

WEATHER
FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA H 29.2 L 18.6	CHITTAGONG H 30.3 L 19.3	SYLHET H 29.1 L 18.2	RAJSHAHI H 29.9 L 16.7	KHULNA H 29.5 L 18.0	BARISAL H 29.4 L 16.7	RANGPUR H 28.5 L 17.2	COX'S BAZAR H 30.2 L 18.5
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Light rain/drizzle is likely to occur at one or two places over Chittagong division and weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today. Light fog may occur at places over the country during early morning. Night temperature may rise slightly and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 05:11pm and rises tomorrow at 06:25am.

Tampaco Foils owner gets bail after surrender

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A Gazipur court yesterday granted ad-interim bail to Tampaco Foils Ltd owner till January 4 after he had surrendered before it in two cases filed for the September 10 factory fire that killed 39 workers and injured many more.

The order came after Syed Mokbul Hossain sought bail, said Rabiul Islam, court inspector.

The court, however, sent five other surrendered accused to jail after rejecting their bail petition, he added.

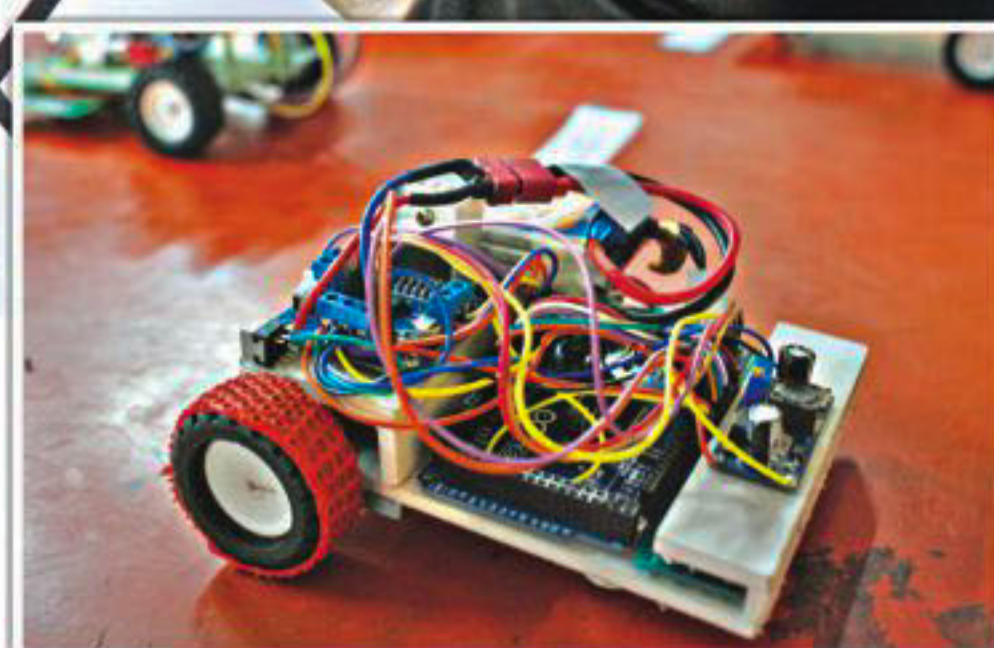
Earlier on November 23, the HC issued an order asking them to surrender before the lower court concerned in seven days.

The five other accused are the factory Managing Director Syed Tanvir Ahmed, General Manager Shafiqur Rahman, Manager (admin) Manir Hossain, Deputy Managing Director Alamgir Hossain, and Manager Abu Hanif.



Some of the science, technology and engineering students of 15 universities who exhibited the prowess of their robotic creations at a three-day ROBO Carnival 2016, organised by Buet Robotics Society on the campus of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) in the capital from Tuesday. Inset, one of the brainchildren of the young innovators.

PHOTO: STAR



ROBO CARNIVAL 2016 Robot enthusiasts showcase creations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Science, technology and engineering students of 15 universities around the country have showcased their robotic creations at ROBO Carnival 2016, organised by Buet Robotics Society on the campus in the capital.

