

RAIN LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

Unb, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions till 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places,	Met Office said. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.	Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and Jessore and lowest 19.5 degrees at Sayedpur.	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage			
	The sun sets in the capital today at 6:33pm and rises tomorrow at 5:17am. Country's highest temperature 35.2 degree	Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:	Dhaka Chittagong Rajshahi Rangpur	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening	Khulna Barisal Sylhet Cox's Bazar	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
				31.1	23.6	76	78		35.2	23.0	84	77
				32.0	26.5	75	88		34.1	23.4	80	73
				34.8	23.3	77	79		29.0	21.0	70	82
				30.2	19.8	93	70		33.2	26.2	80	87



NOR'WESTER HITS CAPITAL

1) The Kadam fountain lies uprooted before the National Eidgah in the capital yesterday following Saturday night's nor'wester. 2) The storm also blew down this tree, from inside the Cirdap premises. 3) One tree inside the Bangladesh Shishu Academy fell down on a neighbouring makeshift pottery shop. 4) A billboard, erected inside the Jatiya Press Club premises, was also blown down on the road in front during the rainstorm.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN, PALASH KHAN

Binod Bihari symbolises struggle against evil forces

Memorial meeting told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Binod Bihari Chowdhury symbolises the struggle against all evil forces, speakers told a memorial meeting on the anti-British and Language Movement veteran. Binod Bihari gave all the money coming with his awards to Asiatic Society of Bangladesh to introduce the memorial speech on Master-da Surya Sen, said writer Mofidul Haque. "Binod Bihari Chowdhury will remain an inspiration for the country's people. 'Be the change before changing the world you live in', this was Chowdhury's ideology," he said. Journalist Abed Khan said the new generation, taking cue from Binod Bihari's life and struggle, should resist communal forces to create a country free from all blind beliefs. Binod Bihari created history and he, himself, is a part of it, said poet Abul Momen. The meeting, organised by Biplobi Binod Bihari Chowdhury Swaran Sabha Parishad in Chittagong city's Muslim Hall on Saturday evening, was chaired by Prof Emeritus Alamgir Muhammad Serajuddin and also addressed by women's rights activist Begum Mushtari Shafi.

Bloggers Shuvo, Russel freed on bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bloggers Subrata Adhikari Shuvo and Russel Parvez were freed from jail last evening more than a month after they were arrested on charges of posting "derogatory comments about Islam and Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)" on the internet. Forman Ali, senior superintendent of Dhaka Central Jail, told The Daily Star that Shuvo and Parvez walked out of the jail at around 6:00pm after they had received their bail orders. Earlier in the day, a Dhaka court granted their bail prayers after a lawyer submitted petitions seeking bails for the two bloggers. Shuvo, 24, a master's student of Dhaka University, and Russel Parvez, 36, a teacher at an English medium school, were arrested on April 2. Judge Md Zahirul Haque of the Dhaka

Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, in his order, said the two bloggers had been in jail for over 45 days, adding that the charges brought against them would be settled on the basis of statements of witnesses and evidences. So they were granted bail, the judge further said. The court, however, did not pass any order on the bail petitions submitted for two other bloggers - Asif Mohiuddin and Moshir Rahman Biplob - as their lawyers were absent in the court yesterday. Asif was arrested on April 3 and Moshir on April 2 on the same charges. The court fixed June 2 for passing order whether it will take cognizance of the charges brought against the bloggers. Earlier on April 17, detective police submitted probe reports against four bloggers accusing them of hurting religious sentiments via social media.

BNP, Jamaat create anarchy in the name of Hefajat: Muhith

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday alleged that BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami have been creating chaos to hamper the country's economic growth, in the name of Hefajat-e-Islam. The country has achieved economic growth in the last four years when the world witnessed recession, Muhith said while addressing a rally in the capital's Kamlapur area. Despite global economic recession, Bangladesh stands fifth position in economic growth in the world, he claimed. The government takes every decision on economic affairs in consultation with the stakeholders concerned, he added. Awami Jubo League's Dhaka City [South] unit organised the rally protesting burning of religious books by Hefajat activists; and BNP-Jamaat's violence in the name of hartal. Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon, Jubo League Chairman Omar Faroque Chowdhury and General Secretary Harunur Rashid also spoke. Earlier, Jubo League formed a human chain on Bangabandhu Avenue to protest burning of religious books and violence by Hefajat and BNP-Jamaat.

Milk Vita reshuffles 28 staff to cut graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The authorities of state-run cooperative dairy Milk Vita have transferred its 28 employees, including seven officers, to its different plants last week to prevent corruption and anomalies at the company, said a press release. With this transfer, a total of 71 employees have so far been relocated in the past three months at the country's largest dairy producing farm, officially known as Bangladesh Milk Producers' Cooperative Union. Five heavy vehicle drivers, who were kept idle at Milk Vita's Sirajganj plant, have been posted to the Mirpur plant, where two temporary employees have been sacked on charge of misconduct. The company has sent documents about corruption in procurement and establishment of a UHT plant, a plant to make condensed milk, a can making plant and a water bottling plant during 2004 to 2007 to the Anti Corruption Commission for taking action against those who were responsible in the incidents, the release said. Milk Vita Managing Director Mohammad Munir Chowdhury said they were trying their best to stop financial and administrative irregularities at the company.

Debate contests help create democratic values: TIB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Through the practice of tolerance to other people's views, debate competitions help create democratic values in the youth, said Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) yesterday. Debate is such a competition where nobody loses because everybody learns some fundamental values here, he added. Iftekharuzzaman was addressing the closing ceremony of "TIB 4th Sher-e-Bangla Cup Debate Competition 2013" at Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University (SBAU) in the capital. On the country's current political situation, he said, "Differences in opinion will always be there but for the sake of democ-

racy the two parties (AL and BNP) must come to a solution through dialogue." He also added that the political leaders should always think of the people instead of thinking of themselves only during parliamentary elections. Food Minister Dr Abdur Razzak was present as the chief guest at the programme. He slammed Hefajat-e-Islam for vandalism during its rally on May 5. Some 250 student debaters from 50 educational institutions participated in the three-day long competition. TIB and SBAU jointly organised the competition with the theme of resisting corruption through the spirit of youth. Koushik Soor of Dhaka University won the first position in the parliamentary debate competition.



ICDDR,B Clinical Governance and Systems Head Lutfe Ara, middle, and National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor) Head Prof Khandaker Abdul Awal Rizvi, right, console Mariam, 24, a victim of Rana Plaza collapse, at Nitor in the capital yesterday. On behalf of humanitarian organisation AmeriCares, Lutfe Ara handed over medical aid to Prof Rizvi for Savar tragedy victims.

PHOTO: COURTESY

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