

DRY WEATHER LIKELY

WEATHER TODAY

Unb, Dhaka

Weather may remain dry with partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today.	The sun sets in the capital today at 5:25pm and rises tomorrow at 6:43am.	Chittagong and lowest 6.6 degree Celsius at Chuadanga.	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage			
			Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening		
Night and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.	Country's highest temperature 25.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at	The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:	Dhaka	22.5	13.5	75	62	Khulna	22.8	11.6	91	62
			Chittagong	25.6	15.0	73	78	Barisal	22.8	10.2	91	84
			Rajshahi	22.3	08.5	91	76	Sylhet	24.9	11.0	87	71
			Rangpur	20.5	11.4	97	89	Cox's Bazar	24.5	15.5	69	70

NEWSIN

brief

49 cocktails recovered in Ashulia, 8 arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested eight men and recovered 49 cocktails and three axes in different areas of Ashulia, on the outskirts of the capital, yesterday.

One of the eight miscreants was arrested at a house in Polashbari along with the explosives and weapons, said Faijul Islam Mondol, Rab-4 company commander.

Following information gleaned from him, Rab arrested the others during separate drives.

The arrestees confessed that they were supposed to bring the ammunition to the capital to resist today's election, Faijul added.

Body found in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An unidentified man's body was found in Balur Math area under Jheelmil project in the capital on Friday night.

Dakkhin Keraniganj police recovered the body which the law enforcers suspect had been buried in the sand there. The body had a suit on. The body could not be identified till yesterday evening.

It was sent to Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital for an autopsy.

Talking to The Daily Star, Officer-in-Charge of Dakkhin Keraniganj Police Station Jamaluddin Meer said on information, police went to the spot and recovered the body. There were injury marks on the head, he added.

The OC suspects that the man was killed elsewhere and the body was dumped in Balur Math area.

25 houses gutted in Ctg fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Around 25 tin-shed houses with more than 150 rooms were gutted in a fire in Chittagong city's Patharghata yesterday.

The fire originated from an electric short circuit at one of the houses around 1:40pm and soon spread to the adjoining ones in C and B Colony slum, said Abdul Malek, deputy assistant director of Fire Service and Civil Defence, Chittagong.

Four fire fighting units from Nandankanan, Chandanpura, Lamabazar and Agrabad fire stations doused the blaze around 3:50pm.

One killed, another injured in gas cylinder blast

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A person was killed and another injured when a gas cylinder exploded in the capital's Daniya area yesterday afternoon.

Jostna Begum, 35, was declared dead at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Injured Anwar Hossain, 22, lost his right hand in the blast.

Assistant Commissioner of Demra Zone Minhazul Islam said the blast took place around 5:00pm when Anwar was blowing up a balloon using a gas cylinder.

Anwar worked for a gas balloon vendor, the ground floor tenant of Jostna's two-storey house in Daniya Bazar.

Anwar's brother-in-law Shahidul Islam said Jotsna, who lived on the first floor, was coming downstairs when the explosion occurred and injured her badly.

Diagnostic centre, 6 shops gutted by fire in N'ganj

UNB, Narayanganj

A diagnostic centre and six shops were damaged as a fire broke out in NS Super Marker at Shiddhirganj in Narayanganj city yesterday.

Five people sustained injuries while dousing the fire. Police said the fire originated from an electric short circuit at a battery shop on the ground floor and soon spread to the adjacent ones including Medicare Diagnostic Centre on the first floor of the building. The victim owners claimed that the damage could be more than Tk 3.5 crore.

Fire fighters with the help of locals doused the fire after three hours at 8:00am.



Barisal city unit Awami League brings out a procession carrying national flags on sticks near Ashwini Kumar Hall in the city breaking the law yesterday, a day before the 10th parliamentary polls.

PHOTO: ARIFUR RAHMAN

VIOLATION OF ELECTORAL CODE OF CONDUCT

AL gives poll directives to DCs, SPs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League election steering committee made telephone calls to all deputy commissioners and superintendents of police across the country yesterday, directing them to take every measure to make today's poll transparent and ensure a congenial atmosphere so that people can cast their votes without fear, party sources told The Daily Star.

The committee also asked for their initiatives to prevent anyone who would try to create any trouble that might cause panic among the voters. The committee made the phone calls from AL president's Dhanmondi office in the capital.

The electoral laws do not allow any party that is contesting in election to give any directives to the administration.

Responding to a query, AL election steering committee member and prime minister's former adviser Mashiur Rahman told The Daily Star that the committee called the DCs and SPs so that they did not allow any ruling party men to do anything that might make the election questionable. "We requested them to take every measure to make the poll transparent," he added.

Besides, the ruling Awami League called its district unit presidents and general secretaries by phone yesterday and gave them directions regarding elections.

The party asked its grassroots leaders to ensure highest turnout of voters. The AL also directed them not to create any unwanted situation, including capturing voting centres and undertaking any move to steal votes. Awami League office secretary

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OPPOSITION'S ARSON ATTACKS

Nahid urges all to protect schools

UNB, Dhaka

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday urged all to come forward to protect schools from arson attacks carried out by opposition men.

"They're burning the future generation through their (opposition's) arson attacks," he said at an emergency press briefing at his residence following arson attacks on different schools and madrasas (polling centres) since Friday.

The education minister said the opposition activists set fire to almost 100 schools, prepared for using as polling stations in the last two days, to resist the national election.

Nahid requested the security forces for strengthening the security at polling stations and urged the government to take stern action against the attackers.

He said a stalemate has been created in the education sector through hartals and blockade programmes frequently enforced by Jamaat-Shibir activists during the last three and a half months, and now they are launching

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CONTEMPT OF COURT ACT

Govt not being able to challenge scrapping due to unavailability of full HC verdict

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The government is not being able to seek the Supreme Court permission to challenge the High Court verdict that declared the contempt of court law illegal and unconstitutional, as the full text of the HC judgment is not released yet.

A full judgment of the HC in any case is necessary for moving a leave to appeal petition (permission from the SC for filing a regular appeal) at the Appellate Division of the SC against the HC verdict.

Following a writ petition, the HC on September 26 last year scrapped the Contempt of Court Act 2013, saying that its provisions had curtailed the constitutional power of the highest court of the country. The law passed seven months ago, on February 19 last year, had exempted journalists and government officials from contempt of court charges.

Writ petitioners' lawyer Manzill Murshid has told The Daily Star that the full text of the HC judgment was not released till date. He said he did not know when the HC

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A squad of the army on patrol at Mirpur Sector-12 in the capital on the eve of today's 10th parliamentary election.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ



Activists of BNP vandalised this ATM booth of Bank Asia during an hour-long gunfight with Bangladesh Chhatra League in Ishwardy Station Bazar of Pabna yesterday. The clash, which left at least 25 injured, occurred when the opposition men attacked a procession brought out by the pro-Awami League BCL in the upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

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