



YESTERDAY'S
TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 36.4 | L 29.8

CHITTAGONG
H 32.6 | L 28.3

SYLHET
H 31.2 | L 20.5

RAJSHAH
H 39.0 | L 29.2

KHULNA
H 37.5 | L 29.6

BARISAL
H 36.0 | L 29.2

RANGPUR
H 33.5 | L 24.4

COX'S BAZAR
H 33.0 | L 29.0

Mild to moderate heat wave may continue in Rajshahi and Khulna divisions and the regions of Dhaka, Tangail, Faridpur, Madaripur, Comilla, Chandpur, Majidpur, Barisal and Patuakhali. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:38pm and rises tomorrow at 05:12am.

CARNIVAL OF DESTRUCTION



The existence of this canal in Banasri, which meets the Balu river and serves as a major drainage outlet of the capital, is threatened due to a host of reasons. Both the canal and the river are being polluted with sewerage water at different points with Dhaka Wasa failing to take care of 80 percent of the sewerage network, while garbage is dumped into it indiscriminately clogging the channel. On top of that, more than a dozen rickety bamboo bridges have been erected filling earth on both sides, which is gradually reducing its width, and some of the structures have been abandoned after they collapsed, causing further obstructions in free flow of water. The photos were taken Friday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



Robbers in guise of tenants kill woman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A new breed of robbers, who masqueraded as tenants and even made an advance payment, killed a 35-year-old daughter of the house owner in the capital's Jatrabari on Friday night. Sadekun Nahar Nigar died from blunt injuries to the head, said sources of the morgue at Sir Salimullah Medical College. The criminals looted Tk 85,000 in cash, two laptops, a tablet computer and four mobile phones, said family members. A few days ago, Nigar's father SM Kamruzzam put up a "To Let" sign in front of the three-storey building. Two men visited the house on Wednesday and made some advance payment to rent the ground floor, the victim's brother-in-law Jasim Uddin Khan told The Daily Star. The same men along with 5-7 others came on Friday night around 10:30pm and entered the apartment on the pretext of further discussing the deal, he said. "The men took Nigar and her parents to three separate rooms as soon as they entered the apartment and tied them up," he said. After taking the cash and electronic gadgets, the robbers asked Nigar's father for the key to a locker. When he said the key was not in their apartment, the robbers said they were taking Nigar with them and would return her if Tk 5 crore was given to them as ransom. After the robbers left around 11:30pm, her mother untied herself and screamed for help. When the neighbours came in around 1:30am, they found Nigar's body wrapped in a mattress.

Two groups of FFs scuffle over CU VC's removal

Six injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg

At least six people were injured when a group of freedom fighters, who demands removal of the Chittagong University vice chancellor, was attacked allegedly by another group of freedom fighters in front of Chittagong Press Club yesterday. Muktiyoddha Odhikar Sangrakhan Parishad of Chittagong was preparing to observe a token hunger strike in front of the press club around 10:00am, accusing VC Prof Anwarul Azim Arif of being a fake freedom fighter, committing nepotism in recruitments, and patronising Jamaat-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir men. At that time, some 100 people loyal to the VC attacked and drove them away, said witnesses. They also assaulted Mohammad Idris, convener of the Parishad. Idris said the attack was led by a "nephew" of the VC. "They assaulted me physically and tore my shirt....They tried to strip me naked but two duty cops near the press club rescued me." "I also recognised fake freedom fighter Abu

Taher among the attackers," he said, adding, "Six freedom fighters were injured in the attack, and they received primary treatment at Chittagong Medical College Hospital." Sub-Inspector Aminur Rahman of Kotwali Police Station said he was not on the spot at the time of the incident. "Locals told me that when they were taking preparations to observe their programme, another group of freedom fighters under the banner Satkania Muktiyoddha Command led by Abu Taher reached there to form a human chain against the group of Idris," he said. "They called Idris an extortionist and collaborator at that time, and both groups scuffled." VC Anwarul Azim denied that he sent anyone to attack them. "Idris is trying to tarnish my image. He does not know the appointment procedure at university," he said. "If I had appointed Jamaat-Shibir men at CU, how did our panel (pro-Awami League) win in the teachers' association election?"

Session jam feared at JU as demos halt classes in five depts

JU CORRESPONDENT

Demonstrations by teachers and students pressing for different demands have been going on in five departments at Jahangirnagar University, halting academic activities and creating fear of session jam among students. Teachers and students of three departments – computer science and engineering, geological sciences and environmental sciences – have been demonstrating for almost two months regarding transfer of environmental sciences to a building that houses the other two. The two departments yesterday staged a six-hour sit-in before the vice chancellor's office protesting the authorities' decision to allow the environmental sciences department to move into their building. Meanwhile, all three teachers of journalism and media studies and some teachers of urban and regional planning departments have been boycotting classes for about a week now demanding resignation of the department chairpersons. Sources said the demonstrating teachers met with VC Prof Farzana Islam and she assured them of reaching a solution accepted by all.

