

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
	H 32.8 I 24.3	H 32.7 I 23.5	H 32.6 I 25.5	H 33.4 I 22.1	H 31.7 I 24.6	H 32.6 I 23.8	H 27.5 I 24.5	H 31.1 I 23.0	H 31.7 I 25.4

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind and lightning flashes is likely to occur at many places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Dhaka divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi, Sylhet and Mymensingh divisions and at one or two places over Rangpur division till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:33pm and rises tomorrow at 5:16am.



Vehicles avoid a few feet of the road along the footpath as rainwater floods Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue yesterday, after a brief spell of rain. Inset, a similar situation was seen on the Moghbazar-Bangla Motor road as well. While the two main thoroughfares experience frequent waterlogging like this, it is easily conceivable what happens to the narrow streets of the city.

PHOTO: STAR

CHRI lauds Bangladesh for sheltering Rohingyas

Expresses concern over attacks on journalists and human rights defenders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) has lauded Bangladesh for sheltering some 700,000 Rohingya refugees since the latest influx from Myanmar, but expressed deep concerns over growing attacks on secular bloggers and journalists.

The international rights body said it regards Bangladesh's response to the refugee crisis as a beacon of humanitarian support, and urged the international community not to flag its support to Bangladesh and the Rohingya refugees.

The CHRI issued a statement on May 12 as Bangladesh's human rights situation will be reviewed at the UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group in Geneva today.

This is for the third time since 2008 that Bangladesh faces the UPR process. Bangladesh will present a national report on the domestic human rights scenario. Other nations will then make observations and recommend steps to improve the situation.

CHRI said eight journalists have been

killed in Bangladesh since last UPR in 2013, while 1,271 charge sheets were filed in Bangladesh under section 57 of the Information and Communication Technology Act for criticising the government or political leaders. In 2017, one journalist was killed, while 28 suffered serious injuries, and another 75 were victims of major assaults, the statement said.

"Independent journalism has become a highly insecure profession in Bangladesh," said Sanjoy Hazarika, CHRI's international director.

Besides, Bangladesh government has failed to conduct credible investigations on past and current attacks on journalists, media outlets, and human rights defenders, he said.

CHRI said the most significant human rights issues requiring urgent action by Bangladesh government include excessive use of force, enforced disappearance and extrajudicial killings, torture, arbitrary or unlawful detentions, restrictions on civil liberties as well as on the NGO activities.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Law needed for kidney donation

Says Gonoshasthaya Kendra

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gonoshasthaya Kendra will be able to make kidney transplants and dialysis more affordable if it does not have to navigate through bureaucratic tangles, it said marking the first founding anniversary of Gonoshasthaya Dialysis Center yesterday.

An implementable law should be put in place so that a person can donate kidney if he is willing. VAT, tax should be lifted from the health sector as the services should not be treated as commercial ones, said a presentation.

A hospital before starting its operation gets registered with the

Directorate General of Health Services and then the registration is renewed periodically. The mechanism should be easy, effective and efficient, speakers said at the programme, organised at Gonoshasthaya Nagar Hospital in Dhanmondi with Rashed Khan Menon, social welfare minister, as the chief guest.

With support from the government, Gonoshasthaya can reduce the cost of a kidney transplant to only Tk 1.5 lakh.

In the first year of operation, the dialysis centre carried out 63,125 sessions of dialysis on 1,266 patients at a cost of minimum Tk 534 to maximum Tk 2,500. It segregates patients into six

categories from very poor to rich, thus charging them for the services according to their financial status.

About 7.74 per cent of the patients who were very poor had been given the dialysis service completely free of charge, according to a press release issued by the centre.

The services are available round the clock. The centre has sustained a loss of Tk 4 crore in one year, but as per an estimation, Gonoshasthaya has saved Tk 11 crore of patients.

A big chunk of the expenditure is on the use of electricity and water and the centre has to pay bills as a commercial

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

DEATH OF RAJIB SC to hear BRTC plea on compensation May 17

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday fixed May 17 to hear a petition filed by Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) seeking a stay on the High Court order that had asked it to pay Tk 25 lakh in a month to the family of Rajib Hossain, who lost his right hand in a road accident last month, and later died.

Chamber Judge of the SC's Appellate Division Justice Hasan Foez Siddique sent the petition to its full bench and fixed the date for hearing.

