

CHANGE IN TEMPERATURE UNLIKELY

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

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:28pm and rises tomorrow at 6:44am. Country's highest temperature 25.0

degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and lowest 08.7 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	23.3	13.7	89	68	Khulna	24.0	13.0	89	70
Chittagong	24.0	14.0	84	68	Barisal	23.5	12.4	95	87
Rajshahi	23.8	12.7	95	75	Sylhet	24.3	13.5	99	75
Rangpur	24.8	11.5	87	70	Cox's Bazar	24.5	14.5	78	71

NEWS IN brief

5 Bangladeshis arrested in India

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi
Five Bangladeshi nationals who had allegedly entered India without any official document and were working in a brick kiln in West Bengal were arrested yesterday. Police said a team of law enforcers went to the brick kiln in Mathapara village and arrested the five Bangladeshi nationals when they could not produce any official document.

Cleaner beaten by co-workers dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A cleaner died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday a day after he had been beaten allegedly by some of his co-workers in a Narayanganj factory. Jumman Ali, 20, worked at Prime Textile Mill at Fatullah's Nandalalpur. On Thursday, an altercation ensued between Jumman and his colleagues Rashedul Islam and Faruque over cleaning a machine, said Fatullah police. Later, around five workers, including the two, assaulted Jumman. Other workers handed Rashed and Faruque over to police.

Jamalpur Medical College starts today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur
Jamalpur Medical College is going to start academic activities on its temporary campus on the Jamalpur General Hospital premises today with orientation for the students of MBBS course under 2014-15 academic session. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to inaugurate the orientation of the first batch through video conference. Prof MA Wakil is the principal of the college having three departments—anatomy, physiology and biochemistry. Four other departments will be added to the institution in the next session, he said.

Muggers shoot driver, loot vehicle

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar
Three muggers masquerading as passengers looted a CNG-run auto-rickshaw by shooting its driver on Dhaka-Aricha highway near Hemayetpur in Savar, outside the capital, early yesterday. The driver, Iqbal Miah, of Keraniganj, was admitted to Enam Medical College Hospital. Iqbal said the three got on the vehicle with two other passengers. At Shyampur, the muggers stopped the vehicle holding them at gunpoint, shot the driver in the abdomen and beat the passengers before snatching their belongings.

Bill on Digital University to be placed in coming JS session

BSS, Dhaka
The government has prepared a draft bill about the Digital University proposing to name it after Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The draft bill also proposed a provision to appoint the vice chancellor through the president, said Education Secretary Md Nazrul Islam Khan. "We have already prepared a draft of the Digital University, Bangladesh Act 2014 bill and after finalisation it is expected to be tabled in the coming session of the parliament for passage," he said. According to the draft, the country's first ever digital university will have modern facilities including language, robotics and nano technology lab, and animation studio.



3 fishing cat kittens rescued, 2 jailed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
An employee of a pet shop and his associate were each jailed for six months after being arrested in the capital's Katabon last night by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) for keeping with an intention to sell three endangered fishing cat kittens alongside possessing half a kilogramme of marijuana. A raid based on a tip-off was conducted on a residence on Begumer Goli around 11:00pm, leading to the rescue of the kittens and arrest of the employee, Subel Ali, and the tenant, Mohammad Ali, who had in possession the marijuana. The name of Subel Ali's employer could not be known immediately. Magistrate Anwar Pasha passed the jail sentence on the spot. Subel claimed that a person, whom he did not name, residing in Bikrampur of Munshiganj provided the kittens a couple of days ago. Rab 2 Commander Mohammad Shajjad Raihan told journalists that such rare species of animals were secretly bought and kept as pets by the affluent section of society. Wildlife Inspector (Forest) Sohel Rana said fishing cats were disappearing fast due to loss of habitat.



