



After school, children rush to this waterbody to catch small fish using nets. Following heavy rainfall over the past few days, fresh water has entered the waterbody in Sylhet, making it easier for people to wade in and catch fish. The photo was taken at Shimukandi village of Sadar upazila yesterday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

## RU renames 12 structures

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Other changes include renaming the Faculty of

Agriculture Building to Agriculture Building, Sheikh Russell Model School to Rajshahi University Model School, Kajla Gate to Shaheed Sakib Anjum Gate, and Binodpur Gate to Shaheed Ali Raihan Gate.

Asked about the relevance of the new names, the acting registrar said, "We have seen students demanding the renaming of the Mujib Hall. Although they didn't have the formal authority to make that decision, we tried to understand the pulse of the students. Since a male dormitory was renamed Bijoy-24, we named a female dormitory July-36 to maintain parity. As for the other changes, we prioritised universality."

However, several

students expressed dismay over the matter. Salihuddin Ammar, former coordinator of the Students Against Discrimination, said while the university requires structural and policy reforms, the administration seems preoccupied with renaming buildings.

He also said students were not consulted before taking the decision and added that the new names reflect "short-sightedness".

He added, "Are the university admins devaluing 1971? Tajuddin Ahmad and Syed Nazrul Islam -- they are the heroes of 1971. Generations should know about their contribution."

Wazed Shishir Ovi, a student and secretary of the RU Student Federation, said, "The decision to rename these places is concerning. While the administration fails to address pressing issues such as accommodation shortages, lack of classrooms, insufficient research, faculty

campus safety, and the absence of a democratic environment, they are instead focusing on controversial and unnecessary name changes."

On February 6, several students protesting the previous names dismantled the nameplates of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall, Sheikh Fazilatunnisa Mujib Hall, Sheikh Russell Model School, Sheikh Kamal Stadium, and the under-construction AHM Kamaruzzaman and

Sheikh Hasina Halls.

Following the incident, the RU administration formed a seven-member committee on March 6 for naming and renaming university structures.

**PRAYER TIMING**  
MAY 24

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-05	12-45	5-00	6-40	8-00
JAMAAT 4-40	1-15	5-15	6-45	8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Four of 5 burn victims

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The fire broke out following a gas explosion on May 16 in the ground-floor flat of a three-storey building at South Anandnagar. Mansura, her husband Tofazzal, and their three daughters were burnt.

Mohammad Ripon, Mithila's brother-in-law, said gas was leaking from a nearby construction site where underground digging had damaged a pipeline. "We informed the landlord about the leak on

the morning of the incident, but no action was taken," he said. "That night, while lighting a mosquito coil, the explosion occurred, engulfing the family in flames."

Tofazzal, a day labourer by profession, was the father of four daughters. All three of his younger daughters and his wife were injured in the blast. Only his eldest daughter, who happened to be at her grandparents' house at the time, escaped unharmed.

## Prices of eggs

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Traders said broiler chicken was being sold at Tk 150-170 per kg yesterday. The price of Sonali chicken also remained unchanged at Tk 240-280 per kg since last week.

In contrast, beef and egg prices have gone up. Abdul Kader, a beef vendor in East Shewrapara, said he is now selling beef at Tk 800 per kg, up from Tk 780 last week. "With Eid approaching, the demand for cattle has increased, which in turn pushed up beef prices," he said.

Eggs are now being sold for Tk 125-140 per dozen, compared to Tk 120-135 a week ago.

Prices of key spices also rose this week. Cardamom is now Tk 5,000-6,000 per kg -- up by Tk 200 -- while cumin is priced at Tk 600-700 per kg, slightly higher than two weeks ago.

The cost of imported ginger rose to Tk 110-220 per kg, compared to Tk 110-200 last week. Both local and imported garlic saw a hike: local varieties are now Tk 110-160 per kg, up from Tk 100-150, while imported garlic is selling for Tk 185-240 per kg, up from Tk 170-240.

Rain spurs fear

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The number is likely to rise as the rainy season continues.

"We are currently managing dengue patients in general wards, but dedicated wards will be set up if the patient load increases," he said.

He advised that anyone diagnosed with fever should immediately consult a doctor and get a dengue test, following prescribed treatments. Keeping well-hydrated is crucial, with coconut water, saline, fruit juices, and homemade drinks recommended to maintain hydration and provide essential vitamins and minerals to aid recovery.

## Ishraque vows

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The formation of zonal monitoring teams involving former councillors and past election candidates. He also expressed willingness to personally join conservancy workers on the ground.

Earlier on Thursday, the High Court cleared the way for him to take oath as DSCC mayor.

The ruling, issued by Justice Md Akram Hossain Chowdhury and Justice Debasish Roy Chowdhury, rejected a writ petition seeking a stay on the Election Commission's decision to declare him as the mayor of DSCC.

On March 27, Ishraque was declared the winner in the 2020 mayoral election against Awami League candidate Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh by an election tribunal.

## Meril-Prothom Alo Awards 2024

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Mosharral Karim was

recognised as Best Actor in the web series category for "Adhunik Bangla Hotel", with Zinnat Ara taking Best Actress for "Sinpaa".

Jahid Preetom won Best Director for "Buk Pocketor Golpo" under the limited-length fiction segment, while Subrata Sanjib won Best Screenplay for "Rod Brishtir Golpo".

Tasnia Farin's role in "Porospor" earned her the Best Actress award, while Khairul Basar took Best Actor for his performances in "Porospor" and "Rod Brishtir Golpo" in the same

category.

"Priyo Maloti" won three major accolades, claiming the awards for Best Feature Film, while its director Shangkha Dasgupta was honoured as Best Director and actress Mehazaben Chowdhury took home the Best Actress award. Mammun Hasan Emon claimed the Best Actor award in the same category for his role in "Maya".

A documentary titled "Megastar Shakib Khan", celebrating 25 years of Shakib Khan in cinema, was also screened at the event.

## Hefazat calls for unity, patience

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prayers, demanding the dissolution of the Women's Affairs Reform Commission and cancellation of its report, which they claimed contained recommendations against

the Quran.