

**WEATHER FORECAST**

**YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES**

<b>DHAKA</b> H 24.8   L 21.0	<b>MYMENSINGH</b> H 24.0   L 21.0	<b>CHITTAGONG</b> H 30.0   L 20.5	<b>SYLHET</b> H 24.8   L 20.8	<b>RAJSHAHI</b> H 27.5   L 21.0	<b>RANGPUR</b> H 27.0   L 21.3	<b>KHULNA</b> H 29.5   L 24.8	<b>BARISAL</b> H 28.6   L 21.4	<b>COX'S BAZAR</b> H 29.7   L 20.8
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Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at most places over Dhaka, Mymensingh, Sylhet and Chittagong divisions and at many places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal divisions with heavy to very heavy falls at places over the country till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country, says Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:24pm and rises tomorrow at 5:30am.

# NEWS IN brief

## 2,000 bottles of Phensedyl seized, one arrested in Savar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar  
Police seized 2,000 bottles of Phensedyl from a car and arrested a man in this connection in Ashulia Bazar area of Savar yesterday.  
The arrestee Mahbubur Rahman, 30, is the driver of the car.  
Acting on a tip-off, the law enforcers conducted a drive in the area and seized the phensedyl bottles, said Mohsinul Kadir, officer-in-charge of Ashulia Police Station.  
A case was filed in this connection.

## Road crashes kill 2, injure 10

CITY DESK  
A man was killed and 10 others were injured as a bus collided head-on with a covered-van on Dhaka-Khulna highway in Chandro Diglia area of Gopalganj Sadar yesterday.  
The deceased was Abdul Jabbar, 43, of Purbo Bania Khamar area in Khulna Sadar. He died on the spot.  
In Nilphamari Sadar, a youth was killed as a bus rammed his motorcycle while the bus driver was trying to overtake a truck on Nilphamari-Domar road in Polashbari yesterday.  
The deceased was Anwarul Islam, 28, of Araj Itakhola village.

## 750 grams of cocaine seized at Dhaka airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Officials of the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) yesterday seized 750 grams of cocaine, worth around Tk 12 crore, at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital.  
On information, a team of the department with Armed Police Battalion (APBn) men conducted a drive in airport cargo area and seized the cocaine shipped along with some other products in a parcel, said DNC Deputy Director Mohammad Mamun.  
The parcel came through FedEx courier service from Kampala of Uganda to Bangladesh via Dubai.

## Prime accused dodging

FROM PAGE 4  
Rezaul's family members, who would observe his first death anniversary today, expressed dissatisfaction with the failure of the law enforcers to arrest the prime accused in one year.  
His wife Husne Ara said the trial will be meaningless if Shariful is not arrested.  
"We feel helpless and threatened as he (Shariful) is still at large," said Rezaul's daughter Rizwana Hasin Shotovi. She said the police requested them to have confidence in the law enforcers as they were trying their best to arrest him.  
Public Prosecutor Abdus Salam said although eight militants were charge sheeted in the case, the case is now awaiting charge framing at the Chief Metropolitan Session Judge's court against five persons.  
Other than Shariful, "Neo JMB" militants -- Maskawath Hasan Sakib alias Abdullah, RU crop science student Rahmatullah, Abdus Sattar and his son Ripon -- gave confessional statements in the case and they are now in jail.  
Among other accused, Khairul Islam Payal alias Badhan was killed during Holey Artisan Bakery raid in Dhaka, and Nazrul Islam alias Bike Hasan and Tareque Hasan Milu alias Osman were killed in "crossfire" in Rajshahi and Bogra, said the PP.  
Of the accused, Shariful, Badhan, Nazrul, Osman and Sakib directly took part in the killing while three others abetted them, he added.

## Youth sets himself

FROM PAGE 4  
youth kept the kerosene before the incident.  
With 36 percent burns, he was undergoing treatment at the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said Sub-inspector Bacchu Mia, in-charge of DMCH Police Outpost.



Clockwise from left, A contingent of police provides guard of honour to freedom fighter music icon Lucky Akhand at the Central Shaheed Minar in Dhaka yesterday. The musical prodigy's grief-stricken family members including his daughter Mamminti Akhand, second from right, mourn while hundreds pour in amid drizzling rain to pay last tribute to their beloved musician. PHOTO: RASHED SUMON

# Salute you, maestro

Hundreds pour in at Central Shaheed Minar to pay last tribute to music icon Lucky Akhand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The sky over the country that he loved so dearly wore a gloomy look since Friday evening. Light drizzle turned into heavy rain by last night -- as if tears of sorrow have broken loose.

Soaked in the drizzle, hundreds of mourners, representing a nation of millions, gathered at the Central Shaheed Minar around noon yesterday, only to have a glimpse of their beloved maestro composer, freedom fighter artist, singer-songwriter and musical icon of Bangladesh -- Lucky Akhand.

This masterpiece composed by the maestro of melancholy has been playing in the hearts of a grief-stricken nation since he passed away on Friday evening at the age of 61: ...*Hashi Gaane Bhora Ei To Jibon, Sajano Prithibi Tarpor Moron, Othocho Koto Sundar Sajano Prithibi...* [This life is full of laughter and music; we leave this beautiful world after death, but what a beautiful place this world is...].

People who came to the Central Shaheed Minar not only paid tribute to the country's musical prodigy, but also celebrated the decorated career of an enlightened musician who with his unparalleled melodies uplifted the nation soon after the 1971 Liberation War that had left the country in ruins.

*Abar Elo je Sondhya, Ei Neel Monihar, Agey Jodi Jantam, Amay Dekona, Swadhinota Tomake Niye Gaan To Likhechi, Jekhane Simanto Tomar, Kobita Porar Prohor Esehche* and many more of his creations are now considered milestones in modern Bangla music.

"Throughout his entire life, my father wanted to make people happy by creating music. He was able to do that," Lucky's daughter Mamminti Akhand said with satisfaction, but with tears in her eyes at the Shaheed Minar.

He even worked on music during his last days in the hospital bed, she added.

The Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra artiste breathed his last at the capital's Mitford Hospital around 6:00pm on Friday.

The gifted musician was given a guard of honour after his body was taken to the Shaheed Minar premises around 11:15am. A one-minute silence was observed in his honour.

From there, his body was taken to Dhaka University central mosque where a second namaz-e-janaza was held after Zohr prayers. Earlier, his first namaz-e-janaza was held at Armanitola in the capital around 10:00am.

He was buried at Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Graveyard yesterday.

Paying respect at Central Shaheed Minar, Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor said Lucky departed a bit sooner and that the nation could have gotten much more from him.

"But what the musical prodigy created is opulent," said



lyricist Asif Iqbal, a close friend of Lucky. "Whatever he created turned into pure artwork."

Golam Kuddus, president of Sammilita Sangskritik Jote, said the signs of patriotism in Lucky started to show as early as his adolescence days. Lucky deserves the highest state honour for his contribution, he said.

Awami League lawmaker Pankaj Debnath; Workers Party lawmaker Shirin Akhter; DU Vice-chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique; Sammilito Sangskritik Jote; Gazi Mazharul Anwar on

behalf of BNP; singers Khurshid Alam, Naquib Khan, Labu Rahman, Fuad Naser Babu and Tipu (Warfaze); Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University; Radio Bangladesh; Swechcha Sebak League; Dhaka District Administration; and Bangladesh Gano Sangeet Shilpi Samannay Parishad paid tributes to Lucky Akhand yesterday among many individuals and organisations.

Lucky was the creator of some timeless tunes that epitomised melancholy, yearnings for love and depth of pain.

A legend in every sense of the word, Lucky had many an identity including singer and music director.

Diagnosed with grade-IV lung cancer in 2015, he was hospitalised on September 8, 2015 and later taken to Bangkok in Thailand for better treatment. He returned home in March last year and since then, he had been undergoing treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

Lucky was hugely popular in the 1980s, when he was at the peak of his career as a singer, composer, lyricist and music director. His first album was released in 1984.



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## Poland keen on migrants, maritime economy

UNB, Dhaka

Poland has shown interest in signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Bangladesh for cooperation among ports of the two countries.

Bangladesh and Poland also agreed to establish a joint study and working groups for migration of skilled workers and maritime economy.

The Polish government issued 760 work permits to interested Bangladeshi skilled workers last year, and they are open to discuss further scope for collaboration with Bangladesh in this regard.

The issues came up for discussion during meetings between State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam and his Polish counterparts held at the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Welfare and Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation, respectively yesterday, said the foreign ministry.