

WEATHER
FORECAST



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA H 32.0 L 21.8	CHITTAGONG H 29.5 L 18.4	SYLHET H 28.2 L 20.7	RAJSHAH H 34.6 L 19.3	KHULNA H 34.2 L 20.6	BARISAL H 32.8 L 21.0	RANGPUR H 30.2 L 19.0	COX'S BAZAR H 29.4 L 20.0
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Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the region of Comilla till 6:00pm today. Night and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, said Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:00pm and rises tomorrow at 6:22am. Country's highest temperature 34.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 18.0 degrees in Teknaf.

VANDALISM, ARSON CASE Charge framing against Fakhrul deferred till March 25

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned till March 25 the hearing on charge framing against Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir and 22 others in a case filed over vandalising and torching vehicles at the capital's Malibagh intersection on March 2, 2013.

Metropolitan Magistrate Tareq Mainul Islam Bhuiyan passed the order after lawyers of the BNP acting secretary general, who is now in jail in another case, and five others submitted separate petitions seeking adjournment of the hearing.

Moreover, sixteen accused in the case were absent from the court citing different reasons. The other seven have been absconding since the case was filed against them.

The same court yesterday adjourned till April 1 the hearing of a case against Jubo Dal President Moazzem Hossain Alal and 42 others after a time petition was filed by the prosecution lawyers.

Qulkhwani

CITY DESK

Qulkhwani of Amina Rahman, former DGM of Sonali Bank and widow of former IGP late Habibur Rahman, will be held today at house-25/B, road-1, Dhanmondi, Dhaka.

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the 12th death anniversary of Md Abdul Matin, a lawyer of Narayanganj judge court, and father of Russell T Ahmed, senior vice president of Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services. A milad mahfil will be held on the occasion.



A farmer waiting for wholesalers to come and buy his yield of watermelon from the field, in Jaintiapur upazila of Sylhet Wednesday. Around a hundred growers are facing losses because they have been forced to harvest the ripe fruits but failed to transport those to the market amid the ongoing countrywide blockade.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Publishers demand rent refund for 'loss'

Bangla Academy DG Shamsuzzaman terms it excuse to prolong fair; Citi Anondo Alo Literature Award announced for eight persons

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



A publishers' association, Bangladesh Gyan o Srijonshil Prokashak Samity, yesterday demanded that Bangla Academy refund the stall and pavilion rent, along with the 15 percent VAT, terming it "compensation" for the loss incurred following the low visitor turnout at Amar Ekushey Granthamela-2015 for the continuous blockade, hartals and political violence.

Reading out a written statement at a press conference in the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan, the samity President Osman Goni also asked for government subsidies and financial help for the industry

and urged extending the book fair till March 7.

Offering to organise the fair from next year, the samity also pointed out anomalies in the fair's management.

However, Bangla Academy Director General Shamsuzzaman Khan termed the demand inhumane, unfair and cruel for the academy staff working for the last one month.

It is not true that publishers have faced losses, he said, adding, "It is just an excuse to extend the fair, which they come up with every year."

Yesterday, 134 new books arrived at the fair and eight were launched.

Meanwhile in the academy, recipients of Citi Anondo Alo Literature Award were announced in two categories, "Ka" and "Kha". Shamsuzzaman, Imdadul Haq

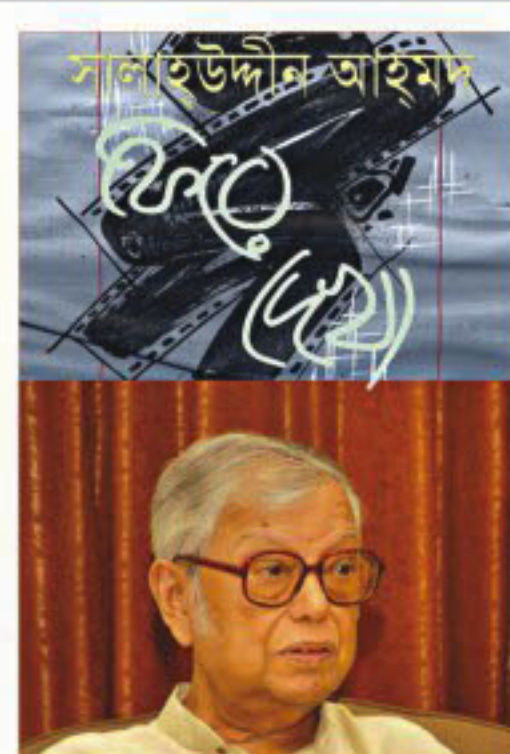
Milon, Mustaq Ahmed, Alam Talukdar and Rezauddin Stalin were selected for some of their publications

