

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
H 30.8 L 20.7	H 31.3 L 18.6	H 32.5 L 21.0	H 31.8 L 19.0	H 30.5 L 18.1	H 30.2 L 19.2	H 31.5 L 20.2	H 31.2 L 19.5	H 32.2 L 21.5	

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in 24 hours till 6:00pm today, says the Met office. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:14pm and rises tomorrow at 06:11am. Highest and lowest temperatures recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Jubo League blocks Ctg-Khagrachhari road for 6hrs
Protests arrest of fellow accused of extortion

Local Jubo League activists put a barricade on Chittagong-Khagrachhari road for around six hours in Nazirhat area under Fatikchhari upazila in Chittagong yesterday protesting arrest of a fellow activist the night before. Sub-inspector Irfan Uddin of Fatikchhari Police Station said Jubo League activist Imaj Uddin Jam, 30, was arrested in the municipality area around 11:00pm on Thursday for extorting money from people. Protesting the arrest, the Jubo League men put the barricade on the road at 6:00am blocking the vehicular movement. Police removed the barricade around 12:30pm, he said.



Seven girls who formed an organisation "Ghasful" to prevent child marriage in Mymensingh's Nandail area attend Prothom Alo's anniversary programme in the capital yesterday. From left, Prothom Alo Editor Matiuir Rahman, and the seven courageous girls Chhowa, Sneha, Tabassum, Tuli, Shyama, Pranti and Jannatul.

Nation to celebrate recognition for March 7 speech

UNB, Dhaka
 The nation will celebrate on November 25 the recognition for the historic March 7 speech of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as a world documentary heritage. The decision came at a meeting at the Prime Minister's Office last week with PM's Principal Secretary Dr Kamal Naser Chowdhury in the chair. Officials from different ministries and divisions, civil society members and media people were present at the meeting. "We think recognition for Bangabandhu's March 7 speech as a world documentary heritage is a great achievement for the nation as well as its history and heritage..." Kamal Naser told the news agency yesterday. Kamal said to celebrate this achievement, joyous processions involving people of all classes and professions as well as government and private organisations will be brought out across the country on November 25. He said this programme was taken to inform people, particularly students and future generations, about the national and international significance of Bangabandhu's March 7 speech. "We're considering conducting special classes in all educational institutions to inform the students about these crucial issues," he added. Kamal Naser said initiatives will be taken to preserve the March 7 speech in all public libraries and educational institutions. The educational institutions will later arrange various contests like quiz and general knowledge competitions on the March 7 speech.

12 crude bombs recovered in Chuadanga

UNB, Chuadanga
 Police recovered 12 crude bombs from Asmankhali Bazar area in Alamdanga upazila yesterday afternoon. Masudur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Gangni police investigation camp, said a group of workers spotted two crude bombs while digging earth in a place adjacent to the old police camp in the area in the afternoon and informed police. Later, police recovered 10 other crude bombs, digging up the soil. The OC said the bombs might have been kept there for carrying out acts of sabotage.

Tangail UP member 'abducted'

Family claims he was picked up by plainclothes DB men; law enforcers deny

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail
 A union parishad member in Tangail was abducted by the Detective Branch (DB) of police from the court premises on November 5, alleged his family members yesterday. The law enforcers, however, denied the allegation. On that day, Jahangir Hossain, a member of Dynna Union Parishad in Sadar upazila, had to appear before the Second Additional District and Sessions Judge's Court. Around 11:30am, while getting out of the courtroom, some plainclothes men, introducing them as DB police, picked him up in a CNG-run three-wheeler, alleged his wife, Reshma Begum. She was speaking at a press confer-

ence at Tangail Press Club yesterday. She claimed that she heard about her husband's abduction from the driver. The family members went to the Tangail DB office, Tangail Model Police Station, and local offices of the Rapid Action Battalion and Police Bureau of Investigation, but to no avail, she alleged. On Tuesday, the family lodged a general diary (GD) with Tangail Model Police Station. Reshma said her husband is also general secretary of Dynna union unit of Jubo League. "We are very worried..." she added. Responding to a question from journalists, she said her husband is accused in five cases. He is now on bail in all of them, she added.

Contacted, Ashok Kumar Sinha, officer-in-charge of Tangail DB police, said they did not pick up Jahangir. "He is an accused in a dozen of cases, including murder. He has many rivals and used to remain in hiding most of the time. Anything could happen to him." "Earlier, Jahangir's family told the Tangail superintendent of police that he was picked up through a pick-up. Now they are saying it was a three-wheeler. We don't use such vehicles," he added. "We are, however, investigating the matter to see whether any vested quarter is conspiring against the detective branch..." "We're also looking for the driver of the three-wheeler," he added.

B'BARIA BOAT CAPSIZAL Overcrowding, laxity to blame: Investigators

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria
 Overcrowding and negligence are to blame for the capsizing of a boat, carrying 100 Junior School Certificate (JSC) exam candidates, in the Pagla river under Nabinagar upazila that left two students dead and 18 others injured on November 1. The probe committee, formed to investigate the incident, said this in their report, which was made public yesterday. The report said the boat, hired by the authorities of Birgaon High School and College, could usually carry around 40-50 persons but took more than 100 on board. Also, there were 39 illegal fishing enclosures (commonly known as gher) in the river that hampered the boat's movement.

