

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA H 25.4 L 11.3	CHITTAGONG H 26.0 L 14.0	SYLHET H 26.5 L 13.0	RAJSHAHI H 24.6 L 08.0	KHULNA H 26.2 L 10.2	BARISAL H 26.3 L 09.5	RANGPUR H 25.0 L 09.0	COX'S BAZAR H 27.5 L 16.0
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Light to moderate fog may occur at places over the country, reports UNB. Mild to moderate cold wave sweeping over Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions and Tangail, Faridpur, Madaripur, Gopalganj, Mymensingh, Sreemangal, Satkhira, Jessore, Chuadanga, Kushtia, Barisal and Bhola may continue. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:35pm and rises tomorrow at 6:43am. Country's highest temperature 29.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Teknaf and lowest 06.4 in Tentulia.



Hawkers want rehabilitation before eviction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hundreds of hawkers yesterday held a rally before the capital's Jatiya Press Club to press home their 10-point demand including rehabilitation before their eviction.

Under the banner of "Hawkers Semonnoy Parishad", the demonstrators also threatened of dire consequences if the eviction continues.

The Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) on Sunday started its eviction drives in Gulistan and nearby areas.

The drive will continue, said DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon on Monday after an 11-member delegation of Bangladesh Hawkets' Federation presented him a memorandum at Nagar Bhaban.

The mayor last week on Wednesday announced that from January 15, the hawkers will be allowed to sit only at selected places from 6:30pm onwards and all day on weekends. The demands include rehabilitation of hawkers by recovering government land, ID cards for real hawkers, allocation for hawkers in the national budget, and arrangement to sit on footpaths under DSCC's management.



Clockwise from left, pedestrians walk on a footpath next to the south gate of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque yesterday, which used to be occupied by the vendors most of the times, after an ongoing eviction drive of the Dhaka South City Corporation to clear the roads and sidewalks of the Gulistan and Motijheel areas from the hawkers. Meanwhile, hawkers in front of the mosque protest the move and demand rehabilitation. DSCC continues the drive in Gulistan.

PHOTOS: STAR

Reproductive health facilities for female RMG workers sought

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday urged the garment factory owners in the country to provide adequate sexual and reproductive health facilities to their female workers to ensure a healthy workplace.

The facilities, if provided, will also increase the production of the factories, they said at the roundtable organised by Bangla daily Prothom Alo in association with SNV Netherlands Development Organisation at the newspaper's office in the capital.

Some medium-scale garment factories ensure health facilities for their workers, but most of the small factories do not provide such facilities, which the workers are supposed to get from their employers, said Mushfiq Zaman Satiar, senior adviser of sexual and reproductive health and rights at the Dutch embassy.

On the other hand, large factories are doing well in this regard, which increases their productivity, she added.

Sharing her experiences, a garment worker in the city's Badda area, Taslima Begum, said, "We don't get the health facilities properly and even cannot share the physical problems we face during the menstrual period, as most of our bosses are males."

"Our sufferings will be minimised, if the authorities concerned take some steps regarding the issues," she said.

A total of 3,700 factories are members of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA). Of them, 2,200 factories have already been inspected by the government and BGMEA, said BGMEA President Siddiqui Rahman, adding that the inspected ones had been found to have maintained "all required facilities" for their workers.

Khadiza Akter, vice president of Sommilito Garments Shramik Federation, urged the authorities concerned to conduct more training and workshop on sexual and reproductive health issues to create awareness among the garments workers.

Lawmaker Shirin Akhter said a section on working women's sexual and reproductive health can be included to the existing labour law so that the employers are forced to follow it.

Talking about wage hike of the garments workers, Secretary of Labour and Employment Ministry Mikail Shipar said the wage of the workers will not be increased before 2019 as the government did it in 2013.

Shamsuzzaman Bhuiyan, additional inspector at the department of inspection for factories and establishments; Abul Hossain, a project director of women and children affairs ministry; Mohim Hassan, chief executive officer of Northern Tossrif Group; and Rubina Husain, vice president of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs, spoke.

