Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in the 24 hours till 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places,

Ban on

dialogue

gatherings no

hindrance to

Says Obaidul Quader

Communications Minister

Obaidul Quader yesterday

said the ban on political

hindrance for dialogues

and consensus regarding

the election-time govern-

The prime minister's

all-party election-time

government has opened

and consensus and the

the doors for possibilities

opposition parties should

POLITICAL STALEMATE

JSD calls for

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal

(JSD) Central Executive

President Mayeen Uddin

Khan Badal yesterday said

discussions were the solu-

tion to all debates center-

"I think it is not a very

difficult task to solve any

problem through discus-

sions. People all over the

country listened to Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina's

work together," he said.

opportunity to discuss

This has created the

everything, the parliament

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

address. She said they could

ing the parliamentary

election.

dialogue

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

October 18 proposal for an

ment.

gatherings would not be a

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Met Office said. Day and night temperature may remain nearly

unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:27pm and rises tomorrow at 5:59am. The country's highest temperature, 34.2 and Satkhira and lowest, 21.0 degrees, at Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday R

degree Celsius, was recorded yesterday at Khulna

	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		ា	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentag	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening		Max:	Min:	Morning	Evenin
Dhaka	33.2	26.0	75	75	Khulna	34.2	25.4	79	79
Chittagong	30.8	25.0	87	83	Barisal	32.6	24.4	73	91
Rajshahi	33.0	24.2	87	85	Sylhet	32.8	23.7	92	82
Rangpur	30.4	24.0	88	80	Cox's Bazar	31.5	23.6	74	83

# NEWS<sub>IN</sub> brief

#### Woman run over by train in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An elderly woman was run over by a train at the rail crossing under the Khilgaon flyover in the capital yesterday.

Sixty-year-old Asya Khatun used to live alone in the slum by the rail line and was partially deaf.

Quoting witnesses, Dhaka Railway Police Station Assistant Sub-Inspector Zahedul Islam said, "The train from Joydevpur hit the woman when she was crossing the rail track at 2:00pm. Locals were trying to warn her but she did not hear them."

Locals said she earned her living through begging.

#### Fire guts five houses in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Five houses were gutted in a fire in Shahbazar area under Fatikchhari upazila of Chittagong yesterday. The fire originated from an oven, which uses fire-

wood, in one of the houses and soon engulfed the house and the neighbouring ones, said fire service

Fire fighters of Fatikchhari fire station rushed to the spot and doused the flames, they added.

#### Man shot dead in Tongi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Criminals shot dead a cable TV operator in Mill gate area of Tongi in Gazipur city.

The deceased is Shahadat Hossain Rony, 26, of the Family sources said Rony was returning home

from his shop on a rickshaw with an employee when some miscreants shot him in the chest and fled the Police recovered the body and sent it for an autopsy.

A case was filed.

### RU dormitories to open on Oct 29

RU CORRESPONDENT

Dormitories of Rajshahi University (RU) will reopen on October 29 instead of October 24, said a press release of the university yesterday. Regular classes will commence on October 30, it

RU Vice Chancellor Prof Muhammad Mizanuddin

said after the Durga Puja and Eid-ul Azha holidays, they decided to open on October 29 instead of October 24 fearing the opposition parties' agitation on October 25.

#### 3 fined for drinking alcohol, smoking ganja

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A mobile court yesterday fined two men Tk 5,000 and one Tk 3,000 in default to serve one month in prison for drinking alcohol and taking drugs in Baratopa Bazar area under Sreepur upazila of Gazipur.

The mobile court led by Nazmul Islam Bhuiyan, executive magistrate and assistant commissioner (land) of Sreepur, fined Humayun Kabir, 30, Jamir Ali, 32, and Hossain Mia, 30. Hossain was fined Tk 3,000.

Police caught the three red-handed drinking local alcohol "Cholai Mad" and taking ganja (hemp). The trio paid the fine.

#### Tornado destroys 15 villages in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

At least 15 villages were devastated when a tornado struck Sonargaon upazila of Narayanganj yesterday afternoon.

Over three hundred trees were uprooted in the oneminute long tornado, which occurred around 1:30pm cutting off the power supply in the area.

No human casualty was reported.

feel special



Many city dwellers were still returning after spending their Eid-ul-Azha and Durga Puja vacations outside Dhaka yesterday although it was

the first workday after the holidays. The photo was taken at Sadarghat Launch Terminal, a gateway to the capital, around 7:00am.

## EC got polls guidelines from PM speech

Says Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz

UNB, Dhaka

Election Commissioner Md Shah Nawaz yesterday said the Election Commission had got the necessary "guidelines" over the next parliamentary elections from the prime minister's address to the nation. "We got the necessary legal guidelines for the election from

the PM's speech. We came to know from the speech that the election will be held by January 24, and it will be held as per the constitution," he told reporters at his EC secretariat office. Shah Nawaz, however, said it would depend on the

conduct the election. The EC is now taking preparations for holding the election in line with the constitution after having the

political solution on what form of government would

"guidelines" from the PM's speech, he added. In her address on Friday, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina offered to form an all-party interim government to oversee the next general election.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

## BAN ON GATHERINGS IN CAPITAL BNP protests all over country

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The main opposition BNP yesterday staged demonstrations across the country as part of their protest against the indefinite ban on gatherings in Dhaka city.

In Gazipur, BNP activists brought out a procession in the town. Police dispersed the procession and detained an activist in front of the district BNP office.

In Chittagong, police detained five leaders and activists of the 18-party alliance from a clandestine meeting early yesterday.

The detainees were identified as Mohammad Alauddin, president of Chittagong city unit of Bangladesh Labour Party; Md Nazrul, president of Banglabazar unit of Swechchhasebak Dal; Mohammad Dulal, president of Chandranagar unit of Swechchhasebak Dal; and BNP activists Mohammad Rana and Bishal Ahmed.

On a tip, police detained them from a secret meeting in SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

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#### AL, BNP now

OCTOBER 25

#### declare simultaneous rallies at same venue in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Both the Chittagong city units of Awami League (AL) and BNP yesterday declared to hold rallies in the port city's Laldighi Maidan on October 25, creating a sense of tension among the city dwellers.

Addressing a protest rally before the BNP unit's office at Nasiman Bhaban in the afternoon, its President Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury said the rally was primarily over the demand for restoration of the caretaker government system.

It was also in protest of Dhaka Metropolitan Police's indefinite ban on rallies and assemblies in the capital from 6:00am yesterday, he said. The BNP-led 18-party opposition alliance was scheduled to hold a rally in the capital on October 25.

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