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

unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:23pm and rises tomorrow at 5:38am.

Country's highest temperature 35.3 degree Celsius was recorded on Monday in Rajshahi and lowest 23.6 degrees in Sylhet.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

I	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		1	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening		Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
aka	32.5	27.6	80	91	Khulna	34.5	27.3	83	97
ittagong	30.8	26.6	82	89	Barisal	33.2	26.6	81	79
jshahi	35.3	26.0	86	96	Sylhet	25.8	23.6	95	95
ngpur	29.8	25.6	95	89	Cox's Bazar	32.4	25.5	78	80

# NEWS<sub>IN</sub> brief

## Law Commission seeks info about negligence in medical treatment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Law Commission has sought any information or data from the public about negligence in medical treatment and also proposal on the issue.

The commission is conducting a research for drafting a law regarding sufferings of patients and negligence in medical treatment, says a press release signed by AM Zulfikar Hayat, senior assistant secretary (acting) of the commission. Contact address: Law Administration Training Institute, 4th floor (room-512), 15 College Road, Dhaka; email: info@lawcommissionbangladesh.org; fax: 02-9560843.

## Two stabbed, mugged in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

stabbing him in the head and back.

Muggers stabbed two men and snatched away Tk 85,000 from them in the capital yesterday, said police. In Mudertake, around six muggers snatched Tk 60,000 from Jasim, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw owner

In Goran, around four muggers stabbed fruit trader Manik of Goran Bazar in the head, back and abdomen and snatched Tk 25,000.

They were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said Nayek Nazrul Islam of DMCH police

## 7 held with firearm, ammo in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion arrested seven persons with a locally made pistol and 15 rounds of bullets in the capital's Rampura early yesterday.

Jahirul Islam, Ferdaous Miah, Humayun Kabir, Omar Faruq, Mohammad Hossain, Raju Karim and Mohammad Rasel were held in a house at Pashchim Rampura, said Rab-3 operations officer Rabiul Karim.

Two magazines, six machetes, 13 cellphones, 16 SIM cards and 70 cans of beer were also seized from their possession, he said.

## Worker dies in pillar collapse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A construction worker was killed and another injured after a pillar with supporting wall of an under construction building collapsed on them at Janoki Singha road of Barisal City yesterday.

The deceased was Mithun, 30, son of Yunus Mia of Bosu Mia Gali of the city. The injured, Kalu, 25, was admitted to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.

## Hajis to get free Saudi SIM cards

CITY DESK

Intraco Group in collaboration with the religious affairs ministry is going to distribute cell phone SIM cards Saudi Mobily among all the hajis departing from the country this year.

The hajis will also get free talk-time of 10 Saudi Riyal along with the SIM cards.

They announced it at a press conference yesterday.



SHAMIM OSMAN 'THREATENING' POLICE OFFICIAL

## EC decides not to investigate further

Says it has no jurisdiction, leaves onus on returning officer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) has decided not to investigate further the alleged incident of Awami League lawmaker Shamim Osman threatening a police officer during Narayanganj-5 by-election on June 26.

Although an electoral enquiry committee found proof that backs up the allegation, and also recommended further investigation, the EC decided not to proceed with the issue.

The commission now wants the returning officer to shoulder the responsibility of the investigation saying he may take further steps, if he wants to, said EC officials. Shamim Osman allegedly verbally

abused and threatened a police officer, Bashir Uddin, after he had foiled an attempt by Osman supporters to occupy a polling

station during the voting hours. On June 29, the returning officer

appointed by the EC asked the electoral committee to investigate the matter.

In the middle of July, the enquiry committee submitted a report that said it found some proof backing the allegation, but it needed further investigation to be sure and make a decision. Further details of the report were not available.

But, now the EC says it has no legal jurisdiction to investigate the incident.

"We cannot act outside the law. As per electoral laws, we cannot investigate further as recommended by the probe body," Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz told The Daily Star yesterday.

