

NEWS IN *brief*

**Youth killed, another wounded in city road accident**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man was killed and another one injured after a bus hit them at Pragati Sarani in Merul Badda of the city last night.

Ripan Baidya, 23, of Merul Badda died on the spot. Rajib Baidya, 17, the injured and cousin of Ripan, was provided treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

**Ctg Awami League factions hold events separately**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The two rival factions of Chittagong city Awami League (AL) yesterday observed separately the 91st birthday of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the National Children's Day.

Chittagong city unit factions cut cakes observing the children's day and organised meetings celebrating Bangabandhu's birth anniversary the same day.

The faction led by AL city unit President ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury and General Secretary Kazi Enamul Hoque Danu held a rally at Laldighi Maidan in the port city.

On the other hand, loyal group to the unit Vice President Nurul Islam BSc and Primary and Mass Education Minister Afsarul Ameen organised a meeting at Muslim Hall.

AL lawmaker Eng Mosharruf Hossain, whom AL President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina delegated to reconcile the intra-unit rift, attended the Muslim hall programme as a special guest and the Laldighi Maidan programme as the chief guest.

**Bangabandhu's birthday observed in Doha**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh High Commission in Doha observed the 91st birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Children's Day 2011 in a befitting manner yesterday.

To mark the day, the HC chalked out elaborate programmes. The Day's program started at 10.00am in the chancery with reading out the messages of the president, prime minister and foreign minister, says a press release.

Community members, professionals, teachers of Bangladesh school, officials of Bangladesh Biman and officials and staffs of the HC attended the programmes.

**Indonesia Expo begins**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A three-day long Indonesia Expo began at MA Aziz stadium gymnasium in Chittagong yesterday.

Some 20 organisations from Indonesia participated in the trade event.

Industries Minister Dilip Barua inaugurated the expo with Indonesian Ambassador to Bangladesh Zet Mirzal was in the chair.

Director General of Foreign Ministry Golam Sarwar and Chittagong Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Monowara Hakim Ali were also present.

Dilip said the government is ready to provide every possible support and facility to secure foreign investment and hoped that foreign investors would come forward in this regard.

He said the government already declared different packages for foreign businessmen as well as local traders which would make Bangladesh a vibrant economic zone.

Barua said the countries have a very good relation since 1971 and hoped this would promote business transactions.

Zet Mirzal said both countries are committed to support trade, culture and tourism between them and the expo his country organised would enhance relations.

The Indonesian government appointed Monowara Hakim Ali as honorary councillor in Chittagong to further develop bilateral relations.



Models walk down the ramp at a fashion show during the three-day long Indonesia Expo organised by the Indonesian government at MA Aziz stadium gymnasium in Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

**IOM repatriates so far 20,554 Bangladeshis**

UNB, Dhaka

A total of 20,554 Bangladeshis have been repatriated home from the Libyan borders by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), according to latest statistics available yesterday.

Some 2,219 Bangladeshis returned home yesterday through seven IOM chartered flights while another 2,574 Bangladeshis returned by eight flights on Wednesday, said an IOM press release.

IOM South Asian regional representative Rabab Fatima said it will be possible to bring back by March 27 all the Bangladeshis who still remain in different border areas after coming out of Libya.

**Alert against another August-like tragedy**

*Urge speakers*

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at a discussion yesterday called upon the people to remain alert against the killers and conspirators who are active again to machinate another August tragedy.

"The killers and conspirators of 1971 and 1975 have been united again for hatching out deep-rooted plot to destabilise the country through resorting to anarchism and annihilation in their bid to protect the surviving killers of Bangabandhu and to halt the trials of war criminals", they said.

Addressing a big rally in front of Awami League central office at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city the speakers pointed out that open and naked threats are being aired from responsible quarters to commit another August tragedy in the country that is an ominous sign for the nation.

The rally was organised by Bangabandhu Sanskritik Parishad in observance of the happy birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Children Day.

Former Minister Mohammad Nasim, Dhaka City AL General Secretary Mofazzel Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Bir Bikram and Managing Editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha, Azizul Islam Bhuyian among others spoke at the programme.

