

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 34.6 L 22.2	CHITTAGONG H 33.3 L 24.3	SYLHET H 34.0 L 24.0	RAJSHAHI H 33.0 L 22.9	KHULNA H 35.5 L 24.5	BARISAL H 34.3 L 24.2	RANGPUR H 31.5 L 22.5	COX'S BAZAR H 32.7 L 25.0
---------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------------	----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------

Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:40pm and rises tomorrow at 5:11am. Country's highest temperature 36.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Satkhira and lowest 21.4 in Kumarkhali.

Consequences will be dire if Khaleda is arrested

Threatens BNP
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday threatened that there would be dire consequences if its chairperson Khaleda Zia was arrested "as part of the government's plot" to weaken the party.

"I've seen in the newspapers that a process is underway to send our leader Khaleda Zia to jail. Though it's not easy to detain her, nothing is impossible for the Awami League-led government as it lacks the sense of humanity," BNP standing committee member Mirza Abbas told a joint meeting of the party's Dhaka city unit in Bhasani auditorium in the capital.

The meeting was organised to work out plans to make successful the party's programmes marking BNP founder Ziaur Rahman's 35th death anniversary.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6



Unemployed nurses face a police barricade near the capital's Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday, where they were headed protesting a Bangladesh Public Service Commission recruitment circular of March 28 and demanding that the corresponding exam scheduled for June 3 be postponed and that this be the last time previous selection criteria be followed -- year of graduation, merit, and seniority. PHOTO: STAR

Unemployed nurses back on streets with unmet demands

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Wearing shrouds, nearly 1,000 unemployed nurses protesting a Bangladesh Public Service Commission recruitment circular marched towards Bangladesh Secretariat from Central Shaheed Minar in the capital yesterday morning demanding postponing the exam scheduled for June 3.

Crossing Teacher-Student Centre and Jatiya Press Club, they faced a police barricade and sat in front of the secretariat from 11:30am to 5:00pm, demanding that this be the last time previous selection criteria be followed -- year of graduation, merit, and seniority.

"We are not against exams for recruitment, but it can be done from the next recruitment, not this time," Nahida Akhter, secretary general of Bangladesh Basic Graduate Nurses' Society, told this correspondent.

Nurses have been demonstrating since early April protesting the circular of March 28 on recruiting 3,616 senior nurses in public hospitals. The circular says applicants below the age of 36 and attaining Bachelor of Science and diploma in nursing had to take the exam.

Many of the nurses who have been waiting for public jobs since the last recruitment in 2013 are about to cross 36 years and might be deprived of jobs, say nurses under the banners of the society and Unemployed Diploma Nurses' Association.

Nahida said a delegation went to the secretariat and placed the demands. Health Minister Mohammed Nasim was not there and Additional Secretary Biman Kumar Basu

SEE PAGE 17 COL 6

UNION PARISHAD ELECTIONS 2016

Deaths, irregularities break past records: SHUJAN

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The number of deaths and extent of irregularities in the ongoing union parishad (UP) elections have broken all previous records in Bangladesh, claimed Shushashoner Jannoy Nagorik (SHUJAN) yesterday.

At least 101 people have been killed in electoral violence since announcement of the UP election schedule in February, the civil society organisation said in a statement.

Around 80 lives were lost in the 1988 UP

PHASE	DEATHS
One	21
Two	20
Three	22
Four	18
Five (not held yet)	20

March 22 in the first phase, 639 UPs on March 31 in the second phase, 615 UPs on April 23 in the third phase, and 703 UPs on May 8 in the fourth phase.

The fifth phase, in which 733 UPs will go to polls, is slated for May 28 and the sixth phase (724 UPs) for June 4.

Reading out the statement, SHUJAN central coordinator Dilip Kumar Sarker said partisan election, candidates' desperation for victory,

SEE PAGE 17 COL 5

AFFILIATIONS
40 Supporters of AL candidates
12 Supporters of AL rebels
2 Supporters of BNP candidates
31 Supporters of member candidates
4 Supporters of other candidates
12 General people

Five Moulvibazar men charged with war crimes

Decision on acceptance of charges June 9

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution yesterday pressed five specific charges against five people from Moulvibazar for crimes they allegedly committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

Prosecutors Sultan Mahmud Simon and Abul Kalam submitted the formal charges and relevant documents to the International Crimes Tribunal-1 through its registrar's office.

After receiving the documents, the three-member tribunal led by Justice Anwarul Haque fixed June 9 to decide whether to take the charges into cognisance.

Of the accused, Yunus Ahmed, 71, of Sonatiki and Ujer Ahmed Chowdhury, 63, of Goashpur village in Raznagar upazila are

now in jail, while Samsul Hossain Tarafder, 65, of Bagajura, alleged Al-Badr commander in the upazila, Nesar Ali, 75, of Jamura, and Mobarak Mia, 66, of the same upazila, are on the run.

