

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 34.7 L 25.3

MYMENSINGH H 30.0 L 26.2

CHITTAGONG H 34.7 L 28.0

SYLHET H 30.2 L 22.5

RAJSHAHI H 34.2 L 23.5

RANGPUR H 32.0 L 23.4

KHULNA H 36.8 L 23.9

BARISAL H 35.5 L 25.8

COX'S BAZAR H 34.5 L 27.4

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at a few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Dhaka, Sylhet and Chittagong divisions and at one or two places over Khulna and Barisal divisions till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country, says Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:34 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:16am.

33 women receive 'Ratnagarva Ma Awards'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Both of her two sons were born with hearing impairment, but that did not deflate Rabeya Khatun's indomitable spirit. The mother from Sylhet's Bagbari has an inspiring story to tell. She ignored the taunts from gossip-mongers, came to Dhaka, and ensured treatment and education of her children. She made her children capable of competing with others. Her dedication finally paid off as both of her sons completed BBA and MBA from a private university. At the same time, she took training from different institutions and obtained a degree on teaching persons with hearing disability. Her unwavering determination helped her sons rejoin the mainstream society. Now her elder son Md Ali Siddique works as an assistant officer at the First Security Islami Bank Ltd and younger son Md Ali Faruki works at the National Credit and Commerce Bank Ltd in the same position. Yesterday, Rabeya got "Ratnagarva Ma Awards-2016", an award given to mothers whose children have become successful in their respective fields. Thirty-three mothers including Rabeya were given the award at a ceremony organised by Azad Products (Pvt) Ltd at Dhaka Club. Meanwhile, Dr M Enamul Huq, a former top police official, was accorded "My Dad Wonderful" award. Speaking as the chief guest, Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor said, "That son is great whose mother is great." Marking International Mother's Day, Azad Products (Pvt) Ltd, since 2003, has been organising the event. Md Abul Kalam Azad, MD of the company; Meher Afroz Chumki, state minister for women and children affairs, and Geeti Ara Safia Chowdhury, former adviser to a caretaker government, were also present.



Awardees -- the mothers -- with guests at "Ratnagarva Ma Awards-2016" ceremony yesterday. Azad Products (Pvt) Ltd organised the event marking International Mother's Day at Dhaka Club, where 33 mothers received the award.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Dhaka losing its cultural spaces

Discussion told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Though Dhaka has always been a centre of cultural vibrancy, the city is constantly losing its cultural spaces to religious and ruling coteries, said noted academic and cultural personalities in the capital Saturday. Urban planning of Dhaka city must embrace cultural enrichment, said Mofidul Hoque, trustee member of Liberation War Museum. "An ever-expanding city, Dhaka has virtually no space for cultural activities," said Prof Muntasir Mamun, a historian and leading researcher on Dhaka's evolution. "The situation was not so deplorable even during the Pakistan era." The capital's prime space is earmarked for the military museum, but not for the Liberation War Museum, he said, while the vacant old airport, which is highly recommended as a prospective cultural

centre, is allotted for the air force. "The Bangladesh we envisioned in our War of Liberation is not being achieved," said Mamun, while speaking on the 45th founding anniversary of the Centre for Urban Studies (CUS). On the occasion, CUS organised a discussion on the theme "Dhaka a Cultural City" at Bangla Academy. A mere growth of GDP does not mean human wellbeing; education and culture must flourish too, said Prof Mamun. Prof Nazrul Islam, CUS honorary chairman, said despite lacking infrastructure and good governance, Dhaka city was still the economic and cultural centre of the country. The cultural vibrancy and heritage that have glorified Dhaka city for centuries often get buried under different kinds of modern-day civic problems, he said.

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7 held with tiger bones, teeth in Sundarbans

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The Forest Department arrested seven alleged poachers with 11 bones and seven teeth of a tiger near the Sundarbans in Khulna on Saturday. The arrestees -- Abdul Gafur, Thakurpada Abdu, Ruhul Amin Gazi, Abdur Rahim, Charan Kumar Sarder, Attab Hossain and Hossain Sarder of Khulna - were handed over to police. On information, a patrol team of the department (Chandpai range) and members of Nalian Forest (West Sundarbans) conducted a drive in the Shibsai river and arrested the seven, said Md Sayed Ali, divisional forest officer of West Sundarbans.