Parishad President Abdul Haq Sabuj presided over the function while Parishad General Secretary Abdul Hai Manik, Bangabandhu Moncha Chairman Niza Mohammad Khan were present.

Mohammad Nasim while expressing satisfaction and delight over hanging the self-confessed killers of Bangabandhu, told the audience that the present government would bring back soon the rest of the surviving killers of the Father of the Nation and put them on the gallows.

After the discussion, a big joyous procession was brought out that paraded the main city thoroughfares.

**'Use Islamic Foundation as real preacher of Islam'**

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at a discussion yesterday laid importance on keeping Bangladesh Islamic Foundation out of political influence, allowing it to preaching basic principles of Islam for its promotion in society.

They said Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman founded the foundation to preach and promote ideology of Islam, but after his killing, the foundation failed in its objectives.

They were speaking at a discussion on "Islamic Foundation: Past, Present and Future" at RC Majumder auditorium of Dhaka University.

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, chief of Board of Governors of the foundation Azizur Rahman Aziz, language veteran Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury, Major General (ret'd) Syed Muhammad Ibrahim Bir Pratik, Director General of the foundation Samim M Afzal, and Daffodil University Vice Chancellor Prof Aminul Islam were also present.

**Road crashes kill seven, injure 57**

METRO DESK

Seven people were killed and 57 others injured in separate road accidents in Sirajganj, Netrakona, Rajshahi, Kishoreganj, Patuakhali and Pabna districts yesterday.

Our correspondent from Sirajganj reports: Two people were killed and 50 others injured in separate road accidents in Shahjadpur and Sadar upazila.

Police said the first accident occurred at Parkola under Shahjadpur upazila when a speedy Nasimon (locally assembled three-wheeler) lost its control and hit a roadside tree, leaving Fazar Ali, 30, of Pabna, dead on the spot and injuring 10 others.

Meanwhile, another accident took place around 2:00pm at Dabirgaj of Sadar upazila when a bus collided head-on with a truck, leaving one dead and at least 40 injured.

The injured were rushed to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital.

Our correspondent from Netrakona says: Two persons, Safayet Ahmed and Atiqur Rahaman, were killed and four others injured when a motorcycle collided head-on with a bamboo-laden trolley on Netrakona-Madan road at Joypasha of Madan upazila.

Staff correspondent from Rajshahi adds: A labourer, Arif Hossain, 30, was killed and three others were injured when a sand loaded truck over turned into a roadside ditch at Mohdipur in Bagha upazila.

The injured were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Our correspondent from Kishoreganj says: One Abdur Rashid, 60, of Birpaikshah was crushed under the wheel of a truck while he was crossing the road at Hossainpur upazila.

Our correspondent from Patuakhali adds: A housewife, Selina Begum, 32, wife of Aboul Hossain, was killed when a tomtom (locally made three-wheeler) hit her from behind on college road.

Our correspondent from Pabna reports: A housewife, Reba Khatun, 30, wife of Abdur Rahman of village Kalkati, was killed when a speedy three-wheeler trolley hit her at Boral bridge of Vangura upazila.

**WEATHER TODAY**

**Dry weather likely**

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Tangail and Mymensingh in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met office said.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:09pm and rises tomorrow at 6:04am.

Country's highest temperature 34.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 15.3 degrees at Srimongal.

