

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 33.0 L 19.5	H 32.5 L 21.5	H 32.5 L 19.5	H 33.0 L 18.0	H 33.5 L 21.5	H 32.2 L 20.4	H 31.0 L 18.7	H 34.2 L 22.0

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty/squally wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Sylhet division and the regions of Mymensingh & Comilla till 6:00pm today, said Met Office. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged and night temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:05pm and rises tomorrow at 6:13am.

Latin, Caribbean envoys pay homage to Bangabandhu

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Envoys of seven Latin American and Caribbean countries paid homage to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing wreaths at his portrait at Bangabandhu Memorial Museum in the capital's Dhanmondi yesterday.

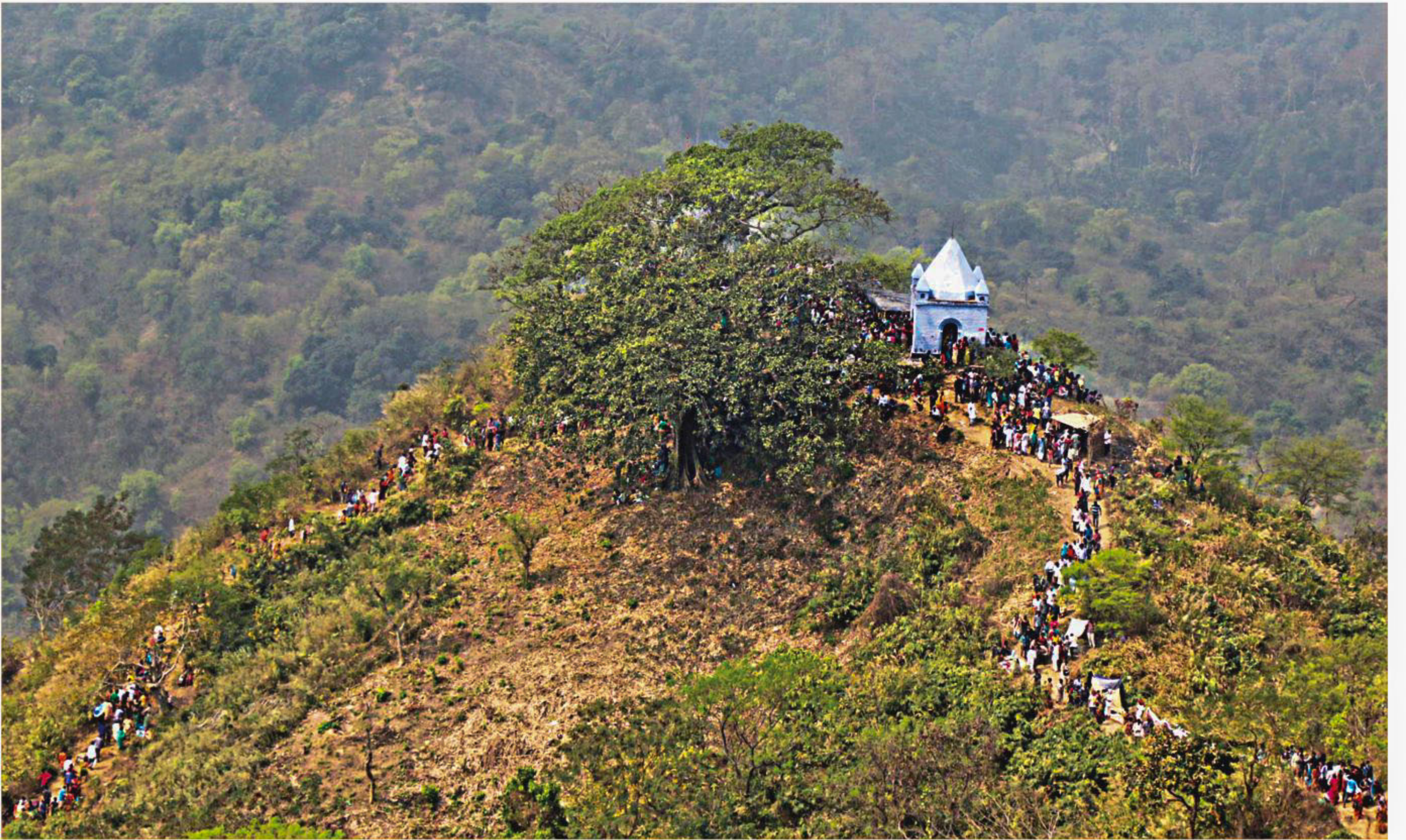
The ambassadors/high commissioners/heads of mission are from Brazil, Dominican Republic, Columbia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.

