YESTERDAY'S **TEMPERATURES** 

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2nd edition

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COX'S BAZAR H 33.2 L 26.8

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:44pm and rises tomorrow at 5:11am. Country's highest temperature 37.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 23.4 degree in Srimangal.

#### No formalin found in apples, mangoes in Jatrabari

One vendor fined Tk 1 lakh for date-expired dates STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court yesterday found no formalin in 24 samples of mango and apple raiding different shops in the capital's Jatrabari.

However, the mobile court backed by Rab fined a shopowner Tk 1 lakh for storing and selling expired dates.

**Executive Magistrate** Sarwar Alam of Rab headquarters said Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI), who assisted during the raid, tested the samples at five shops of Uttar Kutubkhali Market. Sarwar, who led the drive, said the mobile court found fungus and tainted dates at Madina Phal Bhandar. The BSTI team also tested banana samples at different wholesale shops in Jatrabari and Kajla but no presence of chemical was found.



The month of Ramadan is even less than a week away. And the hawkers in Gulistan are preparing in full swing. They have converted almost an entire footpath into a shopping centre, while pedestrians, risking lives, are forced to use the street for movements, even though Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia on Wednesday said Gulistan area would be kept hawker free during the upcoming month of fasting for the Muslims. PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

# CU Zoology Museum wasting away

Fund shortage, lack of space, manpower dearth among main reasons; samples of rare animal species getting perished, claim students and teachers

MD ABBAS, CU

There is a room on the fourth floor of the faculty of science building, near the zoology department, on the Chittagong University campus, which is quite shabby and dusty, and at first glance looks like a storeroom with numerous jars and shelves crammed together.

Upon a closer look, the room suddenly becomes filled with broken skeletons and remains of dead animals, birds, reptiles and fish, preserved through taxidermy or in solutions inside big jars.

Many of these samples are either lying or kept on top of the glass-covered wooden shelves.

Curious, if you look around, you will notice a small rectangular signboard on the hallway wall, announcing that this 25 by 25 square feet room is actually a zoology museum.

Due to a lack of space inside the room, a number of glass showcases including one with a skeleton of a cow brought from Poland, another containing a taxidermied jackal and a Maya Horin (barking deer) have been kept in

the hallway outside the museum. Looking at the deer, one may wonder if it found in a similar condition. had albinism.

species (samples of which were taxidermied) as we cannot control the temperature of the room," said Assistant Prof Mohammad Abdul Wahed Chowdhury of the zoology department. Museum section officer Abdus Salam,

working in the museum since its opening in 1976, said the museum has about 5,000 preserved samples from 687 different animal species, of which at least 100 are rare.

However, due to improper preservation, lack of space, staff shortage and inadequate fund allocations, the valuable samples of different rare animal species are getting perished, claimed students and teachers of the department.

Visiting the museum, The Daily Star found that at least samples of 100 species were lying on the floor.

Some 150 samples, including the taxidermy of a 15 feet python lay on top of the shelves in the museum, gathering dust and losing its original colour and texture. Another 14 feet taxidermied King Cobra wrapped around a wooden stump was

Some skeletons and taxidermied sam-

"We could not stop bleaching of the ples of birds and reptiles were broken due to negligence. Also no stickers describing identity of the species were attached on the pots or jars. Showing a taxidermied pelican bird

> is the only preserved sample found in museums in the country. "Only one room has been allocated for the museum, which is inadequate for pre-

> which was kept in the hallway, Salam said it

serving all the samples properly," said Salam explaining why some of the samples were kept on the hallway. "We have sent letters several times to CU authority seeking two more rooms and

staff, but we have only received assurance," he added. The students also expressed their dissat-

isfaction over the space crisis. "Ninety percent of practical classes are held at the museum. But only 10 to 12 students can stand together while others have to remain outside," said Toukir Ahmed, a third year student of zoology.

The department stopped collecting samples as it has no space for preservation,

said Manzoorul Kibria, an associate professor. Fund crisis is another challenge the museum is facing.

Salam said last year the museum received an allocation of Tk 45,000, which was inadequate. "We need at least Tk 1 lakh every year," he added.

Prof Wahed, however, said more money is required to change the alcohol in the jars every three to four years for long term preservation.

Talking to The Daily Star, the department's Chairman Prof Gazi Azmat admitted that the museum is riddled with problems. "It (the museum) has the prospect to be a natural history museum as it is located in the Indo-Myanmar biodiversity zone," he said.

"We are preparing a list of our needs and recommendations for the museum and will contact the VC soon in this regard...all depends on the authority's good will," he said, adding, ranking of a university in foreign countries depends on these kinds of natural

Contacted, CUVice Chancellor Prof Iftekhar Uddin Chowdhury denied getting any letter with regards to increasing the allocation. He said he has already visited the museum and will take steps immediately after talking with museum authorities.



