

### Directive to build 3-star hotel near ZIA

Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mosharraf Hossain yesterday directed the authorities to take immediate step to construct a three-star hotel near Zia International Airport, reports BSS.

The minister, during a visit to the headquarters of Civil Aviation Authorities and Zia International Airport, also directed them to expedite the expansion work of Chittagong Airport.

### Italian envoy calls on health minister

Italian Ambassador in Bangladesh Dr Raffaele Miniero yesterday called on Health and Family Welfare Minister Salahuddin Yusuf at his secretariat office, reports UNB.

They discussed matters of bilateral interest. Health Minister requested the Ambassador to mobilise Italian investment in Bangladesh health sector specially in good hospitals equipped with modern facilities.

### 3 children hurt in cocktail blast

By Staff Correspondent

Three children were injured in a cocktail explosion at Dhalpur under Demra thana in the city yesterday morning. They were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital immediately. Hospital sources said the wounded were identified as Arman, 7, Russel, 8, and Shujon, 8, of a slum in Dhalpur area.

The incident took place when a number of slum children were playing with a small tin container, which they found near a dustbin in a field. At one stage, the cocktail exploded, injuring the three.

### Businessman murder: 2 held in city

By Staff Correspondent

The Detective Branch (DB) of police yesterday arrested two persons in connection with the killing of a businessman in city's Shurapur area last October.

During a raid, a DB team arrested Abdul Khaleque, 35, and Afsaruddin Khalifa, 28, from Lalchan Mokim Lane in Old Dhaka in the evening, police said.

A gang of three assailants on a motor-cycle attacked Mohammad Hossain, 31, a rodcement trader, at Rajani Chowdhury Road around 10:30 am on Oct. 13, 1997. They snatched a bag containing Taka three lakh in cash from Hossain and shot him at point blank range.

### 1,106 more tribal refugees return

A total of 1,106 tribal refugees of 212 families returned home yesterday, the 11th day of the current phase of repatriation, from Lebuchhara refugee camp in the Indian state of Tripura through Tabalchhari frontier point of the Khagrachhari hill district, official sources in Rangamati said, reports BSS.

Some 10,203 refugees of 1,995 families have returned home so far in the current phase of repatriation, which began on Jan 1.

A total of 776 refugees belonging to 150 families are scheduled to return today from the Lebuchhara refugee camp as per schedule.



Minister of State for Information Prof. Abu Sayeed inaugurated a two-day dress exhibition organised by 'Dhrupadi' at Hotel Sheraton in the city yesterday. — PID photo

### What's on today....

**Handloom exhibition:** Bangladesh Handloom Board has organised an exhibition of handloom products. Venue: Board Office, 6/A Kawan Bazar (opposite Sonargaon Hotel). Time: 2 pm.

**Seminar:** As part of the annual 'Zainul Utsab' organised by the Fine Arts Institute, DU, a seminar on the limitations in imparting art education at the Institute will be held. Venue: Institute premises. Time: 11 am.

**Discussion:** To celebrate the birth centenary of Abul Hussein, Bangla Academy has arranged a discussion on the life and works of the eminent thinker and reformer. Venue: Academy seminar room. Time: 11 am.

**Seminar:** A seminar on 'Contribution of Germany in Islamic Studies: Historic perspective' will be held. Keynote speaker: Toufikul Haider, Associate Professor, Islamic History and Culture Department, DU. Organiser: Advanced Social Sciences Research Centre. Venue: DU Lecture Theatre. Room: 401. Time: 3:30 pm.

**Opening ceremony:** The opening ceremony of International Office Equipment's new office-cum-showroom will be held. Venue: 65 Gulshan Avenue. Time: 10 am.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka North:** The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5 pm.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka Capital:** The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Officers' Club. Time: 4:30 pm.

### Urs

The annual Urs Mubarak of Hazrat Syed Shah Mustafa Bagdadi Sher-e-Sawar Chabuk-mahar Mahub-e-Elahi will be held on January 15 at his Dargah Sharif in Moulvibazar district town, reports BSS.

The Urs programme includes milad mahfil, zikir-azkar, shirnee distribution.

