

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 30.4 | L 20.5

CHITTAGONG
H 26.6 | L 21.2

SYLHET
H 27.8 | L 19.5

RAJSHAHI
H 31.8 | L 19.2

KHULNA
H 29.2 | L 20.0

BARISAL
H 29.4 | L 18.8

RANGPUR
H 28.8 | L 17.8

COX'S BAZAR
H 26.7 | L 23.0

Night temperature may fall slightly and day temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:00pm and rises tomorrow at 6:23am. Country's highest temperature 31.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 14.0 degree Celsius in Rajarhat and Tetulia.

IO testifies against 5 Kishoreganj 'Razakars'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday recorded the testimony of the investigating officer of a case filed against five Kishoreganj men who were allegedly involved in crimes committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

Ataur Rahman, also the 25th and last prosecution witness, exhibited several documents he collected during investigations.

Accused Gazi Abdul Mannan, 88, is the alleged commander of Karimganj Razakar camp, while Nasiruddin Ahmed, 62, his brother Shamsuddin Ahmed, 60, Hafiz Uddin, 66, and Azharul Islam, 60, are alleged Razakar members.

The five, all from Karimganj upazila, face seven charges.

Shamsuddin, now in jail, pleads not guilty while the rest are on the run.

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The chiefs of the armed forces pay homage to the army officers, killed in the 2009 BDR mutiny, after placing wreaths at a memorial plaque at the military graveyard in the capital's Banani, marking the seventh anniversary of their death yesterday. PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

NEWS IN brief

Atiqul Islam made new NSU VC

CITY DESK

Prof Atiqul Islam has been appointed as vice-chancellor of North South University by the Chancellor and President of Bangladesh Abdul Hamid, said a press release.

He officially took over the position yesterday. Earlier, he served as pro-VC of Edith Cowan University in Australia, and as the dean of the Faculty of Business and Government at the University of Canberra.

He also served at the University of Sydney, NSW, Curtin University, University of Canterbury, and the National University of Singapore.

JSD-Rob council held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal-JSD President ASM Abdur Rob and General Secretary Abdul Malek Ratan were re-elected to their posts in the party's 13th national council yesterday.

The council was held in Kazi Bashir Uddin Auditorium in the capital, where Rob called for dividing the country into nine states for decentralisation of power and creating an upper house in parliament.

Mustafa Chy's book on war babies launched

CITY DESK

Director General of Bangla Academy Dr Shamsuzzaman Khan has launched a book "Unconditional Love: Story of Adoption of 1971 War Babies," written by Bangladesh born Canadian citizen Mustafa Chowdhury, at Bangla Academy in the capital.

Secretary of ICT Division Shyam Sunder Sikder, noted thinker and social scientist Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley, former secretary general of a faction of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists Abdul Jalil Bhuyian, and senior journalist Ajit Kumar Sarkar, among others, were present at the event. The book is available at stall no 281-282 of Academic Press and Publishers Library at the book fair.

Law books popular

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Land is fittingly called the original source of all material wealth. Every year hundreds of cases are filed with the courts over land related issues. Feuds, processions, animosities all take place over a piece of land and are often headlined in the media. Such feuds can be avoided if people have little knowledge on law, said Sumon Chakrabarty, a banker, adding that most of the time people relied upon advice of neighbours over land disputes.

He was buying a book titled "Jomi Kroy-Bikroy o Namjarir Niyomaboli [Rules of Land Selling and Mutation]" written by Jonendra Nath Sarkar from the stall of Kamrul Book House at the Amar Ekushey Granthamela 2016.

Apart from literary books, quite a few publishers are also displaying law books at the fair for both professionals and non-professionals.

Sarkar's book contains important information on lands like Cadastral Survey (CS), State Acquisition (SA) and Revisional Survey (RS) documents, Mouza, Land Ledger, land ownership, succession act, lease, and rules of gift, will, waqf [an inalienable religious endowment] and Hiba-bill-i-waqf [gift for consideration already received].

This year Kamrul Book House published a new book titled "Criminal Drafting in English" by Advocate Abdur Rashid, written

for the students of law and junior lawyers who face challenges and predicaments drafting in English, containing basic guidelines in a lucid way to master it quickly.

Ratan Ali, a salesman of the stall, said over a hundred books on law are available at their stall. "Everyday we sell about 25 books," he said, adding, law practitioners, students and general people buy those books.

Khoshroz Kitab Mohol, another publishing house, is also selling law books. This year they have published "Khuner Ainer Bhashho [Interpretation of Criminal Act]" by Gazi Shamsur Rahman.

The writer of the book in the preface said an individual is innocent until proven guilty and suggested both judges and the lawyers of a plaintiff to treat an accused well in the court, and pointed out different aspects of cases with examples.

Mohol Alamgir Hossen, in-charge of Khoshroz Kitab, said they also sell books on politics and religion. "We sell less law books compared to other categories of books," he added.

Meanwhile, Bangla Academy has extended the duration of the fair. "The fair will open at 2:00pm on weekdays, and 10:30am today and tomorrow and continue until 8:00pm everyday," Jalal Ahmed, member secretary of the fair committee, told The Daily Star.

Water-logging from heavy rain and impeding weather compelled emergency shut down of the book fair on Wednesday. Several stalls and a part of the fencing at Suhrawardy Udyan's fair were damaged.

The after effects of the storm were visible yesterday too. Patches of mud were troubling visitors in both fair venues at Suhrawardy Udyan and Bangla Academy. Many publishers kept wet books under the sun to dry up quickly.

UP polls precursor to autocracy

Says BNP; accuses govt of planning to rob all chairman posts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday alleged that the government was plotting the grabbing of all chairman posts in the upcoming union parishad (UP) elections to establish autocracy.

