

RAIN LIKELY

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at most places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at many places over Rajshahi, Rangpur and Dhaka divisions till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to very heavy rainfall is also likely at places over the country, Met Office said. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 6:47pm and rises tomorrow at 5:23am.**

Country's highest temperature 35.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 25.5 degree Celsius in Sandwip. 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	32.6	26.6	83	69	Khulna	34.0	26.5	84	73
Chittagong	31.0	26.6	82	82	Barisal	32.1	26.5	81	80
Rajshahi	35.4	27.6	83	77	Sylhet	34.5	27.0	86	68
Rangpur	32.8	27.5	87	76	Cox's Bazar	31.5	26.2	92	97

BANGLADESHIS RELENTLESS IN PROTESTING ATTACKS ON GAZA



Clockwise from left, Khelaghar, an organisation that works with children, forms a human chain in front of Chittagong Press Club yesterday, protesting Israel's military attack on Gaza and calling for an immediate end to the atrocities. Bangabandhu Sanskritik Jote organises a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital. Bangladesh Mahila Parishad and Bangladesh Human Rights Commission of Pirojpur district jointly form a human chain on Club Road in the town.

PHOTOS: STAR, BANGLAR CHOKH

Man's body recovered in capital

Police recovered the body of a man found beside a dustbin in the capital's Mirpur yesterday. Poison was found in the stomach of Shital Modhu 60, of Kotalipara in Gopalganj, said morgue sources at Dhaka Medical College.

The family said Modhu did not return after going out of his relative's Mirpur house Friday evening. Mirpur police Sub-inspector Masud Mia, quoting the family, said Modhu was a mental patient. The reason behind the death could not be ascertained immediately.

Workshop on food security for coastal people being held in Ctg

A five-day workshop on ensuring food security in vulnerable areas in Bangladesh's south-east coastal region is being held in Chittagong city. The workshop titled "Theory of Change" was organised by the Netherlands-based NGO Interchurch Organisation for Development Cooperation and local NGO Community Development Centre (CODEC) at CODEC's office.

The workshop, which began on July 17, will end tomorrow, said a press release. Sultana Kamal, human rights activist and executive director of Ain o Salish Kendra, among others, participated in the workshop.

NEWS IN brief

Three held with gun in Ctg

Police arrested three people with a locally made two-barrel gun from a hotel in Patharghata Chmarar Gudam area under Kotwali Police Station in the city early yesterday. Police suspected that the arrestees -- Monsur Ali, Mohammad Mohiuddin and Kamrul Islam -- were arms traders. A case under arms act was under process with the station in this connection.

Sylhet JCD man arrested after factional clash

Police arrested a JCD leader yesterday from Subid Bazar area of Sylhet city in connection with a case filed by rivals after a factional clash on Thursday. Belal Ahmed, ward-7 president of the city, is a follower of city's JCD president Ziaul Gani Arefin. The clash, between Ziaul's men and followers of central JCD vice-president Abdul Ahad Khan, left 10 people injured when both the groups took out procession protesting the killings of two JCD leaders.

2 held with counterfeit notes in Ctg

Police arrested two people with counterfeit notes worth Tk 66,000 from Oxygen Intersection under Bayezid Police Station in Chittagong city early yesterday. The arrestees are Mohamamd Harun, 25, of Bhola and Mohammad Jalal, 24, of Barisal, said police. A case was filed with the station.

Commander extorts

bearing office expenditure. Besides, the newly-elected upazila committee will organise a reception ceremony which requires money, he said. But he brushed aside the allegations that he forced the FFs to pay him money. On June 4, Helal Uddin Sardar and Rezaul Islam were elected Kaliganj upazila commander and deputy commander of Muktiyoddah Sangsad.

Tajuddin's letters are historical record

Launch of the book 'Tajuddin Ahmader Chithi' told

Discussing the book, economist Prof MM Akash said 11 of the letters were taken from the preparation phase of the struggle for freedom before 1971, 89 from the nine-month of the war, and 18 from the post-1971 period. The ceremony, held at Planning and Development Academy in the capital's Nilkhet, marks the occasion of the 89th birthday (on July 23) of Tajuddin Ahmad, prime minister of Bangladesh's exile government during the Liberation War in 1971. Reading out a couple of letters, Akash said the letters not only gave a picture of the time they were written but also showed how Tajuddin, a person who preferred to remain in the backstage, evaluated himself.

