

RAIN LIKELY



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

Moderately heavy to 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 6:36pm and rises tomorrow at 5:32am.

Country's highest temperature 35.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 24.6 degree Celsius in Rangamati.

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	33.8	27.5	71	65	Khulna	33.8	26.4	74	75
Chittagong	31.2	25.5	77	74	Barisal	32.0	26.6	79	79
Rajshahi	35.6	26.5	84	65	Sylhet	34.8	25.0	83	68
Rangpur	34.2	25.5	79	67	Cox's Bazar	30.5	25.8	92	83



Left, a multi-ethnic crowd of Bangladeshis hold a vigil of thousand candles at Central Shaheed Minar in the capital yesterday marking International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples today, demanding that the indigenous communities of the country be constitutionally recognised as Adivasis, organised by Garo Student Union. Right, Bangladesh Garo Chhatra Sangathan forms a human chain before Jatiya Press Club with the same demand.



PHOTO: STAR

Govt call for not using 'Adivasi' arbitrary

Sultana Kamal tells roundtable saying she is ready to face penalty for using the word if necessary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former caretaker government adviser Sultana Kamal yesterday termed the government's call to refrain from using the word "Adivasi" for indigenous communities "arbitrary" and "unrealistic".

"We despise it. We reject it, and for that we have to face any penalty, we are ready to accept," she told a roundtable, "Stopping Eviction of Indigenous and their Human Rights Protection: Role of State", in the capital's Cirdap auditorium.

In a PID handout on Thursday, the government asked the participants of different programmes, discussions and talk shows on International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples not to use the term "Adivasi".

"University teachers, experts, editors of newspapers and other members of civil

society, taking part in those discussions and talk shows, are requested to take a precaution about refraining from using the word Adivasi in the case of Bangladesh," the release read.

Though, as per the 15th constitutional amendment, Adivasis do not exist in the country, many use the term on the international day, it says, adding that, the ethnic minorities are called "small ethnic groups" or "tribes".

The international day will be observed today. Different organisations will hold programmes throughout the country on the occasion.

"How much unrealistic it is! I feel sorry when I see these people are at the policy making level," said Sultana Kamal, also executive director of rights organisation Ain o Salish Kendra.

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RAPE OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S LEADER Few hundred females demonstrate for justice

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Several hundred women demonstrated in front of Chapainawabganj Press Club yesterday demanding exemplary punishment for those who tortured and raped an indigenous women's leader in the district's Gomostapur upazila on Monday.

The women formed a human chain and later held a rally there to press home their demand.

Jago Nari Banhi Shikha, a women's organisation, organised the protest programme.

The speakers demanded immediate arrest of the culprits and exemplary punishment for them.

Sultana Razia, principal of Chapainawabganj Government College, among others, addressed the rally.

The indigenous women's leader, also a union parishad member, was beaten up and raped by 30-35 people on Monday when she refused to pay an extortion of Tk 3 lakh demanded by the criminals while she was working at her paddy field, claimed the victim. Now she is undergoing treatment at the district sadar hospital.

The investigation officer, Sub-inspector Mominur Rahman, said police had arrested three of the named accused--Ziaul Karim, Azizur Rahman, and Anisur Rahman.

3 youths rape schoolgirl

Upload video on internet

CITY DESK

A man filed a case against three youths on Wednesday for raping his 13-year-old daughter in Narail and later uploading her video on the internet.

According to the victim's family, Gopesh Mondol, son of Gopal Mondol, of Lohagara thana, used to stalk his daughter.

On July 28, Gopesh along with Sajjad Molla and Rafiqul Sheikh forcibly took her to a jute field and raped her. The family learned about the incident after the trio published the video on August 5.

Lohagara police said they are conducting drives to arrest the fugitive accused.

NEWS IN brief

Yet another Biman aircraft malfunctions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Another flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines, the national carrier, suffered a technical glitch yesterday, forcing the pilot to land half an hour after take-off.

The Kathmandu bound flight, which took off at 4:00pm, landed at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital following a glitch in one of the engines of the Airbus 310.

The authorities have rescheduled the flight for 9:30am today, causing sufferings to 136 passengers.

Earlier, on July 28, a rear wheel of an Airbus A 310 of Biman caught fire on landing at Nepal's international airport in Kathmandu, but there were no injuries.

Body formed to probe former Beirut envoy's misconduct

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The foreign ministry on Thursday formed a four-member probe committee to investigate the allegations brought against AFM Gousal Azam Sarker, who was called back from the Bangladesh embassy in Lebanon last month.

Secretary (Bilateral, Training and Consular) Mustafa Kamal has been made the head of the inquiry committee, according to ministry sources.

4 arrested for violence after Quader Mollah's execution

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Police arrested a madrasa principal and his three sons in Shibganj upazila of Chapainawabganj early yesterday for their alleged involvement in violence in the upazila after the execution of Jamaat leader Quader Mollah last year.

The arrestees are Nurul Islam, principal of Chhatrajpur Fazil Madrasa, and his sons-- Mozammel Haque, Maruf and Mahbub.

Railway staff shot in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two masked miscreants shot an employee of Bangladesh Railway near Kamalapur station in the capital early yesterday while he was returning home.

Humayun Kabir, 32, who also runs cable TV service business in Shahjahanpur, is undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Kabir was on his motorbike when the miscreants on another motorbike shot him in the thigh, said police. His business rivals could be behind the attack, they suspected.

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PHOTO: STAR

Col Tin Aung, defence attaché of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, hoists the flag of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) on the Indonesian embassy premises in the capital yesterday, marking the 47th founding anniversary of the regional organisation.

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Feni Jubo Dal leader dies in detention
Family claims he was tortured to death; autopsy report says he died of illness

A ward level leader of Jubo Dal, the youth wing of BNP, died in detention early yesterday, allegedly from torture by police around 16 days ago.

Etim Ali alias Miadhan, 35, president of Dagonbhuiyan Pourashava ward no-1 unit and son of Abdul Gafur of Alayapur village, was sent to Feni District Jail in two robbery cases.

Jailer Didarul Alam said Miadhan was arrested on July 22.

On Thursday night, following information that he had fallen sick, he was rushed to Feni Sadar

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Writers should portray country's progress

Says Prof Anisuzzaman
DU CORRESPONDENT

Writers should stand together and create literature depicting patriotism and the country's progress and development, said Prof Emeritus Anisuzzaman at a discussion yesterday.

"Writers must encourage people to build a society based on morality where everyone is equal," he added.

The discussion was organised marking the first national council of Progressive Writers Association (PWA), at its office in the capital.

The theme of the discussion was "Stop Capitalism and Fundamentalism".

Addressing the programme, Mujahidul Islam Selim, president of the Communist Party of

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BANGLADESH RAILWAY EAST ZONE Manpower shortage cripples traffic dept

SHAHADAT HOSSAIN, Ctg

The traffic department of Bangladesh Railway (East Zone) is struggling to run trains smoothly due to an acute shortage of manpower.

According to railway sources, the traffic department is functioning with about half its required manpower as currently there are 1,402 employees for 2,535 sanctioned posts.

Some important posts of the department are Train Controller, Assistant Station Master, Guard, Gatekeeper, and Points-man.

At present, only four assistant station masters are employed against 70 posts, 139 guards against 299 posts, 499 points-man against 750 posts, and only 39 gatekeepers are employed against 242 posts.

Moreover, about 112 staff of the department will go on post retirement leave this year, and 88 more next year, said sources in the department. In post retirement leave, an

1,402
employees against
2,535 posts

112
staff to retire this year

50
stations shut,
13 partially closed

No full-scale recruitment
since 2006

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