DRY WEATHER

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country and chances of light rain or thundershowers at one or two places over Rangpur and Rajshhai divisions till 6:00pm

unchanged over the country, Met Office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:00pm and rises tomorrow at 6:22am.

2nd edition

Country's highest temperature 31.0 degree

Celsius was recorded yesterday in Cox's Bazar and Night and day temperature may remain nearly lowest 10.6 degrees in Srimangal. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in Celsius 17.1 Dhaka 29.8 Chittagong 28.5 15.2 Rajshahi 27.0 15.5 Rangpur

30.5 55 Sylhet 12.5 20.5 Cox's Bazar 31.0

BDR MUTINY

BGB arranges doa for slain officers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) yesterday arranged a doa and a milad mahfil at its headquarters in the capital seeking divine blessings for the departed souls of 74 people, including 57 army officers, killed in the February 25-26 BDR mutiny in 2009.

Senior secretary to the home ministry CQK Mustaq Ahmed, director general of BGB Maj Gen Aziz Ahmed, members of the victims' families, BGB officials and their family members attended the programme.

At the event, a cheque of Tk 4.8 lakh was handed over to the family of central subedar major Nurul Islam, who was the only BGB man killed in the carnage for his attempt to tame the rebellions.

Meanwhile, Colonel Mojib Trust arranged a memorial meeting fol FROM PAGE 4 COL 5

25 students

get golden

A total of twenty-five

students got the golden

direct entry into the divi-

Star Spelling Bee's third

season, hosted by

sional rounds as The Daily

champs21 and powered by

Horlicks, continued yester-

ticket allowing them a

tickets

CITY DESK



Two mourners light earthen lamps at the capital's Rabindra Sarobar yesterday evening in memory of the 74 people, including 57 army officers, who were massacred during the BDR mutiny at Pilkhana on February 25-26, 2009. Family members as well as general people paid their tributes to the slain people, marking the fifth anniversary of one of the country's worst bloodbaths. PHOTO: STAR

Fight communalism for empowerment

NHRC chief urges women; praises exile Taslima Nasrin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairman Prof Mizanur Rahman yesterday urged women to prevent communalism and extremism so that their empowerment and development are not hindered.

"The condition of Bangladeshi women depends on how united we can stand against communalism," Prof Mizan said at a seminar titled "Empowerment of Women in Bangladesh: Expectation and Achievement". NHRC organised the seminar in Cirdap auditorium in the capital.

On Taslima Nasrin, a Bangladeshi-born writer living in

exile, Mizan said she fought for women's rights, and asked what Bangladeshi women did for her. Ayesha Khanam, president of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, emphasised changes in the existing political and

social structures for women's empowerment. She called for direct elections to the reserved seats for

women in the parliament. Veteran journalist Abed Khan said the patriarchal attitude FROM PAGE 4 COL 6

FROM PAGE 4 COL 2

LOSSES IN AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY, BUSINESS FOR HARTALS

Govt considering financial assistance, tax break

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina tells parliament

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina told the parliament yesterday that the government was considering providing the agriculture, industry and business sectors financial assistance and tax break to recover from losses incurred during recent hartals.

"Work is going on to fix a suitable strategy to this end following consultation with different producers, industry owners and business representatives," she said in reply to lawmakers' queries.

From October to December in 2013, the then BNP-led 18-party opposition alliance enforced over 35 days of countrywide hartals demanding holding the 10th parliamentary election under a non-party administration.

Hasina said 37 countries and 11 interna-

tional organisations, including the United Nations, congratulated her on assuming premiership through the January 5 elections.

"(They) expressed their commitment to work with the country's new government for continuation of development trends, good governance and democracy," she said.

The greetings prove that ill motives of certain quarters to raise question on the present government's legitimacy have been foiled, she added.

Hasina also informed the parliament of the government's initiative to prepare "Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100" of 50 to 100 years considering agriculture, fisheries, industry, forestry, water management, public health and environment which will provide various opportunities.

FROM PAGE 4 COL 2



From left, Sufia Akter Rina, Selina Hossain, Nurul Islam Nahid, Prof Anisuzzaman, Najmul Hasan Pakhi, and Sanjeeb Drong at a memorial meeting on Canada-based Bangladeshi architect Rafiqul Islam, the pioneer of the campaign to get February 21 declared as International Mother Language Day by the UN, at the capital's National Museum yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

Reshuffle in civil admin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a reshuffle in the civil administration, the government yesterday transferred six secretaries, four additional secretaries and two joint secretaries.

