

DRY WEATHER LIKELY



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

Night temperature may rise slightly over the country and day temperature may remain

nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:11pm and rises tomorrow at 6:27am.

Country's highest temperature 29.6

degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Cox's Bazar and lowest 13.3 in Chuadanga.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in Celsius	
Max:	Min:
Dhaka 27.5	17.0
Chittagong 29.0	17.1
Rajshahi 26.8	14.0
Rangpur 28.0	15.0

Humidity in percentage	
Morning	Evening
69	71
68	69
100	91
76	77

Temperature in Celsius	
Max:	Min:
Khulna 28.4	16.1
Barisal 27.8	15.5
Sylhet 29.2	17.1
Cox's Bazar 29.6	17.0

Humidity in percentage	
Morning	Evening
98	72
100	91
84	66
72	77

Reducing marriageable age of females new way of oppressing girls

Say women's rights activists
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A new way of oppressing girls is being introduced in the country with the government pushing to reduce marriageable age of females from 18 to 16, said women's rights activists at a human chain yesterday.

They said if the move is successful, females would be at a risk of suffering damage to their reproductive health and mental health and be deprived of their right to take part in political and economical activities as a citizen of the country.

Social Resistance Movement, a platform of 63 women's rights organisations, arranged the event in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital demanding the minimum marriageable age of girls be kept 18 in the Child Marriage Restraint Act-2014.

They said with the world observing the "International Fortnight for Resistance against Repression on Women",

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A fisherman on his way to make his day's catch, at the first light of October 10. The moment was captured, on the bank of Jamuna in Sirajganj, by a finalist for the "Rivers of Bangladesh" category of The Daily Star's photo contest for amateurs, 'inPixel'.

PHOTO:
MIR MYNUL ISLAM



Common policy must for joint management of trans-boundary ecosystems

Speakers tell IUCN
Bangladesh consultation
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

This subcontinent's policymakers need to formulate a common policy for sustainable and joint management of common and shared ecosystems and natural resources beyond the respective political and social boundaries, speakers told a consultation of experts.

The regional experts stressed the need for various actors to come on a common platform to enhance the science-based policy formulation and for generating and sharing knowledge and data by conducting joint researches acceptable in policy circles, they said.

Around 80 experts from Bangladesh and India are participating in the two-day "Ecosystems, People and Shared Learning: Experiences from Bangladesh India Civil Society Dialogue" was organised by IUCN Bangladesh in a hotel in the

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Barisal cops pummel medical students

22 suffer injuries

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Indiscriminate and unrestrained baton charge and manhandling by Barisal Metropolitan Police on agitators, mostly females, left at least 22 injured during a demonstration before Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital around noon yesterday.

Police detained and then released after accepting an undertaking 14 demonstrators and claimed three law

enforcers, Constable Masum Billah, Traffic Constable Bellal Hossain and Sergeant Kamrul Islam, suffered minor injuries. The 22 were taken to the hospital.

The law enforcers, with only three or four female personnel, kept on clubbing demonstrators, irrespective of their sex and even those writhing in pain and already down on the ground, said witnesses.

Some 200 students of Institute of

Health Technology, under the banner "Bangladesh Diploma Medical Technology and Pharmacy Students Association", had formed a human chain around 11:30am which turned into a rally, blocking the road before the hospital.

It was over their 10-point demand, including formation of a diploma medical education board.

"We were demonstrating

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The workers of Lovcraft demand reopening of the garment factory and arrest of its owner, from a rally in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday. The authorities unlawfully shut the factory after an assault on 40 senior colleagues by hired mercenaries and their forced termination on Tuesday, according to a statement of National Garment Workers Federation, the organiser of the protest. It says the owners are conspiring to destroy the workers' union there. Around 600 people work in the 25-year-old factory, located in Old Dhaka.

PHOTO: STAR

'Man inflicts cigarette burns on wife' in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man allegedly beat his wife and burnt parts of her body with the burning butt of a cigarette in the capital's Khilgaon yesterday.

The 25-year-old woman was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Her husband, a former private firm employee, is addicted to Yaba, she alleged.

The man could not be contacted as he has been admitted to a rehabilitation centre.

The incident occurred as the couple had an altercation over a family feud, said Khilgaon police, adding that they were looking into the matter.

MONDAY'S FOILING OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING TO MALAYSIA

Coast Guard arrests boat owner

Five others of gang being hunted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Coast Guard (East Zone) yesterday stated to be looking for five human traffickers and to have arrested the owner of the boat being used in an attempt to take 36 men to Malaysia over the Bay of Bengal, saying he is a member of the gang.

The 36 were taken into police custody while five boatmen were detained after the coast guard intercepted a small engine-run boat near Chittagong Boat Club area in the Karnaphuli river on Monday night.

Arrested in his Kotwali house in Chittagong yesterday centring information given by the boatmen and the 36, Kabir Hossain, 60, refuted the allegations saying he had just rented the boat to one Yousuf

Soudagar, who he says has a shop in Sadarghat.

Kabir was coordinating with the five during the trafficking attempt, stated coast guard officials at a press conference at their Karnaphuli headquarters.

The 36, arriving from around the country, were first kept in a Madarbari hotel and then taken on the boat in an attempt to be shifted to a mother vessel, they added.

One of the 36, Md Shahinur, 30, a farmer from Jessore, told The Daily Star that his neighbour Alam, now in Malaysia, arranged the journey offering a job and he was to pay Tk 2.4 lakh on reaching there.

A similar description came from Abdul Aziz, 44, of Magura. The coast guard said a case was being filed with Patenga Police Station.

NURUL ISLAM'S DEATH IN 2008 HOUSE FIRE

Law enforcers, family still at loggerheads

Demand for reinvestigation, quizzing of political rivals falling on deaf ears

M RAHMAN

Over the last six years, the investigation into the fire that killed Gonothantri Party president Nurul Islam and his son had changed the hands of two law enforcement agencies but it remains virtually inconclusive with the law enforcers calling it an accident and the family claiming it to be an arson attack and demanding further inquiry and interrogation of Nurul's political rivals.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) was the first to launch a probe after the house fire in 2008, and submitted the final report early last year following five years of work. Then the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) started further inquiry last June and submitted its report last December.

Both the agencies drew the same conclu-

sion that the fire was an accident because they did not find any incendiary material in the ashes and water collected from the scene.

The Detective Branch of police now is carrying out further probe after Nurul's family objected to the findings of the two agencies.

The family alleged that both CID and Rab counted out the Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR)'s chemical report that found existence of Osmic compound and arsenic in the collected ashes and water.

Heated Osmic compounds and arsenic release toxic fumes that directly attack the respiratory system and cause quick death, according to experts. Osmium is not used in home appliances while arsenic is a component of pesticides and rodenticides, they said.

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SC to hear Mojaheed's appeal against death penalty

January 14

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday fixed January 14 next year for hearing the appeal filed by Jamaat-e-Islami leader Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed challenging the death penalty handed down to him for his war crimes.

A five-member bench of the SC led by the chief justice set the date as the appeal was in its cause list yesterday for fixing a date for hearing.

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 on July 17 last year found the Jamaat secretary guilty of five charges and sentenced him to death on three of those charges.

According to the verdict, Mojaheed led a "death squad" named Al-Badr,

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