

# Dhaka Day by Day

## A Rose by Any Other Name

by Fayza Haq

"A rose is a rose is a rose is a rose," said Gertrude Stein. This flower is certainly so overpowering that it makes one ponder and dwell on it repeatedly. The Greek poetess Sappho called the rose "the Queen of Flowers" and the Emperor Jehangir had himself portrayed for posterity holding a rose bud.

The rose has been closely linked with the culture of many people through the years. Not only is it a favourite flower but it is the symbol of romance, love, charm and perfection. No other flower has such instantaneous and universal appeal. The rose is an integral part of literature, painting, music, embroidery, architecture, legends, customs heraldry and even religion.

Amidst understandable pomp and fanfare, the annual show of the Bangladesh National Rose Society was opened Friday morning by Professor Muniruzamman Mian, the Vice Chancellor of the Dhaka University, at the Women's Sports Complex. Of the 400 varieties of roses that reportedly exist in Bangladesh, 50 of them were present for the colourful and unique display. One found roses of all types, sizes and colours at the sun-drenched exhibition. This included hybrids, ancient varieties, imported items, miniature and full-blown sizes. Bushes, creepers, and "standard" plants were all brought in.

The varieties ranged from Double Delight, Crimson Glory, Princess, Pot O'Gold, Lovers' Meeting, and King's Ransom to Prima Ballerina.

The prized flowers ranged from white to various shades of yellow and pink to dark crimson and maroon. The varieties had been cultivated with beautiful blends of colours. The forms of roses varied from the ones with the delicate charm of the wild rose to the double-centred sculptured blooms of the modern hybrids. The sizes ranged from tiny miniatures — not more than one and a half inch in diameter — to the prime exhibition targets many inches across.

Tipu Sultan Khan, the Joint Secretary of the Rose Society says, "We have so little space and such a problem of population. Why do we not relieve it some what by growing roses and other plants on our terraces? Everybody needs beauty

around him. You may not have 250 potted plants like me but you can have a dozen, and in them grow even fruit and vegetable. That way you cut the cost of a lot of your daily shopping."

Tipu Sultan has grown plants ranging from papayas, "kazi payara," lemon, chillie, to oranges and grapes on his terrace garden. Discussing his success with his roses, he says: "Put in half a pot of soil with half of 'gobor' manure. Mix this with crushed bone-meal and mustard 'kholl'. Soak this in blood-dust and water for 15 days you plant your seedling. The plant must be sprayed every week with anti-fungus powder. Anti-fungus powder must also be put every month."

It is no child's play growing roses. According to rose-lovers, you have to devote about three hours a day to the plants. Polash, a businessman, has spent about a lakh of takas on his collection of roses since he got wrapped up in this hobby over ten years ago. Keeping a rose garden is like keeping an elephant for a pet, he remarks.

Mrs. Mahmuda Ahmed, another ardent rose cultivator, has growing of roses in her family for generations. "One spends money on items like cigarettes. Doesn't one? Why not invest the money on a useful hobby? These beautiful blossoms provide a diversion in a society which is so short in recreational facilities, says F. Hadi, an ex-President of the Rose Society.

