

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Sylhet divisions and the regions of Tangail and Mymensingh till 6:00pm today. Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said.

Mild to moderate heat wave that is sweeping over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Khulna and Dhaka divisions and the regions of Maizidkourt, Sylhet, Barisal and Patuakhali may continue. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:20pm

and rises tomorrow at 5:33am. Country's highest temperature 39.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 21.0 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			Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening		Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	37.7	24.8	52	47	Khulna	37.3	26.5	77	56
Chittagong	32.0	25.4	85	78	Barisal	36.5	26.2	72	65
Rajshahi	39.5	26.0	75	39	Sylhet	36.0	22.2	76	52
Rangpur	35.8	22.3	74	50	Cox's Bazar	33.7	24.8	71	73

NEWS IN brief

Six arrested with 1.36kg of gold at Shahjalal airport

Airport police last night detained six persons with 1.36kg of gold worth Tk 50 lakh at Shahjalal International Airport in the capital. Asthma Ara Jahan, assistant superintendent of police of Airport Armed Police Battalion (APBn), told The Daily Star that the detainees were handed over to the customs authorities.

Body of girl found in Thakurgaon

Police recovered the body of a girl from a maize field in Chadgaon village under Pirganj upazila of Thakurgaon Thursday afternoon. The deceased is Nazira, 6, daughter of Abdul Quddus of the village. Locals discovered her body in the maize field near her house. Police detained one Mohosin Ali, 25, in this connection. Police suspect she was strangled.

Fulbright alumni host reception for US official Tuesday

The Fulbright Alumni Association of Bangladesh (FAAB) will host a reception for Fulbright Program Officer in Washington, DC Margaret O'Connor in the capital Tuesday. All Fulbright alumni have been invited to the programme beginning at 05:00pm at EMK Centre, Dhanmondi (Midas Center, Road 16/old 27), says a release.

World Rotary leader Rafael arrives

World Rotary leader and Past District Governor of the Philippines Rotary Rafael M Garcia yesterday arrived in Dhaka to join district assembly today. He will be the keynote speaker in the assembly to be held in Raowa Auditorium, Dhaka, says a press release.



Bangladesh embassy in Washington celebrates Mujibnagar Day

The Bangladesh embassy in Washington DC observed Mujibnagar Day in befitting manner on Thursday. The day's programme began in the morning with ceremonial hoisting of the national flag on the embassy premises by Ambassador Akramul Qader. Messages from President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina were read out. A discussion meeting was held later on.

Discussion on Majid's poetry book held

A discussion marking the 25th anniversary of poetry book "Mahfuza Mangal" by Majid Mahmud was held in Public Library's Shawkat Osman auditorium in the capital yesterday. At the discussion, the fifth edition of the poetry book and "Mahfuza Mangal 25 Bachhorer Path", were launched, says a press release. Presided over by poet Ahmad Rafique, also a Language Movement veteran, the programme was addressed, among others, by poet Muhammad Nurul Huda, Prof Akter Kamal, Prof Bishwajit Gosh and poet Nasir Ahmed.

Seminar on PIL at SCBA today

A seminar on "The role and importance of public interest litigation to ensure rights of the citizen" will be held at the capital's Supreme Court Bar Association auditorium this morning. The Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh has organised the seminar where Speaker of Jatiya Sangsad Shirin Shammin Chaudhury is scheduled to be present as chief guest.



Patients on a trolley bed and wheelchairs play carrom at the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP) in Savar outside the capital. People who lose mobility in accidents or for diseases find hopes of returning to a normal life at the centre catering to hundreds of such patients. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

PRIMARY TEACHERS' RECRUITMENT EXAM IN LALMONIRHAT Questions leaked out again, 23 held

Twenty-five persons were arrested in Lalmonirhat yesterday for leaking questions of the exam held to recruit primary school teachers. Of the arrested, 12 are candidates. However, all the arrestees are local activists and leaders of Awami League and its affiliated student organisation Bangladesh Chhatra League, claimed police. Police also seized from them the question papers and answer sheets. According to police, two were arrested while selling the questions in Northbengal and Thana Road areas in Lalmonirhat town yesterday noon, just hours before the exam was held in the district. The remaining people were arrested while they were preparing the answers to the questions at Doyal Guest House. The exams for primary school teachers' recruitment were to be held across the country on November 8 last year. But exams in 17 districts, including Lalmonirhat, were cancelled due to allegations of question leak. All the cancelled exams were held in the 17 districts yesterday. On a tip-off, police raided the guest house and arrested the 23 persons yesterday. Additional District Commissioner (Revenue) Abu Taher Mohammad Masud Rana rushed to the spot seized the leaked question papers and answer sheets. Masud Rana refused to comment on the issue and said he would submit a report to the district commissioner.

