

RAIN LIKELY

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Barisal, Khulna, Rangpur, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 6:38pm and rises tomorrow at 5:31am.**

Country's highest temperature 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 25.3 degrees at Srimangal. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage			Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening		Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.5	27.5	69	72	Khulna	33.0	27.0	79	98
Chittagong	31.2	26.1	76	78	Barisal	30.4	26.5	91	79
Rajshahi	35.0	27.4	77	81	Sylhet	29.0	26.2	93	87
Rangpur	31.2	26.6	87	76	Cox's Bazar	32.5	25.5	78	74

NEWS IN brief

Two jhut warehouses gutted in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Fire gutted two tin-made warehouses of jhut (scraps of fabrics of garment factories) in the capital's Mirpur Doaripara last night. All the jhut were burnt, said fire service officials, adding that the fire might have originated from a burning cigarette around 8:30pm. People got panicked as the 300 square feet warehouses each were located in a residential area. Three fire fighting units from Mirpur Fire Station extinguished the blaze in two-and-half-an-hour efforts.

Jatiyatatabadi Parishad picks nominees for graduates' reps to DU senate

DU CORRESPONDENT
Jatiyatatabadi Parishad, a pro-BNP-Jamaat body, yesterday announced names of the candidates who will be contesting for the 25 posts of registered graduates' representatives to the Dhaka University senate. A total of 25 candidates from the organisation will contest in the election, said a press release. Leaders of Jatiyatatabadi Parishad made the announcement at Dhaka Reporters' Unity. The polls will take place in 43 centres outside the capital on September 14 and 21 and in Dhaka on September 18.

Mugger held in capital

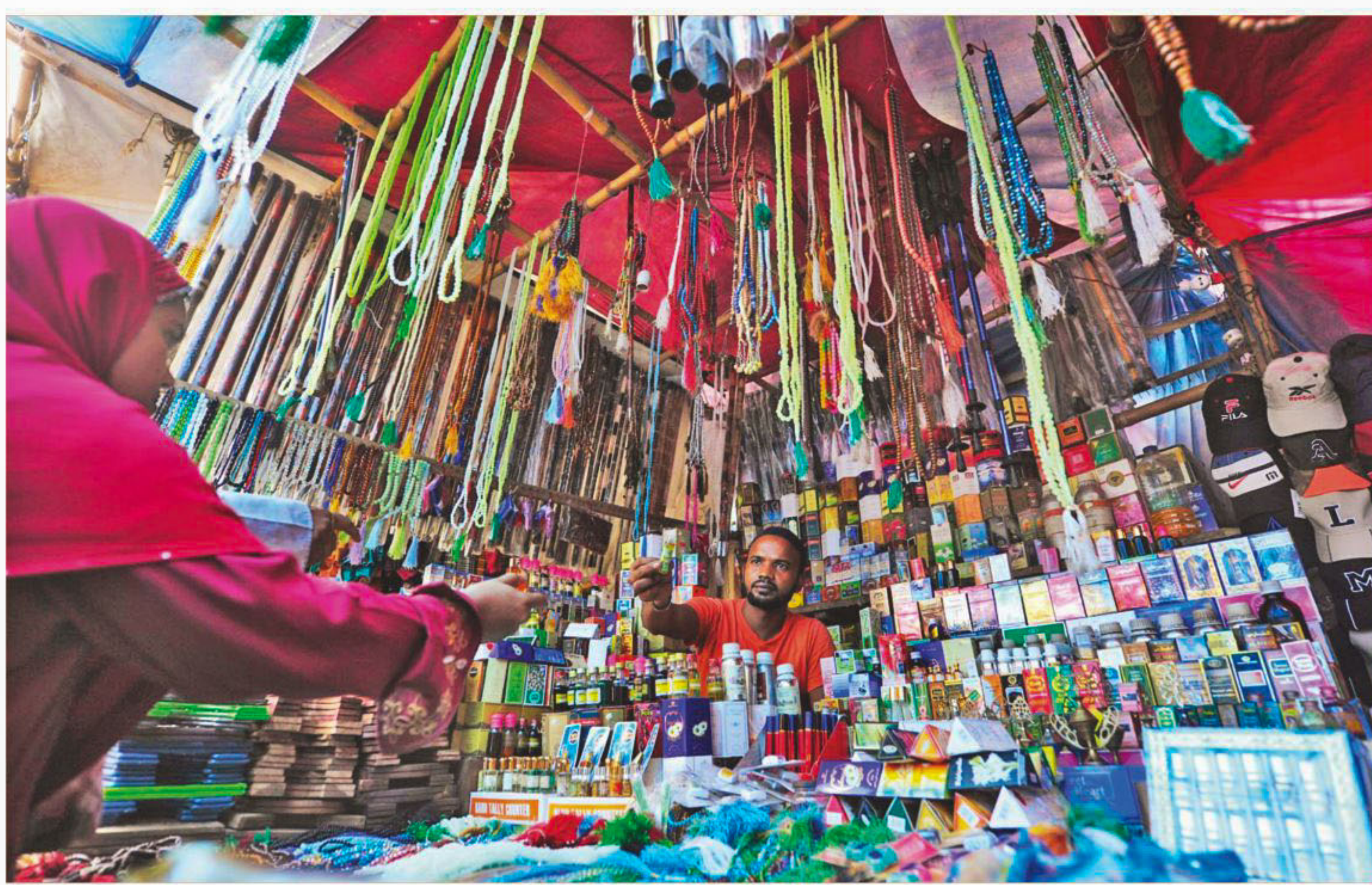
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested an alleged mugger and seized a revolver from his possession near Shahi mosque in the capital's Khilgaon early yesterday. The arrestee is Mohammad Tarif, 22. On information, a Rab team chased three muggers who were wandering in the area around 1:00am and arrested Tarif while his two cohorts managed to flee away, said Maj Mohiuddin, company commander of Rab-3.

