

**LIGHT RAIN LIKELY**

Chances of light rain are likely at once or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Jessore, Kushtia and Comilla till 6:00pm today.  
Weather may remain dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met

Office said.  
Night temperature may rise slightly and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.  
**The sun sets in the capital today at 5:17pm and rises tomorrow at 6:37am.**

Country's highest temperature 27.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and lowest 10.6 degree Celsius at Dinajpur and Syedpur.  
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	24.7	14.5	94	78	Khulna	27.5	14.8	98	66
Chittagong	25.4	14.0	81	79	Barisal	27.2	14.4	92	80
Rajshahi	21.7	11.5	95	85	Sylhet	22.7	14.2	86	85
Rangpur	23.0	12.2	86	88	Cox's Bazar	27.0	16.3	67	72



**TANGENTS**  
BY IHTISHAM KABIR



Lake at Bijoypur in Shushong-Durgapur. PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR



**Actor Khaled Khan passes away**

Staff Correspondent  
Noted actor Khaled Khan passed away at Birdem Hospital's intensive care unit around 8:18pm yesterday.  
Doctors declared Khaled clinically dead and removed his ventilator support after consulting and informing family members that the chance of survival was zero, Khaled's



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, flanked by senior colleagues, lays a wreath on the coffin of Syeda Zohra Tajuddin, an Awami League leader and wife of the first prime minister of Bangladesh government in exile, Tajuddin Ahmad, at the party's central office on Bangabandhu Avenue in the capital yesterday. Zohra passed away in a city hospital at the age of 81. PHOTO: PID

**Bangkok? Or Srimongol?**

For most people a holiday abroad is a treat to look forward to. There is the delight of seeing new places, the anticipation of tasting new food, the excitement of meeting new people - not to mention the rush of new adventures.  
But for several years now I look forward more to travelling inside Bangladesh. This is due in no small measure to the words of my uncle Shafi Chacha who has told me many inspiring stories about his travels criss-crossing Bangladesh. (More about his adventures in a future Tangents.)  
Sure, the world has much to offer and it would be nice to see, for example, South Africa or the Greek Isles. But, in a way that I cannot quite pinpoint, the prospect of seeing a new place inside Bangladesh pulls me with a stronger force. And some special places I have already visited beckon me for a return trip.  
Perhaps it is because they are "mine" in an ancestral sort of way. Perhaps it is being able to converse in Bangla with anyone. Perhaps it is the knowledge that I can get some familiar rice, curry and dal in any *hupri* restaurant. Perhaps it is making up for lost time after my decades abroad.  
Say an opportunity came along to visit a faraway country. I would take my time, think, hee and haw, think again, finally coming to a decision in a few days. But let's say you invited me to join you on a four-day boating trip to Tanguar Haor in the winter, or a three-day trek in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. That, for me, would be a one-minute decision.  
The nation's infrastructure has

improved so that travelling inside the country has become much easier. You can drive in any direction from one of the major cities and come to attractive spots within an hour (faster if you can start early and avoid the morning traffic jams.)  
Longer trips yield significantly better rewards.  
Take Shushong-Durgapur for example. Four or five hours of travel heading due north from Dhaka brings you to a beautiful village, where the fast, knee-deep Shomeshwari river flows through a pristine landscape. Lakes of turquoise are nestled in the hills.  
Or Sundarban, the largest mangrove forest in the world. A three or four day boat trip to this forest is a magical experience.  
In the Sylhet region, hills, haors and spectacular spots such as Lalakhal and Lawacherra are within easy reach of several world-class resorts.  
But does my story end happily? Today's political instability strikes at the heart of our nascent tourism industry. For example, the entrepreneurs who have worked so hard and staked so much to create hotels and resorts such as Sylhet's Nazim Garh and Shuktara, Jessore's Panigram, Moulvi Bazar's DuSai, the hotels in Cox's Bazar and Kuakata - as well as many others - face great difficulty when people cancel travel plans due to safety concerns.  
Their dreams, their hard work and their courageous bets on our future - will it all be in vain?  
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**Time for diversifying exports, markets**

Staff Correspondent  
Bangladesh needs to formulate its second generation trade policies to diversify export baskets and expand markets instead of relying on cheap garment items and a handful of destination countries, a top economist said yesterday.  
Debapriya Bhattacharya, distinguished fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), said Bangladesh had so far benefited from globalisation through expanding trade, attracting foreign investment, increasing remittances and official development assistance, with at least 55 percent of the economy connected to the global economy in some way.  
"Now it is a major challenge for the country to find ways to maintain this linkage and

**Zohra Tajuddin played invaluable role in 1971 war**  
*Say mourners*

Staff Correspondent  
The nation will remember Syeda Zohra Tajuddin, wife of the first prime minister of Bangladesh government in exile, Tajuddin Ahmad, for her invaluable contributions to the Liberation War.  
The observation came from President Abdul Hamid, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, ministers, lawmakers, and leaders of different political parties, including opposition BNP, yesterday as they mourned her death and reminisced about her contributions for the country and politics.  
The country lost a dedicated and patriotic politician, the president said in a condolence note.  
Zohra breathed her last at the capital's United Hospital at 10:37am yesterday at age 81, her elder daughter and Awami League lawmaker Simeen Hussain Rimi told The Daily Star. She was born on December 24, 1932.

**Crude bombs, materials found after explosion at house in capital**  
*2 injured youths held*

Staff Correspondent  
Rapid Action Battalion personnel yesterday recovered 96 crude bombs and a large amount of bomb making materials from a house in Geneva Camp in Mohammadpur after an explosion took place there yesterday.  
Hearing the explosion on the third floor of a building, locals rushed to the spot and found two injured youths - Shaheen and Nadim.  
On information, a team of Rab-2 led by Acting Commanding Officer Maj Ali Haider Azad Ahmed recovered the items. Police later arrested the two.  
In a press briefing, Azad said they found the bombs in an abandoned bathroom. "They were using the bathroom as a warehouse for storing the bombs, while the room which the explosion occurred was being used to make them," he said, adding that another youth, Masud, is on the run.  
Nadim and Shaheen, however, claimed that they were hurt when an unidentified assailant threw a bomb at them.  
Quoting the owner of the building, Azad said the room was rented by Nabil, an embroidery craftsman.

**21st National Immunization Day**

Bangladesh is now completely polio-free!

But the challenge is to still maintain this. To ensure that please take your child (0-5 years) to the nearest immunization center on 21 December 2013 to get his or her polio vaccine.

We all want our children to spend their days in sunshine and laughter as they grow up in a polio-free Bangladesh!

**A Griffon vulture caged at Chittagong Zoo after an onlooker rescued it when he saw dozens of hovering crows attack the raptor and children throw stones at it near the Bangladesh Military Academy (BMA) gate of Bhatiyari in Sitakunda, Chittagong yesterday.** The rescuer, Mohammad Nasim, 43, said he sighted a vulture in the area in more than three decades. "Vultures were commonly seen in the area in the 1980s," he added. As the scavenger feeds on animal carcasses and carrion, its population rapidly declined to only 500-600 today from over 50,000 in 1970 due to use of diclofenac in treating cattle. The rescued bird measures four feet in length, and its wings span about 10 feet. It is doing fine with the new mates, said zoo officials.



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Woman kills man to 'save her daughter from rape'**

Our Correspondent, Jhalakathi  
Police yesterday arrested a woman after she confessed to have murdered a man trying to rape her daughter, a class X student, in her Rajapur upazila residence in Jhalakathi around midnight on Thursday.  
Police recovered the knife used to murder Rafiqul Islam, 45, son of

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