



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 31.9°C L 27.8

CHITTAGONG H 31.9°C L 27.0

SYLHET H 32.4°C L 26.0

RAJSHAHI H 32.8°C L 27.3

KHULNA H 31.5°C L 27.8

BARISAL H 30.9°C L 27.2

RANGPUR H 29.5°C L 26.0

COX'S BAZAR H 30.5°C L 25.5

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:47pm and rises tomorrow at 5:24am. Country's highest temperature 33.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and the lowest 24.2 degree Celsius in Jessore.

2 NARAIL MEN'S CASE ICT wants probe report on war crimes Oct 5

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday directed the prosecution to submit an investigation report, if any, on October 5 in a case against two Narail men for allegedly committing crimes in 1971 Liberation War.

Yesterday was fixed for submitting investigation report but Prosecutor Rezia Sultana Chaman prayed for three months time, which was granted by the three-member tribunal led by Justice Anwarul Haque.

The accused -- Abdul Wahab and Omar Ali Sheikh-- are in jail.

The investigation against the duo started on March 21 this year and the investigation officer has already found their involvement in two incidents of killings committed in 1971, according to the prosecution.



It is hard to believe but the pit is in the very close vicinity of the capital's Ahmedbag Govt Primary School. Though it has been in this state for quite a long time, the efforts to cover the pit are not taken with sincerity, which might cause a tragic accident involving the schoolchildren or anybody else. The photo was taken yesterday morning.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HUQ

Nahid urges teachers to help fight militancy

BSS, Dhaka

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday urged teachers to play a 'pro-active role' in supplementing the government efforts to root out terrorism from the society.

"Teachers must inquire into movement and attitudes of their students to avoid their involvement with destructive activities," he told a peace rally against terrorism at Krishibid Institution in the capital.

Director General of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Dr SM Wahiduzzaman President of Bangladesh Public University Parishad Prof Dr Md Alauddin, cultural personality Ramendu Majumder among others, addressed the rally with Vice Chancellor of National University Prof Dr Harun-Or-Rashid in the chair.

Nearly 1,200 principals from different colleges across the country took part in the rally.

Nahid also urged parents to remain vigilant about their children to avoid their involvement in destructive activities.

Only enforcement of law cannot combat terrorism and militancy. Social movement is a must for it, he added.

Nahid asked the authorities concerned to inquire into unauthorised absence of students for more than 10 days at a stretch.

He said a vested quarter is launching a conspiracy to misguide students through misinterpreting Islam to gain their ill-motive. He urged all including teachers and parents to resist the anti-state conspirators.

The minister said the defeated forces of the Liberation War are active to create instability in Bangladesh while the country is progressing fast under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Spread solar power tech availability

Experts tell DU seminar

DU CORRESPONDENT

Solar energy should be low-priced, poor friendly and government-subsidised, and its consumption should be expanded on large scale, experts told a seminar at Dhaka University on Wednesday.

Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies (IDMVS) of DU, Bangladesh Open University (BOU) and University of Helsinki in Finland jointly organised the seminar titled "Solar energy in the context of sustainable market" at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Building of DU.

At present, the daily average generation of non-renewable energy in Bangladesh is 7,500MW, while the renewable energy accounts for only 405MW, said Prof Khandaker Mokaddam Hossain, BOU pro-vice chancellor.

"A huge imbalance between renewable and non-renewable sources is prevailing, as only 5-7 percent of the total power is produced from renewable sources. So the amount should be increased to 30-40 percent..." he headed.

Mokaddam further mentioned that apart from the household consumption, solar energy should be used in automobiles, transportation, small industries, primary health care units and construction work as well.

Md Khalid Hasan, associate professor at IDMVS, said, "We have to ensure low-cost solar energy facilities for the poor, farmers and small manufacturing businesses. So storage facility and cost-effectiveness of solar energy need to be developed, and the government should continue subsidising this sector."

As 99 percent of solar power comes from sunlight, it is less polluted and environmen-

CHALLENGES	
Most people unaware of benefits of solar power	High investment cost, long payback period
High price of solar power	Lack of popular interest in installing solar panels
Small market shares	Poor storage facilities
Dearth of adequate government subsidies	
RECOMMENDATIONS	
Apprising people of its benefits	Taking promotional activities
Ensuring uniform rules in all areas	Installing in both commercial and residential areas
Providing post-purchase services	Ensuring reliable, comparative price of packages
Maintaining coherent commitments towards developing solar power	Developing solar energy storage systems
Maintaining balance among different sources of energy	

tally friendly. So we have to expand it on large scale..." said Dr Mahbuba Nasreen, IDMVS director, while talking about the importance of solar energy in the country.

Md Abdul Hai, scientific researcher of New Energy Academy Project at University of Helsinki, talked about handling of the challenges of solar community concept in Finland.

The speakers at the programme congratulated Prof Nasreen on winning the Mary Fran Myers Award - 2016.

She has a long and distinguished career as a researcher and consultant in the fields of gender and development, gender and disaster, food security, reproductive health, violence against women and climate change.

'TORTURE ON KADAR' Verdict on OC's appeal on July 27

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday fixed July 27 to deliver its judgment on an appeal against a verdict that sentenced former police officer Md Helal Uddin to three years' imprisonment for torturing a former Dhaka University student.

On May 17, 2015, the verdict was delivered in Helal's absence. The court on May 31, 2015 sent Helal to jail on surrender.

Then a student of bio-chemistry and molecular biology, Kadar was detained on charges of robbery while he was returning to his dormitory around 1:30am on July 16, 2011.

