

RAIN LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

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

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places

over the country, Met Office said.

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

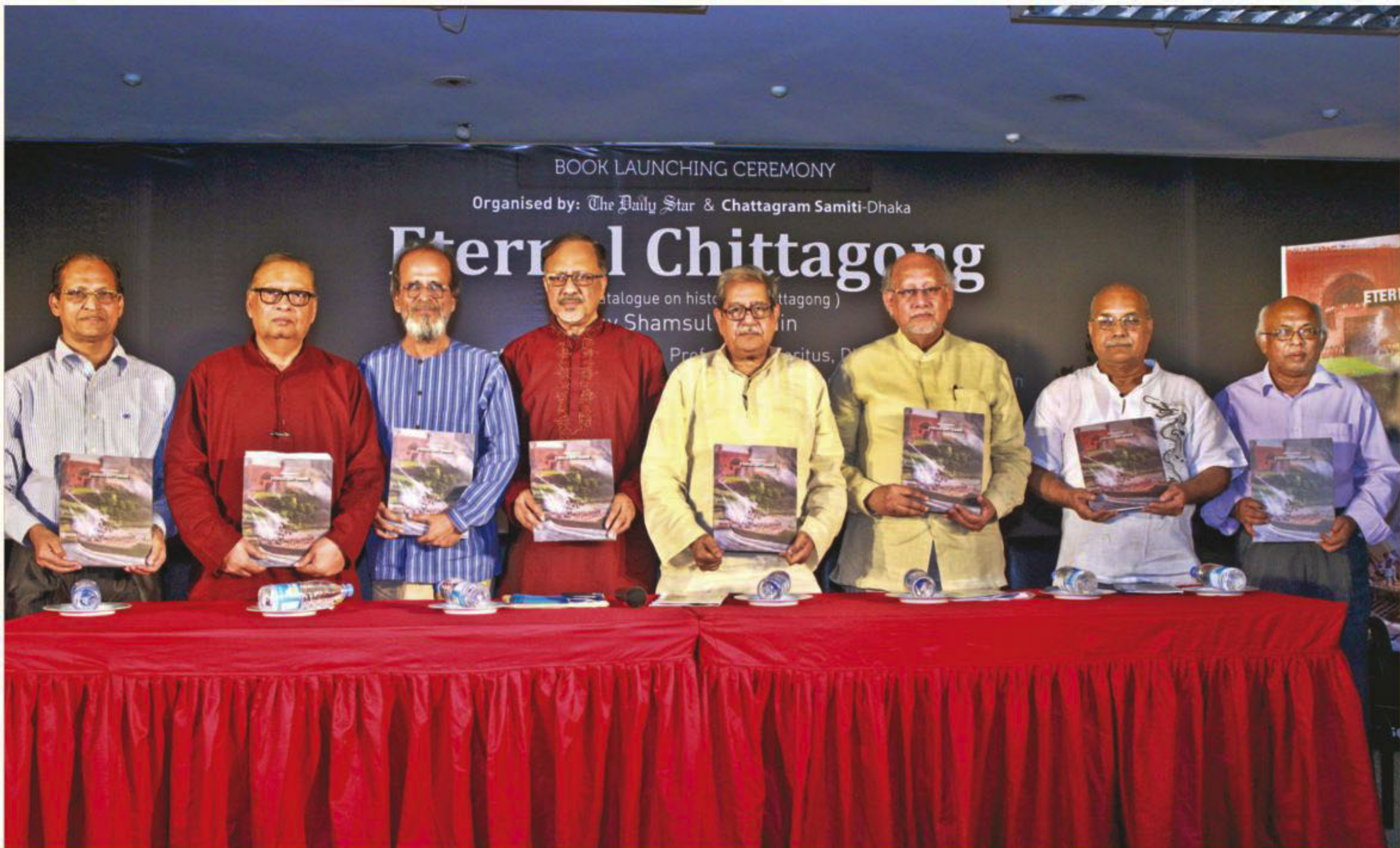
**The sun sets in the capital today at 6:10pm and rises tomorrow at 5:43am.**

Country's highest temperature 35.0 degree

Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi, Jessore, Chuadanga and Sayedpur and lowest 22.0 degrees at Rangamati.

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 33.0             | 26.5 | 73                     | 69      | Khulna 33.5            | 27.0 | 76                     | 88      |
| Chittagong 29.4        | 26.0 | 85                     | 93      | Barisal 32.5           | 26.5 | 75                     | 75      |
| Rajshahi 35.0          | 26.7 | 86                     | 79      | Sylhet 32.3            | 23.5 | 86                     | 79      |
| Rangpur 33.8           | 26.2 | 90                     | 81      | Cox's Bazar 31.0       | 25.2 | 83                     | 92      |



(From left) Md Mohiul Islam Mohim, Prof Abdul Momin Chowdhury, Shamsul Hossain, Rezaul Haq Chowdhury Mushtaq, Prof Emeritus Anisuzzaman, Salahuddin Kasem Khan, Prof Mansur Musa and Syed Badrul Ahsan hold copies of "Eternal Chittagong" at its publication ceremony in the capital's Chittagong Bhaban yesterday. The book is a catalogue of the "Chirayato Chattagram Prodarshani" (eternal Chittagong exhibition) organised by The Daily Star as part of its "Odommo Chattagram" (indomitable Chittagong) festival held in 2012.

# 'Eternal Chittagong' published

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Daily Star and Chattagram Samiti-Dhaka yesterday organised the publication ceremony of a book which highlights Chittagong's rich cultural diversity and natural resources.

