

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| DHAKA H 35.5 L 28.2 | MYMENSINGH H 34.1 L 27.5 | CHITTAGONG H 33.3 L 27.5 | SYLHET H 34.0 L 26.0 | RAJSHAHI H 35.2 L 26.6 | RANGPUR H 32.4 L 26.5 | KHULNA H 35.2 L 27.0 | BARISAL H 34.0 L 26.6 | COX'S BAZAR H 34.0 L 27.0 |
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Light to moderate rain/thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka & Khulna divisions with moderately heavy falls at places over the country in 24 hours till 6:00pm today, said the Met office. **The sun sets in the capital today at 5:53pm and rises tomorrow at 05:48am.** Highest and lowest temperatures recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Entrepreneurship the way forward

Nahid tells youths at 'Step Skills Competition'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Instead of waiting for jobs, youths should focus on how to become entrepreneurs and come up with innovative ideas to meet the market demand, said Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday.



job market is much higher than the jobs available. As a result, entrepreneurship, no matter how small, and innovative thinking can not only help the youths flourish, but also boost the country's economy. Youths should focus on innovations in accordance with the market demand, he said.

He made the recommendations while addressing the inaugural programme of "Step Skills Competition 2017" organised by the Skills and Training Enhancement Project (STEP) under Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) at Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission in the capital.

He also urged the industrialists to come forward and invest more in technical education and research. Many developed countries focus on technical training. For example, 80 percent of the German students study in technical education, the minister said.

The minister said job sector demands skilled professionals, particularly technical ones but the country lacks such professionals. Also, the number of students entering

A total of 162 polytechnic institutes will participate in the competition starting from October 21. STEP has been organising it since 2014. Dr Mostafizur Rahman, chairman of BTEB, was also present.



A bus tilts precariously on this road near the office of Public Service Commission (PSC) in the capital's Agargaon area, as its rear wheels hit a large pothole. This road has been in such a dilapidated condition for long, but the authorities concerned have apparently turned a blind eye. The photo was taken recently. PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

People's share in medical cost must fall to 30pc

Says official while talking about SDG attainment in health sector

Individual health cost must come down to 30 percent from the existing 67 percent in order to achieve the health related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG).

"It is essential to raise government allocation to the health sector to reduce the out-of-pocket (OOP) expenditure to 30 percent from 67 to attain sustainable progress towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and health-related SDG," Director General (additional secretary) of Health Economics Unit M Ashadul Islam told the news agency.

The government bears only 23 percent of total health expenditures while three percent comes from voluntary payment schemes and seven percent from foreign donor agencies, he added. "The government allocation to the health sector is increasing gradually every year, but it is not sufficient and finally the people have to spend a major portion of the health expenditure from their own pockets," Islam said.

According to Bangladesh National Health Accounts (BNHA) 1997-2015, the government's share on the total health expenditure (THE) kept on declining as the medical costs, including of medicines and hospital services, have become costlier.

"To minimise the gap SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

Army joins relief operation in Cox's Bazar

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Army swung into action in Cox's Bazar's Ukhia upazila yesterday to bring discipline in the ongoing relief operation for Rohingya refugees who have taken shelter fleeing the atrocities in Myanmar. They have also set up a control room at Ukhia Degree College to preserve relief materials, said Maj Rashed Akter, one of the coordinators of the army aid distribution cell.

"We have started working to bring the aid collection SEE PAGE 5 COL 3

AIRSPACE VIOLATION

Dhaka won't respond to provocation: Quader

UNB, Noakhali

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said Bangladesh will not respond to any provocation of Myanmar despite repeated violation of airspace by the latter's drones and helicopters.

He came up with the remark while distributing donation among sick and helpless people at his village in Companyganj upazila of the district yesterday.

Quader, also the Awami League general secretary, said the government has been tackling the Rohingya refugee issue cautiously.

Criticising BNP for doing politics over the Rohingya issue, he also said BNP is talking madly as they have no issue in their hand.

Earlier, Bangladesh protested repeated violation of its airspace by Myanmar drones and helicopters amid influx of Rohingya refugees fleeing persecution in Rakhine State.

The country also expressed its deep concern over such acts of provocation.

Hasina's proposals very positive

Observes Prof Riaz speaking on Rohingya crisis

UNB, Dhaka

The five-point proposal made by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the United Nations (UN) to find solution to the Rohingya crisis is very positive but needs support from other countries, said an international analyst.

"Bangladesh now can try to rally other countries around these proposals," Dr Ali Riaz, a professor at the Department of Politics and Government, Illinois State University, USA, told the news agency in an interview.

The key to the success is to bring as many countries together around these proposals, said the political analyst.

He said there is a clear consensus among the international community on two points -- immediate cessation of the violence in Rakhine State, and durable

political solution to the crisis as per recommendations of the Annan Commission Report.

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has already issued a statement calling for bringing an end to the violence.

The UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) appointed a factfinding mission in March, but the Myanmar government did not allow the mission to visit the country. "The boldest among these proposals is the call for the creation of 'safe zones' inside Myanmar," said Prof Riaz.

Asked whether these proposals are going to be implemented, he said, the proposals, particularly the creation of such "safe zones", will require the approval of the Security Council, which is unlikely unless China, a strong backer of

Myanmar, agrees to it. However, he mentioned, these proposals provide something to begin with.

"Implementation of these proposals, in part or in entirety, depends on Bangladesh's ability and success in rallying countries in support of the Rohingyas and Bangladesh's position," the analyst explained.

Prof Riaz said sustained diplomatic efforts are needed to get desired outcome. "I don't think a quick and easy solution, like previous two occasions -- in 1978-79 and 1991-92 -- is possible."

Diplomats say the Security Council could consider adopting a formal statement if the situation does not improve.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

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