

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES DHAKA H 26.0 L 14.0 CHITTAGONG H 25.2 L 14.0 SYLHET H 25.2 L 12.6 RAJSHAHI H 26.2 L 10.8 KHULNA H 26.8 L 12.8 BARISAL H 27.2 L 12.2 RANGPUR H 24.1 L 11.5 COX'S BAZAR H 26.2 L 14.6

Mild cold wave may continue to sweep over the regions of Sreemangal, Naogaon, Nilphamari and Kurigram. Night and day temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:33pm and rises tomorrow at 6:43am.

TANGENTS BY IHTISHAM KABIR



Out of focus background makes this baby munia pop out. PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

MAKE or TAKE?

Do you take a photograph or make one? "Taking" does not involve much creative thought but "making" implies a deeper engagement where something is created. Making something usually means an idea is implemented, given shape in reality. Taking is hasty; making requires deliberation. Most of the photographs we see everyday involve a bit of both. When we photograph friends at a wedding, for example, we often look for the right position, a pleasing arrangement of the subjects, or the right pose. We make the photograph with these choices. But sometimes we click the shutter in a rush - without waiting for the exact moment when everyone is wearing perfect expressions - because we have to move on. That is taking. It would seem that bird photographs must be taken, not made. Perhaps, but in most cases, I have thought about the lens, the time of day, location, etc before I even find the bird. When photographing it, I try to get the right lighting, a good avian pose and a "clean" image - without clutter from leaves, branches or other obstructions. The more "make" in the photograph, the better it turns out. Selfies are usually made, sometimes with much thought and skill. Another word for making a photograph is composing. To compose means to arrange: choose the items that constitute your picture and organise them. What items constitute the photograph? There is the subject of course, but also the background, the light, the textures and rhythms, colours and, not to be forgotten, the precise instant when the shutter clicks. Although most cameras nowadays work well in a programme mode, to

make an extraordinary photograph you need to take control of your camera settings. Thus, for example, by controlling the aperture you decide the depth of field in your photograph, an important element of composition. So let us cut to the chase. How can you make good photographs? The first thing is to pay attention to the lighting. For example, in photographs of people, it is important to have even lighting illuminate their faces. Otherwise the picture will not flatter them. When making landscape photographs, cloudy days work best for me because direct sunlight creates harsh contrast. By the same token, when I am looking for a bird, I try to keep the sun behind me whenever possible, so my subject is illuminated well if and when I find it. The second thing is to pay attention to the background. That waiter in the background of the wedding photograph, or the jumble of branches behind the bird - they both distract from the subject. Sometimes an uncluttered background is impossible to achieve; in that case, using a wide aperture to create a shallow depth of field helps by blurring the background. The third thing is to pay attention to the edges of the photograph. Is your photo cutting off someone's foot or hands at an awkward spot? Are someone else's fingers intruding into the frame? These things affect the viewer subliminally and dilute the viewing pleasure. Finally, it is always good to ask yourself "What do I want to say with this photograph?" I hope these tips will help you make better photographs. Happy shooting! www.facebook.com/tangents.ikabir

6,471 win BSK reading awards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT A total of 6,471 students have won awards in the Bishwo Shahitto Kendro's (BSK) book reading programme last year. They are among 40,000 students of class VI to X from 115 schools of the country, who took part in the reading contest. Addressing the award ceremony at the capital's Ramna Batamul yesterday, BSK founder Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed said reading made beautiful minds. "Books enlighten us." Noted civil engineer Prof Jamilur Reza Choudhury said reading enhanced knowledge and strengthened minds, which was necessary to face crises. "Reading makes a person skilled," added Khondaker M Asaduzzaman, trustee of BSK. Writer Prof Muhammed Zafar Iqbal observed that nowadays girls were reading more than boys. A total of 4,350 students received prizes yesterday, the first day of the two-day award ceremony, while 2,121 will be awarded today. Based on performance, the winners got prizes in four categories -- Swagata, Shuvechcha, Ovinondon and Sera Pathak (best reader).

Influentials of every party linked to illicit drug trade

Alleges Department of Narcotics Control ADG Amir OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur The Department of Narcotics Control's (DNC) additional director general yesterday claimed that influential leaders of every political party were involved in the illicit drug business and that he had documentary evidence supporting this. "As a result 70 per cent of the country's people, especially youths, are taking illicit drugs. Strong commitment from all political parties against illicit drugs is a must to save the country from the use and associated dangers," added Md Amir Hossain. Addressing a rally to raise awareness on drug abuse at Ekushey School's playground in Pachoi village of Chandpur's Hajiganj upazila, he said illicit drugs entering from India and Myanmar can not be

contained only by police, Border Guard Bangladesh, Rapid Action Battalion and the administration. "To do so, all political parties and people would have to boycott consumers," he said. DNC Deputy Director Manjurul Islam said earlier people used to consume heroin and Phensidyl but now around 30 lakh people take yaba daily and drug peddlers have targeted students of English medium schools and private universities. DNC Director Nazmul Ahsan Majumder chaired the programme where representatives from police, political leaders and officials of the local administration also spoke. Around 2,000 students, teachers and guardians were present.

