

DRY WEATHER LIKELY

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country 6:00pm today. Light fog may occur over Rajshahi, Rangpur and Dhaka divisions during late night till morning, Met Office said.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 5:20pm and rises tomorrow at 6:05am.** Country's highest temperature 32.2 degree

Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chandpur and Satkhira and lowest 18.2 degrees at Rajshahi. 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	31.5	22.4	75	54	Khulna	32.0	23.0	76	72
Chittagong	29.4	23.0	82	86	Barisal	31.3	22.2	78	90
Rajshahi	30.8	18.2	84	78	Sylhet	30.5	19.8	72	77
Rangpur	26.7	20.5	93	80	Cox's Bazar	31.4	22.5	76	73

NEWS IN brief

Jamaat-Shibir activists blast six crude bombs in Ctg city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Jamaat-Shibir activists allegedly blasted five to six crude bombs in Rahattarpol of Chittagong city yesterday afternoon, a day after the opposition-sponsored 60-hour hartal.

Witnesses said around 40 youths brought out a flash procession from KB Aman Ali road around 1:30pm, chanting anti-government and anti-international crimes tribunal slogans.

When police rushed to the spot, the demonstrators exploded the bombs, said witness Hamidullah-Al-Rashid Chowdhury.

Bakalia police Officer-in-Charge Mohammed Mohsin confirmed the incident.

Sick Bangladeshi worker deported from UAE

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Bangladeshi worker, who has been critically ill for nearly two months, was deported from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) yesterday.

Jewel Miah of Habiganj, used to work in a private company in the UAE. On his return, he was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital while in a coma, said Zahid Anwar, assistant director of Wage Earners' Welfare Board of the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment.

Jewel had worked in that company in Sharjah since 2008.

Worker dies in accident in Ctg port

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A worker died after a straddle carrier ran him over at Chittagong Container Terminal (CCT) yard of Chittagong Port yesterday afternoon.

The deceased was Maruf Hossain, 30, son of Md Sultan of Chittagong city.

Maruf, a worker of private container depot, Eshak Brothers, accidentally came in front of the straddle container and was run over, said port sources.

He went to the yard to collect some containers for Eshak Brothers, the sources added.

Maruf was declared dead at Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Ashim president, Ashoke secretary general of Buddhist Federation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Prof Ashim Ranjan Barua and Ashoke Barua have been elected president and secretary general respectively of Bangladesh Buddhist Federation. Dr Ashim-Ashoke

panel has been elected unanimously in the election held on Tuesday.

The other new office bearers are: Executive President Netrosen Barua, Vice-Presidents Prof Jitendra Lal Barua, Propid Kumar Barua Tapan and Kishore Kumar Barua, Joint General Secretaries Ven Bhikkhu Sunandapriya, Shakya Barua and Rupom Barua, Finance Secretary Soumen Barua and Organising Secretary Sharan Bikash Barua.



Seminar
Population Council will hold a seminar on reproductive behavior; Venue: Brac Centre Inn, Mohakhali; Time: 9:30am.

Conference
Bangladesh Mahila Parishad will start its two-day national conference; Venue: Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh; Time: 10:00am.



Ignoring risks, some schoolboys climb down from the roof of a moving bus on the busy Dhaka-Aricha highway in Savar Bazar on the outskirts of the capital on Saturday. Such young people travel this way almost every day due to overcrowding of vehicles or out of fun, which may turn into a tragedy anytime.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

PM to inaugurate 5 dev projects today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of five infrastructure development projects, including the metro rail and bus rapid transit (BRT) for the capital, from Gazipur today.

The inauguration and foundation ceremony will take place at Bhawal Badre Alam University College, Gazipur where the premier will address a public rally.

Hasina will lay the foundation stone of BRT, ranging from Shahjalal International Airport to Gazipur, which will cost Tk 2,039 crore. Of the amount, donors will provide Tk 1,650 crore while the rest will come from the government exchequer.

Construction of the 20km BRT will begin next year. As per feasibility study, 30,000 passengers will be transported per hour on the BRT route.

Construction of the 20.1 km metro rail, which starts from Uttara Third Phase and ends at Motijheel, will begin in 2016 and finish in 2021 with a cost of Tk 22,000 crore.

Japan is providing around Tk 16,500 crore, while the government will provide the rest. Bangladesh and Japan have already signed a deal to construct the metro rail, which will transport 60,000 passengers an hour.

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18-PARTY RALLY IN CAPITAL DMP gives 'verbal' permission for today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) yesterday gave a "verbal" permission to BNP-led 18-party alliance to hold a rally at Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital for today, claimed a Dhaka city unit BNP leader yesterday.

Abdus Salam, Dhaka city unit BNP member secretary, told The Daily Star that the DMP authorities gave a "verbal" permission to hold the rally at the venue and "issued" a letter in this regard.

