

Change in temperature likely



Rain or thundershowers is likely to occur at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country, Met office said.

Night temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius and day temperature may fall slightly over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:12pm and rises tomorrow at 6:18am.

Country's highest temperature 30.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and lowest 12.1 degree Celsius at Sreemangal.

The highest and lowest temperatures 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	28.9	17.0	57	57	Khulna	29.0	15.5	63	69
Chittagong	26.4	19.0	78	76	Barisal	29.0	15.1	73	80
Rajshahi	29.0	14.2	89	72	Sylhet	29.4	15.5	72	72
Rangpur	28.8	14.5	74	70	Cox's Bazar	30.2	19.5	68	71

24-hour countrywide transport strike today

Declares Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Sramik Federation demanding release of Shimul Biswas, arrest of those who killed 27 drivers in hartal violence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Sramik Federation declared a countrywide 24-hour transport strike from 6:00am today demanding release of its central committee Joint Secretary Shamsur Rahman Shimul Biswas.

"We will enforce the strike as the government did not meet our demand by today (Wednesday) for releasing Shimul Biswas and arresting those who killed 27 drivers during the opposition's recent hartals," said the federation General Secretary Osman Ali.

Talking to The Daily Star, he said all types of transports were under the strike's purview.

He also threatened to generate tougher movement if Biswas, also special assistant to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, was not freed after the strike.

Law enforcers picked up Biswas and Khaleda's adviser Abdul Awal Mintoo from outside her Gulshan residence in the capital on November 8 and accused them in two cases over "attempted murder of cops and involvement in violence in the capital".

DHAKA-CTG HIGHWAY Locals urged to help police fight torching, vandalism of vehicles

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers yesterday urged local people to help law enforcers prevent torching and vandalism of vehicles on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway, especially in Mirsarai and Sitakunda upazilas where hundreds of vehicles have come under attack recently.

Lawmakers, upazila-union parishad chairmen, and conscious citizens, irrespective of their political affiliations, should come forward in this regard, they told a views exchange meeting of business leaders, transport owners, and police officials at the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) in the port city.

In the last two weeks, a total of 69 vehicles were set alight and several hundred vehicles vandalised on a 37-kilometre stretch of the Chittagong-Dhaka highway between the two upazilas, said CCCI President Mahbubul Alam, who chaired the meeting.

Kafil Uddin Ahmed, general secretary

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TARIQUE'S ACQUITTAL IN MONEY LAUNDERING CASE Steps against prosecutors if found negligent

ACC secretary tells press conference
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ACC will take steps against its lawyers if they are found to have been negligent in dealing with the money laundering case against BNP Senior Vice-Chairman Tarique Rahman, said ACC Secretary Faizur Rahman Chowdhury yesterday.

A Dhaka court on November 17 acquitted Tarique, elder son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, and jailed his friend and business partner Giasuddin Al Mamun for seven years and fined him Tk 40 crore in the case involving Tk 20.41 crore.

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) will file an appeal against the verdict and inquire whether there was any negligence on their lawyers' part after getting and reviewing the verdict's copy, said Faizur.

Addressing a monthly ACC press briefing at its office in the capital, he said, "Earlier, the ACC removed several lawyers for their negligence and poor performance."

He also said ACC last month received 740 complaints and took up 81 cases for inquiry.

PM goes to KSA tonight for Umrah

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will leave for Saudi Arabia tonight to perform Umrah.

Officials said she would depart at 11:40pm today on a special flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines and return home on Saturday night.

Though there will be no official engagement in Saudi Arabia, the tour is being turned into an official one with the government bearing all expenses of the trip.

"It is completely a private visit as the prime minister will be going for religious purpose to perform Umrah, but Bangladeshi law has the provision that all movements of prime minister are official," said a senior official at the foreign ministry.

Sources at the ministry said they could not finalise the entourage but it would comprise family members, officials of the Prime Minister's Office, foreign ministry, and security agencies, and PM's media team with at least 40 members.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni is likely to accompany the PM.

Armed Forces Day today

BSS, Dhaka

Today is Armed Forces Day commemorating the coordinated offensive of the Bangladesh army, navy and air force against the Pakistani occupation forces during the 1971 Liberation War.

Issuing separate messages, President Abdul Hamid wished the armed forces gradual success and happiness and peace and prosperity for their family members while Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said the government was working sincerely to modernise the forces.

In the morning, the president and prime minister will lay wreaths at Shikha Anirban (the Eternal Flame) in Dhaka Cantonment paying deep homage to armed forces members who sacrificed their lives in the

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BLENDING IN IS OUT.

#SWITCH



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