WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 29.0 | L 18.4	H 29.4 | L 18.5	H 30.0 | L 16.8	H 30.0 | L 15.6	H 30.2 | L 18.5	H 29.4 | L 17.4	H 28.3 | L 17.0	H 29.5 | L 19.2

Night and day temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 5:11pm and rises tomorrow at 6:21am.** Country's highest temperature 30.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Teknaf and lowest 13.5 in Sreemangal.

Transcom staff donate Tk 2.7 lakh for new building of Liberation War Museum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Staff of three chain culinary brands run by Transcom Group yesterday donated Tk 2.7 lakh, buying 27 "symbolic bricks" costing Tk 10,000 apiece, for the construction of Liberation War Museum's new building in the capital's Agargaon.

The donation of young people working at 28 outlets of KFC, Pizza Hut and Pizza Hut Deliver Restaurant was handed over to the museum trustee members Dr Sarwar Ali and Tariq Ali at a ceremony at KFC's Paltan outlet.

"We were overwhelmed," said Dr Sarwar. It is a big example of people's participation as it would inspire more young people to come forward to champion the cause of the Liberation War, he said.

"The Liberation War was a people's war and we have always wanted the museum to be built with people's money and ownership. Women in particular played a big role in the war providing shelter to the guerrilla fighters and thus it was a people's war in true sense," he said.

Akku Chowdhury, managing director and chief executive officer of Transcom Food Limited, said Transcom Group, as a business conglomerate, has been supportive of the museum's vision and mission of disseminating the true history of the Liberation War since the museum formally started its journey in 1996.

The museum, inspired by the spirit of the Liberation War, aims at motivating today's youth, said Akku, also a trustee of

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Staff of three chain culinary brands run by Transcom Group hand over a donation of Tk 2.7 lakh to Liberation War Museum's trustee members at KFC's Paltan outlet in the capital yesterday, buying 27 "symbolic bricks" costing Tk 10,000 apiece, for the construction of the museum's new building in Agargaon. PHOTO: STAR

REPORT ON 'IS ASSASSINS'

Home minister denies talking to The Hindu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal yesterday evening said he had not talked to Indian English daily The Hindu, let alone tell it that "two IS assassins sought by Bangladesh for the October 3 murder of Japanese agro-researcher Kunio Hoshi, have crossed over to India".

"The Hindu never sought a statement from me," he said after The Daily Star asked for more information about the "IS assassins".

In the report, dated November 25 and titled "We are tracking two IS killers inside India, says Bangladesh", The Hindu claimed to have talked with the minister in Bangladesh from India on Tuesday.

The report also quoted him as saying, "We have alerted Indian authorities about their (IS) presence."

"How could I make such a comment when there is no existence of IS in the country," said the minister.

According to him, a Bangladesh-born UK citizen had been involved in spreading propaganda that IS existed in this country. "But we caught him many months ago and sent him back to the UK," said Asaduzzaman Khan.

"Extremists in the country are a certain group of people taking on different organisational identities like JMB or Ansarullah Bangla or IS at times to grab public attention," he added.

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Grant, not loan from green climate fund

Environment and forests minister informs press of demand Bangladesh to make at COP-21

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Stating losses and damages caused by natural disasters, Bangladesh will demand grants, not loans, from Green Climate Fund (GCF) at Conference of Parties (COP)-21, the climate conference of the United Nations scheduled to begin in Paris from November 30.

The prime minister has approved this demand, said Environment and Forests Minister Anwar Hossain Manju yesterday, adding that the issue of climate migrants would be raised and compensation sought for rehabilitation. The minister's comment, coming at a press conference in the ministry on Bangladesh's position in COP-21, came after journalists cited Finance Minister AMA Muhit as saying that Bangladesh had no problem taking the loan.

GCF will be sought to be equally divided for adaptation and mitigation since at present more has been allotted for mitigation although countries like Bangladesh need more funds for adaptation, said Manju, adding, "We are hopeful that the Paris summit will be successful." He said Bangladesh, like other least developed countries, would demand a legally binding agreement and common but differentiated responsibilities for developed countries to do more for carbon mitigation than developing and least developed ones.

Manju said they would also ask for measures to ensure that mean global temperature rises be kept under 1.5 degrees C from pre industrial levels. A 39-member Bangladesh delegation is going to COP-21.

Result of judiciary service written test published

Viva starts Tuesday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The result of ninth Bangladesh Judiciary Service written test was published yesterday.