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HASINA-KHALEDA PHONE CONVERSATION Leaker should be dealt with law

Says Inu, claiming at the same time people have right to know content

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu yesterday observed that those who had leaked the Saturday's phone conversation between Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and opposition leader Khaleda Zia should be brought under the purview of law while saying in almost the same breath that the people had the right to know the content.

The government did not disclose the conversation, he told an event, "Dialogue with the Masses: Journey of Peace, Development and Democracy", at Theatre Institute Chittagong in the port city.

Facing volleys of questions from the audience, Inu said, "It was not a personal conversation, it was about political issues...The people have the right to know it."

A "portion" of the 37-minute conversation was published in different media, which is misleading the people, he said. "I say if it is published anyway, the entire conversation should be published after taking consent from the two leaders."

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VICTIM OF HARTAL Rahima shifted to ophthalmology institute

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nine-year-old Rahima Akhter, who may suffer loss of vision in her right eye due to an explosion, was shifted to the National Institute of Ophthalmology (NIO) from Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday for better treatment.

The girl also sustained injuries in the left eye, head, wrists, palms and abdomen when a crude bomb that she was playing with exploded on Tuesday, the last day of the 60-hour hartal enforced by the BNP-led opposition alliance.

Health Minister AFM Ruhul Haque who visited DMCH around 1:00pm yesterday to see the hartal victims, including Rahima, asked the hospital authorities to ensure better treatment for the victims.

As per the minister's direction, a three-member medical board was formed which suggested Rahima be

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MAY 5 MAYHEM 3 Hefajat men held in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective police arrested three Hefajat-e Islam activists in the capital's Rampura area yesterday afternoon.

The arrested are Mufti Shakhawat Hossain, Moulana Manzoor Mojid and Ahalullah Wasel.

They were arrested around 3:30pm in connection with the group's May 5 mayhem, said Abu Yusuf, assistant commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP).

Dhaka Metropolitan Hefajat Joint Member Secretary Fazlul Karim Kashemi told The Daily

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CPB, BSD urge Khaleda to sever ties with Jamaat, Hefajat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Communist Party of Bangladesh and Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal last night asked BNP chief Khaleda Zia to break the alliance with Jamaat-e-Islami and sever relations with Hefajat-e Islam.

In a meeting with the BNP chairperson at her Gulshan office in the capital, they termed the two Islamic organisations "communal, militant forces" who opposed the country's independence.

CPB President Mujahidul Islam Selim and BSD General Secretary Khalequzzaman spoke to the media at Khaleda's Gulshan office following the meeting.

On Tuesday, the two left party leaders met Awami League President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Gono Bhaban residence and urged her to sever her party's ties with Jatiya Party.

Asked what Khaleda said in response to their call, the CPB and BSD leaders said the BNP had no ideological or electoral unity with the Jamaat; they only had a pre-election unity.

The CPB and BSD leaders also said they asked the BNP

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina exchanges pleasantries with top officials of Bangladesh Air Force after attending its Darbar (meeting) at BAF Base Bashar in Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

PHOTO: PTD



Hawkers occupy a foot overbridge near Kamalapur Railway Station in the capital causing difficulties for the pedestrians. The photo was taken on Tuesday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

MONEY LAUNDERING CASE Court orders Mamun's London bank account to be frozen

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered to freeze detained businessman Giasuddin Al Mamun's account with a London branch of NatWest Bank in connection with a money laundering case.

Judge Md Motahar Hossain of the Special Judge Court-3 passed the order to freeze the account, which has Tk 6.15 crore, after Anti-Corruption Commission's Public Prosecutor Rafiqul Haque Benu submitted a petition seeking permission from the court.

The ACC filed the case against Mamun, a business partner of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's elder son Tarique Rahman, on September 22, 2011.

On April 29 last year, ACC Assistant Director Mohammad Ibrahim submitted the charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court in Dhaka, alleging that Mamun siphoned off £418,853 to the United Kingdom.

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170 gold bars seized at Shahjalal airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials recovered 170 gold bars weighing about 20 kilogrammes from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital on Tuesday night and yesterday morning.

On information, the officials searched an aircraft of Biman Bangladesh Airlines that landed from Hong Kong and found two bags filled with 146 gold bars in a toilet at 11:30pm on Tuesday, said Md Wajed Ali, assistant commissioner of customs.

The street value of the gold recovered is about Tk 6.5 crore, he added.

In another incident yesterday, the officials arrested one Sohel Rahman, 38, with 24 gold bars worth about Tk 1.09 crore.

Sohel, who returned from the United Arab Emirates, hid the gold bars on his person, said Md Wajed Ali, adding that this was the seventh recovery in the last 10 days.

Hours before Tuesday night's recovery, a man with six gold bars was arrested. On October 25, a hajji with 1.16kg of gold was arrested.

A total of 280 gold bars weighing around 33 kilogrammes were recovered from a Dubai-based low-cost carrier on October 22.

On July 24, customs officials seized 1,064 gold bars weighing around 124 kilogrammes, the biggest ever haul at the airport since Bangladesh's independence, from the luggage chamber of a Biman flight.