

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 31.5 L 17.4	MYMENSINGH H 29.7 L 17.0	CHITTAGONG H 32.2 L 17.9	SYLHET H 30.2 L 17.6	RAJSHAHI H 31.3 L 13.4	RANGPUR H 29.6 L 15.4	KHULNA H 32.5 L 16.0	BARISAL H 32.0 L 15.2	COX'S BAZAR H 33.0 L 18.5
-------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------	--------------------------------	----------------------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Day temperature may rise slightly and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged, says Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:02pm and rises tomorrow at 6:19am. Country's highest temperature 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sitakunda and lowest 11.7 in Sreemangal.

Every house will be illuminated by 2021: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the government has taken various projects for the development of the country's power sector to ensure electricity for all by 2021 at an affordable price.

The PM was opening eight power plants having 1,375 MW production capacity alongside new transmission and distribution lines from her official residence Gono Bhaban through videoconferencing. She also inaugurated cent percent electrification in 10 upazilas of the country and first-ever electricity connection to Thanchi upazila in Bandarban district.

The 10 upazilas are Keraniganj and Savar in Dhaka, Tongbari in Munshiganj, Kotalipara in Gopalganj, Bhuapur in Tangail, Karnaphuli in Chittagong, Daganbhuiyan in Feni, Kuliarchar in Kishoreganj, Mujibnagar in Meherpur and Syedpur in Rangpur.

The premier said in the last eight years, the power sector witnessed a tremendous progress.

Describing electricity as an important component to free the country from poverty, she said that is why the government has put importance to the development of this sector.

She again urged everybody to maintain austerity in using electricity and check misuse of electricity as the government is giving huge subsidy for its production. Secretary of the Power Division Dr Ahmad Kaikaus presented a video presentation on the present condition and future plan of the power sector.

Earlier in the morning, the PM witnessed a presentation of Engineer-in-Chief of Bangladesh Army Major General Md Siddiqur Rahman Sarker on the proposed integrated traffic management in the capital's Bijoy Sarani area.



The footpath has remained broken at the intersection of Kamal Ataturk Avenue and the airport road at Kakoli for months, and there were reports that people injured themselves at this place. In an overpopulated and gridlocked Dhaka, many people take footpaths, sometimes for travelling long distances, but their safety is neglected here, too. The photo was taken Tuesday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS UN body to review Bangladesh situation

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The UN Human Rights Committee will review the situation of civil and political rights in Bangladesh on March 6-7 in Geneva.

The Committee is a body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) by its State parties.

It will meet in Geneva from March 6 to 29 and will also review Serbia, Turkmenistan, Italy, Thailand and Bosnia and Herzegovina on different dates. These are among the 169 States that have ratified the ICCPR and so are required to be reviewed regularly by the Committee of 18 international independent experts.

The Committee will also hear from NGOs and national human rights institutions, according to a UN press release issued in Geneva yesterday.

The Committee's findings, officially termed concluding observations, on the countries reviewed, will be published on March 28.

The trucker killed her deliberately

Says victim's husband expressing satisfaction over the Savar driver's death penalty

AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH, Savar

It was a Friday morning. Khodeza Begum woke up early as usual and finished most of her daily chores. But little did she know it would be the last day of her life.

Hers was a modest family, consisting of seven -- her husband, a local farmer in the Jhauchar area of Savar on the outskirts of the capital, three sons and two daughters. The couple worked hard on their land and was able to build a home for their family.

The house was near the Jhauchar-Hemayetpur Road, connected through an earthen road, which was often used by locals. The road was also a part of Khodeza's husband Nuru Gazi's land, which he let the locals use.

But, Mir Hossen Niru, 39, a local truck driver, was using the road as a



Khodeza Begum

shortcut for quite some time to drive his earth-laden truck, much to the locals' dismay.

Around 11:30am that day, an altercation broke out between Nuru Gazi and Mir Hossen over driving his truck through the road. At one stage, an enraged Mir Hossen drove the truck hastily and ran Khodeza over when she came out of the house in support of her husband.

The 39-year-old died on the spot. Later, locals caught Mir Hossen and handed him over to police.

Khodeza's husband filed a murder case accusing Mir Hossen and his helper Intiaj Ali with Savar Model Police Station.

The tragic incident occurred on June 20, 2003.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Regulatory body to check diagnostic test fees mullied: Nasim

Staff Correspondent

The government is mulling over the formation of a regulatory body to monitor the quality of diagnostic tests of private hospitals and diagnostic centres across the country and the fees those organisations charge.

At the same time, health ministry will also formulate a policy in this regard, said Health Minister Mohammed Nasim at a meet with the Bangladesh Health Reporters Forum (BHRF) at the ministry yesterday.

"Different hospitals charge different fees for diagnostic tests. At one hospital, the charge for one test is Tk 100, but it is Tk 300 elsewhere. This can't happen," Nasim said.

State Minister for Health Zahid Maleque said the centre to be set up at the capital's Agargaon will work as a regulatory body of all the diagnostic centres in the country.

