Photo exhibition: Drik Picture Library Ltd has organised a

week-long photography exhibition marking its 9th founding anniversary. All proceeds from the sale of photographs on show will be donated to flood relief funds. Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Rd: 15A, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm. Chief guest: Magician Jewel Aich. The exhibition will remain open from 3 pm to 8 pm daily, till

• What's on today . . . .



On behalf of IFIC Bank Ltd, A S F Rahman, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the handing over a cheque for Tk 50 lakh to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday in aid of flood affected people. Salman F Rahman, Vice Chairman, A M Agha Yusuf, Syed Mohsen Ali, Shafiul Islam, directors, and Abbas Uddin Ahmed, Managing Director of the bank, were also present on the occasion.

## Over Tk 2.34 cr donated to PM's Relief Fund

Different organisations and individuals yesterday donated over Taka two crore 34 lakh and 5000 US dollars to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for the flood-affected people of the country, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina received the donations at her office in the afternoon and thanked the donors for their generous contributions for the flood-stricken people.

The donors included IFIC Bank — Taka 50 lakh, Young Wang Corporation (BD) Limited, EPZ Chittagong - Tk 50 lakh, Ministry of Industries and Commerce — Tk 46 lakh 12 thousand, Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh — Tk 10 lakh, Dr Ansar Ali Khan Country Representative of UN-ESCO - Tk 18 lakh 78 thousand, British American, Tobacco Company — Tk 10 lakh, Mir Zahir Hossain, Chairman SCCB — Tk five lakh, Ministry of Shipping - Tk 11 lakh 12 thousand, A Z M Shamsul Alam, Chairman Al-Arafah Islami Bank — Tk five lakh Credit Agricole Indosuez Bank Tk five lakh, Bangladesh Wage Earners Nominee Businessmen Association — Tk one lakh, Director General Defence Forces Intelligence - Tk five lakh, Nathional Bank - Tk three lakh 55 thousand. Bangladesh Corrugated Cartoon

one lakh. Bangladesh Wholesale Sugar Merchants Association — Tk one lakh, Shafiqul Islam, Chairman, BTTMEA — Tk one lakh, Islamic Foundation of Bangladesh — Tk one lakh 50 thousand, Tejgaon College — Tk one lakh five thousand. Viqarunnessa Noon School and College — Tk One lakh, Nurul Islam, General Manager, Alico — Tk one lakh, Firoz Ahmed, General Manager, Siemens — Tk one lakh, Green Super Market — Tk 50 thousand, Agargaon Bazar Banik Samity — Tk 50 thousand, Deputy Commissioner, Dhaka — Tk one lakh, Harbest Singapore Private Limited — five thousand US dollar, Malibagh Super Market -Tk 50 thousand, CIRDAP — Tk 50 thousand, Tofazzal Hossain, President, Barguna Lawyers Association - Tk 10 thousand. Khandakar Fazlur Rahman, Bangladesh Librarian Association — Tk 10 thousand, Rector. Bangladesh Public Administrative Training Centre, Savar

 Tk 37 thousand, Lutfar Rahman, Medina Central Awami League — Tk 30 thousand, North South Property Ltd — Tk 10 thousand, Rector, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agriculture University — Tk 27 thousand, President of Librarian Association - Tk eight thousand, Principal of Hermon Miner College - Tk six thousand and Irfat Ara Tanni — Tk four thousand.

#### US embassy, Kamaluddin acting CCC Mayor

CHITTAGONG, Sept 3: Kamaluddin Ahmed, Commissioner of ward number 39 will act as the acting mayor of Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) in absence of mayor ABM Mahiuddin Chowdhury who is now staying abroad, reports

and Accessories Manufacturing

and Exporters Association — Tk

According to a city corporation press release, acting mayor Kamaluddin Ahmed today held a meeting with the officers and staff of the corporation.

# USIS to remain closed Sept 7

The American Embassy, the United States Information Service (USIS), the USIS Information Resource Center, and the Student Counselling Service will be closed on September 7 in observance of Labour Day, a national holiday of the United States, reports BSS.

Labour Day is observed annually in the United States on the first Monday of September, a USIS release said.

# **Food stock satisfactory**'

From Page 1 Venting her discontent over what she called political use of the flood and its victims by the opposition, she said, "I don't understand how a politician invites woes for the people."

In an oblique reference to opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia's statement on a possible post-flood famine, she said the government is capable of tackling any crisis caused by the flooding.