Left, this might look like a storeroom; but it's actually a museum, where preserved animals and samples are kept in a shabby and dusty condition due to a lack of space and inadequate fund allocation. So the CU zoology museum has to keep a number of glass showcases in the hallway exposed to all the natural elements.

# NEWS<sub>IN</sub> brief

#### CCCI to sell foodstuffs at subsidised price during Ramadan STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) yesterday launched a campaign of selling foodstuffs at subsidised prices for the people of low-income group during the month of Ramadan. Mahbubul Alam, president of CCCI, inaugurated

the campaign in front of the CCCI office in the port Under the scampaign, a person can buy one kg of sugar

at Tk 40 and one kg of rice at Tk 18, he said, adding, a person can buy at best 5kg of rice and one kg of sugar.

#### Youth's body found in Uttara STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a youth from an under construction building in the capital's Uttara Pachchim area last night. Identity of the deceased could not be known imme-

diately. Ali Hossain Khan, officer-in-charge of Uttara

Pachcim Police Station, told this correspondent that on information, they recovered the body, cladding a pant and shirt smeared with blood, from the thirdfloor of a seven-storied building at sector-10. His hands and legs were tied with ropes, he added.

#### JU syndicate polls today JU CORRESPONDENT

Elections to the teachers' representative in the syndicate, academic council and finance committee of Jahangirnagar University will be held today at JU Teachers Club. Teachers will vie for 13 posts, six for syndicate in six

categories and one for finance committee and six for academic councils in three categories; and 28 teachers, among whom two are independent candidates, will contest from two panels. Pro-Awami League (AL) teachers will contest under

the banner of "Bangabandhur Adarsha o Muktijuddher Chetonay Bishwashy Progotisheel Shikhok Somaj", and pro-BNP, left leaning and two factions of AL teachers will jointly contest under the banner of "Sommilito Shikhokh Somaj", teachers' sources said.

Some BNP teachers withdrew their candidacies because of the alliance between the two factions of AL teachers and the BNP faction, they added.

#### Yet again man held at Dhaka airport smuggling gold in rectum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials yesterday morning detained a person with eight gold bars weighing around 800 gram inside his body at the capital's Hazrat Shahjalal International

Tipped-off, officials held Mohammad Kamal of Comilla after he arrived at the airport from Kuala Lumpur, said customs authorities. The gold bars, around Tk 40 lakh, were inside his rectum, they said adding, they suspect that Kamal might be linked to a gold smuggling racket.

#### Seminar on governance held at JU

JU CORRESPONDENT

A daylong seminar on "Governance in Bangladesh and Non-State Actors" was held at JU Senate Bhaban yesterday, organised by Government and Politics department of Jahangirnagar University.

Held in five panels, 30 articles were presented in the seminar.

# Nasir president, Ziad gen secy of **Old Faujians Association**

CITY DESK



cadets of Faujderhat Cadet College, re-elected

The annual general meeting

of Old Faujians Association

(OFA), Dhaka chapter, an

alumni organisation of ex-

Ziad

Nasir Mohammed Nasir Uddin Chowdhury as president, and elected Ziad Hossain as general secretary for the 2016-18 EC committee on May 27.

# Obituary



CITY DESK

Chemon Ara Begum, wife of late Idris, former chairman of BSCIC, and mother of

Eng AFM Nazmul Hossain Chowdhury and Lt Gen ASM Nasim died on Thursday. She was buried at the

Banani military graveyard Her qulkhawni will be held today after the Asr prayers at New DOHS Zamee Maszid in the capital's Mohakhali.

### President

FROM PAGE 3 Referring to newspaper reports that many people are languishing in jail without committing any crime or after expiry of jail terms due to lack of proper steps, Hamid said these types of incident affected the victims or their families and also created obstacles in establishing rule of law. He called for the support of all for a remedy.

# Govt downsizes afforestation

25 percent of its total land area covered with forests to maintain the ecological balance. A joint report of the Forest Department and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) says 78 percent of forest areas in Bangladesh are "disturbed".

Talking to the news agency ahead of World Environment Day today, Chief Conservator of Forest (CCF) Md Yunus Ali said they could not achieve the target for lack of proper plans, initiatives, effective programmes and some other reasons.

increase the forest coverage to 15 percent by 2021, as their afforestation programmes were "progressing well". The CCF, however, said the forest cover-

age would be 21 percent by 2021 if they could bring the vast forest areas in the Chittagong Hill Tracts under afforestation programmes. He said 80 percent areas of the around 7

lakh hectares of forest land in the CHT, which is now under Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council, had turned barren due to shifting (jhum) cultivation and indiscriminate tree felling.

Yunus said they had already submitted 12 proposals to the government to reinforce their afforestation programmes. "If

half of our proposals are accepted, we'll get a huge success in our afforestation drive."

Replying to a question, the CCF said there was 17.4 percent forest coverage in 1947 in Bangladesh part. Due to various reasons, including setting up establishments of army, navy, Border Guard Bangladesh, and Coast Guard as well as construction of national highways, interupazila roads, around 4 lakh acres of forest land have vanished since independence of the country, he said.

