

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 26.8 | L 19.6

MYMENSINGH
H 22.6 | L 19.0

CHITTAGONG
H 27.5 | L 21.2

SYLHET
H 21.1 | L 17.8

RAJSHAHI
H 26.5 | L 19.9

RANGPUR
H 21.2 | L 17.8

KHULNA
H 30.2 | L 21.0

BARISAL
H 30.2 | L 20.7

COX'S BAZAR
H 29.7 | L 21.5

Rain or thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at a few places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka and Mymensingh divisions till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Day temperature may rise by 2-3 degree Celsius and night temperature may fall slightly over the country, says Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:06pm and rises tomorrow at 6:09am.

Declare home economics college as DU institute

Demand students, block intersection for 2hrs
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students of the College of Home Economics, a constituent college of Dhaka University, blocked an intersection in the capital's New Market area for around two hours demanding that the college be declared as an institute of the university.

The traffic remained suspended until the demonstrators left the spot around 3:15pm, said Moniruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Lalbagh Police Station.

The students also boycotted academic activities, campus sources said.

Their other demands include adequate transport and library facilities, quality education and sufficient teachers.

Journalists to stage demo for 9th wage board today

BSS, Dhaka

Journalists will block roads across the country today demanding immediate announcement of the ninth wage board for them.

In Dhaka, the programme will be organised by Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) before Jatiya Press Club, said a press release yesterday.

BFUJ urged all journalists' unions and media related organisations across the country to make the programme a success.



Jinia Frensilia Rodricks of Begum Badrunnessa Govt Girls College, receives the Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited (DBBL)'s scholarship from Finance Minister AMA Muhith at Shaheed Suhrawardi Indoor Stadium in the capital's Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Making a difference

2,028 poor meritorious students get DBBL scholarships

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jyotsna Khatun is one of three children of a poor day-labourer in Ashashuni upazila of Satkhira.

With a daily income of Tk 150 to Tk 200, it was quite difficult for her father to bear the living expenses of the five-member family, let alone meet the education cost.

But, a determined Jyotsna continued her studies with the help of her teachers on the back of her stellar performances in every class. In SSC examination, she achieved the highest grade point, Golden A+.

However, uncertainty loomed large over her future as the poor father mulled to marry her off since the family was not sure where the money to support her studies would come from.

At that point, Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited (DBBL) appeared as a saviour.

During the toughest time of her life, Jyotsna applied for a scholarship, the private commercial bank has been granting for the last one and a half decades, and got it.

"My parents were happier than me. I completed my college education with the scholarship and saved a little for getting admitted to a university," said Jyotsna.

She repeated the success in HSC in 2016 as well and achieved Golden A+. She also got admitted to the Department of Banking and Insurance at Dhaka University.

But, uncertainty surfaced again. And, DBBL once again extended its helpful hand to the meritorious student.

"When I informed my parents about the scholarship, they heaved a sigh of relief. The financial assistance gives a much-needed support not only to me or my family but also to the thousands of students present here," said Jyotsna while speaking at a scholarship awarding ceremony at Shaheed Suhrawardi Indoor Stadium in the capital's Mirpur yesterday.

Jyotsna's brother, also a beneficiary of the DBBL's scholarship programme, is now studying at Barisal University.

Yesterday, DBBL gave scholarships to 2,028 students who passed HSC and equivalent exams in 2016 and are studying at the tertiary level.

A total of 18,161 students are currently receiving DBBL scholarships. At the graduate level, a student gets Tk 2,500 monthly. In addition, they get Tk 6,000 per year for buying books and clothes, according to DBBL.

Under the initiative, 43,628 students got

DBBL scholarships since 2001. Ninety percent of the total scholarship is earmarked for the students who passed from the educational institutions in the rural areas and at least 50 percent of them are female students.

Lauding DBBL for its initiative, Finance Minister AMA Muhith said it will be good if other financial institutions also come forward.