"As part of the government, I believe in work and I know it is the opposition who talks much. But everybody has the responsibility for the people. One should not frighten the people when they are already in an awful condition.'

The minister said that the government is maintaining strong vigilance over the current situation and is reaching the distressed people at the earliest possible time.

She warned against any attempt to create an abnormal food situation and said that there is always a section of people who want to make their fortune capitalising on people's distress. "We are watching the situation and have already taken steps to check such ac-

The present food stock is about 450,000 metric tons and the government steps to overcome any food crisis includes quick procurement of food-

grains by imports and internal procurement. "The procurement process is on ...," said Matia Chowdhury. The government has already signed contracts to buy one

lakh metric tons of rice which will start arriving in the country by September 25. The minister said: We are go-

ing to buy another one lakh metric tons of rice. Another 63,000 MT of foodgrains in coming under PL-480 title. If necessary, we will buy more. If it is not possible internally, we will go for international buy-

 On the other hand, she said, the United States has pledged two lakh of MT of foodgrains and discussion is going on to get another two lakh MT from the

On how to meet the food demands of September, October and November — three critical post-flood months - Matia said that the government needs 120,000 MT of foodgrains for Open Market Sale (OMS) and 120,000 MT for Vulnerable

Group Feeding (VGF). The plan to reach the poor · and worse affected people includes raising the number of VGF cards up to 1,000 in the worst hit unions. Every person holding a VGF card will get 16 kg of rice per month. This will continue till harvesting of the

Usually, there are 300 cards in an union under the VGF programme. The VGD (Vulnerable Group Development) and FFW (Food for Works) programmes will continue simultaneously, said the minister.

The OMS programme will start immediately after the flood waters recede. "I can't start the OMS programme now because of the flood water, can't facilitate pilferage in the name of open market selling,

said Matia. She felt that the government programmes as well as cultivation of crops and winter vegetable will provide enough jobs to the rural people.

The government has already announced a post-flood agricultural rehabilitation programme to help the farmers return to their normal life, said

"The Tk 3,200 crore loan programme for the farmers is targeted to help the people who depend on agricultural produc-

Under the post-flood agricultural rehabilitation programme, the small and marginal farmers will be provided with seeds and phosphate fertiliser free of cost

"We will stand by the farmers with all-out support, both in cash and kind, to help them produce enough in the next BORO and wheat season to recoup the loss caused by the

floods." Initially, 1.5 lakh marginal farmers will get cash, seed and phosphate fertiliser during the next planting season.

This programme will be co-NGO representatives and local

# Cultural function: Swarnolata Academy has organised a charity cultural show in aid of flood victims. Venue: Majid Sardar Community Centre, Bangladesh Maath, Aga Sadik Lane. Time: Reception: Association of Pabna Ex-Cadets (APEC) has arranged a reception for ex-cadets of 14th and 15th batches. APEC House and guest house will also be inaugurated. Venue: APEC Centre, 944/2 East Shewrapara. Time: 4 pm.

Sept 10.

