

RAIN LIKELY



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

Weather may remain mainly dry with

temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, said Met office.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:37pm and rises tomorrow at 5:54am.

Country's highest temperature 36.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Khulna and lowest 23.6 degrees in Srimongal and Jessore.

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	34.3	25.7	65	69	Khulna	36.0	26.5	69	74
Chittagong	33.7	27.0	75	76	Barisal	34.2	26.0	69	83
Rajshahi	34.6	25.0	76	78	Sylhet	35.8	24.6	78	66
Rangpur	33.5	24.7	76	69	Cox's Bazar	34.8	24.5	72	71

NEWS IN brief

Hitachi awards scholarships to 3 AUW students

CITY DESK

Hitachi, Ltd is sponsoring scholarships for three foreign students of Asian University for Women in Bangladesh.

A total of US \$180,000 will be provided for the tuition and living cost of the students -- two selected from India and one from Myanmar -- for their four-year course, said a press release.

Through this scholarship programme, Hitachi, a Japanese multinational engineering and electronics conglomerate, aims to contribute to solving social issues such as poverty, education and gender inequality in South Asia.

North South PR head awarded

CITY DESK

The Head of PR & Deputy Director of North South University, Belal Ahmed, has recently been awarded by Mohanagori Cultural Forum Bangladesh (MCF) for his contribution to public relations and cultural development.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, the MCF organised a ceremony at Radisson Blu Water Garden in the capital where freedom fighter Md Sawkat Hossain and Ln Rina Rahman were awarded among others.

Former chief justice Md Tofazzal Hossain inaugurated the ceremony while Deputy Speaker of the parliament Barrister Fazle Rabbi Miah handed over the prizes.

Poultry industries observe World Egg Day today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A person in Bangladesh takes an average of 35 eggs annually against the minimum requirement to have 104 for sound health, said Bangladesh Poultry Industries Coordination Committee.

Referring to a statistics made by FAO, the BPICC made the claim marking World Egg Day to be observed today, said a press release yesterday.

Terming egg a "super food" item, the committee emphasised an increase in consuming eggs.

This year, the day is being observed with a slogan "Eat at least 75 eggs annually, keep fit".

US embassy closed on Sunday

CITY DESK

The US embassy in Dhaka, including its Consular Section and the American Center with the Archer K Blood American Center Library and the Education USA Student Advising Center, will be closed on Sunday, on the occasion of Columbus Day, an American holiday.

Emergency services for American citizens will be available at 885-5500.



With most of Chandpur city's water bodies filled up with earth, women try to make the most out of rainwater collecting on an empty plot in Mominpara. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: Alam Palash

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY Prevention depends on lifestyle, early detection

Says Dr Habibullah Talukder

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

If a woman has a sister, aunt or mother suffering from breast cancer, she runs a higher risk of the deadly disease. Though family history is something that can not be changed, what she can do is modify her food habits and lifestyle to cut her own risk of the disease.

"If a woman does not have genetic risks of breast cancer and eats more vegetables instead of fatty foods, regularly exercises, takes the first baby before 30 years of age, breastfeeds children and does not drink alcohol or smoke, her risk of breast cancer is little," said cancer specialist Dr Habibullah

Talukder.

In today's globalised world, lifestyles are changing fast. Many women remain single, do not take children or breastfeed them and remain obese for eating rich food, all of which could be major reasons behind the high prevalence of breast cancer globally, he said.

Speaking to The Daily Star on the eve of Breast Cancer Awareness Day, being observed in Bangladesh today, Dr Talukder said mass education is a must to prevent breast cancer that annually affects 10.5 lakh women around the world.

Of them, 5.8 lakh women are of the

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3rd Bangladesh-US dialogue Oct 21

Focus on expanding security, trade, development

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The two-day third Bangladesh-US Partnership Dialogue will begin in the US capital Washington DC on October 21, focusing on the expansion of security, trade and development ties between the two countries.

Issues related to labour, regional connectivity, climate change, counter terrorism and food security will come up during the dialogue, which is aimed to bolster bilateral and regional cooperation between Bangladesh and the United States.

Official sources said Dhaka will ask the US side to take a considerate view in the next Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) review for Bangladesh as the country has already implemented most of the preconditions in the "Bangladesh Action Plan 2013".

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No info from India about Saradha chit fund scam

Says state minister for home

UNB, Dhaka

State Minister for Home Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday said the government has not yet got any information from the Indian government about channelling Saradha chit fund to Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami.

"We've communicated with India following media reports over the matter but didn't get any response from the Indian side yet," he told reporters at the Secretariat.

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Ctg court summons Latif Siddique

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court summoned Awami League leader and Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology Minister Abdul Latif Siddique on November 23 over a case filed yesterday centring his recent comment on Hajj and Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Abdul Halim Khan, the party's Chittagong city Ward 12 unit joint secretary, filed the case with the court of Chittagong Metropolitan Magistrate Farid Alam.

Latif told a gathering of Tangail expatriates in New

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Abolish death penalty

Reiterates EU ambassador in Dhaka

UNB, Dhaka

Ambassadors of the European Union (EU) countries in Dhaka yesterday reiterated their call for the complete abolition of death penalty and establishing a moratorium on executions in Bangladesh.

"The European Union reaffirms its absolute opposition to the use of the death penalty," said a joint note issued by the envoys marking the European and the World Day against the Death Penalty that falls on October 10.

The European Union hoped that Bangladesh, as a member of the United Nations, will take all necessary actions to implement the UN resolutions, and thereby fully contribute to the enhancement of fundamental rights and human dignity in the world.

The abolition of capital punishment constitutes a crucial step towards guarantee-

ing respect for human rights and protection of human dignity, reads the joint letter.

The diplomats recalled the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 62/149 of December 18, 2007, further reaffirmed by Resolutions 63/168 of December 18, 2008, 65/206 of December 21, 2010 and 67/176 of December 20, 2012, calling upon states which still maintain the death penalty to abolish it completely and, in the meantime, to establish a moratorium on executions.

Despite a global trend towards abolition of capital punishment, the number of states which still maintain death penalty in their legal systems remains alarming, the diplomats observed.

"The death penalty concerns everyone's right to life, which forms the most fundamental, inherent and inalienable human right affirmed by multiple international

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PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

A floating cargo of bamboo makes its way into Dhaka over the Buriganga river on casting off from Sylhet. Boatmen specialising in the journey, usually taking around four days traversing over the Meghna and Shitalakhya rivers, charge from Tk 800-1,000 for a day, bringing in the plant which over the years has become essential, predominantly in construction.

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