Foreign secretary Md Abdur Rob Hawlader has been made chairman of Land Appeal Board while religious affairs ministry secretary Kazi Habibul Awal

made foreign secretary. Acting secretary of the science technology ministry AKM Amir Hossain has been made secretary at Public Service Commission Secretariat and defence secretary Md Asaduzzaman made secretary at the

REDUCING WORKPLACE HAZARDS BY 60PC IN 20 YEARS

Independent body must

Safety experts tell closing of int'l conference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An independent body is a must to assess and reduce workers' occupational risks by 60 percent in two decades in Bangladesh, said workplace safety experts on the closing day of a three-day international conference yesterday.

Dr Knut Ringen, vice-president, International Social Security Association (ISSA), US, proposed establishing a centre to compile a comprehensive database on the workforce and risk exposure through advocacy and research and ensure the right to safety and health.

Dhaka Community Hospital Trust (DCHT) jointly with Collegium Ramazzini the industries, added Dobbin. and Harvard School of Public Health organised the conference on occupational buildings are built in compliance with the safety in Bangladesh's garment and construction industries and tanneries at DCHT FROM PAGE 4 COL 2

in the capital.

Ronald Dobbin, an occupational health expert from Collegium Ramazzini, US, proposed forming an independent team comprising representatives of workers and government agencies and health and construction experts to assess workplace risks and oversee safety.

Another independent health team has to survey the labour force to determine the risks and needs for workers' physical, mental and social health, he said.

A committee comprising construction experts, health practitioners and environmentalists has to assess building safety in

The government has to ensure that the national building code and have adequate FROM PAGE 4 COL 6

INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY Rafiqul's role recalled

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a memorial meeting yesterday reminisced about the role of freedom fighter and Canadian-based Bangladeshi architect Rafiqul Islam who spearheaded the campaign to get February 21 declared as International Mother Language Day by the United Nations.

In 1998, Rafiqul Islam first invoked the proposal by writing a letter of petition to then UN chief Kofi Annan to pay homage to the martyrs of the 1952 Language Movement.

The UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) declared February 21, previously

FROM PAGE 4 COL 6

NEWS_{IN} brief

The Baily Star

SC stays HC order declaring 8 Pubali Bank posts vacant

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed till March 2 a High Court order that declared the posts of eight Pubali Bank directors vacant.

Chamber judge of the Appellate Division of the SC passed the stay order after a brief hearing on a petition filed by the eight directors.

The HC on February 25 declared vacant the posts of Pubali Bank, including its chairman, for not possessing the mandatory two percent shares in the bank.

Miscreants explode crackers before Sonargaon Hotel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified miscreants around 9:30pm yesterday blasted two crackers before a gate of the capital's Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, opposite the Petrobangla office and where cricketers of Asia Cup's five participating nations are staying.

The hotel authority declined to comment. Detectives and senior police officials visited the spot.

KU admission test begins today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The admission test of the first year honours courses under 2013-2014 academic year of Khulna University will begin today. A total of 4,138 candidates will sit for the admission

test against 979 seats under five schools and an institute, said a KU press release yesterday. The three-day test will be held in six centres, including

one on the campus. The details will available on KU website: www.ku.ac.bd/admission, the release added.

Traffic cop hurt in road crash dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A traffic policeman, who was hit by a truck while on duty in the capital's Jatrabari on February 19, died yesterday. Mokhlesur Rahman was a constable of the east division of traffic police.

He succumbed to his injured in the Intensive Care Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital around noon, said traffic constable Abdul Karim. The truck and its driver were detained, said Karim.

Five-day drama festival begins at JU

IU CORRESPONDENT

A five-day drama festival titled "Natyaparban" began at Selim Al Deen Muktamancha at Jahangirnagar University yesterday.

Jahangirnagar Theatre, a cultural organisation of the university, organised the festival. JU acting Vice Chancellor Prof MA Matin inaugurated the event.

Alfaz president, Saidur GS of sports commentators' forum

CITY DESK

Alfaz Uddin Ahmed and Dr Saidur Rahman have been elected as president and general secretary of Bangladesh Sports Commentators' Forum (BSCF) respectively for three years.

Office bearers of the eleven-member forum include vice president-1 Shamim Ashraf Chowdhury, vice president-2 Dr Anupam Hossain, assistant general secretary ASM Abdus Shakur, organising secretary Md Shamsul Islam, and treasurer Md Rohon.

The executive committee election was held in Olympic Bhaban Auditorium on February 23, said a press release.



হেপাটাইটিস-বি সংক্রমণের হার সাধারণ মানুষের তুলনায় দ্বিগুন বেশী।

তাই প্রাপ্তবয়স্কদের ক্ষেত্রে ডায়াবেটিস নির্ণয়ের সাথে সাথে হেপাটাইটিস-বি ভ্যাকসিন নেয়া অত্যন্ত জরুরী।



হেপাটাইটিস-বি প্রতিরোধে কার্যকর ও নিরাপদ ভ্যাকসিন



* চিকিৎসকের পরামর্শ নিন

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