

**Metropolitan**

**Music academy after Shahidul Islam proposed**

By Staff Correspondent  
Speakers at a memorial meeting in the city yesterday paid rich tributes to Shahidul Islam, an organiser and programme producer of the 'Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendro' — the wartime radio station of Bangladesh.

Islam, a renowned lyricist and a former dance and music director of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, died on December 13, 1997.

The meeting commemorating his life and work was held at National Museum auditorium under the aegis of Shahidul Islam Smriti Parishad.

Speaking at the function, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Obaidul Kader proposed setting up of a music academy named after Shahidul Islam and assured all necessary cooperation from his ministry in that regard.

The programme ended with a cultural function.



Poet Shamsur Rahman inaugurated a solo painting exhibition by Maruf Ahmed at the Shilpakala Academy gallery yesterday. —Star photo

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**IN MEMORY OF**



The renowned banker Mr M. A. Rashid who breathed his last on this day, 17th of February, 1993 in London.

We, the members of the bereaved family, remember him with respect and pray for the departed soul to rest in peace.

Members of the bereaved family. C-133

**Indian passenger dies aboard Biman flight**  
By Staff Correspondent  
An Indian national aboard a Bangladesh Biman flight died Sunday afternoon.  
Police said yesterday that the dead was identified as Christopher Gomez.  
Gomez died as he suffered a heart attack about half-an-hour after the Abu Dhabi-bound flight BG-023 took off Zia International Airport (ZIA) at about 4 pm.  
The captain of the flight decided to return to ZIA as the condition of Gomez was deteriorating. But the doctors at ZIA declared the passenger dead.

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Dhaka  
February 14, 1998  
Board of Directors

