

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 35.7 | L 25.5

CHITTAGONG
H 33.9 | L 27.3

SYLHET
H 35.6 | L 24.6

RAJSHAHI
H 36.7 | L 25.2

KHULNA
H 36.3 | L 24.5

BARISAL
H 35.8 | L 26.4

RANGPUR
H 35.4 | L 23.6

COX'S BAZAR
H 34.5 | L 26.5

Mild heat wave may continue to sweep over the regions of Khulna, Mongla, Sathkira, Jessore, Kushtia, Patuakhali, Khepupara, Rajshahi, Feni, Chandpur, Rangamati, Madaripur and Faridpur. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:32pm and rises tomorrow at 5:17am.

SSC results today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The results of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and equivalent examinations will be published today.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid will handover a copy of the results to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office at 10:30am. He will formally announce the results at a press conference at his ministry at 1:00pm.

The examinees will get their results at the respective centres, on websites of their respective boards and on mobile phones through SMS from 2:00pm.

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Golapbagh playground to be freed soon

Assures DSCC mayor
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Golapbagh playground will be freed from illegal occupation shortly so that children can play there unhindered, said Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) Mayor Sayeed Khokon yesterday.

Addressing a programme to meet the city dwellers at Dhalpur Community Centre, Khokon said he will remove all the equipments and construction material from the playground with the help of every ward councilors and police administration and will prepare a planned

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PHOTOS: MINHAJ UDDIN

Rows of rickshaw-vans with empty jars wait for their turns to be filled with water in the Bandartila area of Chittagong city, where cashing in on the city's ongoing water crisis, some unscrupulous domestic consumers are selling water from their connections. Inset, a man filling up the water jars from a domestic connection by using a hosepipe.

Illegal water trading rendering Chittagong city drier

MINHAJ UDDIN, Chittagong

Water, water!

Yells Robiul Hossain while ringing the bell of his rickshaw-van as he leisurely drives through Patenga area of Chittagong city with a van full of water jars.

Business is good for Robiul, who has been selling water at Tk 25 a jar for over a year.

It is a simple deal, he says, adding, he loads his van with the water jars, around 15 of them, and pays Tk 100 for each load.

"There's more profit in selling water. I usually cover Patenga, Halishahar and Charpara areas and can make multiple trips depending on the demand, which is always acute as most of the residents are

facing water crisis," says Robiul as he wipes off his sweat while taking a sip.

A man working hard for the betterment of his family is always commendable. But the only problem with this picture is that the water he is selling is illegally obtained by some unscrupulous residents who are selling the Wasa water commercially from their domestic connections, causing immense sufferings to the dwellers and forcing Wasa to lose a huge amount of revenue.

"We get water once or twice a week from the Wasa lines. Even that is extracted by water sellers. They use pumps and store water in large tanks," said Abul Hossain, a resident of Patenga's Steel Mill area.

"For the last two years we are not getting

a single drop of water but paying a monthly bill of Tk 173. Desperate, we requested the water traders to stop extracting water for some time but they did not pay heed. We have also complained to the Wasa employee who distributes the bill, but to no avail," he added.

Md Bashir, CWasa meter inspector of Bandartila area, said at least 300-350 consumers are not getting water and have to pay the minimum mandatory connection fee. "I have informed higher authorities of the revenue department about this water selling business several times, they would take action soon," he said.

Ziaul Huq Sumon, councillor of South Halishahar Ward, said Wasa could supply water to around 50 thousand residents in

his area of 4.5 lakh. "As a result, there is a huge demand."

Wards 40 and 41 with population around 3 and 1.3 lakh have no water supply as well, said ward councilors Jainal Abedin and Saleh Ahmed Chowdhury, respectively.

People of these areas would collect water in the past from shallow or deep tube wells, but due to the depleting water level, many tube wells cannot extract water, they said.

Now the water has either a salty taste or too much iron and a reddish hue, they alleged, adding, so people are trying to collect drinking water from alternative sources.

Cashing in on this opportunity,

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Death penalty will exist

Law minister tells reporters after meeting Swedish team

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday said the existing laws of the country, where provision of death penalty for serious offences were incorporated, will remain in force.

The provision may not be included in the new laws, which will be formulated in the future, he said while talking to reporters after a meeting with a five-member Swedish delegation at his secretariat office.

Swedish Minister for Justice and Migration Morgan Johansson led the delegation.

The delegation wanted to know about the progress of the trials of blogger killings, human rights and freedom of expression, Anisul Huq said.

