

WEATHER
FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
	H 32.7 I 22.7	H 28.5 I 21.0	H 32.0 I 25.5	H 26.9 I 21.1	H 32.2 I 21.8	H 30.0 I 20.5	H 35.5 I 26.0	H 33.5 I 24.5	H 32.0 I 24.5

Rain/thunder showers and lightning flashes with temporary gusty/squally may occur at many places over Dhaka, Mymensingh & Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rangpur & Chittagong divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal divisions with moderately heavy to heavy falls and hails at places over the country in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today, UNB said quoting the Met office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:29pm and rises tomorrow at 5:20am.

SSC results today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The results of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and equivalent examinations will be published simultaneously across the country today.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid along with 10 chairpersons of the education boards will hand over a summary of the results to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office at 10:00am.

The results will be formally announced at a press conference at the education ministry at 1:00pm, said a ministry press release.

A total of 20.31 lakh students from 28,551 educational institutions under 10 educational boards appeared in this year's SSC and equivalent examinations.

The examinations, held in February, were marred by widespread allegations of question leak that drew fierce criticism.

A government probe committee found question papers of "Kha" set of multiple choice questions (MCQ) of 12 out of 17 subjects were leaked, but the education ministry

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Dhaka South City Corporation conducts an eviction drive yesterday around the Baitul Mukarram mosque, to clear the footpaths from vendors. The hawkers peacefully packed up their commodities and left the area without use of force by the authorities. The move comes ahead of Ramadan.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Imams, khatibs vow to prevent militancy

By delivering sermons against the menace

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Imams and khatibs of different mosques in the capital yesterday vowed to play their part in preventing militancy, terrorism and drug addiction.

They decided to deliver messages of Islam against militancy and narcotics at different prayers -- including Juma and Tarabih during the upcoming Ramadan -- so that people, especially youths, cannot be badly influenced.

If the sermons, which some mosques are currently delivering sporadically, could be delivered in a unified way, it would be more effective, they said at a views-exchange meeting held at Paltan in the evening.

Imams, khatibs and muezzins of the mosques from Motijheel, Paltan, Kamalapur and Shahjahanpur areas as well as teachers of various madrasas participated in the programme.

Maulana Mohammad Mizanur Rahman, chief pesh imam of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque, said Islam

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Woman rescued after dialing 999

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman, who got stuck in between a wall and a high commode inside a lavatory at her Uttara residence on Friday night, was rescued by the members of the fire service in the early hours of yesterday after her husband sought help from the emergency helpline 999.

Alam Ara Akther, 55, slipped and fell, resulting in her getting stuck in between the narrow space around 11:00pm, her husband Abul Hossain told The Daily Star.

"My wife suffered a stroke two years back. Since then, she has been sick. She also gained weight."

"Once she got stuck, we tried to rescue her. Failing to do so, I dialed 999," said her husband.

An eight-member team rushed to the house at Uttara-11 and rescued her around 12:20am yesterday, said Shafiqul Islam, senior station officer of Uttara Fire Station.

She was also given primary treatment, the official added. The accident occurred due to the faulty set-up of the bathroom, Shafiqul said.

Abul Hossain said they were glad that the fire service team acted promptly and rescued his wife. She is doing well now, he added.

After the rescue operation, the husband wanted to reward them, said the senior station officer. However, they declined, saying, "We were just doing our job."

Solution lies in dialogue

Sheikh Hasina tells Islamic world

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said all differences of opinion and views that Islamic world have been experiencing can be resolved by open-minded discussions and dialogue.

Bloodshed is unnecessary and indeed counter-productive, said the premier.

Reiterating her steadfast stand against terrorism and four-point proposal she made in Riyadh Conference in 2017, the premier said the points still remain valid to address terrorism.

She made the comments at the inaugural ceremony of the two-day 45th OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC) in the capital.

"We should stop supply of arms, stop flow of financing for terrorism, remove divisions within the [Muslim] Ummah (community), and pursue peaceful settlement of conflicts through dialogues resulting in a win-win situation," she said.

Sheikh Hasina said with one fifth of the world's population, more than a third of the world's strate-

gic resources, and a number of rising economies with immense prospects, the Muslim world has no reason to remain behind.

Islamic countries must redesign their strategy of joint Islamic action, she said, adding, "Development is our right, economic prosperity is within our reach, and social progress is within our means."

In this context, she gave five suggestions so that Islamic countries unitedly can protect their values, wealth and civilisation.

Firstly, she said, Islamic countries must keep trust in basic Islamic faith, banish sectarian mindset and stop using religion as a tool for divisive purposes or narrow political gains.

Secondly, OIC countries should resolve all conflicts peacefully and solve all issues politically without giving any scope of interference and intervention to detractors.

Thirdly, OIC countries should live an enlightened life of self-awareness without compromising their fundamental faith, to stamp out Islamophobia.

"We should foster value-based international relations to show the way to an enlightened global order," she added.

