

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA H 34.8 L 28.0	MYMENSINGH H 33.0 L 25.4	CHITTAGONG H 33.5 L 28.4	SYLHET H 33.7 L 23.2	RAJSHAHI H 34.4 L 26.6	RANGPUR H 34.3 L 25.2	KHULNA H 35.6 L 26.6	BARISAL H 35.5 L 26.7	COX'S BAZAR H 34.0 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, Khulna, Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Barisal, Dhaka and Chittagong divisions with hails at isolated places till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:33 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:16am.

Dignitaries at a commemorative programme on philanthropist Ranada Prasad Shaha in the capital's Bangla Academy yesterday. Martyred intellectual Dharendra Nath Dutta (posthumous), Brac Chairperson Sir Fazle Hasan Abed and Educationist Dr Muhammed Zafar Iqbal were given this year's Ranada Prasad Shaha Gold Medal for their contribution to the society. Kumudini Welfare Trust of Bengal (BD) Limited organised the event.



PHOTO: STAR

RP SHAHA AWARD 3 eminent citizens receive gold medals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Kumudini Welfare Trust of Bengal (BD) Limited (KWT) yesterday awarded "Danbir Ranada Prasad Memorial Honour and Gold Medal" to three eminent personalities for their outstanding contribution to the society. The awards were handed over to the recipients -- Shaheed Dhirendranath Dutta (posthumous), Sir Fazle Hasan Abed and Prof Muhammed Zafar Iqbal -- at a programme in Bangla Academy's Abdul Karim Sahitya Bisharad auditorium. Aroma Dutta, granddaughter of Shaheed Dhirendranath Dutta, received the award on her grandfather's behalf while Sir Fazle Hasan Abed and Prof Muhammed Zafar Iqbal were present during the programme to receive theirs. KWT presents the award each year in remembrance of the abduction of Danbir (great philanthropist) Ranada Prasad Shaha and his son Bhabani Prasad Shaha on May 7 of 1971 by the then Pakistani army with the help of local collaborators. The two had been missing ever since. Danbir Ranada Prasad Shaha, popularly known as RP Shaha, donated all his wealth for people's welfare and education, especially for the women, said Prof Syed Manzoorul Islam, professor of English at Dhaka University, during his

Eco-friendly paper can be processed from Bangladesh jute
Expert tells Dhaka seminar
UNB, Dhaka

Eco-friendly paper and viscose can be processed from the world-class jute of Bangladesh, said an expert at a seminar yesterday. Dr Asaduzzaman, director (technical) of the Bangladesh Jute Research Institute was addressing the seminar on "Eco-friendly pulp and paper processing from jute", organised by the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry at its Motijheel office, said a press release. The government is planning to start a plant for processing viscose, as it is estimated by the year 2021 worldwide market of viscose

5pc of GDP for education, if BNP is voted to power

Says Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday said if her party is voted to power, it will spend five percent of the GDP in the education sector. The current allocation is around two percent, according to education ministry sources. "We have already talked in details about our plan for the education sector in Vision 2030. It would not be possible to implement all of those during the first five years in the office. Education policy will be life-oriented, and not degree-oriented," she said while addressing a seminar titled "Present Education System of Bangladesh and Our Future" at Ladies Club in the capital. She said all the social, cultural, gender and economic barriers will be removed to ensure education. "Though they (the government) are claiming that the country has progressed in education sector, it has destroyed democracy...and repressed the views of the oppositions," she said. The BNP chairperson alleged that there is no good governance or the rule of law in the country.



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Social barriers, stigma holding women back

SDG discussion told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Social barriers and stigma are holding back women's development in the country, observed speakers at a discussion in the capital yesterday. The discussion titled "Role of Women in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)" was jointly organised at The Daily Star Centre by LEAD Council for Policy and Research (LCPR) and Zonta International with assistance from United Nations Global Compact. In order to achieve the development goals of UN, women need to have autonomy in decision making and access to equal opportunity, said Louise Cowcher, development director of British Council in Bangladesh. Girls and women can move forward if their skills are developed, she added. Rubaba Dowla, co-founder and managing director of a cloud-based telemedicine platform, said fundamental barriers to women development, especially as entrepreneurs, are unavailability of funds, non-existence of mentors and lack of support from family and society. Mentioning that she had experienced wage disparities in comparison with her male colleagues, Rubaba, a veteran of 19 years at two leading corporate houses in the country, said, "Women always have to face the challenge of proving their worth in every stage." Women have a vital role in accomplishing all the SDG goals, said Catherine Cecil, team leader of Prokas, a DFID-funded programme. Fakrul Ahsan, SDG lead at UNDP Bangladesh, said women are better users of resources. Women constitute half the country's population and development without women is just impossible. Dr Rubina Hussain, vice-president of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs; Sangeeta Khan, director of Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and Bitopi Das Chowdhury, corporate head of Standard Chartered Bank; spoke among others while Ashfaq Zaman, president of a global leadership programme LEAD; moderated the programme.

CONGRATULATIONS MR. KUTUBUDDIN AHMED, CHAIRMAN, ENVOY GROUP & MEMBER OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES, BUFT FOR ACHIEVING BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR-2016 AWARD

Mr. Kutubuddin Ahmed, Chairman of Envoy Group & Member, Board of Trustees, BUFT country's leading business icon has played a major role of creating an environment of excellence and competitiveness, productivity, efficiency, financial discipline and modern management in the garment and textile industry of Bangladesh. At BUFT we are proud of this outstanding achievement.

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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL THE MOMS



MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL

<http://www.thedailystar.net/cblsmothersday/>



Thanks to all the participants