

**WEATHER FORECAST**

**YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES**

**DHAKA**  
H 36.4 | L 28.7

**CHITTAGONG**  
H 34.0 | L 27.9

**SYLHET**  
H 34.0 | L 21.7

**RAJSHAHI**  
H 40.2 | L 27.2

**KHULNA**  
H 36.5 | L 28.7

**BARISAL**  
H 35.2 | L 28.4

**RANGPUR**  
H 34.7 | L 21.0

**COX'S BAZAR**  
H 32.2 | L 28.5

Severe heat wave over Rajshahi region and mild to moderate heat wave is sweeping over Khulna and the rest part of Rajshahi division and the regions of Dhaka, Tangail, Faridpur and Gopalganj and it may continue. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:24pm and rises tomorrow at 5:29am.

**10th session of JS starts today**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
The 10th session of the 10th parliament begins at 5:00pm today, after a 54-day recess. The business advisory committee of parliament will sit in a meeting, with Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury in the chair, to fix the duration and businesses, before the session commences. The president convened the session on March 30.

**Indian envoy visits Padma bridge site**

DIPLOMAT CORRESPONDENT  
Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Harsh Vardhan Shringla visited the Padma bridge project site yesterday at the invitation of Road, Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader. The high commissioner noted the progress achieved in the construction of the bridge, completion of which would increase the GDP of the country and significantly reduce the travel time from western Bangladesh and India to Dhaka and other parts of the country.

**Seminar on media's role in agri dev held**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Agriculture Information Service (AIS) yesterday held a seminar titled "Role of Media in Agriculture Development" in its conference room at the capital's Khamarbari. Agriculture Secretary Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah attended as the chief guest, where AIS Deputy Director Dr Zahangir Alam presented a keynote, chaired by AIS Director Mizanur Rahman. Agriculture ministry Additional Secretary (Extension) Md Mosharraf Hossain, and Director General of Department of Agriculture Extension Md Hamidur Rahman were also present.



Students bring out a procession on the Rajshahi University campus demanding justice for the murder of Prof AFM Rezaul Karim Siddique of English, who was hacked to death in the city's Shalbagan area yesterday morning. The family filed a murder case against anonymous people for the attack, which, police say, has similarities with the style of murder of bloggers and secular activists in the past. PHOTO: STAR

**Malaria curbing depends on expansion of health services, awareness**

*Experts tell press conference of National Malaria Control Programme, Brac ahead of World Malaria Day tomorrow*

UNB, Dhaka

Given that malaria is a potentially life-threatening disease and caused by a parasite that is transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected female mosquito, health experts yesterday underscored the need for raising social awareness on eradicating malaria and further expanding its health services all over the country. Awareness raising and mosquito control programmes need to be strengthened further, they said, emphasising the need for coordination and partnership between the government and private sector for achieving success in this regard. They came up with the remarks while addressing a press conference, jointly organised by National Malaria Control Programme and Brac, at the MIS auditorium of Health Directorate at the capital's Mohakhali, ahead of World Malaria Day to be observed tomorrow. Dr Mohammad Nazrul Islam, monitoring and

evaluation expert of the Malaria Control Programme, presented the keynote paper. Certain people are more vulnerable, and they are children, aged under five years, and pregnant

<p>About <b>97,199</b> people of country got malaria in 2014-15</p> <p><b>54</b> of them died</p> <p>Now more than <b>1.32 crore</b> at risk</p> <p><b>13</b> of <b>64</b> districts malaria-prone</p> <p>Rangamati, Khagrachhari, and Bandarban most vulnerable</p>
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women who live in malaria-prone areas and travellers who come to these areas; mentioned the speakers. About prevention, they advised people to use

insecticidal net since evening and cloths covering hands and legs while going out of home at night. Other measures included clearing of unnecessary bushes around houses, filling up of unnecessary water bodies, which are breeding grounds for mosquito, and quick diagnosis of the disease and its treatment. They called upon people to immediately visit doctors if anyone is found to possess the symptoms of malaria. Involvement of multiple sectors is important for eliminating the disease, they said, calling upon all concerned to work together to achieve the target of reducing outbreak of malaria by 80 percent in the malaria-prone 13 districts and bring the death rate caused by it to zero by 2018. Among others, Prof Dr Abul Kalam Azad, additional director general of Health Directorate and Dr Mohammad Akramul Islam, director of TB, Malaria and Wash programme of Brac, spoke at the press conference.



