

LIGHT RAIN LIKELY

WEATHER TODAY

Unib, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at most places over Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Khulna and Dhaka divisions till 6:00pm today.	Moderately heavy rainfall is also likely at places over the country, Met Office said.	Country's highest temperature 37.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 25.0 degree Celsius in Rangamati.	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		
	Day and night temperatures may fall by 1-2 degree over the country.	The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening	
	The sun sets in the capital today at 5:58pm and rises tomorrow at 5:47am.	Dhaka	34.0	28.0	74	84	Khulna	35.2	27.4	79	87
		Chittagong	31.6	27.2	81	90	Barisal	33.4	27.5	80	87
		Rajshahi	37.5	27.2	83	86	Sylhet	33.8	27.0	90	87
		Rangpur	35.7	27.5	74	65	Cox's Bazar	34.0	26.5	71	83

DHAKA MEDICAL COLLEGE

Dorm vacated after intra-BCL clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka Medical College (DMC) authorities vacated Dr Fazle Rabbi Hall last night following a factional clash of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists that left at least 15 injured.

Students left the hall by 9:00pm as per instructions. The sudden decision, however, left general resident students in a fix. Many took shelter in their friends' houses or lodgings while some left for home.

Hall sources said the factions led by the college unit president, Humayun Islam Suman, and general secretary, Fahad Bin Kabir, clashed on the dormitory premises in the afternoon to flex muscle.

Tension had been prevailing at the hall since the morning, as both the groups were trying to undermine each other and establish their dominance, said sources.

The fighting broke out after loyalists of the general secretary along with some outsiders beat up Suman, the president, at Bakshi Bazar around 3:00pm.

Suman's followers responded immediately after hearing the news. Wielding sticks, rods, and cricket stumps, they attacked their opponents.

Eleven of the injured took treatment in DMC hospital.

Tasnim Mahmud, office secretary of the college unit BCL, alleged that some supporters of the general secretary, Fahad, beat up the president as he protested against Fahad's giving shelter to a college unit Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal intruder, Miraj, also an accused in different cases, in a room of the hall.

Fahad could not be reached immediately.

Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police's Lalbagh Division Mofiz Uddin Ahmed told The Daily Star that they raided the hall following the clash and seized some iron pipes and sticks from there. None was arrested.



Bangladesh Chhatra League leaders and activists carrying machetes and iron pipes in the presence of police roam on the campus of the Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology yesterday with so much ease that it seemed the law enforcers were escorting them. The pro-ruling party student body flexed its muscle after armed Islami Chhatra Shibir men gathered in front of a hall demanding release of their two leaders, who were arrested for trying to stop a pre-scheduled seminar to enforce Jamaat-e-Islami's countrywide hartal against the upholding of the war crimes conviction of party leader Delwar Hossain Sayeede by the Supreme Court.

PHOTO: COURTESY

EC begins taking photos of new voters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission yesterday began taking photos of new voters in Dhaka city for their entry into the electoral roll.

The photos will be taken at about 120 schools and colleges, which are being used as registration centres, said EC officials. The deadline for taking photos is November 15.

Earlier, from September 1 to 13, EC data collectors made door-to-door visits to gather information about new voters.

Those who failed to give information during data collection can still register

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RANA PLAZA CASES

Court asks govt to let 3 officials be charged

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked the public administration ministry and Rajdhani Unnayan Katiripakkha (Rajuk) to immediately approve the inclusion of the names of three government officials as accused in two cases filed over the deadly Rana Plaza collapse last year.

The officials are Md Kabir Hossain, former Savar upazila nirbahi officer; Uttam Kumar Roy, chief executive officer of Savar Municipality; and Awlad Hossain, building inspector of Savar Municipality.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Afroza Sheuly passed the order after Bijoy Krishna Kar, assistant superintendent of police of CID and also the investigation officer of the cases, submitted two petitions seeking steps from the ministry's secretary and the Rajuk's chairman for the approval to include them as accused in the cases.

In the petitions, Bijoy said he found negligence of the three officials during construction of the building in terms of its approval and monitoring. But he could not include their names

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RE-EMPOWERING JS TO IMPEACH JUDGES

AL govt has to answer to people one day

SCBA president tells press briefing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court Bar Association yesterday strongly protested the latest amendment to the constitution re-empowering the parliament to impeach SC judges, and demanded its immediate cancellation.

The protest came a day after the House unanimously passed the 16th amendment to the constitution on Wednesday.

