

WEATHER
FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S
TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 29.6 L 18.8

CHITTAGONG
H 30.4 L 19.6

SYLHET
H 29.5 L 17.9

RAJSHAHI
H 29.4 L 16.4

KHULNA
H 29.7 L 19.0

BARISAL
H 29.9 L 17.0

RANGPUR
H 28.8 L 17.0

COX'S BAZAR
H 31.5 L 21.0

Light rain is likely to occur at one or two places over Chittagong division and weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere 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 fall over the country. Met Office said, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 05:11pm and rises tomorrow at 06:26am.



People carrying a giant national flag during a colourful procession marking the month of victory. Sylhet District Administration brought out the procession yesterday that paraded through the major thoroughfares in the city.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Star-Rupchanda culinary contest held in Cox's Bazar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As in other districts, a large number of participants thronged the venue of the Cox's Bazar round of culinary contest "Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2017". Princess Cox Community Centre in the town on Wednesday played host to the event attended by 71 contestants who appeared in a written test. Of them, only nine made it to a cook-off. Md Rasel, a resident in the district's Ramu upazila, won over the event's judges and managed to secure a "waiting card" meaning he still has a shot in the final round to be held in the capital. Rasel was a student of Ramu Degree College.

Saudi embassy to issue more work visas: envoy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Saudi Arabian Embassy in Dhaka will increase workforce for its local office to issue more work visas, said Saudi Ambassador Abdullah HM Al-Mutairi yesterday. He gave the assurance following the recent media reports that the Saudi embassy was refusing to stamp visas for male workers as recruiting agencies are not sending at least 25 percent female workers simultaneously. Ruhul Amin, secretary general of Bangladesh Agencies of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira), last week told The Daily Star that the embassy was allegedly imposing a condition of 25 percent female quota on recruiting agents when they went for stamping visas for the male workers. The Saudi ambassador made the assurance during a courtesy call on Expatriates' Welfare Minister Nurul Islam at his office in the capital's Probashi Kalyan Bhaban, said a ministry press release. They discussed taking punitive actions against recruiting agents who are allegedly involved in visa trading. The minister also urged the envoy to hire Bangladeshis in all sectors. Earlier, Patrick Earle, executive director for Diplomacy Training Programme under the law faculty of New South Wales University in Australia, made a courtesy call on the minister at his office. The Australian scholar is now visiting Dhaka to provide diplomacy training on the migration issue. Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit Executive Director Prof CR Abrar and senior ministry officials were present.

NEWS IN brief

Saima to join Unesco award giving ceremony in Paris today

BSS, Dhaka



Saima Wazed Hossain, chairperson of the International Jury Board of UNESCO-Emir Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities will attend its award distribution ceremony at the Unesco headquarters in Paris today.

Saima, daughter of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, is also the chairperson of the National Advisory Committee on Autism in Bangladesh.

Man gets life term for murder

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday sentenced a man to life-term imprisonment for killing a person 19 years ago.

The convict Md Yunus, of Boubazar area, is now on the run. According to the prosecution, on January 3 in 1997, the accused shot victim, Shamsher Ali, to death in Chairman Ghata area of Chaktai over previous enmity.

Later, victim's father Dewan Ali lodged a case in this connection.

Correction

In a report published in page 5 on December 1 under the headline "Korea to continue support: Envoy" it was inadvertently written 438th anniversary of National Foundation Day. Actually it will be 4,348th anniversary of National Foundation Day. We regret the error.

Call to stop gender-based violence

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The speaker of the parliament, captain of the Bangladesh cricket team, and thirteen ambassadors, high commissioners and heads of organisations launched a video yesterday calling on people to eliminate gender-based violence.

The video can be viewed at goo.gl/zRyMzB

The video is a part of the Ambassadors for Change initiative that unites representatives of the foreign governments, donor community, and prominent Bangladeshis in a global effort to prevent violence against women and girls.

The initiative encompasses the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, an international campaign that runs from November 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) to December 10 (Human Rights Day) every year, according to a US embassy press release.

ATTRACTING BANGLADESHI TOURISTS India approves visa policy simplification

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Aiming to increase the number of Bangladeshi tourists and stimulate economic growth, India on Wednesday gave approval to liberalisation, simplification, rationalisation and incremental changes of its visa regime to increase earnings from the facilitation of entry for tourism, healthcare and business.

