

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 25.8 L 16.4	H 28.4 L 17.5	H 28.8 L 14.6	H 21.5 L 15.0	H 25.7 L 16.5	H 25.7 L 15.5	H 25.5 L 15.5	H 28.3 L 17.0

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country n next 24 hours till 6:00 pm today, reports UNB. Moderate to thick fog may occur over the country during the night till morning. Met Office said. Night and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 5:22 pm and rise tomorrow at 6:41 am.**



PHOTO: STAR



Celebrations rang out in schools around the country after results of Junior School Certificate and Junior Dakhil Certificate exams were published yesterday as exuberant students rejoiced at, *clockwise from top left*, Bangladesh Mohila Samity Girls' High School and College, and Dr Khastagir Govt Girls' High School in Chittagong, Cantonment Public School and College, Mymensingh; and Cantonment Public School & College, Rangpur; while some students at Blue Bird School and College, Sylhet exercised restraint over their emotions to calmly go through the results on a cellphone. *Bottom left*, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina receives the results from Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid at Gono Bhaban in the morning.

PM defends holding of primary, JSC exams

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday defended holding of primary terminal and junior school certificate (JSC) examinations, saying that such examinations boost the self-confidence of the children sitting for higher public exams.

"... as a result of such exams, self-confidence is being boosted up among the students to pursue education, while a consciousness has been created among the people which I think are very essential," she said.

The prime minister said this when receiving the results of this year's primary terminal, JSC and their equivalent examinations.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid handed over the JSC and Junior Dakhil Certificate (JDC) exam results, while Primary and Mass Education Minister Md Mustafizur Rahman handed over the primary terminal and Ebtedayee exam results to the prime minister at a ceremony at the PM's official Gono Bhaban residence.

The premier said there was controversy few days back whether the examinations would be held or not. "At one stage many people did not want holding of such exams. But I think the people should be informed again about holding of such examinations because they expressed reluctance about such exams," she said.

In this connection, the prime minister said earlier scholarship examinations were held at class V and VIII where a few number of selected students used to get chance for appearing these exams.

"The teachers had given attention to these students so that they are able to obtain scholarships. But the teachers had no time to focus on other students and that's why they (students) did not give proper attention to their study," she said.

As a result, she said, those who were left out of the teachers' attention were deprived of better education. But there might be meritorious among them.

Two mobile courts of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) yesterday demolished around 500 illegal structures on footpaths in the capital.

A mobile court of DNCC led by its executive magistrate SM Ajiar Rahman dismantled around 300 illegal shops on footpaths at Farmgate and on Green Road.

Another mobile court led by its executive magistrate Sazid Anwar, removed around 200 shops from footpaths in Tejgaon area, said an official of DNCC.

DNCC knocks down 500 establishments on footpaths

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two mobile courts of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) yesterday demolished around 500 illegal structures on footpaths in the capital.

A mobile court of DNCC led by its executive magistrate SM Ajiar Rahman dismantled around 300 illegal shops on footpaths at Farmgate and on Green Road.

Another mobile court led by its executive magistrate Sazid Anwar, removed around 200 shops from footpaths in Tejgaon area, said an official of DNCC.

Militants to get help for returning to normal life: IGP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Inspector General of Police (IGP) AKM Shahidul Hoque yesterday gave assurance that people who got involved in militant activities will get all kinds of support to return to normal life, otherwise police will take stern actions.

Police will continue anti-militancy drives, said the IGP, who was the chief guest, at a meeting arranged on militancy at the police headquarters.

He thanked the countrymen and media for their continuous support in curbing militancy, said a police headquarters press release.

The police headquarters also awarded members of police headquarters, counter terrorism and transnational crime unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, Rapid Action Battalion, DMP Uttara and Lalbagh divisions, and Gazipur and Bogra district police for their role in anti-militancy drives, it added.



AL-backed panel sweeps JUTA polls

JU CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League (AL)-backed panel swept the election to the executive council of Jahangirnagar University Teachers' Association (JUTA) yesterday.

Out of 15 posts, the AL-backed panel won 13 ones, including the president and general secretary posts, while the BNP-backed panel got two.

Prof Farid Ahmed of physics and Associate Prof Farid Ahmed of philosophy were elected president and general secretary respectively. Prof Syed Hafizur Rahman was elected vice president, Prof Mohammad Amzad Hossain treasurer, and Assistant Prof Md Fokhrul Islam joint secretary from the panel.

Change JU teacher recruitment process

Demands a section of teachers for excluding less meritorious candidates

JU CORRESPONDENT

A section of teachers of Jahangirnagar University on Wednesday demanded a change in the existing procedure for its teachers' appointment.

The demand was made during a press conference at the office of JU Journalists' Association (Juja).

They also demanded a review of the latest appointment of a lecturer of physics, which was approved by the syndicate on December 10. The teachers alleged that the appointment was made bypassing at least 10 "more qualified candidates".

In a written statement, Prof Shafiqul Islam of physics presented the qualifications of 11 candidates and alleged that the appointed lecturer was in the last position with a CGPA 3.62 out of 4.00, and he had no publication except for seven months' teaching experience in Haji Mohammad Danesh Science & Technology University.

"We had formally urged the department chairman and all of the syndicate members to re-evaluate the decision of the selection committee. But the less qualified candidate has been appointed. So we have been forced to inform the journalists."

Citing the recent report of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), Prof Naseem Akhter Hossain said, "The TIB report is the reflection of these anomalies."

Vice Chancellor Prof Farzana Islam said, "The selection board has selected the capable candidate for the post as the department chairman demanded appointment of a teacher who teaches electronics." "We have already brought some changes to the process through the syndicate. And more changes are in the pipeline," she added.



Dhaka University Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique yesterday inaugurates the construction of a memorial by sculptor Rasha for Avijit Roy right at the spot near the Teacher-Student Centre where the blogger and writer was hacked to death on February 26.

Memorial sculpture for slain blogger Avijit at TSC

DU CORRESPONDENT

A memorial named "statue of free thinking" is going to be built in Teacher-Student Centre area on the Dhaka University (DU) campus to uphold the memory of slain blogger and writer Avijit Roy.

DU Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique yesterday inaugurated the construction of the statue at "Avijit Chhatter" near the main entrance of Suhrawardy Udyan where Avijit was hacked to death and his wife Rafida Ahmed Bonya was critically injured on February 26 night.

The VC said, "The sculpture will symbolises rights to expression and represents the people with secular views."

Sculptor Rasha will build the statue which will be unveiled on February 28, 2017. Prof Ajoy Roy, father of Avijit, was present.

PHOTO: STAR