

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 35.8 L 28.0	H 34.6 L 27.6	H 33.3 L 26.5	H 37.8 L 27.3	H 37.5 L 27.8	H 36.5 L 27.5	H 32.6 L 23.8	H 35.0 L 26.2

Rain is likely to occur at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions till 6:00pm today, said Met Office. Mild heat wave sweeping over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions and Madaripur, Barisal and Patuakhali may spread some parts of Barisal and Dhaka divisions. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:37pm and rises tomorrow at 05:13am.



Sacrificing much-needed bucks, two rickshaw-pullers opt to take a nap on their vehicles to recover from exhaustion in the punishing summer heat, on Dhaka University campus, past noon yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

Now Duta wants same pay for professors, secys

Protests proposed 8th payscale

DU CORRESPONDENT
Dhaka University Teachers Association (Duta) yesterday protested the new payscale and demanded the same salary and allowance for senior professors as senior secretaries.
At a press conference on the university campus, the organisation also demanded same payscale for professors and secretaries.
They urged the government to reinstate the time scale and selection grade, which would put the senior professors in the same level as that of senior secretaries.
The organisation termed the eighth

payscale "discriminatory" as it, after abolishing the selection grade, created two special levels for "senior secretary and secretary" that put them two levels above the teachers.
Duta also demanded allowance for books and research, provision of cars like secretaries, and upgrading the rank of DU vice chancellor to that of principal secretary or cabinet division secretary.
Duta threatened to launch further demonstrations if their demands are not met. They have already announced a rally and a human chain at the base of Aparajeyo Bangla on Sunday.

HC stays bar council polls for 3 months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed for three months the Bangladesh Bar Council election, which was scheduled to be held on May 27.
Meanwhile, two appeals were filed with the Supreme Court yesterday seeking a stay on the HC orders. Chamber Judge of the SC Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain sent the appeals to the full bench of the apex court for hearing on Sunday.
In response to a writ petition, the HC also issued a rule asking the government and the bar council authorities to explain by four weeks why the election should not be declared illegal.
In response to another petition, the court asked

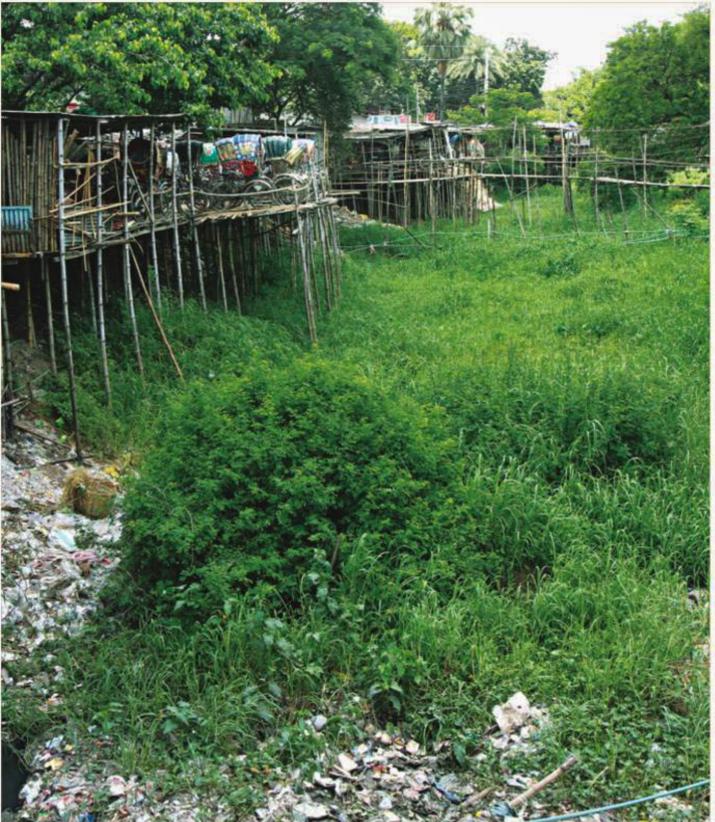
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Preparations for Modi's visit underway

Dhaka hopes for signing of Teesta deal
OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The details of the programmes and venues are being finalised for Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposed visit to Bangladesh in the first week of June, Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Syed Muazzem Ali said yesterday, hoping that the long-pending Teesta river water sharing deal would be signed during his trip.
Sources said Modi's visit was most likely to take place between June 5 and 10.
The Teesta deal was set to be inked during then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Bangladesh in September 2011 but was postponed at the last minute due to objections by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banarjee.

