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

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over the country, Met Office said. Day and night temperature may rise slightly over the

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:39pm and rises tomorrow at 5:54am.

Country's highest temperature 33.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 22.4 degrees at Sayedpur. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity

recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday

	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage			Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percen	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening		Max:	Min:	Morning	Ever
Dhaka	31.2	24.5	90	88	Khulna	32.5	24.5	86	9
Chittagong	28.8	24.5	81	87	Barisal	30.2	25.6	88	9
Rajshahi	30.7	24.0	96	86	Sylhet	33.0	22.5	83	7
Rangpur	30.3	23.2	83	74	Cox's Bazar	31.0	24.0	81	8

Polls between Oct 27, Jan 24: Shah Nawaz

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) is determined to hold the next parliamentary polls between October 27 this year and January 24 next year, Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz told reporters at his office yesterday.

When asked whether the EC will hold the polls if main opposition BNP boycotts, without giving a direct answer, the commissioner said, "We hope all political parties will participate in the polls.'

As a part of its preparation, the EC has already begun procuring election materials for holding the polls.

A consignment of seals and rubberstamps arrived in the EC Secretariat yesterday. Besides, around 15,000 transparent ballot boxes are likely to arrive at the secretariat today, said EC officials.

"We hope to complete procurement of election materials by the end of October or beginning of November," said Forhad Hossain, senior assistant secretary of the EC. Asked whether the EC will hold dialogue with political

parties for amending electoral code of conduct, he said, "At the moment we do not feel it is necessary. If needed, we will sit with them later." On the amendment of Representation of People's Order

(RPO), he said they proposed to change some provisions in

it. The parliament will now make the decision and they will

obey it, he added. Although the EC gave additional time to political party Bangladesh Nationalist Front (BNF) to fulfil registration criteria twice ignoring the law, Shah Nawaz yesterday said they have not done anything wrong.

When his attention was drawn to a news report that said the commission will give registration to BNF despite its failure to fulfil conditions, he categorically said, "None will SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

PHOTO: STAR

An illegal concrete structure on the Buriganga river being demolished by a joint team of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) and Dhaka district administration near Lohar Bridge area in the capital's Kamrangirchar yesterday.

MOVEMENT FOR JU VC'S RESIGNATION

Education ministry urges withdrawal, threatens action

Agitating teachers declare fresh programme

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The education ministry yesterday urged Jahangirnagar University's (JU) agitating teachers to stop their ongoing movement, demanding Vice-Chancellor Prof Anwar Hossain's resignation, and restore normalcy on the campus.

"The ministry hopes that the agitating teachers will stop all of their inconsiderable attitudes and activities that are going against students' interest, and will pay attention to their professional duties," stated a press release.

Otherwise, the government will take "appropriate action" to ensure an academic atmosphere, it stated, adding that Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid had expressed concern over the situation.

Meanwhile, ignoring the request, the teachers, at a press conference on the campus, announced to refrain from any academic and administrative activities, except the ongoing final examinations, from October 8 to 10, reports our JU correspondent.

A statement of 395 of the teachers read that the movement would continue until the VC resigned.

A section of teachers started demonstrating intermittently

harm Sundarbans STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday reasserted that the Rampal thermal power plant would operate using modern technology and would not harm the country's lone mangrove forest.

"The power station will be built after safeguarding the Sundarbans' ecology," she said, amid opposition against the project from different quarters for the forest's safety.

Hasina, also president of the Awami League, was addressing presidents and general secretaries of her party's Thakurgaon, Cox's Bazar, Sherpur, Gaibandha, Feni, Sirajganj and Munshiganj districts and all of their upazila and municipality units at her Gono Bhaban residence.

The prime minister blasted the opponents of the proposed 1,320MW power plant about 14km off the forest and assured that her government would not do anything harmful for the environment.

About the opposition leader's threat to stop the project, she asked why Khaleda Zia had so much affection for the Sundarbans when "she has no affection and love for the people and the country".

The premier said more coal-based power stations with 6,600MW capacity would be set

up gradually in the country in association with different other countries.

PM reaffirms Rampal won't

Claiming that this government had brought significant development in different areas including the power sector, the AL chief directed her party's grassroots leaders to work in unison to get AL re-elected for the sake of continuing the war crimes trial and the country's development.

Hasina also said, "She [Khaleda] is now saying that she wanted a Hasina-free Bangladesh because she wants to hinder the trial of war criminals and save them and halt the country's progress." She reiterated that the war crimes verdicts would be executed at any rate.

strengthen the organisation, circulate the government's successes among people, and resist BNP-Jamaat's falsehood ahead of the upcoming election.

