

THUNDERSHOWERS LIKELY

WEATHER TODAY

Unh, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy rainfalls are also likely at

places over the country, Met Office said.

Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:41pm and rises tomorrow at 5:53am.

Country's highest temperature 33.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 23.9 degree Celsius at Rangamati.

The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka 30.5	24.5	95	93
Chittagong 27.0	24.5	92	90
Rajshahi 33.3	25.7	92	100
Rangpur 30.3	25.0	90	93

Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Khulna 32.6	24.0	95	97
Barisal 31.5	25.0	85	95
Sylhet 29.4	24.4	98	79
Cox's Bazar 29.6	24.2	98	87



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addresses a rally on Kushtia Government College ground yesterday.

PHOTO: BSS



Eminent citizens concerned over death threat to Nurul Kabir

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fifty eminent citizens yesterday expressed concern over a threat issued to New Age Editor Nurul Kabir and his family members on October 1.

The threat on a lauded political commentator reveals how it has become dangerous to expressing one's opinion and thoughts freely in Bangladesh. "We demand immediate investigation and punishment of the perpetrators," they said in a statement.

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Woman found dead in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman was found dead at her residence in the capital's Khilgaon Tilpapara yesterday.

The deceased was Sonia Akhter Chhobi, 32, wife of AKM Mahfuzul Haque who runs an embroidery shop.

Police recovered the body with stab injuries to the hands around 10:00am.

Police recovered a blood-stained knife from the spot.

Khilgaon police Sub-inspector Shushankar Pal said police detained Chhobi's husband Mahfuzul and his brother Ehsanul Haque, a private university student, for interrogation.

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Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali



Ferozi Sultana, an educationist and also former headmistress of Patuakhali Govt Girls' High School, died of a cardiac arrest in her residence on Water Works Road in the district town on Friday. She was 74.

She left behind four daughters.

She was buried at Patuakhali municipality graveyard after her namaz-e-janaza the same day.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 13th death anniversary of MA Rouf, a former secretary

and also a former chairman of Bangladesh

Muktijoddha Sangsad.

He also served as the chief engineer of Public Works Department, said a press release.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Foreign friends donate rare documents to Liberation War Museum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Paul and Ellen Connet, a couple who has recently been awarded by Bangladesh for their contributions to the country's Liberation War, yesterday handed over a large number of wartime rare photos, letters and documents to the Liberation War Museum.

Having worked with two organisations "Operation Omega" and "Action Bangladesh" in 1971, the couple entered the country's territory to supply relief to help-less people, they said at a press briefing in Liberation War Museum.

While supplying relief, Ellen was captured by Pakistani occupation forces and was given a two-year imprisonment by a court in October, 1971.

Inside Jessore jail, she conceived her first child, who was later named as "William Mujib Connet" after Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. However, she was freed on December 6, the day Jessore was declared independent, she said.

On August 1 in the year, Paul, among others, organised a

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Insufficient learning resources barrier to honing English skills

Star roundtable told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students find it difficult to learn English due to insufficient learning resources in schools and this is where the "English in Schools" programme steps in, said speakers at a discussion yesterday.

Robi and The Daily Star organised the consultation, on the latter's premises in the capital, among those empowering students with English language skills on the possible efficacy of the programme they have undertaken.

As per the September 6 contract of the programme, 1,000 secondary schools all over the country will get three copies of the newspaper five days a week (except Friday and Saturday). This will initially continue for six months.

Moreover, English teachers from 100 schools in Rajshahi, Khulna, Chittagong and Sylhet will be trained in the language skills for six months while these 100 schools will also be receiving 50 copies of the news-

paper instead of three.

The Daily Star will also resume publishing a weekly page dedicated to teaching English in secondary schools, said Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, managing editor of The Daily Star.

"There are no textbooks in English apart from the textbook used to teach the subject," said Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association President Dr Arifa Rahman.

She termed learning without understanding, including memorising grammar, a bad practice.

Teachers of local schools lack the proficiency to teach English in a way where students memorise less and understand more, stated Education Secretary Dr Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury.

