

DRY WEATHER LIKELY

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today. Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country and day temperature may rise by 2-3 degree Celsius over the country, Met Office said.

Mild to moderate cold wave is sweeping over Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions and the regions of Jessore, Kushtia, Tangail and Sitakunda and it may continue.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:37pm and rises tomorrow at 6:43am.

Country's highest temperature 25.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sylhet and lowest 6.7 in Rajshahi.

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

City	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		City	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening		Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	18.6	13.4	86	80	Khulna	22.0	12.0	83	69
Chittagong	22.8	14.0	97	71	Barisal	22.8	12.5	92	87
Rajshahi	21.0	06.7	96	83	Sylhet	25.6	15.4	78	86
Rangpur	16.2	08.0	97	89	Cox's Bazar	24.0	15.0	99	85

NEWS IN brief

Ijtima pilgrim's body recovered from Turag river

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Fire fighters recovered the body of a Biswa Ijtima pilgrim from the river Turag at Tongi in Gazipur yesterday, two days after a boat carrying pilgrims from the Ijtima ground capsized in it on the day of final prayers. The victim was Omar Faruk, 16, son of Harun or Rashid of Hashail village in Munshiganj. About 10 people were injured in that incident while he had been missing, fire service sources said.

Savar RMG workers demonstrate for salary hike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Several hundred workers of a readymade garment factory at Buribazar of Ashulia demonstrated for salary hike yesterday. Police said the workers of Birds Garments Ltd demanded a 10 percent increase in salaries annually as prices of essential commodities are rising everyday. The factory management usually gives a five percent increase annually, said workers. Additional police had been deployed in the area to avoid untoward incidents.

JU convocation Feb 5, deadline for registration Jan 22

JU CORRESPONDENT

The fifth convocation of Jahangirnagar University (JU) will be held on February 5. The registration deadline for the convocation has been extended till January 22, JU Registrar Abu Bakr Siddique said. Earlier the convocation date was January 31 and the registration deadline was January 15. Students are asked to collect the registration form from JU registrar's office and the National Museum branch of Agrani Bank in Dhaka.

JIMCH provide free medical services at Ijtima

CITY DESK

A team of Jahurul Islam Medical College and Hospital, Bhagalpur provided free medical services and medicines to 6,000 pilgrims who attended the Ijtima held in two phases from January 9 to 18 in Tongi. Each team consisted of five doctors, five nurses, three ward-boys and management staff ensured services from 8:00am to 11:00pm everyday. Navana Pharmaceuticals Ltd, a sister concern of Islam Group, assisted the team.



The ongoing blockade means not only loss of people's lives and destruction of their properties but also decimation of roadside trees, which are chopped down at random to block vehicles like this truck on Dinajpur-Parbatipur road. It was stopped, by felling four trees, and then torched in Hajimor area of Chirirbandar upazila around 3:00am on Tuesday.

PHOTO: STAR

AL man held on rape charge for refusing to marry live-in partner

Cops seek 7-day remand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Chairman of Suapur Union Parishad of Dhamrai has been arrested in a rape case allegedly for refusing to marry a woman with whom he had been living together for one year.

Savar model police arrested Md Hafizur Rahman, also the organising secretary of Awami League's Dhamrai upazila unit, in his house at Bank Colony in Savar, outside the capital, on Monday night.

The Hindu complainant told the reporters that the chairman forced her husband to leave their village Betoail a year ago when he first saw her and then took her to that Bank Colony residence, promising to marry her, where she had been confined.

But on Thursday, Hafiz beat her up as she raised the issue of marriage and on Monday she filed the case.

Soon after the arrest, Hafiz told the reporters that it was a conspiracy against him.

Yesterday, Hafiz was produced before a court with a seven-day remand prayer, said police.

The villagers yesterday brought out a procession to celebrate the arrest as they claimed that the "notorious chairman" had been "oppressing" them.

