

ODISHA, WEST BENGAL
'Dana' to make
landfall tonight
May impact Bangladesh's
Sundarbans

STAR REPORT
The cyclonic storm 'Dana' is expected to make landfall in India's Odisha and West Bengal between Thursday night and Friday morning, said Bangladesh Meteorological Department yesterday.
>If the storm moves along the coast, it may make impact to the Sundarbans and south-western region of Bangladesh," said Md Omar Faruk, a meteorologist of BMD's Dhaka office. Rainfall is expected in different places across the country in the next two days, he added.
>Meanwhile, maritime ports of Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Mongla and Payra have been advised to hoist distant cautionary signal-3, said a special bulletin of BMD yesterday noon.

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STUDENT PROTESTS
CU teacher
forced to resign

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rantu Das, a lecturer at Chittagong University's history department, resigned yesterday in the face of student protests.

The department chair Prof Dr Shamima Haider confirmed the matter.

His resignation, however, was not accepted as it was not voluntary, mentioned CU Proctor Dr Tanvir Mohammad Hayder Arif.

Habibullah Khaled, a protester and a student at the university's Islamic Studies department, claimed that Das lacked the qualifications necessary for his current post.

"Das was also involved in the murder of two CU students in 2012, when he was a vice president of the CU unit of Chhatra League," claimed Khaled.

Proctor Tanvir said students started protesting in demand of his resignation after he joined campus yesterday morning.

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Yunus in good health
Says press secretary

BSS, Dhaka

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus is in completely good health, his Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam confirmed yesterday.

"Last night [Wednesday], we got a huge number of phone calls and they inquired about the health of Prof Yunus. We want to inform you that he [Yunus] is in completely sound health and well," he told a press briefing in front of the State Guest House Jamuna.

Alam said the chief adviser held a meeting with the BNP delegation yesterday as part of the ongoing dialogue.

Replying to another query over removal of President Mohammed Shahabuddin, he said the government has not taken any decision to this end.



21 Hindu families
protest land grabbing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Members of 21 Hindu families in Patuakhali town yesterday formed a human chain in front of Patuakhali Press Club protesting grabbing of their 1.5 acre of land.

Civil society members and leaders of Patuakhali district unit of Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad also joined the programme.

Speakers said a group of local land grabbers led by Bellal Khan, former president of Badarpur union unit of Jubo Dal, and Moniruzzaman Nasir, a former member of Jubo Dal's Patuakhali district unit, allegedly grabbed the land owned by the 21 families to construct structures on it.

On Tuesday afternoon, an army team from Patuakhali camp visited the site and assured the families of all kinds of cooperation. The families previously filed a written complaint with police.

Contacted, Ratanuzzaman, officer-in-charge (Investigation) of Patuakhali Police Station, said both sides have been instructed to maintain peace.

Contacted, Bellal Khan claimed he had purchased

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'DEMEANING STUDENTS'
College principal
to be sued over FB post

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The Lalmonirhat District Administration has ordered a case to be filed against a college principal who allegedly referred to students from the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement as a "disabled generation" in a Facebook post.

The directive was given to the Kaliganj Secondary Education Officer on Monday. The order was issued by Assistant Commissioner (Education) SM Shafaat Akhter Nur with the deputy commissioner's approval.

In the letter, the college's governing body was instructed to take appropriate action against Principal Abdur Rouf Sarkar of Kakina, Kaliganj.

According to the DC office sources, the complaint was filed by Tabassum Rayhan Mustazir, a lecturer in the English department at Uttar Bangla College, on Sunday.

Tabassum told The Daily Star that on July 18, Sarkar made the comment in a Facebook post, which she had saved via screenshot. She said the statement violated the principles of the students' movement.

However, Sarkar denied posting anything demeaning against students or anti-state.

He said the accusations were incorrect and Tabassum was a former lecturer. "She is no longer employed at the college," he said.

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Road or dumpsite?

Waste piles up along 2km stretch of Dhaka-Sylhet highway in Habiganj

MINTU DESHWARA

The accumulation of garbage and household waste along a two-kilometre stretch of the Dhaka-Sylhet highway in Madhabpur upazila, Habiganj district, is causing significant inconvenience to both locals and those passing through the area.

The waste has been piling up due to the absence of a designated dumping ground, said locals.

They said municipal workers have been dumping garbage collected from Madhabpur Upazila Parishad to Shahpur Bazar beside the highway.

Shafiqur Rahman, an auto-rickshaw driver, said, "We have to carry passengers on the highway several times a day. The odour is unbearable. We always have to keep our nostrils and mouth covered while crossing the 2km stretch of the highway piled up with garbage."

Farhad Sheikh, a local, echoed him. Contacted, AKM Faisal, the



upazila nirbahi officer and municipal administrator of Madhabpur, said steps were being taken to resolve the issue.

"We have selected a location for waste disposal, and a proposal will be sent to the ministry concerned within next week for land acquisition. Once approved by the ministry, the municipality will dispose of all garbage there and clean up the roadside," he said.

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