

DRY WEATHER LIKELY



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 5:19pm and rises tomorrow at 6:39am.

Country's highest temperature 27.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at

Cox's Bazar and lowest 10.4 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:	Morning	Evening		Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	21.4	15.3	89	69	Khulna	22.5	15.5	78	67
Chittagong	25.0	14.4	89	72	Barisal	24.2	14.0	92	84
Rajshahi	21.5	12.3	95	74	Sylhet	21.2	12.7	95	83
Rangpur	20.5	14.8	83	75	Cox's Bazar	27.5	16.0	83	68

NEWSIN brief

Robbers kill 2 Bangladeshis in SA

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Two Bangladeshis were killed and one was injured in separate robbery incidents in Mahikeng and Bloemfontein of South Africa on Saturday and Tuesday.

Bazlur Rahman Dulal, 45, of Feni was shot dead at his shop in Bloemfontein on Tuesday.

Sources said robbers shot Dulal when he did not give them the money they demanded.

In Mahikeng, robbers stabbed to death Islam Bordroo and seriously injured Shamim Mollah on Saturday.

According to South African IOL News, an English newspaper, four robbers entered the duo's shop and demanded money. They ransacked the shop and stole cash money and other goods.

Rana Plaza victims get warm clothes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Enam Medical College Hospital distributed warm clothes among the Rana Plaza collapse victims on a field adjacent to the hospital at Anandapur in Savar yesterday afternoon.

EMCH Director Rowshon Enam said they distributed about 500 blankets and shawls among the people whose relatives were killed and injured in the disaster.

However, many people suffered as the distribution programme did not start in due time.

Around 1,132 people were killed and several thousand injured when the nine-storey building caved in on April 24.

Sylhet Gonojagoron Mancha organisers get death threats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Organisers of Sylhet Gonojagoron Mancha received death threats yesterday.

At least two organisers received the letters, which were sent to their business and personal addresses.

Cultural activist Bibhash Shyam Jadon, also an activist of the mancha, said he filed a general diary after receiving death threat. Jadon said in the letter, the mancha activists were termed 'nastik' (atheists) and were told to get ready for death.

He said names of 15 other activists were mentioned in the letter. Police confirmed that a general diary was filed.

'BCL man' among 2 held with arms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

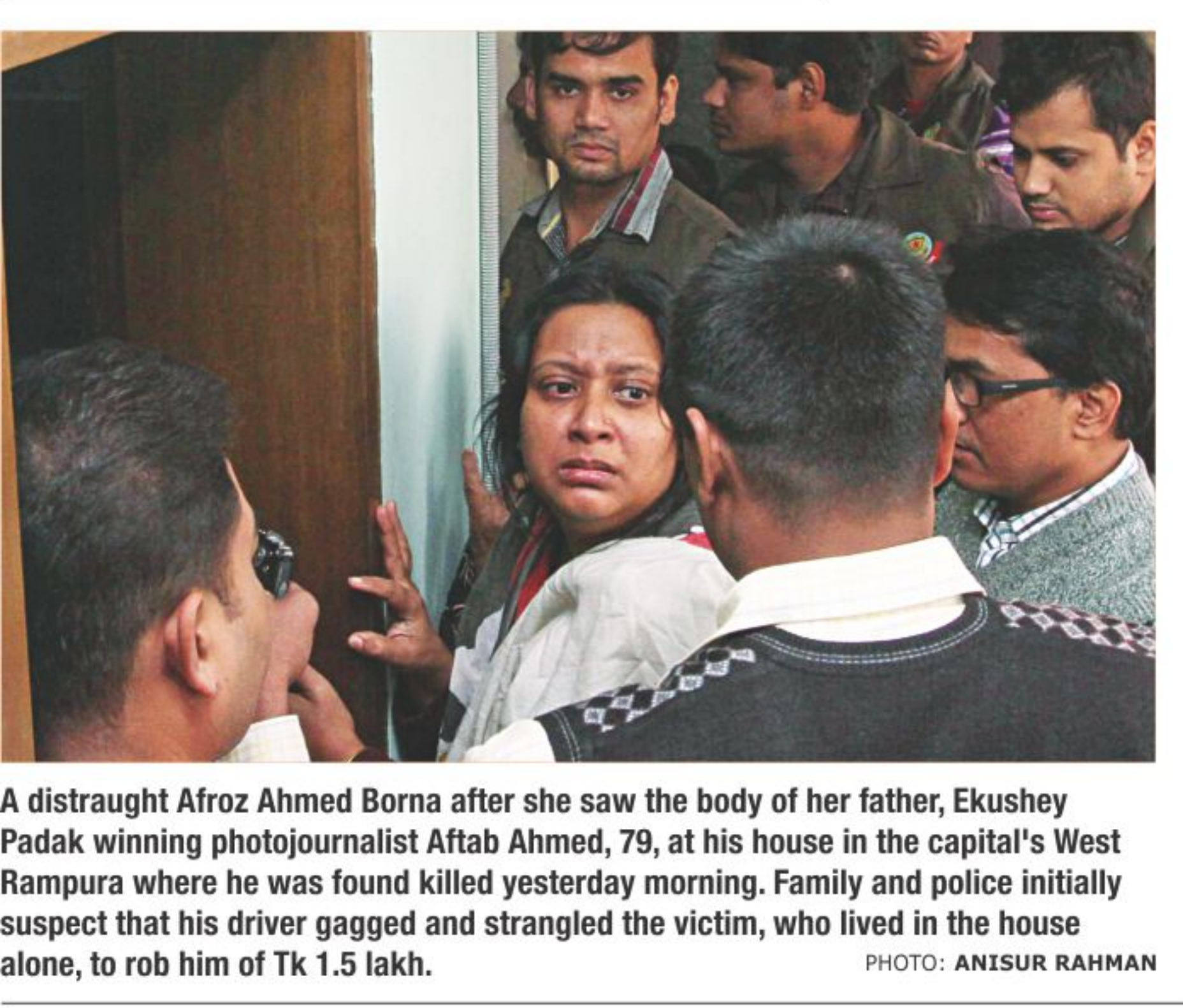
Detective Branch of police arrested two persons, including one who claimed to be a Bangladesh Chhatra League man, with arms and ammunition on Rajshahi Medical College Hospital premises yesterday.

