

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 34.6 L 27.3	H 31.5 L 25.4	H 36.3 L 26.4	H 34.8 L 26.7	H 35.0 L 27.0	H 33.6 L 27.2	H 35.2 L 27.4	H 31.4 L 24.5

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Dhaka divisions and at one or two places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Mymensingh & Sylhet divisions in the next 24 hours. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:23pm and rises tomorrow at 5:38am.

Govt open to constructive criticism from media: PM

BSS, Dhaka

The government is never afraid of healthy criticism, said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday.

Everything good out of those criticism, she said the government will not hesitate to accept and correct its action.

She said these while distributing cheques of financial assistance and donation among journalists and their family members from Bangladesh Journalists Welfare Trust at her office in Dhaka yesterday.

Some 196 journalists who are suffering from various diseases, financially insolvent, and family members of the journalists who died in different incidents were given the donation and financial assistance.

Pointing out her government's steps for privatisation of electronic media the prime minister said everybody is enjoying the benefit of their pragmatic decisions. But, a section of people is using the media only for castigating the government.

Hasina said a draft for revival of the Newspaper Employees Services Condition Act

1974 in amended form is ready.

The premier urged the information minister to take necessary steps for announcing a new wage board for journalists.

She also assured completion of the trial of all cases related to killing of the journalists.

"... our media is enjoying the highest freedom now. But it's also required to maintain responsibility if you want to enjoy the freedom," Hasina said.

In this regard, she pointed out the "careless" live coverage of some television channels on terror attack in Holey Artisan Bakery in Gulshan in July, saying "our media sometimes occurs some incidents which really cause trouble for us."

Media should go through some policy which is applicable globally for such coverage, she said. She said the government has taken steps for professional training for journalists.

Meanwhile, Hasina said BNP as patron of all evil forces did not change its character at all, which the party has proved through inclusion of kith and keens of anti-liberation forces in its recently constituted central committee.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina distributes cheques of financial assistance and donation among journalists and their family members at her office in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO

DU student arrested as militant suspect

DU CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested a second-year botany student of Dhaka University on suspicion of his involvement with militancy.

Some students caught him on Mokarram Bhaban premises and handed him over to the proctorial team, which later took him to Shahbagh Police Station.

Four to five came to the chemistry department area of the bhaban in the morning and wanted to discuss Islamic views, raising suspicions, said Assistant Proctor Aftab Ali Sheikh.

The students then caught him, while the rest fled, he added.

3 Myanmarese among six held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Border Guard Bangladesh detained six people including three Myanmar nationals in Bolipara 33 BGB battalion headquarters area in Bandarban's Thanchi upazila yesterday.

The three Myanmar -- Mg Mg, 23, of Bu Thee Taung; Kyaw Than, 19, of Sittwe; and Nawang Nawang, 23, of Mung Taw area of Myanmar -- are suspected members of Myanmar's separatist group Arakan Army, said a BGB official seeking anonymity because he was not authorised to comment at that moment.

The arrested Bangladeshis used to secretly help Arakan Army members trespass and run terrorist activities in remote areas of the district, he said.

The three were Bai Wai Marma, 38, and Mang Chang Mro, 29, two local Awami League leaders and members of Remakri union parishad, and Hla Mong Marma, 27, a local of remote Boro Madok area.

BGB's Bolipara battalion commander Kamrul Islam said they were arrested on charges of trespassing and criminal activities. "We are interrogating them how and why they entered Bangladesh territory."

BGB claimed to have seized a huge amount of electronic products, medicines, clothes, 12 Bangladeshi national identity cards, one Myanmar national identity card, and Tk 2.5 lakh and 80,000 kyats. They were sent to Bandarban Sadar Police Station.

Last year the Arakan Army killed a BGB nayek in Boro Modak area, while Bangladesh forces arrested two suspected Arakan Army members in Rangamati.

WORKS ON KAKOLI-ABDULLAHPUR ROAD DNCC 'helpless' for lack of sole authority

Say officials at meeting with 26 govt departments

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) yesterday said it was unable to develop the Kakoli to Abdullahpur section of the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway although it fell under its purview as the Roads and Highways Department (RHD), responsible for construction and maintenance of the country's major roads, did not relinquish its authority over it.

"We could not knock down a dilapidated...concrete foot bridge. Neither could we conduct eviction drives (on land leased out by RHD) nor provide streetlights," said DNCC Chief Engineer Brig Gen Syed Anwarul Islam.

RHD Additional Chief Engineer Abdus Salam justified that they were running different projects on it.

Mayor Annisul Huq threatened to stop cleaning the section if RHD declined handing over complete authority. "You will keep the full authority of the road to yourself and allow us for only cleaning the road, that will not work," he said.

"Billboards are not allowed in the city corporation area. We will not let anyone damage the city's view. So if you give

permission for billboards beside roads, we will dismantle it," he added.

He however hoped that RHD would work jointly with DNCC for the sake of public interest.

The comments came at a coordination meeting DNCC organised with top officials of 26 government departments in the capital's Gulshan Centre Point. DNCC Chief Executive Officer Mesbahul Islam and councillors took part.

On plans centring roads for the next two years, DNCC said it would construct and repair 500 kilometres whereas Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority dig 1,500 kilometres.