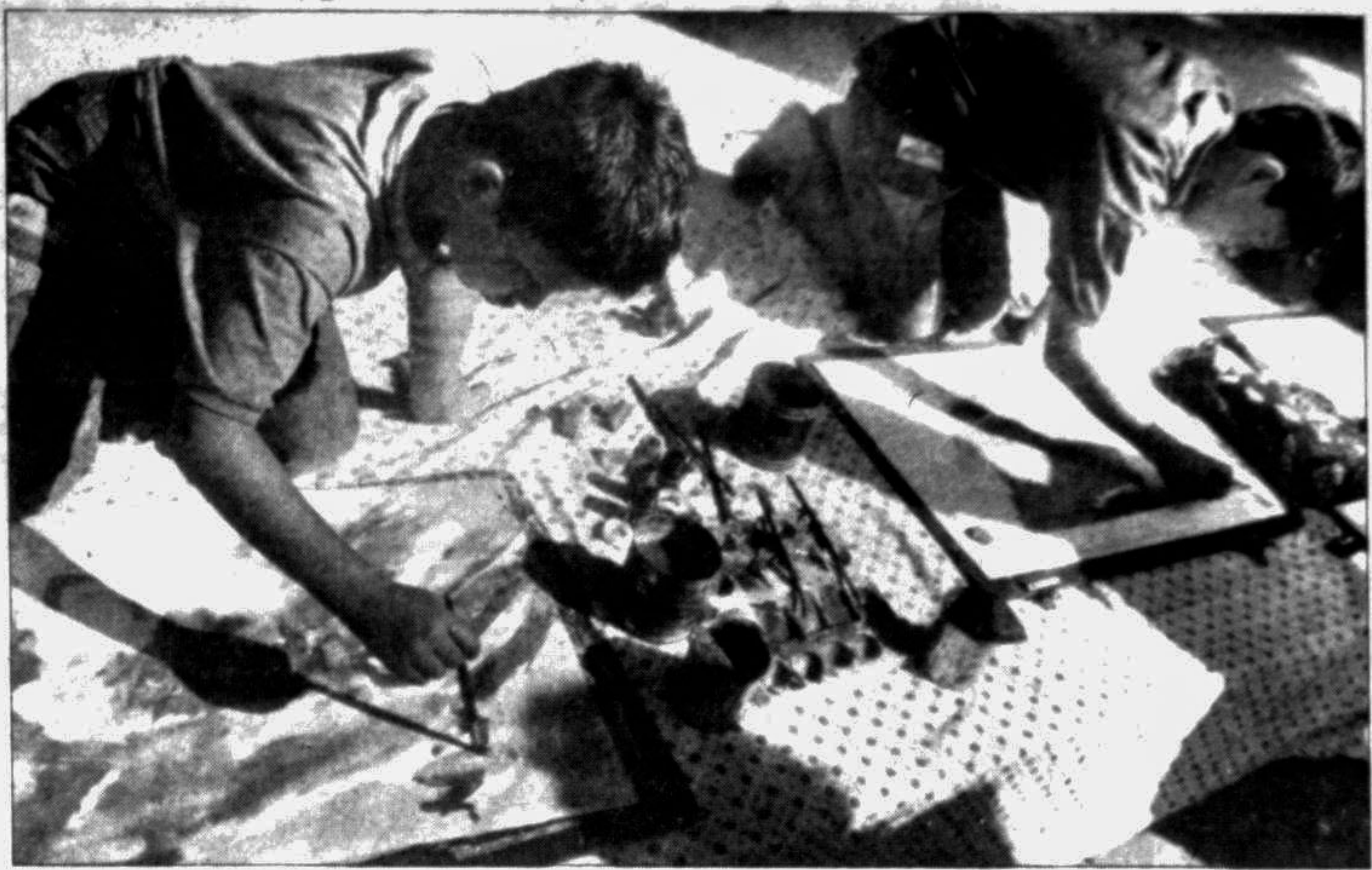
The rose has been an integral part of our Muslim culture. When the Arabs moved from Persia, which they conquered in the 7th century, this flower of the Middle East followed them to Spain. It was during the Crusades that the rose was introduced to the rest of Europe.

Roses have been used as medicines since World War II in the western world. Rose hips are an established source of Vitamin C. They are used in essential oils and for scents in cosmetics and perfumes. Large quantities are grown in France, India and Iran for the perfume specially attar of roses.

Few people fail to enjoy the delightful fragrance of most roses which range from the odour of the damask to scents of other kinds that brings spices, fruit and even green tea in mind.



Roses everywhere at the festival in city on Friday. —Star photo



Children's painting competition in progress at the College of Arts and Crafts in city on Friday. —Star photo

### Ex-JP Whip manhandled

NARAYANGANJ, Feb 15: The former Chief Whip of Jatiya Party, MA Sattar, was today manhandled by angry students when he was returning home after attending a projection meeting, police said, reports BSS.

The students pelted stones at his car at Tilkum under Siddhirganj-Fatulla Constituency-4 from where he is contesting the coming parliamentary polls.

Sattar was also confined to his car but police and local people rescued him. He received minor injuries, police said.

### Spring festival

The Bangladesh-China People's Friendship Association will arrange a reception and cultural show today in Dhaka at a local hotel on the occasion of Chinese spring festival, reports UNB.

### Shishu Academy competition today

The final phase National Children Award Competition-91 will begin in Dhaka today (Saturday), according to Bangladesh Shishu Academy press release on Friday, reports BSS.

