

**COLD WAVE MAY CONTINUE**

Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today.  
Moderate to thick fog may occur over the country during midnight till noon, Met Office said.  
Night and day temperature may remain nearly

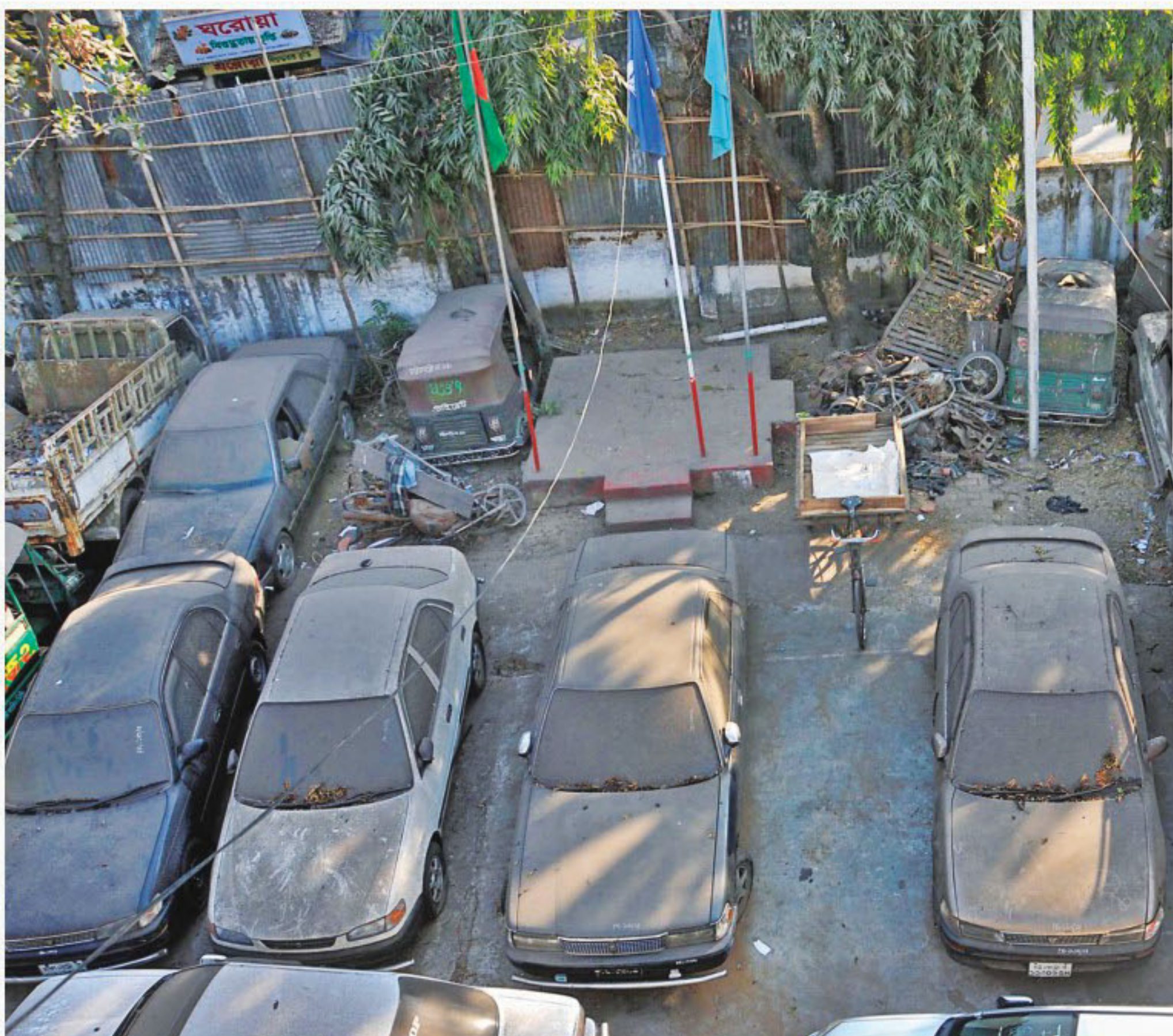
unchanged over the country.  
Mild cold wave is sweeping over the regions of Tangail, Rajshahi, Pabna, Kushtia & Jessore and it may continue.  
**The sun sets in the capital today at 5:36pm and rises tomorrow at 6:43am.**

Country's highest temperature 27.7 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Teknaf and lowest 08.0 degrees in Ishwardi.  
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	16.2	12.5	85	86	Khulna	21.4	11.2	80	84
Chittagong	21.5	14.4	94	78	Barisal	22.4	11.5	91	87
Rajshahi	16.4	09.9	92	87	Sylhet	23.1	14.8	97	85
Rangpur	16.4	11.0	94	86	Cox's Bazar	24.2	15.0	89	81

