Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country, chances of light rain or drizzle at one or two places over Rangpur division till 6:00pm today.

Moderate to thick fog may occur over the river basins and light to moderate fog may occur

elsewhere over the country during midnight till morning, Met Office said.

Night temperature may fall slightly and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:14pm

and rises tomorrow at 6:35am. Country's highest temperature 31.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sitakunda and Dha

lowest 13.6 degrees in Jessore and Dinajpur. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity Rajs recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were: Ran

	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage			Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentag	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening		Max:	Min:	Morning	Evenin
naka	25.4	17.7	84	83	Khulna	24.0	17.4	90	91
nittagong	29.5	16.5	75	72	Barisal	25.2	16.2	94	87
ajshahi	27.9	15.5	91	76	Sylhet	26.7	17.2	79	78
ingpur	27.4	14.5	74	71	Cox's Bazar	29.8	17.0	72	79

HAJJ NEXT YEAR

Make only guide fee mandatory

Haab urges govt STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh (Haab) leaders yesterday urged the government to allow those wishing to perform Hajj next year under private agencies to register online by only depositing moallem (guide) fee which is Tk 30,000.

The government has announced that people intending to perform Hajj under private agencies will need to deposit Tk 1.2 lakh for moallem fee, air fare and other expenditure in particular banks by February 2 next year for registration.

But it might be difficult SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

SC stays bail for Adnan in Rana Plaza collapse case STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed for three weeks a High Court order that on December 9 granted six months ad-interim bail to Bazlus Samad Adnan, chairman of New Wave Bottoms, one of the garment factories housed in Rana Plaza.

Police filed a case against the owners of Rana Plaza and the factories it housed, including Adnan, for negligence in protecting the people's lives. The SC stayed the bail after a petition moved by Attorney

General Mahbubey Alam. The SC also asked the government to file a leave to appeal petition with it against the HC order in three weeks for further order.

Rana Plaza collapsed on April 24 last year leaving 1,138 dead.

Memories of martyred Azizul preserved finally Memorial opens in

Barisal city today; residents to observe Victory Day on Shaheed Minar premises littered with construction materials SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

Kazi Azizul Islam, then additional deputy commissioner of Barisal, was one of the first government officials to renounce his position and join the cause of Bangladesh's independ-

Forty-three years later, his martyrdom is memorialised. A triangular concrete structure with his mural and two plaques containing his brief life sketch and an epitaph will be inaugurated today, at his grave

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Bundles of rods, rubbles and other construction materials litter the

premises of Central Shaheed Minar of Barisal, the cultural hub of

the city dwellers, even on Victory Day today. Inset, the memorial

for Kazi Azizul Islam, the then additional deputy commissioner of

Barisal, who defected from the Pakistani government and joined

the Liberation War on March 27, 1971, will be inaugurated today,

at his grave near Trish Gudam in Barisal city.



Ctg neglects mass graves of martyrs MINHAJ UDDIN, Ctg

Over four decades past the 1971 Liberation War the 70 or so mass graves in Chittagong city are yet to be properly marked and preserved.

As a result, some of the lands containing tangible evi-

dence of the Pakistani occupation army and their local collaborators' atrocities are being lost. The sole plaques Chittagong Muktijoddha Sangshad erected marking two mass graves, in Kattali's Nath Para and

in Pahartali, are fading and have no detailed description, rendering them useless. A recent visit to Nath Para revealed clothes left to dry on a

railing bordering the site. Sakhina Begum, one of the locals, admitted having no clue of what it was.

On March 31, 1971, at least 37 people were killed and buried there. Narayan Chandra Boisnav, whose brother, father and uncle were among the 37, expressed his frustration recently. "It seems the government is not interested... They spend a

huge amount of money in the name of the Liberation War but not for preserving killing sites," he told The Daily Star. Similar thoughts were expressed by Bhupen Chowdhury, whose uncle Dinesh Kanti Nath was dumped there after

being dismembered into six pieces. The Pahartali mass grave bears special significance for over 11,000 skulls were found there, the largest discovery in the city. But most of the 1.25-acre land has been occupied by a multi-storied building, housing a private university, whose

construction was stopped in 2010 following a writ petition. Informing of another grave, in South Patenga Shilpara, where bodies of 36 people were dumped, Shukumar Shil, whose father miraculously escaped the massacre with bullet injuries, said a plaque would have at least "reminded coming generations of the massacre".

Ekatturer Muktijuddhe Sohor Chattagramer Nirjatan SEE PAGE 4 COL 4





city where the Pakistani occupation army and their local auxiliary forces dumped people

they had murdered during the 1971 Liberation War. Inset, a building takes up most of this

land in Pahartali where the highest number of human remains, around 11,000 skulls, were

Cop constable held while mugging

discovered. The photos were taken recently.

Accomplice ASI manages to flee STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A police constable and a civilian were caught but an assistant sub-inspector fled allegedly while snatching Tk 1 lakh from two damaged bill exchangers in the capital yesterday. Nur-e-Alam of the police headquarters and Mizanur Rahman with ASI Khalilur Rahman on a motorbike followed Rony and SEE PAGE 4 COL 2 KURMITOLA BIHARI CAMP KILLINGS

Hunger strike if perps not caught in 90 days

Threatens victim community

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Biharis of the capital's Kurmitola yesterday threatened to go on an indefinite strike if police failed to arrest the perpetrators, within three months, behind the gruesome June 14 incident that left 10 members of their community dead.

