

**WEATHER FORECAST**

**YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES**

**DHAKA**  
H 30.3 | L 27.5

**CHITTAGONG**  
H 32.5 | L 26.0

**SYLHET**  
H 34.6 | L 26.5

**RAJSHAHI**  
H 34.8 | L 25.7

**KHULNA**  
H 31.8 | L 24.2

**BARISAL**  
H 30.2 | L 24.5

**RANGPUR**  
H 33.8 | L 25.5

**COX'S BAZAR**  
H 31.6 | L 25.5

Light to moderate rain is likely in Rangpur, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at many places in Rajshahi, Khulna, Dhaka, Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions, reports UNB. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:46pm and rises tomorrow at 5:50am. Country's highest temperature 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Syedpur and Badalgachi and lowest 23.0 in Rangmati and

**BTV Ctg centre starts 4-hr test transmission**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Television Chittagong Centre started four-hour test transmission through satellite channel yesterday.

Earlier, the centre used to air programmes and news for only two hours daily through terrestrial channel, but now the programmes can be watched by the people across the country through satellite channel, said officials of the TV centre. Even the expatriates can enjoy the programmes, they said. "We have plans to air documentaries and movies from Bangladesh Television's archive besides other standard programmes and to go for a 24-hour transmission in future," said Manoj Sengupta, general manager of Bangladesh Television Chittagong Centre.

The Chittagong Sub Center of BTV launched its journey in 1996.



A former student of Rajshahi University lights a candle at Raju memorial sculpture of Dhaka University yesterday. Demanding a fair investigation into the death of their teacher Akhtar Jahan Joly, former journalism department students of RU organised the event.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

**NEWS IN brief**

**India relaxes visa rules for women**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

India has temporarily relaxed the visa rules for Bangladeshi women giving them the opportunity to skip prior appointment or e-token procedures.

The opportunity, only for those with confirmed air tickets, is available from October 3 to 13 on a trial basis, said an Indian high commission press release yesterday.

Women applicants can also drop the tourist visa application on behalf of their family members with the condition of being able to produce confirmed air tickets.

The journey date should be in October but after seven days of application form submission at the Indian Visa Application Centre in Gulshan.

**9 lakh Yaba pills seized in Teknaf**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Bangladesh Coast Guard yesterday claimed to have seized around 9 lakh Yaba pills from a boat in Teknaf's Shah Porir Dwip along Bangladesh-Myanmar border on Tuesday night. The coastguard, however, could not arrest anyone as the persons, who carried the Yaba, fled the scene leaving the boat sensing the drive in the river Naaf, said Commander SM Moin Uddin of Coast Guard Chittagong (south-east zone) at a press briefing at Teknaf Coast Guard Station. Later, they found the Yaba pills in six sacks after searching the boat, he added.

**Cops recover firearm while searching for stolen motorbike**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police arrested a woman and seized a foreign pistol and seven bullets yesterday while raiding a house in Bakalia area of Chittagong city following a motorcycle theft case.

The arrestee is Roksana, 24, wife of Nasir Uddin, 38, a member of a motorcycle stealing gang. They resided in the house on the ground floor of a five-storey building, said CID Sub-inspector Jahangir Al Aman.

Five sharp weapons and a motorcycle lock cutter were also recovered from the house. Nasir -- an accused in several motorcycle theft cases -- fled sensing the presence of the law enforcers.

**Health camp held in capital**

CITY DESK

GHT OKAIDI Health Clinic, run by Good Heal Trust (GHT), organised its 20th health camp with assistance of Bangladesh Institute of Health and Science (BIHS) in the capital's Mirpur on Tuesday, said a press release.

Students of a local school, Grameen Shikha and slum dwellers turned up at the day-long camp for health check-up. BIHS Mirpur provided special doctors for the camp. Dr Shamima Azad (medicine specialist) and Dr Shyla Afrin (pediatric specialist) prescribed the patients.

**Dhaka College reunion tomorrow**

CITY DESK

The reunion of the former students of Dhaka College 1989 batch (HSC) will be held at RAOWA Convention Complex in the capital's Mohakhali tomorrow, said a press release.

A new executive committee of the batch will be formed during the programme, which will start at 6:00pm.

