


DRY WEATHER LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

Unib, Dhaka

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the country during mid night till morning, said Met Office.

Night and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:10pm and rises tomorrow at 6:26am.

Country's highest temperature 29.5

degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Cox's Bazar and lowest 11.9 degrees in Srimangal.

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	27.5	17.0	80	69	Khulna	28.5	15.2	95	86
Chittagong	28.6	17.2	68	57	Barisal	27.6	15.4	95	93
Rajshahi	27.8	13.8	98	86	Sylhet	29.4	16.9	77	78
Rangpur	26.4	15.0	79	80	Cox's Bazar	29.5	16.7	69	81

NEWSIN

brief

Daud's 'associate' arrested again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch of police yesterday stated to have arrested from Gazipur last night Abdul Rauf Daud Merchant, a suspected associate of underworld don Daud Ibrahim and convicted killer of music baron Gulshan Kumar, hours after his release from a Kashimpur jail.

On May 28, 2009, police arrested the mercenary sharpshooter in Brahmanbaria. He was later convicted for intruding and illegally staying in Bangladesh.

N'ganj 7-murder charge filing Jan 22

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A Narayanganj court yesterday ordered Detective Branch of police Officer-in-Charge Mamunur Rashid Mandal to submit the charge sheet of the seven-murder case on January 22 next year.

Narayanganj City Corporation panel mayor Nazrul Islam, his three aides and driver and senior lawyer Chandan Sarkar and his driver were kidnapped separately from the Dhaka-Narayanganj link road on April 27. Later, six bodies were found in the Shitalakkhya river.

Committee formed for Debesh's birth centenary's yearlong celebration

CITY DESK

A committee with Prof Anisuzzaman as chairperson, Ajoy Roy, Dr Maleka Begum and Ayesha Khanam as co-chairpersons and Bashudeb Dhar as member-secretary has been formed to plan and execute celebration of human rights leader Justice Debesh Bhattacharya's birth centenary throughout the year.

The decision came at a forum in the capital on November 27. Justice Debesh's birth anniversary was on November 4, says a press release. Ajoy Roy, Md Golam Quddus, Jharnadhara Chowdhury, Jiban Kanai Das, Rajib Shaha, Mustafizur Rahman, Aroma Dutta, Jayanta Kumar Sen, Kajal Debnath, Jayanta Kumar Deb, Pijush Bandyopadhyay and Hena Islam also spoke.

BCL begins clean up drive

DU CORRESPONDENT

A seven-day campaign to clear garbage littering public universities was launched at Dhaka University yesterday by Bangladesh Chhatra League, as per its president, at the directive of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's son Sajeeb Wazed Joy.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader joined the "Clean Campus and Safe Campus" campaign.

Zia Haider to join DU programme

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Zia Haider Rahman will discuss his book "In the Light of what We Know" with Prof Fakrul Alam and deliver a lecture on "Notes of a Native Son" at a programme Dhaka University's English department will organise at Muzzafar Ahmed Chowdhury Auditorium tomorrow from 10:00am to 12:00 noon.

Reunion of '88 Dhaka College HSC batch Dec 25

CITY DESK

The Reunion of Dhaka College HSC 1988 batch will be held in the college auditorium on December 25.

Students of the batch have been requested to register their names by depositing Tk 1,000 with Maati Properties Ltd, 56/4 West Panthapath, Dhaka-1205 or Tk 1,020 using bkash No 01678090888, said a press release.

Scholastica students attend model UN confce in India

CITY DESK

Seven students with a teacher from Scholastica, senior section, of Uttara joined a four-day Vivek High School Model United Nation conference in India on November 17.

This is a mock conference of United Nations where students represent their assigned countries and committees and reach consensus on particular global issues.

Awareness of public must for curbing road crashes

Says Ilias Kanchan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Public awareness is necessary alongside government and non-government initiatives to reduce road accidents, said actor Ilias Kanchan, also the chairman of Nirapad Sarak Chai, yesterday.

"Everybody should follow the rules while crossing roads or driving vehicles," he said.

He was addressing a press conference organised marking his organisation's 21st anniversary at Dhaka Reporters Unity.

