

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
H 26.3 L 15.8	H 25.2 L 15.0	H 26.7 L 15.2	H 26.8 L 13.5	H 25.0 L 10.4	H 21.5 L 13.8	H 27.2 L 13.2	H 26.6 L 12.5	H 27.5 L 16.8	

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country having chances of light rain at one or two places over Rangpur division till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Night and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, says Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:45pm and rises tomorrow at 6:39am. Country's highest temperature 28.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Patuakhali and Kheupura and lowest 10.4 in Rajshahi.

8 'robbers' held over RMG items looting

Police yesterday arrested eight robbers who used to loot garment items from covered vans on highways. Shamsu alias Shamsu, Humayun Kabir, Shahin Rana, Shahin, Faruq, Humayun, Sayed Bhuyan and Mosharaf were arrested in the capital and Lakshimpur. Following a case filed by Shani Group, police recovered their covered van, which was hijacked with 10,000 shirts, worth Tk 63 lakh, from Jatrabari on January 20, said Dhaka Metropolitan Police at a press briefing. Police later recovered the looted products from a buying house named SS Enterprise in Uttara. The warehouse owner, Sayman, is absconding. The gang used to send the looted items to abroad. Maksud Mahmud, an expatriate in Dubai, is the mastermind behind the robbery, police added.



Students, parents and locals hold placards saying no to drugs at an awareness programme hosted by Uttara West police at Uttara Sector-13 in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

BGB erects building on Rajshahi jail's land

'Assaults' prison guards, 'threatens' official, 'refuses to comply' with dist admin's notice to remove it

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) yesterday allegedly threatened a prison official to hurt her career and assaulted some prison guards in Rajshahi city when the latter went to recover a piece of land "illegally occupied" by the paramilitary force. The guards and officials of Rajshahi Central Jail went to Sreerampur area on the Padma river bank around 11:00am to secure 6 kathas of the prison land, said the guards. Rajshahi sector BGB members pushed the jail guards and threw plastic chairs on them, said Halima Khatun, senior superintendent of the jail. She alleged that Maj Sarwar Hossain of Rajshahi Sector BGB threatened her to hurt her career and drove them away from the site with BGB forces. She said the jail authorities had been at loggerheads with BGB members since August last year when BGB occupied 6 kathas of their land. On January 22, a Supreme Court verdict gave a ruling in favour of the jail authorities, she claimed. However, Maj Sarwar Hossain, general operational officer of BGB, refuted the allegation of threatening Halima Khatun and said, "It's a childish talk. How can I take her job?"



A two-storey building erected by Border Guard Bangladesh on the land of Rajshahi Central Jail as announced by a notice board nearby.

PHOTO: ANWAR ALI

Children should be prevented from criminal activities

Cops tell awareness programme

After the killing of ninth-grader Adnan Kabir in Uttara, the lack of awareness among parents and school authorities turned up as the "route cause" to the problem, according to local elite. The elite along with parents of children and different school authorities joined an awareness programme hosted by Uttara West police yesterday at the Uttara Sector 13 ground. Police said children should be prevented before they are found as "criminals". Bashir Ahmed Bhuiyan, principal of Trust School and College, said parents should be friendly so that the children can share their words, adding, "Parents is the first friend of a child." "We cannot deny that we don't get such complaints against the students. We are strict on discipline ground. But it is not wholly possible to control if someone make nuisance of themselves outside the campus," said a teacher.

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CCC starts removing open bins

Staff Correspondent, Ctg

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) yesterday started removing open dustbins in the city. CCC Mayor AJM Nasir Uddin inaugurated the removal works at 36 no. Gosaildanga ward. All the dustbins of the city would be removed, said CCC Chief Conservancy Officer Shafiqul Mannan Siddique, adding that there were about 1,350 dustbins in 41 wards of the city. Mentionable, CCC began door-to-door garbage collection and removal works in seven wards, out of 41, from January 1.

Arrest warrant against lawyer

Court Correspondent

A Dhaka court yesterday issued an arrest warrant against a lawyer of Dhaka Bar Association hours after a staff of a Dhaka metropolitan magistrate's court filed a case on the charge of beating him. Md Rezaul Karim of the court of Metropolitan Magistrate Waez Kuruni Khan Chowdhury, filed the case against Advocate Abu Zafar Manik with the court of Metropolitan Magistrate Snigdha Rani Chakrabarty, who took cognizance of the charge and passed the arrest warrant. In the case, Rezaul mentioned that the lawyer assaulted him when he asked the counsel to wait for a while when he wanted to see a case file about 10:45am.