Organised by Bangladesh Shishu Academy the competition is being participated by about 450 children who have secured first place in different fields at various level in eight regional phase of the competition. Social Welfare, Women Affairs and Sports and Youth Adviser Alamgir MA Kabir will distribute prizes among the winners on February 19 at 3 pm at Shishu Academy.

### Killing of women in Iraq condemned

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Mujahid Bahini in a meeting on Friday condemned the killing of women and children in Iraq by the Allied forces, says a press release.

The meeting presided over by Abu Taher Khan, was addressed by Kutub Uddin Ahmed, Kazi Moktar Hossain, Mustafa Kamal, Md Nurul Islam, and Moulana Fazlur Rahman.

## Parties warned not to make govt tool of mastans

CHITTAGONG, Feb 15: Professor Mohammed Yunus, Director Grameen Bank, on Friday expressed his optimism that the party which would be voted to power through election on February 27 would not turn the government machinery into tools of mastans or vested quarters, reports BSS.

Prof. Yunus was inaugurating the sixth national conference of Inner Wheel Club District 328 at a city hotel here this morning. Presided over by Dilruba Ahmed, Chairperson of the district, the inaugural session was also addressed by Mostafa Zaman Abbasi, Rotary District Governor, Dr. Shirin Hoq, Rosy Ahad, Nasima Hoq, Asma Abbasi and others.

Prof. Yunus warned aspirants and probable winners of the election that massive resistance would also be launched against the future government if it indulged in misrule instead of establishing rule of law. He said the victory which the people won through a mass movement would not be allowed to be jeopardised.

He called upon the members of the Inner Wheel Club to play a fearless role to help implement rule of law through an impartial free election.

Prof. Yunus said that an impartial terror-free election was not possible without sincere cooperation of all concerned and relevant parties. He called upon the people to stay around polling centres after casting individual votes

throughout the day during election to guard and check ballot dacoity and terrorism. He said only a fair election could bring changes in corrupt practices that was prevalent in the country for many years when wise people were not valued and mastans were rehabilitated in the highest positions in the country. Lawlessness, commotion, political and social unrest in the society were created by the people who ruled the country in the recent past. Hence government has to play a great role in establishing rule of law, he concluded.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

**ACROSS**

- Meadow
- Grinding machine
- Tennis stroke
- Narrate
- Mixture
- Collection of facts
- Early morn
- Abbott
- Mediate
- Seed
- Container
- Fondle
- Young goat
- Supercilious person
- Ordnance
- Saucy
- Gratuity
- Spread for drying
- de Janeiro
- Mother
- Ankle coverings
- Italian

**DOWN**

- Citrus fruit
- Spanish
- river
- Choose
- Mountain pass
- Evergreen tree
- Toll
- Recent
- Hospital section
- Chair
- Wasteful
- Grain
- Short-bladed weapon
- Chinese pagoda
- Whisker
- Be in debt
- Death rattle
- Citizen of Latvia
- Obtain
- Mast
- Dance step
- Pattern
- Negative prefix
- Brim
- Observe; inspect
- Climbing device
- Number
- Tavern
- Lights out!
- Above
- Pinch
- Speak
- Gossips
- Tom Hanks film
- Tiny
- Rend
- Also
- Moose
- Arid
- Swab
- Imitate
- Electrified particle
- Stitch
- Goal
- Armed conflict
- Fall behind
- Liquid
- Hindu peasants
- Former coach
- Bucky
- Towel
- Iris
- Father
- Canine
- Veneration
- Knock
- High
- Note of scale
- Babylonian dolly

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

HEW ADOPT AFT  
ATE MEDAL DUE  
SAI AMOS FORE  
RAZOR AI  
TR SEC SUNDAY  
RUN DRAWKNIFE  
AMAS AGO SETA  
COMPUTERS SER  
TREATS DAM R  
RE AFIRE  
MULE ODIN LOG  
ALE GRIST SPA  
PEG LATHS EAR

**Weather**

**Dry weather to persist**

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather is likely to prevail all over the country today (Saturday). Night-temperature fell by one to five degrees Celsius at many places on Thursday and may fall further by one to three degree Celsius on Saturday night, according to Met office.

The highest temperature recorded on Thursday was 31.5 degree Celsius at Feknaf and the lowest 11.0 degree at Rajshahi and Srimangal.

The sun sets today (Saturday) at 5.54 p.m. and rises Sunday at 6.31 am.

Outlook for subsequent two days: no marked change. Extended outlook for another five days: little change. Temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns are:

Cities and towns	Temperature in Celsius-Humidity (%)		9 a.m.	6 p.m.
	Max	Min		
Dhaka	28.8	16.7	60	34
Chittagong	29.0	16.5	73	56
Rajshahi	29.5	11.0	65	40
Khulna	29.2	14.0	73	47
Cox's Bazar	30.5	16.2	67	64
Sylhet	28.1	14.5	67	32
Rangpur	26.7	11.5	71	53
Bogra	28.6	13.2	58	59

Minimum temperature recorded on Friday in the major cities of this region were:

Bangkok	22°C	Calcutta	18°C
Karachi	19°C	Hong Kong	16°C
Delhi	8°C	Bombay	17°C
Colombo	21°C		

## Brother squandering black money, newsmen told 'Ershad's men let loose a reign of terror'

Some inhabitants of Rangpur living in Dhaka on Friday alleged armed supporters of Ershad had let loose a reign of terror in the deposed President's home district, reports UNB.

At a press conference Friday afternoon at the Jatiya Press Club, they said many people of different districts of greater Rangpur were passing days in panic due to Jatiya Party men's "hooliganism".

Among those who addressed the press conference were Sufi Motaheer Hossain, an educationist, and Asaduzzaman Noor, a noted TV performer. They told newsmen that Ershad's goons were carrying out attacks on innocent people, creating anarchy in different areas. They are resorting

to open display of arms and money in electioneering for JP candidates. The protesters referred to Ershadmen's attack on students and student leaders on December 8 and January 26 respectively. They also ransacked Rangpur Medical College on January 15.

They complained that Sharfuddin Ahmed Jhantu, Rangpur Sadar Upazila Chairman, Mofazzal Hossain, Rangpur Zila Parishad Chairman, Mohammad Ali, Badarganj Upazila Chairman, Nazrul Islam, Taraganj Upazila Chairman and Ali Ahmed, Ganchara Upazila Chairman were carrying out election campaign for Ershad violating election code of conduct.

They further alleged that Mozammel Huq Lahu, the brother of Ershad, were squandering "black money" and organising unlawful activities to foil the upcoming polls. The implicated a Janata Bank official of Rangpur branch with the unfair play.

The complainants said pro-Ershad campaign was being patronised by the local administration.

The ousted President, now detained in the capital, has stood in five constituencies of Rangpur for the February 27 polls.

They demanded immediate legal action against the armed Ershadmen to ensure free, fair and violence-free election in Rangpur.

### Women's Club executives

Nargis Khan and Nilufar Sultana have been elected as President and Secretary of Bangladesh Professional Women's Club (BPWC), Dhaka for 1991-92, a club press release said on Friday, reports BSS.

Nilufar Sultana was elected uncontested. Other office bearers and members were: Vice President—Muntra Khan and Razia Matin Chowdhury (uncontested), Joint Secretary—Bilkis Rashid, Treasurer—Rokeya Mannan, Joint Treasurer—Eva Alam (uncontested).

Members—Anwara Sobhan, Salma Khan, Anwara Samad, Zeenat Ara Bhuiyan, Montra Emdad, Nazme Ara Abed and Sarwar Rahman (elected).

## National Drama Stage soon

Prof. Iajuddin Ahmed Adviser for Food and Cultural Affairs on Friday said that an initiative would be taken for establishing a National Drama Stage in Dhaka, reports BSS.

The Drama workers should come forward with specific proposal for materialising the establishment of the stage, he added.

Prof Iajuddin was speaking at the 11th foundation anniversary function of "Prekhhapat" a drama organisation here.

Drama artists Abdullah Al-Mumun, Ramendu Majumder, S.M. Solaiman Golam Quddus and Habibur Islam Khan spoke on the occasion.

The Adviser urged the drama-artists to reflect the objectives of language movement, war of independence and recent democratic movements through their medium. Drama should be people oriented, he added.

The Drama "Saradin" was staged after the function.

## Juveniles' wish!

A juvenile procession organized by Kotwali thana unit of Zia Shishu Kishore Sangathan was brought out, in Dhaka on Friday, a Press release of the Dhaka city unit of Bangladesh Nationalist Party said, reports BSS.

A rally was held in front of the National Press Club at the end of the procession, which paraded the North-South Road beginning from Nayabazar office of the city BNP.