Protests against rapists go on

STAR REPORT

People continued to express their hatred towards rapists and demanded exemplary punishment for the culprits yesterday. Our JU correspondent reports, more than 100 teachers and students of Jahangirnagar University under the banner of "Nirjatoner Biruddhe Jahangirnagar" demonstrated on the campus protesting the recent country-wide sexual assaults against females. Leaders and activists of Jahangirnagar Cultural Alliance, JU unit; Chhatra Union, Chhatra Front, Pahari Oikya Chhatra Sangsad took part in the programme. Prof Anu Muhammad said, "We have to break the silence and raise our voice to unfold the hidden characters of the culprits as it's a great struggle." Among others, Prof Mirza Taslima, Prof ASM Anwarullah Bhuiyan, Assistant Prof Anisa Parvin Jolly, spoke. Our CU correspondent adds, the students and teachers of Chittagong University formed a human chain on the campus yesterday afternoon. Addressing the programme, Prof Taposhi Gosh alleged that every time it is seen that the law enforcers cannot arrest the accused though their identities were made public.

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NEWS IN brief

N'ganj court summons Taqi's father

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A Narayanganj court yesterday summoned cultural personality Rafiur Rabbi to appear before it on May 25 in a case filed by a Hefajat-e-Islam leader. It passed the order after hearing the case filed over hurting religious sentiment. Earlier on May 5, detectives submitted an investigation report to the court, accusing Rafiur Rabbi, also father of slain Tanwir Muhammad Taqi. Narayanganj district Hefajat ameer Mawlana Ferdousur Rahman filed the case on April 19.

Rajshahi man shown arrested in war crimes case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday showed arrested a Rajshahi man in a case filed in connection with the crimes committed during the Liberation War. The tribunal passed the order following a petition moved by Prosecutor Mukhlesur Rahman Badal. The accused, Abdus Sattar alias Tipu Sultan, 66, of Boalia upazila in Rajshahi, was an alleged member of Razakar Bahini during the war, according to the prosecution. He was arrested in a criminal case on May 9 and is now in Rajshahi jail.

DU English dept publishes 3 books

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three books of academic interests have been published under the initiatives of the Department of English of Dhaka University. Two of the publications -- Writing Essays with Ease and Exploring Academic Writing -- are written by the faculty members of the department under a British Council funded project. The third book -- an outcome of a literary conference on World War-I -- contains essays by national and international authors. Chairman of the University Grants Commission Prof Abdul Mannan with other guests unwrapped the books at the DU senate bhaban yesterday, said a press release.

Obituary

CITY DESK

Mohammad Abdul Jalil, father of The Daily Star's sports reporter Anisur Rahman, died due to old-age complications on Saturday night. He was 87. He left behind his wife, three daughters and three sons. He was buried in Jessore Karbala graveyard after his namaz-e-janaza at a mosque in the district yesterday.

Village cops place 5-point demand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Hundreds of village police members of different unions in Rajshahi staged a demonstration in the city yesterday to press home their five-point demand including retirement and risk allowances for them. They brought out a procession from C and B intersection and went to the DC's office in the morning. A team of them led by President of district unit Village Police Union Abdul Karim Mondol met the deputy commissioner and submitted a memorandum to the prime minister through him.

CITY EVENTS IN FRAME



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1. Nari Sangbadik Kendra forms a human chain before Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday seeking speedy trial for all the rapists including those involved in the recent Banani rape incident. 2. Pahari Chhatra Parishad stages a rally at Shahbagh demanding justice for the death of Romel Chakma. 3. Teachers and employees of non-MPO junior secondary educational institutions at a sit-in demand salaries and allowances. 4. Participants at a workshop titled "Primary care of mental health" for journalists at Press Institute of Bangladesh. 5. Visitors admire flowers at an Ikebana show in the capital's BANBEIS Bhaban recently. National Association of Unesco Clubs in Bangladesh organised the Ikebana, dry flower and handicrafts exhibition by artist Rina Rahman. 6. A section of 26 Bangladeshi students who shared their experiences with officials of the Embassy of Japan following their recent nine-day visit to Japan. The visit was a part of the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchanges for Students and Youths programme.

PHOTO: STAR, COLLECTED