In this regard, she asked party leaders to

The premier said the election would be held in a free and fair manner following the constitutional guidelines, and the people would vote happily.

If the people want to prosper and live in | HC on October 3. peace, the AL will be re-elected, she hoped. Hasina feared that if BNP-Jamaat came to power, they would bring in a new fashion of corruption and misrule, turning Bangladesh into a safe haven for militancy, terrorism and corruption.

রহমান শপিং কমপ্লেক্স (২য় তলা)

গোলাপগঞ্জ, সিলেট

CUTTING HILLS FOR CCC BUNGALOW Restore Ctg hills to previous state: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to maintain status quo on constructing a bungalow for the mayor of Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) by cutting the hills in Tiger Pass area of the port city.

In response to a writ petition, the court ordered the government to take legal action against the people who are responsible for cutting, digging, destroying and damaging the hills for constructing the bungalow without approval from the Department of Environment (DoE).

Petitioner's counsel Manzill Murshid told The Daily Star that after this HC order the authorities will now have to stop construction of the bungalow.

The court also asked the government to submit a report before it within next 10 days after complying with its order. The court directed the CCC mayor to fill up the damaged

parts of the hills in two months. It issued a rule upon the government officials concerned to explain in four weeks why they should not be directed to

protect the hills and environment in Tiger Pass area. Asaduzzaman Siddique on behalf of Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) filed the writ petition with the

Secretary to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the CCC mayor, deputy commissioner of Chittagong, director general of the DoE and its directors (enforcement and monitoring) and officer-in-charge of Double Mooring Police | month, says a press release. Station have been made respondents to the rule.

65 structures demolished to save Buriganga

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) and Dhaka district administration in a joint drive yesterday demolished around 65 semi-concrete and makeshift structures built illegally encroaching on Buriganga river and its foreshore near Lohar Bridge in Kamrangirchar of Dhaka.

The structures were erected within the river boundary pillars and nearly SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Fugitive accused arrested on HC premises

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcers yesterday arrested a fugitive accused after he appeared before the High Court seeking bail in a case. The detainee, Md

Mohiuddin Islam alias Rony, 35, had escaped from police custody after he was produced before a magistrate's court in Narayanganj on September 9. He was produced before

the Narayanganj court in connection with a case filed for stealing a motorcycle on SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Dr Iftekhar made principal research fellow at S'pore Nat'l University

CITY DESK

Dr Iftekhar Chowdhury has been appointed principal research fellow at the Institute of

South Asian Studies (ISAS)

of the National University of Singapore (NUS). The NUS president has approved his appointment, and he will assume his position within this

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Schoolchildren get to know the proper way to wash their hands during an awareness raising campaign, "Help a Child Reach 5", organised by Unilever, which produces the Lifebuoy soap, at DPS STS School in the capital's Uttara yesterday. The campaign aims to popularise hand washing among children and make them understand how it can prevent diseases like diarrhoea and pneumonia.

PHOTO: STAR

Washing hands can save over 1cr lives a year Lifebuoy's 'Help a Child Reach 5' campaign told STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The simple habit of washing hands with soap before a meal and after using the toilet can save over one crore lives every year.

If taken up by children, the practice can significantly reduce child mortality, helping the government reach the Millennium

Aiming to spread this message, managers of Unilever Bangladesh Limited visited 25 schools in the capital yesterday as part of an awareness raising campaign, "Help a Child Reach 5", initiated on October 1 by Unilever, which produces the

Development Goals by 2015.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

critical injuries OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Three unidentified bodies were recovered and a critically injured youth, believed to have been dumped from a running train by muggers, was rescued from separate places on

Three die, one survives with

Joydevpur-Rajshahi rail route yesterday. Locals rescued injured Sumon Hossain, 28, a rickshaw puller, from Bhannara Rail Crossing and admitted him to a private clinic at Konabari.

Muggers throw out

4 from running train

Sumon said he rode on the rooftop of a Rajshahibound train along with the others from Kamalapur Railway Station on Sunday night. Soon after the train crossed Joydevpur Railway Junction, some 10 miscreants mugged them and threw them off the running train at different nearby places.

The bodies were recovered about 150 yards away from each other from Bhannara, Mirergaon and Borabo village. Railway police sent the bodies to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsies.

In around 30 days between July and August last year, 13 bodies were found beside the rail tracks in Gazipur.

