


RISE IN TEMPERATURE LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

Unb, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at most places over Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at many places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka and Khulna 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 rise slightly over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:26pm and rises tomorrow at 5:36am.

Country's highest temperature 35.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi, Jessore and Chuadanga and lowest 24.8 degree Celsius in Chittagong, Rangamati and Rangpur.

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	32.8	26.5	84	80	Khulna	34.4	25.5	89	84
Chittagong	29.4	24.8	83	92	Barisal	32.0	26.8	94	92
Rajshahi	35.2	26.0	82	77	Sylhet	31.8	26.0	92	86
Rangpur	33.4	24.8	93	74	Cox's Bazar	29.8	26.0	92	85

NEWSIN
brief

BRTC bus catches fire in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An articulated bus of the state-run Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) caught fire on Airport road in the capital yesterday.

The fire might have originated from the over heated engine of the Uttara-bound bus, said fire service officials. Fire fighters doused the fire. No casualty was reported.

Man held with smuggled gold at Shahjalal airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials detained a man and recovered 36 gold bars, worth Tk 2.2 crore and weighing 4.2kg, hidden in a water pump at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital yesterday.

Khurshid Alam, of Chittagong, was a passenger of Fly Dubai.

Following Alam's suspicious movement, the officials challenged him while he was crossing the green channel with the pump and recovered the bars.



Robi - Drishity
Debate Championship 2014

From left, Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star; Nodia Khandaker, CSR and sponsorship manager of Robi; lawmaker Wasika Ayesha Khan; Wahed Malek, managing editor of the daily Azadi; Motiul Islam Nowshad, Robi's chief corporate and people officer, and Masud Bakul, president of Drishity Chittagong, along with participants at the inaugural ceremony of Robi-Drishity National Debate Championship 2014 in Theatre Institute of Chittagong city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

ROBI-DRISHTY NAT'L DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Logical, open minds to make future leaders

Speakers tell opening ceremony in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The new generation with logical and open minds will lead the country in the future, speakers told the inaugural ceremony of Robi-Drishity National Debate Championship 2014 in Chittagong city yesterday.

Debating helps people grow a logical mind, and logical people are required to push the country forward, said Wasika Ayesha Khan, an Awami League lawmaker. She urged the participants to know and project the history of the country's Liberation War properly.

Students from 36 schools and 12 colleges in Chittagong district and 24 universities across the country are taking part in the 10-day contest. Winners will be announced on August 30.

Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam, who inaugurated the championship as chief guest at Theatre Institute, urged the students not to look down upon the beliefs and sentiments of others.

He said debating would benefit students in every sphere of their lives and would enhance the possibility of their success.

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On duty traffic cop dies in road crash in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An on duty traffic police constable was killed after being hit by a bus near Mohakhali Bus Terminal in the capital yesterday afternoon.

Mozaffar Hossain, 40, of Tongi in Gazipur, was attached to Uttara Traffic Zone in the capital, said Banani police Sub-inspector Abu Bakar Siddique.

A bus of Nirala Paribahan from Tangail knocked him down around 4:45pm, he said, adding that they seized the bus while the driver fled away.

Journos protest attack on Samakal's Barisal bureau chief

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Journalists in Barisal city yesterday formed a human chain protesting the attack on Samakal bureau Chief Pulok Chatterjee on Wednesday.

The programme, organised by the Barisal Press Club before Aswani Kumar Hall, was attended by the leaders from different media organisations, socio-cultural and political groups. Later, they staged a rally.

GIRL HURT BY BOMB BLAST

13 Ctg Jamaat, Shibir men charged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

After 16 months of investigation, police yesterday submitted charge sheets in three separate cases filed against 13 Jamaat-Shibir men over exploding a crude bomb in Chittagong city that injured schoolgirl Antu Barua during hartal hours last year.

ANM Mashrur Hossain, president of the city unit of Shibir; and Ferdous Koreshi, acting secretary general of Jamaat Chittagong district (south) unit, are among the accused.

On March 28, 2013, over 40 Jamaat-Shibir men equipped with sharp weapons and sticks gathered in the city's Momin Road area and blasted crude bombs, said the charge sheets.

It was the second day of a 36-hour countrywide hartal enforced by the erstwhile BNP-led 18-party alliance.

The alliance called for the shutdown demanding release of its activists arrested countrywide over

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Twin baby stolen from DMCH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A newborn boy of a set of twins was stolen from Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday morning, just a day after his birth.

The mother, Runa Begum, of Mohammadpur, said a woman, aged around 45, who had been being friendly with her in the hospital, took the infant in her arms to soothe him when he was crying, and fled from the ward no-213, while she was feeding the other twin. Runa identified the thief from a CCTV footage of Wednesday, but the hospital did not have any footage of yesterday.

The father, Kawsar Hossain, a security guard of an apartment building, blamed the hospital's mismanagement for the incident, saying the authorities did not take any immediate measure to rescue the baby. The authorities, however, filed a case.