Hun Sen urges

King Sihanouk

to break

deadlock

Strongman Hun Sen handed

King Norodom Sihanouk re-

sponsibility for breaking Cam-

bodia's political deadlock

Thursday while thousands of

people kept up round-the-clock

protests demanding his election

victory be overturned, reports

of his Cambodian People's

Party met with the king for two

hours in the northern town of

Siem Reap, near the ancient

Angkor monuments, to discuss

a looming constitutional crisis

terward that a weekend work-

ing group of representatives of

the main political parties

called by the king represented

the best chance to break the

deadlock and decide the future

Hun Sen said that he per-

sonally would attend and hoped

other party leaders would also,

rather than send lower-level

members. But one opposition

leader, Sam Rainsy, has already

indicated he will send a junior

BNP hatching

conspiracy

against govt,

says Zillur

ister Zillur Rahman has ac-

cused BNP of hatching conspir-

acy to put the government in an

awkward situation by demand-

ing the formation of an 'all

party relief committee', reports

The opposition leaders are

trying to do politics with the re-

lief operation, Zillur said while

inaugurating a programme of

feeding 6,000 flood-affected at

two flood shelters at Armani-

tola Government High School

and Armanitola Government

Primary School centres in the

Awami League, Haji Md Selim

MP and different local volun-

tary and social organisations

have jointly taken up the pro-

The minister said all units

of Awami League and its front

organisations alongside the

government have intensified

the relief activities to mitigate

the suffering of the flood vic-

the voluntary organisations to

come forward to help the flood

victims. Zillur termed unfortu-

nate and inhuman the opposi-

tion's attempt to derive politi-

cal benefit capitalising on the

upon the victims to face the

calamity with courage and for-

titude. The government is ready

to provide people with adequate

Local MP Haji Md Selim and

leaders of Awami League, Jubo

League and Chhatra League were

Relief activity

confined to TV

alleges Khoka

Hossain Khoka MP yesterday

criticised the government for

what he said confining its relief

activity in the state-run televi-

stricken people have increased

manifold for lack of co-ordina-

tion and responsibility by the

government," he said while dis-

tributing relief at various flood

shelters in ward No. 81 of Su-

tion of a meagre relief by the

Prime Minister or a few minis-

ters is only visible in the Tele-

refrained from responding well

with assistance "due to such

blatant falsehood of the gov-

Khoka alleged that distribu-

International donors have

"Miseries of the flood-

sion, reports UNB.

trapur thana.

ernment," he said.

Model High School.

vision.

BNP city convenor Sadek

relief materials, he added.

present on the occasion.

The minister also called

miseries of the people.

He made a fervent call to all

gramme.

Lalbagh thana unit of

LGRD and Cooperatives Min-

of the country.

Hun Sen told reporters af-

Hun Sen and senior leaders

SIEM REAP, Cambodia, Sept

raped in city By Staff Correspondent A teenage girl was raped al-legedly by one Ashrafuzzaman in the city's Madartek area on

Friday, according to police

Teenage girl

sources. The girl who hails from Tangail has been living at the residence of Sulaiman, a tailor at Madartek area in the city, for about a month after she left her

home following a quarrel with her mother, police said. On the day of the incident, Ashraf, who lives in the same area, picked up the girl from the residence of Solaiman at about 1:00 pm and took her to a nearby house where she was raped, police said quoting the FIR lodged by the victim.

#### Post Graduate Dip in Health Econ Programme

By DU Correspondent

Newly established Institute of Health Economics of the Dhaka University will start a nine-month diploma programme titled "Post Graduate Diploma in Health Economics" form the current academic session, said a DU press release.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Institute held yesterday with the vice-chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury in the chair.

The meeting was attended, among others, by Prof. ATM Zahurul Haq, Prof KM Monwar Uddin, Prof Shushil Ranjan Hawladar, director of the IBA Nurur Rahman, director of the Health Economics unit of the health ministry Nazmul Kaw-

Details regarding the admission will be made available through advertisement, the press release added.

## President, PM greet King of Swaziland

President Shahabuddin Ahmed has felicitated the King of Swaziland on the occasion of its National Day, reports UNB. In a message to the King, the

President hoped that the existing friendly relations between two countries will be further strengthened in the years In a separate message, Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina felicitated the Prime Minister of Swaziland on the same occa-She expressed her hope that

the existing bonds of friendship between two countries will grow stronger during the years to

#### Death anniversary

By Staff Correspondent The 17th death anniversary of Shamsuddin Chaklader, Hockey Blue of Dhaka University and former football and hockey captain of Dhaka University and Victoria Sporting Club will be observed today.

As a footballer, late Chaklader represented the then Dhaka XI against the Corinthians Club of England in the late A milad mahfil will be held

at the residence of his fourth son Major (retd) Shahabuddin Chaklader, the former hockey captain of Bangladesh, at House No 2, Sector 7, in Uttara in the city this afternoon after Asr

## JCD alleges extortion by BCL activists

By DU Correspondent BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) has alleged that student activists of the ruling Awami League are extorting money in different parts of the city on the pretext of helping flood victims.

"In the name of relief operation, the armed activists of ruling party-backed student organisation are collecting money in Kataban, Elephant Road areas," JCD president Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anny told journalists yesterday

JCD leaders also spoke on the progress of JCD's relief activities for flood victims and "undesirable incidents" in Jahangirnagar University.

They said JCD workers were producing 5000 packets of oral saline every day in two shifts under a project that aimed to make one lakh packets. JCD also plans to distribute

water purifying tablets among flood-hit people.

Blaming the ruling partybacked Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) for the "undesirable incidents" on Jahangirnagar University campus, the JCD leaders vowed to launch a "tougher movement" i the JU authorities failed to take action against the culprits.

## NU BSc(hons) in Computer Science results

The results of the B.Sc (Hons.) examinations in Computer Science, 1996 under the National University were published on August 24, says a press release.