Ex-chief justice Ruhul Amin passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former chief justice MM Ruhul Amin died of heart diseases at a hospital in Singapore early yesterday. He was 74.

He left behind his wife and two sons.

Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha, Law Minister Anisul Huq, Supreme Court judges, Attorney General Mahbub Alam and SC lawyers and officials condoled the death.

Body of the late chief justice will be brought to the country today and will be taken to the Supreme Court premises tomorrow morning for his namaz-e-janaza, Additional Registrar of the High Court Division of the SC Sabbir Faiz said.

Justice Amin was appointed as the chief justice on May 25, 2008.

He had served as the chairman of Bangladesh Judicial Service Commission since 2004.

Bangladesh urges UAE to ease visa process

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md Shahriar Alam has urged the United Arab Emirates to ease the visa process for Bangladeshi nationals including businessmen, workers and tourists.

He made the call during a meeting with Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation UAE, on the sideline of the 15th Ministerial Meeting of Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) in Abu Dhabi yesterday.

The UAE minister assured that the UAE government would give due consideration to this matter and requested the state minister for active participation of Bangladesh at the Expo 2020 to be held in Dubai, said a foreign ministry press release.

Both of them put emphasis on arranging high level visits, exchange of trade and cultural delegations and expressed their interests to work closely to further strengthen the relations between the countries. They agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the field of civil aviation, trade, economic and cultural matters.

The state minister handed over a letter of condolence from Bangladesh foreign minister to Abdullah on the death of five UAE officials in Kandahar, Afghanistan, who were killed in a terrorist attack earlier this month.

Ambassador of Bangladesh to the UAE Muhammad Imran, officials of the embassy, and officials of the foreign ministry of the two countries were present at the meeting.

Obituary

CITY DESK

Benu Debnath, wife of late Judge Dinesh Chandra Debnath, died of old age complications on Saturday, aged 92, says a press release.

She left behind her three daughters -- Dr Jharna Chandra Debnath, a retired professor of Rajshahi University; Swapna Debnath, a retired government college teacher; and Justice Krishna Debnath, and two sons -- Kajal Debnath, a social worker; and Sajal Debnath, an engineer of California University.

Her body will be kept at Dhakeswari National Temple tomorrow from 8:30am to 9:30am for paying respect and, later, it will be taken to her village home Puada at Bajitpur in Kishoreganj district for funeral.

JANATA BANK LIMITED

Estate Department (5th Floor),
Head Office
110-Motijheel C/A,
Dhaka-1000.
web site: www.janatabank-bd.com

Invitation for Tenders

Tenders through electronic media (e-Tenders) are hereby invited from the eligible experienced Contractors for Cleaning and Electrical Maintenance works of Janata Bank Limited's own Staff College office & Hostel Building at the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th floor and the Car Parking at the ground floor (partly) at 146/2A, New Baily Road, Dhaka-1000.

Necessary Information about the tender are as follows:

