

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 22.7 | L 15.8

CHITTAGONG
H 21.0 | L 17.8

SYLHET
H 23.3 | L 14.4

RAJSHAHI
H 20.8 | L 13.5

KHULNA
H 23.0 | L 16.5

BARISAL
H 20.0 | L 16.6

RANGPUR
H 20.7 | L 13.0

COX'S BAZAR
H 21.5 | L 20.4

Night temperature may fall by (1-3) degree Celsius and day temperature may rise by (1-2) degree Celsius over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:37pm and rises tomorrow at 6:43am. Country's highest temperature 25.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sandwip and Teknaf and lowest 11.5 in Dimla.



(Clockwise from left) Remains of an illegal market in the capital's Kalyanpur following an eviction drive by the Ministry of Housing and Public Works yesterday. Police eye dwellers of an adjacent slum, Pora Bosti, and owners of shops in the market who threw brick chips and burnt scrap materials protesting the drive. An injured protester being taken away to safety. Story on Page 3.

PHOTO: STAR

2016 crucial for migration

United Nations secretary general's special representative on migration and development Sir Peter Sutherland observes at BIISS seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The year 2016 will be crucial for migration, which attracted global focus for amalgamating nationalism and the build up to integration through sharing sovereignty, observed Sir Peter Sutherland at a seminar in the capital yesterday.

"You have to be concerned with the movements of people. This is the missing part of the process of the institutionalisation of globalisation," said the special representative of the United Nations secretary general on migration and development.

"In the last 10 years, we have seen the gradual unfolding of this issue created by the...reality of change...like war and conflicts in different parts including Syria," he added.

Sutherland was addressing as the keynote speaker "Migration and Development: Challenges and Perspectives" organised by the

Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS) at its auditorium.

With 40 per cent of its population comprising migrants, the US has migrations as one of the agendas of its presidential election scheduled for November, he said.

"The countries must respond not by closing doors but by stretching (out) their arms for the refugees," he said, focusing on the need to expand legal ways to save migrants and encourage development with migration.

Sutherland termed German Chancellor Angela Merkel a heroine for her "outstanding" role in addressing the refugee crisis in Europe.

He also praised Bangladesh's bid to chair the 9th Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), scheduled to be held in Dhaka in December.

He hoped that Bangladesh would raise talks on incorporating sustain-

able development agendas in migration specific issues as had been previously discussed in GFMD sessions and global consultations.

"Bangladesh specifically deserves credits for the inclusion of migration as the development agenda in the SDGs (sustainable development goals). We have an agenda. We have promises not to leave migrants behind, including refugees and the displaced persons," he said.

Referring to International Organization for Migration's suggestion in this regard, he said "It (migration) does not create unemployment. It creates employment."

Ambassador Eva Åkerman Börje who served as GFMD 2013-2014 chair, Global Civil Society Coordinator from International Catholic Migration Commission John Bingham, Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haque and BIISS Chairman Ambassador Munshi Faiz Ahmad also spoke.

11 'militants' indicted for Ashulia bank heist killings

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday framed charges against 11 militant suspects over the killing of eight people during a bank heist in Ashulia last year.

Ten of them now in jail pleaded not guilty after Judge SM Kuddus Zaman of District and Sessions Judge's Court read out the charges to them.

The other is absconding. The trial is scheduled to start on February 1.

According to the charge sheet, all the accused are alleged members of banned Islamist outfits Ansarullah Bangla Team and Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB).

In broad daylight on April 21 last year, robbers shot eight people dead and injured several others in Bangladesh Commerce Bank Ltd in Ashulia, outside the capital, before

leaving with Tk 35 lakh. A mob beat one robber to death while a ninth victim succumbed to injuries later.

On December 1 last year, Ashulia police submitted two charge sheets - one for the killings and robbery, and the other for possessing explosives.

The case lodged for possessing explosives is pending with another Dhaka court.

Ashulia police said during investigation, they discovered involvement of 13 people in the killings and robbery.

