

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 34.0 L 25.6	H 34.2 L 25.4	H 32.7 L 24.9	H 35.0 L 25.8	H 34.5 L 26.8	H 30.0 L 25.8	H 32.8 L 24.4	H 32.0 L 25.2

Light to moderate rain or thunder showers is likely to occur in Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal divisions and at a few places over Chittagong, Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:53pm and rises tomorrow at 5:49am. Country's highest temperature 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and the lowest 23.9 in Dimla.



A woman salts down hilsa, an indigenous way of preserving the national fish and producing a unique flavour of it, in Firingibazar of Chittagong city on Thursday. Though this processing has long been known to this land, this year large catches of the fish in seas has made it a necessity. According to the fishing community and traders, every 40kg of hilsa is being bought for Tk 5,000 to Tk 7,000 and after salting, the same quantity sales for Tk 8,000 to Tk 10,000.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

NEWS IN brief

Prime minister reaches Washington

BSS, Washington
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will return home from the USA on September 30. PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim told the news agency yesterday night that the prime minister is expected to leave Washington for home on September 29 and reach Dhaka next day. According to previous schedule, she was scheduled to leave Washington on September 25 and reach home on September 26. The prime minister arrived in Washington from New York on Thursday after wrapping her five-day schedule in New York.

'Hizb ut-Tahrir man' arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole
Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested an alleged member of banned Islamist outfit Hizb ut-Tahrir in Dharmatala area of Jessore Sadar yesterday. The arrestee -- Abdus Salam, 44, of Dharmatala area -- is wanted in a case filed under Anti-Terrorism Act, said Maj Abdullah Al Mehedi, in-charge of Jessore Rab-6. Rab also seized 14 Islamic magazines, 70 leaflets, a laptop and a mobile phone set from his procession, he added.

15 hurt in road crash in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur
At least 15 people were injured as a bus turned turtle and fell into a roadside field after it collided head-on with a tractor on Dinajpur-Panchagarh highway at Chakai-Jodur intersection in Birganj upazila of Dinajpur yesterday morning. Locals rescued the victims and sent them to Birganj Upazila Health complex.



With flowers in hand, environmental activists of Angkar Bangladesh and Surma Water Keeper gather on the bank of the Surma in Sylhet city yesterday, to raise public awareness about the existential threat facing the Surma and Basia rivers due to pollution and encroachment.

PHOTO: STAR

CORRUPTION CASE Consider bail for housing minister

HC asks lower court; releases full order directing him to surrender
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The High Court has released its full order recently directing Housing and Public Works Minister Mosharraf Hossain to surrender before a lower court in six weeks in a case filed over amassing illegal wealth worth Tk 3 crore. The HC, however, asked the trial court to consider granting the minister bail if he surrenders in the case filed by Anti Corruption Commission in 2007. Mosharraf's lawyer Abdul Matin Khasru told The Daily Star that his client would surrender on time. ACC's lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan said he received the certified copy of the HC order on Thursday.

SIRAJGANJ ARSON ATTACK Charges against 130 BNP-Jamaat men pressed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna
Police have submitted a charge sheet against 130 BNP-Jamaat men in a case filed over killing of a Hindu trader through a petrol bomb attack during the blockade enforced by the alliance in 2015 in Sirajganj. Gonesh Das, 42, was in a CNG-run three-wheeler in Ramgati area of sadar upazila in the district during the attack on January 31. Sirajganj police filed the case accusing over 150 people including 115 top BNP-Jamaat leaders. They found the 130 people guilty during investigation, Sub-inspector Md Rafikul Islam told The Daily Star. The charge sheet was submitted to the Sirajganj Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Court-1 on Thursday, the SI added. Sirajganj Sadar upazila unit BNP president Md Mojibar Rahman Lebu, joint secretary of district unit BNP Saidur Rahman Bachhu, Munshi Kamal Uddin, assistant secretary Rashidul Islam Ranjan, and Sirajganj upazila Jamaat secretary Razu Ahmed are among the key accused, police said.

509 Bogra posts of pry teacher lie vacant

MAMUN-UR-RASHID, Bogra
A total of 259 posts of head teacher and 250 posts of assistant teacher in government primary schools of Bogra's 12 upazilas have been lying vacant for a long time which is hampering education seriously. According to District Primary Education Office sources, the 12 upazilas have a total of 1,568 government primary schools, including 606 recently nationalised ones. Eighty one newly nationalised schools do not have head teachers, while 178 old ones are in the same situation. Upazila-wise Dhunat has 60 vacant posts of assistant teacher, Shariakandi has 59, Nandigram 52, Shibganj and Sonatola 54 each, Sadar upazila 18, Adamdighi 39, Kahaloo 37, Gabtoli 46, Dupchanchia 38, Sherpur 23, and Shajahanpur has 29 vacant posts. In absence of regular head teachers, assistant teachers are working as in-charge head teachers. Naznin Sultana, acting head teacher of Nijgram Govt Primary School under Noshipur union in Gabtoli, said she has to conduct classes as well as maintain all the official works and communications which becomes a great pressure for her. As a result, sometimes she has to miss some classes or sometimes fails to concentrate on all classes. Md Abu Taher, head teacher of Horrardeghi Govt Primary School of the same union, said due to many vacant assistant teachers' posts in the pre-primary section of the school other teachers have to conduct double classes. Such situation is making the teachers, students, guardians as well as the school management committee tensed. Md Hossain Ali, District Primary Education Officer of Bogra, said such long-term vacancies are hampering the education of the kids who are the future of the country. His office has already informed the higher authorities under the primary and mass education ministry, and is waiting for their direction, he added.



