

RAIN LIKELY



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

Moderately 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 6:07 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:44am.

Country's highest temperature 34.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sylhet and lowest 23.5 degrees in Rangamati. 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 34.0	27.0	63	65	Khulna 33.0	26.6	78	80
Chittagong 30.9	26.4	75	81	Barisal 32.4	26.5	76	79
Rajshahi 33.5	26.5	84	85	Sylhet 34.4	25.4	80	76
Rangpur 32.0	25.5	82	86	Cox's Bazar 32.5	25.5	71	86

IS THIS THE KIND OF DEMOCRACY BNP OFFERS?



It was a procession as part of BNP's nationwide protest against parliament's prospective re-empowerment to impeach Supreme Court judges, but about a thousand activists in Dinaipur town, led by the party's district general secretary Mukur Chowdhury, yesterday joined it wielding sharp weapons and at the same time carrying the picture of party Chairperson Khaleda Zia, in an apparent bid to show off their strength. Soon afterwards, the march was attacked by the loyalists of Mukur's rival Lutfar Rahman Mintu, the district BNP president, said police and witnesses. Mintu's followers, *not in picture*, threw projectiles at the procession, drawing a similar response from Mukur loyalists. The fighting lasted half an hour and spread panic across the town before police intervened.

PHOTO: STAR

AUG 21 GRENADE ATTACK
I told IO about harassment of my son

Joj Mia's mother tells Dhaka court while being cross-examined

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Jobeda Khatun, mother of petty criminal Joj Mia, yesterday told a Dhaka court that she narrated the whole story to the investigation officer of the August 21 grenade attack cases, regarding harassment of her son by ex-CID officials.

She said this while being cross-examined by Abdus Sobhan Tarafdar, a counsel for three former Criminal Investigation Department officials—Ruhul Amin, Abdur Rashid and Munshi Atiqur Rahman.

According to the charge sheet, the ex-CID officials had cooked up a story and falsely implicated Joj Mia in the two cases. Joj Mia was later found innocent and released from jail after around three years.

As the lawyer could not complete cross-examining the witness the court fixed September 15 for the next

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UTTARA GIRL ABDUCTION
Gang member held, taken on 4-day remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives have arrested an alleged member of a gang of muggers who abducted a female college student, shooting dead a building's security guard in the process, from the capital's Uttara early July and sexually assaulted her before leaving her in the area the next day.

A Dhaka court yesterday allowed police to take Sohel Rana alias Sohel, 28, arrested in Bhatara on Tuesday around 9:30pm, on a four-day remand against a prayer for 10 days. Liakat Hossain Liton, 30, had died while trying to stop the muggers.

SM Nazmul Haque, senior assistant commissioner of Detective Branch (North) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said Sohel, in preliminary interrogation, informed that he and four others were in a car during the abduction. The official also added that the prime suspect, Giasuddin Apan, was killed

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KAMARUZZAMAN'S APPEAL AGAINST DEATH
He controlled many Al Badr camps

Attorney general tells SC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman was a very influential Al Badr leader controlling all the Al Badr camps in Mymensingh, Sherpur and Nalitabari in 1971, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told the Supreme Court yesterday.

He was citing a statement made before International Crimes Tribunal (ICT)-2 by a prosecution witness, Monowar Hossain Khan alias Mohan Munshi, who was a guard of an Al Badr camp in Mymensingh during the 1971 Liberation War.

Mahbubey was placing arguments on the 14th day of hearing on Kamaruzzaman's appeal challenging his death sentence for crimes against humanity committed in 1971.

Mohan Munshi is "a star witness" as he admitted to the ICT-2 that he was an Al Badr member and Kamaruzzaman was his boss.

Mahbubey also turned down objections of defence counsels on charges of Kamaruzzaman killing one Badiuzzaman of Ramnagar village in Jhenaigati of Sherpur and torturing Syed Abdul Hannan, the then principal of Sherpur College.

A four-member Appellate Division bench headed by

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Women's unpaid work must be recognised

MJF-Star roundtable told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman's worth in the society is likely to be recognised once their contribution to the economy in both paid and unpaid work is valued, said speakers at a roundtable yesterday.

Terming the culture of undervaluing women's work the root cause of domestic violence, they viewed economic recognition of unpaid work including housework as one of the ways to reduce violence against women.

The roundtable titled "Highlighting Contribution of Women to Raise Their Status" was jointly organised by The Daily Star and Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

Tariq-ul-Islam, secretary at the women and children affairs ministry, said they had already notified the Statistics Division to evaluate women's contribution to the economy through domestic work.