"Now, we will transfer the issue to the returning officer. He will look into the incident. He may take further legal steps or file a case against the accused, if he wants to," said the commissioner.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

NAT'L TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAMME

## Collaboration of all stakeholders stressed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Although National Tuberculosis Control Programme (NTP) has saved thousands of lives, stronger monitoring by its government and non-government partners is needed to find the undetected TB patients, speakers told a roundtable yesterday. Without boosting collaboration among NTP stake-

holders, success of the programme will be lost in future as undetected TB patients might be spreading the highly contagious germ in their communities. The roundtable on importance of collaboration among

NTP stakeholders was organised by the NTP, the Directorate

General of Health Services (DGHS), the daily Jugantor and Brac in the capital's Brac Centre. The main challenges of controlling TB are: reluctance of the patients to continue the medication for six months and

a lack of medical infrastructures needed for TB treatment, speakers pointed out. Patients often discontinue the medication, unaware of the danger of developing complicated Multi Drug Resistant

(MDR) TB, which is difficult to treat due to a lack of special

ised hospitals in the country, they added. "TB is not only a medical issue. Poverty, malnutrition, dense population, unawareness, and a lack of hygiene are also among the causes," said DGHS' Director General Prof Deen Mohammad Noorul Haq.

## Let Taslima Nasrin return

Demand supporters on her brithday

DU CORRESPONDENT

A group of people of different professions yesterday demanded that the controversial Bangladeshi author Taslima Nasrin, who has been living outside the country for twenty years, be allowed to return to her homeland. Marking Taslima's 52nd

birthday, the demonstrators

under the banner of "Supporters of Taslima Nasrin" made the demand at a human chain at Shahbagh in the capital. The supporters said Taslima had to leave the country in the wake of death

threats given by Muslim fundamentalist outfits for raising her voice against fundamentalism and repression against women. A supporter, Mojameel Haque, said Taslima showed

the youth how to deal with fanatics and overcome gender disparity. SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

## Number of errant pvt universities very low Claims AK Azad at int'l

conference on social sciences, humanities organised by IUB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In higher education there is no difference between public and private universities, said Prof AK Azad Chowdhury in an international conference at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) Bashundhara campus in capital yesterday.

Some of the private universities are marking darker picture but their number is very low, said Azad, chairman of University Grants Commission (UGC), adding that some private universities, including IUB, are doing even better than some of the public universities.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



An oil tank lorry has set up a tray to carry liquefied gas cylinders at a time of transporting oil, just to make an extra profit, ignoring the fact that even slight carelessness can result in a massive explosion. The photo was taken in Dewanghat area of Chittagong city recently. PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

## Don't panic, just be alert

FROM PAGE 4

A 20-bed ward at the Kurmitola General Hospital in the capital has also been prepared to treat the possible patients, said Dr Mushtuq Hosain. No case has been reported in Bangladesh, he added.

Monkeys, gorillas, chimpanzees, forest antelopes, bats are reservoirs of Ebola virus, but it can also be transmitted through human contacts. Health care workers, other patients, unsafe injections, and others coming in contacts with the patients can also transmit it.

Acute continued fever, headache, vomiting, nausea, abdomen pain, diarrhoea, malaise, flu are the main symptoms of the disease, which

fined Tk 1 lakh. All the fine money will be

Nazmul, Mamun and Sajjad were present in

handed over to the victim's family.

the court while the rest are absconding.

has no drug or vaccine yet, said medicine pro-

fessor Dr Zilan Miah Sarker of BSMMU. However, supportive care and drugs can reduce mortality, he said, adding, "Prevention is of paramount importance."

Isolation of the patients, protection of the doctors and nurses, quarantining the suspects and awareness rising are among crucial components to fight Ebola, said Dr Zilan.

BSMMU pro vice chancellors Pro Mohammad Shahidullah, Prof Dr Ruhul Amin Miah, Prof Shahidullah Shikder and seminar subcommittee chair Prof Chowdhury Yakub Jamal also spoke at the event.

6 to die for killing businessman Nazmul and Sadia, who were in a relationship, devised a plan to kill Rafiqul Islam

Bhuiyan, who had a liking for Sadia. Sadia called Rafigul out of his house and the convicts tied him up and slit his throat on May 3.

## CID to take

FROM PAGE 3 statements provided by the

Harun Ur Rashid said, "The driver [Rezaul] told us that on August 17 he went to a photo studio in Gulshan and then booked a room at a hotel in Mohakhali, but earlier, the duo said their abductors released them on August 18 in Tongi."

"Currently, Rezaul is in police custody, while Mujibur is staying at his Sunamganj residence," he added.

Rashid said they will complete taking statements of Mujibur and Rezaul in a day or two and then they will be produced before the judicial magistrate court.

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