

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 32.7/L 22.5	H 32.8/L 21.5	H 32.5/L 20.0	H 32.5/L 20.5	H 32.0/L 22.0	H 32.8/L 21.8	H 31.8/L 21.3	H 32.0/L 22.7

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:05pm and rises tomorrow at 06:12am. Country's highest temperature 34.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Khepupara and lowest 17.3 degree in Srimangal.

# Equality for women quite attainable

Int'l Women's Day programmes told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A world with equal rights, participation, sharing and dignity for both men and women can only be possible if family, society, state and government together create a nurturing atmosphere for everyone to achieve their attainable dreams.

Participants at different programmes including seminar, rally and human chain, organised by social and women's rights organisations in the country, spoke of these steps that should be taken to create "Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step it Up for Gender Equality", the theme for this year's International Women's Day yesterday.

Dr Gowher Rizvi, foreign affairs adviser to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, stressed the need for equal inheritance rights of men and women across all religious groups in the country.

"It is a matter of big shame and sorrow that married women have no right to matrimonial property. This law must be changed," he told a programme at the capital's Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh organised by Samajik Protirodh Committee, a platform of 70 national and international rights bodies.

In Bangladesh, inheritance rights are decided upon by religious laws.

Argentina P Matavel Piccin, country representative of UNFPA, said decision makers had two choices; they could either step up and create equal opportunities for girls or do nothing in the name of traditions and religion and let half the population suffer.

"Our conscience will condemn us one day if those of us who have the power to make a change do nothing about it," she said.

Christine Hunter, country representative of UN Women, SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Sammilito Garment Sramik Federation brings out a procession in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday, marking International Women's Day. PHOTO: STAR

# Employ large number of women in private sector

Khaleda puts out call on Int'l Women's Day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia last night stressed the importance of women working in various sectors and urged everyone to include women in large numbers in the private sectors including journalism for ensuring their empowerment.

"Foreign companies should come forward to create employment for women," added the BNP chief.

Khaleda said this while exchanging greetings with the leaders and activists of Jatiyatabadi Mohila Dal at her Gulshan office, marking International Women's Day.

Referring to the assault on women at Dhaka University during Pabala Baishakh celebration last year, Khaleda alleged that SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

# Uttara trees being sacrificed for road widening

DNCC cut several hundred trees in last two months, will fell more

HELEMI ALAM

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) have felled several hundred trees in the capital's Uttara in the last two months to widen roads, but residents said many of those could be saved and would not hamper vehicular movement. The trees include coconut, mango, jackfruit, neem and mahogany.

DNCC started the widening work to reduce traffic congestion at sector 6, 7 and 11 and Shahjalal Avenue.

Local residents said some trees were in the middle of the roads but a good number of them were just beside the footpaths and could have been saved easily.

Ripon, a resident of sector 3, said, "Many of Uttara residents like me are saddened to see that many trees have vanished from the streets. We want development but not at the cost of the roadside trees."

"There are clear signs that the city corporation, its contractors and officials are not bothered at all about trees and environment in Uttara, which is losing its greenery in such a brutal way in the name of development."

He said preparations were on to remove more trees in other areas. This mindless act should be stopped without any delay.

"I had a 15-year-old neem tree just in front of my house which would not hamper widening of the road but it was cut like 20 other trees in front of my house," said Kazi Sanaullah, a resident of sector 7.

He said his family would use the neem trees for medicinal purposes.

Sanaullah said around 300 trees were cut on road-1 and road-27, many of which could have been saved.

Mohammad Rubel, caretaker of a house on road 1 in sector 7, said he had requested to save the jackfruit, coconut and mahogany trees but all were cut.

DNCC had said they would not cut the trees, he said, adding that the SEE PAGE 5 COL 7

# Women's role in agriculture should be recognised

Krishibid Institution seminar told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers yesterday called for recognising women who work in agricultural sector as farmers and ensuring them equal payment.

They also asked the government to calculate the value of women's unpaid work and incorporate it into the country's GDP.

They said this at a seminar titled "The Role of Women in Agricultural Development of Bangladesh" organised by Kirshibid Institution Bangladesh to observe International Women's Day in the capital's Farmgate.

Prof Mahfuza Begum of the Agronomy department of Bangladesh Agricultural University presented the keynote paper.

In her paper, she said over the last one and half decades female participation in agriculture has increased from 27. SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

# DU alumni honour 19 female FFs

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University Alumni Association (DUAA) yesterday honoured nineteen female freedom fighters for their contribution during the Liberation War in 1971.

Fifty thousand taka has been given to each of them as a financial aid at a SEE PAGE 5 COL 7



The stump of an uprooted coconut tree in sector 7 of the capital's Uttara Friday. It was one of the several hundred trees felled by the city corporation in the last two months to widen roads in the residential area. PHOTO: COLLECTED

# BNP hits back at Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's recent remarks on Khaleda Zia and her son Tarique Rahman were devoid of political etiquette.

Hasina said on Monday that the re-election of Khaleda and Tarique as BNP chairperson and senior vice chairman was a staged drama and two accused were now BNP's top leaders.

Slamming the Awami League chief, Fakhru said, "If we assess the country's history, we'll see cases filed against political leaders during every democratic movement... So it is clear what was said about the BNP chairperson and senior vice chairman lacks political norms... we strongly condemn such comments."

The BNP leader criticised Hasina as he spoke before Jatiyatabadi Mohila Dal, which brought out a march in front of BNP Nayapalatan central office, marking SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

# Qatar emir, PM due soon

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The emir and the prime minister of Qatar are expected to pay separate visits to Bangladesh soon.

This was disclosed by Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al-Thani when Bangladesh Ambassador in Qatar Ashud Ahmed met him at the Emiri Dewan on Monday.

The PM will visit Bangladesh soon at a mutually convenient time.

Qatar Emir Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani had already accepted the invitation extended by Bangladesh's President Abdul Hamid, said a press release.

# HC to decide on residents' info collection by DMP on March 13

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday fixed March 13 for passing an order on a writ petition filed for seeking its order on the government to stop collecting information about landlords and tenants by Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP).

The bench of Justice Moeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Iqbal Kabir set the date after concluding hearing the petition, Jyotirmoy Barua, the petitioner and a Supreme Court lawyer, told The Daily Star.

Jyotirmoy submitted the petition on March 3 to the HC praying to it to ask the authorities concerned to preserve those information which have already been collected and not to use the information until a specific law is formulated SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

# Paint over dirty marks, plaster buildings

DSCC mayor Sayeed Khokon urges city dwellers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) Mayor Sayeed Khokon yesterday urged all building owners in DSCC areas to paint over the dirty marks on outer surfaces of their buildings within three months so that they look fresh and attractive.

Buildings of all government, semi-government, autonomous and semi-autonomous bodies will also have to follow suit. SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

# CONQUEROR CORPORATE IDENTITY DESIGN CONTEST 2015

EXHIBITION

March 10 - March 13, 2016  
10.00 am - 9.00 pm daily

EDGE Gallery  
Bay's Edgewater, Ground Floor  
NE (N) 12 North Avenue  
Gulshan 2, Dhaka

The exhibition is open to all

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