

LIGHT RAIN OR THUNDERSHOWERS LIKELY

WEATHER TODAY

Unb. Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today. Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:44pm and rises tomorrow at 5:51am.	The country's highest temperature 35.6 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday in Satkhira and lowest 23.6 degrees Celsius in Srimangal. 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	
	Dhaka	33.8	26.3	68	69	Khulna	34.0	25.5	69	78
	Chittagong	31.0	26.0	85	80	Barisal	34.1	25.8	77	94
	Rajshahi	33.5	25.2	79	80	Sylhet	34.8	24.2	73	67
	Rangpur	32.5	25.0	78	67	Cox's Bazar	33.0	25.5	76	82

MYANMAR REFUGEES IN BANGLADESH

Voluntary repatriation only durable solution

Dhaka tells UNHCR meeting in Geneva

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka has told the UN refugee agency that Bangladesh considers the voluntary repatriation of Myanmar refugees back to their homes in Rakhine state as the only durable solution to the protracted refugee situation.

Newly appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UN Offices in Geneva and Vienna, M Shameem Ahsan, reiterated this while addressing the annual meeting of UNHCR's governing Executive Committee in Geneva Wednesday.

He alluded to the positive momentum generated by the recently concluded Foreign Office Consultations between Bangladesh and Myanmar in Dhaka and stressed the need for resumption of voluntary repatriation of the refugees from Bangladesh.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Bangladesh's admission to the United Nations, the envoy expressed the government's deep appreciation to the UNHCR for their support to refugees from Bangladesh during the liberation war in 1971.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres thanked the ambassador for the statement and assured that UNHCR remains at the disposal of the Bangladesh government.

He greatly appreciated Dhaka's decision to formulate the National Strategy Paper on Myanmar refugees and

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



A flower is being offered to a girl adorned as the living embodiment of goddess Durga at Ramkrishna Mission in the capital on Maha Ashtami and Kumari Puja yesterday, the most auspicious occasion of the five-day Durga Puja festival.

PHOTO: STAR

PM to brief journos on US visit today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hold a press conference today to brief on the outcomes of her 10-day visit to the USA.

The issues of Abdul Latif Siddique and her meeting with the Indian premier are likely to come up in the conference which will be held at 4:00pm at Gono Bhaban in the capital.

Hasina went to New York on September 22 to attend the 69th United Nations General Assembly.

Bulbul-led BFUJ demands Inqilab news editor's release

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The faction of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) led by Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul in a joint statement yesterday demanded immediate release of Rabiulla Rabi, news editor of the Bangla daily Inqilab.

Although, the Sheikh Hasina-led government had stopped arresting journalists at random following movements by the journalist community, the information and communication technology act's formulation is seeing arrests for anything that is published, which can not be tolerated, they said.

The frequent arrests and filing of cases will weaken the independence of the press, they added.

On August 19, Rabi was

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

CALL FOR TALKS FOR FRESH NATIONAL POLLS

Disregard will be a big blunder

Fakhrul warns government

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday warned the government that it will be making a big mistake if it takes BNP's repeated urges for talks over the country's existing political crisis as a weakness.

Referring to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's repeated calls to Awami League

President Sheikh Hasina to hold dialogue over a fresh election under a non-party administration, Fakhrul said they would be left with no option but to take to the streets if the call was finally ignored.

"BNP always wants and believes in resolving the country's ongoing political

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Dialogue kernel of non-violence

UNDP country director Pauline Tamesis tells launch of nat'l campaign

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The principles of non-violence recognise dialogue as a means to end disputes, UNDP country director Pauline Tamesis said yesterday, speaking at the launch of a national campaign to raise awareness on the importance of social harmony.

She stressed the need for developing the practice of dialogues to solve issues not only at national level but also at grassroots level and for collective efforts to fight all kinds of violence.

Pauline was addressing the launch of the "Stop Violence, Build a Peaceful Nation" campaign at the capital's National Press Club, marking International Day of Non-Violence, which is observed on October 2,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



Muhammad Yunus among other global luminaries at the preparatory programme for World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia of the US on Sunday.

PHOTO: YUNUS CENTRE

Fake currency racket busted in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Detective Branch of police has arrested eight men with fake notes worth around Tk 50 lakh in the capital's Bashabo.

Of the arrestees, Shah Alam and Md Shohag were held on Wednesday in a motorbike garage with 194 fake notes of Tk 1,000 denomination and Abul Khair, Azizul Haque, Sohail Rana, Shahidul Islam, Yasin Arafat and Shohag Masud were also arrested the same day in a flat while they were counterfeiting notes, said DB officials at a press briefing at the media centre of Dhaka Metropolitan Police yesterday.

Police also seized fake currency making papers, 12 frames, cotton used in notes, five laptops and three printers.

During primary interrogation, Khair, confessed that he has been running the business for last seven years.

ICT helps boost rice yield in Philippines

BSS, LOS BANOS, PHILIPPINES

The Cyber Village Project has created revolution by increasing rice output using information and communications technology (ICT)-based web tools and technologies in the Philippines.

The information was disclosed at the "Farmers' technology forum for farmer-cooperators" organised by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) at its headquarters in the Philippines yesterday.

Forty member farmers of different ICT-based e-Centres from several municipalities in different provinces all over the Philippines, two renowned Indian farmers, and a farmer and a journalist from Bangladesh participated.

The project Coordinator and Head of IRRI's Partnerships Office Jojo Lapitan and Senior Manager at IRRI Training Centre Engineer Engene Castro also spoke.

National Scientist of the Philippines and IRRI Consultant Dr Gelia Castillo delivered keynote message citing the project as stimulus for acquiring connectivity in reaching ICT-based agricultural technologies to farmers.

Member of a Cyber Village e-Centre Genevieve Madelo, Ester Solamo, Fredric Paniyar and William Gitakay narrated their successes and shared experiences.

They elaborated as how they have increased rice production using ICT-based technologies and information for better crop management to change their socio-economic status and improve livelihoods and living standard.

The Cyber Village Project beneficiary farmers discussed benefits of using ICT-based technologies, Nutrient Manager for Rice (NMR), Rice Crop manager (RCM), Pilipino Rice Knowledge Bank (PRNB) and other facilities.

They dwelt on how they have been changing rice farming practices, selecting certified high quality seed, spraying pesticides, fungicides and insecticides, controlling bacterial diseases, applying optimum fertilisers and irrigation management having easy access to ICT-based information.

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the 29th death anniversary of Fakhrul Islam of 6 Arambagh in Dhaka. He died in 1985.

On this occasion a doa mahfil will be held.

Sylhet city

FROM PAGE 5

While the construction of the illegal markets was going on in full swing right before the law enforcers, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet Metropolitan Police Mohammad Rahamat Ullah said they would dismantle those on specific allegations.

He said they stopped some groups in Mendibag and nearby areas from setting up such markets.

The official added that some people were seen stopping the cattle-laden trucks coming from outside and forcing them to sell their animals at the illegal markets.

Sylhet city has only one authorised cattle market, in Kazirbazar.

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