

RAIN LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

Umb. Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at many places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong and at a few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions till 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also	likely at places, Met Office said.	degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 24.3 degree Celsius in Rangamati.		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		
	Day and night temperatures may fall slightly over the country.	The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:										
	The sun sets in the capital today at 6:40pm and rises tomorrow at 5:12am. Country's highest temperature 36.7											

NEWSIN

brief

CNG-run auto-rickshaw owners go on 3-day strike in capital today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka City CNG-run Auto-rickshaw Owners' Association yesterday called a three-day strike in the city from 6:00am today protesting, what it said, non-implementation of the vehicles' increased government approved life span.

ATM Najmul Hasan, general secretary of the association, told The Daily Star that the government had increased the life span of the auto-rickshaws to 15 years from 11 years.

BRTA issued a gazette notification on May 19 in this regard, he said.

But due to bureaucratic red tape, it is yet to be implemented, he added.

Cop held with Yaba in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (north) of police arrested a police constable with 320 Yaba tablets from Rampura area in Dhaka yesterday, says a report of DMP online news portal.

Hailing from Chapainawabganj, Masafuddoula Al Masud has been posted at the protection division of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

He was taken on a two-day remand, said court sources.

A case has been filed with Rampura Police Station in this connection.

German envoy Conze to leave Dhaka for Bamako

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

German Ambassador to Bangladesh Dr Albrecht Conze is leaving Dhaka on a very short notice to take up a new diplomatic assignment at the newly established European civilian mission in Mali.

"I am expected to move to Bamako within weeks, and therefore have to leave Bangladesh on the 1st of June," said Conze at a farewell lunch yesterday.

The Bangladesh German Chamber of Commerce and Industries (BGCCI) organised the farewell lunch for the outgoing German ambassador.

Conze, who had taken up his post as Germany's ambassador to Bangladesh in August 2012, has been appointed the head of EUCAP Sahel Mali, the newly established European civilian mission for the stabilisation of Mali.

Bangladesh awarded for peacekeeping efforts

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United Nations Association-USA and Better World Campaign have awarded Bangladesh for its contribution to UN Peacekeeping operations worldwide.

In a reception on May 21 in Washington, under a banner of "Thank a Peacekeeper", Bangladesh along with seven other countries was acknowledged for its contribution to the peacekeeping operations, said a press release of Bangladesh embassy in the US yesterday.

The reception was held ahead of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers on May 29.

Fair & Lovely Foundation gives scholarship to school students

CITY DESK

Fair & Lovely Foundation, a social initiative of Unilever Bangladesh Ltd, organised a countrywide scholarship programme for the family members of its distributor's sales force.

Around 56 Primary School Certificate (PSC) candidates and 43 Junior School Certificate (JSC) candidates received the scholarship based on their merit.

Candidates from Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) will also be brought under this program, says a press release.



Dhaka Reporters Unity brings out a procession from the association's office in the capital yesterday, celebrating its 19th founding anniversary.



Hospital garments, which are often infected with deadly pathogenic germs, being washed in the Buriganga river and dried on its bank in Thoda area of the capital's Kamrangirchar yesterday. This is just another way of poisoning the river, which has already been almost irreversibly polluted in different areas due to nonchalance of the authorities concerned.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

No info about missing Ctg jeweller in 15 days

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Police are yet to find what happened to the missing jeweller, Palash Dhar, of Chittagong city though it has been 15 days since he disappeared "mysteriously" on his way to Noakhali on May 12.

When asked, Chawkbazar police said they were "trying their best" to unveil the mystery. However, the victim's family members and jewellers in the city said they saw no visible headway in this regard and demanded that the case be transferred to the Detective Branch (DB) of police.

Meanwhile, Nipa Dhar, wife of Palash, is now passing her days amid uncertainty and insecurity. She has now taken shelter at her parents' house in the city with her two children. "Where will I go with my little kids? I am feeling insecure," she told The Daily Star yesterday.

Nipa could not contact her husband since he left for Noakhali's Sonapur on May 12 to buy some medicines for their daughter.

Palash, 37, of Chawkbazar is the owner of New SN Jewellers in the area.

Bablu Gupta, brother-in-law of Palash, said none had demanded ransom from them yet. "We can't understand what has happened to Palash. We suspect that he has been abducted but the abductors are not daring demand ransom, fearing the country's present situation."

Mrinal Kanti Dhar, senior vice president of Bangladesh Jewellers' Association, Chittagong, said there was no "visible headway" since the case was filed on May 18. He

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Palash Dhar

MISSING BNP LEADER MUJIBUR UK detectives in town to assess rescue efforts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Two UK detectives are now in the country to inquire about the police efforts to rescue missing BNP leader Mujibur Rahman.

A British citizen from London, Mujibur, 56, along with his driver Rezaul Haque Sohel, 30, went missing in Sunamganj on May 4.

Visiting the district on Thursday and Saturday, the detectives talked to police officials and family members of Mujibur, a member of the new convening committee of Sunamganj district unit BNP.

Md Shakhawat Hossain, additional deputy inspector general of police (Sylhet), said the British cops exchanged views with the local police officials to have an idea about the investigation into Mujibur's disappearance.

Harun-or-Rashid, superintendent of police in Sunamganj, told The Daily Star that they had a meeting with the UK detectives on Saturday. "They wanted to know

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina meets Japanese Emperor Akihito at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo yesterday.

DU fires teacher for lying in thesis

DU CORRESPONDENT

In an unusual move, Dhaka University syndicate has terminated a political science teacher for providing false information in his thesis.

The syndicate took the decision at a meeting on Sunday night.

Noor Uddin Alo, a lecturer of political science department, submitted the thesis for which he received his doctorate degree in 2011. In his thesis, Alo claimed that he interviewed 13 lakh people for his thesis.

Five teachers of the department, however, challenged Alo's claim.

On June 1, 2012, the university formed a probe body led by Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education)

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Private agencies may send workers to Malaysia: Mosharraf

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain yesterday said private recruiting agencies can send jobseekers to Malaysia under the existing government to government (G to G) arrangements.

If the recruiting agents can arrange jobs from the Malaysian employers, they will be able to send jobseekers with the permission of Malaysia's government, he said while briefing the press at his office about his participation in the Global Forum on Migration and Development conference in Sweden last week.

The Malaysian job market had been closed for Bangladeshis from 2009 until a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the two countries in November 2012. The ban was imposed due to malpractices in the recruitment process allegedly done by the recruiting agencies.

According to the G to G system mentioned in the MoU, only Bangladesh's government can send jobseekers to Malaysia, not any private recruiting agency. When asked about the contradiction, the minister only said it will not breach the conditions of the system but he did not elaborate how the private agencies can be able to send workers.

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Moudud charged with govt land grabbing

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday pressed charges against BNP standing committee member Moudud Ahmed and his brother Manjur Ahmed in a case filed for grabbing an abandoned public land in the capital's Gulshan.

Harun-ur-Rashid, deputy director of the ACC and also investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted the charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka showing 28 people as procession witnesses.

Moudud, accused in 12 other cases, is on bail, while his brother was shown fugitive in the charge sheet as

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