

HEAVY RAINS LIKELY



Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at most places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions till 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy to very heavy rains are also

likely at places over Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions, Met Office said. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:50pm and rises tomorrow at 5:15am.

Country's highest temperature 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 24.0 degree Celsius at Kutubdia. The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka 28.6	25.5	95	95	Khulna 30.2	27.0	92	92
Chittagong 28.0	25.2	98	97	Barisal 29.6	26.4	100	91
Rajshahi 30.5	27.5	86	96	Sylhet 33.5	25.4	83	90
Rangpur 32.2	26.6	87	71	Cox's Bazar 26.5	25.0	97	97

NEWSINbrief

Victim cop of Hefajat violence returns from Singapore hospital

Police constable Md Piarul Islam, who suffered severe burn injuries during Hefajat-e Islam violence, was back home yesterday after treatment at Singapore General Hospital. Piarul of Naogaon was on duty on the first floor when the Hefajat men torched the office of deputy commissioner of traffic (east) in the capital on May 5. He was flown to Singapore from Dhaka Medical College Hospital on May 14 for better treatment on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's initiative.

EATL-Prothom Alo Apps Contest begins tomorrow

EATL Apps, the country's first ever apps store, and the daily Prothom Alo yesterday launched a contest for youths on mobile app usage and technology. The "EATL-Prothom Alo Apps Contest 2014" will start tomorrow and end on March 13 next year. Prof Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, vice chancellor of University of Asia Pacific, launched the contest in the capital's Sonargaon hotel. Top three winners will receive Tk 10 lakh, 5 lakh and 2 lakh respectively.

Dispute between blue, white panels postpones Duta emergency meeting

An emergency meeting of Dhaka University Teachers' Association was postponed yesterday due to an altercation between the teachers of BNP-backed white panel and pro-Awami League blue panel of the association. Duta President Prof Farid Uddin Ahmed of blue panel told The Daily Star that the general secretary called the meeting without informing him. However, pro-BNP General Secretary Prof Mamun Ahmed said he had informed the president of the

Seminar

Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum will organise a seminar on child prostitution; Venue: Mahboob Kabir Hall, Biam Foundation, New Eskaton; Time: 10:00am.

Workshop

Dhaka Ahsania Mission will arrange a workshop on good governance; Venue: Brac Centre, Mohakhali; Time: 10:30am.

Views-exchange meeting

Steps Towards Development will hold a views-exchange meeting on violence against women; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 10:00am.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

People wade through flood water in Banglabazar area of Cox's Bazar sadar upazila yesterday. About 200 villages throughout eight upazilas of the district were inundated due to heavy downpour for the last three days and water rolling down from hills. An official at Cox's Bazar Met office said the excessive rainfall was likely to continue and might cause landslides.

School students show mistakes in textbooks to education minister

Frustrated by the mistakes in his mathematics textbook, a class eight student boldly stepped up at a meeting in presence of the education minister yesterday to say that some answers in it were incorrect. Taking up the meeting moderator's challenge to solve one problem, Arafat Hossain showed within minutes that his claim was true. Some 56 school students hailing from the country's seven divisions attended the views-exchange meeting on primary and secondary level textbooks jointly organised by Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE) and Manusher Jonno Foundation in the capital's Local Government Engineering Department. Another class eight student, Sumaiya, found incorrect chemical equations in her chemistry book. Most students opined avoiding such mistakes and use of lucid language. This year's textbooks contain several printing and technical mistakes "as it was a huge task" to introduce new curriculum in 111 textbooks and distribute those across the country, said Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid. Some 27 crore textbooks were published in 2012 for around four crore students and another four crore may be published this year, he said adding that the textbook changes were the first of its kind in the last 18 years. Nahid identified low budget allocation as one hurdle in bringing positive changes to the education sector. CAMPE Executive Director Rasheda K Chowdhury and National Curriculum and Textbook Board Chairman Shafiqur Rahman also spoke.

Shibir cancels today's plan for countrywide hartal

Islami Chhatra Shibir yesterday backed off from its plan to enforce a country-wide daylong shutdown today due to inclement weather and "examinations of the National University". The Jamaat-e-Islami backed student body, however, gave a 72-hour ultimatum to the government to release its leaders, including Shibir President Delwar Hossain, and warned that if the leaders are not freed within the time, the organisation will go for tougher programmes including hartal from July 3. Shibir, which had decided to enforce a shutdown today if their leaders were not freed by yesterday, said in a statement, "It has decided not to go ahead with the plan due to inclement weather and some scheduled examinations at the National University".