**War criminal Qaisar challenges his death penalty**

Syed Mohammad Qaisar, state minister for agriculture during the HM Ershad-led regime, yesterday challenged the death penalty handed down on him by the International Crimes Tribunal-2 for his crimes against humanity during the Liberation War.  
His lawyer Joynul Abedin Tuhin filed an appeal with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, which mentions 56 reasons why the apex court should consider acquitting him of all war crime charges.  
Qaisar was sentenced to death on December 23, 2014. The SC will later fix a date for hearing the appeal, said defence lawyer Masud Rana.



**Seized motor vehicles including private cars and motorcycles, inset, gradually wear away and go out of order as Chittagong Metropolitan Police takes no follow-up action to dispose of those. The photo was taken on the Kotowali Police Station premises on Sunday.**

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

**Drive against gillnet manufacturing soon**

*Says department of fisheries DG*  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
The government will soon start drives against manufacturing and marketing of gillnets in the country, said Director General of the Department of Fisheries (DoF) Syad Arif Azad yesterday.  
He disclosed it at a meeting on a project titled "Economic Incentive to Conserve Hilsa Fish in Bangladesh", organised by the DoF, Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), UK and Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) at Matsya Bhaban in the capital.  
Experts at the meeting urged the government to provide adequate compensation to fishermen during the ban on hilsa catching to conserve the national fish.  
A big portion of the money allocated as compensation for the fishermen during the ban are misused due to involvement of many government bodies and public representatives, they observed.  
Dr Md Monirul Islam, a teacher of Dhaka University's fisheries department, said the ban on hilsa sanctuaries is not properly imposed.  
Dr Essam Yassin Mohammed, team leader of Darwin-Hilsa Project of IIED, Dr Mihir Kanti Majumdar, former secretary and principal expert of the project, Prof Dr MA Wahab of BAU, and Liaquat Ali of BCAS also spoke at the meeting.

**Deaths from non-communicable diseases soar in four years**

*Says recent WHO report*  
PORMOL PALMA  
Deaths from non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including heart ailments, cancers and respiratory complications, soared by seven percentage points from the 2008 figure to 59 percent in 2012, reflecting a rapid change in the disease pattern in Bangladesh, stated a WHO report.  
Of the 8.86 lakh deaths that occurred in the country in 2012, 17 percent were caused by cardiovascular diseases, 10 percent by cancers, 11 percent by chronic respiratory diseases, three percent by diabetes, 18 percent by other NCDs and nine percent by injuries, added the World Health Organization's (WHO) global report on NCDs released in Geneva yesterday.  
However, deaths from communicable diseases, and maternal, perinatal and nutritional problems slumped to 32 percent from 38 between 2008 and 2012.  
Reasons behind the soaring deaths from NCDs are unhealthy lifestyle and food habit, which includes fast food and energy drinks, insufficient physical exercise and environmental pollution, Dr Liaquat Ali, vice chancellor of the Bangladesh University of Health Sciences, told The Daily Star.  
On the other hand, government initiatives to promote healthy lifestyle and health education and to develop preventive medicines are insufficient, he added.  
In 2012, nearly 8.5 million people died of NCDs in the 11 countries of the WHO South East Asia region--Bangladesh, Bhutan, North Korea, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and East Timor, said WHO South East Asia Region's Regional Director Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh in a media statement.  
In the region, two out of three deaths are caused by NCDs and nearly half of such deaths occur in the 30-70 age group.  
Today, a 30-year-old person living in the region has a 25 percent chance of dying of NCDs before his or her 70th birthday. This probability is only 15 percent for an individual in the Americas, Khetrapal added.  
The WHO report also warned that the global death toll due to NCDs will rise to 52 million by 2030 from 38 million in 2012.  
The WHO recommended banning tobacco and alcohol advertisements, reducing salt consumption, replacing trans fats with polyunsaturated fats, promoting breastfeeding, early detection and treatment of high blood pressure, and preventing cervical cancer through periodic screenings.

