

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 37.0 L 28.0	H 33.5 L 29.0	H 30.7 L 21.7	H 40.0 L 24.2	H 36.3 L 28.2	H 35.0 L 28.0	H 37.0 L 20.0	H 33.7 L 29.0

Severe heat wave is sweeping over Dinajpur and Sayerpur and mild to moderate heat wave sweeping over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions and the regions of Dhaka, Tangail, Madaripur, Gopalganj, Chandpur and Rangpur, and it may continue. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:25pm and rises tomorrow at 05:27am.



Police continue to violently beat with sticks a demonstrator even after he falls down, while dispersing a blockade on the Dhaka-Aricha highway yesterday afternoon set up by Jahangirnagar University students during a half-day countrywide hartal enforced by Progressive Students' Alliance and Anti-Imperialist Students' Union, two major alliances of left-leaning students' bodies, protesting the "government's failure" to arrest the killers of Comilla Victoria Government College student Sohagi Jahan Tonu, whose body was found inside Comilla cantonment on March 20. *Right*, another demonstrator gets manhandled by police at a rally organised in front of Aswini Kumar Hall of Barisal city. PHOTOS: STAR

## Foreign aid for education marks sharp fall

UNB, Dhaka

The latest aid figures for education in Bangladesh estimated by the Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report, Unesco show that there has been a substantial drop in aid to education between 2013 and 2014. Aid to education in Bangladesh was US\$ 148 million in 2002-3 which stood at US\$ 528 million in 2013. The figure came down to US\$ 449 million in 2014. "It's a substantial drop," Kate Redman, communications and advocacy specialist of the GEM Report, told the news agency yesterday, sharing Bangladesh's specific data of the global report. She said aid to basic education in Bangladesh was US\$ 97 million in 2002-3, which stood at US\$ 311 million in 2013. The figure came down to US\$ 207 million in 2014

showing a substantial drop in two years. Bangladesh is the fourth highest receiver at this level after India, Pakistan and Afghanistan, the official said. Meanwhile, aid to basic education per child in Bangladesh was US\$ 6 in 2002-3, which increased to US\$ 19 in 2013. The figure came down to US\$ 13 in 2014, Kate Redman said quoting the latest data. This is low compared to Afghanistan that received US\$ 50 per child in 2014, while US\$25 by Sri Lanka. The latest aid figures for education globally show that levels went down by almost US\$ 600 million, or 4 percent, between 2013 and 2014. The share of total aid being allocated to education also fell from 9.5 percent to 8.2 percent, indicating that the sector is falling further down the list of priorities for donors. SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

## Boost education budget for enhancing quality

Speakers insist at Campe, CPD dialogue; also press for competent teachers, rule of law, training

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The nation is alarmed over the quality of education, said Md Abdur Razzak, chairman of parliamentary standing committee on finance ministry, at a discussion on education budget in the capital yesterday. "We have to address the concern," he said, adding that there should not be any doubt that budgetary allocation on education must increase. The MCQ pattern of question in the name of creative exam method has been rampantly abused as an easy way

to obtain A and golden grades, he said. Such random high grades have been meaningless in most cases and has done harm to the young learners, said the ruling party lawmaker, adding that this may lead to students committing suicide in despair as it happened in Korea. Razzak also said only five schools in his constituency got merely new buildings over past seven years, lacking educational facilities, equipments and sanitation. "A rule of law should be established in the education sector," he said.

Campaign for Popular Education (Campe) and Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) jointly organised the dialogue on Budget for Education in Bangladesh at a hotel in the capital on the occasion of the ongoing Global Action Week on Education with the slogan "Fund the Future: Education Rights Now". Officially, cent percent enrollment is claimed at primary education but only 66 percent of them go to secondary level, said Prof MM Akash of Dhaka University. SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

