

RAIN LIKELY



Rain or thundershowers is likely to occur at one or two places over Rangpur and Rajshahi divisions and the regions of Kushtia, Tangail and Mymensingh till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met

Office said.

Night temperature may rise by 1-3 degree Celsius and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:54pm and rises tomorrow at 6:31am.

Country's highest temperature 31.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Cox's Bazar and lowest 0.9 degrees in 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:	Max:	Evening	
Dhaka	28.0	14.7	41	33	Khulna	29.0	15.2	63	54
Chittagong	29.4	15.2	54	50	Barisal	28.4	13.0	66	60
Rajshahi	23.7	11.0	74	50	Sylhet	28.2	13.1	60	45
Rangpur	20.2	09.8	67	89	Cox's Bazar	31.0	17.2	44	50



Retired judge Siddiqur elected DSE chairman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Retired judge Siddiqur Rahman Mia was elected chairman of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) yesterday by its directors, both independent and shareholders, at a hotel in the capital yesterday following the launching of a demutualisation scheme.

Demutualisation separates management and ownership to transform bourses into profit oriented and efficient companies.

The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission in September 2013 gave consent to the appointment of seven independent directors to each of DSE and Chittagong Stock Exchange. The then directors had proposed 14 names for each of the two bourses.



Appeal for help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Masud Uddin Noyon, 6, has been undergoing treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University for blood cancer since November 2011.

Noyon's doctor, Prof Dr Chowdhury Yakub of paediatric haematology and oncology department of BSMMU, said Tk 8 lakh is needed to complete Noyon's treatment.

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Contestants of a roller skating marathon whizz along the roads in the capital's Hatijheel after forming a human chain, inset, organised by Search Skating Club urging visitors to refrain from littering there.

PHOTO: STAR



UPAZILA POLLS IN JAMALPUR, BARISAL 18 hurt in attack by AL men

STAR REPORT

At least 18 supporters of pro-BNP candidates in elections to two upazila parishads (UP) were injured and a vehicle was vandalised in alleged attacks by activists of the ruling Awami League (AL) and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday.

At least 16 BNP activists suffered minor injuries in an attack by AL men while campaigning for Faridul Kabir Talukdar, a candidate of the February 19 Sarishabari UP election in Chechabaddha village of Jamalpur district, reports our correspondent.

The injured took first-aid and the upazila unit AL President Abdul Malek admitted the incident.

Sarishabari Police Station Officer-in-Charge Kamrul Ehsan said police had resolved the issue on the spot and no complaint was filed.

Two persons suffered minor injuries while a microbus was vandalised during an attack by BCL activists on supporters of Abul Hossain Mia, a candidate of the February 19 Gournadi UP election, at the Gournadi bus stand in Barisal district, reports our correspondent. However, Gournadi Police Station OC

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Sadistic sex maniacs feared to be on the prowl

ZYMA ISLAM

The close resemblance between the murders of two housemaids in Uttara last month, and another outside of Dhaka have made police suspect that they may be dealing with a gang of serial killers who sexually abuse and murder their prey.

Two of the suspected gang members were arrested yesterday, while three others are on the run.

The two were identified as Sheikh Kamal al Mamun, a janitor, and Abdul Wahab, a land broker, and the former gave a statement in court confessing to one of the murders, Inspector Mohammad Ali Mahmud of Uttara (West) Police Station told The Daily Star.

What initially seemed like isolated murders now presents the fearful prospect of a sadistic gang of serial killers on the prowl.

Amena Khatun, 33, was found dead on January 12, stuffed in a sack and lodged in a drain, and the body of Khadija Bagum, 25,

was discovered on January 31. Her body was dismembered into two and put in two sacks.

Inspector Mahmud, however, refused to divulge details of the case outside of Dhaka.

"We could only develop the hunch after finding Khadija's body. The similarity of her case with Amen'a gave us the clue," he said.

For one, although the bodies were discovered 19 days apart, they were found on the same road, separated by four houses only, in Uttara Sector 14.

"Both were gang-raped and sexually tortured," said Inspector Mahmud. Morgue sources said they were both strangled.

According to the confession given by Al Mamun, the group had brought Khadija to a house of Wahab on road 20 under promise of giving work, and then gang-raped and murdered her, said Sub-inspector Firoze, investigator of the murder.

"We learned that they dismembered her

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PHOTO: STAR

People from all walks of life join a demonstration organised by One Billion Rising, a global campaign to end violence against women, using the banner "Uddome Uttarone Shotokoti" before the Supreme Court in the capital yesterday.

Bangladesh 'rises up' to end violence against women

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh yesterday joined One Billion Rising, a global campaign to end violence against women.

People from all walks of life congregated in front of the Supreme Court in the capital under the banner "Uddome Uttarone Shotokoti" donning red outfits.

The theme for this year is "Rise for Justice" with special attention to the unsolved cases of post-election rape of two Hindu housewives in Monirampur of Jessor, the disappearance of rights activist Kalpana Chakma, and the assault on journalist Nadia Sharmin by Hefajat-e Islam activists.

"Activists of Hefajat-e Islam while hitting me kept asking me why I am here amid the rally, being a female. Even those who saved me asked me why I do not go about with my head covered," actress Bonna Mirza read from an excerpt sent in by Nadia Sharmin.