A meeting of the federal cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, gave the approval as decided by the home ministry in consultation with various stakeholders and with the home minister's approval, said an official statement.

Bangladesh is one of the top two foreign tourist contributors, many driven by trade and cheaper and better healthcare.

Last year, more tourists from Bangladesh came to India from January to October than from the United States or Britain -- the traditional source countries of most foreign visitors.

During that period, 6.28 million foreign tourists came to India, most of whom were from Bangladesh, whose share was 14.64 percent. The US ranked second, with a share of 14.55 percent and Britain third with 10.75 percent.

In 2014, however, the US was at the top of the table with 14.57 percent followed by Bangladesh in the second spot with 12.27 percent and Britain contributed 10.92 percent of the total number of foreign tourists coming to India, according to travel industry estimates.

A report by KPMG, which provides risk, financial services and business advisory, internal audit, corporate governance, and tax and regulatory services, last year said Bangladesh accounts for the highest number of medical tourists (22 percent) coming to India.



Md Rasel, centre, who made it to the final round of Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef-2017, with judges during a culinary audition at Princess Cox Community Centre in Cox's Bazar town on Wednesday.

PHOTO: STAR



The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam, third from right, and ACI Logistics Ltd Executive Director Sabbir Hasan Nasir, centre, shaking hands with copies of a deal they signed, on behalf of their organisations at the capital's The Daily Star Centre yesterday, to launch a campaign "Eat Smart" with a view to raising awareness among consumers on food processing system and nutrition ingredients.

PHOTO: STAR

Star-ACI Logistics 'Eat Smart' campaign launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After the successful completion of the "Know your Food" campaign last year, ACI Logistics Ltd, which owns the retail chain store Shwapno, and The Daily Star launched a new campaign with a view to raising awareness among consumers about food processing and nutrition facts.

An agreement was signed between ACI Logistics Ltd and the newspaper yesterday for the campaign "Eat Smart". With this campaign, people will get a closer look behind the scenes of food processing and nutrition facts in food. ACI Logistics Ltd Executive Director

Sabbir Hasan Nasir and The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam inked the deal on behalf of their organisations at the capital's The Daily Star Centre.

As per the agreement, articles on food processing, sourcing of food, nutrition facts and awareness issues will be published in the newspaper from the middle of this month.

Aftabul Karim Tanim, head of customer acquisition, media relationship and market development for ACI Logistics Ltd; Mizanur Rahman, the newspaper's general manager (finance and administration); Sher Ali, general manager (advertisements); and Tajdin Hassan, head of marketing, were present.

Nizam Hazari's

FROM PAGE 4

hearing arguments on the petition.

Earlier, the bench had adjourned delivering the verdict for four times on the petition on different reasons.

Shakhawat Hossain Bhuiyan, a Jubo League leader of Feni, filed the petition as public interest litigation with the HC on June 8, 2014 praying to the court to declare Nizam disqualified for contesting the parliamentary polls and holding the MP post for his alleged forgery in getting early release from jail in a criminal case.

At that time, the HC issued a rule asking the government and the Election Commission to explain why Nizam Hazari's parliament seat should not be declared vacant.

HC stays trial

FROM PAGE 4

Earlier this year, Moudud sought a stay on the proceedings at the lower court, which rejected it. Later, he filed a criminal revision petition with the HC challenging the rejection order.

SC gives seven

FROM PAGE 3

time to the government for finalizing the rules.

Earlier, the SC observed that some lower court judges were involved in corruption and anomalies and went beyond discipline, but steps cannot be taken against them.

On November 7, the court expressed dissatisfaction with the government not finalising the rules.

Efforts must

FROM PAGE 3

Directorate of Family Planning Dr Wahid Hossain also addressed the discussion with Health Secretary Sirajul Islam in the chair.

Nasim said, "Blosod banks are being set up in the country in unsafe manner... It will be banned immediately to protect the people from HIV and AIDS." They said among the 4,143 HIV positive cases, 600 died meaning Bangladesh has now over 3,000 HIV and AIDS patients.

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