

What's on today . . . .

**Nat'l Nutrition Week:** The concluding ceremony of the National Nutrition Week '98 will be held. Organiser: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Venue: BARC auditorium. Time: 4 pm.

**Film show:** 'Lal Darja' will be screened on the concluding day of the 5-day session on contemporary Indian film. Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society in collaboration with the cultural section of the High Commission of India, Dhaka. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Road 2, Dhanmondi. Time: 6 pm.

**Documentary film:** The premiere show of the English subtitled version of the documentary film 'Sonargaon' will be held. Organiser: Goethe-Institute in cooperation with Bangladesh Short Film Forum and Chhetana Sthapatya Unnoyon Society. Venue: German Cultural Centre, Rd. 9, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm. The screening of the film will be followed by a discussion on the conservation of historical buildings.

**Memorial meet:** A memorial meeting on martyrs of Liberation War at the Sylhet Medical College Hospital premises and Shaheed Dr Shamsuddin memorial lecture will be held. Venue: BIRDEM auditorium. Time: 10 am.

**Seminar:** A seminar on 'the strengthening of LGED's management capability will be held. Venue: LGED auditorium, Agargaon. Time: 9:30 am.

**BCPS lecture:** A lecture under CME programme of the Bangladesh College of Physician & Surgeon on 'Paediatric ocular ailments will be held. Venue: BCPS auditorium, Mohakhali. Time: 11 am.

**Discussion:** A discussion meeting on 'Role of VOA in eradication of polio by the year 2000' will be held on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Voice of America Bangla Service. Organiser: VOA Fan Clubs-Bangladesh. Chief guest: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 10 am.

**Seminar:** A seminar on 'Preparation of a new input-output table for Bangladesh economy' will be held. Organiser: Planning Ministry. Venue: BID conference room, Agargaon. Time: ?.

**Club meeting:** The weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held. Venue: 23 Green Road. Time: 7:30 pm.

**Award giving:** The award giving ceremony of the Noorzahan Memorial Award '97 introduced by the Delta Life Insurance Company Ltd will be held. Venue: National Press Club auditorium. Time: 5 pm.

**Club meeting:** The weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.



Leader of the Opposition and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleida Zia seen welcoming the leaders and activists of Baam Oikya Prokria at the Engineers' Institute yesterday who formally joined BNP under the leadership of Naim Jahangir. —Star photo

Speakers stress improved use of surface water instead of rejecting it

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a workshop yesterday said that improving the traditional system of use of surface water instead of totally rejecting it decades ago would have been a better choice while others felt arsenic problem can be brought under control if use of groundwater is restricted.

Afsan Choudhury of Disaster forum said, "The people should have been asked how they would feel if they were to continue using surface water improving the traditional use of pond, river and similar sources of water."

The presenter while delivering his paper on 'Safe water: Options and perspective' at the day-long workshop on 'Arsenic crisis: In search of safe water options' held at the BRAC centre said, "The decision to install

tubewells was not an environmentally assessed user friendly decision. The then authorities' decision to switch over to use of groundwater from surface water as the option for best possible way to fight diarrhoea was not a good decision."

"We are already aware of options other than groundwater as a viable source of safe drinking water. To turn that into reality, we need to engage the decision makers and involve the public representatives to challenge any decision detrimental to their interest. And thus, create an accountability process," he added.

Professor Ainun Nishat of BUET while delivering his paper on 'state of surface water use in Bangladesh' said "The problem of arsenic can be greatly controlled if use of groundwater is restricted."

He said, "surface water availability during the dry seasons is limited. Water storage, rainwater harvesting, crop diversification could be a few alternatives that need to be considered."

He also said "construction of barrages on the major rivers would be necessary to have control over flow for future utilizations."

Ahmed Mustaque R Chowdhury of BRAC also presented a paper on 'Safe water options: Issues and problems at the field level.'

The inaugural session of the workshop was addressed by Anamul Haque of Oxfam, Khushi Kabir of Coalition of Environmental NGOs (CEN), Jeffrey S Pereira of CARITAS and Gawher Nayeem Wahra of Disaster Forum.

The workshop was organised by Disaster Forum in collaboration with Oxfam.

Electric wires worth over Tk 12 lakh stolen

Electric wires worth over Tk 12 lakh were stolen from different areas of the district Municipal area during the last six months, reports UNB.

Official sources said about 25,000 metres of electric wires were stolen from Bhurulia, Mariali, Harinal, Chhayabithi, Dhirasram, Kanaiya, Niler Para and adjacent areas.

Local sources said modern wires of different important roads and Sholo Shahar Project area are being stolen frequently by an organised gang causing suffering to the people.

Besides, stealing of the residential electric wires in several areas also has become a regular feature, the sources added.

Local people urged the authorities concerned to take stringent action against the gang.

DUTA urges all to help restore academic discipline on DU campus

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) Monday appealed to all student organisations and all concerned to show restraint and tolerance for avoiding conflict and strike to restore peaceful academic atmosphere in the university.

The DUTA made the appeal while exchanging views with the Vice-Chancellor of the university at the situation of the university at his residence yesterday.

