

DRY WEATHER LIKELY

Unib, Dhaka

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today. Night temperature may fall slightly and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met office said.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:11pm and rises tomorrow at 6:26am. Country's highest temperature 31.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at

Sitakunda and lowest 12.6 degrees at Chuadanga. 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 29.8	19.4	62	58	Khulna 28.4	15.8	72	63
Chittagong 27.5	19.2	78	69	Barisal 29.0	15.9	74	85
Rajshahi 28.3	13.8	72	73	Sylhet 29.8	18.0	77	73
Rangpur 28.4	15.7	79	75	Cox's Bazar 30.7	20.7	70	74

NEWSIN brief

2 Rangamati DC office staff shot

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Two employees of deputy commissioner's office of Rangamati sustained bullet injuries yesterday when unidentified criminals opened fire on a speedboat carrying them on Kaptai Lake in Kattali area under Langdu upazila. The injured, Nasir Uddin and Kanungo Bachhu Moni Chakma, are receiving treatment at Rangamati Sadar Hospital. Additional Deputy Magistrate Saif Uddin Ahmed was also on the boat, but managed to escape unharmed. Saif Uddin said some miscreant on two speedboats opened fire on them while they were returning after settling the land dispute issue of Amtoli Jam'e Masjid.

RU admission tests postponed again

RU CORRESPONDENT

The admission tests of Rajshahi University have been postponed for the third time due to the opposition alliance's protest programmes. According to the revised schedule, the tests will now be held from December 25 to 28 instead of from December 5 to 9, said a press release yesterday. The admission tests at first were to be held in November.

Lawyer found dead in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

A lawyer was found dead on Dhaka-Narayanganj link road in Pagla Delpara area in Fatulla yesterday. The deceased is Md Malek Rajiv, 29, a resident of Chandmari in Narayanganj. Police said there were injury marks on the chest. The body was sent for an autopsy.

Body of woman found floating in Shitalakkhya

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Police yesterday recovered the body of a housewife who allegedly committed suicide by jumping into the river Shitalakkhya in Kapasia upazila of Gazipur after her husband remarried. The deceased is Shahina Khatra, 20, a first year honours student of Akasia Degree College. She married her husband Billal Hossain on September 19. Locals claimed that after learning her husband married another woman, Shahina jumped into the river on Friday. Police, on information, searched the area where she jumped in vain. Shahina's body was found floating in the river some 400m away from where she jumped.

REDO DOUBLE VALVE REPLACEMENT Apollo Hospital performs country's first surgery

CITY DESK

Apollo Hospitals Dhaka has successfully performed a redo double valve replacement, a surgery carried out for the first time in Bangladesh. Dr M Quamrul Islam Talukder, consultant, Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery Department of the hospital, performed the surgery on a 40-year-old woman who had her two valves (aortic and mitral) replaced with mechanical prosthesis about seven years back.

Rtv journos get bail after one day remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted bail to two journalists of private television channel Rtv in a case filed against them for "instigating blockaders into blasting bombs" in the city's Kamrangirchar. Locals handed over reporter Tamjid Rony and videographer Prashanto Modok to the Kamrangirchar Police Station on Sunday bringing an allegation that the journalists were inciting blockaders to blast crude bombs at Kurar Ghat of Kamrangirchar during the second day of BNP-led 18-party alliance programme. Metropolitan Magistrate Tareq Mainul Islam Bhuiyan

 SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



PHOTO: STAR, FOCUS BANGLA, BANGLAR CHOKH



NATION IN PERIL

(Clockwise from top left) Severely burnt Abdul Aziz, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver, at Chittagong Medical College Hospital following an arson attack by opposition activist on his vehicle in Chittagong city's Hathazari area early yesterday, the third day of the second round of countrywide blockade by BNP-led 18-party alliance. An opposition activist throwing a Molotov cocktail in the city's Golpahar area. Blockaders clash with police in Rajshahi city's Court Station Bazar area. An auto-rickshaw burns following an arson by Jubo Dal activists in Tarabo Sultana Kamal Bridge area in Narayanganj's Rugganj. A female opposition activist caught hurling stones at police in Gaibandha's Khandakar Mor area. Pro-Jamaat Islami Chattra Shibir activists attack a bus in the capital's Badda Notun Bazar. Trucks carrying goods, including perishable ones, lie stranded at Mawa ferry terminal in Munshiganj.



16 YEARS OF CHT ACCORD Non-implementation may revive armed conflict

Fear indigenous, civil society leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Non-implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) peace accord may propel the armed rebels towards initiating another bloody struggle to achieve their right to land and self-rule, indigenous and civil society leaders said yesterday. Dhaka University Prof Meshbah Kamal said rehabilitation of over half a million CHT people, including 65, 000 repatriated refugees and 92,000 internally displaced families, remained uncertain with the accord unimplemented. "There is every chance that the disgruntled indigenous people may turn to a bloody armed conflict again," he told a discussion at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

 Parbatya Chattagram

Janasanghati Samity (PCJSS), the political front of CHT indigenous communities, organised it to mark the 16th anniversary of the treaty, which was signed between the then Awami League government and the PCJSS on December 2, 1997. The government has breached the trust of the adivasis, said PCJSS Organising Secretary Shaktipada Tripura. "We know how to carry on our struggle and make the army chief say he is tired of war," he said. Successive governments, particularly that of the AL, resorted to tricks and avoided implementing the most fundamental conditions despite being in power for nine years since the signing, said Sanjeeb Drong, general secretary, Bangladesh Adivasi Forum.

 SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

GENERAL ELECTION Unconfident AL doesn't want BNP's participation

Says Pankaj Bhattacharya

 STAFF CORRESPONDENT

While the ruling Awami League (AL) does not want BNP's participation in the upcoming general election out of a sheer lack of confidence, BNP also failed to wage a mass movement demanding a fair and free election, said Pankaj Bhattacharya yesterday. "Programmes like hartals and blockades had been used as a tool to press home popular and democratic demands for a century," the president of United National Awami Party (NAP) told a press

 SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

ELECTORAL CRISIS, VIOLENCE Obaidul still hopeful of compromise

UNB, Dhaka

Communications Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said there was still hope of the government and the opposition alliance reaching a compromise to end violence over the 10th parliamentary election. "There could be a provisional deal between the government and the opposition since there are moves by the national and international communities in the regard," he told journalists at Bangladesh Secretariat. Right now the government was not thinking about declaring a state of emergency to curb violence like Molotov cocktail attacks and uprooting of rail tracks, he replied to a query. "The situation has not yet gone out of control...but nothing can be said for sure as the situation is gradually worsening...people are living in fear," he said. Besides efforts by the law enforcers and the government, he said, political attempts are on to resolve the dispute. "We are in touch with the opposition leaders and activists," he said. Obaidul said extension of the opposition alliance's ongoing blockade till Thursday proves that the BNP was gradually losing its grip over the movement to "extremists". "I urge them to reach an agreement in the interest of the

 SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

AL, BNP driven by greed for power

Says eight left parties

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The two major political parties could not care less about democracy, as all their endeavours are driven by their greed for state power, an alliance of eight left parties said yesterday. At the cost of general people's lives and security, one party is desperately trying to go to power while the other is doing everything it can to cling to power, leaders of Gonotantrik Bam Morcha told a rally in front of the capital's National Museum. The leftist leaders believe

 SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

TARIQUE'S ACQUITTAL IN MONEY LAUNDERING CASE ACC to appeal

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Anti Corruption Commission is likely to file an appeal with the High Court within this week challenging a lower court verdict that acquitted Tarique Rahman, in a money laundering case involving Tk 20.41 crore. In the appeal, the ACC will pray to the High Court to convict Tarique, elder son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, on the laundering charge. A Dhaka court on November 17 acquitted Tarique, who is now in London for treatment, of the charge though it sentenced his business partner, Giasuddin Al Mamun, to seven years in prison and fined him Tk 40 crore in the same case. A counsel for the ACC who has drafted the appeal said the lower court has not fully considered the statement made by Debra Laprevotte, a supervisory special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the USA, before it. Laprevotte, in her testimony had narrated before the lower court on November 16, 2011, how she had tracked down the money allegedly laundered by Tarique, also senior vice-chairman of BNP, and Mamun to a bank account in Singapore. The ACC counsel on request of anonymity recently told The Daily Star that the 100-page appeal will be filed by Thursday urging the High Court to declare that the trial court verdict about Tarique was "erroneous and wrong." In October 2009, the ACC filed the case against the duo for laundering Tk 20.41 crore to Singapore between 2003 and 2007.

 SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Cracker, piece of shroud found in JU VC's house

Pro-VCs freed from confinement after 12 days

JU CORRESPONDENT

A cracker and a piece of shroud were recovered from the official residence of Jahangirnagar University Vice Chancellor Prof Anwar Hossain yesterday, a day after an unknown person texted him that he would be bombed if he returned to the campus. Ahsulia police removed the unexploded cracker from the courtyard of the house where Prof Anwar arrived yesterday afternoon following 12 days of sick leave. Police said these things might have been put there to create panic. It is less than a month that the embattled VC, who has been asked to resign by a section of teachers since February, received a second death threat. The same sender issued the first threat on November 7, asking him to leave JU immediately. Meanwhile, JU Teachers'

Association (Juta) President Prof Ajit Kumar Majumdar received a second death threat yesterday with the sender asking him to stop the movement against the VC. He received the first threat on November 8. Proctor Prof Muzibur Rahman said they filed a general diary (GD) with Ahsulia Police Station and increased police presence around the VC's residence. Meanwhile, Pro-VC (education) Prof MA Matin and Pro-VC (admin) Prof Afsar Ahmed were freed around 9:15pm last night after 12 days of confinement since November 20. "As the pro-VCs will no longer carry out the responsibilities of the VC upon Prof Anwar's return, we withdrew the confinement," said one of the agitating teachers, Prof Kamrul Ahsan.

4 decades old Indo-Bangla passport regime ends

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

A four-decade-old India-Bangladesh passport regime in India's north-eastern and West Bengal states came to an end on Sunday following an instruction by the Ministry of External Affairs on the state governments. Passports under the old system are usable till the expiry date. This special passport, allowing travel to Bangladesh, used to be issued by the north-eastern state governments with consent of the regional passport offices in Kolkata. It was introduced after Bangladesh's independence in 1971 and was availed mainly by businessmen and individuals having families and relatives in Bangladesh. Thousands of the states' residents were born in Bangladesh and migrated to India in four phases. The phases comprise the 1905 partition

 SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Finished Apartments at

 Dhanmondi Gulshan Banani & Uttara

Call For Details At

 Tel : 9857230 - 4

 01714 039843

 01711 594855

 01713 048556