## Taleya claims husband not involved in any abduction, murder plot

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Taleya Rehman, wife of detained veteran journalist Shafiq Rehman, yesterday claimed that her husband was not involved in any plot to abduct or murder Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's son Sajeeb Wazed Joy. She claimed that she had heard her husband had gone to the US a few years ago to investigate the veracity of a rumour about a leak about Joy's financial information, and he had met former FBI agent Robert Lustyik there, according to BBC Bangla Service. She also said the law enforcers indeed found related documents in their house, and her husband handed those over to them, but those contained no plot for abduction or murder. In a written statement, she said she feared that her husband would be denied justice with the prevailing "one-sided smear campaign against him". Taleya claimed Joy had been posting "untrue status" on the facebook one after another, that were defamatory and influencing the investigation, since the arrest of her husband. "Considering the reality of Bangladesh, the fear is not baseless that the investigation of the motivated case is developing in a motivated way, as a powerful person of the government such as Sajeeb Wazed Joy has taken such a stance," she alleged. SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



A trader to make a living, selling goods underneath an electronic transmitter by hanging various products on a bamboo stick tied to its wires, which is like an open invitation to grievous injuries, while the authorities concerned seem completely oblivious. The photo was taken in front of the Sylhet city's Hasan Market on Saturday. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

## Apply domestic workers' protection policy soon

Workshop urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers yesterday urged the government to implement the Domestic Workers Protection and Welfare Policy-2015, which had been approved by the cabinet, to protect rights of the domestic helps. Hailing the draft with a provision of registration and legal assistance for the domestic helps, they questioned if a mobile SIM can be registered, then why not domestic helps, said a press release. The speakers observed that the draft is a first step of ratification of the International Labour Organisation for the Domestic Workers Convention. They said these at a workshop held in the capital's CIRDAP auditorium, organised by Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit and Domestic Workers' Rights Network, to share findings of a study

titled "Public Policy Formulation: A Case Study of Domestic Workers in Bangladesh". Addressing as the chief guest, lawmaker Israfil Alam, a member of the parliamentary standing committee on labour ministry, observed that implementation of the draft is imperative. "We should create awareness campaigns to change the employers' mindset," he said. Researcher ASM Ali Ashraf presented the study findings, highlighting the role of NGOs, trade unions, and employers' representatives in the policy formulation process that was steered by the labour ministry. RMMRU chair Prof Tasneem Siddiqui presided over the programme where advocate Salma Ali, executive director of Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association, Dr Wajedul Islam Khan, general secretary of Trade Union Kendra, and SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

## Country a death valley for law, order collapse

BNP leader Rizvi tells Naya Paltan press briefing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The sharp rise in criminal activities such as killings, including extrajudicial ones and those of children; rapes, abductions and enforced disappearances resulted from the law and order's "complete" collapse, turning the country into a "death valley", said BNP yesterday. Expressing grave concern over the killing of Prof AFM Rezaul Karim of Rajshahi University by two unidentified assailants in the city's Shalbagan area on April 23, BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Rizvi Ahmed said, "People's bodies are now found in canals, water bodies and ditches." Addressing a press briefing at the party's Naya Paltan central office in the capital, he said the ruling party men also started carrying out countrywide "repressive and destructive activities" after the union parishad polls' third phase ended. "They are attacking our leaders and activists and their houses...It seems that the main target of the voter-less illegal government is to hang onto power, irrespective of the direction the country is heading in and of the number of lives lost," he said. He said the day was not far away when people would give a befitting reply to the government and its "puppet" Election Commission for destroying the entire election system. The government will be ousted soon as people at grass-roots have started waking up to get back their voting rights, he observed, adding, "The misrule will end soon as the fall of this illegal government will be ensured."

### WHAT'S EID WITHOUT COLOURS?

It may seem far off, but Eid is coming sooner than you expected. How you look plays an integral role in defining and celebrating Eid, and to make sure you do not miss out on making the most of this celebratory season, look out for your copy of Star Eid Fashion Magazine - the most comprehensive guide to all things fashionable. Also, do not miss this opportunity to show how your brand celebrates the occasion in style by showcasing your products in the

### Star EID FASHION MAGAZINE

Participants nationwide are requested to send their selected outfits and accessories for the album.

### Attention: Designers & Boutiques

**Criteria for Participation:**

1. Materials used should be produced locally.
2. All submissions must be accompanied by name of designer, address, contact number, price and a short description of the product (either in English or Bangla).
3. Designs should be original and suitable for the weather conditions.
4. The attires and accessories sent for the album will be returned.
5. Entry fee per submission is Tk. 500 (minimum 6 entries for each participating house)

**Last date of submission: 19 May, 2016**

For submission of products and advertisement, please contact  
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