

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 32.8 L 27.4	H 30.2 L 26.0	H 32.3 L 25.3	H 35.0 L 27.2	H 34.2 L 28.0	H 31.8 L 25.5	H 31.5 L 25.4	H 32.2 L 26.8

Light to moderate rain or thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind will likely occur at most places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in the next 24 hours. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:14pm and rises tomorrow at 5:41am.



Abul Mansur Ahmad's 118th birthday today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 118th birth anniversary of the renowned litterateur, journalist and politician of the sub-continent Abul Mansur Ahmad.

He was born at Dhanikhola village in Trishal Thana of Mymensingh.

Abul Mansur Ahmad made his name as a satirist in Bangla literature. He is also considered as a trail-blazer of journalism in the pre-partition Bengal. He was the editor of Dainik

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Prof Emeritus Serajul Islam Choudhury speaks at a discussion yesterday to commemorate the life and works of Abul Mansur Ahmad, marking the renowned litterateur, journalist and politician's 118th birth anniversary. The discussion was organised by Bikkhon, a weekly study circle of Mymensingh Sahitya Sangsad, at its office on the bank of the Brahmaputra river in the town. Among others, Emdadul Haque Millat, secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh, Mymensingh district; Anisur Rahman Khan, president of Mymensingh Nagorik Andolon; Mahfuz Anam, editor of The Daily Star; Shaheen Anam, executive director of Manusher Jonno Foundation; poet Farid Ahmed Dulal, the sahitya sangsad's president; and Yazdani Quraishay Kajal, its secretary; were present.

PHOTO: STAR

He wanted separate, secular country

Prof Emeritus Serajul Islam Choudhury tells discussion marking Ahmad's birthday

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Abul Mansur Ahmad wanted a separate and secular Muslim country, said Dr Serajul Islam Choudhury, yesterday.

He also urged the audience not to forget the historic 21-point programme, which Abul Mansur Ahmad drafted and included the basic demands of the people.

He said these at a discussion marking the renowned litterateur, journalist and politician Abul Mansur Ahmad's 118th birth anniversary.

Bikkhon, a weekly study circle of Mymensingh Sahitya Sangsad, organised the discussion titled "Abul Mansur Ahmad: Proyojon Punarpath" (Necessity of re-exploration of Abul Mansur Ahmad) at its office on the bank of the Brahmaputra river in the town.

Ahmad joined politics as he wanted to free the society from fundamentalism and discriminations; not for his personal gain, said Dr Serajul, professor emeritus of Dhaka University.

"He was an outspoken writer who lashed out against inequity and prejudice prevailing in the society, politics and state," said Emdadul Haque Millat, secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh, Mymensingh district.

Anisur Rahman Khan, president of Mymensingh Nagorik Andolon, said, "Abul Mansur Ahmad is one of the greatest sons of the soil who was successful in all respects -- literature, politics and journalism."

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Save Halda river

Ctg meeting urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers at a meeting yesterday urged the government to take initiative to save Halda river and declare it as the national river.

The Committee for Saving Halda River organised the meeting at Chittagong Press Club, where Halda researcher Manzoorul Kibria, its president and an associate professor of zoology of Chittagong University, presented a keynote.

He said carps did not release eggs in the river for the first time this year, which is alarming.

Unplanned urbanisation, using dredgers to excavate river soil, cultivating tobacco on its banks, establishment of rubber dam and sluice gate in the upstream and high dose of insecticide in cultivation affect and pollute the river, he said.

Halda is only river where the carps release eggs, he said, adding, the river generates over Tk 800 crore a year from its fish.

He said Halda is the lifeline of Chittagong city and supplies water to around 65 lakh dwellers everyday.

The committee accorded a reception to Mesbah Uddin, deputy commissioner of Chittagong, and journalist Mohammad Ali for their contribution to saving the river.

Dr Iftekher Uddin Chowdhury, CU vice-chancellor and Prof Sikander Khan, VC of Chittagong's East Delta University, were present.

কিসমিল্লাহির রাহমানির রাহিম

উত্তরার সবচেয়ে কাছে, মেট্রো রেলস্টেশন থেকে পায়ে হাঁটা দূরত্বে 'আশুলিয়া' প্রকল্পে দ্রুতগতিতে চলছে নগরায়নের কাজ

বিস্তারিত জানতে: কর্পোরেট অফিস, ৭৫২ সাতমসজিদ রোড, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা-১২০৬।
ফোন: ০২৭৯৩-৩৩০৭৮৩, ০২৭৯৩-৩৩০৭৮২, ০২৭৯৩-০৬৪৩৬২, ০২৭৯৩-০৬৪৩৬০
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এখনই বাড়ি নির্মাণের উপযোগী কিছু সংখ্যক রেডি প্লট বিক্রয় চলছে

Gangs giving false hope

FROM PAGE 3

seeking non-refoulement under the Unified Screening Mechanism in Hong Kong are not to be treated as "asylum seeker" or "refugee."

"...in fact, the Hong Kong government has a long-established policy of not granting asylum to anyone and not determining or recognising anyone as a refugee," he added.

Fung further said there were 414 Bangladeshi illegal migrants intercepted by the immigration department and Hong Kong police in 2015, a 21 percent rise compared to the number in 2014.

The visitors are not allowed to take up an employment in Hong Kong, whether paid or unpaid, without a permission of the immigration director ..., he informed.

"Offenders are liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to three years' imprisonment," the assistant director said.

Fung added that as stipulated in section 38AA of the Hong Kong Immigration Ordinance, illegal migrants or people who are subject to a removal or deportation order are prohibited from taking up any employment, whether paid or unpaid, or joining any business.

The spread of illegal migrants is also causing an unpleasant questioning for genuine investors who might face stringent measures upon arrival at the airport, he said, adding that they are tightening the laws so the illegal migrants cannot jeopardise the prospects of genuine businessmen and entrepreneurs in Hong Kong.

Delegation members Lam King-fung, Lam Kai-wah and Angus WH Lai were also present at the briefing.

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