The rally was addressed by Messrs Strajul Islam Selim, Convener of the organization, Abu Mohammad Mainuddin, Mohammad Mohan, Ismail Hossain Mia, Mohammad Nabiullah Nabi and Shafig.

The speakers at the rally said the children today are chanting slogans "Aamra jodi voter, Dhanra

Shishe vote ditam" because late President Ziaur Rahman had set up a number of projects for the children including the Shishu Park, Shishu Academy and Ministry for Children.

They said the Awami League government or the Ershad government did not think about the children, rather a huge amount of money had been misappropriated through the Pathakali project by the Ershad regime.

They called upon the guardians of the children to strengthen the hands of Begum Khaleda Zia by casting their votes for the paddy, symbol for making the lives of the children of next generation beautiful.

An election camp of paddy sheaf of the Zia Shishu Kishore Sangathan was inaugurated at Haji Abdullah Sarkar Lane of Bangshal

### Boy killed in road mishap

A boy was killed and two others injured when a truck turned turtle on Tongi-Joydevpur road on Wednesday evening.



Members of Sharashruti reciting poems at the central Shaheed Minar premises on Friday in commemoration of language martyrs. —Star photo

## Glowing tributes paid to Reza

Teachers, students and members of the Managing Committee of Motijheel Night School on Friday held a discussion on the life and deeds of prominent journalist Muhammad Asafuddin Reza at the school, in observance of his 8th death anniversary, reports BSS.

Presided over by the Founder Headmaster of the school, Meahbauddin Ahmed Sabu, the discussion was participated by former Jatiya Sangsad member and Director of Apex Club Rahmatullah, Assistant Headmaster, Mohammed Iqbal, Mohammad Mintu, Mohammad Shahjahan.

Paying tributes to the memory of Asafuddin Reza, Sabu said Reza had set up an example of professional honesty in promoting mass-oriented journalism.

Side by side his contribution to journalism, Reza had also marked his distinction in social service, Sabu said and added he was the founder-Member of Motijheel Night School.

## Lekhak Shibir's programme on Ekushey

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Lekhak Shibir has organised a five-day programme to commemorate amar Ekushey.

The programme which starts today (Saturday), at 68/2 Purana Pallan includes: series of lectures short film show and sketches.

The title of this year's lecture will be on initial stage of Bengali literature.

Badriddin Umar will speak on Bankimchandra, Akhteruzzaman Ilyas will speak on Kalliprasanna Singha and Tekchand Thakur on Sunday and Shantanu Kaisar will speak on Meer Mosharrif Hossain on Tuesday.

Short films will be shown on Monday and sketches will be presented on Wednesday.

## Tributes paid to memory of martyrs

Bangladesh Federation of Business and Professionals Women's Club (BFBPWC) held a seminar on "Ekushey February and role of women" on Friday in the city where the speakers paid tributes to the memory of the martyrs of the language movement, reports BSS.

Nayan Rahman presented the key note paper at the seminar held at the auditorium of BFBPWC.

Presided over by Qamrun Rahman, the seminar was addressed by Khorshedi Alam, Maleka Khan, Kazi Madina, Latifa Akand and Shamsuzzahin.

Earlier, the BFBPWC held its council session with Ferdousi Ali in the chair.

Fariha Huq, General Secretary of the organisation, read out the annual report. Representatives from Rajshahi, Khulna and Mymensingh also read out their respective reports.

## Tk 8,200 fined

By Staff Correspondent

Mobile court instituted 50 cases against the owners of different vehicles for violating traffic rules on Wednesday.

The court also realised Taka 8,200 as fines from the violators of traffic rules.

## Tendency to avoid farmers' problems condemned

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Krishak Federation in its central committee meeting on Friday condemned the political parties' tendency to avoid the basic problems of the poor farmers, says a press release.

The meeting presided over by Badruddin Umar also decided to launch movement from March to realise different demands of the farmers, it added.

## NAP seeks votes for democracy

By Staff Correspondent

National Awami Party (NAP—Bhashant) candidate for Dhaka-9 Advocate Mujibur Rahman in a public meeting on Friday urged people to vote for his party to create a happy Bangladesh, says a party press release.

He also sought votes for democracy.

The meeting was addressed among others by Party Chairman Professor Nur Mohammad Kazi, Vice Chairman Mr Abdur Rahim Bhuiyan and Secretary General Sekandar Ali.