They claimed they have waited six months since the incident as the state minister for home affairs and the inspector general of police had assured them that the culprits would be detained by this time.

"But none has been arrested yet. Instead members of our community have been implicated in the matter," said Sadaqat Khan, a Bihari leader.

To press home their demand, some hun-

dred Biharis formed a human chain at Kurmitola. The Urdu Speaking Peoples Youth

Rehabilitation Movement, a platform of Biharis, organised the event marking six months of the incident.

On June 14 morning, unidentified

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Unregistered Foreign Workers

Malaysian builders against deportation STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Malaysian Contractor Association, centred on the construction industry, yesterday appealed to the Malaysian government to allow foreign workers, including Bangladeshis, who have been asked to leave to continue working in the Southeast Asian country.

The foreign workers who were granted amnesty under a programme a couple of years ago but did not get legal papers are to be sent back by January next year, stated an online report of Malaysia-based English newspaper The Star.

The association estimates that about 100,000 workers had registered.

Holding a joint press conference in Kuala Lumpur with representatives of contractor groups, Masterbuilders Association Malaysia President Matthew Tee said the industry, SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

Star, grameenphone launch online Liberation War archive

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Freedom in the air", a online repository of the Liberation War with rare footage, videos including interviews, exclusive images, articles, stories and documents, documentaries, newspaper clippings and declassified documents, can be accessed from today at The Daily Star website, www.thedailystar.net/freedom-in-the-air.

The website was launched yesterday jointly by the newspaper and Grameenphone in the capital's The Daily Star Centre.

The most significant materials accessible at the website perhaps are the two declassified reports on the sensational Hamoodur Rahman Commission Report, a judicial inquiry prepared in July 1972 that proved the genocide by the Pakistani occupation army, and the dissent cables sent by Archer K

Blood, the US consul general in Dhaka,

describing the genocide. In addition to a timeline of Bangladesh's history from 1940 to 1971, an interactive war calendar prepared with the help of the Liberation War Museum describes the major events of each day in 1971.

It also includes about 14 clips of battles maps obtained from a book of KM Shafiullah, a sector commander of the Liberation War.

Currently viewers can also access 44 videos on different subjects categorised as events leading to the Declaration of Independence, March Crackdown, Genocide, From War Fields, Rape, Killing of Intellectuals, Pak Army's Surrender, Victory Celebrations, Role of Collaborators and Documentaries made on the war including Gita Mehta's "Dateline Bangladesh" and "9 Months to Freedom

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam, centre left, and Grameenphone Chief Corporate Affairs Officer Mahmud Hossain, centre right, with other members of the two organisations at the inauguration ceremony of "Freedom in the air", an online archive of the Liberation War available on the website of the English daily, at

PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: STAR

War crimes FROM PAGE 3

including stenographer doubling as computer operator, personal assistant, librarian, accountant, court keeper, office assistant doubling as computer operator, cashier, driver, dispatch rider, MLSS, servant, night guard, cleaner and data entry operator.

"Recruitment is going on. Soon the vacant posts will be fulfilled," he told The Daily Star, referring to the rest of the 54 posts.

Since inception, the tribunals have been functioning with personnel hired from the High Court, Dhaka District and Session Judge Court, Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court and Administrative Tribunal. Besides, 22 cleaners were hired on the "no work no pay" basis.

Meanwhile, the tribunal-1 yesterday completed recording cross-examination of seventh prosecution witness Nimai Chandra Das by defence counsels in the war crimes case against three alleged Bagerhat Azakars--Sheikh Sirajul Haque, Khan Akram Hossain, and Abdul Latif Talukder.

Play capturing war

FROM PAGE 3

The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday.

6:00pm, the organisers told a press conference at the capital's Liberation War Museum yesterday.

"Birangona" was scripted based on the stories of the victims of Sirajganj. It will be staged at National Museum on December 18, at Shilpakala Academy on December 19, in Sirajganj on December 26, and in Chittagong on December 30.

Leesa Gazi, a British-Bangladeshi and co-founder of Komola Collective, said these women were fading into oblivion, so were their stories. "The urge to bring their stories to light drove to us to do the work."

Between 200,000 and 400,000 women were raped by the Pakistani army and their local collaborators during the nine-month war, according to documents.

Also a performer of the play, Leesa, said, "Together, we intend to tell the forgotten stories of the Birangona to the

world." Birangona's director Filiz Ozcan; Caitlin Abbot, responsible for stage, design and animation; Sohini Alam, who is on vocal; cultural personalities Nasiruddin Yousuff and Hasan Arif, and Sadaf Saaz Siddiqi, the Bangladesh tour producer of the

programme, were present. Meanwhile, Muktijuddho Academy accorded reception to 152 women freedom

fighters at the capital's National Museum yesterday.

The academy has listed 254 women freedom fighters to honour them. Muktijuddho Academy Chairman Abul

Azad and poet Kazi Rozy were present.

Pre-1979 presidents

FROM PAGE 3 including Bangabandhu, said meeting sources.

Family members of Ziaur Rahman is getting pension but HM Ershad does not get pension as a former president as there is a case against him still unsettled, several ministers told The Daily Star.

According to the Bangabhaban website, Bangabandhu, Syed Nazrul Islam, Justice

Abu Sayeed Chowdhury, Mohammad Mohammadullah, Khandker Mustaque Ahmad and Justice Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayem held the office as presidents between 1971 and 1979.

motion on the death of former member of the Public Service Commission and Judge of Bangabandhu murder case Kazi Golam Rasul. He died on December 11.

The cabinet adopted a condolence