Nasim told reporters that the probe committee has found evidence of interns attacking a relative of a patient at Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College and Hospital in Bogra on February 19. "The final probe report reached my office. Evidence of attack by the interns has been found," he said. A group of intern doctors at the Bogra hospital allegedly beat up Rouf Sarkar, 35, son of a patient admitted there, twice over a trifling matter.

Nasim said the action of the interns was unfair, and the authorities would take action in a day or two.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

Teens kill ninth grader in capital

Staff Correspondent



Sajib Mia

A ninth grader died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday morning after being hacked allegedly by his acquaintances in the capital's West Shewrapara area of Mirpur.

Deceased Sajib Mia, 16, son of Abdur Rashid in the area, was a student of Holy Crescent School and College.

Md Raju, Sajib's elder brother, told The Daily Star that three to four boys hacked Sajib with machetes when he went outside for shopping at a local kitchen market around 10:30pm on Tuesday.

Md Sayem, owner of Mila Hotel and Restaurant and an eye witness, said one of the youths, a mechanic in the area, was waiting with his friends for an hour. Soon after Sajib showed up, they locked into a brawl and he attacked Sajib with a machete, which he hid under his clothes.

Rezaul Karim, sub-inspector of Mirpur Police Station, said they have already detained one of the youths and the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

LAW PERMITTING UNDERAGE MARRIAGE Rights groups threaten legal action

Staff Correspondent

Rights groups yesterday threatened to go to court if the government does not revise the newly passed Child Marriage Act, 2017, which allows underage marriages under "special circumstances".

Samajik Pratirodh Committee, a platform of 70 rights organisations, in association with Girls Not Brides, Child Rights Advocacy Coalition, and Jaago Foundation, made the announcement through a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity.

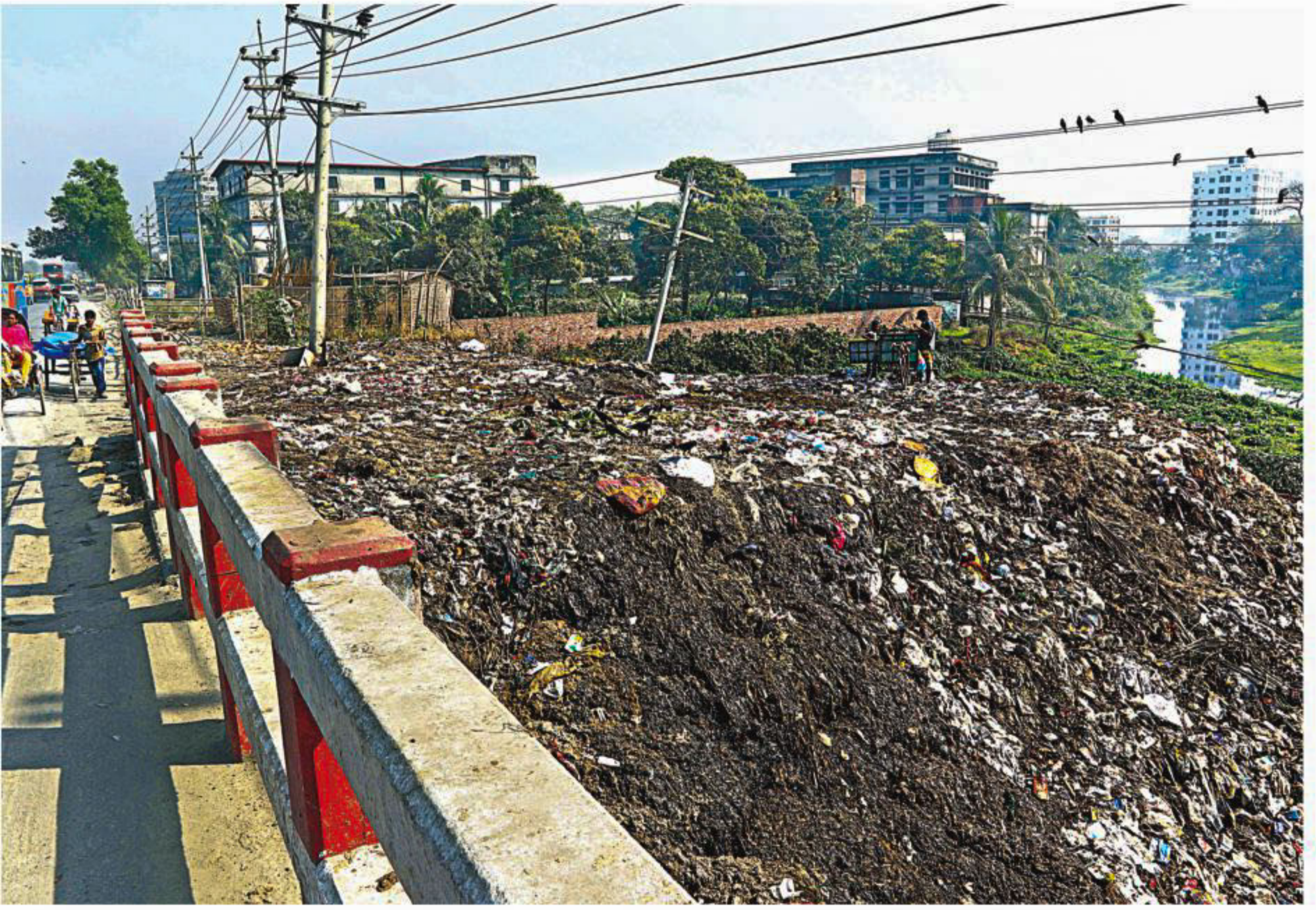
The law was passed in parliament on Monday. Though it sets the marriage age for women and men at 18 and 21 respectively, a special provision permits parents to marry off their children below that age under "special circumstances". The provision also does not specify any age ceiling.

