



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAH	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
H 33.2 L 21.6	H 31.6 L 19.7	H 33.5 L 23.6	H 32.1 L 20.5	H 31.7 L 19.3	H 30.5 L 20.2	H 33.2 L 20.0	H 33.0 L 20.4	H 33.0 L 24.0

Rain is likely to occur at one or two places over Chittagong division till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:17pm and rises tomorrow at 6:08am.

# People won't resent tax if it helps

Says a former US city mayor

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN  
No citizen likes tax but if the city corporations are sensitive and spend the money for betterment of its dwellers, people will also welcome the increase of taxes, according to a former US city mayor.

"If we [local government] are sensitive to not wasting money and making a very well thought-out case for things that need to be done then the public will support you," said Ralph Becker, former mayor of Salt Lake City, the capital of the US state of Utah.



Ralph Becker

He gave an interview to The Daily Star during his recent visit to Dhaka, and shared his experience and suggestions for the mayors of the city corporations and municipalities of Bangladesh.

Ralph had been the mayor of Salt Lake City for two consecutive terms (2008-2012 and 2012-2016).

He was in town to attend a two-day Cities Forum where mayors and councillors of cities and municipalities of Bangladesh shared their experiences and discussed their

problems. The World Bank organised it in a Dhaka hotel on October 28-29, with mayors from some foreign cities attending the programme as guests.

At the conference, most of the mayors of Bangladesh expressed their frustration over fund constraint, which was also noticed by Ralph.

The mayors here feel a lot of frustration that they do not have finances and ability to raise money to do what they need to do; so they just hang on to what they have rather than making improvement, observed Ralph.

He urged the mayors to come up with concrete plans and approaches to the government and aid agencies.

"My experience says that every major project that I took as mayor and I saw this from other mayors around the country that if you decide what is best for the community and you put together a good plan and show determination, others will surely help you."

Sharing his experience, he said that when

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This bridge was small but important. It was the most suitable alternative route between Sreepur upazila headquarters and Barmi bazaar in Gazipur. Since the main 12km Sreepur-Barmi road was badly damaged, it has been abandoned for the last few months. The collapse of this bridge on Gosinga-Barmi road not only would force people to make a detour of 12-15km, but the locals have also lost a direct link to the newly-built Bir Muktijoddha Rahmat Ali Setu connecting Sreepur with Kapasia and Kishoreganj. Moreover, residents of two unions of Kapasia and one of Sreepur would face difficulties travelling to Dhaka because they used to take this route for coming to Sreepur first and then to Dhaka. The bridge across Kuriadi canal crumbled yesterday noon.

PHOTO: ABU BAKR SIDDIQUE

# Three professors get Sheltech award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Professor Emeritus Serajul Islam Choudhury, Prof Ainun Nishat, and Prof Rafiqun Nabi have been awarded the Sheltech Padak for their lifelong dedication to social causes and excellent service in their respective fields of work, says a press release.

Real estate firm Sheltech gave the award to the three persons for three consecutive years -- 2017, 2016, and 2015 -- respectively.

The award ceremony was held at Sheltech's office in the capital's Panthapath yesterday.

Prof Serajul Islam was honoured as an education specialist, Prof Ainun for his work on climate issues, and artist Prof Rafiqun (Ranabi) for his renowned cartoon character Tokai.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Serajul stressed the need for quality education and the inevitability of creativity in ensuring it.

He also called upon people to spread knowledge. As part of the award, each of the winners received Tk 2 lakh and a crest.

Sheltech Chairman Kutubuddin Ahmed, Managing Director Dr Toufiq M Seraj, Director Tanvir Ahmed and Dr Samia Seraj were present on this occasion.

The company launched the Sheltech Padak in 1998.

# NCCB to award craftsperson

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Crafts Council of Bangladesh (NCCB) will give away a "Lifetime Master Craftsperson Award" to an artisan above 60 years of age, for his/her outstanding skill and lifelong contributions to the country's craft heritage.

The award will be given in January, 2018, said NCCB officials.

All craft masters must submit their entries by December 31 this year, and each participant is required to submit two to three pieces of their work.