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The upcoming monsoon is going to inundate the Dhaka city streets again if its drainage canals like Nandipara Khal are not cleaned early to ensure free flow of water into the river. The city canals are getting narrower due to encroachment from both sides and clogged with garbage dumped irresponsibly by residents of the area. The photo was taken on Monday. PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

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PURPLE AND TASTY: EGGPLANTS

KNOW YOUR FOOD

Largely available and versatile in the way it is prepared; eggplants have their own unique taste and texture. Every Bangladeshi has a personal favourite recipe of eggplant that they can never get enough of. Let that be simply coated in turmeric and fried, cooked with tamarind, other vegetables or boiled and mixed with chilies, onions and mustard oil. Egg plants are a common item seen in the Bangladeshi food scene unknown or underestimated to the common mass about its nutritional benefits

That glossy deep purple skin on the top that most people discard away is actually packed with an anthocyanin phytonutrient, "Nasunin". This is regarded as a powerful antioxidant and free radical scavenger that provides potential health benefits against cancer, aging, inflammation and neurological diseases. Our body requires certain vitamins that can only be provided from an external source. Eggplant has substantial amounts of such vitamins like B-complex group vitamins such as, B1, B3, B5 and B6 that aid with fat, protein and carbohydrate metabolism. These vitamins assist in the building of strong bones and prevent osteoporosis. Eggplants do not count for many calories and are rich in soluble fiber content that avail the body in multiple ways. It protects the digestive tract and

prevents colon cancer. If you are trying to eat healthy or lose weight then keep in mind that the high fiber content in eggplants will fill you up much easier. The low calorie high fibre content has also been associated with controlling diabetes for ages and modern science validates this. Eggplants also contain bioflavonoids that aid the regulation of high blood pressure and relieve stress. Furthermore, along with the presence of Vitamin K, eggplants help in eliminating some of the "bad" cholesterol that usually lead to blood clots and strengthen capillaries. Mothers are advised to eat eggplants when expecting as it protects the unborn child from possible birth defects.

Shwapno gets their eggplants from many farmers outside the city. Amongst them Abdus Salaam from Manikganj is one of them. He owns a 2 bigha plot where he cultivates eggplants. He uses cow dung to fertilize and other technologies to prepare the soil for sowing. Eggplants take about two months before they can be harvested. Abdus Salaam feels that every vegetable that is cultivated should be of the best quality so that everyone can benefit from it. A team from Shwapno visits his plot on a regular basis to speculate the eggplants. They filter the eggplants before they are picked. This is a three stage process. After that Abdus Salaam harvests the eggplants and sends them to Dhaka, where they end up on the shelves of Shwapno stores, on that very day.

Eggplants are available all throughout the year. So it makes sense to try and get regular dosages of the necessary vitamins and minerals that it provides as a protection and prevention of serious or chronic ailments such as high cholesterol, blood pressure, diabetes and many more.

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RAJIB MURDER CASE

Trial starts May 27

COURT CORRESPONDENT
A Dhaka speedy trial tribunal will begin on May 27 the trial of blogger Ahmed Rajib Haider murder case against chief of militant group Ansarullah Bangla Team Jasim Uddin Rahamani and seven former students of a private university.
The tribunal yesterday framed charges afresh against the accused as the previous Dhaka court did not mention the place of occurrence while framing charges on March 18 this year.
Rajib, an activist of the Shahbagh movement demanding death penalty for war criminals, was hacked to death in the capital's Pallabi on February 15, 2013.

CHINESE VICE PREMIER'S VISIT FROM SUNDAY

Dhaka, Beijing to sign six deals

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
Dhaka and Beijing are expected to sign half a dozen deals during Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong's three-day visit to Bangladesh from Sunday.
Diplomatic sources said China is sending its vice premier also for some advance negotiation of agreements to be signed during Chinese Premier Li Keqiang's planned visit in September-October.
Vice Premier Liu will hold meetings with President Abdul Hamid, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, and Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury during which steps to further strengthen bilateral relationship would be discussed.
Liu will also discuss new avenues for cooperation.
The two countries are expected to sign six Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) in areas of education, information technology and customs under both the private and public sectors to avoid trade barriers.
Sources said Dhaka would seek soft loan and grant support for some mega projects, including construction of the second bridge over the Karnaphuli, and establishment of Eastern Refinery Unit-2.



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