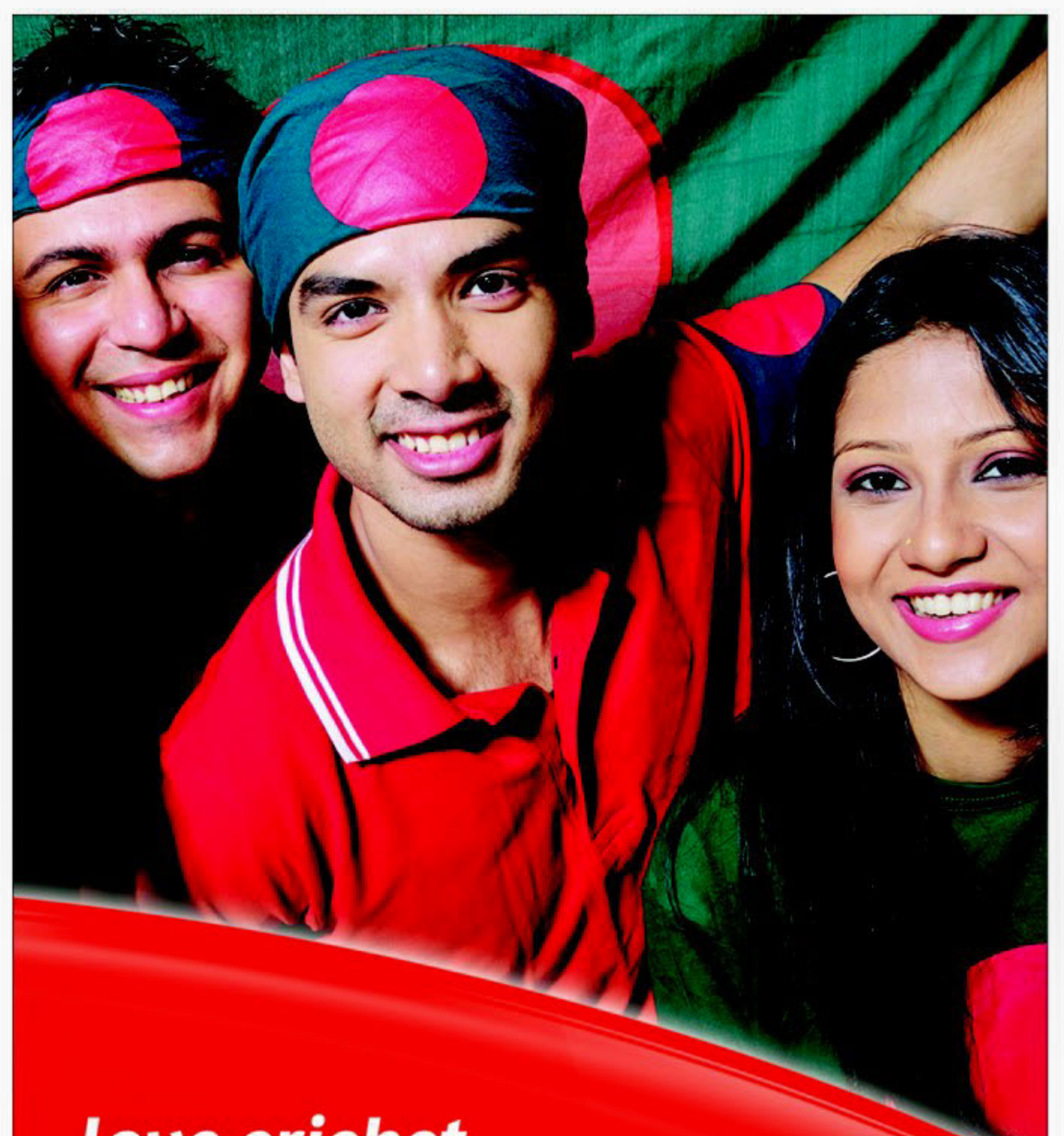
Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.1	21.5	61	53
Chittagong	27.5	17.6	66	67
Rajshahi	34.2	16.5	84	44
Rangpur	32.0	18.5	76	65
Khulna	33.2	20.0	76	62
Barisal	31.4	18.5	74	63



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia places wreath at the coffin of the party's secretary general Khandaker Delwar Hossain at its Naya Paltan office yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR



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**DHAKA TODAY**

**Discussion**  
Tauri Foundation will organise a discussion; Venue: LGED building; Time: 4:00pm.

**Condolence**  
Bangladesh Sammilito Peshajibi Parishad will hold a condolence meeting; Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises; Time: 9:00am.

**Rally**  
Garment Sramik Trade Union Kendra will hold a rally; Venue: Muktagong; Time: 11:00am.

**Reunion**  
Anthropology Alumni Association will hold a reunion; Venue: TSC, DU; Time: 9:00am.

**Condolence**  
Bangladesh Nationalist Party will hold a condolence programme; Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises; Time: 9:00am.

**Cultural Programme**  
Bulbul Lalitakala Academy will organise a cultural programme; Venue: Bulbul Auditorium; Time: 10:00am.

**Reception**