

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 33.6 L 27.8	H 31.6 L 27.0	H 31.9 L 26.2	H 35.4 L 26.8	H 34.6 L 27.3	H 33.6 L 27.0	H 35.2 L 27.4	H 30.5 L 26.5

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at most places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Sylhet, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka and Mymensingh divisions in the next 24 hours till 6:00pm today. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:27pm and rises tomorrow at 5:36am.

## Bangladeshis above 65 to get 5yrs Indian multiple visas

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India has decided to increase the duration of tourist visas from one year to five years with multiple entry facilities for Bangladeshis aged above 65 years.

The decision has been taken in pursuance of the government's stated policy for easing visa norms for promotion of tourism, said an official statement on Friday night.

Indian Missions in Bangladesh will henceforth extend this facility to the Bangladeshi applicants, it added.

This initiative will further strengthen the bilateral relationship between India and Bangladesh and intensify people-to-people contact, the statement said.

## Dhaka bKash outlet looted, staff shot

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified muggers stormed into a bKash outlet and allegedly looted Tk 4 lakh after shooting a staff in the capital's Bhatara area yesterday.

Jahirul Islam Jahir, 25, an employee of Masud Enterprise at Nurer Chala Bazar, was hospitalised. Jewel Khan, brother of shop owner Selim Khan, said three armed men stormed the shop around 10:30am and opened fire, while three others were outside the shop. They snatched a handbag of a sales representative of bKash, who was at the shop at that time, added Jewel.

Later they shot Jahir in the legs and took away the money, he added.



Dignitaries at the fourth Youth Leadership Summit (YLS) organised by Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC) at the International Convention City, Bashundhara in the capital. The three-day summit with the theme "connect, collaborate and co-create", concluded yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

# Youths will make change happen

Say discussants at BYLC leadership summit

CITY DESK

The youths have the biggest stake in the future as it is the young leaders who will make the changes and make sure that the new sustainable development goals have been met for everyone, said Jane Edmondson, DFID country representative.

"The new sustainable development goals look forward to a world where the goals have been met for everyone. ...And it is the young leaders who will make it happen, here in Bangladesh and worldwide," she said.

She was addressing the opening ceremony of the fourth Youth Leadership Summit (YLS) organised by Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center on Thursday at the International Convention City, Bashundhara in the capital, with the theme "Connect, Collaborate and Co-create", which concluded yesterday.

Around 400 students from over 2,700 applications from 60 countries were selected for the admission process, said a BYLC press release.

With financial support from UKAid, YLS brought together university students and young profession-

als from seven countries for three days of exploration, leadership training and networking.

"The summit facilitates intergenerational dialogue which is critical in finding innovative solutions to the problems we are facing as a society," said Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA, chairperson, BYLC, at the opening ceremony.

Speaking as the chief guest, Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, said, "BYLC is doing the important work of building bridges...and creating a shared vision for our future."

Other speakers at the opening ceremony included, Prime Minister's International Affairs Advisor, Gowher Rizvi, and State Minister for Youth and Sports Dr Biren Sikder, where Sir Christopher Ball, former Warden of Keble College, Oxford University, gave the keynote speech.

This year's leadership faculty included Ejaz Ahmad, founder and president of BYLC, and Harvard professors Dr Dean Williams and Dr Hugh O'Doherty.

Manzoor Hasan OBE, founding board mem-

ber and former chairperson, BYLC, chaired a session on leadership in an inter-connected world where US Ambassador to Bangladesh Marcia Bernicat and CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Bangladesh Abrar Anwar, spoke.

Chairing a panel on the changing landscape of tertiary education in the 21st century, Gowher Rizvi remarked, "Being the best in the nation is no longer enough, young people now have the challenge of being exceptional global citizens".

Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque chaired a plenary on investing in the next generation.

Other discussants included Annisul Huq, mayor, Dhaka North City Corporation; Pradeep Singh, deputy dean and CEO, Mohali Campus of the Indian School of Business (ISB); Saima Chowdhury, board member of BYLC and CEO of Noi Solutions; David Hasanat, CEO of Viyellatex Group; and Kamran Bakr, chairman of Unilever.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police, Elite Force, Renata Limited, Adcomm Limited, Majumder Group, Abdul Monem Limited, F-commerce platform Shop Up, and Aamra Limited were the partners.

## Dr Kamal launches nat'l unity platform

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The formation of a new citizens' platform with eminent jurist and Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain as convener was announced yesterday along with its plans to arrange a dialogue in the capital in November to forge unity over national fundamental issues.



Forward Party Convener ABM Mostafa Amin, member secretary of the new body, Jatiya Oikya Prokriya, told The Daily Star after a press conference at Jatiya Press Club making the announcement that they wanted to forge unity among people over 14 issues.

Awami League's former organising secretary Sultan Mohammad Mansur Ahmed, National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Electricity and Port convener Md Shahidullah and Shaheed Shamsul Alam Khan Milon's mother Selina Akhter were present.

Prof Ajoy Roy, Bikalpa Dhara National Committee Member Secretary Maj (ret) Abdul Mannan and former Awami League leader SM Akram are also involved with the convening committee. Jatiya Party Co-Chairman GM Quader termed it a "pressure group"... "to force (the government) to govern the country as per the constitution".

All constitutional and statutory bodies are to be strengthened and made effective and neutral, honest, competent and experienced persons will be appointed in all constitutional bodies as per the laws and rules, reads one of the 14.