Strong commitment from all political parties against illicit drugs is a must

Prof Serajul, Intiar Shamim awarded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Bangla daily Prothom Alo conferred the "12th Prothom Alo Borsho Shera Boi 1421" (best book of the year) award on two authors through a ceremony in the capital's Bangla Academy yesterday. Veteran educationist Prof Emeritus Serajul Islam Choudhury received the award for "Jatiyatabad, Samprodaikota o Jonogoner Mukti: 1905-47" (Nationalism, Communalism and Freedom of People: 1905-47) while Intiar Shamim for "Shiter Jotsnajola Bristirate" (rainy moonlit winter night). Each got a crest, Tk one lakh and a certificate.



From left, Wasi Ahmed, Fakhru Alam, Serajul Islam Choudhury, Syed Shamsul Haque, Intiar Shamim and Sonia Nishat at an award giving ceremony of Prothom Alo Best Book of the Year-1421 at the capital's Bangla Academy yesterday.

NEWS IN brief

Four NSUT students suspended OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali Noakhali Science and Technology University (NSTU) suspended four students allegedly for misbehaviour and stalking teachers, said the university authorities in a press statement last night. The students are Mahmudul Hasan Mamun of economics department, Khairul Bashar Biplob of agriculture, Shahin Alam Swadhi of applied mathematics and Sabuj Islam of information and communication.

Photo, video exhibition on birds held DU CORRESPONDENT A photo and video exhibition on various species of birds was held at Dhaka University yesterday celebrating the 30th anniversary of Bangladesh in Birds Survey and the 50th anniversary in the world. Prokriti o Jibon Foundation and Bangladesh Bird Club organised the exhibition. DU Pro-VC (administration) Prof. Shahid Akhtar Hossain, Chairman of Prokriti O Jibon Foundation Mukit Majumdar Babu, and President of Bangladesh Bird Club Dr Niaz Abdur Rahman were present in its inauguration ceremony.

LGD makes e-tendering mandatory STAFF CORRESPONDENT The Local Government Division has made e-tendering mandatory in procurement for its all subordinate organisations and offices. To ensure transparency, accountability and good governance, the LGD has issued the order yesterday. If the order to launch electronic government procurement (e-GP) system is not followed within January 31, legal action will be taken against them, says a press release.

Jessore Kotwali OC closed OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole The officer-in-charge of Jessore Kotwali Police Station, Shikdar Akkas Ali, was closed to the district police line on Thursday night. Contacted, Akkas said he was on leave for seven days.

Jatiya Kabita Utshab begins Feb 1 DU CORRESPONDENT Under the theme "Kobita Moitrit, Kobita Shantir", Jatiya Kabita Parishad is going to organise the 30th Jatiya Kabita Utshab at the Central Library of Dhaka University on February 1 and 2. Eminent poet Syed Shamsul Haq will inaugurate the festival as chief guest. The festival will comprise, among other events, poetry recitations and seminars as per a press conference held at the university's Teacher-Student Centre.



Bangladesh Adivasi Chhatra Sangram Parishad forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday, protesting a government move to establish a Special Economic Zone in Chandpur and Begum Khan tea estates in Chunarughat upazila of Habiganj. PHOTO: STAR

Robbers loot 381 sacks of rice killing trucker

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj Miscreants killed a trucker by slitting his throat, injured his helper and looted 381 sacks of rice from the truck in Boushia of Gazaria upazila in Munshiganj yesterday morning. Police recovered the body of Rabiul Islam, 35, and sent his helper Ashraf Babu, 22, with cuts on the throat, to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The truck was seized, said Md Hedayetul Islam Bhuiyan, officer-in-charge of Gazaria Police Station. "The miscreants halted the truck and

got into it while it was moving towards Munshiganj from Ashulia and, later, left them on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Gazaria," he said. The attackers were known to the driver, the OC quoted the helper as saying. Meanwhile, a hermaphrodite was found dead in the river Dhaleshwary in Sadar upazila of the district yesterday. The person could not be identified immediately, said Sub-inspector Bikash Chandra, in-charge of Hatimara Police Outpost. The body was sent to the Munshiganj General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Table with 5 columns: S.No, Particulars, Estimated Value (Tk), Actual Value (Tk), Remarks. Includes details of government tenders and procurement.