YESTERDAY'S **TEMPERATURES** 

DHAKA **H** 31.8 **L** 26.1 CHITTAGONG H 34.4 L 26.5

RAJSHAHI H 34.6 L 24.3 H 33.0 L 26.6

SYLHET

KHULNA H 35.0 L 27.4

BARISAL

**H** 32.2 **L** 27.0

RANGPUR **H** 31.6 **L** 25.5

COX'S BAZAR H 32.5 L 26.0 Light to moderate rain is likely in Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka, Rajshahi, Rangpur, Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged and night temperature may fall by (1-2) Degree Celsius over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:55pm and rises tomorrow at 5:48am. Country's highest temperature 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Khulna and Maizdi Court and the lowest 23.0 in Tentulia.

#### Fair probe into RU journalism teacher Joly's death sought

A CORRESPONDENT, RU

Teachers and students of the mass communication and journalism department of Rajshahi University yesterday formed a human chain demanding proper investigation into the death of their Associate Professor Akter Jahan Joly.

Hundreds of students from different departments along with their teachers attended the human chain before the university's Central Library at 10:00am.

On September 9, Joly was found dead on her bed inside her campus quarters. Police recovered a suicide note from her room which read, "No one is responsible for my death. I committed suicide due to physical and mental pressure."

According to police and her colleagues, Joly was suffering from tremendous mental pressure since her divorce and remarriage of her former husband with another teacher of the same department.

The demonstrators demanded exemplary punishment for "those who instigated Joly to commit suicide".

One of the demonstrators said, "We all know how much physical and emotional stress can lead a person to commit suicide. We cannot accept the premature death of our beloved teacher. We want justice."

On September 10, Joly's younger brother Kamrul Hasan Ratan filed a case with Motihar Police Station against some unknown persons for instigating her to commit suicide.



Students of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of Rajshahi University at a human chain on the campus yesterday demand a fair probe into the death of Akter Jahan Joly, 45, an associate professor of the department, who was found dead in her campus quarters on September 9.

РНОТО: STAR

## Acute accommodation crisis at CU for decades

MD ABBAS, CU

More than four fifths, or 83 percent, of the students of Chittagong University live outside the campus spending more money as the administration has failed to provide them with adequate accommodation facilities.

Students are growing in number over the years but the number of seats in dormitories remained unchanged. The last dormitory was built in 2010, with a capacity of 250.

Currently over 24,000 students are enrolled in the university, but only 4,278 could stay in the nine halls -- six for males and three for females -- and one hostel where both male and female students reside in separate portions.

The accommodation crisis is able for only four." compounded with the arrival of new batches as old students keep staying in the halls because of session jams,

according to students and teachers. On the other hand, Bangladesh

Chhatra League (BCL) supporters occupy a large number of rooms in male dormitories, said a student of Shah Amanat Hall, adding, many students prefer to stay off campus, fearing their dominance and violence. He wished anonymity for fear of attack by BCL activists.

Female students, especially the freshers, are the worst sufferers. At present, 100 female students cram into five rooms, popularly known as "gono rooms", in the three female dormitories.

Farjana Akter Trisha, a geography and environmental studies student, said, "I am staying with 11 other students in a gono room at Shamsunnahar Hall, which is suit-

Because of the hall crisis, the majority have to live in off-campus houses, hostels or messes, spending

Tk 5,000 to Tk 6,000 including food cost per month, which is double the amount a resident student has to spare -- Tk 2,000 to Tk 2,500. But problems follow them there too. Staying in a private hostel in Zero

Point area, Jannatul Mawa said, "We

regularly face water shortages here. It does not even have any hygienic bathroom or toilet." Saddam Hossain, an accounting and information system student living in the city's Al Falah alley,

said, "I have to depend on private tuitions for paying my mess rent as my family is not well off." Meanwhile, the shuttle trains that could carry around 13,500 students in nine one-way trips are unable to trans-

port all off-campus students because

of low capacity and overcrowding, particularly during the rush hours. CU is 22km away from

Chittagong city. Sarwar Kamal, a third year jour-

nalism student, said, "I miss classes often as I fail to get a seat or a little room to stand in the shuttle train due to a huge rush of students."

According to the Chittagong University (CU) Act 1973, the university was supposed to be fully residential. But the university authorities could not ensure accommodation facilities even in 50 years of its establishment in 1966. When contacted, Vice-Chancellor

Prof Iftekhar Uddin Chowdhury said the construction work of Sheikh Hasina Hall was concluded. The 320 seats in the hall will be allotted in November, he said, adding that a fourstory extension to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall is under construction, with a capacity to accommodate 460 more.

Moreover, two more new halls, one each for male and female students, will be built, and they will mitigate the accommodation crisis, he said.

# NEWS<sub>IN</sub> brief

#### 68 RU students get gold medals

A CORRESPONDENT, RU

A total of 68 meritorious students of Rajshahi University were given gold medals and certificates yesterday.

Sixty four graduates were given Agrani Bank Gold Medal while three others received Dr Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed Gold Medal. Meanwhile, the top performer of the MBBS

programme received Dr AK Khan Gold Medal at the ceremony at the university's senate building. Education Minster Nurul Islam Nahid was the

chief guest of the event where Agrani Bank Chairman Zayed Bokht, Managing Director Shams-ul-Alam and RU Vice-Chancellor Prof Muhammad Mizanuddin were present.

#### RU JCD gets committee after 14yrs

A CORRESPONDENT, RU

A new full-fledged committee of Rajshahi University unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) was formed on September 10, after around 14 years. Imtiaz Ahmed and Kamrul Hasan were made president and general secretary respectively of the 143-member committee approved by leaders of Central Chhatra Dal.