One of the 13 was killed by the mob and the mastermind of the robbery, Abdullah Al Baki, died in a shootout with law enforcers in November last year, they said.

Baki was said to be a member of Ansarullah Bangla Team, and a former operative of JMB.

Nizamuddin Ahmed picked as new navy chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday appointed Rear Admiral M o h a m m a d Nizamuddin Ahmed as the navy chief.

His appointment takes effect on January 27 when he will be promoted to vice admiral. He will replace the incumbent, Admiral Farid Habib, as he goes into retirement.

Ahmed will hold the office for three years, said a gazette notification by the defence ministry.

The government recently upgraded the rank of vice admiral to admiral and air marshal to air chief marshal to make them equal to the rank of general in Bangladesh Army.



JP hartal passes peacefully in Rangpur city

Three 'attackers' of party leader remanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

The dawn-to-dusk hartal, enforced by Jatiya Party, ended in Rangpur city peacefully yesterday.

The city unit of JP called the shutdown on January 17, protesting an attack on SM Yasir, member secretary of the unit.

During the hartal, heavy vehicles, including buses and trucks, rickshaws, bicycles and motorcycles did not ply the streets, causing immense sufferings to the dwellers. Shops and shopping arcades remained closed.

Government offices, educational institutions, banks, business establishments and financial institutions remained open with sparse staff and students.

A procession, brought out by the city and district units of JP, paraded the city's main streets. Later, they staged a rally at Payra Chatter intersection.

Kotwali police said no untoward incident occurred and none was arrested.

On January 15, unidentified miscreants hacked Yasir in the city's Munshipara, while he was returning home riding a motorbike.

Yasir is being treated at Rangpur Medical College Hospital. JP Chairman HM Ershad visited him on Sunday.

Meanwhile, a Rangpur court placed three youths, who were arrested in the city on Tuesday over the attack, on a four-day remand each yesterday.

Akash Mian alias Guddi Mamun, Aminul Islam Shuvo, and Nur Hossain Sajot were remanded, said Kotwali police. The case was filed by Mostafizur Rahman Mostafa, convener of the city JP.

Rehman Sobhan's Untranquil Recollection launched in Kolkata

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nobel laureate Prof Amartya Sen lauded economist Rehman Sobhan for his notable contribution to the self-reliance of Bangladesh's economy and introducing Bangladesh to the global arena at the publication ceremony of Rehman Sobhan's book "Untranquil Recollection, the Years of Fulfillment" at the National Library in Kolkata on Wednesday.

"Bangladesh's progress is better than India in many sectors, and those who read the book will know more about Bangladesh," said Amartya Sen, according to a report by the daily Prothom Alo.

Rehman Sobhan said the book is not about the history of the independence of Bangladesh, rather how he observed Bangladesh's Liberation War.

"I was born in Kolkata and studied at Saint Xavier's College there. Then, I went to Cambridge where I met Prof Amartya Sen," reminisced the author.

"From Cambridge, I came back to Dhaka in 1956 and then came in close contact with Bangabandhu. Those experiences are described in my book," he added.

SEE PAGE 17 COL 4



Eminent economist Rehman Sobhan discusses his new book "Untranquil Recollection, the Years of Fulfillment" with guests during the launching event at the National Library in Kolkata on Wednesday. Indian film star Sharmila Thakur, left, Nobel laureate Prof Amartya Sen, middle, among others, were present at the publication ceremony.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

It goes against PM's vow to protect arable land

FROM PAGE 3

They said the existing laws for protection of arable land would also be violated, and above all thousands of tea workers, who have been living off the land for centuries, would lose their source of food.

They made the observations at a protest rally in front of the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority's office in the capital. It was held under the platform titled "Tea workers can't be evicted from the lands of Chandpur, Begumkhan tea estates".

The Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), Gonosambhati Andolon, Gonoforum, and several other organisations participated in the protest.

"We are not against industrialisation. But

what we are seeing here is nothing short of a conspiracy to grab arable lands from tea workers," said BSD leader Razequzzaman Ratan.

