

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S
TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 31.1 L 19.3

MYMENSINGH
H 29.0 L 17.4

CHITTAGONG
H 30.5 L 18.2

SYLHET
H 30.9 L 17.0

RAJSHAHI
H 29.4 L 15.9

RANGPUR
H 29.7 L 13.6

KHULNA
H 31.5 L 17.8

BARISAL
H 31.0 L 16.5

COX'S BAZAR
H 31.0 L 18.3

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today, said the Met office. Light fog may occur at places over the river basins of the country during late night to early morning. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:58pm and rises tomorrow at 06:27am. Highest and lowest temperature recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inspects parade and takes salute marking the 6th reunion of Bangladesh Army Corps of Engineers at Qadirabad Cantonment in Natore yesterday.

PHOTO:
PMO

Remain alert to threats

PM asks army while addressing the force's event at Qadirabad Cantonment

UNB, Natore

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the Bangladesh Army personnel to stay ready to face any external and internal threat to the country's constitution and sovereignty, she said.

"You'll have to keep a constant vigil to... safeguard the country's constitution and sovereignty," she said.

The premier was addressing a parade of the sixth reunion of the Corps of Engineers of Bangladesh Army at the Engineer Centre and School of Military Engineering (ECSME) at Qadirabad Cantonment in Natore.

Hasina said the army will have to play an important role in building a developed and prosperous country.

She also emphasised maintaining peace and discipline. "You must remain alert so that the country's law and order is maintained."

Praising the army, she said their role in the UN peacekeeping missions has brightened the country's image. They have set a unique example in facing natural disasters as well as providing the affected people with assistance. She also appreciated the army's role in

rendering services to the forcibly displaced Rohingyas.

Hasina described the engineer corps as an important and traditional organisation of the army.

To further strengthen the corps, she said the government has already constituted Engineer Construction Brigade and Engineer Battalion. Besides, the formation of RE Battalion, Engineer Construction Battalion and DIV Engineer Battalion is under process.

She expressed her optimism that experiences, guidelines and advices of the seniors at the reunion will inspire the army personnel to work with honesty, patriotism and dedication.

At the event, the prime minister was given a guard of honour by a smartly turned out army contingent.

Earlier on her arrival, she was received by Chief of Army Staff General Abu Belal Muhammad Shafiu Huq and the colonel commandant and the commandant of the ECSME.

Later, she attended the annual commanders' conference of the engineer corps.

End child poverty to achieve SDGs

Prothom Alo discussion told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs), immediate steps need to be taken to curb multidimensional poverty of children, said speakers at a seminar yesterday.

They also urged separate budget allocation for children.

They were addressing a roundtable titled "Multidimensional Poverty of Children" organised by Prothom Alo at its Karwanbazar office. Dr Shamsul Alam, member of General Economics Division of Bangladesh Planning Commission, said the education system needs to be remodelled to eradicate multidimensional poverty.

Executive Director of Power and Participation Research Centre Hossain Zillur Rahman said for the eradication of multidimensional poverty, rural and urban children are needed to be differentiated as nature of their poverty is different. "It's more challenging to address multidimensional poverty of urban children," he said.

Carlos Acosta, country representative of Unicef Bangladesh, said the country has strong and clear policy in eradicating poverty. About 46 percent of children are poor but only 8 percent of social safety net is allocated for them, he added. Director (Safety) of Save the Children Laila Khandakar, social policy expert of Unicef Hasina Begum, and Associate Editor of Prothom Alo Abdul Qayyum, among others, spoke.

Road crashes kill 9

STAR REPORT

At least nine people were killed in road accidents in five districts yesterday.

Six-year-old Monira was killed in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila when a battery-run autorickshaw hit the girl while she was crossing the road, police said.

In Pabna, Chobi Khatun, 27, was killed after a brick-laden tractor hit her in Pabna Sadar upazila, reports our correspondent. She was seriously injured and died on her way to hospital, police said quoting locals.

Police arrested the driver and seized the tractor.

In Chittagong, Manik Chakraborty, 55, was killed after a truck hit him while he was crossing the road on Chittagong-Dhaka highway, police said quoting locals.

In Shariatpur, three men including Saddam Hossain, 22, and Halim Hossain, 22, were killed and seven others injured after a truck carrying them plunged into a ditch in Vedarganj upazila, UNB reports.