'33 CREDIT SYSTEM' Ruet suspends academic activities of two sessions

A Correspondent, Ru

The Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) yesterday indefinitely suspended all academic activities of the students of 2014-15 and 2015-16 sessions amid their demonstration for cancellation of the "33 credit system". Registrar Prof Mosharraf Hossain said the decision was taken in the 86th academic council meeting yesterday. Later, a press release was issued in this regard. However, classes and examinations of other sessions will continue normally, the release said. In the morning, around 300 students of the two sessions held a human chain on the campus and staged a sit-in in front of the Shaheed Minar. The demonstrators also boycotted classes and examinations for the fourth consecutive day yesterday in support of their demand. The demonstration started Saturday. According to the university rules, a student has to secure a minimum of 33 credits out of 40 in an academic year to be promoted to the next session. If the student fails to do so, they have to wait for the whole year for a retake. Previously, students were allowed to attend classes and examinations of the next session even if they got less than 33 credits. They could obtain the credits by retaking examinations later. But the Ruet authorities cancelled the system in the 2013-14 academic year.

SNAPS & snippets

Fire breaks out in city house

A fire broke out in a tin-roofed house in capital's Pashim Nakhhalpara last night, police said. Nine fire fighting units were trying to douse it till writing of this report at 11:55pm, said a fire service official, who, however, could not say the reason behind the fire. No casualties were reported till 11:50pm, said Tejgaon police.

Rotary signs MoU with Birdem

The Rotary Club of Dhaka North West signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Birdem Hospital, Dhaka, to finance a project involving Tk 3 crore for the modernisation of the neurology department of the hospital at the conference room of the Diabetic Association on Sunday, said press release. Dr A K Azad Khan was present as a chief guest. Rotary Club of Dhaka North West President Russell Jashim Uddin and Birdem Director General Prof Nazmun Nahar signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations.

10 asked to testify over 1988 Ctg massacre

A Chittagong court yesterday asked 10 prosecution witnesses, including two ministers and an Awami League leader, to testify before it in a case filed over the police firing at a procession of the then AL-led-alliance that killed 24 people in the city in 1988 during Ershad regime. They are Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu and Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed, AL presidium member Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury. Of the other seven, four are the victims' relatives, said public prosecutor Mejbah Uddin Chowdhury. The court fixed March 15 for the next hearing. It also recorded testimonies of the two relatives of the victims.



Independent University, Bangladesh Vice Chancellor Prof M Omar Rahman handed over certificates to the persons who participated in a joint certificate on public health challenges on the IUB premises in the capital yesterday. Dr Shamsun Nahar Ahmed, course faculty, was also present on the occasion.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Youth Carnival held in Italy

A workshop titled "Youth Carnival in Europe" was held in Milan of Italy on Sunday evening to provide proper guidelines to help the youth achieve their dreams. Leadership & Empowerment (LANE) organised the workshop with assistance from Youth Carnival (YC), a youth organisation founded in 2015 to create a platform to connect the youth with the opportunities, home and abroad. Speakers discussed the pattern of future job market, leadership, entrepreneurship and career development skills to enable the expatriate youth to face future challenges. Shahinur Alam Jony, CEO, YC, and Badrul Jewel, executive director of LANE, were present, among others, in the workshop chaired by Abu Hnnif Patowary, community leader in Italy, and moderated by another community leader Jamal Ahmed.



Participants at the workshop.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

MITU MURDER

Bhola denied bail at Ctg court

A Chittagong court yesterday rejected the bail petition of Ehteshamul Haque Bhola, who was arrested for his involvement in supplying the arms used in killing former superintendent of police Babul Akhter's wife Mitu. On last June 5, Mahmuda Khanam Mitu was stabbed and shot to death on OR Nizam Road near GEC intersection in the city. The next day, a murder case was lodged. On June 27, the Detective Branch of Chittagong Metropolitan Police arrested listed arms dealer Bhola and his associate Md Monir at Rajakhali with the revolver and pistol which were used in the murder. Later, he was shown arrested in the murder case.

Stop radicalisation in textbooks

Speakers urge govt

"Education has been Radicalised, commercialised and politicised. That's why, the purpose of the education is not being fulfilled. This attempt is self-killing. This process will lead us to darkness," he observed. The government will bring positive changes in the textbooks soon, he hoped, urging everybody to be vocal in this regard. Haider Akbar Khan Rono, a presidium member of Communist Party of Bangladesh, said the government brought changes in the textbooks as per the demand of Hefajat. "It is shameful," he added. Prof AN Rasheda gave a keynote presentation while noted local government expert Prof Tofail Ahmed, Dhaka University teacher Robayet Ferdous, Bangladesh Adivasi Forum Secretary General Sanjeeb Drong, among others, spoke.



Works of Bahaddarhat-Muradpur flyover, initiated by Chittagong Development Authority, continuing on a section stretching towards Kalurghat after a portion of it collapsed on November 12, 2012. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS