

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 28.7 L 15.0	H 30.0 L 17.8	H 30.7 L 15.0	H 30.0 L 13.0	H 29.5 L 16.0	H 29.2 L 14.7	H 28.7 L 14.5	H 31.0 L 20.0

Day temperature may rise slightly and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:04pm and rises tomorrow at 6:14am. Country's highest temperature 31.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Cox's Bazar and lowest 10.6 in Sreemangal.

Jamaat man hurt in police firing in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

An arrested Jamaat man sustained bullet injuries as law enforcers opened fire on the party activists during a drive in Kapasia area of Rajshahi city yesterday morning, said police.

With left leg injuries, Nurul Islam, 45, the Jamaat man, was admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital, Abdur Rouf, officer-in-charge of Motihar Police Station, told reporters in the afternoon.

Nurul, an accused in seven cases filed for subversive activities in the city, was arrested in Kobirajpara on Friday noon.

As police was taking him to Kapasia to arrest his cohorts, some of his associates exploded bombs and tried to snatch him from the law enforcers, said the OC.

In response, police opened fire on them and Nurul was shot as he tried to flee, he added.

Girl meets tragic death as bus hits rickshaw in capital

6 others killed in three dists CITY DESK

A two-and-a-half-year-old girl was thrown off her mother's lap and died after a bus hit a rickshaw carrying them near Fulbaria bus terminal in the capital last night.

Arshi was declared dead at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

She and her mother Nurunnahar, 30, were returning home in Wari from Savar, said Bangshal police, quoting Nurunnahar's husband Md Ujjal.

Police detained the driver and seized the bus. Meanwhile, six other people were killed and five injured in road accidents across three districts yesterday.

In Bogra, four people died and four others were injured when a truck hit some pedestrians and rammed into a fruit shop at Baghopara.

All of the deceased, Afroza Begum, 22, her son Nur Mohammad, 04, Naya Mia, 50, and Ahmed Ali, 70, were inhabitants of the area.

In Moulvibazar, Siraj Miah, 66, of Balissor village, died when an auto-rickshaw hit him while he was crossing the road in Taltola bridge area of Kulara upazila.

In Chittagong city, Riya Akhter Jui, 5, daughter of Md Mohiuddin of Dakkhin-Madyam Halishahar, died and her grandmother was injured after a vehicle hit the rickshaw carrying them in Bandar area.

Home boss

FROM PAGE 4

arrest all the culprits as soon as possible. He made the request while visiting the office of the Detective Branch of DMP and talking with the investigators about his son and the murder.

"I wanted to know from them the progress of investigation. They said they would let me know if there had been any progress," Ajoy Roy told journalists.



Two leaders of Jatiyatabadi Swechhasebak Dal and Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal scratch and pull at each other's hair for a spot at the front of a procession brought out by the Bogra district unit BNP-led 20-party alliance at Sutrapur Reaz Kazi Lane yesterday morning.

PHOTO: MAMUN-UR-RASHID

Woman held over Professor Shafiq killing

UNB, Rajshahi

Detectives arrested a woman from Meherchandi area of Rajshahi city on Friday for her suspected link to the killing of Rajshahi University (RU) professor Shafiqul Islam.

The arrestee is Nasrin Akter Reshma, a section officer of RU and wife of Abdus Samad Pintu, who is now in jail for his suspected involvement in the murder.

Earlier, members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested a few more suspects, including Pintu and a former Jubo Dal leader, in connection with the killing.

On November 15, last year, Shafiqul Islam, a teacher of sociology department, was stabbed by some assailants on his way home at Choudhupai near the university campus.

He succumbed to his injuries at Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital half an hour later.

MURDER OF TAQI

We pleaded with PM for proper probe

But no result yet, says Prof Anisuzzaman at launching of a book on Prothom Alo reports

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Professor Emeritus Dr Anisuzzaman yesterday said they had pleaded with the prime minister that Taqi's murderers are identified, arrested and brought to book through a proper investigation, but there had been no result yet.

The request came on February 26 in a statement signed by 21 eminent citizens, according to the daily Prothom Alo.

They will continue demonstrating until justice is served, Anisuzzaman told the publication ceremony of a book, "Taqi Hotta o Gonojagoroney Prothom Alo", in the capital's Liberation War Museum, which was organised by Santrash Nirmul Taqi Mancha.

The book -- published by the mancha and compiled by Dr Safiuddin Ahmed -- is a collection of the reports over the murder published in the Bangla daily, some explanations of the compiler and some documents.

The mancha Convener Rafiur Rabbi, Taqi's father, chaired the event, where Prof Serajul Islam Choudhury also spoke.

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ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN Families must teach males to respect women

National Human Rights Commission seminar told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People have to get out of the existing patriarchal social structure and change their mindset for ensuring women's empowerment, said discussants at a seminar.

Besides, males must pay due respect to women in their families as well as in the society and this is how violence against women can be stopped, they viewed.

They were speaking at the seminar titled "Empowering Women, Empowering Humanity: Picture It" organised by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) at The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday.

The seminar was held on the occasion of International Women's Day-2015 to be celebrated across the world today (March 8).

Speaking as chief guest, eminent rights activist Sultana Kamal said women are still deprived of their rights and respects even

though they are playing a significant role in the country's economic progress.

Males will have to be sensitised to the rights of women, she viewed.