### Memorabilia of FFs from N'ganj go on show today

By Staff Correspondent

Muktijuddho Jadughar (Liberation War Museum) has arranged a special display of memorabilia of freedom fighters from Narayanganj district, says a press release.

The rare items, collected by Narayanganj Sangskritik Jote, were presented to the museum by Narayanganj Kranti Khe-laghar Asar.

The exhibition will remain open from 10:30 am to 4 pm every day (except Sunday) till Jan 28.

### President of Asia Foundation due today

By Staff Correspondent

The president of the Asia Foundation Dr William P. Fuller arrives in the city today on a three-day visit.

During the visit he will meet business leaders, government officials, donor communities, NGO representatives and important personalities of the country, says a press release.

### Swami Vivekananda's 135th anniversary of birth today

Vivekananda Education and Cultural Council will celebrate the 135th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda today, reports BSS.

To mark the day, the council will hold a discussion on the life and philosophy of Vivekananda at the Public Library auditorium at 3 pm. State Minister for Information Prof. Abu Sayeed will attend as the chief guest.

A colourful procession will also be brought out from the foot of the statue of Swami Vivekananda at Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University at 10 am and a cultural function will be held on the hall premises.

### More donations to PM's Relief Fund for cold victims

More organisations continued to donate warm clothes and cash to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for distribution among the cold-stricken people, report agencies.

Cheques for a total of Tk 16.25 lakh, Tk 20,000 in cash and 31,981 pieces of warm clothes were handed over yesterday, said an official hand-out.

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) donated a cheque of Tk 10 lakh and 30,000 pieces of sweaters, jackets and shirts, the daily Ajker Kagoj gave a cheque for Tk two lakh, Bangladesh Polytechnic Teachers' Association, Dhaka, donated warm clothes worth Tk 70 thousand, Agrabad Hotel, Chittagong gave 4,000 pieces of warm garments, Prokichi-BCS Central Coordination Committee gave a cheque for Tk 50 thousand, Uttara Thana Jatir Pita Parishad and Saronik, a voluntary organisation from Jahangirnagar University donated blankets and warm garments, Dhaka WASA and Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) donated Tk one lakh each, Berl Apparels gave 1,000 pieces of sweaters, R and H Diploma Engineers' Association Tk 50 thousand and Additional Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka Tk 25 thousand, Dhaka City Hawkers' Olkya Parishad donated 150 pieces of warm clothes.

### Khaleda hosts iftar party

By Staff Correspondent

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia hosted an iftar party for lawyers, film personalities, singers and poets at her Minto Road official residence in the city yesterday.

The guests included film artistes Sohana, Kanchi, Amit Hasan, Imran, Helal Khan, Rosy Afsari, Ariful Haq, Khalidullah Khan, Ahmed Sharif and Dildar, director Chashi Nazrul Islam, singers Anjuman Ara Begum and Mostafa Zaman Abbasi, former justice SM Munir, Maksumul Hakim, Bazlur Rahman, Habibul Islam Bhuiyan, lawyers Abdus Selim Reza, Julmat Ali Khan, Ainuddin, Fazlur Rahman Khan, Abdul Wadud Khandakar, poet Mosharraf Karim, Zakaria Chowdhury and Shamima Chowdhury.

BNP leaders Abdus Salam Talukdar, Moudud Ahmed, Khandakar Mahubul Ahmed, Nazmul Huda, MP, Jamiruddin Sircar, MP, Ziaur Rahman, MP, Aminul Haq, MP among others, were also present.

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An information session for studying at Victoria University of Technology (VUT), Melbourne, Australia will be held:

Day: Saturday, 7th February 1998  
Time: 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM  
Place: Auditorium of Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS), Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 (East side of Mohakhali Rail Crossing).

A staff member from the Department of Computer & Mathematical Sciences, VUT, will provide detailed information on eligibility for admission, tuition fees, living costs, student visa, etc. for B. Sc., M. Sc. and Graduate Diploma in Computer Science courses. Information for other courses (e.g., MBA, Engineering) will also be available.

It would be helpful if the interest to attend the session is registered by writing to GPO Box 3103, Dhaka 1000 before January 22, 1998. Please note that this session is only for persons willing to study as full-fee paying students in Australia.

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