

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 27.4 L 18.32	H 27.7 L 17.8	H 28.3 L 15.9	H 25.6 L 19.6	H 27.5 L 19.4	H 27.5 L 18.4	H 25.6 L 16.2	H 29.2 L 27.6

Light rain/drizzle is likely to occur at one or two places over Rajshahi, Barisal and Khulna divisions and weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country till 6:00pm today. Light to moderate fog may occur at places over the river basins of the country during midnight till morning, Met Office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:11pm and rises tomorrow at 6:29am.

Ex-dictator laments for democracy

Ershad claims he handed over power in 1990 to maintain constitutional democracy, says nothing about his overthrow through mass uprising

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Contradicting the fact that a mass movement forced him to step down 25 years back, former military dictator HM Ershad yesterday apparently claimed that he had handed over power on his own accord "to strengthen and keep constitutional democracy on track".

"Where is that democracy for which I had handed over my power...? I do not know when I will see that democracy," the Jatiya Party chairman told a discussion the party organised in the capital's Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh marking "Constitution Protection Day".

On the contrary, all political parties observe "Democracy Restoration Day" marking the day in 1990 when Ershad's autocratic rule came to an end through the mass uprising of political parties including Awami League and BNP, student organisations and professional bodies.

Following President

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The Daily Star Photo Contest in Pixel



INDOMITABLE URBANITE

A child rolls a bicycle tyre over an Azimpur road in the capital. This is one of the 10 shortlisted photographs in The Daily Star's photo contest inPixel with the theme rain.

PHOTO: RIZWAN HASAN

Self confidence to take the nation forward

Says Hasina at the induction ceremony of two aircraft for the defence forces

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said self-confidence will take the nation forward though Bangladesh has resource constraints.

"If we have the self-confidence, the people of Bangladesh will move towards the path of progress with self-dignity," she said.

The prime minister said this in her opening speech at the induction ceremony of YAK-130 Trainer Aircraft and Maritime Search and Rescue Hel Augusta AW-139 in Bangladesh Air Force at Air Base Bangabandhu in Dhaka Cantonment.

She said the people of Bangladesh attained their victory through the Liberation War under the leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

"We're the nation of victors...no one could ever defeat us... all of our people have to remember this all the time," Sheikh Hasina said, adding, "We'll keep our heads high on the global stage and for that we need to build ourselves in that way."

She mentioned that the government wants to see Bangladesh and its people take their due places in the world arena with dignity.

Hasina reiterated her resolve to make Bangladesh Air Force technically sound, strong and capable in line with its emerging prosperity through further modernisation by the year 2021.

"The present government has never been miser when it came to providing assistance in the past, will never do in the future too although we have resource constraints," she added.

She also mentioned that the country's economy has got the due momentum and the country is moving on fast. "Bangladesh is now treated as a role model of development in the world."

Hasina said Bangladesh would take its place as the most peaceful nation in the world and an enriched and developed nation in south Asia.

The prime minister expressed her hope that the just-inducted YAK 130 advanced jet trainer will play a significant role in providing higher training to the country's pilots advancing the Air Force keeping pace with the developed

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Govt to direct preachers to sermonise 'right path': Home boss

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will instruct preachers to deliver such sermons which will guide the countrymen towards the "right direction", said Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday.

When asked about a reported claim that some preachers gave sermons encouraging militant activities, the home boss further said he had heard of such news and the authorities were inquiring the matter.

After an event at the capital's Rajarbagh Police Lines, he also told reporters that law enforcers, on the other hand, will be instructed to take appropriate measures against those who are involved in anti-state activities.

Bangladesh Police arranged the programme to honour police personnel who were the first to raise resistance against the genocide of Bangalees by the Pakistani Army on March 25, 1971. Forty

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Liberal democracy key to achieving national cohesion

Says president

UNB, Dhaka

President Abdul Hamid yesterday said liberal democracy is the appropriate political system for achieving national cohesion and economic progress.

"We chose to be non-aligned and promote development rather than support a rigid political alliance. Our foreign policy is independent and its goal is to attain global peace and harmony," he said when the participants of National Defence Course-2015 and Armed Forces War Course-2015 met him at Bangabhaban.

The president stressed incorporating techniques and forms in the course curricula to manage any situation successfully as the world is becoming more inter-dependent and complicated.

"The present world is getting more inter-dependent and complex. It's now more chaotic and threatening than ever and tilts us, particularly developing countries, to a more challenging world," he said.

Pointing at the 25 course members, including three females from 12 friendly countries, the president said, "I'm sure that the traditional Bangladeshi hospitality has given you

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Friendship makes a case of effective climate adaptation solutions at COP21

CITY DESK

Friendship, a Bangladeshi non-governmental organisation, has organised an event in Paris's Le Bourget to raise awareness on the important human impacts of climate change and share best adaptation measures that already exist to strengthen the resilience for the most climatically vulnerable people.

According to the Bangladeshi government, 20 million people might have to move by 2050 because of climate change, said a press release.

The event was held on Saturday among a plethora of voices gathered at Paris Climate Conference 2015 which aims to form a legally binding agreement between countries to keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius.

Yann Arthus-Bertrand, French photographer and founder of Good Planet, premiered his latest documentary on the real face of climate change in Bangladesh at

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BGB's vigilance, intel sharing increased

Director General Maj Gen Aziz Ahmed briefs journalists on force's developments after he took charge three years ago

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a bid to fight transboundary militancy and terrorism, Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) has increased vigilance at the borders as well as intelligence sharing with Indian Border Security Force (BSF), said BGB Director General Maj Gen Aziz Ahmed yesterday.

"We will increase sharing of information and assist each other to fight militancy to tackle terrorism and restrict their transboundary movement," he said.

The BGB chief said the force believed that friendly relations with India and Myanmar's bordering forces would be further strengthened through future bilateral meetings.

Aziz, who took charge on December 5, 2012, was briefing journalists at the BGB headquarters on the force's successes, developments and restructuring and reform processes in the last three years.

He said BGB brought around 208 out of 539 kilometres of unprotected borders under surveillance by setting up 90

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Hawkers occupy the footpath and even part of the busy road in the capital's Farmgate forcing pedestrians to walk on the road risking their lives. The authorities concerned always reaffirm freeing such illegal roadside shops but seldom any action is taken, and even if it is taken they usually return in no time. The photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

Ataur Rahman Khan's death anniversary today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 24th death anniversary of Ataur Rahman Khan, a former prime minister of Bangladesh and a veteran national leader.



On this occasion, a memorial discussion and a doa mahfil will be held in Jatiya Press Club around 3:00pm today, said a press release.

Relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend the programme.

Ataur Rahman Khan was elected a member of parliament in 1973 and became prime minister in 1984.

Born in 1905 in Balia village of Dhamrai in Dhaka, he joined Muslim League in 1944 and was elected its district vice president.

He was also a vice-president of Awami Muslim League when it was formed as the largest opposition political party in Pakistan in 1949.

He took part in the 1952 Language Movement and worked for the United Front popularly known as Jukta Front in 1954.

The Daily Star

CELEBRATING LIFE

District Festivals

CONCERT. PHOTO EXHIBITION

This event is free for all. Registration is a prerequisite. visit: www.imdhaka.com/celebratinglifebd

Today we are at

Comilla University

Photography Exhibition
Time: 10 AM to 4 PM

CONCERT
Band Performance by **CHIRKUTT**
Time: 4 PM to 6 PM

Organized by **Comilla University Rover Scout Group**

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