"We are asking Wasa to inform us six months in advance before going for repairs. Otherwise, we will not give permission," said Annisul, adding that people face trouble due to the lack of coordination among the organisations.

On DNCC seeking lands as the existing Aminbazar landfill would reach its maximum capacity in the next two years, Dhaka Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Salah Uddin proposed four spots.

RAGIB-RABEYA MEDICAL COLLEGE SC seeks docs on bank transactions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday sought for the documents on the bank transactions of Jalalabad Ragib-Rabeya Medical College Hospital in Sylhet.

The medical college principal has been directed to submit the documents to the Appellate Division of the SC by August 31.

The apex court also asked the Bangladesh Bank authorities to submit a report by August 31 on whether the medical college hospital has any bank loan to it.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star that the SC wanted to examine whether the medical college hospital authorities committed any corruption or financial anomalies in establishing and running the institution.

A five-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha passed the order during hearing a petition filed by the medical college and hospital authorities.

They filed the petition in June seeking one year time for relocating the institution following an earlier SC order as it is located in a tea estate, which is an endowment property.

NEWS IN brief

India gives Bangladeshi students opportunity to study at IITs

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

India has decided to provide an opportunity for Bangladeshi students to pursue engineering education in Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) across India, both at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels.

According to an announcement of the Indian High Commission yesterday, a delegation from IITs is scheduled to visit Bangladesh from September 4 to 7. For details log on to www.hcidhaka.gov.in. Students who wish to attend the sessions are requested to register by sending emails to attedu@hcidhaka.gov.

The registration will close on August 31.

Model UN conference begins today

CITY DESK

A three-day Scholastica Model United Nations (SMUN) Conference 2016 begins today under the aegis of Scholastica, Senior Section in the capital's Mirpur, said a press release yesterday. The aim of the conference is to provide an opportunity for the delegates from 16 schools of Dhaka to show their skills in public-speaking, debating, diplomacy and critical thinking.

2 drug addicts jailed in Rangpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A mobile court of the Rangpur City Corporation sentenced two drug addicts to 10 days' imprisonment each in Rangpur city yesterday.

They are Moinul Islam, 34, of Paschim Nilkathapur and Biplob Hossain, 27, of Nurpur Mohadevpur area in the city. The court led by executive magistrate Golam Kibria detained them during a raid.



A march, with 45,000 signatures, by Bangladesh Narimukti Kendra in the capital's Jatiya Press Club area yesterday, demands justice for the murders of Afsana Ferdous and Sohagi Jahan Tonu. It was later intercepted by police at the gate of secretariat when the demonstrators tried to submit a memorandum with the signatures to the home minister.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

UNFPA gives health kits for flood-hit pregnant women

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) yesterday handed over 110 emergency reproductive health kits to the Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) to serve the pregnant women in flood affected areas.

The kits will be distributed to 30 government union health care centres in Gaibandha, Sirajganj, Kurigram, Jamalpur and Tangail, said DGFP officials at a handover ceremony at its office in the capital.

Doctors and trained health workers will provide reproductive health service through the kits that contain medicine, surgical equipments and medical devices (like stethoscope, thermometer and sphygmomanometer).

Each of the kit can serve around 45 people, and nearly five thousand pregnant women will be served by the kits, said Argentina Matavel Piccin, UNFPA representative in Bangladesh.

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VACANCY

The Prime University invites application for the position of **Pro-Vice Chancellor** from persons having first class or equivalent in Honors and Master Degree or Ph.D Degree from any reputed University with minimum 15 (fifteen) years professional experience in research and administrative works including at least 10 (ten) years teaching experience at a recognized University. Candidates with 3rd division/class at any level need not apply.

Application with detailed Curriculum Vitae, 3 copies of passport size photographs along with attested copies of all educational & experience certificates should reach the office of the Registrar (2A/1, North East of Darus Salam Road, Section-1, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216) on or before 08.09.2016.

Registrar

Corruption

FROM PAGE 4

Executive Director of Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh Dr Ahsan Mansur, senior fellow of BISS Dr Mahfuz Kabir and Prof AK Enamul Haque of East West University, Country Director of ActionAid Bangladesh Farah Kabir, and Sharmin Neelormi of Jahangirnagar University also presented papers.

Chaired by BISS Chairman Munshi Faiz Ahmad, the seminar was also addressed, among others, by BISS Director General Maj Gen AKM Abdur Rahman and Director General of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) Dr KAS Murshid.

STAR WEEKEND
in other news...

This week our spotlight is about the writer's experience of spending a week without a Smart phone, a tool that people's lives, in this day and age, revolve around. We also have an important article on the difficulties that working mothers face. Don't forget to grab your copy of the *Star Weekend*, tomorrow, Friday!

BACK TO BASICS
WHEN I AM SMARTER THAN MY PHONE

Phones are what people love, in this day and age, revolve around the most important details in the most exclusive of news from the most important e-mail, to the most important game becomes smart, did we have such a fondness for them. So convenient, so fast, it's the whole world at the touch of your finger on the shiny, delicate screen. But there are secrets about this that only its absence from your life will reveal. Read what it is to spend a week without a Smartphone on pages 8 and 9.

NAZIBA BASHIR
PHOTO: KATI TAYLOR/AGENCE FRANCE PRES