

DRY WEATHER LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

Weather is likely to 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.

The sun sets in the capital to at 5:14pm today and rises at 6:35am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 27.7 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at

Faridpur and lowest 9.5 degrees at Srimangal.

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:	Morningz	Evening		Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	26.3	14.0	73	68	Khulna	26.6	13.0	75	71
Chittagong	25.0	15.0	90	76	Barisal	26.2	12.5	89	85
Rajshahi	26.4	11.7	98	74	Sylhet	26.7	12.3	78	82
Rangpur	26.0	12.6	84	79	Cox'sBazar	27.0	16.0	70	62

MOTIJHEEL VIOLENCE

Police publish photos of 11, offer Tk 1 lakh reward for each

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) yesterday announced a Tk 1 lakh reward for information leading up to the arrest of each of 11 individuals involved in Friday's rampage in the capital's Motijheel.

Photos of the 11 and of the incident have been uploaded at www.dmpnews.org with a notice reading "These terrorists are enemies of the nation. (They are) a grave threat to each and every citizen of this city".

Informants can call at 9362640, 01191-001100 and 01678-024652; email at dmpmedia@dmp.gov.bd or contact at www.facebook.com/dmp.dhaka.

Identities of informant will be kept secret, said

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After forcing it to a stop, activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir torched this bus in Pabna-Atghoria road in Pabna yesterday around 4:30am, one and a half hours before Jamaat-enforced a unilateral countrywide hartal protesting Thursday's execution of war crimes convict and its assistant secretary general Abdul Quader Mollah.

PHOTO: STAR

Govt moves to bring Satkhira under control

STAR REPORT

After 24 days of violence and killings virtually turned Satkhira into a valley of terror, law enforcers finally initiated a drive against Jamaat-e-Islami and pro-Jamaat student organisation Islami Chhatra Shibir, arresting 16 activists Saturday night.

The 16 were preparing to board a Dhaka-bound bus when police and Bangladesh Border Guard (BGB), acting on a tip off, conducted a drive to make the arrests at a ticket counter in Kolaroa upazila.

Four of them were involved in killing an Awami League (AL) activist last week while the rest in attacking police and felling trees to block roads, police said.

Though the offences were committed in Kolaroa, the 16 have been kept at Satkhira Sadar Police Station due to security concerns.

Terming it a major success, Kolaroa Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Shah Dara Khan said three cases have been filed against 380 people over the killing of three AL, Jubo League and Swechhasebak League leaders since November 26.

At least 13 persons, including nine AL and associate organisation leaders, have been killed in the southern district, a stronghold of Jamaat, since November 21

during hartals and blockades enforced by the BNP-Jamaat-led 18-party opposition alliance.

Jamaat-Shibir activists has been felling trees and digging up the district's four major roads, nearly cutting it off from the rest of the country. They even attacked police and BGB trying to make the road suitable for traffic.

Yesterday, police recovered the body of a Jamaat activist, with three bullets lodged in the head and body, from Kadamtola bazar in Satkhira town.

Police said Habibur Rahman, 30, son of Akbar Ali of Satkhira sadar's Kachupur village and locally known as Hobi Dakat, was a member of Jamaat's "killing squad" which is now launching attacks on law enforcers, AL activists and Hindus.

He was a prime accused in the case over the December 5 murder of AL activist Sirajul Islam and accused in 10 other cases. Sadar Police Station OC Inamul Haq, however, could not say how the death came about.

Satkhira district unit Jamaat Ameer Abdul Khaleq denied Habibur's involvement in any violence.

In the meantime, Satkhira Superintendent of Police (SP) Chowdhury Syed Manjurul Kabir, newly appointed with an assignment

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NEWSIN brief

Five Shibir men held in Dhaka, Faridpur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested two alleged activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir with a huge amount of explosives and Jihadi books in the capital's Kallyanpur yesterday morning.

The arrestees are Khalid and his brother Sajid.

Mirpur police said on information, they raided the building on road no-2 where the two resided in a garage and recovered six kilograms of explosives, three sacks of bomb making materials, seven live crude bombs and some "Shibir" marked T-shirts.

The books included one named "Porokaler Passport" (Passport to the Day of Judgment).

