

**WEATHER FORECAST**

**YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES**

<b>DHAKA</b> H 26.7 L 18.0	<b>CHITTAGONG</b> H 28.0 L 17.5	<b>SYLHET</b> H 24.7 L 16.7	<b>RAJSHAHI</b> H 24.8 L 16.0	<b>KHULNA</b> H 27.5 L 18.5	<b>BARISAL</b> H 28.6 L 17.6	<b>RANGPUR</b> H 20.7 L 16.3	<b>COX'S BAZAR</b> H 27.2 L 17.6
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Night temperature may rise slightly and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:13pm and rises tomorrow at 6:32am. Country's highest temperature 30.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Khepupara and lowest 12.4 in Dinajpur.

# TANGENTS

BY IHTISHAM KABIR



Curious Pallas's fish eagle. PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

## Call of the Wildlife

If, a few centuries ago, you offered people the opportunity to see wild animals in their environment, only hunters would take you up on your offer. But today, millions of tourists spend large sums every year to go on safari in Africa for the opportunity to see wild animals roaming freely. In the space of a few hundred years, wild animals have gone from being our enemies and food to symbols of our planet's vulnerable present and pristine past.

What changed over the centuries of course is the balance of power which tilted overwhelmingly in favour of man and against nature and wild animals. Thus today many animals - e.g., whales and elephants - have become symbols of the diversity of life on this planet and efforts to conserve this diversity.

Whatever the reason may be for searching out a wild animal, there is no denying that the encounter can be a magical one - provided one's safety is not at stake. Several instances stand out in my experience. The supreme one was meeting a family of mountain gorillas in their home turf in Uganda. After a brutal day of tracking the gorillas on the slippery slopes of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, we found the animals eating a snack of leaves and vines. The moment I made eye contact with the massive silverback - perhaps ten feet away - is one I will not forget.

In fact, I have found that making eye contact with primates in the wild is special. Some years ago, in Rema Kalenga forest in Habiganj, I came close to a capped langur (*poramukho honuman*.) He looked at me with his bloodshot eyes and I stared back - for

several seconds. Something passed between us.

There are several types of wild primates one can see in the national parks of our country, particularly in Sylhet and Chittagong. They include Phayre's langurs, Hoolock gibbons and pig-tailed macaques. It is usually possible to hire an expert guide who can track these animals when you visit the national park, making this experience within easy reach for many of us.

Although birds are, technically, wildlife, we normally do not pay attention to encounters with them. However, recently I had an encounter worth relating. A full-grown Pallas's fish eagle (about a metre long) was eating a fish lunch sitting on a pole in the middle of Hail Haor when my camera's click interrupted him. Instead of flying away as all birds do, he decided to check me out and flew several circles close over my head, peering at me with great interest. As his wings over me partially blocked out the sun, I felt distinctly uncomfortable. Eventually he probably decided I was not a good meal and flew away.

Sometimes we do not understand the risks of wildlife. Watching Discovery and National Geographic TV makes us forget how dangerous wildlife can be. In reality, even seemingly harmless animals such as deer can kill people if they are cornered or feel threatened.

Yet we keep looking for wildlife and the memory of their sighting stays with us. Perhaps through them we feel a connection to our planet otherwise lost in our everyday lives.

www.facebook.com/tangents.ikabir

## Ruet BCL leader picked up by Rab 'impersonators'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League at the Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) was kidnapped from his home early Thursday by some plainclothes people, who identified themselves as members of the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab).



Saifuzzaman Sohag, a fourth-year student of mechanical engineering, and information and research affairs secretary of Ruet unit of BCL, was taken away by some 15 unknown people, but both local police and Rab said they did not arrest him, said his parents.

Sohag's father Akkas-uzzaman told a press conference at the Rajshahi Chamber of Commerce and Industries yesterday that the plainclothes men arrived in a white microbus and stormed their house in Rajshahi city around 3:00am on Thursday.

"They surrounded us and checked into the laptop of Sohag," he said, adding that they also took away Sohag's laptop and camera and told to look for him at the local Rajpara Police Station in the morning.

The victim's mother, Shirin Jaman, said the persons inquired whether Sohag had a relationship with any female student of Ruet.

She said Sohag was married and his wife studied at Dhaka Medical College, adding that after the raid, the gold ornaments of Sohag's wife went missing from the house.

The parents demanded that their son be presented before court if guilty of any crime.

Mahmudur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Rajpara Police Station, told The Daily Star that Sohag's father filed a general diary (GD). "We could not trace his whereabouts yet," he said.

