

**WEATHER FORECAST**

**YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES**

<b>DHAKA</b> H 33.0 L 26.5	<b>MYMENSINGH</b> H 31.5 L 22.2	<b>CHITTAGONG</b> H 31.6 L 25.5	<b>SYLHET</b> H 28.5 L 17.5	<b>RAJSHAHI</b> H 37.4 L 25.7	<b>RANGPUR</b> H 30.2 L 21.5	<b>KHULNA</b> H 34.0 L 25.5	<b>BARISAL</b> H 31.6 L 26.3	<b>COX'S BAZAR</b> H 30.8 L 25.4
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Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at most places over Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rangpur division and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagong divisions with hail at isolated places till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, says Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:16pm and rises tomorrow at 5:48am.

**NEWS IN brief**

**ICT fixes May 3 for pressing charges against 9 Mymensingh, Jamalpur men**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday directed the prosecution to press charges on May 3 in a case filed against nine men from Mymensingh and Jamalpur over their alleged involvement in crimes during the 1971 Liberation War. The war crimes suspects--Abdus Salam, Suruj Ali Fakir, Joyal Abedin, Abdur Rahim Master, Jalal Uddin, and Rustam Ali-- are in jail while the rest on the run.

**BCC staff, workers withdraw strike**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal**  
After getting assurance from the authorities that they will be paid their due salaries, Barisal City Corporation (BCC) workers and staff yesterday evening withdrew their strike. BCC Mayor Ahsan Habib Kamal said the salaries of two months will be paid today. Some 1,600 temporary workers as well as 541 class-II and class-III staff of the city corporation went on strike on March 27 demanding arrears of five months.

**Two JCD men arrested in capital**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Police arrested two activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) in the capital's Paltan area following a clash ensued when the law enforcers obstructed their procession.

Around 50 JCD men brought out the procession protesting the killing of JCD leader Nurul Alam Nuru from their party office in Nayapaltan around 12:50pm and were heading towards Kakrail. The party activists hurled brick chunks at police when they obstructed the procession. The JCD men also vandalised two vehicles, said Officer-In-Charge Rafiqul Islam of Paltan Police Station. Nuru, assistant general secretary of JCD, was found murdered on the banks of the Karnaphuli river in Chittagong hours after he was picked up allegedly by law enforcers from his home in the city on Wednesday.

**WFP for hunger-free Bangladesh**

**CITY DESK**  
The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is launching a new four-year Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2017-2020 to strengthen and support the Bangladesh government in achieving the Sustainable Development Goal of "Zero Hunger" by 2030.

WFP will work to improve malnutrition, ensure access to food, support sustainable food systems and emergency preparedness activities, said a press release yesterday.

**Eaysmin reappointed UU pro-VC**

**CITY DESK**  
Prof Dr Eaysmin Ara Lekha has been reappointed as the pro-vice chancellor of Uttara University for a four-year term. Dr Eaysmin completed her first tenure from 2012-2016 and will start the second term from the date of her receiving the appointment letter, said a press release.



**PURE MUSTARD OIL ON THE MOVE**



Customers surround a mustard oil vendor and his assistant, who travel the port city on a pick-up van with their mobile oil mill, in Chittagong's Momin Bazar. With the mini mill, run by diesel, does not require any complicated gear or technology. The vendor puts some mustard seeds into the opening on its top and, in a few minutes, the pungent dark yellow oil starts dripping down from an outlet at the bottom of the expeller. The entire process of extracting the oil from the seeds is done right in front of the buyers as an assurance that the oil, sold for Tk 220 a litre, is pure. Also, the residue of the crushed seeds (oil cakes), squeezed out through a separate outlet, is sold as animal feed. The photos were taken recently.

PHOTOS: ANURUP KANTI DAS

**Female constable dies of burn injuries of burn injuries**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh**

A female police constable died of burn injuries in Mymensingh yesterday.

Halima Khatun, 23, went back to her barrack around 3:00pm after finishing the day's duty, said Delwar Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Gouripur Police Station.

Upon hearing the news, they rushed to the barrack and discovered Halima with serious burn injuries, he said.

Halima died on the way to Dhaka Medical College Hospital around 6:00pm. Earlier, she was admitted to the burn unit of Mymensingh Medical College Hospital, the OC added.

A police official, on condition of anonymity, said she might have committed suicide by pouring kerosene on her body.

SA Newaji, additional police superintendent of Mymensingh (North), a sub-inspector of the police station, who had a relation with her, was closed to the Mymensingh Police Lines for interrogation.

A three-member probe body was also formed. Halima hails from Gourakanda village in Purbadhala upazila of Netrakona.

**Chhatra Union nat'l council begins at DU**

**DU CORRESPONDENT**

A four-day 38th national council of Bangladesh Chhatra Union began at Dhaka University yesterday.

Themed "The unity of students and the masses: Protection of education and culture," the council of the pro-Communist Party of Bangladesh student organisation will end on April 5.

Prof Serajul Islam Choudhury, an eminent scholar, inaugurated the event at Aparajaya Bangla.

He said, "Students must unite to uphold the spirit of the Liberation War and build a non-communal and discrimination-free society through education."

The speakers said elections to all the student unions, including Dhaka University Central Students' Union (Ducus), should be held to build qualitative leadership in students.

They also urged all to join hands to stop question leaks and protest commercialisation, privatisation and hiking expense of education.

All Nepal National Free Students Union general secretary Sunita Baral, Socialist Youth Union of Sri Lanka Avyarananna Acharya, Girish Ananda Pande of India also addressed the programme.

