

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 30.4 L 20.0	CHITTAGONG H 30.6 L 20.6	SYLHET H 30.0 L 20.3	RAJSHAHI H 30.0 L 14.4	KHULNA H 29.5 L 17.6	BARISAL H 30.2 L 17.5	RANGPUR H 30.6 L 16.3	COX'S BAZAR H 31.7 L 21.5
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Weather will remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today. Night temperature may fall slightly and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. Met Office said, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 05:12pm and rises tomorrow at 06:15am.

'COP FIRING ON SANTALS' Writ plea filed to know circumstance, authorisation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three rights organisations yesterday filed a writ petition with the High Court seeking an explanation from the government authorities concerned under what firearms and circumstances police used authority on Santals in Gaibandha's Gobindganj on November 6.

The Ain o Salish Kendra, Brotee and Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) submitted the petition seeking HC directives upon the government to ensure security of Santals' lives and properties so that they could move freely.

They also urged the court to ask the authorities what legal steps have been taken over the attack and to order providing compensation for the victims and not to unlawfully harass Santals.

They prayed to issue a rule asking the authorities to explain why their inaction to ensure security to the lives and properties of Santals should not be declared illegal and why they should not be ordered to take necessary steps to this effect.

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A truck loaded with goods takes a shortcut going the wrong way at Matuail to find an opening to the opposite side, apparently because the driver was uninterested to take the safe option of going the right way over the eight-lane road from Shanrail Akhra to Shimrail and take a U-turn. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



Bhashani's anniversary of death today

STAR REPORT

Today is the 40th death anniversary of Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani, a legendary politician and dreamer of independent Bangladesh.

Marking the day, political parties, including National Awami Party and socio-cultural organisations have taken elaborate programmes, doa and milad mahfils, food distribution, blood donation, painting competition, photography exhibition, spiritual songs and discussions on the life and works of the spirited leader.

Bhashani led the historic Farakka Long March in 1976. He was the founder of the Awami Muslim League, which later became Awami League. He formed the left-leaning political organisation called National Awami Party (NAP).

He also played a vital leading role in the 1969 mass upsurge.

Born in 1880 at Dhangara in Sirajganj, the brave and devoted leader of the common people worked relentlessly and spent almost his entire life for the oppressed masses, which earned him the title "Mazlum Jananeta", meaning the leader of the downtrodden.

Throughout this life, Bhashani remained a rural-based and an honest politician revered for his selflessness and solidarity with the oppressed. His long political career spanned through the periods of British colonialism, Pakistan and

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Bangladesh will be number one SDG achiever

Hopes planning minister at Star-UNFPA discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh will be the number one in achieving UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said yesterday.

"We are now in the preparation phase. We will come out number one in implementing SDGs," he said while addressing a discussion on "Data for the SDGs".

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and The Daily Star jointly organised it at the latter's conference hall in the capital.

Mustafa Kamal said hardcore poverty in Bangladesh came down to 12.9 percent now from 25.1 percent in 2005, and it would be 3.5 percent by 2030.

"We want to see all people of the country to have good food and access to health and education."

Around 5.6 million people still remain marginalised, he said, adding, "If we leave them behind and don't bring them to the mainstream, our economic growth will be subject to criticism."

With the progress made by Bangladesh in the regime of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in last 15 years, the country's development has gained new momentum, the minister said.

According to a report on the 2015 progress report on MDGs, Bangladesh progressed in poverty alleviation, food security, primary school enrolment, gender parity in primary and secondary education, immunisation coverage, and reductions in infant, under-five and maternal mortality, and prevalence of communicable diseases.

However, existence of poverty pockets, unemployment among the youth,

stunting and wasting among the under five children, high dropout rate, and improving quality of primary education, universal access to reproductive health and resource remain as major challenges.

In late 2015, the UN adapted SDGs for the next 15 years to consolidate the developments achieved and make development sustainable. SDGs' main principle is "Leaving None Behind", which means the focus is on the hard-to-reach, hidden, marginalised, and vulnerable population and on geographical disparities. SDGs have 17 goals, 169 targets, and 230 indicators.

Prof Shamsul Alam, member of the general economics division at the Planning Commission, said Bangladesh would implement SDGs through the country's national five-year plans.

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Narsingdi locals say 14 govt units engaged in corruption

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

Locals of Narsingdi yesterday brought up allegations of harassment and corruption against 14 government organisations, including the upazila land, sub-registry, passport, settlement and primary and secondary education offices, palli bidyut samity, hospitals, Titas gas and BRTA.

They made the allegation at a public hearing organised by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) at Narsingdi Zila Shipakala Academy. "No corrupt person will be spared. No one is above the law," said ACC Commissioner Nasiruddin Ahmed.

"We only require specific allegations and proof," he said.

Two to die for killing youth

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A Gazipur court yesterday sentenced two people to death for killing a youth by pushing him off the roof of a running train in Gazipur this year.

The convicts are Rasel Miya, 19, son of Habul Miya of Mymensingh; and Md Munno Miya, 25, son of Hossain Miya of Moulvibazar.

Judge AKM Enamul Haque of District and Sessions Judge's Court also fined them Tk 5,000 each, said Public Prosecutor Haris Uddin Ahmed.

Under another section, the two were jailed for 10 years, and fined Tk 10,000 each in default to suffer one more month in prison.

The court, under yet another section, sentenced them to life term imprisonment and fined them Tk 1,000 each in default to suffer one more month.

According to the prosecution, on March 22, three youths -- Abdul Momin, Abu Sayed and Hasan Mahmud -- were on the roof of the Chittagong-bound train. At Tongi station, the criminals snatched money and mobile phones from them. Later, they pushed the youths when they tried to resist them.

Next day, police rescued them from Shimultoli. Momin was killed instantly and the other two were severely injured.



Participants of a discussion on "Data for the SDGs" which the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and The Daily Star jointly organised at the latter's conference hall in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

New BGB chief Abul Hossain takes charge

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



The newly appointed Director General of the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) Maj Gen Abul Hossain took over the charge of the force yesterday.

The government appointed Abul Hossain replacing outgoing DG Aziz Ahmed, who returned to Bangladesh Army being promoted to the rank of a lieutenant general.

Officials and employees gave the new BGB chief a warm welcome at the capital's Pikhana yesterday, reads a press release.

Abul Hossain was working as military secretary to President Abdul Hamid before his new appointment.

Recover occupied govt land near Monem's house

HC directs DNCC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) to recover the government land designated for greeneries adjacent to the house of Abdul Monem Khan, the then East Pakistan's provincial governor who had opposed the birth of Bangladesh, at Banani.

The court also ordered the authorities concerned to connect the electricity line of the house, where Monem's predecessors have been living, in three days, if it is disconnected during the recovery of the around 14 katha government land.

The HC bench of Justice Obaidul Hassan and Justice Krishna Debnath passed the order after rejecting a writ petition filed by AHM Kamruzzaman Khan, son of Monem Khan, challenging the legality of a DNCC order that had asked Monem Khan's family in 2009 to free the land.

DNCC lawyer Advocate Ahsanul Karim told The Daily Star that Monem Khan's inheritors had been illegally occupying the land meant for greeneries as per the layout plan devised by the then Dhaka Improvement Trust (DIT), which is now Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk).

Enjoy

MORE CONNECTIONS

to Europe & America

New flight timings between Dubai and Dhaka.		
FLIGHT	DEPARTS	ARRIVES
DXB-DAC EK 584	16:45	23:00
DAC-DXB EK 585	00:45	04:25

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