Manusher Jonno Foundation Executive Director Shaheen Anam said women are not safe even at home. So, the practice of paying respect to women should be initiated in the family.

NHRC Honorary Member Nirupa Dewan said coordinated efforts from both males and females are crucial for protecting women's rights.

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad Acting General Secretary Rakhi Das Purkayastha said political use of religion and rise of fundamentalism are the challenges for women empowerment.

NHRC Chairman Mizanur Rahman and its Full Time Member Kazi Reazul Hoque spoke at the event which was attended by around a dozen of rights activists.

SEE PHOTO ONLINE

Overcome sick politics

Dr Kamal calls upon party activists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gonoforum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday said "sick politics" was ongoing in the country which must be overcome.

"Killing people through firebombs as well as in the name of crossfire, abductions and forced disappearances are both sick politics," the eminent jurist told a meeting with the party's city unit at its Arambagh central office in the capital.

Dr Kamal said Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman showed the path towards fair politics and freedom and gave the people an independent country and a constitution, according to which people were the country's supreme owners.

On the upcoming elections to Dhaka north and south city corporations, he questioned how prospective candidates were able to start campaigning through billboards, posters and banners even before the election schedule's announcement.

"From where did they get that money?... What kind of politics is this?... Why is the Election Commission remaining silent? Why are they not taking action?" questioned Dr Kamal, adding that it was totally illegal and void of electoral rules.

He also said business was ongoing centring election nomination, admission in educational institutions and recruitment in government service.

Awami League President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina along with party leaders observes a moment of silence after placing wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in the capital's Dhanmondi yesterday on the occasion of historic March 7.



PHOTO: PID

Awareness can prevent 60pc of kidney diseases

Roundtable told in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

While the government and private hospitals can treat only 5 percent of kidney patients in Bangladesh, it is possible to prevent 60 percent of such diseases by building awareness, said speakers at a programme yesterday.

Kidney Awareness Monitoring and Prevention Society organised the roundtable, "Kidney health for all: Mass awareness is needed", in the capital's Jatiya Press Club marking World Kidney Day to be observed on March 12.

According to KAMPS, about two crore people in the country have been suffering from different forms of chronic kidney diseases. Of them, 20,000 patients die of end-stage kidney diseases annually.

Addressing the event as chief guest, Barrister Rafiqul Haque said the government had to make the kidney treatment available for the poor as it was highly expensive. He also urged the affluent to help the poor.

KAMPS Chairman Prof MA Samad presented a keynote paper. To prevent such diseases, he focused on eight tips including keeping fit and active, controlling of blood sugar levels, monitoring of blood pressure, keeping weight in check, not smoking and not taking over-the-counter pills on a regular basis.

Speakers said high risk groups include those with diabetes, hypertension and a family history of kidney disease.

BR west zone getting Tk 7,902cr upgrade

BSS, Rajshahi

The west zone of Bangladesh Railway (BR) is implementing eight major projects involving around Tk 7,902.02 crore to improve railway tracks and other infrastructures to facilitate more passengers and businessmen.

Works on three projects have already been completed by spending around Tk 508.34 crore, thereby 95-kilometre Lalmonirhat-Burimari, 52-kilometre Syedpur-Chilahati and 85-kilometre Amnura-Rohanpur sections along with 80 bridges and 25 stations situated there have been renovated.

Mahbubul Haque Bakshi, chief engineer of the zone, told the BSS that the zone is implementing two projects of constructing rail lines at an estimated cost of Tk 2,537.36 crore.

At present, the zone, covering Rajshahi, Rangpur and Khulna divisions, has 141 trains, including 50 intercity trains, which are operating on different routes including Dhaka. Eight commuter or shuttle trains are operating on various short routes which are very popular among passengers.

Besides the construction of a 141-kilometre new line, the existing 85-kilometre rail line is being rehabilitated under the projects in Rajbari, Faridpur, Gopalganj, Natore and Pabna districts.

Dhaka city

FROM PAGE 4

for over an hour. "I waited exactly an hour at the Farmgate Police Box intersection before the traffic police let me drive towards Kawran Bazar," he said.

Mokammel Hossain, a banker, said he had to get down from a bus and walk to reach Motijheel.

"The traffic at Shahbagh was in a mess," he said.

As a result, hundreds of commuters were seen standing beside the road at Farmgate and Karwan Bazar intersections.

"I don't know how and when I'll be able to go home, in Uttara," said Mehjabin Archi, who was standing at Farmgate, waiting to catch a bus.

Hold dialogue, avoid

FROM PAGE 4

criminals under trial, he said. Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists President Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul echoed him, saying life first, democracy later.

The alliance's movement's sole aim is to assume power at the cost of common people's lives, education, agriculture, trade and business, he said. Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, vice-chancellor of Dhaka University, seconded the comment.

Prof Mesbah Kamal, who teaches history at Dhaka University, said it was the state's duty to contain terrorism and that killing the attackers was "justified", for the sake of saving lives.

Former ambassador Waliur Rahman said law enforcing agencies should be provided legal protection against crossfire death allegations.

Former BNP lawmaker Maj (retd) M Akhtaruzzaman said violent retaliations would ensue if the opposition fronts were denied democratic rights.

Commitment to ideals is strikingly absent in all political parties, including the Awami League and BNP, said Ratri Executive Director Maj Gen (retd) AK Mohammad Ali Shikder. Television actress Shomi Kaiser and expelled BNP lawmaker Abu Hena also spoke.

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