Praising police for their recent initiative to prevent

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Rebecca's remarks on women condemned

She claims reports distorted her speech

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different rights organisations yesterday condemned the recent speech made by Rebecca Momin, chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry for Women and Children Affairs, terming it derogatory towards women.

At a seminar on November 27, Rebecca said "women's clothing and free travel" were responsible for "increasing number of rape and torture incidents."

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP) said her speech was disrespectful and derogatory towards the female society, said a press release signed by Ayesha Khanam and Maleka Banu, president and general secretary of the parishad.

Amrai Pari Paribarik Nirjaton Protirodh Jot and Biplobi Nari Sanghati also issued press statements echoing BMP.

Contacted, Rebecca claimed her speech was distorted in reports.

"We have our culture and I suggested that women follow it. I also asked parents to look after their children's movement," she said.

Sayedee shifted to Dhaka Central Jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Convicted war criminal Delawar Hossain Sayedee has been shifted to Dhaka Central Jail from Kashimpur High Security Jail in Gazipur after a medical checkup at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU).

On Sunday, the 74-year-old Jamaat-e-Islami nayebe-ameer was taken to Gazipur District Hospital from Kashimpur jail after he complained of chest pain, Sayedee's lawyer Tajul Islam told The Daily Star yesterday.

He was transferred to BSMMU around 3:00am yesterday, Tajul said.

During checkup, the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Decision on indictment of two suspects

FROM PAGE 3

After the hearing, the three-member tribunal led by Justice Obaidul Hassan fixed the date to pass an order.

In his arguments, Mizanul Islam, counsel of the two, called the charges "false" and his clients "innocent". He however said, "My clients are ready to face trial."

On December 11, the tribunal will also pass an order on the petition, filed by the defence considering their old age and health conditions.

Mahidur and Afsar were detained in a criminal case on September 16. Later, they were shown arrested in a war crimes case.

TRIBUNAL-1

State-appointed defence counsel Mohammad Abul Hossain yesterday placed closing arguments to defend fugitive war crimes accused Abdul Jabbar.

Pointing out testimonies of the witnesses who claimed that Jabbar on May 16, 1971 ordered Razakars at Tushkhali High School in Pirojpur to kill freedom fighters, the lawyer argued that Razakar, an auxiliary force to the occupation army, was formed in August 1971.

"Then how could he give that order to Razakars?" he said.

According to the prosecution, the

Razakar force was formed in May 1971, and the then Pakistan government formally established the force through a gazette on August 2, 1971.

Several witnesses also testified that Jabbar along with 30-35 Pakistani army men, Iskandar, and 40-45 Razakars attacked Phuljhuri village and killed civilians.

The defence lawyer claimed that Jabbar, a former Jatiya Party lawmaker, was not involved in the massacre; rather Razakar commander Iskandar led the auxiliary force.

The proceeding was adjourned until tomorrow.

Nation grieves Qayyum's death

FROM PAGE 3

In 1992 under the leadership of Shaheed Janani Jahanara Imam, it said.

Pointing out his legendary role in paint industry, Sector Commanders Forum-Liberation War-'71 said the artist had participated in the agitations demanding punishment of war criminals.

Ain o Salish Kendra said Qayyum Chowdhury, who was also the convenor of the Charu Karu Shilpi Songram Parishad during the liberation war, would remain as an idol for his works for the deprived people and the society.

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Bnagladesh Jubo Moitree and Bangladesh Rukhe Darao also

expressed deep condolence at the death of Qayyum.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid, Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan and Vice Chancellor of Maulana Bhashani Science and Technology University Prof Dr Allauddin also condoled the death of the renowned artist.



Prime Minister's International Affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi among guests viewing artworks by young artists from indigenous communities on display at Dhaka Art Centre yesterday during the inauguration of a three-day exhibition, "Colours and Contours from Hills". PHOTO: STAR

HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH BAY OF BENGAL

Baira for regular hotspot raids by joint forces

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Baira yesterday recommended Border Guard Bangladesh, Rapid Action Battalion and police jointly and regularly raid human trafficking hotspots in Saint Martin, Teknaf, Shah Pori Island, Cox's Bazar and Chittagong to nab criminals cheating jobseekers.