01. Procuring Entity:	: Janata Bank Limited.
02. Source of fund	: Janata Bank Limited's own Funds.
03. Tender Package no	: S.A/STAFF COLL.-CL. & E.MTC./04
04. Invitation for Tenders ref: & date:	: JBL/ED/STAFF COLL. -CL. & E.MTC./17/08 & 11-01-2017.
05. Tender Name/Brief description.	: Cleaning and Electrical Maintenance works of Janata Bank Limited's own staff college office & Hostel Building at the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th floor and the Car parking at the ground floor (partly) at 146/2A, New Baily Road, Dhaka-1000.
06. Duration of works	: 01 (one) year from the issuing date of work order (details in tender documents).
07. Eligibility of Tenderers	: Tenderers who have proven experience in successful completion of the Similar type of works for at least 01 (one) no 09 (nine) storied whole building i.e. ground floor to 8th floor in a single work order at Dhaka owned by Govt./Semi-govt./schedule bank/autonomous organization
08. Name & Address of the Web Receiving of the Tender Documents.	: Submit in web: www.janatabank-bd.com
09. Amount of Tender Security/Earnest Money	: A Tender Security/Earnest Money tk.15,000/- (taka Fifteen thousand) only should be submitted physically before tender closing in the form of a pay-order or Bank Draft in favour of Janata Bank Ltd. Head Office, 110-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh.
10. Last date and Time of receiving Tender Security/Earnest Money.	: 08-02-2017, within 2.00 p.m.
11. Performance security	: 10% (ten percent) of the Total Contract price in the form of a pay-order or Bank Draft in favour of Janata Bank Ltd. Head Office, 110-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh.
12. Name and address of the office of	: Deputy General Manager, Janata Bank Limited, Estate Department (5th floor), Head Office, 110-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
13. Opening Tenders	: Chamber of the A.G.M (E.D) at Estate Department (5th fl), 110, Motijheel, C/A, Dhaka-1000.
14. Last date and Time for selling of Tender document	: Not Applicable
15. Date and time of submitting the tender through Web	: upto 08-02-2017, within 2.30 p.m.
16. Date and Time for opening of Tenders	: 08-02-2017, 3.00 p.m. Tenderers or their authorized representative are allowed to attend at the time.
17. Special Instructions	: i) The procuring entity reserves the right to reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason thereof. ii) The tenderers should be bound to obey all the terms & conditions, rules and regulations of PPR-2008. iii) The Bank authority reserves the right to select the tender on the basis of experienced in the cleaning & electrical maintenance works and quoted price for the respective works. iv) If any tenderer produces any false, wrong information or fabricated papers/certificates along with the tender, the related tender will be treated as rejected and the tender security/earnest money will be forfeited. v) The lowest price will not be the only criteria for the selection of tender.

(AMAL CHANDRA SARKER)
Assistant General Manager

Journos to block roads today for 9th wage board

UNB, Dhaka

Journalists will stage demonstrations by blocking roads across the country today, demanding immediate announcement of the 9th wage board for them.

As part of the demonstrations, a rally will be staged in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club at 11:00am, said a press release of a faction of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) signed by its Secretary General Omar Faruk.

The release said despite the president's moral support and the prime minister's directives, the information ministry is dillydallying over formation of the new wage board.

Even Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu at a meeting assured the leaders of BFUJ and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) of announcing the 9th wage board by December 31 last.

7 get life term for killing man

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A Rangpur court yesterday sentenced seven people, including two women, to life imprisonment for killing a man in Mithapukur upazila in the district in 2006.

The convicts are Labu Mia, Abdul Aziz, Nehal Uddin, Omela Begum, and Nur Islam, all of Taraf-Bahari village in the upazila. The other two, Arjina Begum and her husband Moshir Rahman, are absconding.



Prantik Supermarket in Gabtoli -- one of the markets prone to collapse. PHOTO: DNCC

DNCC to demolish illegal structures in 12 markets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) will demolish all illegal establishments on and around its 12 markets, which are prone to collapse and fire accidents.

Annisul said many market buildings are vertically extended without permission, hampering the longevity of the markets.

"Whenever we try to recover the illegally occupied places, our officials face hurdles from the shop owners," he said.

The mayor said he will do a coordination meeting with all concerned parties to find out a solution. For retrofitting or reconstruction, shop owners are needed to be rehabilitated, which is not an easy task, he said.

According to the BUET, Gulshan Kitchen Market (North) and Gulshan Pucca Market (North) are needed major repair, retrofitting and partial demolition, while the Khilgaon Super Market, Khilgaon Kitchen Market, Karwan Bazar Arot Bhaban, Karwan Bazar no. 1 Bhaban Market, Karwan Bazar Kitchen Market, Karwan Bazar no. 2 Bhaban Market, Mohammadpur Town Hall Market, Prantik Super Market of Gabtoli, are required major repair and retrofitting.

The Gulshan Kitchen Market (South), which was also suggested by the BUET team for carrying out major repair, retrofitting and partial demolition, was collapsed in a fire incident on January 3.