

**RAIN LIKELY**



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

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, said Met Office. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 6:19pm and rises tomorrow at 5:40am.**

Country's highest temperature 33.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Tangail and lowest 23.6 degrees at Hatiya. 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	31.7	26.5	72	86	Khulna	31.8	25.5	87	94
Chittagong	28.4	25.0	94	87	Barisal	30.5	25.0	95	96
Rajshahi	32.2	25.0	93	98	Sylhet	31.1	25.0	94	80
Rangpur	30.4	24.7	85	92	Cox's Bazar	31.0	25.5	96	93

**220 birds recovered in capital**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Wildlife Crime Control Unit of the forest department recovered 220 birds of different species from the capital's Mirpur yesterday morning.

Of the birds kept in three cages, 142 were Indian Hanging Parrots, 70 Black-headed Munias, six Rose Ring Parakeets and 2 Blossom-headed Parakeets, said Sohel Rana, a wildlife inspector.

Posing as customers, the wildlife officials contacted the traders and ordered the birds a few days ago. The traders were to deliver the birds from Chapainawabganj yesterday, he said, adding that the price of the birds was fixed at Tk 25,000.

He further said that the traders claimed they caught the birds in India using nets. However, on the day of delivery, the traders, doubting the order for the birds,

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**A sizable portion of the Shyamoli-Mohammadpur road opposite Adabar Police Station has long been occupied by seized vehicles dumped by Adabar police, earth dug for building a sewer by Dhaka North City Corporation, and garbage thrown by locals. This is causing hindrance to the movement of vehicles, thereby suffering to the commuters. The photo was taken yesterday.**

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

**ENTERING AUSTRALIA BY BOAT 5 Bangladeshis sent to Papua New Guinea**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Australian government sent five Bangladeshi nationals, who were trying to enter Australia by boat without visas, to Papua New Guinea on August 23, said foreign ministry sources yesterday.

However, details of the five Bangladeshis could not be known, Shameem Ahsan, director general (external publicity wing) of the foreign ministry, told The Daily Star.

"But Bangladesh high commission in Canberra has been instructed to give the task of getting details about the Bangladeshi nationals to Australian authorities," he said.

On July 29, Australian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Greg Wilcock announced at a press conference in its Dhaka office that the asylum seekers who come to Australia by

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**DEMANDING ILIAS ALI'S WHEREABOUTS Hartal called in Sylhet district for today**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Pro-BNP organisations -- Ilias Mukti Sangram Parishad and Jatiyatobadi Swachhchasebak Dal -- called a dawn-to-dusk hartal in Sylhet district for today demanding to know the whereabouts of BNP leader M Ilias Ali.

Leaders of the two organisations at a rally yesterday in Sylhet city's court-point area urged all to make today's hartal a success.

BNP, Sylhet district unit extended their support to today's hartal. BNP, Sylhet district unit's Senior Vice-President Dilder Hossain Selim and its General Secretary Abdul Gaffar, in a press statement yesterday, urged everyone to make the hartal successful.

The two organisations announced the hartal at a rally on August 17.

Meanwhile, BNP, Biswanath upazila at a meeting on Monday called a dawn-to-dusk hartal for September 3 demanding release

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**US to help establish newborn care corners Says Dan Mozena**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The US government will give support to develop newborn care corners across Bangladesh to reduce infant mortality, US Ambassador Dan W Mozena said yesterday.

He said about 21,500 Bangladeshi newborns would die this year from oxygen deprivation or asphyxia. "It's a big, horrible and heart-wrenching number," the envoy said during a visit to the capital's Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU).

For two and a half hours, he visited the university's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Palliative Care Unit, Centre for Neurodevelopment and Autism in Children (CNAC).

Mozena said 60 percent of under-five deaths occurred in Bangladesh during the first 28 days of life because the country lacked facilities such as incentive care unit.

Termining Bangladesh's goal to end preventable child deaths by 2035 as an "impressive action plan", Mozena said fighting against asphyxia at birth, a leading killer of infants, was a key to achieving that target.

Pro-Vice Chancellor of BSMMU Prof Mohammad Shahidullah said the university had been conducting

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**ENCLAVE EXCHANGE Residents to sue West Bengal govt**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

India-Bangladesh Enclave Exchange Coordination Committee yesterday decided to file two separate cases against India's West Bengal government and election commission based on information on the exchange of enclaves provided by the central and state governments.

Of the information, sought as per the right to information (RTI) act, one of the Indian foreign ministry contains the specific location of enclaves inside Bangladesh. The committee, at a meeting, decided to seek citizens' rights ensured in the Indian constitution, reports BBC Bangla Service.

