

RAIN LIKELY

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at a few places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Rangpur with moderately heavy falls at places till 6:00pm today.

Day and night temperatures may fall slightly over the country, Met Office said.
The sun sets in the capital today at 6:28pm and rises tomorrow at 5:22am.
 Country's highest temperature 37.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rangamati and

lowest 19.0 degree Celsius in Rajshahi.
 The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:
 City/Town Temperature Humidity in Celsius in percentage

	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening	
Dhaka	33.5	21.1	61	57	Khulna	34.5	21.8	63	70
Chittagong	32.5	22.5	87	87	Barisal	34.6	22.6	75	67
Rajshahi	33.6	19.0	70	65	Sylhet	34.0	21.3	70	56
Rangpur	32.2	21.5	73	61	Cox's Bazar	35.0	24.0	84	72

TANGENTS

BY IHTISHAM KABIR



Pallas's Fish Eagle (juvenile).

PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

Our Eagles

The eagle captures our imagination. Soaring high overhead it represents freedom. It symbolizes power and strength. Every Roman legion carried an eagle replica as its sacred standard. The eagle was the emblem of Napoleon's Empire. The Bald Eagle is the national emblem of the United States, chosen for its strength and majestic appearance.

Eagles belong to the bird family called accipitridae. This large family of raptors also includes hawks, buzzards and vultures. Of the 234 species in the family, about 60 are eagles.

The *Encyclopedia of Flora and Fauna of Bangladesh* records fifteen species of eagles in Bangladesh. Of these, ten species count Bangladesh within their normal range. These are: Crested Serpent eagle, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Pallas's Fish Eagle, Greater Spotted Eagle, Imperial Eagle, Booted Eagle, Indian Spotted Eagle, Changeable Hawk-Eagle and Steppe Eagle.

The other five species are "vagrants." That is, Bangladesh is outside their normal range. A storm might have forced them here, for example.

Our most common eagles are the White-bellied Sea Eagle and the Crested Serpent Eagle. The former occurs in the south. It flies high overhead and lifts its prey from the water. I have seen it in flight over water in Sundarban. It feeds on snakes, fish, crabs and rats.

The Crested Serpent Eagle perches on treetops around forests and rural areas. It can sit still for hours in one spot while scanning the ground. When snakes, rodents and other small animals appear on the ground, it swoops down to catch them. Its eyes are large, its eyesight superb. Tough skin on its legs protects it from

snakebites. I have seen it in various places from deep in Sundarban to semi-rural Sunamganj.

The Grey-Headed Fish Eagle is, sadly, dwindling in number over its global range: South and Southeast Asia. On a foggy morning at Jahangirnagar University, I saw this bird grab a fish from the lake. It sat on its perch and devoured the fish held in its talons. I have also seen this eagle scouting over fisheries in Hail and Tanguar Haors.

I saw Pallas's Fish Eagles overhead from a boat in the Surma river. You can recognize them in flight from the bold white band spanning the tail. This ferocious hunter is capable of attacking and carrying prey larger than itself. It needs tall trees for nest-building. Because of loss of habitat this eagle is considered "Vulnerable" globally and "Critically Endangered" in Bangladesh.

Perhaps the most magnificent eagle I saw was a juvenile Pallas's Fish Eagle in Baikka Beel. The large bird was perched on a pole in the water. As my boat approached, its attitude changed from indifference to attentive to cautious. It radiated power. When I came close, it spread its large wings and flew.

For most eagle species, females are larger than males. Females stake their claim over hunting grounds, so the larger body helps. Eagles usually lay only two eggs. The first juvenile to hatch often engages in siblicide, killing the second hatchling as soon as it hatches.

Brahminy and Black kites which are very common in Bangladesh are often mistaken for eagles. They belong to the same family (accipitridae) as eagles but they are not eagle species.

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Abduction spree raises concern

City Desk

Different political and social organisations have protested and condemned the recent spate of abductions and killings in different parts of the country.

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) and Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) staged a demonstration in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday afternoon, demanding that the killers be punished, and the security of lives and properties of people be ensured.

People under the banner of "Udbigno Nagorik Samaj" formed a human chain and lighted candles in front of the ICDDR,B in the capital's Mohakhali on May 1, and demanded that abductions, forced disappearances and extrajudicial killings be stopped.

Bangladesh Bar Council yesterday announced the schedule of a weeklong programme in protest against the abduction and killing of Chandan Sarkar, a senior lawyer at Naryanganj District Judge's Court.

As per the schedule, the lawyers across the country wore

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Two bodies found in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the bodies of two unidentified persons in the capital Thursday and yesterday.

