

WEATHER  
FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S  
TEMPERATURES

DHAKA  
H 28.1 L 26.3

MYMENSINGH  
H 28.5 L 26.0

CHITTAGONG  
H 26.3 L 23.8

SYLHET  
H 28.3 L 25.5

RAJSHAH  
H 27.8 L 25.5

RANGPUR  
H 31.2 L 25.7

KHULNA  
H 27.0 L 25.5

BARISAL  
H 26.8 L 25.5

COX'S BAZAR  
H 27.8 L 24.2

Light to moderate rain is likely to occur at most places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions with moderately heavy to very heavy falls at places over the country till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:45pm and rises tomorrow at 5:25am, said Met office.



A severe traffic congestion in the capital's Shahbagh after a rain for almost all day long yesterday. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

# Chikungunya spreading outward from Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After infecting scores of residents in Dhaka since May, chikungunya, the mosquito-borne viral disease characterised by high fever with excruciating joint pain, appears to be spreading across the country.

As of July 23, the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) in Dhaka has confirmed 12 such patients in Narsingdi, five in Bogra, three in Chittagong and two in Munshiganj, according to a bulletin of IEDCR.

The total number of suspected chikungunya patients from 15 districts including Dhaka reported to the IEDCR was 107, of which 31 were ascertained as confirmed cases recorded till that date, said the bulletin.

Prof Meerjady Sabrina Flora, director of IEDCR, said the total number of suspected chikungunya patients from across the country was 3,200 and the confirmed cases were 791 mostly from the capital city till July 23.

Suspected chikungunya cases are reported from outside Dhaka city through telephone communication with patients and the IEDCR scrutinises possible chikungunya

infection over the phone, she said, adding that so far, no acute case has been reported from outside Dhaka city.

Lists of possible chikungunya patients are sent by civil surgeons and different medical college hospitals on the basis of symptoms such as high fever accompanied by joint pain and rash.

The number of reported cases rose to nearly 3,000 on July 13 from 2,748 the previous day and 2,700 the day before. A total of 649 of those cases were confirmed as chikungunya on July 13.

On July 22, the suspected number of chikungunya infection was 106, of which 30 were confirmed. On July 21, 101 were suspected and 28 confirmed.

Between April 9 and July 23, the IEDCR detected 791 confirmed chikungunya cases after carrying out diagnostic tests.

"Although the accumulated number of chikungunya patients is on the rise, the number of acute cases on daily basis compared to previous weeks is on the decline," said Prof Meerjady.

The chikungunya incidents saw a sharp rise during the third week of May till the second

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## Another child dies of measles

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Another child from Tripura Para in Chittagong's Sitakunda upazila who was suffering from measles died at the ICU of Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) yesterday morning.

Nipa, 3, daughter of Suvachan and Lalmat Tripura, died due to bronchopneumonia and septicemia, said doctors.

With Nipa, the death toll of children due to this disease in the area stands at 10.

Nipa's two other sisters are also undergoing treatment for measles at CMCH.

A total of 78 children, suffering from measles in Tripura Para of South Soniachhari union, were released from hospitals and 23 others are still undergoing treatment.

# Govt officials unclear about emissions cut

Reveals TIB survey on S Asian countries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Though the South Asia countries have pledged to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, the government officials in these countries do not have a clear concept on how to reduce it, finds a survey of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB).

The survey was carried out among government officials, academics, and private sector representatives. It reveals that the government officials are less aware about the governments' pledges on reducing emissions than private sector players.

At a press conference at its office in the capital yesterday, TIB shared the findings of the study titled "Unbundling Pledges, Actions of INDCs and Measuring Public Perceptions - A Methodological Study: The Case of South Asian Countries".

Speaking on the occasion, TIB Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman said, "The research suggests that private sectors may play an important role to reduce carbon emissions working alongside governments."

Prof AK Enamul Haque, director of the Asian Centre for Development, Bangladesh, presented the research report, while Prof Dr Sumaiya Khair, advisor, executive management, TIB, and Zakir Hossain Khan, senior programme manager, good gover-

nance in climate financing, TIB, were present at the conference.

Bangladesh has always been very active since the climate change issue started surfacing at the global level, said Iftekharuzzaman. Bangladesh created its own climate fund even before getting any international grant. It is the government that takes all the policy decisions about reducing carbon emissions including during electricity generation, but private sectors also may play an important role in this sector, he added.

As a part of the United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiation, all countries were asked to provide a global commitment to reduce carbon emissions. Most of the countries have pledged to bring down their emission levels to contribute towards meeting the global targets to arrest the process of global warming.

So far, 165 countries including Bangladesh have pledged Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) to reduce carbon emissions as part of the Paris Agreement of Climate Change.

Last year, Bangladesh submitted its INDC with an unconditional commitment to reduce 5 percent of its usual emissions. It also committed that by 2030, another 15 percent

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# Six awarded for gardening

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The "Let's Go Green" campaign of The Daily Star and Anwar Landmark recognised six amateur gardeners yesterday.

The award ceremony of a photography competition under the campaign, promoting rooftop gardening, was held at the Daily Star Centre.

The competition was open from May 28 till June 12 this year on the occasion of World Environment Day.

The recipients -- Ishita Sarwat Hafiz, Farhana Asha, Fouzia Tanjir Anne, Jinan Mahmud, Shohan Khan and Gulshan Ara Rahman -- were handed over special gifts, plants and solar power banks.

The participants of the competition shared photos of their gardens on their Facebook timelines and the top six gardens receiving the highest votes were selected to receive the awards.

The campaign aims to build awareness on creating greenery in all possible places including rooftops, balconies, terraces, porches, lawns and backyards.

Manwar Hossain, managing director of Anwar Group of Industries, during the event said they are committed to preserving the nature and their real estate projects include touch greenery.

The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam said more efforts need to be made to encourage rooftop gardening for a green Dhaka.



Winners of "Let's Go Green" contest with Anwar Group of Industries Managing Director Manwar Hossain, 3rd from right, The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam, 3rd from left, and Anwar Landmark Executive Director AKM Shahadat Hossain Majumder, left. Six people won the contest and four of them were present at the ceremony. PHOTO: STAR

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