Trader shot, robbed in Savar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar
Muggers shot a trader and snatched around Tk 2 lakh and his motorbike from him on Dhaka-Aricha highway in Savar, on the outskirts of the capital, yesterday. The victim is Alomgir Hosen, 32, of Old Dhaka. Aminul Islam, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Savar Model Police Station, said around four muggers travelling in a microbus intercepted Alomgir at Aminbazar and snatched his bag containing the money after shooting him. He was rushed to Enam Medical College Hospital.

Reduction of HSC exams' answer sheet re-evaluation fee demanded

DU CORRESPONDENT
A group of youths, who did not achieve expected results in the HSC exams this year, yesterday demanded that the answer sheet re-evaluation fee be reduced. Around 60 people, who sat the exams from different colleges under Dhaka board, raised the demand at a human chain before Jatiya Press Club in the capital. Later, they marched to Central Shaheed Minar. Currently, Tk 300 is required to apply for reviewing each subject.



A woman buys perfume from a makeshift shop at the south gate of Baitul Mukarram national mosque in the capital yesterday. Sales at such shops have peaked ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr. PHOTO: FERAZ AHMED

Woman to die for killing husband's another wife

COURT CORRESPONDENT
A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced a woman to death and her husband to life term imprisonment for killing her husband's another wife and her baby girl at Kashiani in Gopalganj in 2009. The court handed down the verdict to Khadiza Begum. The court also sentenced Mohammad Nawshad Fakir in absentia, husband of the two women, to seven years' imprisonment for concealing bodies of the victims. Nawshad's punishment will be effective from the day of his arrest or surrender, said the court. According to the prosecution, over a family feud Khadiza killed Taslima Begum and Taslima's six-month-old baby Sadia on January 31, 2009 and concealed the bodies under earth at her house. Later, Nawshad lodged a general diary with Kashiani Police Station for rescuing the victims. Police arrested Khadiza who later confessed before a magistrate court to the killing.

