

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 32.0 L 22.0

CHITTAGONG
H 32.4 L 24.0

SYLHET
H 30.6 L 21.3

RAJSHAHI
H 31.7 L 19.4

KHULNA
H 32.0 L 22.0

BARISAL
H 30.2 L 22.5

RANGPUR
H 30.8 L 21.0

COX'S BAZAR
H 33.0 L 24.5

Light rain is likely to occur at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country till 6:00pm today, Met Office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:21pm and rises tomorrow at 6:04am.



GRAFT CASE
Another testifies in absence of Khaleda

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday recorded statement of one more prosecution witness in Zia Charitable Trust graft case in absence of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia. Judge Abu Ahmed Jomadar of the Special Judge Court-3 recorded statement of Mesbahul Haque, a former official of Sonali Bank's Prime Minister Office branch.

Earlier in the day, counsel for Khaleda completed cross-examination of four other prosecution witnesses. A total of 13 prosecution witnesses, including complainant of the case, have so far testified before the makeshift court at Bakshibazar in the capital. The court fixed November 5 for Khaleda's lawyer Masud Ahmed Talukder to cross-examine the witness.

Before that, Masud filed two petitions, saying the BNP chief went to London for treatment and they wanted to cross-examine the witness on the next scheduled date. He also told the court Khaleda would return on November 7. He filed two more petitions over Khaleda's absence.

The BNP chief earlier had postponed the date of her return at least four times. Family and party sources said Khaleda was first scheduled to return home on October 8. Later

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The Dhaka-Aricha highway at Savar Bus Stand is flooded with sewage due to very poor drainage. The sewage used to pass in drains that go through a state-run horticulture centre there. However, the centre blocked the drains as sewage always spilled over killing their trees. The photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: RASHAD AHAMAD

TAVELLA MURDER
DB still quizzing suspects

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives investigating the murder of Italian aid worker Cesare Tavella are now connecting the dots based on information gleaned from the three arrested youths who, according to police, directly took part in the killing.

"We are quizzing the youths separately. They have divulged information on their responsibility in the murder. But still, there are some gaps. We are matching their statements with one another and trying to fill up those gaps," Monirul Islam, joint commissioner of the Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said yesterday.

Of the arrestees, Tamjid Ahmed alias Rubel has already given a statement before a magistrate, confessing that he



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BURN, PLASTIC SURGERY INSTITUTE
Work likely to start by Dec

MOKAMMEL SHUVO

Construction of the National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery is expected to begin by December, aiming to produce skilled healthcare providers, including surgeons, and provide state of the art facilities and proper treatment to around six lakh patients a year.

It would be possible after the project's financing plan is approved on being placed in any of the upcoming meetings of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council, the institute's National Coordinator Dr Samanta Lal Sen told The Daily Star recently.

Initially each year, it will produce 10 to 12 doctors, who will attain the Master of Science in Plastic Surgery and be posted to burn units, scheduled to be constructed at every district under the institute, he said.

Proper treatment in the first 24 hours is crucial for burn patients so units at the districts will lessen sufferings, said Dr Samanta.

Now, only two expert surgeons are created per year while there are 52 surgeons in the country's eight burn units, including four in the capital, he said.

As per the project's sources, the institute will also train up nurses, paramedics, physiotherapists and persons specialising in dressings.

They add that it would have 500 beds, including 50 for the intensive care unit; 12 operating theatres, four each for the burn, emergency and plastic surgery units; and equipment such as burn tanks.

Initially, around Tk 500 crore will be

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JSC EXAMS START NOV 1



The Junior School Certificate (JSC) exams and its madrasa equivalent Junior Dakhil Certificate (JDC) exams start on November 1. Against the backdrop of allegations of question paper leaks recently, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday announced a host of preventive measures, reports Helemul Alam.

EXAM DETAIL

23,25,933 candidates in all

19,67,444 for JSC

3,58,486 for JDC

585 sit in eight foreign centres

MEASURES TO STOP LEAK

Close watch on BG Press

Surveillance of teachers who prepare questions

Close watch on coaching centres

Punishing perps, rumour-mongers thru mobile courts



The lone female sambar deer in Chittagong Zoo gave birth to a foal early yesterday, nearly two weeks after the male deer died. With the new member, the sambar deer population in the zoo stands at two, but it was four in 2012. The zoo's veterinary surgeon, Dr Shahadat Hossain Shuvo, said, "The newborns do not survive long because they are born through inbreeding." Currently, the zoo has a total of 18 deer, while the number was 32 in 2013. PHOTO: MINHAJ UDDIN

ASK irked by rise in violence against children

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expressing deep concern at recent incidents of violence against children across the country, Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) yesterday urged the government to take effective and visible steps to stop recurrence of such incidents.

A press release of the human rights organisation mentioned the murder of 16-year-old restaurant staff Md Riad in the

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4 die in road crashes

CITY DESK

Four people were killed in road accidents in Chittagong and Tangail yesterday.

Our Ctg correspondent reports: Two people were killed and two others injured when a Chittagong-bound truck rammed a three-wheeler on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Sheikh Para Rastar Matha area of Sitakunda upazila around 8:00am.

Ismail Hossain, 50, and Anwar Hossain, 47, died instantly.

In another accident, Shakawat Hossain, 25, a bus helper, was killed as the bus turned turtle and fell into a roadside ditch near Bhatiyari area in the city around 6:15am.

Our Tangail correspondent adds: Rabeya Akter, 13, daughter of Jamshed Ali of Poulee village in Kalihati upazila, was killed when a truck rammed a three-wheeler on Bangabandhu Bridge Connecting Road at Hatia in Kalihati upazila of Tangail around 12:45pm yesterday.

Web platform to connect youths for girls' rights launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Aiming to create awareness among the young people about child rights, child marriage and violence against women, "Hub for Change", an online platform for the girls' rights and youth activism, was launched yesterday.

By sharing their thoughts, ideas and building a multi-country network through the platform, the youths will be able to influence the government decision-making process.

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Bus cylinder blast injures 15

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

At least 15 passengers of a bus were injured as the vehicle caught fire after explosion of its CNG cylinder on Dhaka-Aricha highway in Savar, outside the capital, yesterday.

Witnesses said the cylinder of the Dhaka-bound bus from Gazipur exploded as it crashed into the central reservation at Jhorpul around 4:30pm.

On information, a firefighter team rushed in and doused the flames, said Rabiul Al-Amin, station officer of Savar Fire Service and Civil Defence.

Of the injured, five were admitted to Enam Medical College Hospital and the rest to different hospitals and clinics in Savar, said police. An injured person was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital from a Hemayetpur clinic as his condition was critical, said Jamal Uddin, chairman of the clinic. Hospital sources said most of them were injured while trying to come out of the bus hurriedly and some suffered burns. Vehicular movement on the highway remained halted for around an hour, causing a

15 get Nat'l Youth Award

BSS, Dhaka

National Youth Award will be given to 15 youths for their contributions to establishing self-employment projects on November 1 marking the National Youth Day.

The Directorate of Youth Development this year imparted institutional and non-institutional trainings to some 4,515,141 youths under 74 grades, said Deputy Minister for Youth and Sports Arif Khan at a press conference at the youth and sports ministry yesterday.

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