Except for the one of Brazil, all others are non-resident envoys to Bangladesh. Brazil has its resident mission in Dhaka.

Currently eight Latin American envoys are on a visit to Bangladesh at the invitation of the government. Besides meeting with high government officials, they attended a daylong seminar, "Bangladesh's Relations with Latin American Countries: Unlocking Potentials", on Sunday.

The envoys toured different parts of the memorable

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Hindu pilgrims climbing the 3,500 steps to the Chandranath Dham at Sitakunda upazila in Chittagong yesterday. A huge number of Hindu pilgrims take the long and sinuous trail leading to the temple on the second and the most important day of the three-day-long Shishchaturdashi Mela, a religious festival of the community.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

UK will continue supporting women's empowerment

Says outgoing DFID Country Rep Sarah Cooke UNB, Dhaka

The United Kingdom has said it will continue to help Bangladesh's stride in eradicating child marriage and stopping violence against women giving both girls and women "safe and secure" lives and ensuring their economic independence.

"Despite significant progress, still more needs to be done, particularly around the challenge of eradicating child marriage. It remains very high here compared to other countries in the region," outgoing DFID Country Representative Sarah Cooke told UNB and another media outlet in an interview.

She said they are now designing programmes for the next five years, starting from the financial year 2016-2017 (April 1), considering the needs of Bangladesh.

Sarah laid emphasis on the effective implementation of "very good" laws and policies already in place to achieve the goals of ending violence against women and child marriage.

"We want to support Bangladesh becoming a prosperous and stable country and we feel we can help Bangladesh lifting more people out of poverty," said the DFID Country Representative.

The Department for International Development (DFID) leads the UK's works in Bangladesh to end extreme poverty by creating jobs, unlocking the potentials of girls and women and helping to save lives when humanitarian emergencies hit.

Sarah, who will soon take over charge as the British High Commissioner to Tanzania, said they would continue to help Bangladesh deliver its commitment to reduce child marriage.

"And in the long-term, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina committed to eradicating child marriage by 2041. I would love to return

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Mentoring makes the day

Danish envoy spends International Women's Day with Bangladeshi shadow

TAMANNA KHAN

Considering the importance of role models in the lives of young people, the Royal Danish Embassy in Bangladesh yesterday celebrated the UN International Women's Day (IWD) in a different way.

Danish Ambassador to Bangladesh Hanne Fugl Eskjær shared her professional world with a young Bangladeshi student Talbia Tanvir, the shadow ambassador of Denmark for a day.

Talbia, a 23-year-old economics student of North South University, was selected from 200 applicants of the Shadow Ambassador Competition at the Danish Embassy's Facebook page at the beginning of this month.

Sharing their joint experience, Hanne and Talbia spoke to media

about the need for women to believe in themselves and feel that they too can reach their fullest capacity just like their male counterparts.

"Women role models are very important," said Hanne explaining why a young female was chosen.

"Many women around the world doubt whether they will be able to make a difference; whether they are good enough," she said, adding how she feels responsible as a female ambassador to be a role model and induce confidence.

She said that despite the presence of many strong women business leaders and politicians, women in Bangladesh often doubt their capabilities.

Watching Hanne at work Talbia also felt the need to spread a positive message about women's inner potential

among peers.

"Despite living in such a wonderful country where most of the time the leaders of the nation has been women," said Talbia, "women are facing crisis at so many levels whether it is social security or physical safety."

"So I thought I can make a difference by participating in it (the competition), and will try to bring in more positive changes," she said.

Talbia started her shadow ambassador task at 8:45am yesterday after getting introduced to the embassy personnel, attending meetings and learning about Bangladesh-Denmark relationship.

"The message every women should spread is that there is no need to be scared of what the world or others

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27pc girls unaware of tech education benefit

Says UCEP survey

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A considerable number of girls are still unaware of the prospect of technical education, although the government has been giving utmost priority to this skill-based study, deemed crucial for industrial growth and national development.

A yet-to-be-released survey of Under Privileged Children's Education Programme (UCEP) Bangladesh, obtained by The Daily Star, shows 27 percent of girls still do not know the details about this skill-based study and its prospect.

It also found that 39 percent viewed that vocational education is not valued by the family and society.