Sammilita Sangskritik Jote holds a candlelight vigil at Central Shaheed Minar in the capital yesterday, demanding justice for the murder of Comilla Victoria Government College student Sohagi Jahan Tonu. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

**Protest may resume**

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only then will we consider." Liakat alleged that the district administration recently met Gondamara Union Bachao Andolon, which "actually acted for S Alam Group", the firm that is supposed to build the plant. Mahmudul Islam Chowdhury, former lawmaker from Banskhali and also adviser to Gondamara Union Bachao Andolon, in several speeches last week said they neither wanted any damage to the area nor relocation of such a big project from there. He claimed that three of the nine demands of the protesters, including release of the arrestees and compensation to the families of the dead and injured, were also met. Liakat, however, said they were fighting on only one point -- cancellation of the project. Regarding the district administration's compensation of Tk 15 lakh to each of the families of the four deceased, Liakat said people did not sacrifice their lives for the money. Lawmaker Mahmudul Islam denied any connection with S Alam Group. About the movement, he said the postponement frustrated locals and forced them to create a platform like Gondamara Bachao Andolon, of which Bodi Ahmad, who lost his two brothers and a son-in-law in the clash, was made president, with a full-fledged committee comprising 200 locals. The government is poised to set up a 1,224MW coal-based power plant in 650 acres of land in Gondamara, which locals fear would displace people, have immense environmental impacts, and hurt their livelihoods.

**NEWS IN brief**

**AK Azad new president of DU Alumni Association**

DU CORRESPONDENT  
AK Azad and Ranjan Karmaker have been elected president and general secretary respectively of Dhaka University Alumni Association (DUAA) for the next three years. DU Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique announced the names of 40 members of the new executive committee of the association at its annual general meeting at Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) yesterday. Azad is chairman of Hamim Group and former chairman of FBCCI while Ranjan is an owner of an NGO.



**Jahangir Kabir new DG of BWDB**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Md Jahangir Kabir joined Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) as Director General (DG) on Thursday. Before this posting, he was an additional director general (west region) of BWDB, family a press release. Born in a renowned Muslim family at Hazrahati village of Chuadanga, Jahangir joined BWDB as an assistant engineer (civil) in 1983.

**UNHCR seminar on mass media's role in ending statelessness held**

BSS, Dhaka  
A daylong seminar on "Role of Mass Media for Removing Statelessness" was held at the capital's Cirdap auditorium yesterday. United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) organised the seminar for 40 participants of Law Reporters' Forum (LRF). President of LRF Ashutosh Sarker chaired the seminar. Senior journalist Kazi Abdul Hannan, Country Director of UNHCR Stina Ljungdell, UNHCR's Assistant Protection Officer Fahmida Karim, Sowvik Das Tomal and LRF General Secretary Didarul Alam Didar, among others, were present.

**Workers deserve better**

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Bernicat said the US has provided \$1.5 million to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to improve fire and building safety in Bangladesh, under a programme that has provided training, materials, and policy support to the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments and the Office of Civil Defense. The US also provided \$1 million to Bangladesh Workers Solidarity Centre to train workers on fire and building safety. The ambassador said it is vitally important for workers to have a strong and powerful voice. Mojtaba Kazazi, executive commissioner of Rana Plaza Claims Administration, said the committee has completed compensation related work, and settled 2,895 claims. The claims have been settled under the ILO convention, he said, adding that the Claims Administration, the Prime Minister's Office and Primark together provided \$34 million in compensation. Kazazi said in case of fixing compensation, the loss of income and the treatment cost have been taken into account but not the long-term loss. Tuomo Poutiainen, programme manager for garment sector at the ILO's country office, said there is no alternative to strictly implementing the laws in order to curb the frequency of accidents at factories. "Steps enshrined in the law to create congenial working environment have to be implemented properly. A framework or institution has to be created so workers can voice their safety concerns and their objections are duly addressed," said the ILO official. Md Enamur Rahman, chairman of Enam Medical College and Hospital; Gawher Nayeem Wahra, director for disaster management and climate change at Brac; Syed Sultan Ahmed, assistant executive director of the Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies; Ranjon Francis Rozario, regional director for Dhaka at Caritas, and KAM Morshed, director for advocacy for social change and ICT at Brac, also spoke.

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**100MW more**  
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conveyed, Manik told journalists in Agartala. "We are also interested...We can give them the entire production of the 101MW," he said. The Monarchak project in Sepahijala belongs to state-owned North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, which made an agreement to sell the entire production to Tripura. The project is now ready to run commercially. During trials, gas was supplied by state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation. Tripura's 726 MW gas-based project in Gomati supplies power through a 47 kilometre double circuit transmission line the Indian government set up from Suryamaninagar to Comilla in Bangladesh.

**Leslie, Soumendra, Rubaba, Sabbir and Baset @ Watercress Restaurant**

their wish and participants will have to cook accordingly within the allotted time. It's a pressuring task, but then again, to become a super chef, this hard work is a must. What will the judges decide? To find out, keep your eyes on NTV at 9pm today.

In the history of SuperChef Kitchen, for the first time participants will step out of the kitchen and get professional cooking experience at Watercress Restaurant, where they will serve prominent guests from renowned corporate organizations - Rubaba Dowla, Soumendra Sankar Das, Mahub Baset, Sabbir Hasan Nasir and 2nd runner up of MasterChef US Season 5 Leslie Gilliams. Participants will be divided into 5 groups where each group has to make 3 dishes - Soup, Main Course and Dessert - for the guests. Instead of the regular judges, participants will be judged by the distinguished guests. As the participants enter the kitchen of Chef Tareq, they will be guided by him on how to use a professional kitchen. Guests will order according to

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