

RAIN LIKELY



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

Mild heat wave is sweeping over Khulna and Rajshahi divisions and the regions of Tangail, Faridpur and Madaripur and it may continue.
Day and night temperature may rise slightly over the country, MetOffice said.
The sun sets in the capital today at 6:31pm

and rises tomorrow at 5:19am.

Country's highest temperature 38.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 20.6 degrees in Sylhet.
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:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	36.0	23.7	78	55	Khulna	36.8	27.5	67	62
Chittagong	31.7	24.9	92	75	Barisal	34.8	27.4	80	73
Rajshahi	38.5	24.9	75	52	Sylhet	25.0	20.6	95	91
Rangpur	32.2	23.5	90	79	Cox's Bazar	34.9	26.3	57	69

NEWSIN brief

SSC results likely on May 17 or 18

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The results of this year's Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and equivalent examinations are likely to be published on May 17 or 18.
The education ministry yesterday sent a letter to the prime minister to publish the results any of the dates, said an official of the ministry seeking anonymity.
Taslima Begum, chairman of Inter-Education Board Coordination Sub-committee, told The Daily Star, "We are prepared to publish the results before the stipulated 60 days." The examinations were held between February 9 and March 22.

AL picks Hiron's wife as its candidate for Barisal-5 by-poll

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jabunessa Hiron, widow of former Barisal City Corporation mayor Shawkat Hossain Hiron, got Awami League nomination among 12 aspirants for by-polls scheduled to be held on June 12.
AL General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam said yesterday after a meeting, chaired by AL chief Sheikh Hasina, held at PM's official residence, Gono Bhaban.
Barisal-5 constituency felt vacant as its lawmaker Hiron died on April 9.

Body formed to identify risky hills, rehabilitate residents in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Chittagong district administration formed a 15-member committee to identify risky hills and rehabilitate the hill-slope residents to prevent death in hillside during monsoon in the city.
The committee, which is run by The Hill Management Committee that was formed after 127 people died in a hillside in 2007, will start working from today.

Natore road crash kills three

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Three people were killed and six others were injured in a head-on collision between a bus and a truck on Dhaka-Natore Highway at Haybatpur in Natore Sadar upazila yesterday.
The dead are truck driver, Sirajul Islam, 35, of Pabna, bus driver Bachchu Bhandari, 40, of Dhaka and bus helper, Momin Uddin, 25, of Chapainawabganj.

3 arrested with firearm in Savar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Police arrested three people with a foreign-made pistol, four bullets and two magazines at a house in Rajfulbaria area of Savar in Dhaka yesterday.
Jasim Uddin, Ayub Ali and Anisur Rahman of Manikgonj, were arms trader and had been running the business from the house for several years, said police.
A case was filed with Savar Model Police Station.

Workshop for teachers in Ctg tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A daylong workshop on Andragogy Practicum for school teachers will be held in Chittagong city tomorrow.
Chittagong Independent University (CIU) along with The Daily Star is organising the workshop titled "The Daily Star-CIU Train-The-Trainers (TTT)" at the CIU auditorium.
The Daily Star Managing Editor Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, and CIU Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dr Irshad Kamal Khan, will remain present.

City College teachers want promotion

DU CORRESPONDENT

A group of Dhaka City College teachers on Wednesday demonstrated on the campus demanding promotions of 54 teachers, claiming that the promotions have been halted for twenty months.
They also alleged that the authorities have not given them dearness allowance for almost a year.
Admitting that there has been a "delay" in promoting teachers, Prof Md Shahjahan Khan, principal of the college, said they would promote the qualified teachers in the first week of June. He further said dearness allowance would be introduced in the pay scale to teachers from July.



Lawyers at a hunger strike organised by Narayanganj District Lawyers Association on the district court premises yesterday, demanding punishment for the killers of seven people including senior lawyer Chandan Sarker. Eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain also joined the programme to express his solidarity.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

No raid without informing police

Decides CMP; takes series of measures to prevent abductions in Ctg

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

In order to resist abduction, which has struck fear into the public mind for an alarming rise in cases recently, Chittagong police have taken a series of security measures, including the one that if any law enforcement agency wants to conduct raids in an area, they must inform the police station concerned beforehand.

From now on, law enforcers would also not conduct drives in plainclothes, said SM Tanvir Arafat, additional deputy commissioner (west zone) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police, citing decisions taken at an emergency meeting of the CMP on Tuesday.