Sharmin was attacked by Hefajat men on May 5 last year during the long march organised by the Islamist organisation.

Chandra Tripura, an activist of Hill Women's Federation, read out one of the last speeches given by Kalpana Chakma before she was allegedly abducted in 1996, "Adivasi women face double oppression from their men and the Bangalees."

"The bodies of women have always been used by men

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DISASTERS, WATER, HEALTH PROBLEMS Youths brainstorm for IT solution

BSS, Dhaka

More than 200 young IT professionals participated in the two-day Water Hackathon App Festival 2014 in the capital yesterday to solve problems related to water, disasters, education, health and governance with the help of information technology.

The festival was organised by the World Bank Water and Sanitation Program, together with Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) and Access to Information (A2I) Programme of the Prime Minister's Office.

State Minister for Science and Technology Yeafesh Osman inaugurated the festival while Keiko Santo, disaster risk management specialist of the World Bank; Mirva Moulamen, communication specialist of the Water and Sanitation Program; and Anir Chowdhury, A2I policy adviser, also spoke at the event.

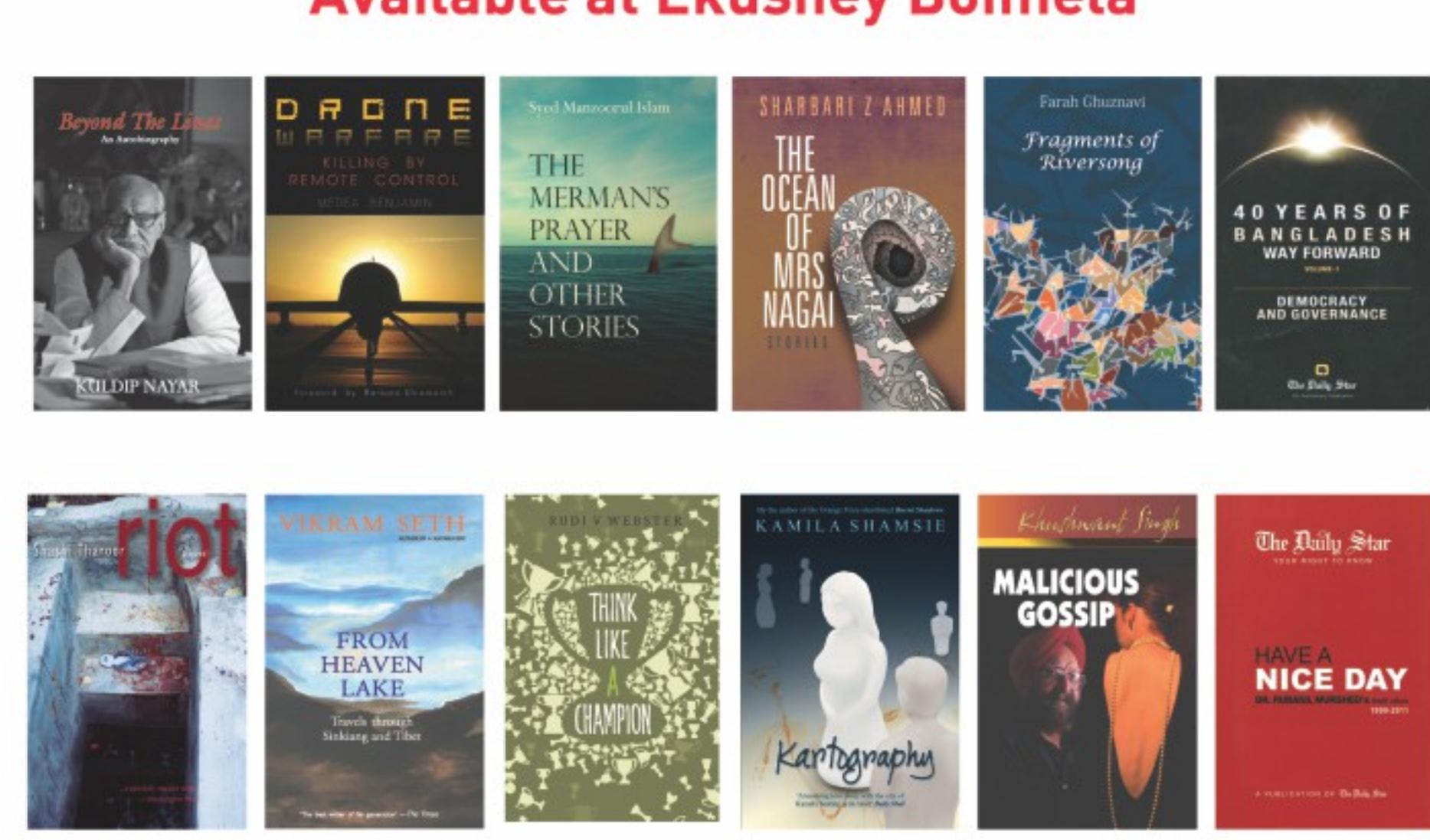
The participants said the festival aims to establish effective coordination among different people with potential to eradicate poverty because they believe that challenges of poverty can be faced with information and mobile technology. The festival is organised together with partners such as Google, Microsoft and Erickson, and various local IT firms.

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