and Mahbub Aziz, Kusum Sikder and Galib Rahman for publishing their first book at this year's fair.

BOOKS TO LOOK FOR



MUKTIJUDDHA: OJANA ODDHAI
Author: Nadeem Qadir
Publisher: Jagriti
Price: BDT 180



FIREY DEKHA
Author: Salauddin Ahmed
Publisher: Adorn Publication
Price: BDT 500



ZIA HYDAR: JIBON O NATTO SHAHITTO
Author: Farhana Akhter
Publisher: Shilpakala Academy
Price: BDT 200



PHOTO: DAKSHAN CHAKMA

United International University Vice Chancellor Prof M Rezwan Khan and The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam signed a contract to launch a creative writing programme, "Imagine - Write Creatively" for English medium students, in The Daily Star Centre of the capital yesterday. Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, managing editor of the newspaper; and Prof Chowdhury Mofizur Rahman, UIU pro-vice chancellor, were, among others, present on the occasion.

Marine resources need to be explored

FROM PAGE 4

sustainable management of marine resources indeed, but the private sector would continue to play a key role in blue growth across range of sectors. "We believe safe and secure ocean which is a pre-requisite to economic development, and sustainable marine resource management is one of the key elements for that development," said Shahriar.

He observed that lack of skilled human resource, institutions and technology are key challenges for Bangladesh to effectively utilise the marine resources.

"Now we're in dearth of modern technology, finance and logistic to

further expand and enhance our common sectors like fisheries, tourism, maritime transport and ship building and ship recycling," he said.

Shahriar said the Bay of Bengal could determine Bangladesh's future development and economic growth through expansion of international trade, use of marine mineral resources for long term energy security, proper management of marine fish resources and protection of biodiversity and marine environment.

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Syed Nasim Manzur said Bangladesh needs Foreign

Direct Investment (FDI) from countries like South Korea and Canada to help explore the marine resources properly. The government must continue investment in this sector, he added.

Director of Hydrography, Naval Headquarters Captain Mir Imadul Haque in his presentation said they need to look at all the sectors in a combined way instead of looking at individual issue. "Bangladesh needs serious preparations to explore the potentials," he added.

BISS Director General AKM Abdur Rahman, Myanmar Ambassador in Dhaka Myo Myint Than also spoke.

Cops tried to scare Khaleda's lawyers

FROM PAGE 3

arrest was ordered on Wednesday. Ragib Rouf Chowdhury, one of the lawyers in attendance, said Khandker Mahbub Hossain, former Speaker

Jamiruddin Sircar, former SCBA president AJ Mohammad Ali, and Nitai Roy Chowdhury were present at the meeting. He said the law enforcers had cordoned off the place for around

three hours from 5:00pm. However, Officer-in-Charge of Mohammadpur Police Station Azizul Haque yesterday denied the allegation of encircling the house.

Comprehensive

FROM PAGE 4

He said, "There is not much evidence of conflict on the streets. However, if you talk to people with differing opinions--from government representatives to journalists--then you notice the gravity of the conflict."

After talking to both sides, said Weidenholzer, "one can sense that there is no margin for reconciliation between the parties as none of the sides seem willing to give in. We were shown videos by both the government and opposition which showed the other side's alleged involvement in the deadly attacks."

Asked whether there are any signs that the situation could soon improve, the member of the European Parliament (MEP) said there were good conditions for the country to move in a positive direction as the "economy is running well" and increased awareness about the corruption and human rights violations that are taking place in the country.

"But the established elites are a hindrance to development. My impression was that the country's top two leaders are responsible for the current irreconcilable situation."