"This change has been brought to put the independence of the judiciary under threat," alleged SCBA President Khandker Mahbub Hossain.

"The Awami League government has to answer to the people for this one day," he told a press briefing organised by the SCBA in its auditorium in the capital.

Mahbub Hossain alleged that the amendment was brought "illegally and immorally" to re-empower the parliament formed through a "voter-less January 5 election."

Even though experts, intellectuals and the media were against it, the government has made the changes to control the judiciary politically, he further alleged.

According to the 16th amendment, the Supreme Judicial Council, that used to monitor the misconduct of judges, no longer exists. The parliament is now empowered to remove a judge for misconduct or incapacity, a provision that was included in the 1972 constitution.

Stop constructions on arable lands

PM orders authorities concerned

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the country's land needs to be used and its management system should be maintained in a planned way considering Bangladesh's geographical area and huge population.

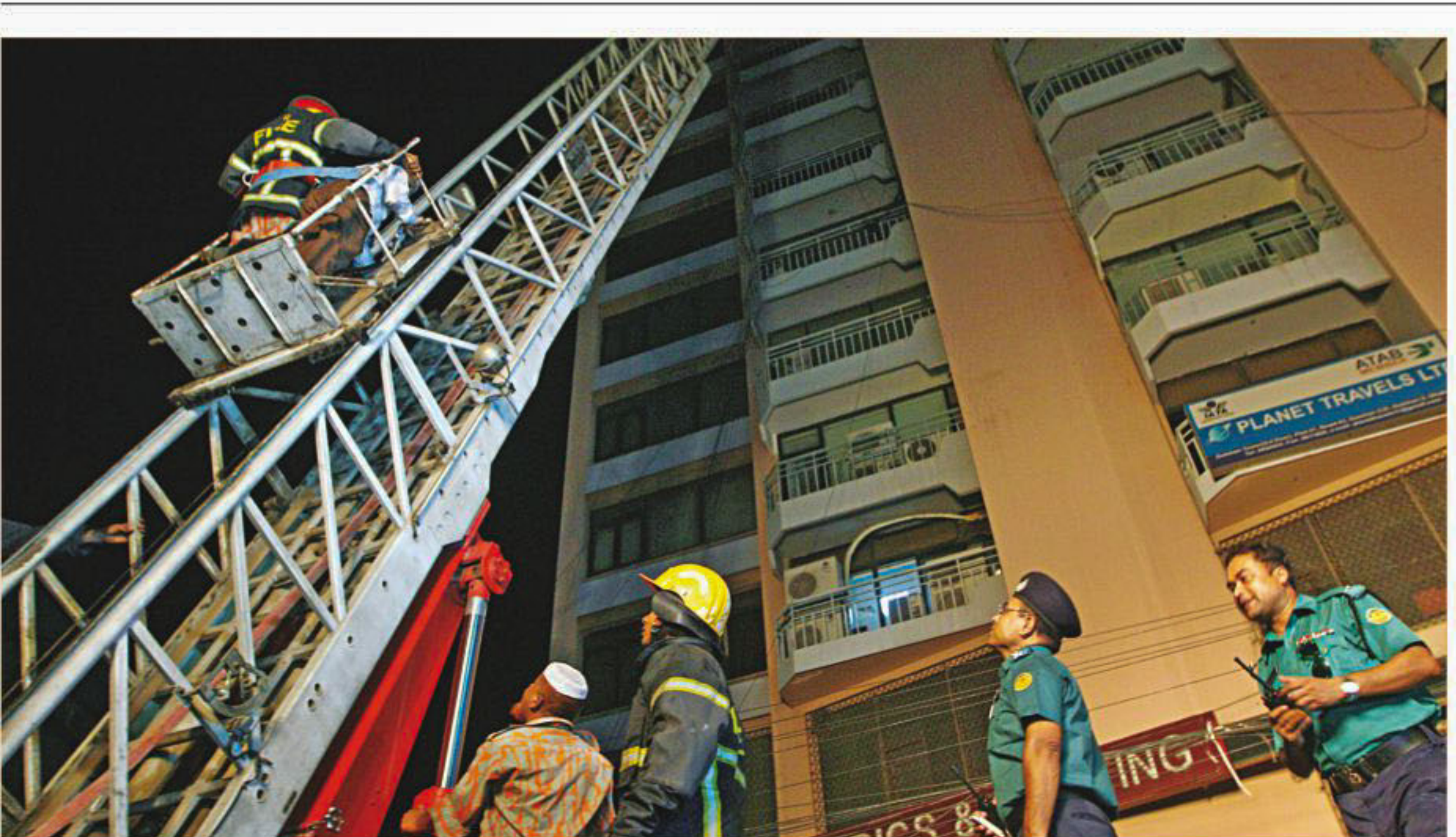
She was addressing the high officials of the Ministry of Land and its associate bodies during her visit to the ministry at the Secretariat.