A total of 419 examinees among 1,496 passed the test.

Viva voce of the candidates will start on Tuesday at Bangladesh Judiciary Service Commission Secretariat, said a press release.

To know the result and viva schedule visit www.jscbd.org.bd

UPCOMING MUNICIPALITY POLLS

EC directs ROs to remove all campaign materials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission yesterday directed all the 236 returning officers (ROs) of the upcoming municipality polls to remove all sorts of electoral campaigning materials, including posters, banner and billboards, by early hours of tomorrow.

The commission last evening issued separate letters to the ROs for 236 municipalities in this regard.

As per the electoral code of conduct, no candidate is allowed to conduct electoral campaign three weeks before the voting day, scheduled for December 30.

On Tuesday, Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad urged candidates and their supporters to remove all campaigning materials.

Meanwhile, the EC also issued letters to all the 40 registered political parties with directives to comply with the newly formulated legal provisions regarding candidate selection.

As per the rule, political parties willing to contest the polls need to send a letter to the returning officers mentioning the names of party-authorised persons who will pick the candidates. Copies of the letter will have to be sent to the EC.

Besides, a registered political party will be allowed to nominate a single candidate for mayoral post in each municipality. If a party nominates multiple mayoral candidates in any municipality, all of their candidacies will be cancelled.

The EC sent a list of ROs to the political parties.

***From left,* Dr Prasad R Muglikar, a healthcare professional of Apollo Group in India; R Basil, executive director and CEO of STS Holdings Limited; Dr Deen Mohd Noorul Huq, director general at the Directorate General of Health Services; Prof M Omar Rahman, vice chancellor of Independent University, Bangladesh; Dr Muhammad Musa, executive director of Brac; and Syed Moinuddin Ahmed, additional managing director of Green Delta Insurance, at a programme at Apollo Hospitals Dhaka yesterday marking World Quality Day.** PHOTO: STAR

Quality health care now major concern

Experts tell Apollo Hospitals discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

While Bangladesh has a good healthcare infrastructure, the major concern now is quality, experts said yesterday, calling for improvements through upgrading medical education and standardisation of treatment.

They said the clinical part was crucial but the way healthcare providers deal with patients and transparency and accountability at every stage were of critical importance for quality care.

The observations came at a discussion organised by Apollo Hospitals Dhaka at its auditorium in the capital marking World Quality Day.

With quite good healthcare infrastructures, including nearly 100 medical colleges, Bangladesh now needed a strong policy and national accreditation system to ensure quality, said Dr Deen Mohd Noorul Huq, director general of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

He said it was important to regularly assess hospitals for continuous development of medical and ethical practices to reduce medical errors that might lead to an increase in morbidity or deaths. "We are trying to establish an accreditation system for the hospitals," he added.

R Basil, executive director and CEO of STS Holdings Limited, said Apollo Hospitals in Bangladesh was the only healthcare provider to have been accredited internationally and there were 26 such accredited hospital.

Independent University, Bangladesh Vice-Chancellor M Omar Rahman said out of pocket health expenditure in Bangladesh was some 65 percent, one of the major

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Legal notice served on govt to unblock Facebook

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Supreme Court lawyer yesterday sent a legal notice to the government requesting it to allow access to Facebook and the use of WhatsApp and Viber within 24 hours.

Advocate Cumar Debul Dey served the notice to the post and telecommunication secretary saying the secretary would face legal consequences if the social networking sites, which were blocked on November 18, are not unblocked within 24 hours.

He said such an "arbitrary" decision to block such social communication websites and mobile applications violates people's constitutional and legal rights.

Moreover, the decision is an obstacle of building a "Digital Bangladesh", which is an election pledge of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, he added in the notice.

Mobile data usage dropped over 22 percent after the government blocked Facebook, Viber and WhatsApp on November 18, according to telecom networks.

STAR WEEKEND
in other news...

With a fresh new format, new writers and a new perspective, the *Star Weekend* has an array of interesting articles for you. This week our spotlight is on the coming together of creative minds at the Dhaka Literary Festival. There is also an important article on the One Belt, One Road initiative taken by Chinese President Xi Jinping, along with many other exciting reads. Don't forget your copy of *Star Weekend* tomorrow, Friday!

"বিবেকের তীক্ষ্ণ দংশন সহ্য করতে না পেরেই তারাশঙ্করের ১৯৭১ বইটি লেখা, পড়তে শুরু করলে শেষ না করে থামা যাবে না।"

-হাসান আজিজুল হক

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