A "constitution scrutiny commission" is to be formed with representatives from all sections of society and necessary amendments to the constitution will be brought as per the commission's recommendations to reflect people's aspiration, says another.

## Youths key to SDG attainment

The Daily Star, UNFPA roundtable told

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Engaging youths is a must to eradicate poverty and achieve the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, said speakers yesterday at a roundtable discussion.

The discussion, "The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production", was held in Barisal BDS auditorium, participated by government representatives, and civil society members among others. It was organised by The Daily Star and United Nations Population Fund.

To achieve the sustainable development, it is important to make decisions on the resource allocations while keeping the interests of future generations in mind, they added.

Employment for youths based on merits, needs of family and society, moral and standard education could ensure proper engagement of youth, the speakers stressed.

Shamim Ahmed, public health expert, Dr Muhammad Munir Hussain, national programme officer, UNFPA, Dr Ikhtiar Uddin Khandaker, head of health programme, Plan International, Bangladesh, Jebunnesa Afroz, AL lawmaker from Barisal, Dr Gazi Md Saifuzzaman, deputy commissioner, AHM Ruhul Amin, Barisal metropolitan police commissioner, and Saidur Rahman Rintu, Sadar upazila chairman, spoke.

# Moral education can help curb militancy

IUB views-exchange meeting told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ensuring amicable relations between students and teachers and providing moral education can play an important part in keeping the students away from militancy, viewed guardians of private university students yesterday.

The guardians recommended the university authorities provide dormitory facilities to the students coming to the capital city from different parts of the country so that they can closely oversee them.

They made the recommendations at a views-exchange meeting held by Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) on its campus in the capital's Bashundhara.

"Apart from offering routine courses, the teachers can also teach them moral education on militancy resistance. An academic course could be launched in this regard," opined Abdul Ali, a guardian, adding that

both teachers and students needed to maintain good ties between themselves.

IUB Vice Chancellor Prof M Omar Rahman said it was our responsibility to take care of the students, and the guardians, too, would have to come forward.

"Talk to your children every day and know about their studies and activities. You can also seek information from us if you want..." the VC urged the guardians.

Mentioning that their students are learning morality, he said the university already introduced a course on ethics and moral education.

Rahman mentioned that the authorities were now thinking of providing residence facilities to the students and would hold such meetings at least once every year.

Brig Gen (ret) Anwarul Islam, registrar of the university, said their faculty members were friendly to their students and that they took all the necessary security measures for them.

## GM crop

FROM PAGE 4 consuming such crops at present. "Let those who have an abundance of land go for the luxury. We are going with this sort of luxury but we will be careful," she said.

There is no proof that GM crops the government gave nod to earlier caused deaths and without proof, nothing will be accepted, she said.

Replying to a question on land use policies, Matia said the government cannot force the owners of land belonging to the private sector.

Forcing private sector to follow certain land zoning or land use system is next to impossible, she said adding the government was taking steps to promote agriculture in the south.

She said the ministry gives emphasis on introducing improved varieties of rice for cultivation during Aman and Aus season to increase rice production.



Discussants at a roundtable on engaging youths to achieve sustainable development in Barisal's BDS auditorium yesterday, jointly organised by The Daily Star and United Nations Population Fund.

PHOTO: STAR



Denouncing militancy and communalism, journalists form a human chain in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Turn sorrow into strength

FROM PAGE 1 Bangladesh free from terrorism and militancy.

She made the call in a message on the eve of the 12th anniversary of the brutal grenade attack on an Awami League rally on Bangabandhu Avenue that killed some 24 AL leaders and activists.

"My expectation on this day is that we would establish Sonar Bangla as dreamt by the Father of the Nation by eliminating militancy," she said.

The main objective of the grenade attack was to frustrate the country's independence, democracy, peace and progress, added the PM.

Hasina said although it was the moral responsibility of the then government to bring the killers to book, the BNP-Jamaat government tried its level best to protect them.

"Investigations later revealed that many of the players belonging to the BNP-Jamaat alliance were directly involved in the attack."

Terming August 21 a black day in the country's history, she said: "The killers carried out the barbaric attack in the broad daylight on an anti-militancy rally of Awami League on Bangabandhu Avenue to kill me under the patronage of the then BNP-Jamaat alliance government."

She hoped killing, terrorism and militancy would end in the country forever and the rule of law would be established after holding of trial of the attackers, planners and patrons.

In the last seven and a half years, the AL government has turned Bangladesh into a role model of development in all sectors, she noted.

She expressed optimism that Bangladesh would become a middle income country before 2021 and a developed and prosperous country in 2041.

## No headway in probe

FROM PAGE 3

They also demanded those "threatening" the deceased's family over phone be arrested and a fair probe be conducted. Students of Kabi Nazrul College in old Dhaka held a rally on their campus, and urged all to join their march towards the home ministry and besiege district commissioners' offices tomorrow. Progressive Students' Alliance will hold a press conference today at Dhaka University.

Protests were also held yesterday in Afsana's home district Thakurgaon and Narayanganj. People from all walks of life formed a human chain at Pirganj intersection of Thakurgaon, organised by upazila unit of Bangladesh Chhatra Union, reports our Thakurgaon correspondent. In Narayanganj, Chhatra Union activists formed a human chain in front of Narayanganj Press Club, reports a correspondent.

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