



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 32.5 L 26.8

MYMENSINGH H 31.3 L 24.1

CHITTAGONG H 32.0 L 25.5

SYLHET H 32.1 L 25.5

RAJSHAHI H 32.1 L 25.9

RANGPUR H 33.0 L 26.5

KHULNA H 31.2 L 26.5

BARISAL H 30.3 L 26.3

COX'S BAZAR H 30.5 L 24.5

Light to moderate rain is likely to occur at most places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at a few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over the country till 6:00pm today, report UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:39pm and rises tomorrow at 5:53am, said Met office.



The Muktagong premises in Dhaka remains occupied with rent-a-car vehicles. The situation has been going on for a long time with the authorities concerned turning a blind eye. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Sudipto victim of leaders' wrath

Fear fellow activists

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Assertive and outspoken nature of slain Chittagong BCL leader Sudipto Biswas might have angered a section of party leaders who could be behind his killing, said several of his colleagues.

Sudipto, an assistant general secretary of Chittagong city unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), a pro-Awami League student organisation, was beaten to death in the city on Friday.

His outspoken remarks about the party and its leaders, both present and former, from Chittagong Government City College (CGCC) might have led to his death, the fellow party activists speculated.

Sudipto completed his masters two years ago from CGCC.

His father Babul Biswas filed a case yesterday with Sadarghat Police Station against seven to eight unknown people over Sudipto's killing, said Marjina Akter, officer-in-charge of the station.

They are yet to make any arrest in the case, she added.

Wahed Russell, joint general secretary of BCL's Chittagong city unit, said he had been reading Sudipto's Facebook posts on a regular basis.



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Land management going digital

65 lakh khatians, 18,500 map-sheets scanned, indexed into computer

UNB, Dhaka

As part of digitising the country's land management, some 65 lakh bhumi khatians (records of land rights) have been scanned and indexed into a computerised system.

Under the 'Digital Land Management' project that ended in June last beginning in July 2011, the scanning and indexing of 18,500 map-sheets have also been completed, according to an official document.

The government had taken the project to remove hassles and complexities in land registration, transfer and land-related issues. "We've completed the mammoth task and this will give the country's land management system a big leap," a senior land ministerial official told the news agency.

The official document says the refurbishment job, including civil and electrical, of 53 district and upazila offices under the project has already been completed. Furniture have been procured for these offices while fire distinguishing equipment installed.

Necessary civil works for constructing a central data centre in the Land Record and Survey Department has been finished and necessary equipment have been installed.

A disaster recovery centre has been installed at the University Grants Commission (UGC) in the city's Agargaon area under the management of Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC).

The document also mentioned that the work on 20 upazila Land Information and Service Centres has already started and consultants have been appointed to run those.

On completion of the project, the Land Ministry has taken another project titled, 'Land Management Automation' and it was sent to the Planning Commission for approval, said the ministry official.

After having the Planning Commission's nod, the land management system of the whole country will be done in a computerised system through implementation of the project, according to another official document.

Besides, the document says, a pilot project, 'Strengthening Access to Land

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President to visit Kishoreganj today

BSS, Dhaka

President Abdul Hamid is set to visit his village home in Mithamain upazila of Kishoreganj to attend several programmes today.

President Hamid is scheduled to leave Dhaka at 2:00pm on a four-day visit to his home district, president's Press Secretary Joyal Abedin told BSS yesterday.

The president will hold views exchange meetings with local political leaders, distinguished personalities and journalists at Abdul Hamid Auditorium of the upazila at 3:30pm.

EC to destroy flawed EVMs

UNB, Dhaka

The Election Commission (EC) has started bringing back all the 1,100 electronic voting machines (EVMs) from its field offices across the country to destroy the flawed ones.

A technical committee has been formed with experts from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) to examine how many EVMs have gone out of order.

Following the committee report, the commission will destroy all the defective EVMs jointly made by Bangladesh Machine Tools Factory and Buet in 2009 and 2011.

The EC has recently taken the decision considering that most of the six-year-old machines lost effectiveness and it would not be viable to repair these.

Besides, it will be difficult to fix any technical error if appears during the use of those in elections.

"Most of the EVMs have gone out of order. So, we've formed a technical team with our Buet experts to examine how many EVMs are not working," EC acting secretary Helaluddin Ahmed said yesterday.

"Now all the EVMs are being recollected from different field-level election offices to examine conditions of these machines. The commission will destroy the faulty EVMs," he told the news agency.

The EC's initiative will make uncertain the use of EVMs in the upcoming Rangpur City Corporation election, though it has a plan to use the machines on small scale in the polls, likely to be held by December next.

But, the EC acting secretary said the Commission still has the plan to use the EVMs in a ward of Rangpur City Corporation election.

The flawless EVMs will be used in the city election, Helaluddin added.

Bimstec disaster management exercise on Oct 10-13 in New Delhi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India is hosting the first annual Bay of Bengal Multi-Sectoral and Technical and Economic Cooperation (Bimstec) disaster management exercise in New Delhi from October 10 to 13.

