

RAIN LIKELY

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

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over the country, Met Office said.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:11pm and rises tomorrow at 5:42am.

Country's highest temperature 35.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chuadanga and lowest 23.2 degrees at Sylhet.

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	34.0	27.2	82	83	Khulna	34.8	27.6	78	79
Chittagong	31.2	25.8	83	85	Barisal	33.5	26.6	80	76
Rajshahi	34.4	27.8	87	75	Sylhet	29.5	23.2	94	83
Rangpur	32.8	26.8	81	77	Cox's Bazar	31.2	25.0	80	89

Next polls under elected govt

Dipu Moni tells event in Washington
UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister Dr Dipu Moni has reiterated the government's commitment to strengthen democracy in Bangladesh by holding the next general election under the present elected government.

"Bangladesh truly stands at a moment of opportunity...the next general election will be held by an independent Election Commission under the elected government," she told her audience at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington Thursday.

Dipu Moni said the present government was committed to the constitutional obligations and accordingly there was no room for unconstitutional processes and claimants to undermine Bangladesh's democratic national order, according to a media release received yesterday.

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Winners of the Chittagong divisional round of the "Junior Climate Champions" competition in Chittagong Collegiate School of Chittagong city yesterday. HSBC and The Daily Star initiated the competition, aiming to create awareness among the young minds on climate change and its effect on the country and around the globe. Inset, competitors take part in the contest's poster designing category.

The Daily Star -HSBC CLIMATE CONTEST

Ctg round picks thirty kids

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The daylong Chittagong divisional round of the "Junior Climate Champions" competition was held at Chittagong Collegiate School in Chittagong city yesterday amid fanfare and festivity.

The competition's three categories, poster designing, quiz and extempore speech, were participated by 667 enthusiastic students from classes VI to X of 48 educational institutions in Chittagong division.

After the evaluation of the submissions, classes VI to VIII in one scale and classes X and XI in another, 30 students, 10 from each category, were selected for participation in the national round.

The national round is scheduled to be held in the capital's Bangla Academy on September 20. The Sylhet divisional round was held on August 30 while the Dhaka divisional level is scheduled to be held on September 13.

HSBC and The Daily Star initiated the competition, aiming to create awareness among the young minds on climate change and its effect on the country and around the globe.

Yesterday's round started around 10:00am with 345 students taking part in the quiz competition. Afterwards, competitors gave extempore speeches and the event was followed by lunch.

Then the competitors indulged in the poster designing competition, portraying their creativity with strokes of their brushes on the canvasses on the theme "the most scenic beauty of Chittagong".

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JEWELLERY SHOPS ROBBED

Sylhet traders call strike for tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The business community in Sylhet has announced a daylong strike for tomorrow to press home their demand for immediate arrest of the robbers that robbed three shops of Nehar Market in Zindabazar area of Sylhet on Wednesday.

They announced their decision at a meeting at the office of Sandhya Bazar Babosayee Samity on Thursday night.

Representatives of different market bodies of Sylhet city, including Jewelry Samity's general secretary Babul Ahmed, spoke at the meeting.

Shops in all markets of Sylhet city will be shut tomorrow for the strike.

On Wednesday night, a gang of robbers exploded crude bombs and looted

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

THWARTING COMMUNALISM, MILITANCY

Unity sought

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted academician Prof Emeritus Anisuzzaman yesterday said people now should aim at creating unity at local and national levels to thwart the rise of communal powers and militancy.

He pointed out recent communal attacks on the religious minorities. "It is a matter of grief that in the last one year we have not seen the active role of citizens, we could not stand by victims and could not resist miscreants."

Anisuzzaman was addressing the second "National Convention of Samprodayikotajongibad Birodhi Mancha", a platform against communalism and militancy, in the capital's Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh.

The convention's motto was: "Resist activities of all militant groups including Jamaat, Shibir, Hefazat and Ansarullah Bangla Team".

Anisuzzaman said, "There have been repeated attempts to foil secularism in the last 42 years. Sometimes, we witnessed interference in the state principles of the constitution and thereby state religion was ensured."