BANGABHABAN ORCHARD Saplings of two famous mango varieties planted

CITY DESK
For the very first time, the famous Haribhanga and Surjopuri mango saplings were planted on the compound of the Bangabhaban yesterday. With the initiative of Hridoye Mati O Manush, President Advocate Abdul Hamid planted the mango saplings in the Bangabhaban orchard, says a press release. Director and Head of News of Channel i Shykh Seraj, farmer-organiser Rafiqul Islam from Natore, and high officials of the Bangabhaban were present at the event. Haribhanga and Surjopuri are generally late mango varieties whose sweet fruits arrive when other varieties go out of orchards and markets, thus being profitable for farmers. Haribhanga is grown in Rangpur and Surjopuri in the greater Dinajpur as people say. These two varieties are gradually spreading in the orchards across the country. However, there is the existence of mother plant of Shurjopuri variety in Thakurgaon district's Baliadanga upazila. Channel i's most popular agro-documentary Hridoye Mati O Manush has been working to revive and preserve the ancient and rare crop and fruit varieties and work for their extension among farmers. After the event, Shykh Seraj presented one of his recently published books, "Krishi O Unnayan Chinta", a special DVD of Channel i's popular Eid entertainment-based farmers' game show, "Krishoker Eid Ananda", to President Abdul Hamid.

ACC catches IDRA official while taking bribe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday caught a junior officer of Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) red-handed while he was taking bribe from an official of Reliance Insurance Company at a hotel in capital's Motijheel. An ACC team arrested the junior officer of IDRA, Abdul Motaleb, while he was receiving Tk 1.5 lakh from an employee of the insurance company as bribe. On Sunday, Motaleb visited the office of Reliance Insurance Company in Bijoynagar and demanded bribe for alleged corruption in the insurance company. He was to receive the money yesterday. On information, the ACC team went to the spot and caught Motaleb red-

EC to train 7 lakh officials before polls

Says EC Secretary Muhammed Sadique
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Election Commission (EC) has decided to arrange improved training for all the election officials to hold the upcoming national election flawlessly, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad said yesterday. "Today, in our regular commission's meeting, we have discussed our preparation for the election. As part of this, we have decided to give improved and better training to officials compared to previous years," he told reporters at the EC Secretariat after the meeting. Talking to The Daily Star, EC Secretary Muhammed Sadique said the EC had already chalked out a plan to train over 7 lakh officials with an estimated cost of Tk 48 crore. Firstly, the TOT (training of trainers) programme will be held, he said. Then the EC officials will be trained, followed by returning officers, presiding officers and polling officers, he added. Sadique said the training activities would start after Eid but training for returning officers, presiding officers and polling officers would be held after announcement of the election schedule. EC sources said election officials would be enlightened on different electoral laws and other electoral procedure as part of the training. When asked whether the EC is losing trust of political parties or not for its recent move to amend electoral laws, which would have curtailed EC's power, the CEC avoided a direct answer.

Newly appointed HC judges take oath

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Two newly appointed additional judges of the High Court took oath yesterday. Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain administered the oath at the Supreme Court. The new HC judges are Md Shahinur Islam and Kashifa Hossain. On July 31, President Abdul Hamid appointed Shahinur Islam, a member of the International Crimes Tribunal-2 and Kashifa Hossain, a deputy attorney general, as HC judges for the next two years. Meanwhile, Law Minister Shafiq Ahmed told The Daily Star that after Shahinur Islam's appointment as a HC judge, ICT-2 has to be reconstituted. He said the law ministry will place a proposal to the chief justice to select Shahinur Islam as the member of ICT-2 on August 7.

Duration of primary terminal exams extended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government has extended the duration of Primary Terminal Examinations by half-an-hour. In an official order, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education yesterday said from now the duration of the written exams of all subjects will be two-and-a-half-hour. "Due to the extension of time, the exams will start at 11:00am and end at 1:30pm," said the order. This year's terminal exams will have 25 percent "competency-based" questions in all the subjects and the decision was taken so that the examinees can properly answer those questions, the order added. Ministry sources said they kept 25 percent competency-based questions in the model tests and found that the students could not complete writing answers of all the questions. The examinations will begin on November 20.

DHAKA TODAY

Discussion
Deshpremik Jonogoner Mancha will hold an open discussion and press briefing on Election Commission; Venue: Sangskriti Bikash Kendra, Paribagh; Time: 3:00pm.

Discussion
Jatiya Gonotantrik League will organise a discussion on the occasion of the 83rd birth anniversary of Fazilatunnesa Mujib, wife of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 11:00am.



President Abdul Hamid plants a mango sapling in the orchard of the Bangabhaban yesterday. Director and Head of News of Channel i Shykh Seraj, second from left, was present on the occasion among others. The plantation was part of an initiative of Channel i's agro-documentary Hridoye Mati O Manush to revive and preserve ancient and rare crop and fruit varieties. PHOTO: STAR

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