

RAIN LIKELY



Light rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions till 6:00pm today. Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said.

Day temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius and night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 5:21pm and rises tomorrow at 6:03am.**

Country's highest temperature 31.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Bogra and lowest 19.4 degrees in Dinajpur. 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 | 27.0 | 22.5 | 78 | 71 | Khulna | 27.8 | 22.6 | 89 | 87 |
| Chittagong | 25.4 | 23.5 | 72 | 85 | Barisal | 24.7 | 22.0 | 95 | 94 |
| Rajshahi | 30.7 | 21.6 | 84 | 89 | Sylhet | 28.0 | 20.0 | 80 | 84 |
| Rangpur | 30.0 | 20.2 | 79 | 72 | Cox's Bazar | 28.5 | 25.0 | 62 | 74 |

**FAKE FF CERTIFICATES
4 secys respond
to show cause
notices**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The four top bureaucrats, who obtained freedom fighter certificates through forgery, have responded to the show cause notices served to them by the public administration ministry. They sent their replies to the ministry on Monday. The four are - Health Secretary Niaz Uddin Mia, Public Service Commission Secretary AKM Amir Hossain, and Liberation War Affairs Secretary KH Masud Siddiqui (now an officer on special duty) and its Joint Secretary Abul Kashem Talukder (also an OSD). The public administration ministry served the show cause notices to the four under the Government Servants (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1985, on October 13 and gave them 10 working

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Around 25,000 people of 20 villages in Nabiganj and Moulvibazar upazilas risk their lives every day when crossing a tributary of the river Borak using this bamboo-made bridge. Their demand for a concrete bridge has gone unheeded by the authorities concerned for long. PHOTO: STAR

**NEWS IN
brief**

Khaleda's Natore rally now on Nov 1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The public rally of BNP-led 20-party alliance which was supposed to be held in Natore on October 31 has been rescheduled for November 1 due to unavoidable reasons. BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia is set to attend the meeting as chief guest. Two others will be held in Comilla and Kishoreganj in order to drum up public support in favour of its demand for holding a fresh national poll under a non-party administration.

Abducted girl yet to be rescued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Police are yet to rescue a madrasa girl even after 12 days of her abduction from Mahiganj area of Rangpur city. Victim's father alleged that on October 17 miscreants led by Robiul Islam, 20, of Mahiganj area kidnapped the girl at gunpoint on her way to private tuition. On that night, he filed a case accusing Robiul, Babu Mian, Shafiqul Islam and Albeda with Rangpur Kotwali Police Station. Police said they were trying to arrest the abductors and rescue the girl.

Australian team meets DU VC

BSS, Dhaka

A two-member delegation led by Dr Rachel Edwards, a social worker of South Australian Health Department called on Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique at his office yesterday. During the meeting, they discussed possibilities of undertaking joint collaborative academic and research programmes on health education by DU and higher educational institutions in Australia. The VC thanked the guests for their visit to the university.

13 drug peddlers held in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Police arrested 13 drug peddlers and recovered Yaba tablets, cannabis and phensedyl from different areas of Gazipur city early yesterday. The arrestees are Zakir Hossain, 35, Shopon Kor, 45, of Nilerpara area, Belayet Hossain, 40, of Purba Chandon area, Elias, 28, Shawon, 18, Mohammed Ali, 35, Anisur Rahman, 27, Babul Miah, 45, Khairul Islam, 36, Akkas Ali, 22, Shorafot Karim Pial, 30, Aminul Kabir, 45, and Rashed Miah, 21.

USAID team visits schools in Bagerhat

CITY DESK

As part of a tour in Khulna a delegation of the US Agency for International Development (USAID) yesterday visited Farmer Nutrition Schools in Bahirdia union of Fakirhat upazila. The schools, a 10-month programme under a USAID-funded nutrition project, works with the poorest communities in 40 upazilas across Khulna and Barisal to provide information on nutrition and hygiene, says a press release. Anne Aarnes, USAID assistant administrator for Asia and Janina Jaruzelski USAID Bangladesh mission director were in the mission.

Four arms, drug traders arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion arrested four arms and drug traders and recovered a pistol and two bullets from their possession in the capital's Khilgaon yesterday. During a drive at Nandi Para, a team of Rab-3 arrested Saddam Hossain, 30 and Mirja Khalid, 39. Based on their information, the team arrested Md Razon, 28, and Sohel from a nearby shanty, said Rab officials. In preliminary interrogation, they confessed to their involvement in arms and drug trading.

