

**WEATHER FORECAST**

TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
YESTERDAY'S	H 28.2 L 16.2	H 30.6 L 19.0	H 30.5 L 14.8	H 26.0 L 10.8	H 27.2 L 14.5	H 28.0 L 15.8	H 27.5 L 12.6	H 30.2 L 20.5

Moderate to thick fog may occur at places over the river basins and light to moderate fog may occur elsewhere over the country, reports UNB. Night temperature may rise by 1-2°C and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged, Met Office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:13pm and rises tomorrow at 6:33am. Country's highest temperature 31.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Teknaf and lowest 10.4 in Chuadanga.

## 'WRONG TREATMENT' Court orders reinvestigating student's death

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) to reinvestigate an allegation of wrong treatment of disease resulting in the death of a college student at a hospital in the capital's Uttara.

Sharmin Sarker, a student of Gazipur Government Women's College, died when undergoing treatment at Ultra Adhunik Hospital on June 13 last year.

Metropolitan Magistrate Sazzadur Rahman passed the order after Sharmin's mother Sufia Sarker filed a no-confidence (naraji) petition against a probe report submitted by Uttara police on October 12 the same year.

Saying that the charges brought against four doctors of the hospital were not proved, police appealed to the court to relieve the accused of the charges.

Following the incident, Sufia's mother filed a case with with Uttara (west) Police Station against Prof Dr Firoz Ahmed, head of the ENT department of the hospital, and assistant professors Dr Abul Hossain and MA Karim of the Department of Anesthesia, and Dr Faizul Islam Chowdhury, a junior consultant of the same department.

In the case statement, Sufia alleged that Sharmin was admitted to Ultra Adhunik Hospital in the capital on May 30 for treatment of a cyst in her tongue under the supervision of Prof Dr Firoz Ahmed and died on June 13 in wrong treatment.



Palestinian Foreign Minister Dr Riad NA Malki, centre, pays a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Gono Bhaban residence yesterday. The minister is leading a delegation at the 9th Summit of the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Dhaka. Earlier, the minister also met Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed and Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali and discussed strengthening bilateral cooperation in the areas of trade, education, agriculture, security and defence, said a press release. This was the first time the foreign minister paid a visit to the country.

PHOTO: PMO

## SC stays HC bar on gambling in clubs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed a High Court order that directed the government to stop gambling including cards, dice, and housie at 13 renowned clubs, including Dhaka Club.

The apex court also asked the High Court to hear and dispose of the rule issued questioning the legality of gambling at the club in eight weeks from January 2 next year, Barrister Ruhul Quddus Kazal, a lawyer for Dhaka Club, told The Daily Star.

The stay order will remain in force until disposal of the HC rule, he added.

A four-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice SK Sinha passed the order following a leave to appeal petition filed by the Dhaka Club authorities challenging the HC order.

On December 4, following a writ petition, the HC asked the government to stop gambling at the 13 clubs and issued the rule.

The 12 other clubs are Uttara Club, Gulshan Club, Dhanmondi Club, Banani Club, Officers' Club Dhaka, Ladies' Club Dhaka, Cadet College Club Dhaka, Chittagong Club, Chittagong Seniors' Club, Narayanganj Club, Sylhet Club, and Khulna Club.

## Migration unacceptable to climate victims

Says MJF, ICCCAD study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People losing livelihoods and accommodations due to climate change do not want to accept migration as the best adaptation strategy, revealed an ongoing survey yesterday.

Respondents claimed they were migrating from residences in coastal and northern regions to survive temporarily or cope with climatic disasters. The survey, "Climate Change and Migration: From Problem to Solution," was made public at a discussion in the capital's Bangla Academy.

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) and the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) have been jointly conducting it since August. They will survey 250 households in Bhola's Sadar upazila, Gaibandha's Sadar and Fulchari upazilas, and Kallyanpur slum area in the capital, till February next year.

Presenting a summary, ICCCAD Director Saleemul Huq said on migrating, climate victims faced multiple challenges centring

water, sanitation, healthcare, and children's education.