Impunity encourages rape, murder of Adivasis

Indigenous leaders tell human chain in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rape and murder of people of indigenous communities continue unabated as the perpetrators are seldom arrested let alone given exemplary punishment, said leaders of indigenous communities at a human chain yesterday.

They mentioned four incidents of rape and murder and demanded immediate arrest of the perpetrators and their punishment.

Human Rights Defenders Forum (HRDF) organised the event in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

The leaders talked about the murder of Bablu Hembrom, 25, who was killed at his house in Rajshahi on January 9.

They said no one has been arrested yet. Another incident they mentioned was the rape of Bichitra Tirkki, leader of Jatiya Adivasi Parishad. Tirkki was gang raped on August 4 last year.

Although some of the alleged rapists were arrested, they are all out on bail, the

leaders said. The attacks were carried out to make the indigenous communities insecure and drive them out of the country, said Alik Mree, president of Garo Chhatra Parishad.

The main aim of the perpetrators is grabbing the property of Adivasis, he added.

Chanchana Chakma, vice president of Hill Women Federation, said Adivasis face eviction and oppression in the name of development.

"Give indigenous people constitutional recognition and implement the peace accord fully and then take up the task of development," she urged the government.

President of Adivasi Juba Parishad Horendranath Singh said indigenous people are going through a difficult time.

"But we do not see any silver lining," he said.

Politician Pankaj Bhattacharya, among others, spoke at the event presided over by HRDF convener Dhirendranath Mahato.

Religious minorities to protest 'pogroms' Feb 13

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Unity Council will form human chains across the country on February 13 demanding an end to attacks on minorities and trial of the perpetrators.

The announcement came at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity yesterday.

Despite movements, religious fundamentalists are still continuing attacks on the communities to drive them out of the country, said the council leaders. They claimed in a press release that at least three people were killed, three others raped, and seven temples, 54 households and 84 idols were vandalised between January 1 and 19 across the country. The council also deferred its scheduled grand rally in the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan from January 23 to March 13.

Sundarbans

FROM PAGE 4 According to the data of the forest department, some 48,921 tourists visited the Sundarbans from July to December 2014. Among them, some 46,940 were domestic tourists while 1,981 were foreign.

During the period, the department collected about Tk 45.5 lakh from tourists. But a very small amount of that revenue came in the last two months due to the country-wide political instability, and the Sundarbans is lacking tourists since January 6 due to the blockade.

According to the department, foreign tourists have to pay Tk 300 to visit the protected areas of the Sundarbans while the domestic ones Tk 150. Entry fee of Karamjol Tourists Spot is Tk 20 for domestic tourists and Tk 300 for foreign.

Pugmark Tours and Travels proprietor Nazrul Islam said his company has already incurred a loss of Tk 40 lakh.

Pro-govt workers

FROM PAGE 4 Bhaban in the capital yesterday. The platform would hold a rally before Jatiya Press Club on January 23 and a grand rally at the Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital on January 30 protesting the ongoing violence. It would announce the next programmes at the grand rally, Shajahan told journalists after the meeting.

The minister urged all to form such platforms at every district. Former chairman of BIWTA Abdul Malek Miah and Bangladesh Labour Welfare Foundation General Secretary GM Qamrul Anam have been made member secretaries of the platform.

Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Sramik Federation General Secretary Osmal Ali, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal Standing Committee member Shirin Akhter and Bangladesh Muktijoddha Sangsad Vice Chairman Ismat Qadir Gama, among others, will act as joint conveners.

Speaking at the meeting, Shirin said, "We want to engage general people with us to resist violent activities. We will resist these with hit-and-run attacks."

KSA may hire more

FROM PAGE 4 recruitment of our people," a senior official at Bangladesh Consulate in Jeddah told The Daily Star by phone yesterday. Currently, a Bangladeshi delegation headed by Khandker Mosharraf is visiting Saudi Arabia to discuss labour issues. "There are some 1.5 million Bangladeshi workers in the Kingdom and such a large presence in a country would experience some problems, which should be settled through negotiations," said the minister.