The High Level WHO Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth presented its final report to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, not in picture, at the UN Headquarters on September 20. Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus, one of the commissioners, was present at the ceremony with other commissioners. Also present were Secretary General of Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Angel Gurría, President of France Francois Hollande, Director General of World Health Organization (WHO) Margaret Chan, President of South Africa Jacob Zuma, and Director General of International Labour Organization (ILO) Guy Ryder.

PHOTO: YUNUS CENTRE

2 journos injured by pro-AL men

A CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona
Two journalists in Netrakona were injured yesterday during a commotion of the ruling Awami League activists demanding cancellation of a fresh committee of local unit of Mohila AL. The injured are Pallab Chakaraborty of Prothom Alo and Shamlendu Paul of The Daily Ittefaq. Pallab was admitted to a local hospital. The clash erupted at district administration's Public Hall around 10:00am when Asma Zerin Jhumu, unit's central organisational secretary, announced a committee making Kamrunessa Asraf and Habiba Rahman president and general secretary respectively, which local Jubo League and BCL activists rejected saying it was formed without holding any council and soon started protesting by throwing chairs. When journalists went to take photos they chased them and attacked Pallab and Shamlendu near the press club, said witnesses. The incident took place in presence of Arif Khan Joy, deputy minister for youth and sports, who assured that legal actions will be taken regarding the incident.

Dhaka, Moscow sign deal on visa-free visit of officers

UNB, Dhaka
Bangladesh and Russia have signed an agreement on visa-free visit for persons holding diplomatic and official (service) passports. At a meeting held on Thursday at the UN headquarters, Bangladesh Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey V Lavrov signed the deal. Once implemented, it will ease and enhance the level of engagements between the peoples of the two friendly countries, said foreign ministry here yesterday. The two foreign ministers discussed issues of mutual interests and the possibility of a visit by Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev to Dhaka sometime early 2017.



Cabinet Secretary Mohammed Shafiqul Alam inaugurates DC Lake, a lake-centred recreational spot, in Tangail town yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

DHAKA TODAY

Symposium
United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) will hold a symposium "SDGs: Building Blocks for Peace". Venue: BILIA Auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 4:30pm

Seminar
Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry will hold a seminar on "National Industrial Policy-2016: Opportunities of Industrialization and Investment in Bangladesh." Venue: DCCI Auditorium, Time: 3:00pm

Seminar
Institute of Water Modeling will hold a seminar "Flood and River Erosion 2016". Venue: WARPO Bhaban, Time: 10:00am.

BL College sues DC, KCC, AL men over grabbing its land

A CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
The authorities of Government BL College, Khulna have sued 43 people including the deputy commissioner, Khulna City Corporation and some Awami League leaders on the charge of grabbing a portion of land of the institution. Principal Prof Gulshan Ara said she filed the case with a Khulna court on Wednesday to recover the land as per the instruction of the Ministry of Education. Prof Gulshan said different structures, including a bank, a private university and clinics, were erected on the 1.32 acres of land. Denying the allegation, DC Md Nazmul Ashan told The Daily Star that he would take legal actions. KCC Mayor (in-charge) Md Anisur Rahman said he was not aware of the allegations against KCC. After knowing the overall situation they would take necessary steps, he said. Prime accused Mostafizur Rahman Hiru, president of ward no-5 unit of the ruling AL, could not be contacted despite repeated attempts as he did not respond to the correspondent over the cellphone.

Gazipur traders block road demanding fellows' release Also seek end to 'harassment by cops'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur
Bormi Bazar traders in Gazipur's Sreepur upazila yesterday kept their shops closed for eight hours and demonstrated by blocking a road demanding release three of their fellows, who were arrested by detectives the day before. The businesspersons also demanded an end to "harassment by the law enforcers in the name of conducting mobile courts", barricading Bormi-Kawraid road from 11:00am to 12:00pm, said witnesses. They held a meeting at Janat intersection, marched protesting "extortion by detective police" and threatened to go on an indefinite strike and road blockade in the area if the three are not freed immediately. On Thursday, a team of four detectives raided the Bazar to seize banned polythene and threatened to fine a shop claiming that it was a mobile court, said the traders who, later, confined the four to a room of their association. The demonstrators said the team, which had no magistrate, was actually trying to extort money from them. Later, additional police rushed in, rescued the four and arrested four -- Shahadat Hossain Shahmim, Shorif Morol, Babul Akand, Vapon Das on the spot. Shahadat, however, was released later, said police. Denying all the allegations, Amir Hossain, inspector of the detective branch of Gazipur police, said the police team came under an attack by some traders while it was carrying out an anti-polythene drive. A case was filed against the arrested three and four to five unnamed traders with Sreepur Police Station on the charge of attacking law enforcers and obstructing them to discharge their duties, he said.

Man arrested with 1.5kg of gold

OUR CORRESPONDENT Benapole
Members of the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) detained a man with 12 gold bars, worth Tk 57.6 lakh and weighing 1.5kg, in Boroachra Bottala of Benapole yesterday. Maj Liaquat Hossain, deputy commanding officer of 26 BGB, said Ashanur Rahman, 35, of Daulatpur village was detained while he was going to India to smuggle the gold bars. A case was filed.



Land Minister Shamsur Rahman Sharif visits an environment-based exhibition at Notre Dam College yesterday.

PHOTO: PID