

RAIN LIKELY



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

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over the country, Met Office said. Day and night temperature may rise slightly over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:46pm and rises tomorrow at 5:25am.

Country's highest temperature 35.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Dinajpur and lowest 23.5 degrees in Feni. 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	32.0	73	73	Khulna	32.5	83	86
Chittagong	30.9	93	91	Barisal	32.3	81	75
Rajshahi	34.6	78	88	Sylhet	31.8	92	86
Rangpur	32.4	83	71	Cox's Bazar	30.5	87	92



Clockwise from left, Bangladesh Sammilita Peshajibi Parishad forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday demanding an end to Israel's ongoing military attack on Gaza that has killed a large number of civilians since July 8. Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal follows suit. Students and teachers of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur join a human chain organised by Samajtantrik Chhatra Front before the university's main entrance.



ISRAEL'S MILITARY OFFENSIVE IN GAZA World leaders urged to usher in ceasefire

Protests continue countrywide in Bangladesh

CITY DESK

With the protests against Israel's military offensive in Gaza gathering pace across the world, different organisations in Bangladesh yesterday condemned the attacks and called upon the world leaders to play an active role to usher in a ceasefire there.

Some organisations urged the United Nations again to play its due role, while some others demanded economic and military sanctions on Israel.

Anti-war Movement Bangladesh formed a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club, calling upon the UN to immediately stop the killings.

Speakers urged Israel to return occupied lands to Palestinians.

Bangladesh Christian Forum in a statement said innocent children are being killed which is a disgrace for world civilisation, and the world leaders could not avoid their responsibilities.

The Revolutionary Workers Party of Bangladesh, at a meeting of the party's Dhaka city unit leaders in the capital, urged the world community to impose military and economic sanctions on Israel for killing over 700 civilians in Gaza since July 8. The attack "backed by the US" has created a humanitarian crisis, they said.

Meanwhile, Barisal Division Society offered a special prayer at a hotel in the capital for the Gazans, urging the global leaders to make Israel stop the military offensive.

TK 11.5CR DEV WORK IN SAVAR Jubo League man's thuggery keeps rival bidders at bay

Only he submits a bid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A Jubo League leader armed with his licenced gun and flanked by two hundred of his followers submitted a bid on behalf of a firm for a TK 11.5 crore road and drainage development work in Savar municipality area yesterday, blocking the entry of the officials of other bidders.

A total of nine schedules were sold for the work, and all nine firms were supposed to submit their bids yesterday, said the municipality officials.

Witnesses said Savar upazila Jubo League's ex-joint convener Selim Mondol with his followers blocked the approach road to Savar municipality office from 10:30am to 4:00pm when the firms were supposed to drop their bid documents into a box kept on the municipality premises.

The municipality mayor, Refatullah, admitted that the other bidders could not submit their offers because of the blockade.

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Youths attack food shops at Ctg mall

Owners allege attackers are BCL men

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A group of youths yesterday vandalised three fast food stalls at a shopping mall in Chittagong city's Nasirabad area on Tuesday night, creating panic among Eid shoppers and suspending sales for about an hour.

Shop owners said the attackers were activists of the Bangladesh Chhatra League from nearby Omar Gani MES College, but BCL Joint General Secretary of the college unit Yousuf Khan Hasan said they were initially unaware of their identities.

The clash followed an altercation between five of the youths and a shop owner at the food court, located on the third floor of the four-storey shopping mall, over sitting.

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ATTACK ON AL LEADER Stamford University chairman denied bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka Court yesterday sent MA Hannan Feroz, chairman of the Board of Trustees of Stamford University, to jail after denying him bail in a case filed for attacking AKM Enamul Hoque Shameem, an Awami League central leader and a member of the trustees.

Police placed Hannan

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Biman plagued by staff unrest again

Employees belonging to CBA besiege its headquarters for 3hrs over job regularisation; same action announced for today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Biman staff at its Balaka headquarters were compelled to stay out of work for three hours, as a group of employees belonging to CBA laid siege to the office in the capital, and did not allow them to enter it.

Around 150 employees started the siege at 9:00am to realise their 14-point demand that includes a new organogram, and regularisation of staff working on a temporary basis for five years. The siege ended at 12 noon.

Their other demands include recruitment of more

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HC bench splits over bail

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of the victims.

Yesterday, Justice Syed Md Ziaul Karim, senior member of the HC bench, granted bail to Adnan considering that the case was filed under such a section of the law which allowed the court to grant bail to an accused.

Meanwhile, junior member of the bench, Justice Ashish Ranjan Das, rejected the bail petition, saying that the negligence that the petitioner had committed in saving the lives of the victims was not a small offence, and therefore, he could not be granted bail.

AM Amin Uddin, a lawyer for Adnan, told The Daily Star that the HC bench would

now send the bail petition along with the a split verdict to the chief justice.

After receiving the petition, Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain will forward it to another HC bench for its final disposal, he said.

A total of 22 people were arrested in connection with three cases filed over the the Rana Plaza collapse. Of them, eight including the building owner Sohel Rana's father Abdul Khalek have got released on bail.

Savar police, Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha (Rajuk) and a victim's family filed the cases following the disaster on April 24 last year.

Courageous leaders for wards

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In his speech yesterday, Abbas claimed that the new committee had been a cause of headache for the government, saying the ministers were making "insane" remarks about it. "I don't know why the Awami League is bothered about our committee," he told reporters after the meeting.

Forty-one of the 56 members were present in the first meeting.

Abbas denied any internal conflict in the new committee, but when asked about his reported discontent for making Sohel his deputy, he did not make any comment and asked Sohel to talk about it. Sohel said, "Abbas is my elder brother...There's no rift between us."

Abbas had avoided media and party leaders for four days since formation of the new committee.

Special services start today

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allegations of ticket scalping, those were denied by BR Director General Tafazzal Hossain.

Train tickets for July 28 will be distributed today.

Mahbub Uddin Ahmed Bir Bikram, chairman of Bangladesh Inland Waterways

(passenger carrier's) Association, said, "Usually, we operate around 60 to 65 launch trips daily. We will increase it up to 120 based on demand."

Visiting Sadarghat yesterday, Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan said all necessary measures were in place to check overloading and irregularities.

JSC exams

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countrywide general strikes called by the BNP-led alliance.

The examinees will take Bangla first paper on the first day.

However, the authorities of the Madrasa Education Board are yet to announce the routines of Junior Dakhil Examination, which held along with the JSC exams.

SC to hear

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seeking the death sentence for the five, and yesterday, a five-member bench of the Appellate Division of the SC granted the petitions.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star that the Supreme Court will now fix a date for hearing arguments on the appeals.

Mohiuddin

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books. The possibilities of the publishing sector in the country remain the same as in 1970...the publishers should get due recognition for the works," he added.