The committee leader, Diptiman Sengupta, said these enclaves, as per the constitution, were a part of undivided India and the state was bound to ensure the basic rights of its citizens and voters the right to choose their representatives.

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**REPORTING ON CHILDREN Common guideline needed**

Newsroom leaders tell MRDI roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Senior newsroom leaders of print and electronic media at a roundtable underscored the need for a common guideline to make journalists more sensitive to children's rights in delivering news about them.

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) organised the roundtable on Monday at its office against the backdrop of recent news coverage of the murder of police inspector Mahfuzur Rahman and his wife, says a MRDI press release.

The leaders opined that journalists have a responsibility to be constantly aware of the need to protect children, enhance their rights and, in practice, adhere to the highest ethical principles.

Journalists also need to think carefully what "public interest" and "public demand" are and whether information received from official source should be published without further verification, they added.

A deeper investigation can make the story more authentic, they noted.

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**Death anniversary OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra**

The 19th death anniversary of Abdus Sabur Shaodagor, a freedom fighter and former president of Bogra District Transport Workers' Union, was observed yesterday.

On the occasion, a discussion was held at the union office and a milad mahfil in his residence at Sutrapur in the town after Zohr prayers.

Sabur, deputy commander of the district Muktiyoddha Sangsad, was platoon commander under sector no-7 during the Liberation War.

On this day in 1994, he died from a cardiac arrest.

MT Alom STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 11th death anniversary of journalist MT Alom.

On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil will be held at his residence, says a press release.

His well-wishers are requested to attend the programme to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Alom worked in different dailies, including The New Nation, The Financial Express, and The Morning Sun (now defunct).

He was a permanent member of Jatiya Press Club.

**16-year-old girl 'raped' in capital**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 16-year-old girl was allegedly raped in the capital's Khilgaon on Tuesday morning.

The accused, Mohammad Zahir, 19, of Kabi Nazrul College, was arrested and sent to jail after the victim's mother lodged a case in this connection, said Kamaruzzaman, sub-inspector of Khilgaon Police Station.

The victim's mother said the accused used to harass her daughter on the way to and from work. He resides in the same building as they do, said the mother.

The victim was admitted to One-Stop Crisis Centre of Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday. She will undergo a medical test to verify whether she has been violated.

**GOPIDAR CANAL IN GAZIPUR Residents of 7 villages using wooden bridges for 30 years**

Demand for concrete bridges ignored for 15 years

ABU BAKAR SIDDIQUE AKAND, Gazipur

Though the need for better communication facilities grew over the time, the residents of seven villages in Sreepur upazila have been using two wooden bridges for more than 30 years with a longstanding demand for their replacement with concrete structures.

The two bridges connecting Marta with Martar Char village and Nanaia with Nanaia Char across the Gopidar canal need repair almost every year. Otherwise, around 50 villagers would be cut off from Sreepur upazila sadar, Gazipur district town, and Kapasia and Kaliganj upazilas.

Villagers say they will be able to increase trade activities and distances with various destinations will decrease a great deal if concrete bridges are set up there.

A teacher at Nanaia High School, Md Awlad Hossain, said if the Marta-Martar Char bridge was turned into a concrete bridge, it would reduce the distance between Marta and the highway leading to the district town by five kilometres and heavy vehicles could directly go to the highway.

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**Villagers carrying their loads on head walk across the Marta-Martar Char bridge towards the highway leading to Gazipur district town as the wooden structure is unfit for heavy vehicles, even rickshaws. Around 20,000 people of different villages in Sreepur upazila, who use this bridge, have long been demanding its replacement with a concrete one. The photo was taken recently.**

PHOTO: STAR



**Hawkers occupy footpath by setting up their makeshift shops in front of Sonali Bank in the capital's Motijheel hampering the pedestrians' movement. The photo was taken yesterday.**

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

**AL man hacked to death in Rajshahi**

Police suspect supporters of local pro-BNP ward commissioner; rivalry over trade of Indian goods, durgs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Right after beating a rival, a member of Awami League's Rajshahi city Ward 1 unit was hacked and subsequently died yesterday over, what police says, running the trade of Indian goods, including illegal drugs, in Guripara area.

Shahin Alam, 36, brother of the ward unit AL General Secretary Rajab Ali, succumbed to his injuries at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital half an hour after being hacked at Guripara Club intersection around 11:30am.

Just minutes before being attacked, Shahin had chased and beaten one Russel, supporter of pro-BNP Ward Councillor Mansur Rahman, said Rajpara Police Station Officer-in Charge (OC) Rejaul Islam.

Hearing Russel's cries, Mansur's supporter came and hacked Shahin, he said adding that Mansur had been trying to take control of running the trade from Rajab since the city corporation elections in June.

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