BISWA IJTEMA BEGINS

(Clockwise from top) The grounds by the Turag river in Tongi swell with pilgrims as the three-day Biswa Ijtema seeking spiritual wellbeing and welfare of Muslims began yesterday. People perform ablution while others wait patiently for their turn. Food being cooked by volunteer yesterday. A sign urging people not to use the river's water. Sick pilgrims queue up outside a tent providing medical assistance.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



10 injured in Pabna AL factional clash
25 BCL men hurt in clash at Brindaban College

CITY DESK
At least 10 local Awami League activists were injured, three suffering gunshot wounds, when two factions of the ruling party clashed over establishing supremacy in Dipchar area in Pabna sadar upazila yesterday, reports our Pabna correspondent. Six houses and three shops were vandalised during the clash. The clash occurred between supporters of Azizur Rahman Tinku and Aziz Mollah, both leaders of district unit AL, said police. Police rushed in and brought the situation under control. Eight people were detained in this connection. The injured were admitted to a hospital in Pabna. Meanwhile, 25 activists of Brindaban Government College unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League were injured in a factional clash over establishing supremacy at the college in Habiganj sadar yesterday, reports our Moulvibazar correspondent. Witnesses said supporters of Habibur Rahman Kibria and Murshed Chowdhury, both joint conveners, clashed around 5:00am in front of the college. Police fired 13 tear shells and around 100 rubber bullets to bring the situation under control. Md Nazim Uddin, officer-in-charge, Habiganj Sadar Police Station, said additional police have been deployed in the area to prevent further clashes.

Hanging body of cop's wife found
Police recover two more bodies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur
The wife of an assistant sub-inspector of Birampur Police Station in Dinajpur was found dead at their residence in Birampur upazila yesterday. The deceased was Nayna Begum, 25, wife of Shahjahan Siraj. Police said after breakfast with wife, Shahjahan went out of the house for work. Around noon, Nayna was found hanging from the ceiling of their room, said police. Meanwhile, in Biral upazila, police recovered the body of Md Samu, 35, from Bhandara village yesterday. Police suspect he was stabbed to death. An autopsy will be conducted. In Nawabganj upazila of Dinajpur, police recovered the body of Md Mobarque Hossain, 40, on Thursday night. The body was found hanging from a tree branch at Chamunda village. Police said miscreants tortured him to death and then hung his body, which bore several bruises.

Greens want to keep

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and forests and ruining livelihoods", members of "Sundarbaner Jonno Amra" (we are for the Sundarbans) made the demand forming a human chain in the capital's Shahbagh. They also carried placards reading "Crabs crying, where would they make their nests", "Silk-soft bird feathers soaked with oil" and "Why should vessels ply through the Sundarbans". On the December 9, 2014 spill of over 3.5 lakh litres of furnace oil as an oil tanker sank in the Shela river, singer Anusheh Anadil, one of the organisers, demanded that the government take adequate measures to protect the Sundarbans. "What we saw visiting the Sundarbans after the accident really worried us. We found the authorities were bothering less about the health impacts on the local peo-

ple cleaning the oil. We did not see any planned effort on cleaning the oil that spread over 70 kilometres of the Shela river," she said. The activists also demanded that the government properly dispose of around 20 tonnes of materials soaked in oil which local villagers gathered during cleaning operations. Their leaflet states that with all rivers along cities polluted and most forests cleared of trees and vegetation for improper development policies, the Sundarbans would face a similar fate if the government does not act proactively. They also expressed concern over "conversion of agricultural land into industrial plots" in Joymangal area where most villagers of the clean-up operations reside and demanded that the government protect those.



Children hold up gifts they received during the Daily Star Family Get Together organised by the newspaper for its staff at Dhaka Residential Model College yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Bogra owners decide to ply vehicles

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra
Transport owners in Bogra have decided to ply their vehicles between Bogra and other districts with police protection defying the indefinite countrywide blockade enforced by the BNP-led 20-party alliance. The transport leaders took the decision at a meeting with district administration and police at Circuit House in Bogra yesterday. In the meeting, transport owners and labour leaders sought protection from police for vehicular movement between Bogra and other districts. In response, police said they along with Rab and BGB personnel would be providing security to this end.