

What's on today

Loko Natyadal Theatre Festival: 'Kanjus' will be staged. Venue: Public Library auditorium. Time: 7 pm.

Seminar: A seminar on 'The Commonwealth in the 3rd millennium: Prospects and Challenges' will be held. Organisers: Commonwealth Society of Bangladesh and the British Council. Venue: British Council auditorium. Time: 10:25 am.

Conference: A conference of Homeo Peshajibi Samity (Professional Homeopaths' Association) will be held marking its 17th founding anniversary. Venue: TSC auditorium, Dhaka University. Time: 11 am.

Club meeting: The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka North will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 6 pm.

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**Home Minister tells JS
 New thana to be set up in city**

Home Minister Rafiqul Islam informed the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday that steps have been taken to set up a new thana (police station) named 'Kafur' thana, with parts of Mirpur and Cantonment thanas, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Kamal Ahmed Majumdar (AL-Dhaka), the minister also said that there is no plan at present to set up police outposts in Mirpur and Pallabi thanas of the metropolises.

Replying to a question from Razia Matin Chowdhury (AL-Feni, Noakhali and Luxmipur), the home minister informed the House that the government has appointed some 448 women police to different ranks in the country so far.

The government has promoted five women assistant superintendents of police to the rank of additional superintendent of police, forty women sub-inspectors to the rank of inspectors, 38 women assistant sub-inspectors (ASI) to the rank of sub-inspectors and 36 constables to the rank of ASI.

Meanwhile, the home minister informed the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday that 728 persons were killed in 663 accidents on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway in 1996 and 1997, and 841 cases have been filed in this connection.

Replying to a question from ABM Abul Quasem (AL-Chittagong), the minister added that in those two years, 21 highway robberies were committed on Dhaka-Chittagong highway and 21 cases filed.

The minister informed the House that to prevent robberies and accidents on that highway, patrol duty has been strengthened in the concerned thanas and measures taken to check suspicious vehicles.

He also said that steps have been taken to set up mobile courts and submit prosecution report against responsible drivers.

Replying to a question from Mojibur Rahman (AL-Shariatpur), the minister said that 1,922 smugglers were arrested from July to December 1997.

Law Commission Chairman calls on President

Law Commission Chairman Justice Kamaluddin Hossain yesterday called on President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports BSS.

The President expressed the hope that Justice Hossain's long judicial experience would help materialise the task of the commission.

The commission chairman apprised the President of certain pressing problems like the commission's office accommodation and sought his personal initiative in solving the problems. He also apprised the president of the enormous task ahead of the commission.

President Shahabuddin gave him a patient hearing and said that he would look into the problems of the commission.

Commission members Justice Aminur Rahman Khan and Justice Naimuddin Ahmed were also present.

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