He said the government had taken all necessary steps to ensure quick trials for blogger killings.

Separate cases have been filed in connection with the murders and the process for holding trials of those cases is going on, the law minister said.

Morgan Johansson told reporters that they had requested the law minister to ensure security for Bangladesh citizens so that they can enjoy the freedom of expression.

The minister also said freedom of press and freedom of expression are protected in the country.

Prof Momen passes away

DU CORRESPONDENT

Prof Abdul Momen, former director of Social Welfare Institute of Dhaka University,



died of old-age complications at a hospital in the capital yesterday. He was 84.

He left behind his wife, two daughters and son Masud Bin Momen, ambassador and permanent representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations.

His first namaz-e-janaza will be held at the institute at 11:00am and second one at the central mosque of DU after the Zohr prayers today, said a press release.

His qulkhwani and a doa mahfil will be held on Friday after the Asar prayers at House 25, Road 15 Dhanmondi.

DU Vice-Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique mourned his death.



Members of a faction of Gonojagoron Mancha flash victory signs after hearing the news of the execution of Jamaat-e-Islami chief Tahirur Rahman Nizami who masterminded the formation of a ruthless militia, Al-Badr Bahini, that unleashed terror on peace-loving Bangladeshis, killed unarmed civilians, raped women and destroyed properties during the 1971 Liberation War.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

GATCO GRAFT CASE Khaleda petitions for stay on trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday filed a leave to appeal petition with the Supreme Court seeking its stay on the trial proceedings of Gatco corruption case against her.

AM Mahub Uddin Khokon, a lawyer for Khaleda, told reporters that they will move the petition before the chamber judge of the SC Appellate Division for its hearing.

On August 5 last year, the HC rejected two writ petitions filed by Khaleda challenging the trial proceedings.

On February 15 this year, the HC released the full text of its verdict also lifting its previous orders in the case - granting bail to Khaleda in 2007 and staying trial in 2008.

On September 2, 2007, SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

Family relocates graveyard for city road widening

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a philanthropic gesture, a family in Uttara has agreed to relocate their private graveyard to make passage for ongoing road widening and convenient public movement.

The family, locally known as "Sarkar family", has already embarked on relocating their 16-decimal graveyard that had been occupying one-third widths of the 100-foot wide road no-11 locally known as Shahjalal Avenue in Uttara sector-4.

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) is widening the road and improving the adjoining drains and footpaths as part its ongoing development work across the north city.

DNCC Public Relations Officer Md Monwar Hossain said, "The family in a rare and imitable good gesture responded to our call to help widening the road and took such a generous decision of relocating the graveyard."

DNCC Executive Engineer Md Nazrul Islam said they requested the family to consider it, as the graveyard occupied nearly half of the road with a boundary wall and that the relocation would greatly help local people's movement along the 600m long road.

The city corporation offered the family a designated corner at Uttara sector-4 graveyard, run by it, where 12 graves of the family have already been shifted, he said, adding, they have relocated another 12 graves to their home area.

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Migrants should forge unity for work rights

Says Swedish Minister for Justice and Migration Morgan Johansson in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The migrants should be organised to realise their rights in destination countries as power of solidarity plays a very vital role, said Swedish Minister for Justice and Migration Morgan Johansson at a programme at a hotel in the capital yesterday.

"If you (employers) promise for salary, working hours, you cannot violate the agreement," he observed while sharing his views with Bangladeshi rights activists. He is now on a visit to share views on global migration issues.

Johansson is scheduled to attend a public lecture, "Emerging Global Migration and Mobility, Trends and Issues: Swedish Perspective", jointly organised by the Bangladesh foreign ministry and Swedish justice ministry at the Sonargaon hotel.

Addressing as the chief guest, he mentioned that both the sending and receiving countries need to work together for the welfare of migrants.

He hoped that global leaders would be able to bring out pro-migrant approaches from the upcoming Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), to be held in Dhaka next December.

Khondaker Golam Moazzem, additional research director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, said people always aspire to migrate for better options.

Developed countries promote migration for investment purposes but those countries are not including the developing or poor countries, he mentioned, adding that migration should go beyond that criteria.

Prof CR Abrar of Dhaka University highlighted that Bangladesh was facing difficulties in resolving issues of irregular flows of migration in both forms of human smuggling and human trafficking through different routes.

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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

The Daily Star

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
Syeed Ahmed Chowdhury (01711 623 905),
Kamal Hossain (01716 232 534).