

WEATHER
FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA H 27.1 L 16.4	MYMENSINGH H 27.7 L 13.7	CHITTAGONG H 28.7 L 18.8	SYLHET H 28.3 L 15.6	RAJSHAHI H 24.5 L 11.5	RANGPUR H 23.6 L 13.8	KHULNA H 26.6 L 13.7	BARISAL H 27.7 L 13.8	COX'S BAZAR H 28.6 L 18.2
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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 5:20pm and rises tomorrow at 06:40am.**

Now banker goes 'missing'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A senior officer of Brac Bank's Shyamoli branch reportedly went missing from the capital's Gulshan area on Tuesday afternoon.

Nayeemul Islam Shaikat, 30, last informed his wife around 11:00am on Tuesday that he was going to the bank's head office in Gulshan from the Shyamoli branch with some documents, said Jamal Uddin, Shaikat's brother-in-law.

His phone was last active at 2:30pm and the location was Niketan, said police.

The family filed a general diary with Tejgaon Industrial Police Station yesterday. OC Abdur Rashid of the police station said they are investigating the incident.

Hailing from Barisal, Shaikat used to live at a rented house with his wife in Mirpur-2.



Demanding inclusion of the government-approved educational institutions in the monthly pay order (MPO) facilities, the institutions' teachers yesterday continue their indefinite sit-in programme in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

PHOTO: STAR

Create knowledge for nation's welfare

Nahid urges universities at 2nd convocation of BU BSS, Dhaka

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday called upon all universities to create new knowledge to solve the nation's basic problems.

"Universities have to practise knowledge, conduct research, search for new knowledge and create new knowledge as the knowledge created by our universities can solve the basic and particular problems of the nation," he said.

The minister made the call while speaking at the 2nd convocation of Bangladesh University (BU) at Bangabandhu International Conference Center in the capital.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

'We are the most overlooked of all'

Non-MPO teachers continue sit-in for second day demanding inclusion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Graduating in mathematics from a private college in Naogaon, Moklesar Rahman joined Shahpukuria High School in Manda of Naogaon in 2004.

Ever since he started the job, six days a week, he takes four to five classes of different grades on an average every day. But for the last 13 years, he has been doing this without any salary.

"Just imagine how it feels when you get no salary for the work you're doing for years! When my school got the government approval in 2010, I was told that the school would soon be enlisted in MPO and I would get salary. But that moment never came," said a frustrated Moklesar.

The mathematics teacher of the school, which has 200 students, said it is the private tuitions on which he runs his five-member family amid hardships. He said four of his colleagues have already switched the job out of frustration.

"It's an inhumane life we are leading. There is a popular saying

that teachers are the architect of building a nation, but we are the most overlooked of all in our country," he said.

Moklesar is among the several hundreds of teachers, who are now continuing an indefinite sit-in for the second consecutive day in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital, demanding inclusion of the approved educational institutions in the government's monthly pay order (MPO) facilities.

Under the banner of "Non-MPO Shikhyia Pratishthan Shikhyak Karmachari Federation", the teachers from across the country started the sit-in on Tuesday, vowing not to return to their workplaces until their one-point demand is met. Many of them spent Tuesday night under the open sky.

The agitation came two days after the assistant primary teachers called off their indefinite hunger strike after the primary education minister assured them of meeting their demands over upgrading their

salary scale.

MPO is the government's share in the payroll of the non-government educational institutions. Under the scheme, the government gives 100 percent basic salaries to the teachers of non-government schools. The teachers also get a lump sum amount as other allowances through the MPO.

As per the rules, the educational institutions first come under MPO facilities and then the government enlists the teachers in the payroll.

Currently, more than four lakh teachers and employees of more than 26,340 secondary schools, colleges, madrasas and technical institutes are receiving MPO facilities.

According to the leaders of the federation, the number of non-MPO educational institutions is 5,242, where around 80,000 teachers are working without any pay, some for more than a decade.

This is because the institutions do not have the ability to pay the teachers while the government

stopped bringing these institutions under its payroll for what they said due to a fund crunch.

After a suspension of six years by the then BNP-led alliance government, the Awami League-led government revived the MPO facility in 2010 as per its electoral pledge.

