

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 33.4 L 26.5	MYMENSINGH H 32.0 L 25.0	CHITTAGONG H 32.6 L 25.5	SYLHET H 32.2 L 25.0	RAJSHAHI H 31.3 L 24.2	RANGPUR H 28.3 L 25.6	KHULNA H 34.5 L 25.3	BARISAL H 33.0 L 25.4	COX'S BAZAR H 32.2 L 25.0
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Rain or thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at most places in Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions and at many places in Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka and Khulna divisions and at a few places in Barisal and Chittagong divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today. The sun sets in the capital today at 06:22pm and rises tomorrow at 05:32am. The country's highest temperature 35.7 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and the lowest 21.5 degree in Chuadanga.

Raise river water sharing issue at UN

Fakhrul urges govt
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday urged the government to raise the country's river water sharing issue with India over 58 common rivers including the Teesta at the United Nations.

Fakhrul made the call while he was speaking at a human chain organised by Jatiyatabadi Muktijoddha Dal in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

The organisers staged the human chain with the demand that the government disclose all agreements and memorandum of understandings signed with India during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's recent visit to the country.

Fakhrul during his speech also called upon the government to unite all political parties and organisations in order to realise Bangladesh's fair share of water on the common rivers.

Referring to the PM's India visit, he said, "You [Hasina] have failed in bringing water that was one of the main demands of the people of the country. We are calling upon [the government] to raise the Teesta River water sharing issue at the United Nations. Take necessary measures to get the UN involved in the matter."

Denouncing the government's political repression on the opposition parties, Fakhrul said the entire country has turned into a prison.

"We want to state unequivocally that our movement is not for only a metri (leader), nor is it for any party. Rather, the movement is for restoring the people's right... the independence and sovereignty of the country."



A makeshift structure built occupying the footpath right beside an entrance of Dhaka Medical College, opposite Buet. The devotees of Khwaja Gharib Nawaz built the structure around one month ago to hold an Urs (religious congregation), which has already been observed. But the bamboo-made structure is yet to be dismantled. The photo was taken on Monday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

400 new buses to be procured to ease transport crisis

Announces Obaidul Quader

UNB, Dhaka

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said some 400 new buses will be imported to ease the capital's transport crisis.



"More buses are needed to resolve the city's transport crisis. The decision to procure 400 additional buses will be taken in the first week of May. The Dhaka North City Corporation mayor will sit with the transport owners in this regard," he said.

The minister was talking to reporters after inaugurating the operation of "Silk Line Travels" on the Dhaka-Chittagong route at Manik Mia Avenue.

Replying to a query, Quader said the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority will serve notices on the owners who kept their buses off the roads during BRTA's drive against special bus services.

BRTA Chairman Md Moshir Rahman said they were preparing a list of such vehicles.

Nazrul realised communalism is the biggest problem

President says at first convocation of Kabi Nazrul university

UNB, Mymensingh

President Abdul Hamid yesterday said national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam had realised that communalism is the biggest problem in the Indian subcontinent.

"The goal of his creations was to break this manmade artificial wall [of communalism]. So, he [Nazrul] always struggled against communalism," Hamid said.

The president, also chancellor of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University (JKKNIU), said this while addressing the first convocation of JKKNIU on its campus in Trishal.

No non-communal and humanitarian poet like Nazrul emerged in the history of Bangla literature in the last thousand years, he said.

About the sense of humanity of the rebel poet, the president said Nazrul

was strongly vocal against imperialism, colonialism, feudalism, fanaticism, communalism and repression.

Hamid also stressed the need for stopping commercialisation of education in the country since it hampers its quality. "Commercialisation of education affects its quality. Most of the time, it impedes the flourishing of students' merit. That's why commercialisation of education must be stopped."

Although JKKNIU is a public university, Hamid said, it should conduct research on Nazrul's overall literary works including poetry, lyrics and dramas.

These days, he said, tourists and researchers are coming to the JKKNIU from many countries, but there will be a time when Trishal, a memorable place of Nazrul, will be popular across the world as a holy place of poetry like

the birthplaces of British playwright Shakespeare and Persian poets Hafiz and Sheikh Saadi.

The president stressed the need for signing a memorandum of understanding between JKKNIU and Kabi Kazi Nazrul University of West Bengal in India to facilitate joint research by teachers and students of both the universities.

He advised all students to keep in mind that a student's main objective is to gain proper education, not only to attain a certificate that merely recognises a student's educational qualification.

Professor Emeritus Dr Rafiqul Islam addressed the event as convocation speaker. Chairman of University Grants Commission Prof Abdul Mannan and JKKNIU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Mohit Ul Alam were also present among others.

