

### WEATHER FORECAST

**YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES**

<b>DHAKA</b> H 31.6   L 25.4	<b>CHITTAGONG</b> H 33.5   L 26.5	<b>SYLHET</b> H 30.4   L 24.0	<b>RAJSHAHI</b> H 31.0   L 25.9	<b>KHULNA</b> H 32.2   L 25.2	<b>BARISAL</b> H 30.5   L 25.8	<b>RANGPUR</b> H 30.3   L 25.1	<b>COX'S BAZAR</b> H 31.2   L 25.5
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Light to moderate rain or thundershowers with gusty wind is likely to occur in many places in Rangpur, Dhaka, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over the country till 6:00pm today. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:48pm and rises tomorrow at 05:11am.

## Khaleda invites Hasina to iftar addressing her as AL chief, not PM

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday invited Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to an Iftar party, addressing her as Awami League president and not the prime minister.

Khaleda will host the Iftar party at city's Bashundhara Convention Center in honour of the country's political leaders on June 21, Syrul Kabir Khan, a staff of BNP chairperson's media wing, told The Daily Star.

The two leaders invite each other to Iftar parties every year but do not attend each others invitations.

On behalf of Khaleda, BNP spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon and BNP's Assistant Office Secretary Abdul Latif Jony delivered the invitation letter to the Awami League president's Dhanmondi office, Khan said.

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**A tailback created between Bangla Motor and Sonargaon hotel intersections in the capital yesterday around noon, as traffic police halted for more than 40 minutes vehicular movement for the passing of the presidential motorcade. President Abdul Hamid inaugurated an ICT fair at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.**

PHOTO: STAR

## Police plans for Ramadan, Eid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following a meeting with representatives of business, bank, shop and public transport owners' associations and utility and roads and highways service providers, Inspector General of Police AKM Shahidul Hoque yesterday informed the press at the police headquarters of some initiatives.

- Immediate action over extortion on roads, highways, and at ferry terminals
- Repairs of dilapidated roads, highways requested to curb traffic congestion
- Bar on long-distance buses entering capital
- Limited parking outside shopping malls, increased vigilance against mugging, snatching
- CCTV cameras requested inside, outside banks, availability of police assistance in transferring large amounts of cash
- No power cuts assured during Iftar, Sehri
- Monitoring against artificial price hike of goods, food adulteration

## PROPOSED 8TH PAY SCALE Nahid to consider univ teachers' demands

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday assured taking into consideration demands of teachers of the country's 37 public universities over the proposed 8th national pay scale.

"The prime minister is abroad. I will talk to her on her return. If necessary, I will take you along with me to the meeting," he said at his secretariat office.

It was there around 3:00pm that a 15-member delegation of Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Associations (FBUTA) submitted a memorandum containing a four-point demand, including a separate pay scale for the teachers.

A secretary-level committee last month submitted a review report on the pay commission's proposed scale.

Rejecting and terming it "disgraceful and discriminatory", the teachers embarked on a protest, observing a two-hour work abstention on June 8 and announcing submitting the memorandum at different ministries.

In the memorandum, the teachers said the scale deprived and devalued them by creating two special levels putting "senior secretary and secretary" two levels above them.

Till now, senior professors, especially those who got the selection grade, have been enjoying the same salaries as secretaries, it said.

If the special level is kept for senior

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## HC questions class XI admission policy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday questioned the legality of the class XI admission policy-2015 which states that the admission would be not through a test but a merit list based on students' SSC GPA.

After hearing a writ petition Supreme Court lawyer Eunus Ali Akond filed on June 10, the court issued a rule asking the education secretary to explain in four weeks why the policy, issued by the education ministry on June 1, should not be declared illegal.

## Get child workers back to school

Speakers urge govt at workshop on reducing child labour

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

When asked if he goes to school, 14-year-old Rubel, helper of small passenger vehicle Leguna, gave a blank look.

"I work from 6:00am to 11:00pm and earn Tk 200-300 per day to support my family," he replied.

At the same age, waste picker Mohammad Shanto also dropped out of school for the same reason.

"I left school seven years ago after studying up to class II to help my father collect waste and drive the city corporation garbage van in Mohammadpur's Tajmahal road area," Shanto told the Advocacy Workshop on Reducing Child Labour at The Daily Star Centre.

The programme was organised by the Centre for Services and Information on Disability and Shapla Neer along with eight other local NGOs with fund from the Australian government and World Vision Australia, marking World Day Against Child Labour, observed on June 12.

Focusing on this year's theme "No to child labour and yes to quality education", speakers said the government should support families to get their children back to school.

According to a concept paper presented at the workshop, 35 percent of children drop out before getting through class V and start working.

Aminul Islam, joint secretary at the women and children affairs ministry, spoke of the government's initiative to provide 40,000 children from underprivileged families Tk 2,000 per month under the Enabling Environment for Children Project, with conditions that the children cannot engage in labour or marital relationships.

As per a 2003 Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) and International Labour Organisation (ILO) survey, 78 lakh children were engaged in economic activities in Bangladesh, out of which 32 lakh were child labourers and 13 lakh were involved in hazardous work.

Among the child workers, 17.4 percent worked in Dhaka.

A 2007 survey by Unicef and ILO showed that 4.2 lakh children in the country were domestic workers and 83 percent girls. A domestic labourer

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