

**DRY WEATHER LIKELY**



**WEATHER TODAY**  
Unib, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today.  
Night and day temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

**The sun sets in the capital today at 5:14pm and rises tomorrow at 6:13am.**  
Country's highest temperature 33.3 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in

Cox's Bazar and lowest 17.2 in Sreemangal.  
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	31.5	20.0	57	64	Khulna	32.5	20.8	70	74
Chittagong	31.7	22.3	64	61	Barisal	31.7	19.7	80	89
Rajshahi	31.6	17.8	81	74	Sylhet	32.2	20.0	70	71
Rangpur	30.7	19.2	73	77	Cox's Bazar	33.3	23.2	69	70

**Syed Mainul Hossain laid to rest**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
National Memorial architect Syed Mainul Hossain was laid to rest at Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard in Mirpur yesterday.  
Earlier in the day, his body was taken by a hearse from Birdem Hospital mortuary to his Shantinagar residence and then from there to Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet), where he studied.  
Mainul's coffin was kept at the architecture department where teachers and students paid their last respect to the eminent architect whose signature work draws seas of people every year.  
His first namaz-e-janaza was held there. Later, his coffin was taken to Central Shaheed Minar around 11:20am.  
Friends and colleagues of the architect, leaders of socio-political organisations, and other mourners



The Institute of Architects Bangladesh places a wreath on the coffin of Syed Mainul Hossain at the Central Shaheed Minar in the capital yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

**'MURDER' OF JUBO LEAGUE LEADER See if 7-murder accused Rab men, Noor involved**

**Court orders DB**  
**OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj**  
A Narayanganj court yesterday ordered Detective Branch (DB) of police to see if 15 persons, including three former Rab-11 officials, ward councillor Noor Hossain and his brother-in-law Bangladesh Chitra League leader Noor-e-Alam Khan, were involved in the alleged abduction and murder of Jubo League leader Ismail Hossain.  
Hearing an appeal filed by Ismail's brother Abdul Mannan, Narayanganj Senior Judicial Magistrate KM Mohiuddin also ordered to take legal action if any involvement was found.  
The three former Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) officials, Lt Col (sacked) Tareq Sayeed, Maj (sacked) Arif Hossain and Lt Commander (sacked) MM Rana, are in jail centring the case of the Narayanganj seven-murder taking place in late April while its prime suspect Noor Hossain is in a Kolkata jail.  
Abdul Mannan first filed a case with Siddhirganj Police Station on February 9 accusing unknown persons of abducting and murdering Islam. DB is now investigating the case.  
The appeal, filed on October 14, states that Ismail was abducted by the 15 who later, through a note sent by a Rab source on February 19, sought Tk 2 crore for his release, stating that Ismail's business rivals had paid Tk 1.5 crore to kill him.  
Once released, Ismail must not engage in dispute with Noor Hossain, Noor-e-Alam and other business rivals, the appeal stated the note as saying, adding that though Mannan managed to collect Tk 1 crore, the Rab officials did not respond.  
The appeal says a letter Noor Hossain sent from Kolkata states that Ismail had been murdered after abduction.

**FIGHTING FOOD ADULTERATION Corrupt gov officials hamper drives**

**Discussion told**  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The government is helpless to contain food adulteration as long as bureaucrats continue accepting bribes, said Director (law) of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) Md Rokon Ud-Doula yesterday.  
The government officials often take bribes during anti-adulteration drives and let the perpetrators off the hook, he said, adding that creating widespread awareness could be the key to stopping food adulteration.  
The former magistrate, who shot to fame for his anti-adulteration drives in the capital, was addressing a discussion on how to stop adulteration organised by Bhejal Birodhi Andolon at Bangladesh National Museum in Dhaka.  
Blaming greed of unscrupulous sellers, Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury said the government could do little if the people are utterly devoid of honesty.  
ABM Faroque, pharmaceutical technology professor of Dhaka University, said some chemicals are necessary to preserve and process food products but the problem is people often use an excessive amount of chemicals which is not safe for human consumption.  
He also urged people to avoid eating steroid stuffed fruits and vegetables which are disproportionately big.

**COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE Propose monitoring wing in South Asia**

**Greens urge govt**  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Green activists yesterday urged the government to place a proposal at the upcoming Saarc summit in Nepal to set up an independent wing to monitor climate change and disaster issues in South Asia.  
As the South Asian countries, including Bangladesh, are in the acute risk of disasters caused by the impact of climate change, the Saarc countries must work together to combat the risk of loss and damages, they added.  
This year's Saarc summit is scheduled for November 26 and 27 in Kathmandu.  
Dr Ahsan Uddin Ahmed, executive director of the Centre for Global Change, said South Asia is the most disaster prone region in the world and the people living there are mostly poor and vulnerable.  
"The Saarc countries' political leaders must raise voice to protect the region from the probable dangers of the climate change effect, thus they will be able to draw the global leaders' attention, he added.  
He made the remarks at a consultation meeting on "People's voice on CCA & DRR: Call to the Saarc leaders" organised by the Network of Climate Change of Bangladesh in Jatiya Press Club in the capital.  
The Saarc leaders established some unique institutions like Saarc food bank and Saarc agriculture centre but those are still facing many problems due to a lack of proper supervision, said Ahsan.  
Mizanur Rahman Bijoy, coordinator of NCC,B, spoke among others.