It also blamed acting principal of the institution, Nazir Hossain, for his carelessness to allow so many students board the boat in such conditions. Brahmanbaria Additional District Magistrate Shahedul Islam, who headed the three-member probe body, disclosed the report to Deputy Commissioner Rezwanur Rahman on Thursday afternoon. The report mentioned that the acting principal has not been performing his duties properly, said the DC. When asked, the principal said he was not aware of the probe report. However, he reiterated his earlier statement that they had hired two boats for the students. "...some of the guardians and many other students

Skills deficit shrinks remittance potential

Prof Jamilur tells UAP programming contest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Bangladeshi migrant workers are making a significant contribution to the country's economy but their individual output is very small because of skills deficit, educationist Prof Jamilur Reza Choudhury said yesterday. "We are sending unskilled workers," he said, drawing a parallel with the country's ICT education sector which "faces a similar situation". The vice chancellor of University of Asia Pacific (UAP) made the remarks while speaking at a programming contest titled, "2017 ACM-ICPC Asia Dhaka Regional Contest". UAP's Department of Computer Science and Engineering organised the competition on its campus in the capital. Citing government statistics, University Grants Commission (UGC) Prof Abdul Mannan said, "Around six lakh foreign people work in Bangladesh... Officially they earn 5 billion dollars (from this country)." On the other hand, one crore Bangladeshis work abroad, but they sent 14 billion dollars in 2016, he said, adding that this was happening due to the skill gap between foreign works and local workers. Highlighting the importance of ICT education, Prof Mannan said people with knowledge in ICT were not unemployed in the country. Prof Abdul Matin Patwari, former VC of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet), said, "Computer education must be introduced in primary level education." He said the country needed an ICT-educated workforce who would help in exporting software and hardware and earn huge money from abroad.

70-year-old man 'rapes' schoolgirl

Two local youths allegedly film scene, spread video

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur
 A 70-year-old man was arrested yesterday for allegedly raping a 13-year-old girl in Ishan Gopalpur union of Faridpur Sadar upazila some 15 days ago. According to locals, Kalo Sheikh, a father of five, raped the schoolgirl in the afternoon when she took her goat to a field around 15 days ago. Two youths, aged around 23 years, who were in the vicinity, filmed the whole incident on their cell phone and later blackmailed Kalo for money. Initially, Kalo gave them Tk 700, but they were not happy with the amount, so they spread the video among the villagers through Bluetooth, they said. Some agitated villagers caught Kalo around 9:30am and handed him over to Faridpur Sadar police. Police are trying to arrest the two who spread the video, said Md Jahangir, sub-inspector of Faridpur Sadar Police Station, adding the girl would be sent for a forensic test tomorrow.



Visitors throng a jewellery stall at the 11th International Women's SME Expo 2017 on Railway Polo Ground in Chittagong city yesterday. The month-long expo started last Friday.



A notice put up by the Dhaka South City Corporation in front of the ghat (landing spot) of this pond is quite straightforward. It says: fishing, washing clothes and bathing is completely prohibited, and necessary lawful measures will be taken if found disregarding the notice. While people continue to partake in all of the above, the city corporation hardly takes any step to stop this. The photo was taken near the Mahanagar Natya Mancha (Dhaka Metropolitan Theatre) in the capital's Gulistan area yesterday.

BCL man's terror

FROM PAGE 3
 of the area to an unknown location. Later in the evening, Joyee came back to her hostel room after collecting her book bag from the tutor's house, said one of her classmates, also a resident at the dormitory. Mirza and his gang had been harassing her ever since she enrolled at the college. They used to torment her on the way to and from the tutor's house, she also said. Another student at the dormitory said, "We have been feeling extremely insecure... Two students already left the dorm after the incident and many others are considering the same." Mirza is son of Nazrul Islam from Bajua village in the same upazila. Kumaresh Mondal, Joyee's father, said his daughter wanted to be a police officer. He had to send her to the residential college in Dacope as there is no college near their home. Joyee never told them about Mirza's stalking and harassments because she thought they might become frightened and bring her home, said Debanjon Mondal, elder brother of Joyee. Speaking with The Daily Star, Shyamol Kumar Roy, principal of SN College, said Mirza became arrogant and spiralled out of control after he became president of the college BCL. "There have been more than twenty writ-

Cameroon

FROM PAGE 4
 250,000 Euros, exchanging the amount for dollars. Zia arranged the Euro currency as the gang promised to give him Tk 20 lakh for this job. While talking in the house, Fotso dropped a bottle of toxic liquid on the ground, pretending that it happened accidentally. The liquid soaked part of Zia's body, forcing him to go to the washroom. In the meantime, they replaced the Euro notes with white papers in the packet and later left the house, saying they would exchange the currency later as they did not bring the dollars. Zia came to know about the fraudulence after he found the phone of the foreign nationals switched off and checked his Euro notes in the packet the next day.