With the belief that robots will carry out all routine production while artificial intelligence become a reality in upcoming years, the participants submitted projects on practical applications in areas including industrial automation, rescue missions and traffic rule enforcement.

"Those days are not so far away when robots will run all the systematic production, and this event is a part of the process to prepare us," said the society President Irfan Hasib on the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) campus on Tuesday.

"We want to develop our own machines which will help us in increasing our industrial production," he said, adding that some big businesses had already started making use of the technology.

Md Shafiqur Alam, a second year student leading a three-member DUET Robo_Sapien team of the Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology, (Duet) Gazipur, was visibly excited, saying that they had been working on the project for the last one year.

Innovation is vital for a growing economy like Bangladesh and breakthroughs of the country's researchers are appreciated by foreign companies which sellback the technology at a high price, said the society's members.

The event ends today with makers of the top three creations getting a chance to take part in world-renowned competitions.

Exploitative migration cost frustrates rights bodies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Migration costs are not coming down despite repeated government efforts over the years while an unethical nexus of brokers and recruiting agents are using unfair recruitment systems to exploit Bangladeshis, labour and migrant rights activists stated in frustration yesterday.

It is sadly true despite the fact that the government fixed country-wise rates, added lawmaker Israfil Alam at a discussion, "Business Mechanism Meeting with Private Sectors Towards GFMD", in a hotel in the capital.

Warbe Development Foundation organised the discussion with assistance from British Council's Promoting Knowledge for Accountability Systems.

The government set the migration cost per person to Saudi Arabia at Tk 1.65 lakh but in reality a worker pays at least Tk 4 to Tk 5 lakh, he lamented while addressing the programme as the chief guest.

The recruiting agents are violating government directives in different ways, said Israfil, adding that the costs were "very tolerable" in neighbouring India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

He said there should be a system where the payments are made through bank accounts of government-approved recruiting agents, which would ensure transparency and accountability.

Bangladeshi workers never protest, even if they are forced to work extra hours without overtime pay and if their salaries are delayed by 15 days, while Indians protest instantly, he said. He urged the government to ensure compliance to regulations towards ensuring safe and fair recruitment at labour markets.

Wajedul Islam Khan, secretary general of Trade Union Centre, alleged that the recruiting agents cheat workers by sending them abroad with false job promises.

Azharul Huq, an additional secretary at the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry, said the business sector remains involved in "visa trading" which increases the costs.

Shameem Ahmed Chwodhury Noman, joint secretary of the Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies, did not say anything about the costs.

Warbe Development Foundation Chairman Syed Saiful Haque chaired the programme while its director, Jasiya Khatoun, and KM Ali Reza, deputy chief at the expatriates' welfare ministry, each presented a paper.

Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager, MasterCard Singapore Holding Pte Ltd, and Mahfuzur Rahman, managing director, Hotel Orchard Suites also spoke.

Another Ashulia factory fire victim dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Another worker who suffered burns in Ashulia gas lighter factory fire on November 22 died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital early yesterday, raising the death toll to four.

The deceased was Sakina Akter, 20. The body was handed over to her family after an autopsy.

Sakina's father, Rakibul Mandal, a farmer, termed the death "a murder" caused by the negligence of the factory authorities, of what he had heard so far, and demanded punishment for the responsible ones.

At least 26 female workers were injured after the fire broke out at Colour Match BD Ltd in Zirabo.



A procession brought out by residents of seven Mymensingh villages in the town's Shambhuganj Bridge and heading towards the deputy commissioner's office yesterday protesting alleged government plans to acquire some 4,366 acres of land in char areas in the sadar upazila, which they claimed would lead to loss of ancestral homesteads and croplands, and urging to make use of khas land instead.

PHOTO: STAR

More research on mass media stressed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A two-day National Conference on Mass Communication and Journalism at Dhaka University organised by its mass communication and journalism department concluded yesterday.

Speakers at the concluding ceremony stressed the need for conducting more research on mass media.

Chairman of the department Prof Mofizur Rahman and Prof Dr Fahmidul Haq also spoke at the event.

As many as 45 papers were presented in the conference, participated by academicians from different universities.