**What's on today . . . .**

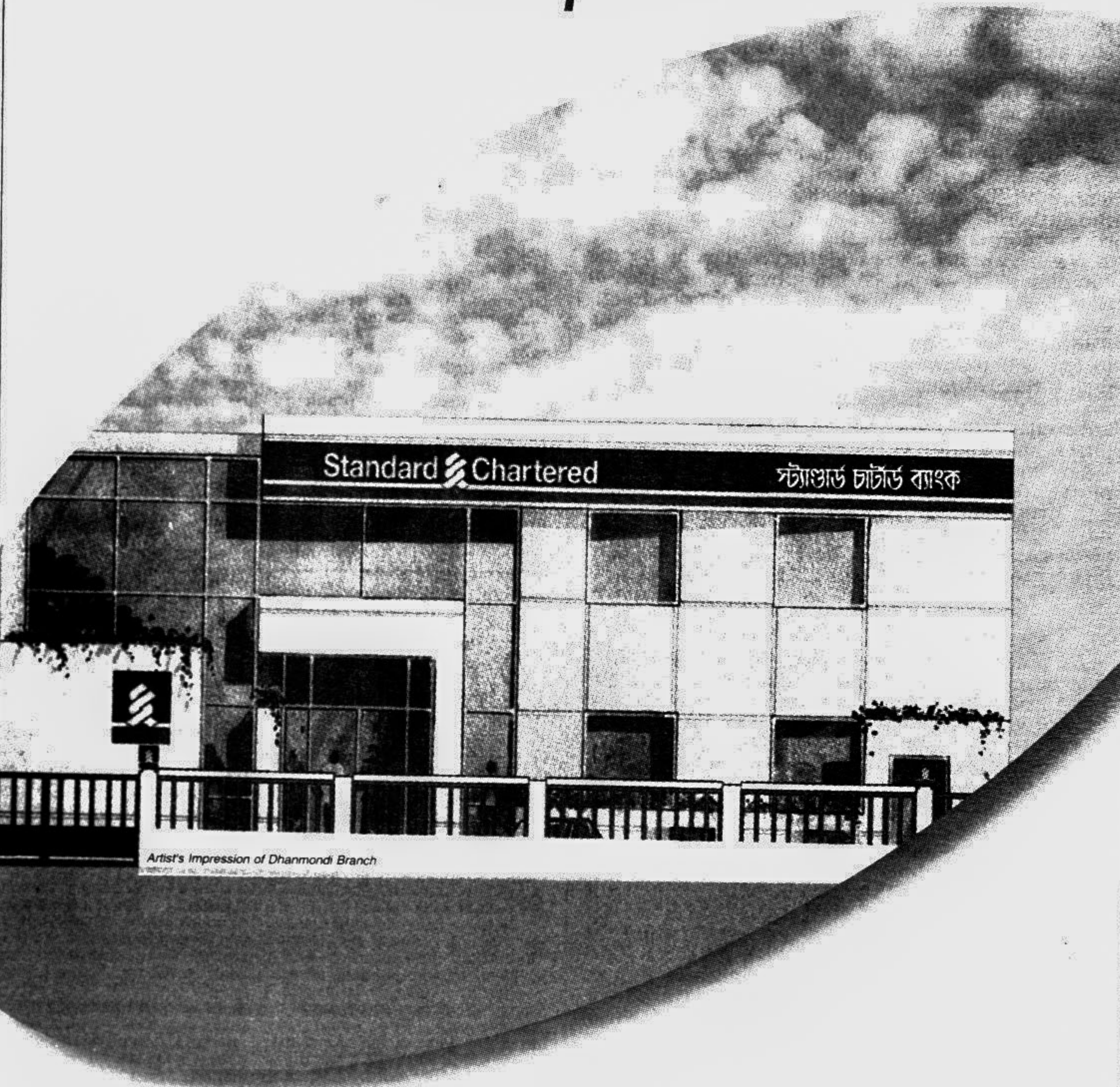
- Ekushey Grantha Mela:** A discussion on 'Bangladeshi novels' will be held. Venue: Bangla Academy. Time: 4 pm.
- Launching ceremony:** The launching ceremony of 'Ground water studies for arsenic contamination in Bangladesh' will be held. Venue: DPHE Bhaban, 14 Shaheed Capt Mansur Ali Sarani, Kakrail (Opp Kakrail Mosque). Time: 10 am.
- Publication ceremony:** The publication ceremony of a collection of poems by Zakaria Chowdhury, titled 'Nirbachita Kavita', will be held. Venue: VIP Lounge, Jatiya Press Club. Time: 4 pm.
- Discussion:** An open discussion on the proposed National Education Policy will be held. Organiser: Association of Universities of Bangladesh. Venue: TSC auditorium, DU. Time: 10 am.
- Painting competition:** A painting competition for children has been organised by Nazrul Institute. Venue: Institute premises, Rd: 28, Dhanmondi. Time: 10 am.
- Discussion on CHT:** A discussion meeting on 'Chittagong Hill Tracts: Oppression, Struggle and Democratisation' will be held. Organiser: National Committee for Protecting Human Rights in the CHT. Venue: Lecture Theatre, B-2, Arts Building, DU. Time: 3 pm.
- Colloquium:** Bangladesh Women Journalists' Forum will hold a colloquium to observe Amar Ekushey. Venue: Jatiya Press Club. Time: 4 pm.
- Orientation:** An orientation course on HIV/AIDS will be held. Venue: BMA building. Time: 9 am.
- Paralegal training:** A weeklong paralegal training course, organised by the Institute of Democratic Rights, will begin. Venue: House: 135, Rd: 9 A, Dhanmondi. Time: 9 am.
- Club meeting:** The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Ramna will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club Family Lounge. Time: 5:30 pm.
- Club meeting:** The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Shahbagh will be held. Guest speaker: Former secretary Dr Harunur Rashid will speak on Southeast Asian economic crisis and its implication for Bangladesh. Venue: Officers' Club, Bally Rd. Time: 6 pm.

**Seminar on regional shipping policy**  
A seminar on 'Regional Shipping Policy' jointly organised by Shippers' Council of Bangladesh and Association of Shippers' Councils of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka (ASCOBIPS) will be held in the city today, reports UNB.  
Shipping Minister A S M Abdur Rob will inaugurate the seminar at Hotel Purbani at 9 am.

**Bangabandhu murder Debate over confessional statement in court**  
The trial court yesterday witnessed a debate between prosecution and defence lawyers in Bangabandhu Murder Case over confessional statement of one of the accused to police, reports UNB.  
The debate arose when defence lawyer Sharfuddin Mukul wanted to see the copy of confessional statement of Taheruddin Thakur, one of the accused in the Bangabandhu Murder Case, before examining the magistrate who recorded it under Section 164.  
Referring to a petition filed earlier, the counsel of Thakur also declined to cross-examine the magistrate, Habibur Rahman, until he confirmed whether any such statement to police exists or not.  
When Judge Kazi Golam Rasul asked, prosecution lawyers replied that they didn't receive any statement of any accused given to the investigation officer under Section 161.  
Chief Special PP Serajul Haq and special PP Ramjan Ali Khan further told the court that they would be able to confirm the court today on the said statement after talking to the IO concerned.  
The Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate of Dhaka Habibur Rahman made his deposition as PW-52 to the court informing that he recorded confessional statement of Taheruddin Thakur and Lt Col Muhiuddin.  
Earlier, the cross-examination of PW-51 Afzalur Rahman, who had recorded confessional statement of other arrested accused as the then Metropolitan Magistrate, was completed at the court.  
The court resumes at 9.30 am today.

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