Indigenous girl gang raped

Punishment for culprits demanded

A Garo girl was allegedly gang raped in the capital on Monday which has sparked protests. The indigenous girl Jajong Sangma (not real name) and her friend Jewel were picked up from Town Hall in Mohammadpur area by Saju, 24, and Ripon, 22, while she was hanging around with Jewel, said Mohammadpur police. The youths took them to a room of a nearby under construction building at knife point and called their accomplice Arif Ahmed there, police said. Later, the trio raped the girl by turns confining Jewel to another room, said Sub-inspector Abdul Matin, quoting the victim. On information, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-2 rescued them and detained Arif while the other two fled, he added. The victim herself filed a case with the police station accusing the three.

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3 Myanmar citizens held with Yaba pills

21 other intruders caught in Cox's Bazar

Border Guard Bangladesh detained three Myanmar citizens with 19,412 Yaba tablets in bordering Nityangpara of Teknaf upazila in Cox's Bazar Thursday night. Raiding a boat in the river Naf, BGB also held 21 other Myanmar nationals for illegally entering the country's territory. Abeda Begum, 60, wife of late Abdul Hye; Hazera Begum, 40, wife of late Hossain Ahmed; and

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GONOJAGORON MANCHA 2 'factions' hold separate rallies

Two "factions" of anti-war criminal platform Gonojagoron Mancha yesterday held separate protest rallies about five yards apart at the capital's Shahbagh. One group was led by the platform's spokesperson Imran H Sarker and the other, made up of pro-Awami League people, by Kamal Pasha Chowdhury. Both used the banner "Gonojagoron Mancha" but put different demands. Addressing his rally, Imran accused the government of "intentionally prolonging" the ongoing war crimes trial. The government has wasted a good deal of time in appointing the chairman of International Crimes Tribunal-1 though it knew of the tenure of the former chairman, he said. About some AL leaders' comments that the necessity of the mancha was over, Imran said many of them had forgotten that they took an oath not to leave the street until the platform's six-point demand made on February 8, 2013 was fulfilled. "Those who don't need Gonojagoron Mancha favour Hefazat, Jamaat," Imran said. He also urged the government to take necessary measures to prevent any communal attack centring around the verdict on Jamaat leader Delwar Hossain Sayedee, which may be delivered by the Supreme Court any day.

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Members of Garo Student Union, an organisation of indigenous students, wearing black masks form a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club yesterday demanding punishment for those who raped a Garo girl in the capital on Monday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH



The faction of Gonojagoron Mancha led by its spokesperson Imran H Sarker stages a rally at the capital's Shahbagh yesterday, protesting against the "prolonging" of the war crimes trial. About 15 feet away, Imran's rivals hold a separate rally, demanding the immediate arrest of those who attacked their activist Shishir Ahmed recently.

PHOTO: STAR



Govt to formulate policy to tap mobile app business

Says Tawfiq-e-Elahi

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister's Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Adviser Dr Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury yesterday assured that the government would formulate a policy soon for simplifying the payment system to pave the way for Bangladeshi mobile app developers to register with the various app stores like Google and Nokia. He was responding, at the final round of a training programme on mobile apps at Dhaka University Senate Bhavan, to mobile app developers who said they were failing to register with various app stores due to lack of policies to pay the stores for selling

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BU students protest 'cop assault' on them

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Students of Barisal University formed a human chain on campus yesterday protesting what they said was an assault on students by police on Thursday, and demanding removal of an OC. On Thursday, at least 20 people, including 17 students of Barisal University, were injured when students clashed with police over the removal of a roadblock. Students had put up the brick barricade on the Barisal-Patuakhali highway at Karnakathi, protesting assault on a fellow student, Naimuddin Mistu, by local transport workers. Mistu came under attack after he had protested at not being given a chance to disembark from the bus in front of the campus gate. Students also alleged that bus conductors never allow them concessions in fare. Students at the human chain yesterday demanded withdrawal of Officer-in-Charge of Barisal Kotwali Police Station Shakhawat Hossain saying he had rushed to the spot on Thursday during the clash violating jurisdiction. Meanwhile, a meeting among university authorities, transport owners and workers and law enforcement agencies was held on Thursday night at the office of Barisal Metropolitan Police. At the meeting, it was decided that bus conductors would charge students Tk 3 each for travelling from Rupatali bus terminal to the campus instead of the normal rate of Tk 10.

Bangladesh to move ahead foiling conspiracies

Says foreign minister

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh will move forward foiling all conspiracies, said Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali yesterday. He said some foreign friends in the Western world, who earlier commented on pre- and post-election situation in Bangladesh, had "softened their voices" now. The friends described the destruction carried out by then opposition parties as "violence", he said. "But it wasn't violence, it was terrorism. Even it was said that there had been excessive use of forces when steps were taken by the law-enforcing agencies as part of self-defence," he said.

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