All the candidates were from the Institute of Science and Technology and the percentage of success was 96.77. Thirteen students were placed in first class, 16 in second class and one in third class.

Among the successful students. Abu Haya Md Bin Kasem stood first, Zahida Parveen second and Moniruzzaman third. The Institute of Science and

Technology was the first institution to introduce the B.Sc (Hons.) 3-year course under the National University in 1993. From the session 1997-98, if was made a 4-year course.

## JU teacher reelected IFUW body member

Najma Siddiqi, Professor of Department of Philosophy at Jahangirnagar University and a member of Bangladesh Federation of University Women (BFUW), has been reelected member of the Status of Women Committee of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) for 1998-2001 says a press release.

The election was held during the IFUW Triennial Conference at Graz, Austria, last month. Prof Najma Siddiqi conducted a seminar on Child Labour and Economic Exploitation of Girls.

#### Recruitment postponed

RANGAMATI, Sept 3: The re-cruitment date of constable. both male and female, in the Rangamati district police, earlier fixed on September 10 next been deferred due to devastating flood in the country, police sources said, reports BSS.



Shahida Azfar, UNICEF Country Representative to Bangladesh, visited UCEP Dhaka Technical School and UCEP Head Office at Mirpur Tuesday. She was accompanied by Samphe Lhalungpa, Team Leader, HTR Project of UNICEF. Prof Ahmadullah Mia, Executive Director of UCEP, briefed them on the ongoing activities of UCEP. Col Mujib Ur Rahman Khan (Rtd), Chairman, senior officials were also present during the visit. - UCEP photo



Emergency workers carry a body from the crash of a Swissair MD-11 jet in Peggy's Cove, N S, yesterday. The Swissair jetliner with 229 people aboard crashed off Nova Scotia late Wednesday after the pilot reported smoke in the cockpit and attempted an emergency landing at Halifax International Airport. All on board were feared dead. - AP/UNB photo

#### Damage to Khulna town protection embankment: Probe committee formed

KHULNA, Sept 3: An inquiry committee has been formed to find out the reason for partial damage to the Khulna town protection embankment following directives from Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, reports

The committee will investigate whether work on the embankment was done in accordance with tender specifica-

The investigation was ordered following complaints that the damage to the embankment has been reportedly caused due to low quality construction work. The minister, who visited

the embankment today, advised the people and the owners of business establishments along the embankment to shift to safer places. Khulna City Corporation

Mayor Shaikh Tayebur Rahman, Kazi Sekandar Ali, Chief Engineer of WDB, team leaders of the project and the DC accompanied the minister.

#### BRTA postpones inspection programme Bangladesh Road Transport

Authority (BRTA) has postponed its inspection programme for issuing route permit or renewing scheduled on September 7 at Manik Miah Avenue due to severe flood, a press release said yesterday, reports BSS. Fresh date for the inspection

will be announced later. Those have already expired their time-limit of route permit, slip, would contact at BRTA, route permit section at Mirpur for time extension, the press release added.

## Seminar on Marine Environment

Forest and Environment Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury yesterday called upon the developed countries to come forward with help for the developing countries affected by natural calamities, reports BSS.

The minister was addressing a seminar as the chief guest on Marine Environment and El Nino organised by the Department of Zoology of Dhaka University and Bangladesh Zoological Association at the auditorium of the Zoology Department. Presided over by Prof Shahadat Ali, the seminar was addressed, among others, by Dr A K Azad Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University and Syed Margub Morshed. Secretary of the Forest and Environment Ministry.

Sajeda Chowdhury said only one country should not bear the liabilities of the natural disaster created by the global environmental imbal-

#### JS body on Public Accounts meets A meeting of the Parliamen-

tary Standing Committee on Public Accounts was held yesterday at the Sangsad Bhaban with its chairman S M Akram in the chair, reports BSS. The meeting discussed the

audit objections of the Post and Tele-communications Ministry for 1987-88 fiscal raised by Comptroller General of Audit and Accounts and adopted some decisions in order to dispose of the audit objections, a parliament secretariat press release Besides, the meeting re-

viewed the progress of implementation of its earlier decision relating to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications and fixed the dead line for executing the unimplemented decisions. The members of the commit-

tee M K Anwar, Whip Mohammad Abdus Shahid, Abul Kalam Azad, Mustafizur Rahman, Abdul Mannan and A H M Mustafa Kamal attended the meeting.

