

RAIN LIKELY

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

over the country, Met Office said. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. South west monsoon may withdraw from Bangladesh during next 48 hours. **The sun sets in the capital today at 5:33pm and rises tomorrow at 5:57am.**

Country's highest temperature 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sylhet and lowest 23.8 degree Celsius in Rangamati. 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	31.8	25.4	76	79	Khulna	33.4	25.5	79	83
Chittagong	31.2	25.4	83	81	Barisal	30.5	25.4	82	96
Rajshahi	34.0	25.0	90	92	Sylhet	35.0	25.5	82	71
Rangpur	31.0	25.0	83	89	Cox's Bazar	33.0	25.7	69	86



Security beefed up on the Chittagong Court Building premises yesterday after an anonymous caller threatened a suicide bomb attack by the banned Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) in the area.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

NEWS IN brief

Nahid again promises punishment for MC College arsonists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Over two years into the incident of torching the century-old dormitory of MC College in Sylhet, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday again assured that stern actions would be taken against the perpetrators.

"I have talked with the home minister about the issue," said Nahid after inaugurating two tin-shed buildings of the dormitory.

The education engineering department of the college reconstructed five buildings, including the two, which were burnt on July 8 allegedly by BCL and Jubo League activists following a clash with Shibir activists.

Man attempts suicide after killing wife in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A man attempted suicide after killing his wife at Kaicchagar in Sreepur municipality of Gazipur early yesterday.

Sreepur Model police said Abul Hashem first stabbed his wife, Johura Begum Shohagi, 35, with a knife in their bedroom and then consumed pesticide.

Locals rushed Hashem to Sreepur Upazila Health Complex from where he was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Police sent Shohagi's body to Gazipur Sadar Hospital for an autopsy.

Locals claimed Hashem was mentally challenged while police suspect he committed the murder in a sane manner. A case was filed.

Pabna University of Science and Technology admission test Nov 29

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

The admission test for the bachelor's programme at Pabna University of Science and Technology (PUST) under 2014-2015 session will be held on November 28.

The last date for submission of applications is October 25, says a press release.

Ruet admission test on Thursday

RU CORRESPONDENT

Admission test for the first year honours programmes at Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) under 2014-25 academic session will be held on Thursday, said a press release.

The reopening date of regular classes and examinations of the university will be informed later.

Earlier, on September 18, the university authority closed the campus for indefinite period following a clash between Shibir and BCL activists.

Six robbers held in Tongi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Six robbers were arrested with sharp weapons and Tk 43,000 from Machimpur area of Tongi under Gazipur City Corporation while they were taking preparation for robbery yesterday.

Tipped-off, a team of Rab-1 conducted a drive and held Moshfikur Rahman, 26, Alamgir Hossain, 33, Sohel Miah, 43, Mashur Rahman, 29, Saddam Hossain, 22 and Labtu, 27.

A microbus and a truck were also seized from their possessions.

Khaleda calls AL party of atheists

STAR CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday called Awami League a party of atheists and its professed secularism nothing but a sham.

Secularism is AL's mask and it is the ruling party that attacks religious communities whenever it gets a chance, said Khaleda at a function marking Shubha Bijoya at the capital's Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh.

Terming the incumbent government a "power grabber", she further said the ruling party men were torturing the Hindu community across the country; but the government had not taken any action against them.

On the other hand, Khaleda described her party as a patriotic one and said it wanted friendly relations with people of all religious communities, classes and professions at home and abroad.

The people of the country are not secured in the hands of the government as the incidents like killing, forced disappearance, abduction and violence are going on across the country, she blamed.

"Please come forward so that we can protect the country from the ruling Awami League," she urged.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

TAREK'S KILLING IN MUGHDA

Cops tortured him to death for dad's land

Claims family

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some detectives had tortured Mezbah Uddin Tarek to death and then shot his dead body to make it seem like he was killed in a shootout, alleged the deceased's family members.

In a press briefing at Jatiya Press Club yesterday, Tarek's family claimed that detectives made up the story about Tarek being killed in a gunfight between criminals and members of the Detective Branch of police.

According to DB police, Tarek was allegedly killed in the gunfight that ensued when law enforcers went to recover arms in the capital's Mughda on September 14.

Soon after the incident, DB police field

two cases with Mughda Police Station.

Abu Zafar Sikder, Tarek's father, yesterday said, "My son was neither a criminal nor an accused in any case or general diary. He was solely killed because I refused to sell 1.5 kathas of land to the husband of a female police official."

Talking to The Daily Star, Mughda, Jatrabari and Kadamtali police said as far as they knew the only cases Tarek was accused in were the two filed by DB police.

According to Zafar, the superintendent ranked police officer's husband, a Bangladesh Bank official (we withheld the name as we could not independently verify the allegations), has a land of 5.5 kathas right behind Zafar's land.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

SERIAL BOMB BLAST

JMB man jailed for 10 years

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced a member of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment in a case filed over bomb blast before the then Hotel Sheraton (now Ruposhi Bangla Hotel) in the capital on August 17, 2005.

It also fined Rezaul Karim Reza Tk 5,000, in default to suffer three months more in jail.

Three other accused Abdullah Al Fattah alias Shakil, Hafez Enayetullah alias Apu and Tareq Iqbal were acquitted as charges against him were not proved.

After cross-examination of all 14 prosecution witnesses, the court pronounced the judgment.

Reza and the three accused were arrested on August 20, 2005.

According to the case statement, a time bomb went off in front of the five-star hotel in 2005, part of JMB's series of bomb blasts in 63 districts of the country.

On August 17, 2005, around 500 bombs exploded in half an hour from 11:30am at 300 locations in 63 out of the 64 districts.



This canal was dug up in the capital's Dania area to drain rainwater but now it is almost filled to the brim with rubbish with the authorities concerned and locals turning a blind eye. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Feud over Piash Karim's wake heats up

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of people last evening vowed to take Piash Karim's body to Central Shaheed Minar for a wake while some organisations threatened to resist them, intensifying a controversy that started soon after his death.

The argument arose following Piash's cousin's announcement that the body will be taken to Central Shaheed Minar today for his fans, family and friends.

On Monday, Chhatra Sangram Parishad, a platform of seven student bodies, in a press release

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

ADMISSION PROCEDURE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION Government-academics consultation must

Shujan roundtable told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should immediately sit with educationists and academics to fix admission procedures of public and private universities in the country, said speakers at a roundtable yesterday.

They said although the nation was quite happy with candidates' performances in the public examinations, the poor results obtained by students in admission tests, particularly for Dhaka University, have frustrated people, and raised questions about the quality of education.

Some speakers suggested the government bolster schools and colleges so that public examinations can be held under them instead of the education boards.

Shushashoner Janney Nagorik (Shujan), a platform for civil society members, organised the roundtable titled "Current state of Bangladesh's education" at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

"The chaotic situation prevailing in the education system is manifestation of the country's overall disorderly situation," said Justice Qazi Ebadul Haque.

He said the situation would not improve until teachers become dedicated and committed towards their profession.

Media personality Muhammad Jahangir said questions were raised about whether the results of secondary and higher secondary examinations were realistic or artificially made.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

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STS Group

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