Cantonment Police Station Officer-in-Charge Atiqur Rahman said the body of a man with injuries in the head and hands and legs broken was found on Mirpur-Cantonment flyover Thursday night.

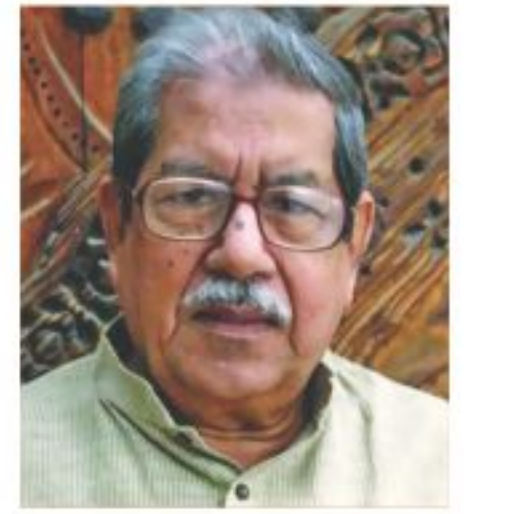
Another body with severe injuries was found near Bangabandhu International Conference Centre early yesterday, said police.

Police suspect the person might have been killed in a road accident.

INDO-BANGLA RELATIONS Fear of unknown causing problems

Prof Anisuzzaman tells reception on his receiving Padma Bhushan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman yesterday said he believed that the people's representatives of Bangladesh and India would act like statesmen in resolving the problems between the two countries.

The "fear of the unknown" and "suspicion of the unknown" are causing a lot of problems between the countries, he told a reception at Sonargaon Hotel in the capital.

"If the people of the two countries can come closer to each other and know each other, many of the suspicions may go away."

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PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

A large excavation in GEC intersection area being carried out by Chittagong City Corporation yesterday. Some 50 metres away, the Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) has dug a long trench, inset, in the middle of the same road. People's suffering multiplies for this kind of maintenance, repair or development works, most of which lack proper coordination or coordination at all between government agencies, and drag on for weeks, sometimes months. The two excavation works have been going on at least for the last 10 days with little progress.

No sign of Malaysian jet wreckage in Bay Says Bangladesh Navy after four-day exploration

STAR REPORT

After four days of search in the Bay of Bengal, Bangladesh is without a clue to support the claim by an Australian company that it may have traced possible wreckage of the Malaysian Airlines flight MH370 that went missing with 239 passengers on board nearly two months ago.

Using underwater detection sonar, a frigate and a survey vessel of Bangladesh Navy scanning the deep-sea area, about 180 nautical miles west-south off St Martin's Island, round the clock since April 29 have not yet found any sign of wreckage.

Earlier, the Adelaide-based firm GeoResonance claimed that electromagnetic fields captured by airborne multispectral images some 190 kilometers off the coast of Bangladesh in the Bay showed evidence of aluminum, titanium, copper and other elements that could have been part of the Boeing 777-200ER, which disappeared from radar on March 8 while en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing.

"We are verifying whether there is anything in this part of the ocean calling for an underwater physical investigation," Commodore Rashed Ali told The Daily Star.

"There is nothing. Not any concrete sign to take a cue from for looking into the claim," said Rashed, also the director of

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DHANMONDI PLAYGROUND Ex-players want withdrawal of case against greens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former national players yesterday demanded that the case filed by the Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club against some green activists including a former national award-winning badminton player be withdrawn.

At a press conference at WVA auditorium in the capital's Dhanmondi, they said Dhaka South City Corporation, following the protest of general people and green activists, had opened the Dhanmondi playground for all on April 24.

But Arifur Rahman, general secretary of the club, filed the case with Dhanmondi Police Station on April 18 accusing the green activists of entering

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Jubo Dal man shot dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

Miscreants shot dead a Jubo Dal activist in Laxmipur Sadar upazila early yesterday.

Ripon Hossain, 23, went out of his home after receiving a phone call around 12:00am, said Helal Uddin, father of Ripon, adding that his son was later shot at Karaitala.

Hearing the gunshots, locals rushed to the spot and discovered Ripon with bullet injuries, said Md Iqbal Hossain, officer-in-charge of Laxmipur Sadar Police

Station.

He was whisked off to Laxmipur Sadar Hospital first. He died on the way to Noakhali Medical College Hospital.

Abu Siddique Raju, general secretary of Jubo Dal Mandari union unit, said Ripon was a party activist of ward no.-4.

The OC said they had detained one Rashedul Islam for his alleged involvement in the killing.