UCEP that provides vocational training and offers job placements to school drop-outs, conducted the survey on 100 women and young girls of Dhaka this year, asking

them "Why is females' participation less in technical education?"

The NGO has 10 technical and 53 general education institutes in eight districts of the country.

Out of the 100 women and girls, 30 percent were from formal general schools while 20 percent from UCEP's general schools. Of the remaining, 20 percent were mothers, 10 percent university students, 10 percent professional women, five percent UCEP instructors and five percent teachers.

Currently, 18 percent of students are studying in this field of education out of which 27 percent are girls, according to a government report.

The UCEP survey found the distance between technical educational institutes and homes is one of the challenges felt

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Talbia Tanvir, a 23-year-old economics student from Dhaka, who was selected to be the Danish "shadow ambassador" for International Women's Day, shares a smile with the ambassador.

PHOTO: STAR

Fakhrul blames govt for Tarique's stay abroad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday alleged that the government was barring the return of its Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman to the country.

"He was barred from coming to the country, and a lot of false cases were filed and propaganda spread against him to keep him away from politics fully," he told a discussion and a prayer session for Tarique.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal organised the programme at BNP's central office marking the anniversary of Tarique's arrest.

The 1/11 government

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NARAYANGANJ 7-MURDER CASE HC judge unwilling to hear Tareque's petition

Sends it to CJ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A judge of a High Court bench yesterday expressed unwillingness to hear a petition of sacked Rab official Lt Col (ret'd) Tareque Sayeed Mohammad seeking scrapping of the trial proceedings against him in a case filed for abduction and killing of seven people in Narayanganj in April, 2014.

The bench of Justice Md Emdadul Huq and Justice FRM Nazmul Ahasan also ordered its official to send the petition to the chief justice for an appropriate decision.

"One of us felt embarrassed to hear the petition," said Justice Emdadul Huq. He, however, did not disclose the name of the judge who felt embarrassed and the reasons behind the feeling. Petitioner's lawyer Golam Kibria told

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CIMMYT Director General Martin Kropff due today

DU CORRESPONDENT



Dr Martin Kropff, newly appointed director general of CIMMYT International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, will arrive in the capital today on a five-day official visit, said a press release.

During his visit, Kropff will meet the minister and secretary to the agriculture ministry as well as officials in different agricultural organisations.

CIMMYT, headquartered in Mexico, plays a crucial role in wheat and maize research.

UNION PARISHAD ELECTIONS 2016

EC finds no flaws in walkovers

62 AL aspirants elected unopposed in first phase

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) finds no flaws in the incidents of many chairman aspirants' being elected unopposed in the Union Parishad (UP) polls.

"If one does not want to contest, we have nothing to do. As per the law, anyone can be elected unopposed if no one else contested," said Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz while briefing reporters at the EC Secretariat yesterday.

"If one stays at home, we cannot force him/her to contest...It is not our concern where candidates have been elected unop-

posed. We will look into the issues if anything unlawful happens there," he added.

Elections to 732 UPs will be held on March 22 in the first phase and 650 UPs on March 31 in the second phase. Over 2,800 more UPs will go for polls in four other phases till June.

Some 62 ruling Awami League (AL)-nominated chairman aspirants have already been elected unopposed in the first phase, and 13 others are set to follow suit in the second phase.

However, media reports said AL men allegedly obstructed BNP-nominated candidates and AL's rebel aspirants from

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EDGE

He completed his MBBS at Calcutta Medical College on the eve of the partition of India in 1947. On his return to Dhaka, he soon opened a part-time pro-bono clinic for the urban poor, and thus started his career in public health. Soon thereafter, he travelled to England on a Ford Foundation scholarship to be administered by Edge. It is 20 years ago today that he passed away, only months after the founding of Bay.

We are pleased to announce the launching of EDGE with the support of the Khan family and Bay Developments. We are delighted that the family of Dr. Mamtazul Haque Khan has established, in his memory, a scholarship to be administered by Edge. It is 20 years ago today that he passed away, only months after the founding of Bay.

Dr. Khan was the first individual from then Pakistan to be recruited by World Health Organization for its Africa campaign to eradicate tuberculosis.

Launching of EDGE, The Foundation

তথ্য জানতে বা অভিযোগ জানাতে যোগাযোগ করুন

ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ বা মহিলা ও শিশু বিষয়ক কর্মকর্তা বা ইউএনও অফিসে

মাগনের জন্ম

manusher jonna

ensuring human rights and good governance