Later, police implicated Kadar in three false cases. But following media outcry, the High Court on July 28 ordered the police to probe into the incident.

Three officials of Khilgaon Police Station, including OC Helal, were suspended and Kadar was released on bail on August 3. Kadar was acquitted of all the charges in 2012. He sued Helal on January 23, 2012 for torturing him and filing the false cases.

Of rotten mangoes and delectable drinks

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

Juicing mangoes at home instead of giving in to your child's demands for those brightly coloured packets containing processed ones might just work in your favour.

Thanks to an alarm raised by a group of the detective branch (DB) of police running a road checkpoint in Rajshahi yesterday, some 200 maunds of rotten mango was discovered inside a plant of Hashem Agro Processing Limited, a concern of Sajeb Group, which manufactures Shezan, a brand of mango drinks.

The mangoes were promptly buried by a mobile court, which also fined the plant at Chobhisnagar village of Rishikul union Tk 2 lakh for intending to use those.

"Of course these cheap mangoes are putrid and rotten. It will not suffice if I just say these were substandard. None will consume these," said Executive Magistrate Monir Hossain of Godagari upazila who led the court with police assistance and realised the fine.

However, the plant's manager, Nurul Karim, claimed that suppliers had brought the mangoes inside their premises and the plant's quality controller was yet to go through those before giving a decision on whether those were fit for purchase.

He also alleged that the executive magistrate was decided on imposing a fine even before conducting the raid and had not given them the scope to explain the matter and

defend themselves.

With the season's-end varieties available for no less than Tk 100 per kilogramme, local orchard owners say such manufacturers pay as low as Tk 15 per kilogramme for mangoes they discard for having no market demand.

The DB men at the Sadhu intersection of the upazila headquarters had stopped four improvised three-wheelers in the morning detecting a stench coming from their cargo of 200 maunds of mango, which was later destroyed.

When the drivers informed the processing plant to be their destination, the DB men informed local police, who in turn called in the mobile court which raided the plant, said Godagari Police Station Officer-in-Charge SM Forhad Hossain.

"I asked the factory manager and some other staff if they would consume these mangoes," the executive magistrate told The Daily Star. The reply in the negative was immediate.



Think before you drink! Some 200 maunds of these rotten and putrid mangoes were seized from a plant, manufacturing Shezan, a brand of mango drinks, by a mobile court, which later buried the fruits yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

DSCC opens tender for twelve cattle markets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) yesterday opened the tender for 12 makeshift cattle markets in the city ahead of the Eid-ul-Azha and got the highest bid of around Tk 1.55 crore for the space at Sadeque Hossain Khoka playground.

Among the other markets, the highest bid of Tk 75 lakh was put in for the space at Jatrabari Kanchabazar and Tk 20 lakh for the open spaces adjacent to Kamalapur Stadium.

For the first time, these two cattle markets are going to be set up in the areas.

Dhaka South City Corporation Chief Estate Officer Mohammad Khalid Ahmed opened the tender at Nagar Bhaban.

He said there were government-specified rates. If any bid was put in below the rates, then they would re-tender.



A portion of the ceiling of the old High Court building (west block) missing the false ceiling, which fell down yesterday morning, raising concerns among the prosecutors, whose office is situated there.

ICT prosecution

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of the office, said. "We are not feeling secured due to the condition of the building," he added.

"Our lives are now at risk. The authorities should do something immediately regarding our relocation from this building," said another prosecutor Tureen Afroz.

In the letter written to the law ministry yesterday, the chief prosecutor said that the two-storey building of the western block is "so dilapidated" that plasters of the ceiling have started to fall.

"Today [Thursday], the total false ceiling of the first floor of the old High Court building collapsed. There is a possibility that the building may collapse anytime like the Rana Plaza, causing casualties and damage of properties," the letter read.

"The public works department and experts think that this building can no longer be used. I personally also think so.... So, the office should be relocated from the risky building as soon as possible," the letter added.

PHOTO: TUNIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Police claim arrestee killed in 'crossfire'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Tongi police claimed that an accused of several cases including murder, robbery and extortion succumbed to gunshot wounds getting caught in a crossfire right after his arrest early yesterday.

Bagha Jewel, 25, son of late Sentu Ahmed of Brahmanbaria's Bancharampur upazila, was arrested at Duttapara-Bonomala road in Tongi of Gazipur during a raid around 3:45am following a tip-off, claimed Tongi Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Firoz Talukder.

His accomplices right afterwards shot at police, who retaliated, leading to a gunfight,

Chhatra Front also wants politics at pvt universities

DU CORRESPONDENT

Private university unit of a faction of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) yesterday demanded for allowing students to practice active political and cultural activities in all private universities through forming student organisations there.

Indronil Debnath and Toshon Dey, president and general secretary of the private university unit of SCF, made the demand at a press conference at Modhur Canteen of Dhaka University.

Debnath and Dey, both students of North South University, also demanded to hold student union polls immediately at all institutions, including the private universities.

Earlier, Bangladesh Chhatra League and Bangladesh Chhatra Union also demanded student politics at the private universities.

They also demanded to include arts, social sciences and environment and life sciences departments' at all private universities.

Nasir Uddin Prince, general secretary of central unit of SCF, also spoke.



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md Shahriar Alam and newly appointed Minister of State for External Affairs of India MJ Akbar shake hands as the former meets him in New Delhi yesterday. Shahriar is on a three-day visit to India to attend Bimstec Business Forum meeting.

PHOTO: COLLECTED