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolan (Bapa) general secretary MA Matin said the Forest He hoped that they would be able to Department could not play any effective role in checking deforestation activities like illegal logging, indiscriminate tree felling and forest land enforcement. "There're still big sawmills near every forest of the country those are mainly used by illegal loggers.

Environmentalist and director of Society for Environment and Human Development (SEHD) Philip Gain said the country's forest coverage had shrunk to nearly 6 to 7 percent now from 20 percent in 1927.

He said a massive expansion of commercial shrimp culture had taken a heavy toll on forest land. "Around 2 lakh hectares of forest land in coastal areas were destroyed by making shrimp enclosures."

#### Death anniversary CITY DESK



Today is the 16th death anniversary of Begum Lutfunnessa Ibrahim, wife of late justice

Mohammed Ibrahim. On this occasion, a milad

mahfil will be held in the morning at her residence. Food will be distributed

among the destitute, and floral wreaths will be placed at her grave in the Banani graveyard.

Atiqur Rahman CITY DESK



28th death anniversary of Atiqur Rahman, a freedom fighter and

Today is the

the founding president of Dhaka city unit of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal.

On this occasion, a dua mahfil will be held at the Banani graveyard today.

## বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল করপোরেশন বিএসইসি ভবন

১০২,কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ,ঢাকা-১২১৫

#### বাস ও বড় বাস ভাড়ার দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল করপোরেশনের টংগী-বিএসইসি,মিরপুর-বিএসইসি,ডেমরা-বিএসইসি,নারায়ণগঞ্জ-

বিএসইসি ক্লটের ক্লর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারীদের আনা-নেয়ার জন্য ৪(চার)টি মিনিবাস ও পঞ্চবটি-বিএসইসি ক্লটের জন্য ১(এক)টি বড়বাস ভাড়া গ্রহনের নিমিত্ত নিম্লুলিখিত শর্তে ও নির্ধারিত টেন্ডার সিডিউলে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে ঃ

21	মঞ্জালয়	[학원 유럽의]학자
21	প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম	বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল করপোরেশন
91	প্রতিষ্ঠানের e-mail & website ঠিকানা	E-mail:bsecheadoffice@gmail.com & Website: www.bsec.gov.bd
81	দরপত্র নং ও তারিখ	বিএসইসি/সিএস/পরি-০১০৮ তারিখ ০১-০৬-২০১৬
¢١	ভাড়ার বিবরণ	৪(চার)টি মিনিবাস ও ১(এক)টি বড়বাস ভাড়া (২০১০ এর পূর্বে তৈরী/মডেলের কোন গাড়ি গ্রহনযোগ্য হইবে না)
৬।	দরপত্র সিডিউল এর মূল্য	৩০০/-(তিনশত) টাকা মাত্র (অফেরৎযোগ্য)। প্রতিটি রুটের জন্য আলাদ সিডিউল ক্রয় করিতে হইবে
٩١	দরপত্রে অংশগ্রহণের যোগ্যতা	গাড়ি সরবরাহে নৃন্যতম ০৪ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন ব্যক্তি ও প্রতিষ্ঠান দরপরে অংশগ্রহণ করিতে পারিবেন
ъ١	দরপত্র সিডিউল প্রান্তির স্থান	অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে হিসাব বিভাগ(বিএসইসি ভবন,২য় তলা)-এ পাওয় যাইবে।
91	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	২৬-০৬-২০১৬ তারিখ পর্যন্ত যে কোন কার্যদিবসে সকাল ৯-০০ টা হইতে দুপু ১-০০ টা পর্যন্ত।
301	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	২৭-০৬-২০১৬ তারিখ বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকা পর্যস্ত সাধারণ কর্মশাখা(বিএসইবি ভবন, ৩য় তলা) এ রক্ষিত টেভার বক্সে দরপত্র দাখিল করিতে হইবে
77 1	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান •	২৭-০৬-২০১৬ তারিখ বেলা ১২-১৫ ঘটিকায় সাধারণ কর্মশাখা প্রধান এর অফিস্কক্ষে (বিএসইসি ভবন ৩য় তলা) দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ থাকেন দরপ্রত্র খোলা হইবে

অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ নির্দিষ্ট তারিখে দরপত্র গ্রহণ/খোলা সম্ভব না হইলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে একই সময়ে ও স্থানে যথারীতি

দরপত্র গ্রহণ/খোলা হইলেং- বিএসইসি/পিআরিডি/. ১১১. ত্রিকিল কর্মত গ্রহণ/খোলা হইলেং- বিএসইসি/পিআরিডি/. ১১১. ত্রিকিল (সা.এম.জিয়াউল হক) ব্যবস্থাপক (সিএস এন্ড এস্টেট) OP06866