

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DKHAKA H 34.6 L 24.5	MYMENSINGH H 30.0 L 20.0	CHITTAGONG H 33.5 L 26.0	SYLHET H 31.8 L 19.9	RAJSHAHI H 34.6 L 23.6	RANGPUR H 29.2 L 21.0	KHULNA H 36.6 L 26.5	BARISAL H 34.6 L 27.0
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Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at a few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka, Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions with hail at isolated places till 6:00pm today. Mild heat wave is sweeping over the regions of Khulna, Mongla, Sathira and Jessore and it may continue, Met Office said, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 06:31pm and rises tomorrow at 05:19am.



Drenched in sweat, a helper pushes a rickshaw-van loaded with watermelons in the capital's Shahbagh yesterday. With mercury going up these days, the juicy summer fruit is in high demand.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN



Journalist Madan Shahu's first anniversary of death today

Today is the first death anniversary of senior journalist Madan Shahu. On this day last year, he died after suffering from asthma for a long time. He started his career as a journalist in the 1960s with the then Pakistan Observer and worked there until 1991. In early 1991, he joined The Daily Star as an assistant editor and climbed up to the position of supplement editor before retiring in 2014. Madan Shahu was also advisory editor of the weekly First News magazine until his death. Madan Shahu was born in Sirajganj town on April 30, 1939. He completed his secondary and higher secondary education there. He was a connoisseur of music and was considered an expert commentator on movies produced in the subcontinent. At one stage of his life, he even wrote the script for a film titled "Bindu Thekey Britto".

SNAPS & snippets

Two arrested for 'helping' madrasa teacher flee after 'sodomising' boy

Two managing committee members of a madrasa under the capital's Sabujbagh Police Station were arrested on Saturday as they "helped" a teacher, who allegedly sodomised a minor boy of the madrasa, escape. After a case was filed on Saturday, police arrested the duo -- president Harun ur Rashid, and secretary Lutfar Rahman. On April 15 night, the teacher took the boy, 8, to his room and sodomised him, said Abdul Kuddus Fakir, officer-in-charge of Sabujbagh Police Station. Despite being informed by a cook of the institution, the madrasa committee did not take any action against the teacher and helped him escape, said the OC.

Prof Sobhan made RU VC again

The government has appointed Professor Abdus Sobhan as the vice-chancellor of Rajshahi University for a second term. He will serve as the VC for the next four years, according to a gazette issued yesterday afternoon. A professor of RU's applied physics and electronics engineering department, he was the VC from 2009 to 2013.

'Neo JMB' leader Marzan, aide buried

The bodies of "Neo JMB" leader Nurul Islam Marzan, the operational commander of July 1 Gulshan café attack, and his aide Saddam Hossain were buried at Jurain graveyard yesterday. As nobody claimed the bodies, they were handed over to Anjuman Mofidul Islam, a charitable organisation, from Dhaka Medical College morgue, who later buried them, said police. Marzan and Saddam, also a "Neo JMB" activist, were killed in an alleged gunfight with law enforcers on January 6 this year in Beribadh area of Mohammadpur.



President of PEN International, Bangladesh Farida Hossen, Advisor Dr Kazi Anis Ahmed, Vice-President Sakib Lohani and General Secretary Farida Begum with others at a programme welcoming Bangla new year and freshers of the organisation at Bishwo Shahitto Kendro in the capital on Saturday.

Four indicted

Four were involved with Muslim league and during the Liberation War, Akmal was a member of local Peace Committee, an anti-liberation organisation, while the other three were involved with Razakar Bahini, an auxiliary force of the Pakistani occupation army, said tribunal's investigation agency. After the war, Akmal did not get involved with any political party while the rest got involved with Jamaat-e-Islami, the agency added.

PARENTS KILLING HC verdict on challenge by Oishee any day

The High Court will deliver a verdict any day on the death reference and appeals in a case filed against Oishee Rahman over killing her father Mahfuzur Rahman, and her mother. The HC kept the death reference and the appeals to deliver verdict anytime after concluding hearing. Oishee's lawyer Sujit Chatterjee told the court during hearing that his client was under 18 years and therefore, she could not be sentenced to death. Oishee was not mentally sound during the occurrence of her parents' death and the prosecution failed to produce relevant witnesses before the trial court, he argued. Meanwhile, Assistant Attorney General Atiqul Haque Salim prayed to the HC to uphold the trial court verdict that sentenced Oishee to death on November 12, 2015. On August 16, 2013, the bodies of Mahfuzur, inspector of Special Branch of Police, and his wife Swapna Rahman were recovered from their Chamelibagh house in the capital. Oishee later challenged the lower court verdict.

2.6cr people suffering from malnutrition: FAO expert

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) organised it in partnership with the ministry of food, the Netherlands embassy, Unicef, FAO, World Food Programme, and icddr,b. Experts observed that the country made progress in food security, but access to safe and affordable healthy diets for achieving good nutrition remained a challenge. Greater efforts both by the government and private sectors are imperative to achieve the objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals that place greater emphasis on dietary diversity, address the challenges of purchasing power, quality and safe food, and women empowerment. Nutrition scientist Dr Tahmeed Ahmed of icddr,b said a lack of hygiene and poor sanitation, coupled with the poor socio-economic status of households, played a major part in child malnutrition. Low birth weight is another cause of concern, he said. Babies born under weight make up 26 percent of the total births in Bangladesh, and it is linked to malnutrition among adolescent girls and mothers, he added. The urban poor, especially in the slums, are at greater risks of malnutrition, he said. Food contamination and junk food consumption constitute another major concern, he added. The scientist said malnutrition raised the risks of hypertension, diabetes, and chronic diseases. "We need to find alternative and effective ways of improving this situation." Food Minister Quamrul Islam said the government had prioritised food security and nutrition for all under the Vision 2021 and SDGs. State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Meher Afroze Chumki highlighted the inter-ministerial efforts to improve nutrition of children, women, and adolescents. GAIN Executive Director Dr Lawrence Haddad stressed dialogue between public and private stakeholders and collective action in solving the "pressing challenge of nutrition".

PM's FLIGHT GLITCH Anti-terrorism unit asked to submit probe report June 13

A Dhaka court yesterday again asked the Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CITC) unit to submit on June 13 the probe report of the case filed over the technical glitch in Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's flight in November 27 last year. Metropolitan Magistrate Ahsan Habib passed the order after CITC Inspector Mahbub Alam, also investigation officer (IO) of the case, failed to submit the report complying with a court order. Earlier on March 29, the same court asked CITC unit to submit by yesterday the probe report. On November 27, a Biman flight carrying the prime minister had to make an emergency landing at Ashgabat International Airport in Turkmenistan on her way to Budapest as engine-1 of the plane was losing oil pressure. Wing Commander (ret'd) MM Asaduzzaman, director of engineering and material management of Biman, filed the case. Nine employees of Bangladesh Biman Airlines were made accused in the case filed under the Special Powers Act on December 21 last year. Soon after the case, all the FIR-named accused were arrested and they are now in jail.

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Good Luck Bangladesh

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