Hasina directed the authorities concerned so that no one could set up factories or buildings here and there occupying arable lands.

She also asked the ministry to cooperate in formulating the upazila master plan through their surveys keeping aside lands for agriculture, rivers, beels, water bodies alongside keeping land for factories, especially those for SMEs to spur economic growth.

Acknowledging the fact that the country's farmland is shrinking day by day, Hasina directed the ministry to ensure

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Fire fighters bring down a man who took shelter on the roof of 12-storey Gulshan Tower in the capital's Gulshan-2 after a fire broke out from an electric short circuit at New Classic Fabrics and Lighting on the ground floor around 6:00pm yesterday. The building houses several commercial offices including some of Transcom Group. No casualty was reported. The fire was doused around 6:30pm. Transcom staff who were trapped in the fire said the fire fighters and police personnel involved in the rescue operation did an excellent job.

PHOTO: STAR

LIFESTYLE FASHIONS MAKER LTD

30 hurt as management staff beat up workers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Officials of a garment factory allegedly beat up its workers following a feud over the formation of a trade union, leaving at least 30 people injured, at Madhya Badda in the capital yesterday.

Workers of Lifestyle Fashions Maker Ltd alleged that some 20 to 25 officials led by production manager Ratan clobbered them with iron rods and bamboo sticks around 11:30am.

They added that they had named some of their colleagues for different posts in a trade union three months earlier, but the authorities dropped the names, selected their favourites, and got approval for the union early this month.

The factory occupies three floors of the 12-storey Lutfun Tower.

Aleya Begum, an injured worker, told The Daily Star that the attack followed an altercation between Ratan and a sewing machine operator.

She said the operator had an altercation with his subordinates, in which Ratan tried to intervene.

But several workers asked Ratan not to interfere, saying the workers would solve their matter themselves. An aggrieved Ratan then left the place, only to return with other officials.

REPORTING ON CHILD PROTECTION

Prothom Alo, World Vision award three journalists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three print media journalists were awarded by Prothom Alo and World Vision yesterday for their reports on child protection issues over the last one year.

Moshrefa Yasmin of the daily Ittefaq; Shipon Habib of the daily Jugantar; and Jhorna Moni of Bhorer Kagoj won the first, second and third prizes respectively.

Each received a crest, a certificate and prize money during a ceremony in the capital's Prothom Alo office.

Last year, Prothom Alo and World Vision organised a workshop on reporting on child protection issues. Participants were then asked to submit their published reports to Prothom Alo for evaluation.

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HC seeks Shibbaria river grabbers' list

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday sought from the Patuakhali district deputy commissioner and Kalapara upazila nirbahi officer by November 5 a list of persons who had encroached on the Shibbaria river.

The HC bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Ashrafur Kamal also issued a rule upon the government to explain why it should not be directed to demarcate the river area and evict the encroachers.

The order and rule came following hearing of a writ petition Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (Bela) submitted on Wednesday praying to save the river.

It said around 650 structures have reportedly been built at the upazila's Mohipur, Alipur and Laxmibazar points

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SAGAR-RUNI MURDER CASE

Court orders recording Megh's statement

COURT CORRESPONDENT

With no apparent progress made till date in the case over the murder of journalist couple Sagar-Runi, a Dhaka court yesterday ordered the Rab investigator to record statements of the couple's only son Mahir Sarowar Megh and Runi's mother and brother, scrutinise cellphone records of two guards who were working at the couple's residence at the time and interrogate the couple's colleagues.

Metropolitan Magistrate Amit Kumar Dey also sought the final probe report from Investigation Officer Wares Ali by November 2.

The orders came after the assistant superintendent of police, now on deputation in Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), submitted a progress report seeking more time.

Only Megh, then five, was home when Sagar Sarowar, news editor at Maasranga, and his wife Meherun Runi, senior reporter of ATN Bangla, were killed at their rented flat in the capital's West Rajabazar on February 11, 2012.

The first to be given the task, the Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan

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