**DHAKA TODAY**

**Seminar**

The Good Earth (TGE) will hold a seminar on "Collective efforts for Protection of the Rights of Older Persons". Venue: Dhaka Reporter's Unity, Time: 11:00am

**Book launching**

Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (BILIA) and others will hold the launching ceremony of a book titled "Intelligence, National Security, and Foreign Policy: A South Asian Narrative". Venue: Dhaka University, Time: 10:30am

**Workshop**

ActionAid will hold a workshop on "Building Code (BNBC) Implementation Strategy". Venue: Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Time: 10:00am

**Discussion**

DORP and others will hold a discussion on right to safe drinking water. Venue: Biswa Shahitto Kendro (BSK), Time: 11:00am

**Memorial lecture**

A memorial lecture on academical and dramatist Dr Nazma Jesmin Chowdhury will be held. Venue: Dhaka University, Time: 4:00 pm

**TIB wants law for appointment of CEC, commissioners**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) has called for enactment of a new law for appointment of chief election commissioner (CEC) and other commissioners.

Such a law could be passed before February next year when a new Election Commission (EC) would be constituted, TIB said in a statement yesterday.

Dr Iftekharuzzaman, TIB's executive director, said this law would remove the possibility of raising allegations of lack of transparency and political influence in the appointment of CEC and other commissioners.

He also recommended creation of a search committee in the law to constitute the EC.

The jurisdiction of the search committee, qualifications of its members, conditions for appointment of the CEC, and other commissioners and other relevant issues can be included in the proposed law, Iftekharuzzaman said.

The statement said the law would enhance the dignity and credibility of the EC and widen the scope for a free, fair and participatory national election.

A new EC due in February next year will oversee the 2019 national election.

TIB said the country's politics could heat up again over forming of a new EC as the Awami League and BNP were at loggerheads over the issue.

The AL-led alliance wants the new EC to be formed by a search committee under the jurisdiction of the president, a power vested in him by the constitution, while the BNP-led 20-party alliance calls for dialogue with all the stakeholders before formation of such a committee.

**Water sharing, trade gap key challenges**

*Economists tell seminar about Indo-Bangla ties*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Any irritants in Indo-Bangla relation should be removed to achieve the huge economic benefits the two countries promise together in the region, leading economists said at a seminar yesterday.

A viable bilateral relation is not possible unless vital challenges like the huge trade gap and water sharing of the common rivers are identified and resolved, said Dr Mirza Azizul Islam, finance adviser to a former caretaker government.

RAM Obaidul Muktaadir Chowdhury, a lawmaker and chairman of the standing committee on Chittagong Hill Tracts ministry, said an amicable solution to the water sharing issue was crucial for removing strains on the bilateral relations. It is achievable only with an honest intention, concerted effort and friendly attitude, not by dominance, he said.

The Asian Age, an English-language daily, organised the seminar on "Indo-Bangladesh cooperation for mutual sustainable growth acceleration" at a hotel in Dhaka.

In his keynote speech, former Bangladesh Bank governor Dr Atiur Rahman highlighted that sharing common historical and cultural heritage, Bangladesh and India were sure to form the economic centre-stage in this region of Asia that would be dominating the current century.

Despite various barriers, foreign investors are getting interested in Bangladesh simply because of affordable labour and techno-savvy young entrepreneurs, he said.

Harsh Vardhan Shringla, high commissioner of India in Dhaka, said Indo-Bangladesh relations had experienced acceleration since 2008. A holistic management of common river water resources is needed, he said.

Dr Bibek Debroy, member of the National Institute for Transforming India Aayog, said that while building an economic union in the region stands a distant objective, the bilateral relations were making progress by and by. In this connection, he cited recent restoration of four railway links that were snapped in 1965.

"I am always sarcastic about Saarc," he said. "And that is why I think India and Bangladesh should disassociate them from Saarc to thrive on some other multi-lateral regional forum for better bilateral relations."

Rising from the audience, Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, former vice-chancellor of Dhaka University, said a vibrant economic relation fundamentally depended on political cooperation on the principle of equal opportunity.

Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, lawmaker and chairman of standing committee on public accounts, and Dr Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah, editor-in-charge of The Asian Age, also spoke.



The brick-built Jibanananda Das road in Barisal city after heavy rain yesterday, for which most of the low-lying areas of the city went under water. Clogged and inadequate drainage system and filling up of most of the canals are mainly responsible for such waterlogging, compounding miseries of the residents.