That year, the government listed 1,624 private secondary and higher secondary schools and colleges for MPO following a lot of hassle among the ruling party lawmakers.

Since then the teachers have been organising various protest programmes in and outside Dhaka, but their demand is yet to be fulfilled.

"We have suspended our previous movements on assurance of meeting our demands. But this time we will not go home until our demand is met," said Golam Mahmudunnabi, president of the federation.

The non-MPO educational institutions run based on the rules the MPO-listed ones do and follow the same curriculum and syllabus.

NEWSIN brief

Rajuk conducts eviction drives in Mirpur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rajuk yesterday carried out an eviction drive in the capital's Mirpur 11 and 12.

The drive was led by Executive Magistrate Khandokar Oliur Rahman and Authorised Officer of Rajuk Mobarak Hossain, said a press release.

In Mirpur-11, the team knocked down some illegal portions of a 15-storey building -- an unauthorised structure on the roof and a clothing store on the ground floor. It also fined the businesses Tk 5 lakh each.

In Mirpur-12, a private bank was given 30 days to shift its ATM booth from a building, which did not have a commercial permit. Besides, illegal structures on a footpath and eight stores occupying parking spaces in the area were also dismantled.

Buet holds workshop on telecommunications, photonics

CITY DESK

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) is holding a three-day workshop, "The second IEEE International Conference on Telecommunications and Photonics (ICTP 2017)" in the capital.

The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) has organised the workshop which began on Tuesday at Buet Council Bhaban, said a press release.

Abuse of power HC makes observation about sentencing lawyer by AC (land)

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday said Assistant Commissioner (land) of Bhurungamari upazila in Kurigram Biroda Rani Roy has abused her power by sentencing a lawyer through a mobile court over a trifling matter.

Biroda has not only forced the lawyer, Nirod Bihari Roy, to leave her office, but also sentenced him through a mobile court; it is the abuse of her power, it said.

The bench of Justice Md Habibur Gani and Justice KM Kamrul Kader made the observation after the AC (land) appeared before the court yesterday and offered unconditional apology for the incident.

The HC bench fixed today for passing an order on this issue.

Biroda appeared before the HC yesterday after being summoned by the court on December 17, her lawyer Advocate Syed Mamun Mahub told The Daily Star.

On December 12, Biroda asked lawyer Nirod to sit outside her office room as there was no place to sit inside, she told the HC.

Following that, Nirod shouted in the office, she said.

Then AC (land) Biroda fined Nirod, 60, a member of the Dinajpur Bar Association, Tk 500, in default of which he would have to stay one day in jail.

The incident at Birganj upazila land office in Dinajpur

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Bakhrabad Gas Distribution Company Limited
(A Company of Petrobangla)

Employment of Legal Advisers (Retainer) and Panel Advocates

Applications are hereby invited in plain paper from the members of the District Bar Councils of Dhaka, Comilla, Brahmanbaria, Chandpur, Feni, Noakhali and Chittagong for appointment of Legal Adviser for Comilla Area and Panel Advocates four for Dhaka, two for Comilla, Brahmanbaria and one each for Chittagong (Experience in Labour Law), Chandpur, Feni and Noakhali Area for a period of two years for conducting suits in different courts on the following terms and conditions:

- For Dhaka area the applicants must have ten years experience as legal practitioner in Civil Courts including five years experience in High Court Division. An advocate having a Bar-at-Law/LL.M or Doctorate Degree in any discipline of law will be given preference. Except Dhaka all other area's applicants must have ten years experience as legal practitioner in Civil Courts.
- Retired District Judges (age not exceeding sixty years) who are engaged in legal practice are eligible to apply.
- The applicants must be Bangladeshi by Birth.
- The applicants must possess a good physique.
- The Legal Advisers will be paid a monthly retainer fee of Tk. 1,000.00 (one thousand), Legal Advisers and Panel Advocate will be paid legal fees separately at BGDCL's scheduled rate(s).
- Advocates engaged as Legal Adviser/Retainer in any other organisation are not eligible to apply for appointment as Legal Adviser/Retainer in BGDCL.
- Interested candidates should submit 2 (two) copies of applications stating name, father's, mother's/husband's name, present and permanent address, 2 (two) attested copies of certificates regarding nationality, experience/qualifications and 2 (two) copies of recent passport size photographs duly attested by First Class Gazetted Officer directly to the Secretary, Bakhrabad Gas Distribution Company Limited, Head Office, Chapapur, Comilla within 15 (fifteen) days from the day of publication of this notice.
- The words "Application for the post of Legal Adviser/Panel Advocate" should be mentioned on the application and envelopes.