The Shariatpur-bound truck was carrying construction materials and 10 labourers, police said. The injured were admitted to a local hospital, police added.

Also, head-on collision between a bus and a microbus on Dhaka-Khulna highway in Gopalganj Sadar upazila killed Jewel Ahmed, 24, and Imran Mollah, 20, on the spot, UNB said.

An injured, whose identity could not be known immediately, succumbed to his injuries at a local hospital, police said.

CORRECTION

A photo caption published in The Daily Star on Wednesday mistakenly cites the designation of Shaheen Anam as director of Manusher Jonno Foundation. Actually, Shaheen Anam is the executive director of Manusher Jonno Foundation. We regret the error.

NEWS IN brief

2 SSC examinees jailed over question leak

UNB, Joypragat

A mobile court yesterday sentenced two SSC (Dakhl) examinees to two-year imprisonment each on charges of leaking the chemistry question paper.

The examinees were from Panchbibi upazila. Panchbibi Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) and Executive Magistrate Rajibul Alam passed the order after they were caught red-handed while cheating on leaked questions' solutions at Panchbibi Government Girls School examination centre.

The court also asked local police for filing a case against the chemistry teacher and a former student of the madrasa, where the students studied, for their involvement in the leak, said examination centre Secretary Delwar Hossain.

Coast Guard seizes smuggled Indian sarees, clothes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

The Coast Guard yesterday seized smuggled Indian sarees, clothes and city gold worth about Tk 39.44 lakh in abandoned condition in Mawa ferryghat area of Munshiganj yesterday.

On information, a Coast Guard team seized 180 Indian sarees, 126 dresses, and 38,800 pairs of city gold earrings, said Lt Commander M Enayet Ullah, station commander of Pagla Coast Guard in Narayanganj.

The items were handed over to the Dhaka office of Customs, Excise and VAT Commissionerate.

CU BCL rampage under investigation

CU CORRESPONDENT

The Chittagong University authorities yesterday formed a three-member probe body to investigate the incident of vandalism on the campus allegedly by a faction of the university's Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) on Tuesday.

The committee was asked to submit its report within 15 working days.

On Tuesday, the BCL faction vandalised the proctor's office, 14 vehicles belonging to the university and five rooms of the dramatics department. They also assaulted two journalists, witnesses said.

Doa Mahfil for Shariar Hussain today

CITY DESK

A doa mahfil will be held today for Md Shariar Hussain, a renowned professional in the fertilizer industry.

Shariar died of cardiac failure in the early hours of Wednesday at his residence, said a press release.

Friends, relatives, acquaintances and well-wishers are requested to attend the doa mahfil at Ka-39/A, Lichu Bagan, Joar Sahara (adjacent to Pioneer Dental College) in the capital after the Asr prayers.



Literary works

FROM PAGE 4

"The Essential Tagore", the largest collection of Rabindranath Tagore's works available in English.

He mentioned that literary works by authors like Amitav Ghosh, Arundhati Roy, Tahmima Anam and Zia Haider Rahman have enriched South Asian writings in English.

At a literary session, India's Aruna Chakrabarty, the author of "Daughters of Jorasanko", said to be able to reach the readers, a translator has to be as creative as a writer. During today's segment, the conference will feature a session on "South Asian Poetry" in the morning. The second session on "South Asian Languages and Translation" will be held at noon.

Ekushey observed

FROM PAGE 4

Salam, Barkat, Rafiq, Shafiur, Jabbar and a few others were killed when police opened fire on their procession.

Unesco in 1999 declared February 21 as the International Mother Language Day. The day is being observed worldwide since then.

Marking the day, Bangladesh Embassy in Seoul, South Korea, arranged different programmes including seminars and cultural events, says a separate press release.

The ambassador paid floral tribute at the first hour of the day at a permanent Shaheed Minar built last year in Ansan city. Several hundred people gathered on the Shaheed Minar premises ignoring a chilling February cold.

Bangladesh High Commission in Islamabad, Pakistan, along with expatriate Bangladeshis observed the day by holding a day-long programme at the high commission.

High Commissioner Tarik Ahsan hoisted the national flag at half-mast in the morning. A competition on Bangla language for the children was arranged at the Chancery in the afternoon, says another press release.