The HC order will remain in force until the apex court passes an order, Barrister Ruhul Quddus Kajal, who moved the writ petition before the HC, told The Daily Star.

On May 8, the HC ordered the owners of two buses -- BRTC and Sajan Paribahan -- to pay Tk 1 crore to Rajib's family.

The bus owners have been asked to initially pay Tk 50 lakh within a month. It means that BRTC's and Sajan Paribahan's owners will have to pay Tk 25 lakh each within a month. The HC also directed the owners to submit a report after complying with the order by June 25.

On May 8, the court also said it would fix the next

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visits a newly built cancer centre in Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Protect the constitution and sovereignty

PM tells army

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday hoped that the army will be there with the people, whenever necessary, in running the country by the government.

"This is my firm belief that the army will be there on the side of people whenever it will be needed for running the country by the present government... You have to keep in mind that this is our country and the people of this country are also ours," she said.

Sheikh Hasina was addressing a programme arranged at Dhaka Cantonment marking the inauguration of 27 big and small development projects in various cantonments, including Dhaka.

The PM also asked the army to always remain alert to face any sort of threat from internal or external sources, to protect the country's sacred constitution

and its sovereignty.

She mentioned that the government always wants to run the country as a servant of the people, and never as a ruler.

Hasina hoped that the members of the Army will work with utmost sincerity keeping their confidence in their seniors and maintaining mutual trust, sense of responsibility, dutifulness and discipline.

She also highly praised the army's role in distribution of relief materials among Rohingyas and construction of shelter centres and providing medicare facilities to them, and said their immense contributions have brightened the country's image abroad.

Hasina also praised their people-oriented activities like construction of various development projects including highways, flyovers, bridges and other establishments across the country.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Bar Council election today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The election to Bangladesh Bar Council, a statutory regulatory body for the country's lawyers, will be held today to elect its 14 executive members.

The voting will be held from 10:00am to 5:00pm at the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) in Dhaka and at all district civil courts as well as Bajitpur, Ishwarganj, Durgapur, Bhanga, Chikandi, Patia, Satkania, Fatikchhari, Sandwip, Hatia, Nabinagar and Paikgachha thanas.

Bar council sources said a total of 59 lawyers are contesting the election in which over 43,700 lawyers, registered with the council, will cast their votes.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam, the ex-officio chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council, told The Daily Star yesterday that all preparations for the election have been completed.

Meanwhile, a HC bench yesterday fixed May 17 for passing an order on a writ petition filed, challenging the legality of the process for holding the Bangladesh Bar Council election.

The bench of Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury and Justice Md Iqbal Kabir set the date for passing the order after concluding hearing on the petition.

On May 10, another HC bench cleared way for holding the election after dropping the same writ petition from hearing list.

Advocate Eunus Ali Akond, a Supreme Court lawyer, submitted the petition on March 14, challenging the legality of the election schedule announced by the council.

In the petition, Eunus also said there are anomalies in the list of the council's existing voters and some candidates are contesting the election under white and blue panels -- a violation of the constitution.

60k MW power needed to be a developed country

Nasrul tells Harvard conference

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh has been working to increase power generation as it needs 60,000 megawatt (MW) of electricity to be a developed country by 2041, said State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid yesterday.

"Currently the power generation capacity of the country has reached 16,046MW while the government is working to take it to 24,000MW by 2021 to be a middle income country," Hamid was addressing a session on "Power for Human Development" at the "Rising Bangladesh" conference at Loeb House of Harvard University in Boston, US.

International Sustainable Development Institute of Florida and Centre for International Development of Harvard Kennedy School and Lakshmi Mittal South Asia Institute of Harvard University jointly organised the conference.

16571
8:30am to 8:30pm

butterflygroupbd.com

LG-Butterfly

PROGRAMME হবে না মিস!

এলজি স্মার্ট টিভিতে আছে 'Play & Pause' অপশন, যার মাধ্যমে প্রিয় কোনো প্রোগ্রাম পজ করে রেখে পরবর্তীতে অবসর সময়ে প্লে করে দেখা যাবে। আর আপনি পাবেন ডিজিটাল ওয়ার্ল্ড কন্ট্রোলিং সিস্টেমের Smartest এক্সপেরিয়েন্স।

Live Zoom Active HDR

IPS DISPLAY Play/Pause

LG SMART TV
The SMARTEST এক্সপেরিয়েন্স!

LG BUTTERFLY

Play n Pause