The government must ensure that traffickers and masterminds do not get bail and increase regular vigilance of Bangladesh Navy and Bangladesh Coast Guard in coastal regions, said Baira President Abul Bashar.

Some gangs from Myanmar, Thailand and Bangladesh, especially some local representatives and influential persons of

Chittagong, and Cox's Bazar, are involved in cheating people with false promises of taking them over the Bay of Bengal and ensuring Malaysian jobs, he said, referring to media reports.

Holding a press conference on the issue in the capital's Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira) office, Bashar said at least 137 relevant cases have been filed in Cox's Bazar.

He hoped Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in her visit to Malaysia this week, will hold discussions on opening all job sectors for Bangladeshis.

Baira Senior Vice-President Ali Haider Chowdhury said the huge manpower sector

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

BOOZE IN GULSHAN, BANANI

Stop illegal sale in 48 hrs: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered the government authorities concerned to stop within the next 48 hours sale and purchase of alcoholic beverages from unlicensed bars and restaurants in the capital's Gulshan and Banani and submit in 10 days a compliance report.

In response to a writ petition based on a November 23 daily Jugantor report, "40 mini bars at Banani-Gulshan", it also issued a rule asking the authorities to explain in two weeks why their inaction to stop the practice should not be declared illegal.

In the rule, the court also asked the authorities to show causes as to why they should not be directed to take legal action against the persons involved in the purchase and sale, petitioner's counsel Manzill Murshid told The Daily Star.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

SHAMARUKH MURDER CASE

Husband's bail denied

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday again rejected the bail petition of Humayun Sultan, son of former AL lawmaker Khan Tipu Sultan, in the Shamarukh Mahjabin murder case.

Judge Jahirul Haque of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka passed the order saying that the investigation of the case is now at the primary stage and police is yet to confirm the reason behind the death.

Earlier on November 16, Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Anwar Sadat placed Humayun on a three-day remand rejecting his bail petition. Since then, Humayun Sultan has been in jail.

Humayun was arrested on November 13.

Humayun's wife Shamarukh was found dead at her in-laws' house on the same day.

Later, the victim's father, Nurul Islam, filed a murder case with Dhanmondi Police Station accusing Humayun Sultan and his parents.



The Directorate General of Health Services brings out a procession on Manik Mia Avenue in the capital marking World Aids Day yesterday. PHOTO: CHRIS DÄPPEN

Indigenous artists showcase creations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It is not often that art enthusiasts in the capital get to see works depicting the beauty and magnificence of the indigenous lifestyles and landscape of the hill tracts.

The opportunity came yesterday through the launching of a three-day exhibition at Dhaka Art Centre on works of 27 artists reflecting indigenous people's lives and struggles in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT).

The featured works bearing testimony to the idyllic scenario of the hilly districts and the livelihoods of its people have been created by young artists from indigenous communities.

The event, titled "Colours and Contours from Hills", has been organised by the Ministry of CHT Affairs marking the 17th anniversary of the signing of the CHT peace accord.

Launching the exhibition, Prime Minister's International Affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi said, "The

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

HC scraps challenge against Latif's JS membership

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday rejected a writ petition challenging the legality of former minister Abdul Latif Siddique's Jatiya Sangsad membership.

The HC passed the order saying that the parliament and the Election Commission are the authorities that examine the legality of a JS member, Assistant Attorney General Swarup Kanti Das told The Daily Star.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

BRIBERY CASE

HC okays trying Apu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday cleared the way for a lower court to run the trial proceedings of a Tk 21 core bribery case against Mia Nur Uddin Apu, assistant personal secretary of BNP Vice-Chairman Tarique Rahman.

The court rejected a petition filed by Apu seeking scrap of the proceedings.

Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case on October 4, 2007 accusing Apu, Tarique and several others of taking the bribe from Bashundhara Group to help lift the charge of murder of Humayun Kabir Sabbir, a director of the group, against Shafiat Sobhan Sanvir, son of the group's chairman Ahmed Sobhan Shah Alam.

The murder case was filed in July 2006 after Sabbir was found dead.