

LIGHT RAIN LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

Unb. Dhaka

Light rain or drizzle is likely to occur at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Jessore, Kushtia, Comilla and Noakhali till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said.

Mild cold wave is sweeping over the regions of

Mymensingh, Madaripur, Sitakunda, Teknaf, Sreemangal, Jessore and Chuadanga and it may continue.

Night temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius and day temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:30pm

and rises tomorrow at 6:44am.

Country's highest temperature 29.5 degree Celsius was recorded today in Sitakunda and lowest 08.8 degree Celsius in Sreemangal.

The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in Celsius

Max: 27.2 Min: 11.7

Dhaka 74 46

Chittagong 82 71

Rajshahi 89 72

Rangpur 84 73

Humidity in percentage

Morning 74 Evening 46

Khulna 26.8 11.7

Barisal 27.4 10.5

Sylhet 27.5 12.0

Cox's Bazar 28.7 12.4

Temperature in Celsius

Max: 96 Min: 61

99 79

12.0 68

12.4 70

72

POLITICAL VIOLENCE
BNP leader, 19 others held in RajshahiSTAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Rajshahi

Police arrested a BNP leader and 19 other BNP-Jamaat activists in Rajshahi city early yesterday over violence during hartals and blockades.

Quamrul Monir, general secretary of Rajshahi district BNP, was held at his Tikapara residence around 3:00am, said Ziaur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Boalia Police Station.

Police sought a seven-day remand for Monir from a metropolitan magistrate court in a case filed for attacking law enforcers in the city during hartal on April 23 last year. The court sent him to jail fixing today for hearing the remand prayer, said the OC.

Meanwhile, police arrested the 19 others in cases filed over creating violence during the last year, said police.

COMMENTS OF BCL MEN

CU pro-BNP teachers threaten to boycott classes

CU CORRESPONDENT

The pro-BNP teachers of Chittagong University threatened to boycott all academic activities, including classes, alleging that some Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists made offensive remarks at them on the campus yesterday.

Prof Golam Mohiuddin, convener of White Panel, said some BCL men led by history student Himel hurled "abuses" while the teachers were holding a human chain before the central library to demand cancellation of the January 5 election, release of opposition leaders, transparency

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Carrying black flags, people join a rally at the capital's Central Shaheed Minar yesterday demanding a speedy tribunal and new legislation to prosecute the people who have committed violence against Hindu and other minority communities around the country. Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad and Bangladesh Puja Uddan Parishad organised the gathering.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

O- AND A-LEVEL EXAMINEES
Parents urge suspension of shutdowns on exam days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parents of O- and A-level examinees yesterday urged BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia not to enforce hartal and blockade from 6:00pm to 6:00am on the examination days.

The authorities will postpone the exams for security concerns if those coincide with the political shutdowns, causing at least a six-month delay in the graduation of their children, they told a human chain in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

But if the agitations remain suspended during that period, the authorities can hold those exams after the evening, they said.

O- and A-level examinations for this session are scheduled for January 7-29. As many as 7,000 students are taking part in the examinations in Dhaka, Narayanganj, Chittagong and Sylhet.

Of them, 5,800 are attending the examinations at

PROTECTING MINORITIES FROM VIOLENCE
Speedy tribunal, separate law demanded

Gonojagoron Mancha announces aid for victims in Jessore's Malopara

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different organisations and eminent citizens, including representatives of minority communities, continued their protest yesterday, demanding exemplary punishment for the perpetrators of the attacks on minorities in different parts of the country during and after the January 5 national polls.

Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad and Bangladesh Puja Uddan Parishad rallied in as many as 25 districts, demanding formation of a speedy

tribunal to prosecute the attackers, saying the culture of impunity was responsible for recurrence of such violence.

They also urged the government to rehabilitate the victims who lost homes, places of worship, and businesses and enact a new law ensuring severe punishment to prevent communal atrocities.

Meanwhile, the Gonojagoron Mancha announced to build a primary school in violence-hit Malopara in Jessore's Abhaynagar upazila as there is no school

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