

RAIN LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

Unb, Dhaka

Rain or thundershower is likely to occur at one or two places over Rangpur and Rajshahi divisions and the regions of Kushtia and weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country till 6:00pm today.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged and day temperature may fall by 1-3 degree Celsius over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:58pm and rises tomorrow at 6:25am.

Country's highest temperature 31.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sitakunda and lowest 11.4 degree Celsius in Sreemangal.

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

	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	28.5	17.5	54	52
Chittagong	29.1	15.4	58	70
Rajshahi	26.8	16.6	77	77
Rangpur	26.7	18.0	82	61

	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Khulna	28.5	17.3	72	62
Barisal	29.0	15.3	84	62
Sylhet	28.3	13.7	73	60
Cox's Bazar	31.0	16.5	68	65



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DHAKA, CTG, SYLHET CITIES

Demolish risky buildings

Suggests Jica team to avoid potential devastation during disasters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To avoid the potential devastation, the government should identify and demolish buildings in Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet cities which are most vulnerable to natural disasters like earthquakes, said a Jica study team leaderyesterday.

Many buildings in Bangladesh, despite being reinforced concrete structures, are three to five times more vulnerable to such disasters than those of Japan or the United States," added Fumio Kaneko.

He was presenting a paper at a workshop in a hotel in the capital, revealing three years' findings of a four-year project, "Capacity development on natural disaster resistant techniques of construction and retrofitting for public buildings" (CNCRP).

Assessing the condition of public buildings in the three cities, the project, being conducted by Public Works Department (PWD) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica), is expected to be completed by February 2015.

An earthquake measuring 7.5 on the Richter scale near Dhaka city may cause 72,000 buildings in the capital to collapse, said Kaneko, referring to a 2009 study of Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme under the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief.

Moreover, some 158,000 buildings will be damaged,

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ATIKULLAH MURDER

Former ward councillor Shahid on remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed former councillor of ward-83 Saidur Rahman Shahid on a four-day remand in the Atikullah murder case.

Atikullah Chowdhury, 65, chairman of Kunda Union Parishad of South Keraniganj and a local Awami League leader, was killed by miscreants on December 10 last year.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Taibul Hassan passed the order after South Keraniganj police Sub-Inspector Afzal Hussain, also the investigation officer, produced him before the court with a 10-day remand prayer.

The defence submitted a bail petition and sought an order for cancelling the remand prayer saying Shahid was implicated in the case as part of a conspiracy to harass him.

'ANTI-RELIGIOUS SENTIMENT'

Teacher jailed, suspended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A teacher in Rajshahi's Godagari was suspended after being jailed for two years by a mobile court on Saturday for editing and publishing a bimonthly magazine containing a poem "which hurt religious sentiments of Hindus and Muslims".

Titumir Rishav, an assistant teacher of Pirijpur Secondary School, had not taken permission from the deputy commissioner's office for the publication, "Kheya", said Godagari Upazila Nirbahi Officer Muhammad Khalid Hossain who headed the mobile court.

Police arrested and took Titumir before the court, which jailed him under Penal Code 295, on finding

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Govt will remain in power for 5yrs: Ershad

UNB, Kurigram

Jatiya Party Chairman and Special Envoy to the Prime Minister HM Ershad yesterday said the present government would be there in power for five years, and no situation has created in the country that requires a midterm election.

"I don't know whether the government has any plan about holding any midterm election. I think, no situation has created which requires a midterm election," he said.

The JP chief, considered as an unpredictable political leader, also said the last national election, held on January 5, has been acceptable. "So, we'll remain there in power for five years, Inshallah."

Ershad, now on an organisational tour in Kurigram, came up with the remarks while talking to journalists at the local Circuit House.

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The interior of Biplobider Kotha Prokashona inside Amar Ekushey Granthamela 2014 in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

BIPLOBIDER KOTHA PROKASHONA

Tells about revolutions, revolutionaries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Among the new stalls in the capital's Amar Ekushey Granthamela 2014, Biplobider Kotha Prokashona has cut out its own niche, publishing biographies and histories of local and foreign revolutionaries and revolutions.

Opening it in 2012, the aim of the publisher and proprietor, Sheikh Rafiq, is to inform the new generation about the lesser known histories of Bangalee revolutionaries who sacrificed their lives to change society.

The publishing house churned out 30 books so far, including the recent additions "Surijo Sen er Songlap"

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