The DUTA assured the VC of all cooperation for restoring peace in the university. The DUTA leaders also said that it would extend all cooperation to the hall provosts and DU authorities for rehabilitating the displaced students of different dormitories due to violent activities over the last few days.

The DUTA also urged the university authorities to immediately initiate a negotiation with the feuding student organisations to reach a peaceful solution.

They also condemned the incidents of throwing cocktail at the residence of the Provost of Sir A F Rahman Hall, and alleged life threat to the DUTA president over telephone.

GSE team to visit USA, Canada

A five member Group Study Exchange Team (GSE) of Rotary International Dist. 3280 (Bangladesh) led by Rtn. Past President Mohammad Hafizullah of the Rotary Club of Naravanganj is leaving today for Michigan, America and Victoria, Canada for 4 weeks.

The other members of the team are: Mahia Juned, a banker, Rehana Choudhury, school teacher, Mesbahudhoza, a textile executive and Taskin Reza Hussain, Management Consultant, says a press release.

The Group Study Exchange programme is an educational programme of the Rotary Foundation designed to offer young business and professional persons of various professions an opportunity to study another country, its people and institutions through participation in an organised programme of study discussions and home hospitality in the host country and thereby fostering the cause of international understanding and goodwill.

It may be mentioned here that during Jan-Feb this year the Bangladeshi Rotarians hosted two teams, one from Minnesota and the other from Michigan and Ontario.

Construction works of Shilpakala Academy projects will start soon

All construction works of the projects of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy will start as soon as possible on the basis of the report of Enquiry Committee which has been formed by the government to probe into the causes of the recent collapse of the under-construction National Theatre Complex, reports BSS.

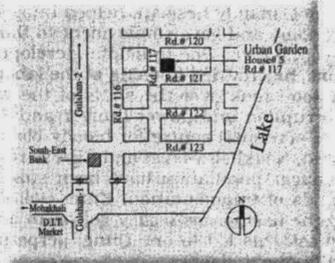
Seminar on TU communication begins

A three-day seminar on "Trade union communication" has begun yesterday morning at the conference room of BIM in the city under the auspices of Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies BILS/LO-FTF Project.

Anders Stig Moeller, project manager inaugurated the seminar. A total of 20 participants from different trade union federations are attending the seminar.

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Weather

Rain with hails likely

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind with hails is likely at a few places over the country in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

According to the Met Office, slight fall in day temperature is expected over the country during the period.

The country's highest temperature 36.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and the lowest 22.1 degree Celsius at Comilla.

The sun sets today at 6.26 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.25 am. Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.2	25.5	76	78
Chittagong	33.2	25.4	76	71
Rajshahi	36.4	24.2	81	78
Khulna	35.0	26.5	75	72
Barisal	34.6	25.4	78	78
Sylhet	30.8	23.2	80	84
Cox's Bazar	34.0	25.3	66	75

SITUATION VACANT

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION BANGLADESH

Applications are invited for the following position under the WHO Programme, BAN CTD 001, Vector Borne Disease Control:

- Title of the Position : Local Consultant (Entomologist)
- Duration : One year with possible renewal
- Qualification : Master's of Science (Zoology/Entomology) with specialization in Medical Entomology. Candidates with M.Sc./M.S./M.Phil/Ph.D in Medical Entomology will be preferred.
- Experience : Candidate should have
  1. Substantial expertise (20 years) in vector biology and control (specially local malaria vectors), integrated vector control in rural and urban areas, etc.
  2. Wide experience of Insecticide Treated Bed Net Programme (10 years) in rural & urban areas.
  3. Wide research experience with research publications (in internationally reputed journals).
  4. Medical Entomologists with vast experience of malaria eradication/control programme will be preferred.
- Duty Station : M&PDC Unit, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka and malarious areas of Bangladesh.
- Job Description includes : The consultant will be responsible for the following activities:
  1. Assist in planning and implementing community based workshops for health staff and community representatives on the Insecticide Treated Bed Net (ITBN) Programme i.e. treatment of mosquito net by insecticide and promotion of use of nets through individual and community participation. About 75 workshops/year in Rangamati, Khagrachari and Bandarban Hill districts, Chittagong and Cox's Bazar districts are to be organised. Undertake regular field visits for two weeks or more every month for the implementation of various activities.
  2. Assist the programme for the motivation of local NGO's with health related programme to participate in the ITBN Programme in the highly malarious areas.
  3. Organise monitoring and evaluation of the ITBN Programme in the field (both entomological and parasitological).
  4. Assist the programme in strengthening of IEC activities for prevention and control of P. falciparum malaria. Organise meeting/group discussions in malaria affected villages to create awareness among the masses about the man-made disease and encourage the people for malaria prevention and use of ITBN.
  5. Assist the programme in achieving the ITBN target of 150,000 nets every year.
  6. Assist the programme in local procurement of appropriate ITBN Kit materials and insecticide (Deltamethrin).

Applications with full bio-data and two PP size photographs should reach the WHO Representative in Bangladesh (Attention: WHO Programme and Administrative Officer), House No. 12, Road No. 7, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka-1205, by 21 May 1998.

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Terms and conditions apply. Reservations and ticketing must be completed by 15th June and outbound travel must commence by 30th June 1998.