Once it receives the entries, NCCB will contact them and send them forms to fill in.

# TRUCK, COVERED-VAN, LORRY Check papers at terminals: IGP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid allegation of extortion and harassment against police on highways, Inspector General of Police AKM Shahidul Hoque yesterday instructed the law enforcers to check the documents of trucks and covered-vans at the terminals not during the journey.

The instruction came while he was at a discussion with Truck, Covered-van and Tank Lorry Owners and Workers Oikya Parishad and Bangladesh Truck Covered-van Goods Transport Association in the conference room of Police Headquarters, according to a media release.

At the programme, the owners and workers requested the police chief's directives regarding filing of cases despite having actual documents, indiscriminate search in vehicles, collection of additional wrecker fee and misbehaviour with drivers.

The IGP said stern actions will be taken if anyone found taking money illegally.

He later asked for not driving vehicles on highways without documents or fitness certificates to avoid traffic congestion and accidents.

He said vehicles should not be overloaded and hydraulic

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# Ex-president Biswas laid to rest

UNB, Dhaka



Former President Abdur Rahman Biswas, who passed away on Friday

night, was laid to eternal rest in the capital yesterday.

He was buried at Banani Graveyard around 6:00pm after his fifth and final namaz-e-janaza at Gulshan Azad Mosque.

BNP leaders and activists, his family members and relatives attended the janaza and the burial.

Abdur Rahman Biswas, who had long been suffering from old-age complications,

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# HISTORY DISTORTION BY PAKISTAN Islamabad refutes Dhaka's claim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Denying responsibility for posting a misleading video on a Facebook page maintained by the Pakistan high commission, Islamabad has summoned the Bangladesh envoy and protested Dhaka's claim of distortion of Bangladesh's history of independence.

The Pakistani Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned High Commissioner of Bangladesh in Islamabad Tarik Ahsan on Thursday, two days after Dhaka sought a formal note of apology from the Pakistan mission in Bangladesh over the incident.

"In order to register our protest on the use of undiplomatic language in a Note Verbale, on an incident of obscure origin, the High Commissioner of Bangladesh in Islamabad was summoned..." reads a press release uploaded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan on its website on November 2.

"The High Commissioner was conveyed that sharing of a video by a third party cannot be attributed to Pakistan High Commission in Dhaka. Also, that Pakistan has been pursuing a policy of maintaining friendly and cordial ties with Bangladesh," it said.

"Pakistan desires to move forward in accordance with

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Winners of Sheltech Padak with organisers during the award giving ceremony at the capital's Sheltech Tower yesterday. From left, Sheltech Managing Director Dr Toufiq M Seraj, three winners Prof Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus Serajul Islam Choudhury, and Prof Rafiqun Nabi, and Sheltech Chairman Kutubuddin Ahmed.

PHOTO: STAR

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# INDIAN STUDENT MURDER

# Police yet to unearth clue

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Over three-and-a-half months have already passed but the murder of Ateef Sheikh, an Indian student of University of Science and Technology Chittagong (USTC), still remains a mystery.

A fourth-year MBBS student Ateef, 25, son of Abdul Khaliq of Assam, was stabbed to death in his flat in the port city on July 15 allegedly by a fellow student of his country. The prime suspect, Maisnam Winson Singh, who allegedly tried to kill himself by hanging, was rescued from the same room.

Police could not unearth the murder motive although two arrestees, Winson and another roommate Gangmei Niraj, were remanded.

About the murder mystery, the investigation officer (IO) of the case, Inspector Santosh Kumar Chakma of Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI), said as the accused were foreigners, they were interrogated very carefully so that none could raise any question about the interrogation or investigation in the case.

Niraj, 25, was held after Ateef's father filed a case against six Indian and two Bangladeshi students of USTC on July 18.

PBI was entrusted to investigate the case on July 23. Police arrested Winson after he was released from hospital on July 23.

During interrogation, Winson said he could remember everything about the day, except how Ateef was murdered and how he was hanged, said Santosh.

Meanwhile, Niraj, during the interrogation, said on that night Ateef's girlfriend, who also lived in the flat, and he went to their respective rooms while the other five left the

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