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# Fog, cold continue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Poor visibility disrupted air, road, rail and waterways communications across the country while a mild cold spell was sweeping over north-western districts since Friday night, causing sufferings to thousands.

Between Friday night and yesterday morning hundreds of vehicles got stranded on both sides of the Padma as ferry services of two major routes -- Mawa-Kawrakandi and Paturia-Daulatdia -- were suspended for seven to 10 hours due to heavy fog.

The two ferry services connect the southwest with the east, and thus the capital.

Elsewhere, inter-district buses had to crawl and some reached their destinations three to four hours late. Some bus service providers even cancelled trips.

Overnight launches that set sail Friday evening for

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The Motijheel-Kamalapur link road, which has long been in a very bad shape, requires immediate repair. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## Quake hits parts of country

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A moderate earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter scale jolted parts of the country including the capital last night.

The quake was felt in Dhaka, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Bandarban, Khagrachhari, Rangamati,

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## Ashraf to stay or go?

AL council picks general secretary Dec 29

HASAN JAHD TUSHER

Who is going to be the next general secretary of the ruling Awami League?

This is the main question among the AL leaders and workers across the country as the party is set to hold its national council on December 29.

The Daily Star got two answers to this question when it wanted to know that from the party high-ups.

Some of the party high-ups said incum-

bent General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam will continue in his post for one more term despite allegations of his intra-party inactivity.

And some others said Ashraf, also the LGRD and Cooperatives Minister, might be replaced through the council.

In this regard, some party insiders mentioned that Communications Minister Obaidul Quader, who is also a

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## 10 hurt in fire panic at 2 RMG factories

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 10 panic-stricken workers were injured in separate incidents of stampede yesterday, when fire broke out in two garment factories at the capital's Uttara and Nischintapur in Ashulia.

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## CHANGE IN EGYPT'S CONSTITUTION

# Referendum likely to give approval

REUTERS, Cairo

Egyptians voted yesterday on a constitution drafted by Islamists in a second round of balloting expected to approve a charter that opponents say will create deeper turmoil in the Arab world's most populous nation.

Islamist supporters of President

Mohamed Morsi, who was elected in June, say the constitution is vital to moving Egypt towards democracy two years after Hosni Mubarak was overthrown in a popular uprising. It will help restore the stability needed to fix an economy that is on the ropes, they say.

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## Gangnam Style hits 1b views on YouTube

BBC ONLINE

Gangnam Style has become the first video to clock up more than one billion views on YouTube.

The South Korean dance track was posted online in July, propelling pop star Psy to worldwide fame.

It has inspired hundreds of parody clips, from members of the British army, Thai navy and Minecraft gamers, among others.

YouTube's owner, Google, said the video had been watched seven

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

**ONLINE POLL**

Do you think government should stop the culture of political appointments in the state-run banks and financial institutions?

Yes (85%)

No (14%)

No Comments! (1%)

TOTAL VOTES: 365

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you agree with Prime Minister's Adviser Dr Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury that fuel price needs to be raised for adjustment?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT [facebook.com/dailystarnews](https://www.facebook.com/dailystarnews)

**PRAYER TIMING December 23**

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-25	6-00
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-24	5-27
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

www.fsiblb.com

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

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