

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 34.2 L 24.6	H 32.0 L 25.3	H 33.0 L 22.5	H 36.0 L 19.8	H 32.8 L 22.0	H 34.7 L 25.4	H 33.5 L 19.0	H 32.8 L 24.6

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country, Met Office said. 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 6:07pm and rises tomorrow at 6:08am.** Country's highest temperature 36.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and lowest 16.9 degree in Rajshahi.

Hasina urges youths to listen to Bangabandhu's March 7 speech time and again

UNB, Dhaka

Noting that the appeal of the historic March 7 speech of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is never-ending, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the young generation to listen to the speech repeatedly to draw inspirations from it.

"The March 7 speech is our motivation...this speech has showed us the path... every word of this speech is very much important for us as it gives us the spirit to move ahead with our head high," she told a seminar on the speech at Krishibid Institution, Bangladesh (KIB) in the capital.

Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Trust organised the seminar. Hasina, also chairperson of the trust, said, "The appeal of this speech will

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Two trucks set afire by school fellows and relatives of Yasir Arafat Swadhin, 12, on Dhamurhat-Joypurhat road in Naogaon yesterday, after the boy was fatally run over by one of the vehicles.

Reckless driving kills two more kids again

CITY DESK

Reckless driving yet again took the lives of two more kids in two districts yesterday.

In Naogaon, Yasir Arafat Swadhin, 12, son of Yasin Ali Tuku of Farsipara village was killed when a truck ramed his bicycle in Chakmoyram area on Dhamurhat-Joypurhat road in Chakmoyram village yesterday.

Officer-in-Charge of Dhamurhat Police Station Moshior Rahman said Swadhin, a class-six student of Chakmoyram High School, was returning home from a coaching centre riding his bicycle.

Following the incident, locals set fire on two trucks and blocked the road for half an hour, said police.

In Pabna, Saima Khatun, 6, daughter of Shaheb Ali Master of Neutigasa village was killed when a CNG-run auto-rickshaw hit her when she was crossing Pabna-Chakmohor road in Neutigasa area of Chatmohar upazila yesterday.

She was going to school when the incident occurred, said police.

Meanwhile in Gazipur Sadar, in another road accident, an assistant sub-inspector of Hotapara Police Camp was killed and three people were injured when a truck hit a microbus carrying them on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Gilarchala area yesterday.

The deceased was Harun-or-Rashid, 37, and the injured are constables Manik Mia, 40, and Abdul Jabbar, 23, and microbus driver Faruk Mia, 28, said Hotapara Police Camp In-Charge SI Nazmul Islam.

In Jessore, Osman Ali Mandal, 38, of Shantala area was killed when a motorcycle hit him while he was crossing the road in Shantala area yesterday.

In Gaibandha, two passengers were killed at Kalitola point of Bogra-Rangpur highway under Gobindhaganj upazila as a Dhaka-bound bus from Rangpur collided with a human hauler last night, said Mozammel Haque, officer-in-charge (OC) of Gobindhaganj police station. The victims could not be identified instantly.

In Thakurgaon, human-hauler driver Abdul Malek, 35, of Pirganj was killed and five people were injured when his vehicle fell into a roadside ditch after he lost control over the vehicle on Pirganj-Ranishankoil road in Gogor village on Friday.

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Pay journo Baishakh festival perk heading to PM's appeal

Factions of BFUJ, DUJ urge all media houses

BSS, Dhaka

Factions of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) yesterday urged all the media houses to pay Bangla New Year festival allowance before Pahela Baishakh as per the appeal of the prime minister to do that for all the professionals.

In a joint statement, BFUJ acting president Zafar Wazed and Secretary

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Reserve two JS seats for reps of women with disabilities

Demand rings from roundtable at The Daily Star Centre

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two reserved seats for women in the national parliament should go to representatives of women with disabilities and all committees of all registered political parties should have quota for persons with disabilities.

Seven organisations working for the rights of persons with disabilities made the above recommendations at a roundtable discussion titled "Political Rights and Participation of Women with Disabilities" held at The Daily Star Centre in the capital's Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue yesterday.

The organisations, all headed by women, were Access Bangladesh Foundation, Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF), Bangladesh Visually Impaired Peoples Society (BVIPS), Disabled Child Foundation (DCF), Disabled Welfare Society (DWS), National Council of Disabled Women (NCDW) and Turning Point Foundation.

Abdul Matin Khasru, MP, convener of Parliamentary Caucus on Disability, as the chief guest said disable people must participate in politics from the grass-root by joining a political party and believing in their ideals.

"You have to come forward on your own, none will go and call you from your home," he said noting how competitive the political scenario is.

Tariq-ul-Islam, secretary to planning ministry and former secretary to social welfare ministry, urged persons with disabilities to apply to every government job and make use of the one per cent quota for persons with disabilities in public service.

Questioning the inclusiveness of the democratic society of the country, Ayesha Khanom, president of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad

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Students of the Asian University for Women, who took part in a five-day leadership training, with guests at a certificate giving ceremony on the university campus in Chittagong yesterday. Delhi-based The Global Education and Leadership Foundation (tGELF) organised the training on "Being the leader: The inner journey". Forty students were given certificates at the ceremony where Salahuddin Kasem Khan, managing director of AK Khan Group of Companies and a member of the AUW Board of Trustees, was present among others. Reha Bublani, head of training of tGELF, and Dimple Kamra, programme officer, conducted the training held between March 7 and 11. The participants hail from different countries including Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Vietnam, Nepal and China.

Section of 3-wheeler drivers goes on daylong strike today in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Makes seven-point demand; another group differs, proposes discussion with govt; yet another section wants implementation of govt pledge of permitting 5,000 more CNG-run auto-rickshaws in capital

A section of CNG-run auto-rickshaw drivers yesterday announced to enforce a 24-hour strike in the capital from 6:00am today through a press statement, to press home their seven-point demand that included ending "harassment" by traffic police.

"Police file cases against the drivers and penalise them without proper reasons, which creates panic. We want an end to such harassments and an immediate release of the drivers who have been arrested for trivial matters," said Kamal Ahmed, general secretary of Dhaka District Four-Stroke Auto Rickshaw (CNG) Drivers' Union that would enforce the strike.

Their other demands include arrangement of sufficient parking spaces, re-adjustment of the government-set daily deposit charge paid by workers to owners and issuance

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