

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES DHAKA H 33.2 L 27.9 CHITTAGONG H 33.2 L 26.0 SYLHET H 33.5 L 26.9 RAJSHAHI H 36.0 L 27.6 KHULNA H 30.5 L 27.5 BARISAL H 29.5 L 27.0 RANGPUR H 34.2 L 27.4 COX'S BAZAR H 31.0 L 25.0

Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:49pm and rises tomorrow at 5:21am. Country's highest temperature 36.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and the lowest 24.5 in Teknaf.



Ex-MP Ali Reza passes away

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole Ali Reza Raju, a former lawmaker, died from kidney diseases in the capital's United Hospital yesterday, aged 71. He had been kept on a life support for the last several days, said his brother Rajek Ahmed. He left behind his wife, two sons, and two daughters. Born in 1945 in Jessore Sadar upazila, the former district Awami League president was elected MP from Jessore-3 constituency in 1996. Raju had also long been with BNP. President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed deep shock at his death, reports BSS.



A member of a Sundarbans-based notorious robber gang surrendering weapons to Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal yesterday at Mongla Port.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

NEWS IN brief

Minister visits site for Chittagong Medical University

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg Minister for Housing and Public Works Mosharraf Hossain yesterday visited Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) area to see the initially selected site for the construction of the proposed Chittagong Medical University (CMU). There were 83 acres of land in the peripheral area of CMCH, most of which were unused; so an ideal campus for the CMU can be founded there, he said. Principal of CMC Dr Selim Muhammad Jahangir was present, among others.

New high commissioner presents credentials to Pak president

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT Newly appointed High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Pakistan Tarik Ahsan presented his credentials to Pak President Mamnoon Hussain at his office in Islamabad on Thursday, said a press release. On the occasion, the president attached importance to more interactions between the two countries to resolve any differences. He also emphasised the need for increased efforts in promoting trade and cultural cooperation and suggested exchange of trade delegations, participation in trade fairs in each other's country and exchange of cultural troupes.

3 JMB women sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail Three female JMB members were sent to jail after the expiry of their three days' remand yesterday. Jannati alias Jemmy, 18, Sajida Akter, 22, and Rozina Begum, 30, were arrested in Kalihati upazila in Tangail on July 5. Law enforcers seized two machetes, one knife, a cellphone containing videos of techniques to slit human throat, and a script containing methods of making bombs from them. During interrogation, the women confessed to being involved with JMB, said Mohammad Akheruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Kalihati Police Station.

Imam found dead in house

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali An imam was found dead in his house in Sadar upazila of Noakhali yesterday. Police recovered the body of Jahirul Hoque Jahir, 48, of Krishnarampur of Ward No-4 in Noakhali municipality. His younger son first found him dead with his throat slit, Sudharam Model Police Station Officer-in-Charge Anwar Hossain quoted Jahir's wife as saying. The body was sent to Noakhali Medical College Hospital morgue for an autopsy.



Bangladesh Ambassador to Switzerland Shamim Ahasan hands over Bangla text books to the children of Bangladeshi expatriates in Zurich on Saturday. Parliament Member of Switzerland Angelo Barrile and Swiss Aid Officer Mathias Haupt were present among others at the ceremony. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Two Sundarbans robbery gangs surrender

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat Two groups of Sundarbans-based robbers yesterday surrendered to Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal with 25 firearms and over 1,000 bullets. The gangs' kingpins Moznun Gazi and Ilias Gazi along with nine others formally surrendered to the minister at an event held by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-8 at Mongla Port. The nine others are Babul Hasan, Jahangir Morol, Idris Ali, Ismail Gazi, Monju Sheikh, Robiul Islam, Abul Kalam Azad, Enamul Sarder, and Nasir Hossain, said Lt Col Faridul Alam, commanding officer of Rab-8, adding that the robbers were very dangerous and active. They are in police custody now, said Monjur Elahi, sub-inspector of Mongla police. The minister commended the robbers on their surrender and realisation that they had chosen a wrong path in life. Warning miscreants of taking stern action, he also stressed the need for making the Sundarbans safe for fishermen and honey collectors in western parts of the Sundarbans for the last couple of years, said a leader of local Trawler Owners' Association on condition of anonymity. He mentioned that the robbers used to rob fishermen of their fishes and kidnap them for ransom. There are many other gangs in different parts of the forest, he added. According to Rab sources, 167 Sundarbans-based robbers were killed in gunfights with Rab personnel in the last five years, and 38 of them were ringleaders. Talking to journalists, the ringleaders said they were inspired to surrender after seeing the members of another robber gang, Master Bahini, surrender to the minister on May 31.