Complaint filed for dislodging sculptures at RU

RU CORRESPONDENT

Chairman of ceramics and sculpture department of Rajshahi University submitted a written complaint yesterday against the students who were allegedly involved in the Tuesday's incident of dislodging around 500 sculptures and leaving those scattered on the fine arts faculty premises.

"We submitted the letter to the offices of the proctor, registrar and fine arts faculty dean seeking an investigation into the matter," said Prof Mostafa Sharif Anwar, chairman of the department.

On Tuesday, some students of the faculty of the fine arts dislodged the sculptures and left those scattered "protesting the lack of protection of their works".

NEWS IN brief

BNP forms two Dhaka city unit partial committees

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP on Tuesday night announced partial committees of its Dhaka north and south city units.

Habib-un Nabi Khan Sohel was made president of Dhaka south unit while Kazi Abul Basar its general secretary. Abdul Kayum and Ahsan Ullah Hasan were made president and general secretary of Dhaka north unit, said a release of BNP.

The 70-member partial committee of Dhaka south and 66-member Dhaka north were asked to form the full committees within a month.

Govt to provide food aid for flood-hit haor people: Maya

BSS, Sunamganj

The government will provide food assistance to the flood-affected people of the haor regions under Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) programme for the next three months, said Disaster Management and Relief Minister Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya yesterday.

"The government will also...provide rice at Tk 10 per kg. The assistance will continue in the haor areas until the people recover," he said while distributing relief goods and exchanging views with the flood-hit haor people at Lakkhan Sri union council under Sunamganj Sadar upazila.

Three-day tourism fair begins today

BSS, Dhaka

A three-day international tourism fair dubbed "Biman Bangladesh Travel and Tourism Fair" begins today with the participation of some 50 exhibitors from 13 countries, especially from South and Southeast Asia, to boost domestic tourism sector.

Tour Operators Association of Bangladesh is organising the seventh edition of the event with the partnership of Biman Bangladesh Airlines in the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon will open the fair as the chief guest.

Rizia Bewya passes away

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra



Rizia Bewya, mother of Rotarian Tipu Sultan, owner of TR Travels; died due to old-age complications at her residence in Nataipara area of Bogra town on Tuesday morning. She was 83.

She is survived by nine sons. Her qulkhani will be held tomorrow at her residence and at Jamil Madrasa in Colony area of the town.



President Abdul Hamid gives away a medal to a graduating student at the first-ever convocation of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University on its campus in Mymensingh's Trishal yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Negligence in serving people not desired

Law minister tells concluding session of sub-registrars' training programme

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Urging sub-registrars to discharge their duties with a touch of patriotism and willingness to make sacrifices, Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday said any negligence in providing the people with services is not desired.

"You are the servant of people as per the constitution. You have been recruited to serve the people of this country. Any negligence in serving people is not expected, as your salaries and other facilities are given from the people's money," he said.

The minister made the remarks while addressing the concluding session of a two-month training programme of 29 sub-registrars at Bangladesh Public Administration Training Institute in Savar. He also distributed certificates among the participants as the chief guest.

"Though we have achieved the political independence, we have to go a long way to gain the financial independence," Anisul said, adding that unpredictable progress had taken place in many sectors including food production, education system and remittance. "Vision-2021 has been declared with a view to turning the country into a middle income one in 2021. In this long-term plan, the role of members of registration department will be very significant," the minister added.

REPORTERS' ACCESS TO EC DRU protests restriction

UNB, Dhaka

Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) yesterday protested the restriction on journalists' access to the Election Commission Secretariat in the capital's Agargaon area.

It also condemned the recent harassment of reporters covering the EC events regularly at the EC Secretariat gate when they tried to enter it on Monday.

In a joint statement, DRU president Shakhawat Hossain Badsha and its general secretary Mursalin Nomani condemned and protested the incident.

Earlier on Monday, two EC security staff prevented a number of reporters from entering the EC Secretariat saying that the EC imposed a restriction on journalists' access to it.

Reporters Forum for Election and Democracy also submitted a memorandum to the CEC in this regard yesterday.

PPP can deliver better

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She said to build an inclusive and peaceful future, establishing networks and creating synergies between stakeholders as a medium for effective financing of the Sustainable Development Goals is required.

It is also important for the governments to take responsibility to create accountability and eliminate corruption in their internal systems, she stressed.

UP TO

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20-22 April, 2017

Bangabandhu International Conference Center

Sector

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Dhaka - Kathmandu - Dhaka
Dhaka - Singapore - Dhaka
Dhaka - Bangkok - Dhaka
Dhaka - Kolkata - Dhaka
Dhaka - Yangon - Dhaka

Raffle Draw on Closing Day