



YESTERDAY'S
TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 28.5 L 21.5

CHITTAGONG
H 28.4 L 21.2

SYLHET
H 29.1 L 19.4

RAJSHAHI
H 31.2 L 18.3

KHULNA
H 27.0 L 21.5

BARISAL
H 27.0 L 21.3

RANGPUR
H 28.2 L 19.5

COX'S BAZAR
H 29.8 L 21.8

Night temperature may rise and day temperature may fall slightly over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:12pm and rises tomorrow at 6:16am. Country's highest temperature 31.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and Ishwardi and lowest 18.0 in Ishwardi.

FIGHTING CYBER CRIMES

Govt trying to sign deal with Facebook

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite being turned down several times, the government is still planning to strike a deal with Facebook to be able to get information about its users to ensure cyber security in Bangladesh.

The social media platform turned down all the requests for user information the government made in the six months till June this year, according to the Global Government Requests Report of

Facebook released last week.

Bangladesh has become vulnerable to cyber attacks, especially through the use of Facebook, Tarana Halim, state minister for posts and telecommunications, told reporters during a meeting at the office of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) yesterday.

Some of the Facebook statuses and posts are uploaded only to harass politicians and women; even sometimes women commit suicide as they cannot tolerate those, she said. "We want a significant change here."

"If necessary, we will call them, send letters or request them to sign a deal with us," she said.

BTRC officials said the home ministry was working to have the deal signed.

Before 2006, Facebook showed interest to sign a deal with Bangladesh on the condition that the networking site will not take responsibility for the users' posts, Tarana said.

The deal could not be signed because the then BNP-Jamaat alliance government opposed it, she said.

Since it introduced the half-yearly report in 2013, Facebook has not provided any data to Bangladesh's government, which had made 16 requests about 37 users by the time.

However, Facebook did

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Docking their boats at Daulatdia Ferry Ghat, boatmen sit underneath umbrellas and patiently wait out the downpour before they could head out to their destinations. This is one of the 10 shortlisted photographs in The Daily Star's photo contest in Pixel.

PHOTO:
MD JAHANGIR ALAM SABUJ

Public unity must to defeat terrorism

Says citizens' rally

DU CORRESPONDENT

If the people are not active and united, acts of terrorism will take place in different parts of the country again, warned groups of right activists, educationists, journalists, freedom fighters and cultural personalities while speaking at a human chain.

Sammilito Samajik Andolon and Bangladesh Rukhe Daraw jointly organised the event at the altar of the Raju sculpture near TSC on Dhaka University campus yesterday morning.

Prof Ajoy Roy, father of slain blogger and writer Avijit Roy, alleged that the fundamentalists are using religion as an excuse to kill free-thinkers and following the path of those who killed the intellectuals in 1971.

Speaking at the human chain, professor emeritus Dr Anisuzzaman said, "Conspiracy is going on nationally and internationally to foil the trial of war criminals. We never thought we have to deliver speech to establish ideology of

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Govt's cyber crime units lack coordination

Tarana Halim tells Prothom Alo, Brac roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ministries and government agencies that have units to monitor and investigate cyber crimes need to coordinate activities to protect victims, mostly women, of such crimes, State Minister for Post and Telecommunications Tarana Halim said yesterday.

She said Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC), the home and information and communication technology (ICT) ministries, cells in the Criminal Investigation Department, Rapid Action Battalion, and detective branch of police worked on cyber crimes separately.

"But there is a lack of coordination which leads to overlapping of work and waste of fund," she said, stressing the need for having

a central point from which online activities could be monitored and security ensured.

The state minister was addressing a roundtable on ways to restrain the abuse of information technology in violence against women, organised jointly by the Prothom Alo and Brac at the newspaper's office in the capital.

Prothom Alo's Associate Editor Abdul Quaiyum quoted a UN report of October, stating that 73 percent of women in the world are subjected to cyber violence.

Tarana said BTRC received 220 complaints this year, of which 60 percent were made through Facebook.

"However, when complaints were made to the Facebook authority they did not find the content offensive even if it was so in the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Medical college admission test questions were leaked

Reveals probe of citizens' committee led by Prof Anu Muhammad; test rerun recommended

DU CORRESPONDENT

A citizens' committee, which was formed to investigate the alleged question leak of the medical and dental college admission test, yesterday reported that questions were leaked before the test and marks were tampered with.

The committee also placed 11 recommendations including rerunning the admission exam.

"The admission test held on September 18 has lost its moral and legal base as it was beset with corrup-

tion, irregularity and question leaks. The students who passed the test have also fallen into a trap of stigma; so the admission test must be held again," said the committee report.

A 15-member committee led by Jahangirnagar University's Prof Anu Muhammad published the report through a press conference at TSC of Dhaka University.

The committee found evidence that candidates who bought the leaked questions were assured of admission and that the leaked and real questions matched

with exception in the order.

IT expert Fida Huq, a member of the committee, said, "Emails containing questions and answers were sent to different admission seekers at 6:41am, around three hours before the exam took place and it resembled questions in the real test."

The screenshots of the emails and other website links were shown in the report.

Prof Anu Muhammad alleged that the health minister repeatedly dismissed the allegations of the question leak and involvement of government

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Jaago Foundation founder Korvi Rakshand addresses a press conference at Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday, marking Universal Children's Day to be observed on November 20. On his left is Head of SHS Sales of Rahimafrooz Shah Maksudul Gani.

PHOTO:
STAR

Jaago to take street children of 32 dists to parks tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jaago Foundation has organised a daylong programme tomorrow for underprivileged children in 32 districts of the country to play in various amusement parks and fields.

Observing Universal Children's Day on November 20, the foundation has organised the programme to create awareness about the importance of quality education.

Korvi Rakshand, founder of the NGO, announced the programme at a meet the press event at Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

Rakshand said they have been observing Universal Children's Day for the last six years, and working for the rights of children and quality education for the last nine years.

"Our volunteers will substitute for street children so that the kids can enjoy a day full of fun. The volunteers will also convey messages of quality education to the public," he said.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, said Jaago's voluntary work for the nation's benefit was inspiring. He also emphasised the need for quality education.

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