Govt not helping coastal people

Say 18 rights organisations

Eighteen rights based coastal organisations yesterday criticised the government for its "inaction" in protecting coastal people from recent floods and tidal surges. "The government's silence on this issue (coastal catastrophes due to flooding caused by tidal surges) is a human rights violation as coastal people have the right to live as citizens of this country," said AHM Bazlur Rahman of the Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC). He was addressing a human chain organised by the 18 NGOs in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital. The organisations include BNNRC, Online Knowledge Society, United People Trust, Unnayan Dhara Trust, Coastal Protection Movement, EquityBD, Kishani Shova, Charfassion Shorif Para Ekota Songho and Coastal Development Partnership.

Ctg city gets its first airplane restaurant

MINHAJ UDDIN, Ctg

While the government remains indifferent to developing infrastructure for the scenic places of Chittagong leaving their tourism potentials untapped, two local youths have come up with a unique idea to attract visitors in Patenga sea beach area. Changing the seat decoration of a scrapped airplane, they have launched the "Urojahaj Mini Chinese and Restaurant" just opposite the beach. Zakir Hossain, a former employee at Shah Amanat International Airport, and Manjur Alam, a local businessman, have invested around Tk 48 lakh for the whole project, including the purchase of the plane. After placing the 75 feet long aircraft on a compound of around 72 decimals of land, which they rented initially for five years for a monthly Tk 15,000 rent, they started their journey on March 26 this year. Thirty people can sit at once in the restaurant where dry foods like cakes, patis and cold drinks, tea and coffee are only served now. Uttam Kumar, a staff of the restaurant, said they charge each visitor an additional Tk 30 alongside the food cost.



The first aeroplane restaurant in Chittagong city at Patenga beach. Inset, two customers chat as they have some snacks and a cold drink inside the restaurant. The photos were taken recently.



Three newly-built fuel storage tanks and other installations at Sylhet Osmani International Airport in Sylhet city. The airport had been lacking refuelling facilities for the last 16 years since it was declared international in 1998, and thus was unable to return international flights, which landed at the airport. The fuel station is expected to start operation in August.

Sylhet airport to finally get refuelling station

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet Sixteen years after the Sylhet airport was declared international in 1998, the airport will finally have refuelling facilities for aircraft. The authorities concerned are hopeful that aeroplanes can be refuelled in Sylhet by August. The refuelling station in Sylhet will be complete once South African company Encon Engineering Projects (Pvt) Ltd, which is implementing the project, gives the finishing touches to the storage tanks, said officials of Bangladesh Petroleum Company, supervisor of the project. Completion of the project would allow aircraft to make return flights at Sylhet Osmani International Airport. At the moment, international flights by domestic carriers only land at the airport. The aircraft which land in Sylhet fly to Dhaka for refuelling. Officials of the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) said 10 international flights land at Sylhet airport from London and the Middle East weekly. "After the refuelling station becomes operable, foreign and domestic carriers will be able to operate international flights to and from here," said Md Hafiz Ahmed, manager at Caab, Sylhet. Jabbar Jalil, president of the Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh, Sylhet chapter, said currently around 2,000 people of Sylhet travel to the capital weekly to fly to London and the Middle-East. "The refuelling station will allow those people to fly directly from Sylhet to their destinations," he added. Jet fuel, needed for aircraft refuelling, will be stored at the airport and at South Surma in Sylhet city. Both the sites have three storage tanks with four lakh litre capacity each. The 50-crore "Construction of Aviation Refuelling Facilities at Sylhet Osmani International Airport" was approved by the energy ministry in 2010, said Md Aminul Haque, the project manager and also the deputy general manager of state-run Padma Oil Company, adding that it was revised at Tk 51.18 crore in December 2012. "The project was revised again in September 2013 at Tk 53.15 crore," he further said.

Ahsania Mission urges well-off to help street children

Dhaka Ahsania Mission yesterday urged the society's well-off to come forward to donate money for the rehabilitation of the street children. DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam made the appeal while sharing the salient features of an initiative "Ahsania Mission Children City at Panchagor" at a press conference in DAM auditorium of the capital, said a press release. Under the mission's project, the street children aged between six and 18 years are given vocational training.