Barisal: No longer a clean city

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal activist. Even though Barisal city, fondly known as the "Venice of the east", is blessed with natural beauties and canals and is a fast growing city of the country, its splendor continues to get tarnished due to rampant garbage dumping, lack of timely collection of waste and indifference of authorities concerned regarding the issue, allege residents. The city is being tuned into a trash destination as the corporation's staff rarely collects garbage on time and most of the trash bins remain overflowed and people keep on dumping waste on the street corners, they said. Overflowing of garbage around the city streets, residential and important areas are not only causing untoward nuisance for the pedestrians, residents, office goers and students, it has also polluted the environment in and around the area. During a recent visit to the city's Sadar road, Amanatgonj, Kawnia, College Avenue, and Bhatikhana areas, this correspondent saw piles of garbage assembling every other corner. Even in front of the Planet World City Park, a recreational park for children, it was a common scene. Stenches were also coming from the piled up garbage, creating an unhygienic situation. "Beauty of our city in being destroyed, and Barisal is turning to a city of garbage," said Manabendra Batabayal, a cultural

Oil spillage in Karnaphuli as tankers collide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg Over 5,000-6,000 litres of diesel spilled into the Karnaphuli river as two oil tankers collided in the river around a week ago, an enquiry of the Department of Environment (DoE) has found. The oil spilled into the river from oil tanker Arzu as it developed a crack after being hit by another oil tanker, Mercantile-19, near Dangarchar around 10:00pm on July 9. The oil was hardly visible in the river the next day as it was washed into the sea during ebb tide, said Kamrul Hasan, senior chemist of the DoE in Chittagong, who visited the spot after the accident. Several locals and boatmen also echoed the same view. "We primarily estimated that around five to six thousand litres of oil had spilled into the river, but its quantity could be high," said Azadur Rahman Mallick, director of



Once clean and sanitary Barisal city has been turned into a garbage destination as piles of waste are being dumped at various corners of the streets for insufficient trash bins and lack of on time garbage collection by the authorities concerned. This corporation's truck on Shitakhola Road was collecting garbage around yesterday noon although it was supposed to do the job by six in the morning. PHOTO: ARIFUR RAHMAN

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয় বিদেশী ভাষা প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র স্থাপন প্রকল্প

ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি ইংরেজি, আরবি, কোরিয়ান, জাপানি, ফরাসি ও চীনা ভাষায় প্রশিক্ষণ কোর্স ন্যূনতম যোগ্যতা : এসএসসি/সমমান বিশেষ বৈশিষ্ট্য

Greens firm on saving Lawachhara

FROM PAGE 4 "To make the rail communication safer, we have to cut the trees, there is no other option. But the number of trees would be less than 25,000," he said. Joly Paul, president of the Lawachhara andolon, said, "Railway authorities can make tracks a lot safer by shifting it out of the forest. But it seems the move is a ploy to sell the timbers," she added. She said they are also planning a large-scale protest to save the forest. Md Nurul Mohamain Milton, general secretary of the Environmentalist Journalist Forum, said greenery from the national forest was already on the decline due to construction of several roads through the forest. "Public transportation is not allowed through reserve forests in any part of the world. But here, it exists and has caused deaths of many wild animals," said Abdul Karim Kim, general secretary of Bapa, Sylhet chapter. "For more than 10 years we have appealed to the government to move the tracks out of the forest, but we have been ignored," he said. Asked, Mihir Kumar Doe, divisional forest officer for the wild-life management and nature conservation department, said, "Biodiversity of the forest will be threatened, if the trees were felled."

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার প্রধান প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, জনসংযোগ প্রকল্প কোষ, গণপূর্ত অধিদপ্তর, পূর্ত ভবন, ঢাকা, www.pwd.gov.bd

JOINT VENTURE LAND WANTED @ Dhanmondi, Lalmatia Niketon, Eskaton Uttara- 1,3,7 sector Moghbazar, Kalabagan Segunbagicha, Wari Middlemen are also encouraged