Road crashes

FROM PAGE 4 correspondent reports, Niren, 27, died hit by a tractor in the district yesterday.

Our Bogra correspondent reports, Zakir was killed and two others were injured when a CNG-run auto-rickshaw carrying them was hit by a human hauler at Bagopara.

Our Rangpur correspondent adds, Kochi, 36, died when a tractor hit him on Monday.

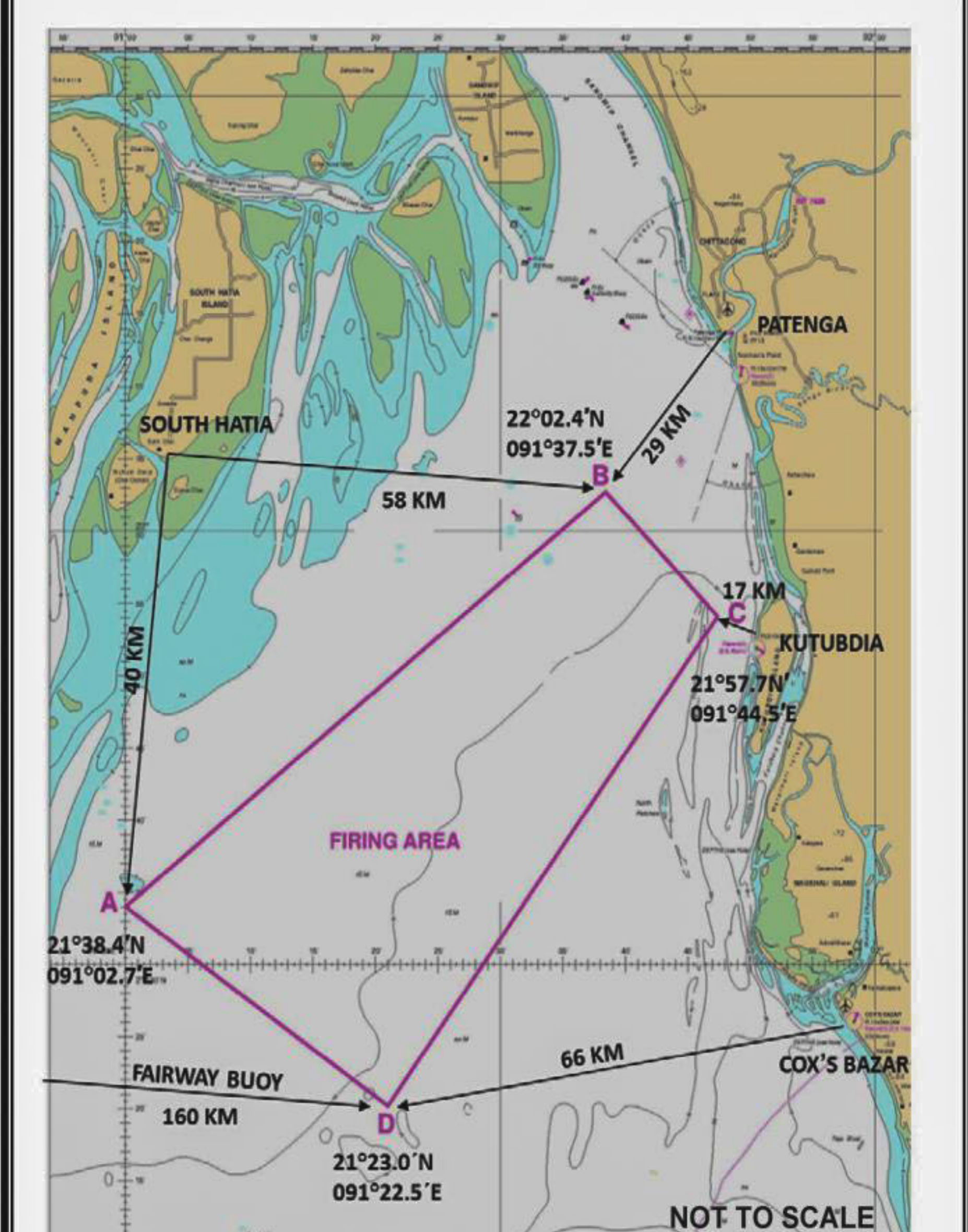
Mufti Izharul's

FROM PAGE 4 the incident, police recovered four handmade grenades and a large amount of bomb-making materials from the madrasa.

Three cases were filed against Mufti Izharul and his son in this connection.

Naval Headquarters Banani, Dhaka 1213

1. Bangladesh Navy ships will carry out live firing from 25 to 27 January 2015 (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday) from 0800 AM to 1600 PM in the Bay of Bengal sea area as shown in the map.



2. All type of ships, boats, aircraft and personnel are hereby warned and requested to refrain from entering, plying or engaging in any activities in the mentioned area during the said period. Danger height in the firing area during firing will be 10,000 (Ten thousand) meters.

3. Cooperation of all concerned is solicited in this regard.

Director Naval Headquarters Naval Headquarters

