night, Mukti Bahini ambushed a Pakistani vehicle near Baltia, killing one soldier and destroying the vehicle.

In the Dhaka-Comilla-Chattogram sector, Mukti Bahini ambushed enemy troops' patrol in Latomura of Comilla district,

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# In-person classes at DU to resume on Oct 17

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The authorities of Dhaka University yesterday decided to resume academic activities, including in-person classes, from October 17.

The decision was made at a meeting of the academic council held virtually in the afternoon. The meeting was presided over by Vice Chancellor Prof M Akhtaruzzaman.

Prof Abul Mansur Ahmed, chairman of mass communication and journalism department and a member of the university's syndicate, confirmed the development to The Daily Star.

"The academic council has decided to resume academic activities," he said, adding that students are asked to take at least one dose of Covid-19 vaccine before attending in-person classes.

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# 'How did you get close to Regent's Shahed?'

Court asks ex-DGHS chief; grants him bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked Abul Kalam Azad, former director general of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), how did he and Regent Group Chairman Mohammad Shahed become so close.

It asked the question while hearing a petition submitted by Azad seeking his bail in a case filed over embezzling Tk 1.37 crore by Shahed and others. After the hearing, the court granted an interim bail to the ex-DG.

Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka passed the order upon a bond of Tk 20,000 and signatures of two guarantors after Azad, flanked by his lawyers, filed the bail application, ACC Public Prosecutor Mir Ahmed Ali Salam told The Daily Star.

During yesterday's hearing, the judge asked Azad, "How did you become so close to Shahed?"

Azad replied, "I first met Shahed the day when the memorandum of understanding [between the DGHS and the Regent Hospital] was signed. The [health] minister

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Abul Kalam Azad

# Bangladesh fall 2-0 to Maldives

ANISUR RAHMAN from Male

High-flying Bangladesh tasted their first defeat in the 13th SAFF Championship, suffering a 0-2 defeat to Maldives at the National Football Stadium in Male yesterday.

Despite a fourth consecutive loss to Maldives, Bangladesh are still in the race for the final with four points from three games. They only trail Nepal, who have six points from two games. India and Maldives are also in the race, with two and three points respectively from two games.

After a goalless first half, Hamza Mohammad and Ali Ashfaq hit one goal each in a match that had become a do-or-die affair for the hosts after a 1-0 defeat to Nepal.

Although Bangladesh had brilliant performance

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# DB arrests 5 offering unlicensed e-loans

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The detective branch of police arrested five members of a fraudulent ring who were operating an unlicensed digital microfinance business with an excessive interest rate.

DB's Web Based Crime Investigation team arrested them from the capital's Dhanmondi, Banani and Mirpur areas on Tuesday and Wednesday, AKM Hafeez Akhter, DB additional commissioner, told a press briefing yesterday.

The arrestees are Emanuel Edward Gomes,

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## PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 8

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-45 12-30 4-15 5-53 7-30  
JAMAAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-56 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A purple Swamphen, popularly known as Kalim Pakhi, is seen flying over a water body in Keranipara of Rangpur sadar. Locals said a Swamphen flock goes there every year to breed but poachers have been catching the birds and selling them for Tk 500 each.

PHOTO: SHABBOSACHI DAS



# Star HEALTHLINE

## High BP THE SILENT KILLER

STAR HEALTH DESK

For some, high blood pressure does not require any introduction. They have been living with it for years, with an accompanying general anxiety. But for others, especially young adults busy building their lives, high BP should not be overlooked.

Stress has become synonymous with modern life. Be it paying the bills, or finishing that assignment -- we are constantly on edge, chasing our objectives. In this pursuit, we overlook

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