Discussion and cultural event featuring poetry, songs and dance were arranged in the evening.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh embassies in Addis Ababa of Ethiopia, and Ankara of Turkey also observed the International Mother Language Day in a befitting manner.

64 BCL, Jubo

FROM PAGE 4

Uddin, and Babar was loyal to late mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury. Sub-inspector Mohibur Rahman of Kotwali Police Station on the same day filed a murder case against 87 people with the station.

Cops on that day picked up Limon and his 22 aides in the port city. Babar with his four supporters was arrested in Dhaka on June 26 that year. Following the incident, Babar and Limon were expelled from Jubo League and BCL. The two were later freed from jail on bail. The investigation officer said of the 87 accused, 26 were not charged. Besides, 37 were named as witnesses.

Still a distant

FROM PAGE 3

In this regard, but their efforts are on to fulfill the condition. Islami Andolan Bangladesh said they have over 400 committees and changed its organisational charter to keep women in its committees. Most of the remaining parties did not mention specific figure in this regard but hoped that they will be able to fulfill the condition by 2020.

South Asian Literature Now
International Literary Conference 2018

Day 1: Thursday, 22 February 2018

10:00 am – 11:30 am :	Inauguration South Asian Literature Now	12:00 pm – 12:45 pm :	Aruna Chakrabarty (India) in conversation with Ferdous Azim (Bangladesh) on South Asian Fiction
Welcome Address :	Shamsuzzaman Khan (Bangladesh)	2:30 pm – 4:00 pm :	South Asian Fiction
Keynote Speaker :	Fakrul Alam (Bangladesh)	Speaker :	Rifat Munim (Bangladesh)
Discussants :	Radha Chakravarty (India)	Discussants :	Syed Manzoorul Islam (Bangladesh), J. B. Disanyake (Sri Lanka), Andres Mauricio Munoz (Colombia), Khaliqzaman Elias (Bangladesh)
Chairperson :	Rafiqul Islam (Bangladesh)		
4:15 pm – 5:45 pm :	South Asian Theatre		
Speaker :	Ramendu Majumdar (Bangladesh)		
Discussants :	Shafi Ahmed (Bangladesh), Nasiruddin Yousuff (Bangladesh), Anshuman Bhowmick (India)		

Venue : Abdul Karim Sahitya Bisharad Auditorium, Bangla Academy, Dhaka

Bangla Academy



From left to right: Prof Shamsuzzaman Khan, director general of Bangla Academy; Prof Radha Chakravarty of Ambedkar University Delhi; Prof Emeritus Rafiqul Islam of University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, and Prof Fakrul Alam, pro-vice chancellor of East West University, at the International Literary Conference 2018. The programme was held at Abdul Karim Sahitya Bisharad auditorium of Bangla Academy in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Institute of Modern Languages
University of Dhaka

Admission Notice
Junior Certificate Course in Different Languages
Session: 2018-2019

The admission to the Junior Certificate Courses in different languages is going on at the Institute of Modern Languages, University of Dhaka.

Languages	Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Hindi, Italian, Persian, Russian, Korean, Turkish, Spanish and Bangla for foreigners.
Duration of the courses	1 year (120 hours).
Time and duration of the classes	Classes are held twice/thrice a week. Each class is of 2 hours duration.
Qualification for admission	The minimum qualification for admission is HSC/equivalent, e.g. A-Level, with at least 2nd division/GPA 2.5. For foreign applicants study certificate for a minimum period of 12 years will be required.
Submission of application for admission	Prescribed application form can be collected for Tk 600/- (Taka six hundred) only from Janata Bank, Dhaka University, TSC Branch during office hours and submitted to the same bank on or before 29 March, 2018.

For further information follow the Admission Guidelines available with the Admission form.

D-64 **Director**

2ND INTERNATIONAL SUFI FEST 2017

Venue : Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka
23 - 25 Feb, 3.3pm - 10pm

২৩ থেকে ২৫ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৮
প্রতিদিন বিকেল ৩.৩০ মি. থেকে রাত ১০টা

SUPPORTED BY	ORGANIZED BY
MINISTRY OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS	ALLAMA RUMI SOCIETY BANGLADESH
PARTNER Creative Bangladesh	
BANGLADESH SHILPAKALA ACADEMY	HATKHOLA FOUNDATION

আন্তর্জাতিক
মুফি
উম্ম
সম্প্রতির জন্য সংগীত