Fourthly, she said, OIC countries should pursue a fast track development course to eliminate poverty and hunger, and address humanitarian exigencies and collective actions to implement the OIC-2025 Programme of Action.

"Finally, we should constantly seek inspiration and strength from the eternal values of Islam -- peace, moderation, fraternity, equality, justice and compassion," the premier said.

Sheikh Hasina said Bangabandhu had realised the necessity of a collective voice of the Ummah on issues of global importance, as to why Bangladesh, under his visionary leadership, joined OIC in 1974.

"Bangabandhu gave importance to unity and solidarity within the Ummah in its common aspirations of peace, prosperity, development and security. His vision still inspires us to move ahead as a nation," she said.

In her speech, the prime minister also highlighted Bangladesh's economic progress and

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Budget allocation for indigenous communities insufficient

Says Kapaeeng Foundation

DU CORRESPONDENT

Kapaeeng Foundation, a human rights organisation for the indigenous people of Bangladesh, yesterday said though the size of the national budget has been increased in recent years, the allocation for ethnic minorities is still insufficient.

They raised the issue at a pre-budget meeting held in the Centre on Budget and Policy auditorium of Dhaka University (DU), jointly organised by the Parliamentary Caucus on National Planning and Budget, and Democratic Budget Movement.

Members of the foundation also claimed that the government does not have the actual number of indigenous people living in the country,



Kapaeeng Foundation holds a pre-budget meeting at Dhaka University.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

so their demands were not reflected in the budgets of previous years.

At the programme, Kapaeeng

Foundation consultant Sohail Chandra Hajong presented a key-note paper, saying that according to

the foundation, there are 30 lakh indigenous people in the country (10 lakh from Chittagong Hill Tracts and 20 lakh from plain lands).

However, the 2011 government statistics shows that the figure stands at 15.86 lakh (around six lakh from CHT and nine lakh from plain lands), which is 1.1 percent of the country's total population.

In the last fiscal year (2017-18), the government allocated Tk 1,150 crore for the CHT affairs ministry and Tk 30 crore for the plain indigenous communities, while the figures were Tk 393 crore and Tk 8 crore in 2009-10.

Sohail said, "The government has increased the budgetary allocation

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Saying sorry won't help

Home minister tells reporters about DIG Mizanur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday said Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of police Mizanur Rahman would not be spared just for saying sorry in the incident of threatening and harassing a TV presenter.

"...if he (Mizanur) was spared for saying 'sorry', would the ongoing legal process against him continue? The legal process has not stopped," said the minister, replying to a query of a reporter at a programme in the capital.

"Legal process is going on and steps will be taken against him as per the law," he added.

Mizanur, who was withdrawn as additional commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) following a marital scandal in January, said sorry for recent rowdy conversation with a journalist.

"In a conversation with a female journalist, I did it. And I'm sorry for that," Mizanur told reporters at the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) headquarters on Thursday.

The anti-graft watchdog on April 25 summoned Mizanur and quizzed him for about seven and a half hours on Thursday to glean information about his alleged illegal wealth.

A number of allegations surfaced against the DIG including picking up a 25-year-old woman on July 15 last year and forcibly marrying her, and picking up a female news presenter of a private television channel at gunpoint in December last year.

Mizanur allegedly issued threats to journalists of two different media outlets while talking to a TV presenter over the phone.

When the allegation of amassing wealth beyond the known source of income by Mizanur surfaced, ACC launched an enquiry.

HEARTIEST HOMAGE TO WASIM SAJJAD

Today, two years down the lane, our beloved **Wasim Sajjad** left this earthly world while undergoing treatment at St. Lukes Hospital in Houston, Texas.

Wasim remains and will continue to remain ever present in our feelings. All his relatives and friends are requested to keep him in their prayers. Amin.

Sultana Shaheda Islam (Mother), Md. Saiful Islam (Father) Kaniz Fatema (Wife) and the family.

UPL's annual grand sale draws bookworms

UNB, Dhaka

University Press Limited's (UPL) annual grand sale of its own publications and foreign books which began last Friday attracted a good number of book lovers.

The publishing company arranged its 14th Annual Grand Sale and this year for the first time, the Faculty of Social Sciences of Dhaka University co-hosted the event with a view to add a new dimension to the book fair.

Md Shakhawat Ali, sales executive of UPL, said that the fair has been drawing great response from the very beginning.

Md Abdul Mannan, divisional commis-

sioner of Chittagong, who came to Dhaka to attend the fair, said he came to know about the event through a Facebook post.

The theme for this year's sale is, "40 years of working towards a knowledge-based society: excellence in research of the social sciences".

The book fair is open to public every day from 10:00am to 8:00pm until May 16, 2018, and is being held on the 2nd floor of the Faculty of Social Sciences building, Dhaka University.

Over a thousand books published by UPL, both English and Bangla, and over a thousand books by well-known foreign publishers are available at the fair at very attractive discounts.

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International Scholar (USA) ; Fellow, Colorectal Surgery (Singapore)
Founder Chairman (Retd.), Dept. of Colorectal Surgery
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Dhaka.

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