On another question, he said Bangladesh did not necessarily need a mediator, but he believes, the country needs a push from outside. "Otherwise it won't get off the ground. The EU has an important position since the bloc is the largest trade partner for Bangladesh."

He said Bangladesh's two main parties seemed far from compromise, but added there were still good conditions for the country to move in a positive direction.

NEWS IN brief

BNP's Zainul gets bail in arson case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted four weeks' bail to Zainul Abedin, an adviser to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, in an arson case.

Police filed the case with Paltan Police Station on February 2 after a bus was torched during an anti-government agitation on February 1.

Yesterday, the HC granted anticipatory bail to Zainul a former president of the Supreme Court Bar Association, after hearing a bail petition filed by him recently.

Jashim new envoy to Greece

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to appoint Jashim Uddin, currently serving as director general in the foreign ministry, as new ambassador of Bangladesh to Greece.

Earlier, he served in Bangladesh missions in New Delhi, Tokyo, Washington DC and Islamabad, said a foreign ministry press release yesterday.

A BCS cadre of the 13th batch, He obtained MSS in International Relations from Dhaka University and MA in Modern International Studies from the UK.



Booklet on atomic energy launched at book fair

CITY DESK

An illustrated science booklet with basic facts about atomic energy in Bangla has been launched by Russian atomic energy corporation, Rosatom, at Amar Ekushey Granthamela-2015, says a press release.

It is supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, the Russian embassy, and the Nuclear Energy Information Centre.

Road crashes kill 3

CITY DESK

Three people died in separate road accidents yesterday and Wednesday.

In the capital, Abdul Quader, 25, died when a bus hit him on Road-9 in Mirpur Sharey Egaro area yesterday.

Meanwhile, an unidentified person, aged around 70, died after he was hit by a vehicle near Sayedabad Rail Gate.

In Lalmonirhat Sadar, Maniruzzaman Manir, 43, of Teesta Pangatari village and an employee of Lalmonirhat DC office, died when a truck hit his motorcycle on Lalmonirhat-Rangpur road in Haribhanaga area on Wednesday.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 11th death anniversary of Marium Shamim, former country manager of Biman Bangladesh Airlines and a cultural activist.

She died in 2004 while undergoing treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

Her family requested all to pray for the salvation of her departed soul.



DHAKA
TODAY

Bird Fair
Bangladesh Bird Club and others will organise a bird fair. Venue: Jahangirnagar University. Time: 9:00am

Discussion
KAPAEENG Foundation will organise a discussion on the Human rights report- 2014 on indigenous people. Venue: The Daily Star Centre. Time: 11:10am

এই গ্রন্থ বাংলাসাহিত্যের বিখ্যাত মনসাহিত্যিক ও রাজনীতিবিদ আবুল মনসুর আহমদকে নিয়ে প্রায় ৬০০ পৃষ্ঠার কালের ধ্বনির পূর্ণাঙ্গ সংখ্যা পাওয়া যাচ্ছে একুশের বইমেলায় দ্বিটল ম্যাগ কন্সার "কালের ধ্বনি" বাংলা একাডেমির মূল অংশের ৮নং স্টলে এছাড়াও পাওয়া যাচ্ছে-পাঠক সমাবেশ আজিজ সুপার মার্কেট, শাহবাগ মূল-৬৬০ টাকা

সম্পাদক: ইমরান মাহফুজ
প্রচ্ছদ পরিকল্পনা ও নামলিপি
কাইয়ুম চৌধুরী (সর্বশেষ কাজ)
তথ্যের জন্য: ০১৭৬৫ ৩০৭০৭০

Daily Star titles are available in Amor Ekushey Book-Fair



Pathak Shamabesh
Pavilion # 10
Suhrawardy Udyan



Drone Warfare
Medea Benjamin



Bangladesh in Wikileaks
Editor: Rifat Munim



Beyond the Lines
Kuldip Nayar

Pathak Shamabesh-Contact: 01819219081
Mail: pathak@bol-online.com

Daily Star Books-Contact: 01756220320
Mail: dailystarbooks@gmail.com