The last Chhatra Union council was held on September 13-15, 2015 when Lucky Akhter was elected president and GM Jilani Shuvo general secretary.

**Give deprived children a chance at life**

**Indian Nobel winner Satyarthi urges youths at the launch of global campaign '100 million for 100 million' in Dhaka**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Nobel Peace Prize winner Kailash Satyarthi has urged Bangladesh's youths to stand beside the disadvantaged children and help them get education and protect them from exploitation.

"You are very lucky. You have parents and teachers, and you can go to school... but there are tens of millions who are deprived of healthcare, education, and protection," he said.

"Let's pledge to eliminate child labour and ensure education for all," Satyarthi said at the launch of a global campaign, "100 million for 100 million", at the capital's St Joseph Higher Secondary School yesterday.

The Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE) organised the programme that brought together several hundred school students, and ministers, educationists, and development activists.

They chanted together, "We will build our future."

Today there are more than 100 million child labourers in the world, of which 5 million are in slavery. More than 100 million children are out of school and a staggering 2 million have been killed in conflict in the last 10 years, according to the campaign documents.

"Children have not created wars, boundaries or walls. The adults have done these," Satyarthi said, mentioning the state of the refugee children and their deprivation.

"Despite all the global progress we have seen, these are the world's forgotten youths. It is the 21st century, and there is no excuse to let this carry on," said the Indian child rights and education advocate, who won the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize with Pakistan's Malala Yousafzai.

Satyarthi said the future would be better for all if every child grew up protected from violence, and continue learning in school, not working to survive.

Stating that Bangladesh was his second home and that the youths of this country had all the potentials to lead the world, he



Kailash Satyarthi speaks at the event

said it was one world that belonged to all the people who had equal rights.

He said the world leadership would be at the hands of youths, and they could change the system where there were discriminations, wars, deprivation, and injustice.

The strength of former child labourers in India and the impact of other young people who are taking action around the world have inspired this global campaign, he said.

"We aim to support the largest youth mobilisation in history, standing together to change the future so that every child has a chance at life," Satyarthi said.

State Minister for Labour and Employment Mujibul Haque said the number of Bangladesh's child labourers came down to 17 lakh in 2013 from 34 lakh in 2001.

"We will eliminate hazardous child labour by 2021," he said. Besides, the government is formulating a policy to protect the domestic child workers, he said.

Primary and Mass Education Minister Mustafizur Rahman said primary school enrolment rate in Bangladesh was 100 percent, and the challenge now was quality education.

Water Resources Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud lauded Kailash Satyarthi's initiative and pledged to work for the disadvantaged children.

According to CAMPE, there are 60 lakh underprivileged children in Bangladesh.

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Indian Chief of Army Staff General Bipin Rawat calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Gono Bhaban yesterday.

**Drik official murder case going nowhere**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Yesterday was the first time in four months Johora Akhter got a call from police, only to be told that the officer investigating the murder of her husband was replaced. That too after this correspondent inquired about the first anniversary of the killing.

Talking to The Daily Star, Johora said, "The investigator keeps telling the same story and contacts us only when the media report on the issue."

An accounts and administrative official at Drik Gallery, Irfanul Islam, 48, was found dead in roadside bushes in Narayanganj on April 2 last year. He went missing from the capital's Dhanmondi on the same day after withdrawing Tk 3.08 lakh from a private bank. But police are yet to know why he could be killed,

never mind make any arrest. Disappointed, Irfanul's only son Iftekhar Ul Islam, an eleventh-grader, sought the prime minister's intervention through a letter on February 22.

Although he received a reply from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and the letter requested the home ministry to take necessary steps on March 8, no action has been seen, he said.

Before yesterday, the last time the family was contacted was November last year.

Earlier the case was investigated by Mohammad Yousuf, sub-inspector of Criminal Investigation Department (CID), who is currently outside the country.

Asadullah, an inspector of CID who got charge of the case one month ago, called Johora yesterday,

minutes after this correspondent met him to know about the development.

"Still there is no solid lead to tell. We are investigating the case with utmost priority," Asadullah said.

Earlier the previous investigator, Yousuf, termed the murder "clueless", saying they checked the CCTV footage, scrutinised his mobile phone call list, talked to people, but no clue was found. Before Yousuf, the case was investigated by Kalabagan police and detectives.

In the last one year, the family patiently waited to know who can do harm to a simple and honest man like Irfanul?

Iftekhar said he used to share all his problems and happiness with his father. But in the last one year, there has been no one to talk to. "One year of loneliness," Iftekhar wrote on Facebook yesterday.

Meanwhile, protesting the killing, Irfanul's employer Drik, along with Pathshala, organised a human chain at the capital's Shahbagh yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, Anu Muhammad, professor of Jahangirnagar University, said such killings had been frequent today, citing the cases of Taqi, Tonu, Sagar-Runi, and Kalpana Chakma.

"If we don't protest together, we will not be heard," he said.

Pointing out a report of Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) that said 44 people were killed in "shootouts" with police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in the first three months of this year, Anu Muhammad said these incidents reflected the characteristics of the state.

"Anyone can be targeted today. No one is safe," he said.

Drik Gallery Managing Director Shahidul Alam also spoke.



Marking the first death anniversary of Drik official Irfanul Islam, a human chain was formed by Drik Gallery and Pathshala at Shahbagh in the capital yesterday. The human chain also sought justice for Irfanul, who was found dead in the bushes beside the Dhaka-Narayanganj Link Road in Jalkuri area of Narayanganj on the evening of April 2 last year. PHOTO: STAR