Media distort my speeches

Alleges Ershad
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad yesterday criticised the media saying that they often distort speeches he makes in different programmes. "Nowadays, it is difficult for me to say anything as the media distort my speeches," Ershad, also the special envoy to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, said at a conference of Jatiya Olama Party at the Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh in the capital. The media have often published remarks made by Ershad on different occasions. Ershad had lambasted the government on October 16 saying there was no democracy in the country. He further said that people want to see neither Sheikh Hasina nor Khaleda Zia in power as they have failed to fulfil people's expectations. However, in a 180 degree turn, Ershad in a letter to Hasina congratulated her regarding Bangladesh's victory in the two top international parliament-based organisations. He termed Hasina "a skilled, determined, courageous and an honest leader" of the state. Again a day later, Ershad

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Woman killed in building bricks fall

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A pedestrian was killed and another injured as some bricks fell on them from an under-construction building at Mohakhali in the capital yesterday. Afia Begum, 60, a beggar, a resident of Korail slum in Mohakhali, died on the spot when some ten bricks fell on her from the fourth floor of the building on T&T School Road around 2:30pm, police said. The injured, Mustakin, 45, is also a resident of the slum. On information, law enforcers visited the spot but found no one in the construction site. The building owner did not ensure any safety measures for pedestrians before starting construction, police added.

Don't reduce girls' marriageable age

Demands network of 21 NGOs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should clarify its stand on lowering the marriageable age of girls to 16 from 18, said Child Rights Governance Assembly, a network of 21 NGOs, at a press conference yesterday. The draft of the Child Marriage Restraint Act 2014 was approved in a cabinet meeting on September 15 in which the law ministry was directed to review the law to make 16 the minimum

age of marriage for girls, mentioned the speakers. If the girls are married off before the age of 18, they can hardly complete their education and become self-reliant, and the babies they give birth to also suffer from malnutrition, they added. So, they demanded that the marriageable age of girls should not be lowered, and also suggested that marriage age of boys be brought down to 18 from 21 to balance out

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Armed Police Battalion patrol to beef up security in the capital. The photo was taken near Radisson hotel on Airport Road yesterday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

ACC files appeal with SC seeking stay on Bodi's bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday filed an appeal with the Supreme Court, seeking a stay on a High Court order that granted bail to ruling Awami League lawmaker Abdur Rahman Bodi in a corruption case. Hearing of the appeal may be held before the bench of the SC chamber judge today, ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star yesterday. Citing from the appeal petition, he said there was specific allegation against Bodi of committing corruption and the HC's order during investigation of the case was not correct. The ACC filed the case on August 21 accusing the legislator from Cox's Bazar-4 constituency of amassing wealth illegally and concealing information in his wealth statement. On Monday, the HC granted six months' ad interim bail to the accused lawmaker in the case.

14kg of gold seized in Dhaka, Ctg

CITY DESK

Customs officials detained two persons, including a Malaysian woman, with 8kg of gold at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital yesterday. Raja Baslima Binte Raja Malik, the Malaysian citizen, was arrested with six gold bars, worth Tk 3 crore, while she was passing through a green channel. In another drive, Mizanur Rahman, a passenger of Bangladesh Airlines flight, was arrested with 2kg of gold, worth Tk 1 crore, said the officials. Meanwhile, Chittagong customs officials detained Badiul Alam and seized 45 gold bars, weighing 5.8kg, from his body at Shah Amanat International Airport, said Shahdat Jamil, assistant commissioner of Chittagong Customs. Alam went to Chittagong by a flight from Dhaka that landed at the airport around 8:20am.

Rapist, accomplice arrested in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested a rapist and his female associate in the capital yesterday in a case filed for raping a teenage girl on Friday. Ratan Lal alias Suman was held in Ramna Green House Staff Quarter area while the accomplice Nazma Begum, 40, in Green Road area, said Sher-e-Bangla police Officer-in-charge CG Biswas. In preliminary interrogation, both confessed to the guilt, the OC said. While making a relationship with the 18-year-old girl of Munshiganj over cellphone, Ratan identified himself as a parliament building staff and offered her to visit Dhaka, he said. As she came to the capital alone, Ratan took her to Nazma's house and raped her there, he added.

SOLARISING BANGLADESH

Improving and impacting livelihoods
Installation of 475,000 Solar Home System
Pioneering Solar Powered pumps with 200 installations
Pioneering in Solar Powered BTS
Total installation of more than 35MWp with our Solar Powered Solutions

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