If law enforcers other than police conduct drives in any area, they must inform the local police station, and if police conduct drives, they must inform the superintendent of police (SP) and officer-in-charge of the police station concerned, he told The Daily Star.

The CMP also decided to set up surveillance cameras at the seven entry and exit points of Chittagong city--Kaptai Rastar

Matha, Karnaphuli Shah Amanat Bridge, Patenga Beribadh, Toll Road, City Gate, Oxygen More and Karnaphuli Kalurghat Bridge.

Police will strengthen vigilance at these points.

"We discussed how to maintain law and order more effectively in our last monthly meeting," said Banaj Kumar Majumder, additional commissioner (crimes and operation), CMP. He said they got directives from the police headquarters to resist kidnapping.

"Initially, we will install cameras only at the city's entry and exit points due to fund constraints. Later, we aim to put cameras at all other vital points here," said Banaj.

ADC Tanvir said video footage of the passengers of all public and private vehicles would be taken at the seven points.

Besides, no vehicle will be allowed to use black glasses from May 11, and owners have been instructed to remove tinted glasses from their vehicles by May 10, said Banaj.

SP of Chittagong AKM Hafiz Akter said the district police administration had also

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N'GANJ 7-MURDER
JP demands special tribunal

WP wants punishment for perpetrators

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party and Workers Party of Bangladesh, two key components of the Awami League (AL)-led government, yesterday demanded exemplary punishment for perpetrators behind the abduction and subsequent murder of seven people including Nazrul Islam, panel mayor of Narayanganj City Corporation.

"We strongly denounce extrajudicial killings, and want rule of law. No matter how influential the criminals are, they should be brought to justice," said Workers Party lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha at a rally at Bahadur Shah Park in the capital.

Society, politics, and the state itself have become insecure due to frequent abductions, extortions,

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DEFIANCE OF LAW BY LAW ENFORCERS
Deterring democracy, criminality in politics are causes

Observes SHUJAN roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion on forced disappearances and abductions yesterday linked the tendency of a section of law enforcement agencies to defy law to the recent one-sided general election, excessive politicisation of the agencies, lack of accountability, and politics of criminality.

"It seems that the government is not in control of the law enforcement agencies," said former election commissioner Brig Gen (retd) Shakhawat Hossain.

Alluding to the one-sided, voterless national election on January 5, in which the ruling Awami League won a sweeping majority, he said, "If the election is not largely accepted by the society, law enforcement agencies become callous."

He also observed, "The chain of command has broken down in law enforcement agencies because of excessive politicisation."

His observations came against the backdrop of the allegations of abduction by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), an elite force whose three officials have been fired this week for their alleged involvement in the recent abduction and killing of seven people in Narayanganj city.

The speakers also blamed a lack of accountability of the government and law enforcement bodies for the existing law and order situation.

Nagorik Oikya Convener Mahmudur Rahman Manna said that coming to power by using force, the government had become dependent on the law enforcement agencies

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SUB-PAR CRESTS FOR FOREIGN FRIENDS

Judicial probe demanded

Senior assistant secy of Liberation War ministry made OSD

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Protesters yesterday demanded that a judicial probe body be formed to find out the people involved in making and purchasing sub-par shields awarded to foreign friends and organisations for their outstanding contributions to the country's Liberation War.

They also demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment for the culprits behind the fraud or else they would go for tougher programmes like fast unto death, grand rally, and mass signature campaign.

They made the demands at a human chain followed by a token hunger strike organised by the Muktijuddho Academy in front of the Jatiya Press Club.

Later they submitted a memorandum to the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs.

Awami League-led government during its previous tenure awarded a total 338 foreign friends and organisations for their roles in 1971. They were awarded with a crest and a certificate each. Recently, allegations have surfaced that crests awarded to them were substandard.

Abul Azad, president of Muktijuddho Academy, said the crest fraud was a part of a deep-rooted conspiracy and those who were behind it should be brought to book immediately.

Muktijuddha Command Council former chairman Kabir Ahmed Khan, Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra artiste Monoranjon Ghosal, among others, spoke.

Meanwhile, Babul Miah, senior assistant secretary of liberation war affairs ministry, has been made an Officer on Special Duty (OSD).

The public administration ministry issued a circular in this regard yesterday. The order came a day after Additional Secretary of the ministry Golam Mostafa was made OSD.

Golam Mostafa was chief of the crest purchasing committee and Babul was a member of the committee.

Earlier, Abul Kashem Talukdar, joint secretary of the ministry, was made OSD for allegedly obtaining fake freedom fighters' certificates.

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