The proposed SEZ would only serve the interest of a select few at home and abroad but the tea workers would go broke, he added.

CPB President Mujahidul Islam Selim said while SEZ's benefits like foreign investment and job creations were promoted everywhere, the woes of tea workers remained untold.

"They get only Tk 69 per day for their work at the tea estates. They had been able to make a living because they had the land to cultivate and reside in," he said.

Feroz Ahmed, Bazlur Rashid Firoz, and Jolly Talukdar also spoke.

President suggests renaming BUP

FROM PAGE 3

They said a better name," said President Hamid, also Chancellor of the university.

BUP, run by the armed forces, was set up in 2008 as the country's 30th public university.

In his convocation speech, President Hamid also underscored the need for taking up profession-based traditional and non-traditional education programmes in line with the international job market's

demand.

Bangladesh has many elements to accelerate growth, said Hamid adding, "This is the 'Century of Asia', Bangladesh will remain as an advanced passenger on the development highway if it can use its potentials properly."

Total 835 students received degrees while 14 got gold medals for their outstanding academic results at the convocation.

Chehlum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The chehlum of Dr Shakina Haque Begum Dalim, former chief researcher at Dartmouth Medical College in the USA, will be held today after Juma prayers at different mosques in the capital and at her village home in Comilla's Chandina, says a press release. She died of a cardiac arrest on her flight from Canada to Dhaka on December 13 last year.



Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 3rd death anniversary of Mukhtar Rahman Bhuiyan, former managing director of Maxwell International, says a press release. His family members request all to pray for his departed soul.



Protesters turn violent during

FROM PAGE 3

HIGH COURT INJUNCTION

The HC bench of Justice Tariq ul Hakim and Justice Bishmadev Chakraborty came up with the order following a petition filed by Ain o Salish Kendra, Coalition for the Urban Poor and two slum dwellers.

During the hearing, Dr Kamal Hossain said the authorities had tried several times and took up a recent eviction attempt on Pora Bosti (burnt slum) ignoring previous HC orders and despite planning that it would not do so without rehabilitating the dwellers.

He said following a writ petition filed by the same petitioners, the HC in December 2003 and January 2004 directed the authorities to maintain status quo on the eviction and issued a rule asking the authorities to explain why the eviction attempts should not be declared illegal.

In January 2007, the HC stayed another attempt until disposal of the rule, Dr Kamal said.

Sara Hossain, another lawyer for the petitioners, told The Daily Star that the Ministry of Housing and Public Works on January 10 sent a letter to police asking to remove the slum's dwellers.

Law enforcers from Mirpur Police Station picked up five slum dwellers on January 19, confined them overnight and told them to leave the slum, she said.

Sara also said a magistrate and some police have been deployed to evict the slum dwellers, which was a violation of the HC orders.

Another lawyer, Abanteer Nurul, told The Daily Star that there were many women, children and garment workers and some freedom fighters among the around 20,000 slum dwellers.

Court orders probe into Goyeshwar's remark about Liberation War martyrs

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered a probe into defamation allegations against BNP senior leader Goyeshwar Chandra Roy for his derogatory comments on the Liberation War martyrs.

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Aminul Haque directed Shahbagh police to submit the investigation report to the court on February 18.

Earlier in the day, Monindra Kumar Nath, the son of martyr Dinesh Chandra Nath, filed the case. Dinesh was killed by local collaborators at Noakhali's Maizdi in mid-September of 1971.

This is the second lawsuit facing Goyeshwar for the December 25 remarks that the 1971 martyred intellectuals were "anti-liberation elements" who "died like fools" and drew salaries and allowances from Pakistan till the end of the war.

The first suit was filed with the same court on January 5.

Different newspapers published his comments, which are disparaging to the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for liberating the country, said the complainant.

Five ex-Chinese

FROM PAGE 3

The Chinese embassy in Dhaka will hold a welcoming reception in honour of the delegation on Sunday.

Former minister Syed Abul Hossain, who is the chief representative of Bangladesh to Boao Forum for Asia (BFA), China will also host a reception on Tuesday.