Salma Ali, executive director of Bangladesh National Women Layers' Association, said the law cannot be accepted because the provision completely hampers its goal. "So the provision should be scrapped. If the government does not do it, we will go to the High Court to take legal actions."

Ayesha Khanam, president of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, said the provision will severely affect women and children's rights and encourage child marriage because it does not specify the age for marriage under "special circumstances". "The act will give advantage to rapists for marrying the victims." She urged people to raise their voice against the act.

Laila Khondkar, director (child protection) of Save the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7



Waste dumping has always been a threat to the existence of wetlands, but the scale and magnitude of the problem varies from place to place. For Kornapara canal in Savar, it is the biggest threat, with the mountain of waste getting bigger and slowly blocking the main channel. While there is a landfill in Savar, it is not known how people dump garbage in the canal regularly, dodging the eyes of the law enforcers and the government agencies concerned. The photo was taken last week.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

CJ urges lawyers to uphold integrity

Staff Correspondent

Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha yesterday asked the lawyers to uphold the integrity of their profession.

He was addressing a discussion in the capital's Supreme Court Bar Association auditorium as the chief guest, organised by Dhaka University LLM Lawyers' Association.

Judges need to be careful in delivering their verdicts, he added. "Whatever worse the situation is, judges must speak according to the law." The CJ further said that there are inconsistencies prevailing in the country's judiciary system due to an inadequate explanation of law by judiciary jurists.

He also said the state needs to uphold its morality and make its citizen follow the rule of law for establishing peace.

High Court Division judges Justice Naima Haider, Justice AKM Abdul Hakim and Justice Md Rezaul Hasan, DU Law Department Chairman Prof Borhan Uddin Khan and DU LLM Lawyers' Association President advocate AKM Fayeze, also spoke.

Spend surcharge from tobacco products to prevent diseases

Vital Strategies views exchange meeting urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should spend the health development surcharge (HDS) collected from cigarettes and other tobacco products in the prevention of non-communicable diseases, said speakers at a views exchange meeting yesterday.

Praising the government for its role in achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs), Vital Strategies Director Rebecca Perl said if the health tax is spent to prevent non-communicable diseases, it will save lives of millions and help achieve the goals.

The government has been collecting 1 percent HDS on tobacco products.

The meeting was organised by Vital Strategies, a New York-based non-profit organisation, at a Dhaka hotel. Rebecca said the uses of HDS in prevention of such diseases prove successful in Vietnam and Thailand.

Mohammad Abdus Sobhan, deputy secretary, Ministry of Information; Dr Md Shahidul Islam, commissioner, Custom, Excise and VAT Commissionerate, Dhaka (West); and Mohammad Ruhul Quddus, coordinator, National Tobacco Control Cell, addressed the programme.

Shafiqul Islam, country adviser to Vital Strategies, screened a power point presentation.

Novartis (Bangladesh) Limited

A company that attracts "Best-in-Class" people
A company with the most dynamic Sales Team
A team that works in a learning environment

Think what's possible
 A global healthcare leader, Novartis has one of the most exciting product pipelines in the industry today. A pipeline of innovative medicines brought to life by diverse, talented, performance driven people. All of which makes us the most rewarding employer in our field.

Franchise Head Innovative Medicines Division
 We are looking for bright and competent people who will be responsible to lead sales & marketing activities including development & implementation of marketing strategies, goals and operational objectives of the Franchise & drive excellence for better patient outcome.

You must have:

- University graduation in science and/or degree in Marketing or clinical research. Post Graduation is highly preferred
- Extensive 10-12 years of sales and marketing experiences within pharmaceuticals industry, including 5 years in management position
- Well developed understanding of country regulatory and market environments
- In depth knowledge of customers/ marketplace, key dynamics and current knowledge of key competitors and their likely strategies

Interested individuals are requested to send their CV within **15 March, 2017** to hrbulletin.pharma@novartis.com

Also you can send to the below address:
Novartis (Bangladesh) Limited Innovative Medicines Division
 AHN Tower (7th Floor)
 13 C R Dutta Road (old Sonargaon Road) Biplon C/A, Dhaka 1000

NOVARTIS