SNAPS & snippets

235 ASPs promoted to additional SP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday promoted 235 assistant superintendents of police (ASP) to the rank of additional superintendent of police.

The home ministry in a circular said the order will take effect immediately. The promotion for the officers who are on study leave or in peace keeping missions abroad will be effective after their joining, it added.

3 envoys present credentials to Hamid

BSS, Dhaka

Ambassadors designate of Ethiopia, Mauritania and Tunisia to Bangladesh separately presented their credentials to President Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban yesterday.

The envoys are: Asfaw Dingamo Kame of Ethiopia, Sidi Mohamed Hanenna of Mauritania and Adel Elarbi of Tunisia. Welcoming the ambassadors, the president advised the ambassadors to take steps to utilise trade and investment potentials between Bangladesh and the countries. The envoys told the president that they would work to enhance bilateral cooperation with Bangladesh.

Indian vice air chief calls on Esrar

BSS, Dhaka

Vice Chief of the Air Staff, Indian Air Force Air Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa yesterday called on Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Abu Esrar at Air Headquarters in Dhaka.

During the meeting, they exchanged greetings and discussed different issues related to bilateral interests, said an ISPR press release.



Poribesh Bachao Andolon (Poba) forms a human chain in front of Dhaka University's Faculty of Fine Arts yesterday, demanding immediate steps to check dust pollution.

PHOTO: STAR

Korea to continue support: Envoy

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and Korea will write an unprecedented history together and new stories of great success through extensive knowledge-sharing and evolving means of cooperation with the help of ICT.

"We'll...work hand in hand with the people of Bangladesh as we've done together until now," said Korean Ambassador in Dhaka Ahn Seong-doo. He was addressing a reception at a city hotel Tuesday evening marking the 438th anniversary of Korean National Foundation Day.

Prime Minister's International Affairs Adviser Dr Gowher Rizvi, also the chief guest, recalled Korea's "extraordinary contribution" to the development of Bangladesh's RMG and textile industries.

Diplomats, political and business leaders, civil society members, journalists and cultural activists were present.



Korean Ambassador in Dhaka Ahn Seong-doo, back row, at a reception at a city hotel Tuesday evening, marking the 438th anniversary of Korean National Foundation Day.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

SC starts hearing Mufti

FROM PAGE 4

The two other condemned operatives of the outlawed militant outfit are Sharif Shahedul Alam Bipul and Delwar Hossain alias Ripon. The HC also upheld the life imprisonment of Muhibullah alias Muhibur Rahman alias Ovi and Mufti Main Uddin alias Abu Zandal, also Fuji members.

Later on, Mufti Hannan and Bipul filed appeals with the SC challenging the HC verdict on them.

In 2004, former UK high commissioner Anwar Choudhury along with around 70 others was hurt and three were killed in the attack at the shrine of Hazrat Shahjalal (RA) in Sylhet. The Bangladesh-born envoy, barely 18 days into his new assignment, suffered minor leg injuries in the grenade attack after Juma prayers. On December 23, 2008, the Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal sentenced Mufti Hannan, Bipul and Ripon to death, and Ovi and Abu Zandal to life imprisonment for the grenade attack and the killings.

Obituary

FROM PAGE 3

Mayor Annisul Huq expressed their profound shock at his death. Ashfaque will be buried at Banani graveyard in the capital today after a namaz-e-janaza at Banani Jame Mosque after Asr prayers.

অবিরাম সেবার অঙ্গীকার ও দরদী সমাজ গঠনের প্রত্যয় নিয়ে মেঘনা, শীতলক্ষ্যা, আড়িয়ালখাঁ ও পুরাতন ব্রহ্মপুত্র নদী বিধৌত প্রাচীন সভ্যতা ও ঐতিহ্যে লালিত, তাঁত ও বস্ত্র শিল্পে সমৃদ্ধ নগরী নরসিংদী জেলার পাতিলবাড়ি রোডে সোস্যাল ইসলামী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এর

১২৩তম শাখা

নরসিংদী শাখার

শুভ উদ্বোধন

০৯ ডিসেম্বর, ২০১৬

নরসিংদী শাখা

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