FOREIGN WORKERS IN SAUDI ARABIA Projects to be delayed if amnesty deadline not extended: JCCI

The Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) has said numerous projects of Saudi Arabia, where migrant workers are employed, will be delayed if the kingdom does not extend the grace period allowing foreign workers to legalise their status beyond July 3. "All companies and establishments hurried to rectify the status of their workers but many of these processes take a long time and there is crowding in all the related departments due to the grace period being so short," said Khalaf Al-Otaibi, member of the Industrial Committee in JCCI. JCCI urges authorities to extend the grace period at least until the end of the current Hijri year (November 2013), reported Saudi Gazette from Jeddah yesterday. Meanwhile, the Saudi labour ministry on Wednesday proposed an extension of the July 3 deadline upon requests from diplomats of a host of labour exporting nations. The amnesty declared early May allows irregular foreign workers, mostly employed in construction projects, to legalise their status, transfer jobs and professions or return home without facing any penalty. The Saudi labour ministry says only 1.58 million of the irregular foreign workers were legalised while half of about eight million expatriates in the Kingdom need their status corrected. According to officials, about three lakh of the five lakh irregular Bangladeshis in Saudi Arabia have to correct their status.

Public bears 60 percent of healthcare cost Seminar told

The fundamental constitutional right to healthcare services turns into a hollow promise as above 60 per cent of the total healthcare cost come from the people's pockets, experts said yesterday. In order to cope with that cost, families have to cut back on their other expenditures so much that they often fail to maintain their consumption of necessities, they told a seminar on universal health coverage at Brac Centre in the capital. Hossain Zillur Rahman, executive chairman of Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC), which organised the programme, said, "The poor become even poorer when they cover the healthcare expenses on their own." The reasons why people have to spend so much on healthcare include low utilisation and poor performance of existing public healthcare infrastructure, high and irrational diagnostic costs, and absence of successful health insurance solutions, he said. At the seminar, Health Minister Dr AFM Ruhul Haque regretted that the budgetary allocation on health sector decreased this year despite his attempts to increase it. Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury, executive director of Gonoshasthya Kendra, urged the government to introduce food rationing for garment workers to save them from malnutrition.

Obituary
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh
Dr K Zaman, an eye-specialist and a philanthropist, died of old age complications at his Maharaja Road residence in Mymensingh town yesterday morning. He was 83. Zaman, also founder of Mymensingh BNSB Eye Hospital, received "Sada Moner Manush" award in 2008 for his contributions to the society. He was buried at Gulkibari graveyard in the town.

THE WORLD OF FASHION IS AGOG ONCE AGAIN CHOOSE YOUR BEST FOR THE FESTIVAL

ঈদ মানে খুশি এবার আরও বেশি

ঈদের বাড়তি খরচ মেটাতে ইবিএল দিচ্ছে **জীবনধারা - যেকোন প্রয়োজনের জন্য লোন।** সাথে বাড়তি সাশ্রয় হিসেবে রয়েছে **ঈদারেটে ১% ছাড়, প্রসেসিং ফি-তে ৫০% ছাড় এবং দারুণ কিছু পার্টনার আউটলেটে চমৎকার সব ডিসকাউন্ট।**

ইবিএল জীবনধারা লোন*

লোন গ্রহীতাদের জন্য বিশেষ ডিসকাউন্ট কুপন:

alabang	২৫% ডিসকাউন্ট, সব ফ্যাশন আউটলেটে	Fiore	২৫% ডিসকাউন্ট, সব ডায়মন্ড প্রডাক্টে (১ম যমজান থেকে চাঁদরাত পর্যন্ত)
বিশ্ববাজার	১০% ডিসকাউন্ট, সব ফ্যাশন আউটলেটে	ATK HOUSE	১৫% ডিসকাউন্ট, বুকে (শুধুমাত্র বৃহস্পতি ও শুক্রবার)

*সর্ব প্রযোজ্য। এই অফার ঈদুল ফিতর পর্যন্ত চলবে