Secretary

BG-1362, December-2017
GD-2841

Bakhrabad Gas Distribution Company Limited

Comilla

PBI arrests

FROM PAGE 4

Meanwhile, regarding the Karnaphuli Police Station OC's refusal to file a case after the incident, ADC (prosecution) of CMP Nirmalendu Bikash Chawakrabarty said, "Metropolitan Magistrate Al Emran has issued a show cause notice to the OC [Sayedul Mostafa] on Tuesday night and asked [him] to submit his reply within seven days."

CMP'S PROBE COMMITTEE

Meanwhile, the CMP yesterday formed a two-member probe committee to investigate the alleged negligence against OC Sayedul Mostafa of Karnaphuli Police Station over his refusal to file the case after the incident of rape and robbery at the Karnaphuli house.

Confirming development, CMP's Additional Commissioner (crime and operations) Saleh Mohammed Tanvir told The Daily Star, the "committee comprising an additional deputy commissioner [ADC] of Port Zone and an assistant commissioner [AC] will investigate the allegations against OC Sayedul Mostafa."

"The committee was asked to submit its findings within five days," Deputy Commissioner (port) Harun-ur-Rashid Hazari told The Daily Star.

In the early hours of December 13, four women - three expatriate siblings' wives and their sister-in-law -- were raped by four robbers in Shahmirpur village of Karnaphuli upazila.

Family members of the victims alleged that OC Sayedul refused to record the case two times before being compelled to record it four days later when State Minister for Land Saifuzzaman Chowdhury Javed intervened.

Yaba factory busted in Ctg

2.5 lakh pills seized; four held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Detectives of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) busted a Yaba factory and arrested four persons including a woman in Chittagong city's Beparipara area on Tuesday night.

During the drive, 2.5 lakh Yaba pills, raw materials, two Yaba-making machines and four moulds were recovered from the factory located at a flat under Double Mooring Police Station.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Hasan Md Showkat Ali of DB disclosed this at a press briefing at CMP headquarters yesterday.

The arrestees are Shaymol Mozumdar, 37; Abdullah Al Aman alias Aman, 34; Md Mamun Hossen alias Mamun, 32; Ayesha Siddiq, 27, wife of expatriate Nasar Ullah.

"Being tipped-off, a team of DB police raided the third floor of a five-storey building owned by one Abul Hossen and arrested the four," said DC Hasan.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) (West) AAM Humayun Kabir, who led the drive, told The Daily Star: "Shaymol is the mastermind of Yaba trade... he learned the techniques of manufacturing Yaba from another Yaba trader Rakhal Chandara, who was arrested in 2012 from the city's Chawakbazar area."

"Shaymol and Aman are partners, and they had been running the business for the last three years. Every day, the ring used to manufacture 3,000 to 5,000 pieces of Yaba pills," said the ADC.

Talking to the journalists at CMP, arrested Shaymol said they rented the flat seven months ago introducing Ayesha as his sister.

"Rakhal Chandara is my teacher and he died at Chittagong jail three years ago. I made the (Yaba-making) machines and moulds at a local iron workshop in the city's Matiarupul area after coming out of jail in 2014," said Shaymol.

'DB MEN EXTORTED TK 14 LAKH EARLIER'

Shaymol also said, "A team of DB police raided my previous flat around 10 months back and extorted Tk 14 lakh. Taking the money, they released us. After the incident, I shifted my residence to Beparipara."

In this regard, ADC AAM Humayun Kabir said, "We are investigating the matter."

CELEBRATING LIFE GALA 2017

Keep your eyes on
Channel i
Tomorrow

29 December, Friday, 2017
Time: 5:30PM

Partners

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