"Though secularism has been reinstated in the constitution, state religion still exists. I do not understand how this provision can still be retained in the constitution?"

Expressing solidarity with the motto, Sultana Kamal, executive director of Ain o

Salish Kendra, said, "We should take a stance. There is no scope to remain impartial by staying away from the question regarding the rise of militancy, fundamentalism and atrocities we are experiencing nowadays."

"We stand here today against militancy not because we are driven by any emotion...Militancy and fundamentalism diminish people's rights, snatch people's rights."

"Women's rights are being compromised due to the spread of militancy and fundamentalism." This is evident from the fact that a political party, claiming to be the defender of the spirit of the Liberation War, is unable to erase the state religion provision, she said.

"This political party can not even say out clearly that we gave the women policy and we will establish it...We will not remain satisfied on promises in election manifestos. We want to see their implementation in our social and personal life," she added.

Politicians will not be given any opportunity to do politics if they do not have the spirit of the Liberation War, she said.

Prof Abul Barkat, president of Bangladesh Economic Association, summarised militancy in the country using a triangle with Jamaat-e-Islami sitting at the top. "About 125 militant organisations are on the left corner and the economy driving

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

On duty journo of The Daily Star assaulted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A staff correspondent of The Daily Star was physically assaulted by some unidentified miscreants when he took a picture on his cellphone of them beating an alleged manpower exporting agent in the capital's Farmgate yesterday.

The miscreants snatched Shaheen Mollah's cellphone before Babul Tower around 5:30pm and fled on two CNG-run auto rickshaws with the agent.

Two men, accompanying the attackers, had stayed back and after being taken to Tejgaon Police Station, said they were relatives of one Robeda Begum, a Jigatola resident. Police called Robeda to the station and she brought back the cellphone.

Robeda claimed that the agent, Razzak, was her son-in-law who left her daughter

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Man kills brother, causes death of another

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A man died of a cardiac arrest triggered by the news of his elder brother having been beaten to death by their younger brother in Rangpur city yesterday.

Abdur Shukur Nayan, 35, killed his elder brother Abdur Salam Kakon, 52, a bachelor, in Robertsonganj area after a quarrel over their long-running land dispute.

As soon as the news was in the air, their brother Abdur Sabur Maton, 43, suffered a cardiac arrest and died in Rangpur Medical College Hospital the very day.

Police arrested Nayan in the area after he tried to go into hiding.

Family members said they arranged a meeting yesterday to settle the issue between the two feuding brothers. Senior villagers were present at the gathering, which began around 11:00pm.

Around one and a half hours later, when the efforts fell apart and the meeting concluded, a quarrel broke out between the two, said police and locals. At one point, Nayan started hitting his elder brother with a bamboo bar, leaving him dead on the spot. Maton died in hospital about four hours after Kakon.

Kakoli Begum, only sister of the deceased, lodged a murder case with Rangpur Kotwali Police Station, said Officer-in-Charge Md Shahabuddin Khalifa.



Two woodpeckers and a drongo perched on a dead tree at Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital Monday. The birds of two different species came together foraging for food.

Daily Star Books
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Move to establish Rampal power plants protested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Speakers at a human chain before Jessore Press Club yesterday protested the government's move to establish coal-based thermal power plants in Rampal of Bagerhat near the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest.

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front and Bigyan Andolon Mancha jointly formed the human chain.

They said the ecology of the forest would be destroyed due to the wastages that would flow from the power plant through the Pashur River. Dheman Mallick, a general secretary of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front; Iqbal Khan and Utpal Dev Barman, members of Bigyan Andolon Mancha, also spoke.

The proposed two power plants will be set up in Shapmari and Katakhal, nine km away from the Sundarbans.

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Youth held with Indian rupee

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Police arrested a youth with smuggled Indian Rupee 1.5 lakh in his house at Kachuarputa village in Moheshpur upazila on Thursday night.

Police said the arrestee, Faruk Hossain, confessed that he used to work for Kutl Biswas, a currency smuggler of the village, to carry money across the border.

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