They are Rashed Rana, 25, and Mohammad Raju, 28. An Indian pistol, five bullets and two magazines were seized from their possession, said Alamgir Hossain, inspector of DB at Rajshahi Metropolitan Police. Rashed told reporters at the DB office that he was a BCL activist of Shibganj upazila unit.

DHAKA
TODAY

Report launching
Institute of Governance Studies, Brac University will launch its annual report "The State of Governance in Bangladesh 2012: Regions, Representation, Disparity". Venue: The Daily Star Centre; Time: 10:30am.

Memorial meeting
Communist Party of Bangladesh will organise a meeting in memory of its leader Abu Sayeed; Venue: Mukti Bhaban, Purana Paltan; Time: 5:00pm.



A distraught Afroz Ahmed Borna after she saw the body of her father, Ekushey Padak winning photojournalist Aftab Ahmed, 79, at his house in the capital's West Rampura where he was found killed yesterday morning. Family and police initially suspect that his driver gagged and strangled the victim, who lived in the house alone, to rob him of Tk 1.5 lakh.



Although the BNP-led 18-party alliance enforced countrywide blockade ended at 5:00pm on Tuesday, opposition activists torched this bus while it was parked in Chittagong city's Munshir Dighir Par early yesterday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

MARCH TO DHAKA 15 of AL, JP demand arrest of 'bombers, terrorists'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a joint statement, 13 Awami League lawmakers and two Jatiya Party candidates of the upcoming polls last night urged law enforcers to arrest bombers and terrorists who "took shelter in Dhaka" and maintain law and order in the capital.

These "terrorists and bombers" had killed people, detonated bombs and carried out arson and mayhem around the country during the BNP-led 18-party's recent hartals and blockades, they said.

They also alleged that these criminals had taken shelter at hotels, relative's houses, messes, hostels and slums in the capital to break down law and order in the capital.

They also urged the capital's residents to remain alert and help law enforcers catch these criminals who "have already arrived or will come to

ONGOING POLITICAL CRISIS Eminent citizens see little hope

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent citizens at a discussion yesterday observed that they saw little hope of a solution to the ongoing political crisis as the two rival political parties are adamant about their stances.

Of them, Prof MM Akash cautioned that if the crisis persists, both the Awami League and BNP might not last.

The discussion, "Extensive unity is needed against the ongoing violence", was organised by Samprodayikota-Jongibad Birodhi Mancha, a pro-liberation organisation, in the capital's Liberation War Museum in the afternoon.

The mancha Convener Ajoy Roy began the discussion with a question on whether it was possible to save democracy by keeping in politics Jamaat-e-Islami, which was involved in mass killings during the 1971 Liberation War.

Chinese vice minister of foreign affairs due on Saturday

Diplomatic sources say he will convey China's wish for peace, stability

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Liu Zhenmin arrives on a two-day official visit in Dhaka on Saturday to, diplomatic sources say, convey to the two major political party leaders China's wish for peace, stability and an end to the political deadlock.

The foreign ministry officials said the discussions with the ruling Awami League and opposition BNP, as per their Chinese counterparts, would encompass "all issues in detail", that is the entire range of bilateral and political issues.

The visit was originally scheduled for December 26-27. On December 4-5, Indian Foreign Secretary Sujatha Singh had paid a visit and discussed about the January 5 parliamentary election with the political leaders.

Columnist Salimullah Khan

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PM orders hunt for Bangla Motor arsonists

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the law enforcement agencies to hunt down the criminals involved in Tuesday's arson attack on a bus at the capital's Bangla Motor, which left a traffic police dead, and bring them to book.

She also expressed deep shock at the death of constable Ferdous, said PM's press secretary Abul Kalam Azad.

Ferdous was killed and another constable Faizul Islam, and Bayzid, driver of the bus requisitioned by police, were injured as arsonists set fire to the vehicle around 11:20pm on Tuesday, hours after the opposition alliance's 83-hour blockade ended.

The prime minister prayed for the eternal peace

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