**HC stays govt's denial**

FROM PAGE 4  
The HC bench of Justice Salma Masud Chowdhury and Justice Md Khasruzzaman came up with the order and rule after hearing the petition that challenged the legality of the decision.  
The deputy commanders of the guerrilla force formally surrendered their arms to Bangabandhu at Dhaka National Stadium on January 30, 1972, the petition said.  
The government in exile in 1971 and the government led by Bangabandhu had recognised the members of the guerrilla force as freedom fighters, it said, adding that the names of the members of guer-

rilla force were published in government notifications.  
The petition also stated that the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs on July 22, 2013 published a gazette notification on the list of 2,367 guerrillas including Comrade Moni Singh and NAP President Prof Mozaffar Ahmed, two advisers to the then government in exile, as freedom fighters.  
The government on October 29 last year cancelled the notification, it said.  
Zahedul Bari, a lawyer for the petitioner, said the notification would remain in force till a further HC order.

**HC continues**

FROM PAGE 4  
fixed today for resuming the hearing.  
On Sunday, the bench started hearing the death references and the 257 appeals filed by the convicts in the case.  
A Dhaka court on November 5, 2013 gave death penalty to 150 soldiers of the erstwhile Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and two civilians, and sentenced 161 others to life imprisonment for their roles and involvement in the carnage.  
It also handed down rigorous imprisonment, ranging from three to 10 years, to 256 people, mostly BDR soldiers. The court acquitted the remaining 277 accused. A total of 846 people, 823 of them BDR personnel, were on trial.  
Seventy four people, including 57 army officials, were slain in the BDR mutiny on February 25-26 in 2009 at the Pilkhana headquarters in Dhaka.

**Life, work of 4 ASK founders**

FROM PAGE 4  
He called on the ASK staff to work together to resist the anarchy and protect democracy, freedom, sovereignty and human rights in the country.  
Barrister Sarah Hossain, executive member of the ASK, however, questioned whether the ASK was following its founding members' moral teachings.  
She said 20 years ago the ASK did not think twice about supporting the legal rights of feminist writer Taslima Nasreen when extremists

issued fatwa against her for her writings.  
"But today when freedom of speech is being suppressed in the name of protecting nationalistic sentiment, the ASK has remained quiet," she said.  
Recognising the inspiration that the founder members continue to provide for the ASK, Sultana Kamal, the organisation's executive director, welcomed the self-criticism and self-assessment which she opined would help reevaluate the ASK's works.

**Road crashes kill 16**

FROM PAGE 4  
hailed from Thakurgaon.  
In Noymail area, Choton Mia, 25, of Shajahanpur upazila died when a truck ran him over after he fell off a three-wheeler with five others as the vehicle was hit by another truck on Bogra-Dhaka highway at Jamalpur on Sunday. Five others were also injured as the truck that crushed Choton hit another CNG-run auto-rickshaw.  
In Shajahanpur upazila, three unidentified people died and another was injured when a bus collided head-on with a truck on Bogra-Dhaka highway at Jamalpur yesterday.  
A correspondent from Ctg reports, Md Islam, 50, of West Gomdandi died when a

three-wheeler ran him over in Boalkhali upazila of Chittagong yesterday.  
Our Chapainawabganj correspondent reports, Tarikuddin Akhtar, 52, of Shahibagh area died when a three-wheeler hit his motorcycle in Jamtala area of Chapainawabganj Sadar on Sunday.  
Our Narsingdi correspondent adds three people were killed and five others injured as a truck turned turtle after the driver lost control over the vehicle in Chaitab area of Narsingdi Sadar on Sunday.  
The deceased were Sattar Mian, 36, Yeasin Mian, 45, and Sharal Hossain, 28. They all hailed from Shibpur upazila.

**Ten BCL men get bail**

FROM PAGE 4  
The SUST registrar for violence.  
A total of 250 unidentified people were accused in those cases, said police.  
Sumon studied BBA at Sylhet International University.  
After the fighting, the university had

remained closed for two months, till January 18.  
Sources at the Sylhet metropolitan session judge's court said the 10 freed on bail were Saddam Hossain, Mahmudul Hasan, Jayonta Das, Sajal Das Anik, Enamul Haque, Mehdi Hasan, Asim Mursalin, Nayan, Narayan Chandra Baishnab, and Shahidul Islam.

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বিস্মিল্লাহির রাহমানির রাহিম

**সম্পূর্ণ নিষ্কটক জমিতে গড়ে উঠা শিক্ষানগরী**  
**আশুলিয়া মডেল টাউন-এ**

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- রয়েছে দীর্ঘমেয়াদী কিস্তির সুবিধা

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আগ্রহী ক্রেতাগণ যোগাযোগ করুন-

কর্পোরেট অফিস, ৭৫২ সাতমসজিদ রোড, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা-১২০৫।  
হট লাইন: ০১৭৫৫-৫৮২২৬২, ০১৭৬৬-৬৬৫৯৮৩, ০১৭৩০-৩২৭৮১৪, ০১৭৩০-৩২৭৮২৬

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