"Holding the UP polls is their final rehearsal before establishing autocracy in the country. This is the reason the elections are being held under party banners," said Rizvi Ahmed, joint secretary of the party, adding that to fulfil the purpose, the ruling party people snatched the nomination papers of BNP aspirants.

Addressing a press briefing at the Nayapaltn headquarters, the BNP leader said the government was trying to hide its massive terrorist plan aimed at ensuring victory of its candidates.

"Occasionally issuing summons for BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman, filing charges in false cases against BNP leaders, and making a hue and cry of The Daily Star and its Editor Mahfuz Anam -- all these were done to deflect the people from the UP polls," he said.

Rizvi said the preparation for BNP's sixth national council, scheduled for March 19, was going on full swing, and the party was waiting for permission from police to use a venue.

MAJ GEN MANZUR MURDER CASE CID gets two more months for probe

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday gave Criminal Investigation Department (CID), for the tenth time, two more months to complete the investigation in a case filed over killing of Maj Gen Abul Manzur in 1981.

First Addition District and Sessions Judge's Court fixed April 24 for submission of the probe after CID Special Superintendent Abdul Kahar Akond, also investigation officer of the case, sought time to verify evidence found.

The then chief of army staff HM Ershad, now Jatiya Party chief and special envoy to the prime minister, is the main accused in the case.

Ershad was exempted from appearing before the court. Two others accused--Maj (ret'd) Kazi Emdadul Haque and Lt Col (ret'd) Mostafa Kamaluddin Bhuiyan--were present yesterday.

Manzur, the commander of sector-8 during the Liberation War, was killed in Chittagong Cantonment on June 1, 1981, two days after the assassination of the then president Ziaur Rahman.

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the fourth death anniversary of Ali Hasan Bacchu, former senior official of Pragati Industries Ltd. A milad and a doa mahfil will be held after the Jumma prayers at Siddeshwari mosque in the capital.

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the second death anniversary of Sheikh Nurul Islam, a former government official. A milad and a doa mahfil will be held today after the Maghrib prayers at 2/101, Eastern Corner, 10/A Circuit House Road, Ramna, in the capital.

Duja expels VP for accepting BCL post

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acceptance of the student organisation's post by a person holding an important position in the journalists' association has tarnished the latter's dignity, adds the press release.

It is contrary to independent and objective journalism, it said, adding that in his defence,

Reza came up with "controversial comments".

Duja also issued a 10-day ultimatum for members to resign from posts of student organisations and inform the association in writing, saying non-compliance would result in membership cancellation.

Government

FROM PAGE 4

wells and work over of 20 wells by 2021.

The government expects to produce an approximate 1,078-1,240 million cubic feet natural gas per day from those wells, he added saying, the present gas deficit was about 500 mcf per day.

'BCL attacks'

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"We were beaten and dragged to the ground floor...My fault was that I participated in the protest," he said. Another hostel resident, preferring anonymity, claimed that the college authorities seemed unwilling to take action against the attackers.

College BCL President Kazi Mirajul termed it retaliation by one BCL group on another, stating that it had no connection with the protest. Principal Abu Haider Ahmed Naser said, he was unaware of the incident.

PM seeks public support for development

FROM PAGE 3

stretched to Barisal and then Kuakata, Payra Sea Port and Mongla Port.

She said people could now see, feel and enjoy the fruits of development, as the country sees development whenever Awami League assumes office.

Turning to her government's success in power generation, she said so far some 100 power plants have been built with raising the power coverage to 76 percent while every household would get power connections in phases.

Hasina said the government eyes to raise power generation capacity to 16,000 MW by 2016, 24,000 MW by 2021, 40,000 MW by 2031 and 60,000 MW by 2041.

Mentioning that some 537 bridges have so far been built over the last seven years, Hasina said no other government could build such number of bridges within such a span of time.

Inaugurating a water treatment plant in Narayanganj, she urged the Narayanganj city dwellers to become economical in using water.

51 DEV PROJECTS

Hasina inaugurated five projects of the power division. The projects are power supply to 6,000 families of 90 villages in Kotalipara upazila of Gopalganj, a

108MW dual-fuel power plant in Patiya, Chittagong, a 150MW HFO/gas-based power plant at Kadda in Gazipur, 225MW combined cycle power plant at Ashuganj in Brahminbaria, a 52.2 MW dual-fuel power plant at Jangalia in Comilla.

Eighteen projects of the road division include Sheikh Kamal Bridge and Sheikh Jamal Bridge on Patuakhali-Kuakata highway and newly constructed five bridges in Zakiganj, 11 bridges in Sunamganj.

Other projects include a water supply and water treatment project.

With the inauguration of the 64km 2nd rail line on Tongi-Bhairab Bazar section under Tongi-Bhairab Bazar double rail line project, it is expected that the travel time between Dhaka and Chittagong by train will reduce by at least one and a half hours.

Besides, the construction works of the 483.715 metre long and 10.25 metre wide Shaheed Sheikh Jamal Bridge on the Sonatala River at Hazipur point and 893.1 metre long and 10.25 metre wide Shaheed Sheikh Kamal Bridge on the Andharmanik River near Kalapara upazila headquarters were completed in December.



Even after being evicted by Dhaka South City Corporation, these vendors have returned and continue their businesses by grabbing footpaths in the capital's New Market area. The photo was taken on Monday. PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ



Prof M Omar Rahman, vice chancellor of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), presents the Young Environmentalist Award 2015 to winner Farhana Abdul, on the campus in the capital's Bashundhara yesterday. The award is conferred by the Department of Environmental Science of IUB. PHOTO: COLLECTED