Maj M Abdus Salam, deputy commanding officer of Rab-5 in Rajshahi, said Sohag's father also filed a complaint with Rab.

The officials said their forces did not arrest Sohag.

## Girl kills herself after 'insult by teachers'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A class IX student of Gono Bidyaloy Niketon in Narayanganj city hanged herself at her house on Thursday because of "insult by her teachers".

Umme Habiba Sraboni, 14, left a "suicide note" where she mentioned the names of two teachers and the way they insulted her during the physics exam that day, said the family.

The note said one teacher was responsible for the consequences she suffered.

On Thursday, when the girl was sitting for the exam, an invigilator seized her answer script on allegations of cheating while another teacher slapped and insulted her and expelled her though she did not cheat in the exam, the note said.

Back home, she hanged herself.

The school management committee said they would take action against the teachers if they were found guilty.

Officer-in-Charge of Narayanganj Sadar Model Police Station Abdul Malek said they did not receive any complaint.

## NEWS IN brief

### Labourer dies as truck hits him at Bangladesh Secretariat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A labourer died as a truck hit him while he was working at the capital's Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday afternoon.

Jahangir Hossain, 35, who worked for the truck, was declared dead at Dhaka Medical College Hospital said Inspector Mozammel Haque, in-charge of the hospital's police camp.

Police said the accident occurred when the truck, hired to remove abandoned items from the Secretariat, moved back.

### Two arrested with Yaba pills in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested two people and recovered 2,000 pieces of Yaba tablets on the Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway in Lohagara upazila of Chittagong yesterday.

Md Lokman, 30 and Md Amir, 25, were arrested with 2,000 of Yaba tablets after police intercepted a bus coming from Cox's Bazar in Khan Dighi area.

### Mukul convener, Anwar member secretary of DIARR

CITY DESK

Muklesur Rahman Mukul and Anwar Haque have been made convener and member secretary respectively of DIARR, a socio-cultural organisation, said a press release.

The committee was formed at Sangskritik Bikash Kendra in the capital recently. Mesbahur Rahman Khosru and Abul Kalam Azad were made joint-convener while life members include Jahangir Selim, Ifat Ara Nargis and Sujaul Alom Kollo.

A 101-member national and a 51-member patron committees of the organisation were also formed.

A Gambhira festival will be held in the capital's Shilpakala Academy in January, said the press release.



### Management Net reunion on Dec 18

CITY DESK

Management Net, an organisation of former students of the management Studies department of Dhaka University, will organise their reunion on December 18 at Teacher Students' Centre (TSC) of the university, said a press release.

Members of the organisation are requested to contact at Management Net reunion 2014 office (41/2 Purana Palton, Suit#E-4, Dhaka-1,000). Tel: 9571481, 01819216652.

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## Govt to curb attacks on its cyberspace

UNB, Dhaka

The government has set up a computer incident response team (CIRT) at Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) to secure its online public service delivery platform network, official sources said.

They said the CIRT has been set up under a World Bank-funded Leveraging ICT for Growth, Employment and Governance (LICG) Project to protect its e-(electronic) government platform from the fast growing cyber attacks and cyber crimes.

The CIRT has been set up to make online service delivery uninterrupted and act promptly to address cyber attacks and cyber crimes in government offices, State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak told the news agency yesterday.

Palak said as a part of the journey towards establishing e-Government, most

of the public services are being digitised putting an end to the yesteryear public service delivery system, and step has also been taken to introduce paperless communication in all government offices.

According to sources, the government has established CIRT to help ensure the protection of the nation's information infrastructure and assist in drafting the overall plan on the country's approach to cyber related issues.

"After the capacity building of the personnel, the government CIRT will cover government's cyberspace to secure it from cyber attacks," said BCC Executive Director SM Ashrafur Islam.

He said the entire government approach is to transform e-governance as the two BCC flagship projects -- BanglaGovnet and InfoSarker -- have brought over 18,000 government offices under online connectivity.

## Develop IT

FROM PAGE 4

right decision at the right time. He also gave emphasis on science education.

Past District Governor of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga Mosharrif Hossain said knowing the English language, mastering communication skills and being smart were prerequisites for bringing prosperity in life.

Dr Rubina Husain, vice president of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs, gave a synopsis of the seminar.

She said the seminar showcased, along with solutions, how public private partnership connected to issues that have drawn attention for the growth and development of young entrepreneurs.

Among others, Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga President Mohsin Ali Khan and Adviser AQ Siddiqui also addressed the programme.