The event will feature seven countries, including Bangladesh, of South and South East Asia to test their preparedness to face possible major natural calamities.

The main focus of the exercise will be to create synergy and synchronise efforts to institutionalise regional cooperation and inter-governmental coordination efforts on disaster response among member-countries -- India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka, said a statement of India's external affairs

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Gandhi ideologies the way forward

Speakers tell discussion marking the Mahatma's birthday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gandhian philosophy lightens up the path of truth and non-violence, which is the only way forward in building a more inclusive, just and humane world.

Speakers said this yesterday at a discussion organised by Gandhi Ashram Trust at the capital's CIRDAP International Conference Center to mark the 148th birth anniversary of the Mahatma and International Day of Non-Violence.

The discussion on "Delivering Gandhian Philosophy in a Changing World: What Contribution Can Present Generation Make?" was aimed at spreading the message of non-violence through education and public awareness.

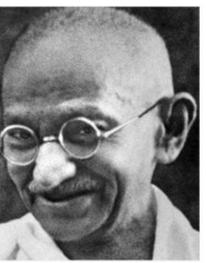
Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor attended the discussion as the chief guest where Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Harsh Vardhan Shringla and UNDP Country Director Sudipto Mukerjee were special guests. It was moderated by Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, chairman of Gandhi Ashram Trust.

Young generations, irrespective of their religion, creed and nationalities, can work hand in hand with faith in truth and non-violence for ensuring human rights and sustainability, the speakers said.

"Gandhi lived his philosophy," said Kazi Anis Ahmed, writer and publisher of the English-language daily Dhaka Tribune. Instead of focusing only on how he lived, young people should embrace his ideologies to attain economic prosperity for all.

Anis also stressed the importance of "economy of sufficiency" rather than "economy of excess".

Education should help children grow up as a responsible, psychologically more aware human being, not as a tool



to fulfil the society's purpose of more and more acquisition and accumulation, Anis added.

Referring to Gandhi's position on tolerance, Samia Huq, associate professor of the economics and social science department of Brac, said religion should be at the centre of inter-faith discussions to establish a secular society in which people would respect others' faith and promote the culture of diversity.

There are faith-inspired actors working silently for the betterment of the world, she said. They should be given a platform to speak so that they can have meaningful dialogues on peace and harmony.

Rizwana Yusuf of the Institute of Hazrat Mohammad (SAW) lauded the way Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had been dealing with the Rohingya issue.

It was praiseworthy as to how the government opened the door to the refugees fleeing persecution in Rakhine State of Myanmar and brought the Myanmar government into dialogues through diplomatic means and communication with the international community, she added.

Sanjeeb Drong, general secretary of Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples Forum, however, pointed at the human rights violations of the country's minority and indigenous communities.

He said he reminded himself of Gandhi's ideologies of truth and non-violence in his struggle for establishing equal rights for adivasis and minority people.

"At times, anger takes over me but I calm myself down remembering that it is the weapon of the weak... and so I should stay strong," Sanjeeb added.

During the British rule in the undivided India, Gandhi

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Participants at a roundtable discussion on "The 2007 Dove Global Girls Beauty and Confidence Report" at the capital's The Daily Star Centre yesterday. The event was organised by Dove and The Daily Star.

PHOTO: STAR



This around 2-acre pond in Barisal city's Katpotti area is in an appalling state due to a constant dumping of waste. It is also filled with aquatic plants and algae. In addition, the century-old reservoir is shrinking at an alarming rate due to encroachment. Locals have already submitted a memorandum to the city corporation to clean the pond but to no avail. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: SUSHANTA GHOSH

HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL Prime suspect held in Sherpur

STAR REPORT

Police yesterday arrested the prime suspect in storing 18 chemical-filled containers for "making bombs" in Nokla upazila of Sherpur.

Foyzuddin was arrested in the district town, said Saheli Ferdous, assistant inspector general (media) at Police Headquarters.

He went into hiding after police seized the chemical on Friday from a shop.

During primary investigation, he was found to be an operative of "Neo JMB", she added.

The chemical include 200kg nitric acid, 35kg dichloromethane and sulphuric acid, 100kg chloroform and dichloromethane, 65kg of sulphuric acid and tetrahydrofuran, 160kg hydrogen peroxide and 35kg chloroform, said police.

Soon after the seizure, police detained shop owner Minara Begum, 40, for interrogation.

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- Grades VI to VIII students follow the Middle School Programme that shares the good practices of various international curriculums. It develops skills, knowledge and attitudes which prepares students for higher classes.
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Admission Forms for the Academic Year 2018 - 2019 can be collected from 08th October to 26th October 2017 from the Secondary School, Road no. 6A, Sector IV, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka - 1230, Bangladesh from 9 am to 2 pm. Tel: +8801777644645.

Last date for submission of completed application form is 29th October 2017.