PHOTO: STAR

**ACC arrests eight**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday arrested eight people, including former vice-president of a private bank, in different parts of the country for their alleged involvement in corruption.

An ACC team arrested Fazlu Mia, owner of International Tannery, in the capital's Hazaribagh.

According to the case statement, Fazlu took Tk 4.16 crore in loan from Rupali Bank's Hazaribagh Branch in 1998 for business purposes submitting fake documents.

Later, the bank authority filed a case with the money loan court as Fazlu did not repay the loan after getting several reminders from the bank, reads a statement. The court ordered Fazlu to repay the loan but instead of giving

back the money, he built several multi-storey buildings with the money, it said.

A case was filed by the ACC on December 26, 2002.

The four others -- Netrokona's Union Land Assistant Officers Binoy Chandra Sen and Monirul Haque, one Badruzzaman Khan and his wife Hosne Ara Khanam -- were arrested for grabbing lands using fake documents.

Meanwhile, another ACC team arrested former vice-president of City Bank Mujibur Rahman, cash in-charge Giasuddin and former customer officer Sajjadur Rahman in Sylhet for misappropriating Tk 19.99 lakh.

According to the case statement, the trio created fake loan documents against a customer's FDR and pocketed the money.

**Tank 'blast' burns 6**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six people were burnt in a fire triggered by an "explosion" at a water reserve tank in the capital's Dhanmondi yesterday.

The injured were Abdur Razzak, 23, Abdur Razzak, 22, Masum Rana, 23, Abed Ali, 50, Saddam, 30, and Shirin Begum, 28.

Witnesses said the incident took place at a four-story building on Road 4 around 10:45am.

Of the injured, Abed is the security guard while the rest are day labourers hired to clean the seven-foot deep reserve water tank on the ground floor.

They have been undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital with 20 to 50 percent burns, said the hospital sources.

The fire might have originated from accumulated gas, suspected Helal Uddin, inspector (investigation) of Dhanmondi Police Station.

বিস্মিতকারী রাহমানির রাহিম

**ঢাকা মাওয়া রোডের সাথেই সুপরিষ্কৃত পরিবেশ বান্ধব শহরে রেডি প্লট কিস্তিতে ক্রয়ের মহাসুযোগ!**

প্রকল্পের সুবিধা সমূহ:

- পর্যাপ্ত খেলার মাঠ, পার্ক ও প্রশস্ত লেক। ৮০ ফুট প্রশস্ত বাণিজ্যিক রোড।
- পানি, বিদ্যুৎসহ অন্যান্য জরুরী সেবা এখনই বিদ্যমান।
- সমগ্র প্রকল্প সিসি ক্যামেরা দ্বারা নিরাপত্তা ব্যবস্থা নিয়ন্ত্রিত।
- রয়েছে হাসপাতাল, শপিংমল, কনভেনশন সেন্টার, ব্যাংক ও শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান।

**এখনই বাড়ি/শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান নির্মাণে আগ্রহী ক্রেতাদের জন্য বিশেষ ছাড়!**

কর্পোরেট অফিস: ৭৫২, সাতমসজিদ রোড, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা-১২০৫।  
হটলাইন: ০২৭১৩-৩০২৪০২, ০২৭৬৬-৬৬৫৯৭৯, ০২৭৮৭-৬৭৮৪৯৮, ০২৮৩৩-১০৫৪০৮

**STAR WEEKEND**

in other news...

The Star Weekend has an array of interesting articles for you. This week our spotlight pays homage to one of the greatest living painters of our country, Murtaja Baseer, who shares inspiring tales of his exceptional life. We also have important articles on safety during lightning storms and introducing SRHR in the Garment's sector. Don't forget to grab your copy of the Star Weekend, tomorrow, Friday!

**ACROSS THE CANVAS**

Murtaja Baseer, as the adage goes, is a man who needs no introduction, especially to the aficionados of the modern art scene in Bangladesh. The prolific artist has been enriching our art scene since the 1950s, continuously experimenting with different art media, styles and techniques. The wall, titled for the Murtajas, has, in fact, become a canvas for his artistic journey. The wall, titled for the Murtajas, has, in fact, become a canvas for his artistic journey. The wall, titled for the Murtajas, has, in fact, become a canvas for his artistic journey.