Bangladesh ahead of India in WEF human capital report

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh secured 99th position among 124 countries in the Human Capital Report 2015 of World Economic Forum (WEF), landing one notch behind India. The Forum also ranked Bangladesh third among the Saarc countries while Sri Lanka secured 60th, Bhutan 87th, Nepal 106th, Myanmar 112th and Pakistan 113th positions. The report quantifies how countries are developing and deploying their human capital, and tracks progress over time. The report, released last week, said talent, not capital, will be the key factor linking innovation, competitiveness and growth in the 21st century.



DISASTER IN WAITING

In what is a usual occurrence, a boat overcrowded with passengers travel on the Jamuna River in Gaibandha yesterday at a great risk of sinking at any moment.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Govt must

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He said in construction works the most risky issues are ignoring rules of safe construction practices, constructing buildings without blueprint approvals from relevant authority and blasé attitude of the authorities concerned. Brig Gen Ali Ahmed Khan, director general of Fire Service and Civil Defence, Rajib Saha, an assistant professor of civil engineering department at the National Institute of Technology, Agartala, India and Hameed Al Hasan, adviser of Crown Cement Group, also spoke.

Pro-BNP leader's

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place and visited Lahin's house. It was not immediately clear whether it was an attack over enmity or an incident of robbery. Nobody was injured.

Bus strike makes Khulna div remote

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Many people returned home in anger and frustration, while other opted for alternative modes of transport. Transport owners are dissatisfied over government's indifferent attitude over the matter. "Looking at the situation, it seems to us that the government is not bothered about it. We cannot make them (government) understand how difficult this is for us," said Ashoke Kapuria, chairman of Eagle Paribahan. Passengers of a Benapole-bound bus of Sohag Paribahan were robbed in Maizkandi area of Faridpur around 3:00am Tuesday. After the robbers left, bus driver Ainal

Hossain drove to Modhukhali Police Station to file a general diary, but he along with the helper was arrested on suspicion. Talking to The Daily Star, Officer-in-Charge of Modhukhali Police Station Ruhul Amin said, "We have found the driver's involvement in the robbery. The passengers have given statements against him." Meanwhile, bus owners have announced a strike on the Dhaka-Mawa route today protesting "illegal" parking charge at Shimulia Ferry ghat imposed by the leaseholder of the parking yard, reports our Mymensingh correspondent.

Chunnu sees no shrinkage of legal

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organisations in creating awareness, and strict enforcement of anti-human trafficking laws. Bhorer Kagoj Editor Shyamol Dutta said human trafficking was tarnishing the country's image. "This is a problem of the state, and the state should solve it." Communist Party of Bangladesh

President Mujahidul Islam said the recent inhumane acts, revealed by the media, were worse than slavery. Diraj Kumar Biswas, a victim from Rajbari, narrated how he was trafficked to Thailand and the suffering he endured for months. "I realised the pain of death...none of my brothers and friends should take the path."

Salahuddin may appear at Shillong court

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(city), East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya Police, last afternoon told this correspondent by phone that they were ready to produce the BNP leader as soon as the hospital authority released him. Quoting a top official of North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (Neigrihms), Subrata Acharjee, India bureau chief of Somoy Television, told The Daily Star that doctors hope Salahuddin might be released on Monday if his health condition does not worsen. "Doctors of cardiology, nephrology, urology and skin departments yesterday sat in a review meeting to evaluate this [Salahuddin's] health condition.

Doctors found his condition stable following the start of his medication since Thursday," Subrata quoted the official. Neigrihms authorities said doctors would sit again tomorrow to review Salahuddin's health condition and following their release certificate, police would produce Salahuddin before a Shillong court on the same day. The Meghalaya police have already brought an ambulance and a jeep at the Neigrihms to take Salahuddin to court, Subrata told this correspondent. After producing him before the court, the investigation officer is likely to appeal for placing Salahuddin on seven to ten days' remand, a Meghalaya

cop hinted. SALAHUDDIN SEEKS BAIL Salahuddin has submitted a petition to a Shillong lower court seeking his bail in a case filed against him for intruding into India. SP Mahanta, lawyer of the BNP leader, submitted the bail petition to the registrar's office of the court on Friday afternoon. "My client is sick enough. He needs bail, as he wants to go to Singapore for better treatment," Mahanta told The Daily Star by phone. Mahanta said no hearing was held in court yet. The court also did not fix any date for hearing the petition. Instead, the court asked local police to submit a report before it on Salahuddin.

JU finally expels 5 BCL assaulters of Adivasi

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"During investigation, the Anti-Sexual Harassment Cell found their involvement. The submitted their report with recommendation to expel them," he said. On April 16, BCL's JU unit sus-

pended the five over the same allegation. The victim filed a complaint over the issue, alleging that she was attacked in Chourangy area while returning to her hall around 7:00pm and that her purse and cellphone had been snatched.

The Anti-Sexual Harassment Cell was headed by Prof Rasheda Akter. Students who had been demanding justice since the harassment of the indigenous woman brought out a procession last night, welcoming the decision.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

From left, Registrar Lt Col (retd) Ali Ambial Haque Khan, Vice-Chancellor Golam Samdani Fakir, Treasurer Shahid Ullah, and EEE Department Chairperson Muhibul Haque Bhuyan at the orientation programme of the newly enrolled students under Summer Semester-2015 of Green University of Bangladesh (GUB) held on the campus on Wednesday.