The book, "Eternal Chittagong", is a catalogue of the "Chirayato Chattagram Prodarshani" (Eternal Chittagong Exhibition) organised by The Daily Star in 2012 as part of its "Odommo Chattagram" (Indomitable Chittagong) festival.

Eminent intellectuals attending the ceremony in the capital's Chittagong Bhaban complimented the focus on the glorious past of Chittagong city which, they said, was the world's 10th fastest growing city.

Published by The Daily Star, the catalogue describes, in English and Bangla and with photographs, the antiquities of

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# WAR CRIMES TRIALS Campaign to counter propaganda sought

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Veteran freedom fighters and legal experts yesterday called for a vigorous campaign to counter national and international propaganda against the ongoing war crimes trials to defend the country and its judiciary.

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**Asset DEVELOPMENTS**

# Re-elect AL to continue dev Urges Hasina at Azimpur rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the people to re-elect her party, claiming that continuation of a government was necessary to keep the country's overall development going.

Listing the incumbent government's development activities, she said, "Our aim is to build the country into a Sonar Bangla free from poverty, hunger and corruption by 2021."

Hasina was addressing a public rally organised by Lalbagh and Kotwali units of the ruling Awami League (AL) at the playground of Azimpur Girls School and College, where she had her schooling, in the capital.

Announcing that the school has been nationalised, she said the government has given priority to expansion of education and pledged to bring the literacy rate to 100 percent if voted to power again.

The main opposition BNP does not understand the language of democracy and development.

Now, BNP along with its allies is killing people and destroying properties in the name of conducting movements, she said.

"They (BNP-Jamaat) are launching propaganda in the name of Islam. But their cadres had burnt Quran and committed different anti-Islamic activities," said the AL president.

"BNP has only two qualities, corruption and killing. But we want to change people's fate. During this tenure, we achieved immense progresses in different sectors like education, health, energy, information and technology," she claimed.

She urged the school's students to be attentive and prepare to lead the country.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury and Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid also spoke at the programme.

Earlier, Hasina inaugurated an Eden College hostel, two substations and laid the foundation stones of some structures at Azimpur and Kotwali.

# PROBLEMS OVER POLLS Solution to come thru' internal talks Says Gowher Rizvi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The prime minister's international affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi yesterday said Bangladesh's ongoing political problems over the parliamentary election were its internal matters which would be solved through discussions "within ourselves".

He also added that there was no scope of violence or rigging in the upcoming election, which would be held timely and as per the constitution.

Replying to a query, Rizvi said, "We want foreign observers from the European Union, Commonwealth, Saarc and the United States to come here to see how we conduct the election. We have no complaints with that (observers coming over)."

Rizvi was talking to journalists after attending as chief guest a Chittagong divisional rally, "Role of non government voluntary development

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# SUCCESSFUL FOREIGN POLICY Consensus among parties imperative

Dr Akbar Ali Khan tells reception

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Making the country's foreign policy a success requires consensus among all political parties on core issues related to the state interests, said former adviser to a caretaker government Dr Akbar Ali Khan yesterday.

"In the US, there are core issues related to their state interest on which both the republicans and democrats put similar kinds of opinions. They call such agreement bipartisan.

"In Bangladesh, we need such bipartisan opinions from the political parties," he told a reception accorded to former state minister for information Prof Abu Sayeed, who was conferred a PhD by Rajshahi University.

Forum 71, a newly formed socio-political organisation, organised the reception in the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

Creating a bipartisan foreign policy requires the political parties to foresee the state interests. "Unfortunately, we are still in the dark regarding the country's interests," said Akbar.

He said one of the weakest aspects of Bangladesh's foreign policy, which was nothing but an extension of the national

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# Govt, BNP's stance to be clear in few weeks Says Fakhrul over political crisis

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday called upon leaders of different professional bodies to wage a movement for "voluntary imprisonment" to force the government to release Mahmudur Rahman, acting editor of the Amar Desh, and other detained political leaders.

Fakhrul made the call when leaders of pro-BNP bodies Association of Engineers Bangladesh (AEB) and Doctors Association of Bangladesh and some other discussants, including Krishok Sramik Janata League President Kader Siddiqui and Dhaka University Professor Asif Nazrul, criticised BNP for failing to wage tougher actions against what they said are the government's misdeeds and oppression.

He was speaking at a discussion in the capital's Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, organised by AEB.

In response, Fakhrul said, "We are in movement and we are acting the way an opposition party should act. You have to understand that BNP is a moderate democratic party and not an armed revolutionary organisation."

He said it will be clear in a few weeks what the government and BNP are doing to solve the ongoing political crisis. He also said country's constitution is not like the Quran or the Bible. "Therefore it [constitution] can be amended for the public's sake," he added.

# 7 'robbers' held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion arrested seven alleged robbers of a gang in different areas of the capital throughout Friday.

The arrestees are Bappi, 25, Liton Chakraborty, 25, Anwar, 30, Liton, 30, Jahangir Hossain, 32, Mosharaf Hossain, 25, and Siraj, 20.

They belong to the gang which operates in Dhaka as well as Chittagong, Comilla, Feni and Sylhet districts, said Maj Rakibul Amin, second-in-command of Rab-2, at a press briefing at his Sher-e-Bangla Nagar office yesterday.

Rab recovered one grill cutter, one machete, one wrench, three knives, six mobile phone sets, two cellphone SIMs and Tk 12,150 from the arrestees.

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