Except for Samsul, all other accused were allegedly involved in the Razakar Bahini, the prosecution said.

Starting on October 12, 2014, the tribunal's investigation agency completed the probe against them on January 20 and said to have found evidence of their involvement in wartime crimes.

The charges are killing of Danu Mia, looting and torching of three houses and confinement of three people and abduction, confinement and torture of three

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

BARISAL BM COLLEGE

Common room crisis pushes females under open sky

M JAHIRUL ISLAM JEWEL, Barisal

Most of the female students of BM College in Barisal city have to sit under the open sky during breaks due to a shortage of space in the common room, which cannot accommodate more than 60 students.

Among 26,500 students of the college, which was established in 1889 in the heart of the city, half are female. Of them, more than 5,000 female students, studying under 22 honours and 19 master's programmes, visit the campus every day, said the college principal, SM Enamul Hakim.

During recess most female students have to sit outside as the common room is too small, he told The Daily Star.

Classes start at 8:30am and end at 4:00pm.

"We have to stay on the campus five to six hours a day, so it is important for us to take rest during recess between classes," said Mashriya Mitu, a student of Islamic history and culture.

"But our common room has many problems, space crisis being one of them. As a result most of the female students have to spend time standing or sitting outside," she added.

Tanzila Aktar, a student of political science, said she sits outside almost every day with her friends during breaks as getting a seat in the common room is quite difficult.

On the other hand, a long queue in front of the two toilets in the common room is a regular scenario, said a caretaker of the common room, adding, even the electric fans are not enough for the large number of

students.

Many female students also alleged that there is a shortage of newspapers in the common room. It keeps only two to three dailies, they said.

Those who come from distant places suffer most as they have to wait till the afternoon for the college bus to return home, said a group of female students, who come from Jhalakathi, 22km from the campus.

A bigger common room with adequate seating arrangements and other necessary facilities is a must, they said.

Recognising the problems, the principal said they are trying to manage another female common room as early as possible.

Facilities in the existing common room will be increased very soon, he added.



This is not some groups of students relaxing and having friendly banter to while away their idle time but they are forced to sit, eat, and take rest there during recess between classes at BM College in Barisal city, where there is only one common room with the capacity to accommodate not more than 60 female students. Around 13,000 female students are enrolled in graduate and post-graduate programmes at the institution, while more than 5,000 visit the college every day. PHOTO: ARIFUR RAHMAN

Tasty Tiger Prawns

Tiger Prawns or more locally known as Bagdah Chingri in Bangladesh are packed in nutrition and flavour and can be prepared with coconut (a form of curry dish), smashed and mixed with mustard oil and onions or cooked with a variety of vegetables such as potatoes, bottle gourds etc. Although prawns are known to cause allergies many still feel that food menus at ceremonies and festive occasions are considered incomplete without a dish of Tiger Prawns included.

Tiger prawns contain high amounts of protein and at the same time are extremely low in calories and fat. Very little spices and time is required to enhance the natural flavour as well as cook prawns respectively. This is a great option for those who are looking to shed a few pounds. Tiger prawns contain high amounts of Omega 3 Fatty acids that help reduce levels of blood pressure and improve circulation, fight against diseases such as Alzheimer's and Dementia and is good for the liver. They also contain high amounts of cholesterol but of the good kind that aids with the reduction levels of the bad kind of cholesterol. They contain vitamins B12 and E; the first contributes to the sharpness of memory and healthy veins and arteries whilst the latter protects against facial diseases and contributes to glowing skin. Tiger prawns also contain calcium and Selenium that promote healthy bones, teeth and reduces the growth of cancer cells in the body respectively.

Tiger Prawns is a great alternative to eating red meat and can be prepared in various different ways. It also makes eating healthy easier and yummier as well. So start eating, start with Tiger Prawns!

Rahim Rahman from Khulna regularly supplies Tiger Prawns to Shwapno and says that the process of harvesting them takes about two to three months. Initially Tiger Prawns are fished from different ponds when they are still small in size and then kept in ten by ten containers that are built in ponds for about two to three weeks. They are then transferred into make shift shallower ponds in fields until they fully mature. Every batch of Tiger Prawns is inspected on a monthly basis by dragging the nets out from the water. Bigger ones in size are separated from the smaller ones that are returned back to the ponds where they are farmed until they are big enough. Shwapno sends a team to inspect the shallow make shift ponds and then informs Rahim Rahman of which batch of Tiger prawns they want. They are then sent to the Shwapno outlets via trucks that have special freezing facilities.



Photo: Nadim Ul Alam