The body was sent to Laxmipur Sadar Hospital morgue for an autopsy, he added.

124 Jamaat, Shibir men held

CITY DESK

Law enforcers arrested 141 activists of Jamaat-e-Islami, pro-Jamaat Islami Chhatra Shibir and BNP across the country in the last three days.

In Jhenidah, police arrested four Jamaat-Shibir and 17 BNP activists at different places early yesterday in cases filed over several charges including attacks on police personnel, torching police vehicles and polling centres.

Earlier on Thursday, police arrested 33 Jamaat-Shibir activists in Jhenidah town on the same charges.

In Chapainawabganj, law enforcers arrested 66 Jamaat-Shibir men in three upazilas during Wednesday and Thursday night on charges of carrying out subversive activities in the region during recent hartals.

Fifteen of the activists were arrested by police in the town and Sadar upazila during the two days.

In Shibganj upazila, a joint team of Rapid Action Battalion, Border Guard Bangladesh

and police arrested 47 Jamaat-Shibir activists.

In Gomostapur upazila, four Jamaat-Shibir men were arrested on Thursday on several charges including cutting down roadside trees.

BSS from Munshiganj reports, police arrested nine Jamaat activists, including its upazila unit secretary, while they were holding a secret meeting at Shologhar in Shrinagar upazila on Thursday night.

The activists hurled several bombs at police when they conducted the drive but none was injured.

The arrestees -- Alhaj MA Malek, M Laknur Rahman, M Chandhu Miah, M Ali Nur, M Mosharaf Sheikh, M Shamim Molla, Haji M Omar Faruque Molla, Hatem Ali and Selim Sheikh -- admitted that the meeting was being held to plan subversive activities, said police.

BSS from Rangpur adds, police arrested 12 leaders and activists of Jamaat and Shibir from different villages in Mithapukur upazila last night on charges

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Political instability will affect gains

Says US official Nisha Desai about Bangladesh; separately, USAID cautions against 'backsliding' of democratic institutions

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United States has renewed calls for Bangladesh's leaders to work through their bitter divisions, warning that prolonged instability would take a dangerous toll on the impoverished country.

"We believe that all of the gains that Bangladesh has made in its economy, in its development trajectory, that all of those gains are fragile and unsustainable in the long term if it does not have political stability," said Nisha Desai Biswal, assistant secretary of state for South and Central Asian Affairs.

"And political stability is not possible without some greater degree of political inclusion," she said in her testimony on "Assessing US Foreign Assistance Priorities in

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বাংলাদেশ সিভিল সার্ভিস উইমেন নেটওয়ার্ক

প্রধান কার্যালয়: ৬৩, নিউ ইস্কান্টন, ঢাকা- ১০০০

বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আগামী ২৪ মে, ২০১৪ (১০ জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৪২১) তারিখ শনিবার সকাল ৯:৩০ টায় বাংলাদেশ সিভিল সার্ভিস উইমেন নেটওয়ার্ক এর ১ম বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভা বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ কনভেনশন হল, ইস্কান্টন গার্ডেন রোড, রমনা, ঢাকায় অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

২.০ আলোচ্যসূচি:

- ২.১. মহাসচিব কর্তৃক নেটওয়ার্ক এর বার্ষিক প্রতিবেদন উপস্থাপন ও অনুমোদন;
- ২.২. প্রতিষ্ঠালগ্ন থেকে নেটওয়ার্ক এর আয় ও ব্যয়ের হিসাব উপস্থাপন ও অনুমোদন;
- ২.৩. নেটওয়ার্ক এর ২০১৪ সালের (জানুয়ারি- ডিসেম্বর) বাজেট বিবেচনা ও অনুমোদন;
- ২.৪. নেটওয়ার্ক এর নির্বাহী কমিটি (নিয়মিত) গঠন;
- ২.৫. সদস্যদের স্বার্থ সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে মুক্ত আলোচনা;
- ২.৬. নেটওয়ার্ক এর সভাপতির সদয় অনুমোদনক্রমে অন্যান্য বিষয়।

৩.০ নেটওয়ার্ক এর সম্মানিত সকল সদস্যকে যথাসময়ে সভায় উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

৪.০ সভায় অংশগ্রহণ নিশ্চিত করতে নিম্নোক্ত ঠিকানা/ মোবাইল নম্বরে নিবন্ধন করুন:

ই-মেইল: tanzina.akhter@cscmp-mopa.org, or abu.saieed@cscmp-mopa.org

অথবা ০১৭১৮৬৪৯১৬

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