On policymaking, he said the new Child Marriage Restraint Act would be placed

before the cabinet next Monday.

Shaheen Anam, executive director of MJF, said since the majority of the women work within the walls of their homes, their work was not assigned with a monetary value.

Even the work done by women in sectors such as agriculture is undervalued, she said.

"In most places of the country, male agricultural labourers get Tk 280, while female labourers get Tk 180 for the same work," said Shykh Seraj, an agriculture activist and director and head of news, Channel i.

However, in rice production women carry out 17 out of 23 activities from sowing seeds to marketing the final product, he said highlighting women's contribution to the country's food security.

Fahmida Khatun, research director at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), who is currently conducting a study to estimate women's economic contribution to the country, said more than 50 percent of the

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Participants at the roundtable "Highlighting Contribution of Women to Raise Their Status" organised by The Daily Star and Manusher Jonno Foundation at The Daily Star Centre yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Build civil registration, vital

FROM PAGE 3

Excellence in Public Health", to Saima at a reception in the hotel.

Terming Saima Hossain the driving force behind Bangladesh's leadership in advancing the cause of autism, Dr Khetrapal Singh said her work has contributed to the adoption of resolutions at the UN and WHO.

Saima is the chair of the National Advisory Committee on Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Autism in the Ministry of

Health and Family Welfare, Bangladesh.

The other recipient of the award is the National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP) of Timor-Leste that has made noteworthy contributions in controlling malaria.

Ministers, health experts and officials from eleven member countries—Bangladesh, Bhutan, South Korea, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste—are taking part in the four-day event.

BNP's protest rally in capital

FROM PAGE 3

district BNP, while in Jessore the activists said police barred them from organising protests.

Meanwhile, BNP leaders yesterday told a discussion in the capital that the government was hatching a conspiracy to destroy all "institutions" to prolong its stay in power.

Moudud Ahmed, the party's standing committee member, said it was necessary for all "democratic" forces to fight together for saving democracy, while its Dhaka city unit convenor Mirza Abbas said the government was planning to expand the police force to resist opposition's movement.

RIFAT KILLING CASE
SC upholds life imprisonment of five

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld life imprisonment of five persons for killing Tejaon College student Nurul Islam Rifat.

Rifat, youngest brother of Ha-Meem Group Managing Director AK Azad, was killed on January 17, 1997. The next morning his body was recovered from Mohakhali.

The five convicts are

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NEWS IN
brief

Cop, three others held with firearm

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion detained a police official and three other people with an illegal pistol, three bullets and a magazine at the capital's Uttara sector-6 yesterday.

A motorbike was also seized from Asaduzzaman, a sub-inspector of Special Branch of Police (Uttara Zone); and Saiful Islam, Mahmudul Hasan Apan, and Mashiur Rahman, said Lt Col Tuhin Mohammad Masud, commanding officer of Rab-1.

Rab conducted the drive on information about illegal arms trading on road-2, he said.

Worker shot by criminals in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criminals shot a construction worker in the capital's Tejaon yesterday morning.

Harun-ur-Rashid, 50, was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Two criminals entered the under construction building of Avenue Builders Ltd at Tejgunipara and fired at workers after failing to meet Sohel Rana, manager of the project, police said.

Sohel told The Daily Star that earlier a man identified him as Ashique demanded Tk 10 lakh as extortion over the phone. The man phoned him again after the shooting and said, "More volatile situation will come if you failed to give the demanded money."

A case was filed.

Man held with smuggled gold again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested a man with 12 gold bars worth Tk 72 lakh and weighing 1.5kg in the capital's Kamalapur Railway Station yesterday.

Jahangir Hossain of Fatikhkhari upazila in Chittagong arrived at the station from Chittagong on Subarna Express train around 2:00pm.

On information, police caught him from a compartment of the train and recovered the bars from his shoes, said police.

Dr Golam Rahman new DIU pro-VC

CITY DESK

Communication specialist Prof Dr Md Golam Rahman joined Daffodil International University as Pro-Vice Chancellor on Sunday.

Before the joining, Dr Rahman was a professor of mass communication and journalism (MCJ) department of DIU. He served as the chairman of MCJ department at Dhaka University from 1990-1993 and 2004-2005. He was also the head of language and communication studies department of Papua New Guinea University of Technology, said a press release.



Biennial election to Manikganj Samity, Dhaka postponed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The biennial general meeting and election to Manikganj Samity, Dhaka, have been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances.

The meeting and election were scheduled to be held tomorrow at the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, says a press release signed by Samity's Secretary Motaher Hossain Sajju.

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