**An insult to Liberation War**

**Kader Siddique says about arrest warrant against him in defamation case for calling MK Alamgir 'Razakar'**  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Krishak Sramik Janata League President Kader Siddique yesterday said Tuesday's arrest warrant against a freedom fighter like him was an insult to the 1971 Liberation War and its freedom fighters.  
At a press conference at his Mohammadpur residence in the capital, he said the warrant was issued because he had introduced a razakar. "I am waiting to be arrested," he added.  
A Dhaka court issued the warrant after Kader, without stating any reason, failed to appear for 14 consecutive days at the hearing of a defamation case accusing him of calling former home minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir a "Razakar".  
The complainant, Ruhul Amin, also a freedom fighter, filed the case on

**NEWS IN brief**

**Youth to die for killing child in N'ganj**  
**OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj**  
A court yesterday awarded death sentence to a youth for killing an 8-year-old child in Dewbhogh area of Narayanganj town in 2007.  
The accused is Mohammad Ali Babu, 25, of the area.  
On December 12, 2007, Babu killed Imon, son of Ismail Hossain, of the same area, following a love affair between Imon's brother Sumon and a girl whom Babu also liked.  
**One handed death for killing hotel owner, 2 get life term in Sylhet**  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet**  
A Sylhet court yesterday awarded death penalty to the prime accused and life terms to two other accused for killing the managing director of Hotel Anurag of Sylhet city's jail road area.  
The accused is Shafiqur Rahman Shafique, 32, of Dhaka and others are Sumon Ahmed, 30, and Khokan Mia, 30.  
On November 29, 2010, the trio killed Atiqur Rahman, 30, at the hotel as he denied helping them to export pornographic CDs.

**BT BRINJAL Green activists demand stop to cultivation**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Green activists at a press conference yesterday demanded a halt to the expansion of cultivation of the genetically modified BT Brinjal, which they said might have serious health and environmental hazards.  
They said cultivation of the crop has been mostly unsuccessful in the last season beginning in January, but Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI) is expanding its cultivation in 13 more districts this winter, which is totally unacceptable.  
Alliance against BT Brinjal, Naya Krishi Andolon and Narigrantha Prabantana organised the press conference at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.  
BARI scientists developed four varieties of BT Brinjal that are resistant to insects, and distributed saplings of those to 20 farmers in four districts in January. The institute will now expand cultivation of the varieties through 108 farmers in 17 districts.  
Dr Rafiqul Islam, former director general of BARI and current executive chairman of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council, said the genetically modified crop has already been tested in an accredited laboratory in India that found no health risks.  
However, at the press conference yesterday,



Green activists form a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday demanding that the government halt the expansion of cultivation of the genetically modified Bt Brinjal, which they said might have health and environmental risks. PHOTO: STAR

**Truckers plan strike citing 'discrimination'**

**FROM PAGE 3**  
government has started the drive and filing cases against us," he added.  
Fearing cases and harassment, several hundred trucks suspended operations and are lying idle in terminals, he said.  
"We will hold a meeting (today) among our association members. Then, we will take further decision. We may enforce the strike if the situation continues," he added.  
BRTA Chairman Nazrul Islam claimed the covered van owners illegally increase the length to carry more goods than its actual capacity and that they had been given time to shorten the length but they did not comply.  
"Now, they are pressuring to legitimate it. We will not go beyond the law," he added.  
Yesterday magistrates filed cases against 75 and impounded four vehicles and imposed fines worth around Tk76,000.  
"I am facing severe transport crisis to travel from office to home in the last three days. Every day, I have to wait more than one hour before I can board a bus," said Kamrunnahr at Karwan Bazar yesterday afternoon.  
Currently, more than 3.13 lakh of the over 21 lakh vehicles registered with BRTA have no fitness. Of them, over 93,000 are in Dhaka, according to BRTA sources.

**Eminent citizens concerned over bail denial**

**FROM PAGE 3**  
murder case against Jannati. The family also named 15 persons, including some government high officials, as witness, it added.  
If found guilty in the accident case, Jannati will be jailed for three and a half months. But she has been denied bail for the last four months and taken on remand for 15 days, they said.  
The signatories include Rokia Afzal Rahman, Khushi Kabir, Prof Sadeka Halim, Gitiara Nasreen, Kaberi Gayen, Samina Lutfa, Nasrin Khandaker, Kazi Krishnakoli Islam, Supriti Dhar, Farooq Wasif and Hana Shams Ahmed.

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