Music director Emon held for 'blackmailing wife'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested music director Shawkat Ali Emon in his house in the capital's Eskaton early yesterday following allegations against him of blackmailing his wife with uploading naked pictures of her on the internet.

A team of Ramna police raided his house shortly after midnight and detained him. Emon was produced before a Dhaka court, which sent him to jail.

Emon's wife had lodged a case on Monday accusing the 45-year-old director of taking nude pictures, and blackmailing her with them.

She claimed that he threatened to upload the photos on Facebook and other internet sites if she did not pay him Tk 5 crore. Sub-inspector of Ramna Police Station Abul Kalam Azad said Emon refuted the allegations, but police found inconsistency in his statements during questioning.

MATERNITY, NEONATAL CARE Services reach less than half of seekers

Study says

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's existing health service providers can give only 41 percent of the care needed by infants and mothers.

As a result, majority of women's needs in reproductive, maternal and newborn health remain unmet which results in maternal and child deaths.

At present, only 32 percent of pregnant women are attended during birth by skilled birth attendants.

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Chapainawabganj Journalist Forum, Dhaka formed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rtv News Editor Anwar Haq and New Age Chief Reporter Khadimul Islam have been made president and secretary respectively of the 11-member executive committee of newly formed Chapainawabganj Journalist Forum, Dhaka.

Other office bearers include Channel 24 News Editor Biplob Shahid (vice-president), Channel i Senior Reporter Soma Islam (joint secretary), senior online journalist of The Daily Star Fardaus Mobarok (organising secretary) and Zahangir Alam (finance secretary).



Anwar Haq Khadimul

FIELD EXPERIENCE OF JAN 5 NAT'L POLLS EC cancels hearing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission has backpedalled on its decision to hear learning experiences of the field level officials who were engaged in the one-sided January 5 parliamentary election.

Although the EC did not give any official explanation for cancelling its experience sharing programmes, many officials of the EC Secretariat believe that the commission changed its decision to hold the programmes in fear of further criticisms of the January 5 poll.

"The commission does not want to bring the issue of the January 5 election in the limelight again. This is probably the main reason for cancelling the programmes," said a senior assistant secretary of the EC Secretariat seeking anonymity.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

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Illegal university campus shut down

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A mobile court yesterday shut down an unauthorised campus of the Premier University of Technology in Rajshahi city.

Executive Magistrate Hafizur Rahman, who led the drive, said the University Grants Commission directed the district administration to shut down one of the two campuses of the university as it did not have approval from the commission.

The campus was housed on the third floor of a four-storey building in Bhadra area.

The court also seized two computers, furniture, some official documents and a huge number of pirated DVDs.

Hafizur Rahman said the campus began operation a year ago with 49 students and four part-time teachers.

Contacted, Vice Chancellor Prof MN Haque claimed the campus was running lawfully.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Feb 2 RU violence victim gets Tk 1.2 lakh

RU CORRESPONDENT

The mass communication and journalism department of Rajshahi University yesterday handed over Tk 1.20 lakh to its student who was injured in an attack by BCL activists, backed by police, on February 2.

Akhtaruzzaman Rajib, a third year student, was hit in his right eye by a bullet when he with other students was protesting on the campus against fee hikes and evening shift master's courses.

Doctors suggested that he get treatment abroad. Teachers urged the public to extend their help towards Rajib.

Govt to punish errant recruiting agencies

Says overseas employment minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will take stern punitive actions against recruitment agencies if they deceive overseas jobseekers, said Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, minister of the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment.

"We want to clarify that recruitment agencies must take responsibility of the jobseekers," he told a meeting organised by the ministry with the Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira) in the capital yesterday.

The agencies must send people abroad with low migration costs, said the minister.

Some countries have imposed restrictions on the recruitment of Bangladeshis due to involvement of some dishonest agencies in visa trading, he said.

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বসুন্ধরা-বারিধারায়

রেডি প্লট বিক্রয়

রাজউক অনুমোদিত বসুন্ধরা বারিধারা আবাসিক প্রকল্পে 'এ' ব্লকে আকর্ষণীয় লোকেশনে বিদ্যুৎ, পানি ও গ্যাস সংযোগসহ ৫ কাঠার পাশাপাশি ২ টি প্লট বিক্রয় হবে।

যোগাযোগ:

০১৮১৯২১৬০৩৪, ০১৭৩০০১৮৪৭৪, ০১৮১৯৪০৬০১২



HSBC The Daily Star

Junior Climate Champions 2014

Knowledge inspires action

Open to all students from Class SIX to TEN in Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet, Junior Climate Champions competition offers a wide range of activities and interactive sessions for the participants to understand more about environment and climate change related issues. Participants can register for multiple categories of the competition:

- Quiz
- Poster Design /Painting
- Extempore Speech
- Environment related project

Register at www.juniorclimatechampion.com to become a junior climate champion

For any query, please call: 01785444111

Registration closes on 30 August 2014

For any update regarding venue and competition dates keep an eye on The Daily Star or visit www.juniorclimatechampion.com

www.hsbc.com.bd www.thedailystar.net

The Daily Star

Knowledge Partner

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