He said with this initiative, DBBL is not only serving its corporate social responsibility, but also playing an important role in nation building.

The government has already increased the amount of scholarship money, but it is not enough, he said, adding, the government will think about it and for doing so people will have to pay more tax.

Sayem Ahmed, chairman, DBBL board of directors, said the bank started the scholarship programme when it noticed there were a lot of students who did not receive a fair chance, despite showing academic talent, for economic, demographic and social reasons.

"They are not lacking in merit, but lacking in resources," he added.

Four other beneficiaries of the DBBL's scholarships and Abul Kashem Md Shirin, managing director of the bank, also spoke.



Wrapping himself in a blanket, a homeless man takes a nap on the road divider in the rain-cooled Dhaka city yesterday following brief spells of rain since the night before. The photo was taken at Shatrasta intersection.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

15 'miscreants' held in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcers claimed to have arrested 15 miscreants, including six detective imposters and six drug peddlers, in the capital on Friday.

The Detective Branch of police arrested the detective imposters who picked up people coming out of banks and other commercial institutions, snatched their valuables and dropped them at a secluded place," said Deputy Commissioner Shaikh Nazmul Alam of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) at a press brief yesterday.

The six, Jahangir Alam alias Shakil, Mamun Hossain, Amin Gazi, Roni alias Mahabub, Ibrahim, and Shakhwat Hossain Sajib, were arrested with a pistol, three bullets and handcuff.

Police arrested drug peddler Akteruzzaman alias Bokul in cantonment area while held Johurul Islam, Rita Begum and Jahanara in Shahjahanpur.

In primary interrogation, they admitted to collecting heroin from Godagari upazila of Rajshahi and selling it in different areas in the capital, Nazmul said.

The Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime unit of DMP arrested Joint General Secretary of Jubo Dal Cox's Bazar unit Nezam Uddin and his cohort with one lakh Yaba pills in Gendaria.

They used to bring the pills from Teknaf and sell those in the capital, said the deputy commissioner.

Meanwhile, police held Babul, Salam, and Mamun Biswas with 40 cocktail-like objects and a machete on Manik Mia Avenue while they, as per police, were planning to commit a robbery.

SNAPS & snippets

CU student accuses medical centre doctor of groping her

CU CORRESPONDENT

A residential student of Chittagong University (CU) yesterday filed a written complaint to the proctor against a CU medical centre for allegedly groping her during a check-up on Friday night.

The doctor did not answer phone calls when this correspondent tried to contact him for a comment.

CU Assistant Proctor Liton Mitra said they would decide today whether to form a probe body or assign the university's sexual harassment prevention cell.

Bangladesh Chhatra Union Chittagong University unit announced that they would bring out a procession and a protest rally today at 12:30pm on CU Central Shaheed Minar premises demanding resignation of the doctor.

Ariful Huq Roni passes away

BSS, Dhaka



Ariful Huq Roni, Law Minister Anisul Huq's younger brother and chief state counsel of Bangabandhu murder trial Sirajul Huq's youngest son, died yesterday morning at a Dallas hospital in the US. He was 53.

Roni was suffering from heart ailments for a long time and had his heart transplant in November last year. He left behind his wife, two sons and a daughter.

Senior Secretary Mohammad Shahidul Haque of Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division and Law and Justice Division Secretary Abu Saleh Sheikh Md Zahirul Haque mourned the death of Roni, an official release said. They also conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

Ranjit Das' art exhibition opens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A two-week solo art exhibition of artist Ranjit Das was inaugurated yesterday at Galleri Kaya in the capital.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor inaugurated the exhibition titled "Journey & Images."

Adarsh Swaika, Indian deputy high commissioner, and former finance minister M Sayeduzzaman were present at the ceremony as special guests. The exhibition is sponsored by AND Group.



Viewers at a solo art exhibition of artist Ranjit Das in Galleri Kaya in the capital's Uttara yesterday. PHOTO: COLLECTED

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