Meanwhile in Faridpur, police arrested three Shibir activists -- Chowdhury Mohsinuzzaman, Rakibul Islam and Nakibul Islam -- and recovered 19 petrol bombs, six crude bombs, and many Jihadi books from their possessions at Shantibagh intersection.

Ansar, VDP deployment quadruples to protect railways

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With government-identified "risky points" almost doubling in the wake of heightened subversive activities on the country's 2,082 kilometres of rail tracks, the deployment of Bangladesh Ansar and Village Defence Party (VDP) members has nearly quadrupled.

Since the opposition's demonstrations, including removal of fish plates and uprooting of tracks, began on November 26, 2,352 Ansar and VDP members

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Cabinet asks UP admin to quell violence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Union Parishad chairmen and members would be held responsible if they fail to maintain law and order in their respective UP areas with the help of law enforcers, said a top official of the home ministry yesterday.

The decision came at a meeting of the cabinet committee on law and order in the home ministry yesterday, he said.

"UP chairmen and members would be instructed to seek law enforcers' help, if needed, to prevent any possible anarchy in their jurisdictions. If they [UP chairmen and members] show any negligence, they would be held responsible and punitive action will be taken for that" he said.

The UP chairmen and members have been instructed to be more responsible to deal with the violent political situation and asked to assess possible threats to inform local law enforcers of the matter, he said.

The local government ministry issued a circular in this connection on Thursday.

Chiefs of law enforcement agencies informed the meeting that due to lack of manpower and logistic supports they

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Hijackers hack auto-rickshaw driver to death in Ashulia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A gang of armed hijackers hacked a battery-run auto-rickshaw driver to death in Kuturia area of Ashulia, on the outskirts of the capital, early yesterday.

The deceased was Binod Ali, 44, son of Hosen Ali of Kelia village in Dhamrai of Dhaka.

Shahidul Islam Mollah, sub-inspector of Ashulia Police Station, said around four miscreants attacked the driver with a sharp weapon as he tried to resist them from hijacking his vehicle.

Hasina, Khaleda give messages on Victory Day

AGENCIES, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and opposition leader Khaleda Zia yesterday issued separate messages marking Victory Day.

BSS reports, Hasina, in her message, stressed the need for continuation of democracy and development.

"With the spirit of the freedom struggle and the Liberation War, we would have to work together to achieve our ultimate goal... this is our vow on the Victory Day of 2013," said Hasina.

She paid her deepest respect to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Liberation War martyrs and the women, who lost their modesty for the independence.

Bangladesh would be free from the disgrace through the execution of the war crimes trial verdicts, she added.

UNB adds, Khaleda Zia, also chairperson of BNP, urged the people to unite for saving the country and freeing its democracy from the conspirators and the impending danger.

"The conspiracies by the enemies are on against our beloved motherland though it had been freed from the enemies in 1971," she said.

WORRIED OVER VIOLENCE

US congressmen urge Hasina, Khaleda for direct talks

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Expressing concern over the continued political deadlock and violence, six leading US congressmen have urged Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and leader of the opposition Khaleda Zia to engage in direct negotiations immediately to ensure that the upcoming elections are free, fair and viewed as credible by the Bangladeshi people.

"We are concerned that continued political deadlock and related violence, including violence aimed at Hindus and other minorities, will have a negative impact on the real

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WORKERS' PARTY'S JS BID

2 leaders resign in protest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two central members of the Workers' Party of Bangladesh resigned yesterday over the party's decision to participate in the "one-sided" upcoming national election.

The two leaders are Mojammel Haque Tara, also the founding leaders of Jatiya Chhatra Andolon; and Ragib Ahsan Munna, former vice president of the Students' Union of Rajshahi University unit.

A statement signed by the two leaders said some requirements -- including specification of structure and power of the interim government, and empowerment of the Election Commission -- should be met before the elections.

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Happy Victory Day To All BANGLADESHIS



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কর্মই ধর্ম



Discussion Bangladesh Shishu Academy will hold a discussion on the occasion of Victory Day; Venue: Shaheed Motiur Mukta Mancha, the academy; Time: 4:00pm.

Cultural programme Kendria Kachi-Kanchar Mela will arrange a cultural programme marking Victory Day; Venue: the Kachi-Kancha auditorium, Segunbagicha; Time: 10:30am.