#### DU gets donation for trust fund

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka University authority received Tk 10 lakh for its "Buddhist Scholar Prof Dr Sukomal Barua Trust Fund" under the Pali and Buddhist Studies department. Prof Dr Sukomal Barua's daughter Sanghamitra

Barua Manoshi handed over a cheque for the amount to DU Treasurer Prof Kamal Uddin yesterday at DU VC's office. Meritorious students of the department will be given scholarships from the fund. Prof Sukomal Barua, "Rabindra Chair" of DU Prof Mahua Mukherjee and Buddhist community leaders were present on this occasion.



National Garment Workers' Federation stages a rally in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday demanding reinstatement of the union employees of the Friends Style Wear Ltd who, they claim, were fired unlawfully. PHOTO: STAR

#### Khaleda to return home from Saudi Arabia today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will return home from Saudi Arabia today after completing her 15-day tour in the Arabian country to perform hajj.

The BNP chief is scheduled to arrive at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport around 5:30pm, her media wing member Shamsuddin Didar told The Daily Star.

He said BNP senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman and his family members will also return to the UK from Saudi Arabia on the same day, he added.

Leaders and activists of BNP and its different front and associated bodies will give Khaleda a reception at the airport on her arrival, Didar said.

The BNP chief Dhaka for Saudi Arabia on September 7. Tarique and his family members left London for Jeddah on the same day to perform hajj.

#### ICT to start

FROM PAGE 3 Wajuddin, 70, of Bidyananda village under Phulbaria upazila of the district is on the run.

On March 23, the prosecution pressed five specific charges against them. But, later the prosecution filed a petition to allow it to make some corrections in the formal charges and tribunal allowed it. Yesterday, the tribunal fixed the date after prosecutors re-submitted the formal charges.



Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed (centre) cuts a ribbon at the launching ceremony of DBC News, a private television channel, at its office in the capital yesterday. Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu (right) and Chairman of the channel and Prime Minister's Media Affairs Adviser Igbal Sobhan Chowdhury (left) were also present. PHOTO: COLLECTED

#### **DBC** News begins its journey

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DBC News, a private television news channel of Bangladesh, began its jour-

ney yesterday. Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed and Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu inaugurated the channel at its office.

Chairman of the channel as well as Prime Minister's Media Affairs Adviser Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Managing Director Sahidul Ahsan and Chief Editor Monjurul Islam were present at the launching ceremony, says a press release.

Apart from the daily news, the channel, first time in the country, will telecast news and programmes regularly on women, agriculture, trade, sports, politics and expatriates.

### Improve services

According to DMP sources, 49 police stations of DMP have so far collected around 20 lakh tenant information forms against 22 lakh distributed forms

The forms are to be scrutinised first before being entered in the CIMS. Till date nearly 12 lakh forms have been scrutinized and one lakh of the forms have been

eneterd in the CIMS, said the sources. The city police chief asked all to put their best effort in expediting the data processing work of the CIMS as it would be an essential tool for the law enforcers in deterring and detecting criminals.



#### Workshop

Winrock International and USAID will hold a workshop on "Translating the BCC Strategy to Generate Action Ideas with Monitoring Options". Venue: Hotel Rigs Inn, Gulshan-1, Time:

**Exhibition** 

Snappy will hold a 3-day wedding

photography exhibition. Venue: Drik

#### Gallery, Time: 3:00pm **Human chain**

Time: 11:00am

Bangladesh Labour Party (Dhaka Metropolitan) will hold a human chain demanding cancellation of the Rampal power plant project in Sundarbans. Venue: Jatiya Press Club,

successfully turned me into a 'holic' - a 'workaholic'. Six years late

1 1 2 BANGALI'S OWN PRIVATE

that this situation needed fixing. Read about my journey as a wor

vacation on pages 8 and 9.

## 170 absent IIUC students yet to be traced

CU CORRESPONDENT

Police are trying to trace the 170 students of International Islamic University Chittagong (IIUC) who have been absent from the private university at Chittagong's Sitakunda upazila for last six months.

The university authorities do not want to disclose the names for the sake of police investigation.

Following the recent militant attacks at Gulshan in the capital and Sholakia in university authorities to make a list of its students who were absent from classes for

The university authorities managed to contact all the absent students and their guardians over the mobile phones except for 176 students who had been absent for two semesters, said IIUC Registrar Nurul Islam.

However, six of them later contacted with the authorities and explained the reasons for being absent and started attending classes again, he informed.

Sitakunda Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Iftekher Hasan said they got the Kishoreganj, Sitakunda police requested the names of the 176 students a month ago and are investigating about the remaining students.

#### Promote women empowerment FROM PAGE 3 she said, adding, "We see a new trend

primary schools have more than 60 per-

cent female teaching staff. They're spreading the values of tolerance, inclusion and "Our women in parliament represent

diversity among young minds. Our children must be protected against extremist narratives." women's voices in public policies for pre-

venting and countering violent extremism,"

among violent extremists to recruit women. We're trying to understand what prompts these women to join such a wrong cause. Our government maintains 'zero tolerance' against all forms of terrorism and violent extremism."

Earlier, Hasina attended a luncheon reception hosted by the UN secretary general at the headquarters.



The Star Weekend has an array of interesting articles for you. This week our spotlight is about the curious case of how a workaholic spends the long Eid vacation. We also have an important article on the causes of deadly road accidents that stained our Eid holidays with blood and loss of hundreds of human lives. Don't forget to grab your copy of the Star Weekend, tomorrow, Friday!





PHOTO: KAZI TAHSIN AGAZ APURBO