## Teachers call for programme's continuation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

This year's English in Schools programme concluded yesterday through a daylong training at a Rajshahi city hotel where the 52 participating teachers of some 26 Natore, Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj schools urged its continuation in the coming years.

Explaining the ways the programme benefitted them, the teachers also sought reintroduction of a written test assessing students' skills in general grammar, writing complete sentences and comprehensions and ability to listen.

They also urged increasing the number of complimentary copies of The Daily Star newspaper provides to schools.

The Daily Star and Robi Axiata Ltd jointly completed organising the training for English teachers of secondary schools in four divisions through grammatical and communicative exercises to stimulate English language learning among students.

A page of the newspaper has been dedicated every week for the programme.

Yesterday, many teachers said the programme gave them confidence in imparting lessons and to speak in English inside classrooms. Students were learning to work in groups and were getting better grades, they added.

It provided a scope for interactions with renowned schools and learn about the country and the world, said Tanjina Shirin of Natore Government Girls School.

The programme allowed fears over giving lessons on communicative English, introduced in the new curriculum, she said.

During the training, teachers presented posters prepared by students showing their engagement. Some of those were pasted on the walls of the training venue.

In the training, the teachers were demonstrated different techniques to inspire and engage students in regular classes.

Mohammad Jahidul Islam, regional manager of Robi Axiata Limited, attended as the special guest and Rajshahi District Education Officer Rofiqul Islam also spoke.

Shireen Hasan, founder executive director, X-cel, Institute of Interactive Learning, conducted the training with her team.



Participants and organisers at this year's concluding training session under the English in Schools programme, jointly organised by The Daily Star and Robi Axiata Ltd, in Hotel Warisan in Rajshahi city yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

## জাপানের Nagasaki Peace Park-এ বাংলাদেশ সরকারের পক্ষ হতে একটি ভার্ষ/মনুমেন্ট প্রদানের জন্য আয়োজিত উন্মুক্ত প্রতিযোগিতার ফলাফল।

প্রতিযোগিতায় অংশগ্রহণকারীদের মধ্য থেকে সম্মানিত জুরী কমিটি কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত বিজয়ীদের তালিকা নিম্নে প্রদত্ত হলোঃ

ক্রমিক নং	প্রতিযোগীর নাম ও যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা	ফলাফল
০১।	<b>Anindya Pandit</b> C-3 Shahjalal Rasheed Lodge, 58/A/2 West Razabazar, Dhaka	প্রথম স্থান
০২।	<b>Mohammed Emran Hossain</b> 956/1, Shopnil, Apt. B-6, Outer circular Road, Rajarbagh, Dhaka-1217	দ্বিতীয় স্থান
০৩।	<b>Md. Asifur Rahman Bhuiyan</b> সার্কেল -০৩, বিভাগ -০৯, স্থাপত্য অধিদপ্তর, স্থাপত্য ভবন, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা-১০০০	তৃতীয় স্থান
০৪।	<b>Shuva Chowdhury</b> 3-I, PDB Officer's Colony, Paribagh, Dhaka.	অনারারি মেনশন
০৫।	<b>Nazmul Ahamed Rony</b> Room No-226, Nazrul Islam Hall, BUET, Dhaka.	অনারারি মেনশন
০৬।	<b>Studiosono Design Centre</b> 5D, Nurjahan tower, 136, New Circular road, Moghbar, Dhaka-1217	অনারারি মেনশন
০৭।	<b>Muhammad Basrul Huda</b> Mahmudul Hasan. House-42, Road-4A, Dhanmondi R/A	অনারারি মেনশন
০৮।	<b>Age &amp; Edge Architecture Studio</b> ২২/১৭, ই-১, বিল্ডিং রোড, মোহাম্মদপুর, ঢাকা-১২০৭	অনারারি মেনশন
০৯।	<b>Ahmed Faisal</b> 152, Abed Dhali Road Kalabagan, Dhaka -1209	অনারারি মেনশন
১০।	<b>Md. Faisal Huda</b> ৭৯/বি, রোড নং-০৫, হিল ডিউ হাউজিং সোসাইটি পশ্চিম বাগান শহর, চট্টগ্রাম।	অনারারি মেনশন

গৃহায়ন ও গণপূর্ত মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক বিজয়ীদের মাঝে সনদপত্র ও প্রাইজমানি প্রদানের তারিখ পরবর্তীতে তাদের নিকট পর মারফত অবহিত করা হবে।

আ.স.ম. আমিনুর রহমান  
উপ-প্রধান স্থপতি  
স্থাপত্য অধিদপ্তর, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা  
ফোনঃ ৯৫৫০৮১১।