ISPR/Navy/2015/511/14-01-15 GD-224

আলবার্ট আইনস্টাইন-এর আপেক্ষিকতা'র শতবর্ষ ২০১৫

10 Bangladesh Astro-Olympiad 2015

অ্যাস্ট্রো-অলিম্পিয়াড

বিজয়ীরা এবার যাবে ইন্দোনেশিয়া ও বুলগেরিয়া

জাতীয় প্রতিযোগিতা জানুয়ারি ৩১, ২০১৫

জানুয়ারি ২৬ তারিখে আঞ্চলিক প্রতিযোগিতা হবে- বরিশাল, বগুড়া, চট্টগ্রাম, ঢাকা, ফরিদপুর, ফেনী, খুলনা, কুষ্টিয়া, মৌলভীবাজার, ময়মনসিংহ, নারায়ণগঞ্জ, রাজশাহী, রংপুর ও সিলেট।

১৪ থেকে ১৯ বছর বয়সী শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য

বোপাযোগ ইমরান হাবিব রমন - ০১৬৭৮১৭০৪৬৫ ■ অমল আকাশ ০১৯২৬৫৯১২৪৭

আয়োজক বাংলাদেশ অ্যাস্ট্রোনমিক্যাল এসোসিয়েশন

সমর্থনকারী বিজ্ঞান আন্দোলন মঞ্চ ■ গলাফড়িং ■ The Daily Star ■ akshar.tv

বিশ্বমিষ্টান্নের রাহামানির রাহিম

সিটি কর্পোরেশনের মধ্যে রাজডক অনুমোদিত প্রকল্পে

৭২ কিস্তিতে গুট ফরের ময়দানুযোগ!

প্রকল্পে যা রয়েছে

খেলার মাঠ, পার্ক ও প্রশস্ত লেক

৬০-১৩২ ফুট প্রশস্ত বাণিজ্যিক রোড

পানি, বিদ্যুৎসহ অন্যান্য জরুরী সেবা এখনই বিদ্যমান

প্রশিক্ষিত নিরাপত্তাকর্মী দ্বারা নিরাপত্তা ব্যবস্থা নিয়ন্ত্রিত

হাসপাতাল, শপিংমল, কনভেনশন সেন্টার, ব্যাংক ও শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান

৩, ৫ ও ১০ কাঠার প্লট

প্রকল্প পরিদর্শন ও বিস্তারিত জানতে:

কর্পোরেট অফিস, ৭৫২ সাতমসজিদ রোড, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা-১২০৫।

হট লাইন: ০২৭৫৫-৫৮২২৪৪, ০২৭৯৩-০৬৪৩৫৩, ০২৭৫৫-৫৮২২৫২