"Learning without really understanding is hazardous. Better communication skills in English can only come with understanding," he said.

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Discussants at a roundtable on "English Teaching and Learning at Secondary Schools" organised by Robi and The Daily Star on the latter's premises in the capital yesterday. It was an inaugural event of the "English in Schools" programme, undertaken by the two organisations, and a consultation on the programme's prospects.

PHOTO: STAR

Arjun Bahadur of Nepal likely to be next Saarc chief

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Nepal's government has proposed the name of its



Foreign Secretary Arjun Bahadur Thapa to be the next Saarc secretary general for the 2014-2016 term.

If endorsed by all eight member states, Thapa will be the 12th secretary general of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (Saarc), comprising Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal,

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NEWS IN brief

3 cops held for mugging in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three policemen were arrested as they allegedly snatched Tk 30 lakh from two people in the capital's Tantibazar yesterday.

The arrested are Sub-inspector Abdul Quaiyum and constables Abul Khayer and Alamgir Hossain of cantonment station.

Kotwali police Officer-in-Charge Shah Alam said they tried to pick two persons with the money alleging that they were involved in hundi business (illegal international money transferring).

Later, locals rushed to the spot and handed them over to Kotwali police, he said.

JU admission test to be dept-wise

JU CORRESPONDENT

The admission test for the honours programmes of Jahangirnagar University for the session 2013-14, scheduled between November 2 and 9, will be held on department-wise instead of being faculty-wise, said a press release yesterday.

Admission forms will be available for Tk 150 for each department.

The decision was made at a meeting of the central admission committee chaired by Vice-Chancellor Prof Anwar Hossain.

Further information will soon be available on JU website www.juniv.edu, it added.

School teachers for cancellation of proposed education law

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Shikshak Samity (Bashar-Salam) yesterday came up with a 10-point demand, including cancellation of the proposed education law and 50 percent of the basic salary as dearness allowance for the high school teachers.

Their demands include: nationalisation of education, implementation of a separate pay scale for teachers, upgrading headmasters and assistant teachers' salary and increasing the retirement age of the teachers to 65 years.

At a meeting held in the capital's Rahmatullah Model High School, they also threatened to go for a tougher movement if the demands are not met, said a press release.

Alokito Nogori honours two educationists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Alokito Nogori, a non-profit and non-political organisation, has honoured two eminent educationists for their contributions to the respective fields.

The two personalities are National Professor Salauddin Ahmed and former education adviser to a caretaker government Prof Zillur Rahman Siddiqui.

Marking their 90th and 85th birthdays respectively, the organisation has arranged a celebratory programme at Dhaka Club recently.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith was present as chief guest with Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman in the chair.



Discussion

Amra Mujib Habo will hold a discussion on conspiracy against war crimes trial; Venue: Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh; Time: 11:00am.

Dialogue

Revival Foundation will hold a dialogue

on "Future we want: What older persons are saying"; Venue: Probin Bhaban, Aargaon; Time: 11:00am.

Dialogue All Community Forum will arrange a dialogue on election; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

B Chy, Dr Kamal call for third political force

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Chiefs of five political parties yesterday urged the people to build a third political force in the country to save democracy and establish good governance.

The call came from a rally held under the banner of "National Unity for National Interest" in DIT commercial area of Narayanganj city.

In his speech, Bikolpodhara President Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury said the government employees were fuming against the Hasina administration.

He stressed a constitutional amendment to save the country from destruction. "If the prime minister doesn't bring an amendment, she would be hated by the nation."

The former president also accused Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of giving birth to controversies by not ordering arrests of the murderers of Toki and Bishawajit.

B Chowdhury said, "The country is passing a critical time...Tougher times would follow if the nation doesn't get united now...to establish a third force."

Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Rob) President ASM Abdur Rob, Krishak Sramik Janata League President Kader Siddiqui, and Nagorik Oikya Convener Mahmudur Rahman Manna echoed the call.

Dr Kamal said a third force was rising in Narayanganj, and it would happen nationwide.

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