"In Bangladesh, around 15 million people may be displaced from their houses by the next two decades due to the impacts of climate change. But we cannot absorb another 10 million people into Dhaka city. So, we need planned migration," said the climate researcher. AQM Mahbub, a professor of geography and environment at Dhaka University, stressed local solutions instead of migration.

Solutions must be taken from experiences of the affected, added Hossain Zillur Rahman, a former caretaker government adviser and executive chairman of Power and Participation Research Centre.

Economics professor of Jahangirnagar University Sormindo Nilormi called for inclusive policies for the climate victims.

Chairing the programme, MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam urged the policy makers to include the climate change issue in the government's mainstream development policies.

## Make database on excluded

Suggests policy dialogue on achieving SDGs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a policy dialogue yesterday called for building a comprehensive database on the excluded people to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals' overarching aim of leaving no-one behind.

They also urged the government to form an inter-ministerial coordination cell to locate the excluded.

The dialogue on "Leave No One Behind: Sustainable Development Goals, 2030" was jointly organised by ADD International, Christian Aid, DanChurchAid and HelpAge International, at The Daily Star Centre.

Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kari, said excluded persons were found everywhere. "Many of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHTs) belong to the excluded group. Of them, indigenous people are more excluded and indigenous women the most excluded."

Criticising a special provision of the proposed Child Marriage Restraint Act-2016, which allows marriage of girls below 18 under "special circumstances", she said if the bill was passed, it would seriously conflict to the SDGs.

Country Director of iDE Bangladesh

Deepak Khadka said if the vulnerable people got access to income-generating facilities, the scenario would change.

Ferdous Ara Begum, a trustee of HelpAge International, urged inclusion of the elderly in the target group.

Suggesting collecting of data of the excluded including the dalits, widows, elderly, and physically challenged, she said interventions should be based on the data.

"Among the women left behind, there are sub-sections of the indigenous, dalit and elderly who never are highlighted," said Rabeya Sultana, an adviser of HelpAge International.

Professor of Dhaka University Dr Mahbuba Nasreen said, "There are many remote areas where people do not go to medical facilities because of long distances. Many mothers give birth at open fields." She stressed the need for taking healthcare services to these marginalised people.

Professor of Dhaka University Dr ASM Atiqur Rahman, fellow of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) Dwiijen Mallick, and executive director of WAVE Foundation Mohsin Ali also addressed the dialogue, moderated by country director of Christian Aid Shakeb Nabi.

## Competition on technical skills held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Second Round (regional level) Skills Competition 2016, an event for the students of technical education, was held across the country Saturday and yesterday.

The competition was organised in 13 public polytechnic institutes where 486 innovations of diploma-in-engineering students took part.

Of them, 51 were nominated for the national level round, said a press release.

The Skills and Training Enhancement Project under the Ministry of Education organised the competition. Bangla daily Prothom Alo's career website Chakri.com is the career partner.



As only a few days are left before the beginning of a new year, new books are being distributed across the country, with schoolchildren eagerly awaiting them to start the year. The photo was taken near Victoria School in Sreemangal municipality of Moulvibazar on Saturday.

PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA

## Remove nat'l council's publicity materials before December 14

AL directs party men

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League yesterday directed party leaders and activists to remove banners, posters and archway erected across the country marking party's 20th council before Martyred Intellectuals' Day on December 14.

Besides, the party asked AL men that no photographs, except Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and family members of Bangabandhu, can be used in the banners, festoons and posters marking Martyred Intellectuals' Day and Victory Day.

AL joint general secretary Jahangir Kabir Nanak made the announcement after a joint meeting of party and its front organisations with AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader in the chair at party president's Dhanmondi office.

## NIKO GRAFT CASE SC upholds HC's stay on trial of Moudud

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld a High Court order that stayed for eight weeks the trial proceedings against BNP leader Moudud Ahmed in a graft case.

The apex court also asked the HC bench led by Justice M Enayetur Rahim to hear and dispose of the latter's rule by January 19 that was issued over the trial proceedings against Moudud.

A four-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha passed the order after hearing a petition filed by Anti Corruption Commission challenging the HC's stay order.

The HC on December 1 stayed the trial proceedings for eight weeks following another petition of Moudud and issued a rule upon the government and ACC to explain as to why the trial proceedings against him should not be scrapped, ACC's lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star.

The ACC filed the Niko corruption case in December 2007 over charges that BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and several others had abused power to award a gas exploration and extraction deal to Canadian company Niko when she was the prime minister between 2001 and 2006.

Former law minister Moudud Ahmed was among the accused in the case.

## Admin not interfering in judicial affairs

Claims law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday claimed that the government's executive branch is not interfering in the judicial affairs.

After an event in the capital's Bangla Academy, he told reporters that they are working to strengthen the independence of the judiciary.

His comments came after Chief Justice SK Sinha on Saturday hoped initiatives will be taken to scrap few provisions of the Constitution regarding posting, promotion and disciplines of lower court judges.

When asked, the minister refrained from making any comment on the CJ's remarks saying that he needed to go through the CJ's full comments before saying anything.

Sinha at a Saturday programme hoped that the Jatiya Sangsad would scrap the constitutional provisions that empower the president to control posting, promotion and disciplines of lower court judges.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES Develop policy for fair disbursement of funds

Experts suggest govt at Dhaka seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should develop a policy for fair disbursement of funds to local government bodies and ensuring accountability in its financial management system, said experts yesterday.

Besides, there needs a comprehensive legal framework for coordinating the activities of different local government bodies -- union parishad, municipalities, upazila parishad, city corporation and district councils, they viewed.

They came up with the proposals at the closing session of a two-day international seminar titled "Towards Effective, Accountable and Inclusive Local Government Institutions (LGIs): Learning from South Asia and Beyond", organised by Local Government Division (LGD) at the Department of Public Health Engineering auditorium in Dhaka

yesterday. The local government experts from Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and the Philippines participated in the seminar and shared their views and experience from their country perspectives, said a press release.

Their other recommendations include clarifying the status of the reserved seat members in upazila parishad, regular monitoring of ward shava (meeting) performance at union parishad level and arranging gender sensitive programmes for male representatives.

Local Government Division (LGD) Secretary Abdul Malek chaired the session while LGRD Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, Switzerland's Ambassador to Bangladesh Christian Fotsch, UNDP Bangladesh Deputy Country Director Nick Beresford, among others, attended the function.

## NEWS IN brief

### Missing medical student returns

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

One of the two missing students from Pabna Medical College yesterday returned home at Kaunia upazila in Rangpur, said police.

Zakir Hossain, 21, a third-year student and organising secretary of the college unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League, went missing on December 1 becoming upset with parents, said his family.

### 13 'muggers' arrested in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday claimed to have arrested 13 alleged muggers from the capital in the last two days and seized 377 mobile phones, two tablets, one laptop, two pistols, six bullets and knives.

A drive in Mohammadpur yielded five suspects along with the firearms, a Rab official told a press conference at its Karwan Bazar media centre. The others were held yesterday in Kamrangirchar, he added.

### Youth's body found in Lalbagh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A youth's body was found in front of a cremation ground in the capital's Lalbagh area early yesterday.

The body of Anwar Hossain Sumon, 28, a C&F broker at Dhaka airport, bore several stab marks, said Moniruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Lalbagh Police Station. After an autopsy the body was handed over to his family.



### Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the 45th death anniversary of four martyred brothers Mukarram Hossain Mukul, Mansur Hossain Manju, Mastaque Hossain Anju and Mosharraf Hossain Ranju and their brother-in-law Yusuf Ali, who were freedom fighters during the 1971 Liberation War.

A Qurankhwani, milad mahfil and feeding of the destitute have been arranged at Hossain Nagar, Baitul Mozammel Jame Mosque on Savar EPZ Link Road, said a press release.

### Mozammel public admin senior secy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Md Mozammel Haque Khan has joined the public administration ministry as a senior secretary yesterday. He was appointed on December 5.

Mozammel, a senior official of the 1982 Bangladesh Civil Service batch, served in the home ministry as a senior secretary for two and a half years, said a press release.