·Comptroller General of Auother officials concerned were present.

# Dhaka's call at NAM summit

From Page 12 Movement for next millen-

She said the widening gap between the rich and poor nations coupled with issues of poverty, drug trafficking, terrorism and environment degradation are serious destabilising factors.

The Movement has a crucial role to play in addressing these issues in the next millennium, the prime minister said.

Hasina said the majority of the world's children are deprived of education, nutrition and health care while women continue to be discriminated and suffer harassment and abuse. About various challenges be-

ing faced by the LDCs due to acute poverty, weak resource base, poor infrastructure and unequal access to world trade and investment, she said the globalisation of the economy requires special measures for the LDCs to help them sustain their development efforts.

"The NAM must take the ini tiative to further deepen South South cooperation and support regional cooperation for devel-opment," the prime minister told the summit.

Underlining the importance of the United Nations to help preserve peace and security and advance the cause of social and economic development, she said the NAM has always played a constructive role in helping the UN move towards this direction.

Hasina said Bangladesh supports the need for an enlarged Security Council, which must have adequate representation of the developing countries and of all regions in the changed global context.

Calling for peace and development, the prime minister said the NAM must emphasise on peace and development in

charting its journey. She urged the NAM leaders to support Bangladesh's call for participation in the observance of the International Year for

the Culture of Peace in 2000 and the International Decade for Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World. "We must work together for

ensuring that the cherished goal of peace is within our reach," the prime minister said.

Earlier, in his brief introductory remarks, the foreign minister said that Bangladesh is now facing an unprecedented flood as sixty per cent of the country is inundated, loss of life has already been high and damage to property colossal. Azad said if the flood waters

do not recede soon, the farmers will not be able to plant their main crop. "This will exacerbate the food shortage we are currently experiencing," he told the conference. BSS adds: Deputy Minister

for Shipping Saber Hossain Chowdhury today said the proposed container terminal at Patenga is by no means substitute to the country's principal sea port, Chittagong, rather both of these will be complementary to each other. "The construction of a Tk

2400 crore private container terminal project is indispensable to cope with the growing demand of the Chittagong port as well as global competitive market," Saber Hossain Chowdhury said this while exchanging views with the journalists at Port Rest House in Chittagong in the afternoon.

The Deputy Minister who has been entrusted with the responsibility of the country's sea ports said the present government is committed to extending all-out cooperation for rapid and proper implementation of

## Abul Mansur's contribution

From Page 1

Mustafa, journalist and a colleague of the late Ahmad, made their observations on his life and works.

Professor Anisuzzaman gave the welcome address and conducted the programme while Mahbub Anam, secretary general of the Sangsad, gave the vote of thanks. President Shahabuddin

Ahmed described at length Abul Mansur Ahmad's achievements in various fields. "In my view, if he had single-mindedly pursued his literary career, he would have definitely earned world class fame and might even have received the Nobel Prize," the President said, highlighting his literary talent. The President said Abul

Mansur Ahmad's satiric pieces on politics were the best resources in Bengali literature. Speaking on his political life, the President said Abul

Mansur Ahmad played a significant role in the formation of the United Front and turning the Awami League into a secular political party. One of his mafor contributions was drafting the historic 21-point charter of demand in 1954.

Justice Shahabuddin said the late politician had a significant contribution in the Pakistan movement in line with the 1940 Lahore Resolution.

He also played a vital role in mobilising public opinion for the Language Movement and the independence struggle of the country, the President said, adding he could not pay much attention to the legal profession due to his preoccupation with politics and literature.

Professor Zillur Rahman Siddiqui said Abul Mansur Ahmad had a political life integrated with the contemporary society and his political writeups would help understand a particular time in the national history. "Politicians like Shere-Bangla AK Fazlul Haq and Hussain Shaheed Suhrawardi might have had more eventful lives, but Abul Mansur Ahmad left an insightful, analytical account of the events of his time, helping us to understand

our roots better," he said. Quoting immortal Greek philosopher Plato that uncriticised life is not worthliving", Prof. Siddiqui termed

Awami League while still based

in Calcutta. As editor of the Ittehad, he brought Bhasani and Suhrawardy together in order to give birth to the new political party. He also played a historic role in keeping the United Front together and drafting its 21-point programme.

Prof. Serajul Islam Choudhury said Abul Mansur Ahmad's writings reflected the social conflicts and people's aspirations. He established a separate trend of Bengali literature in the then East Bengal by incorporating popular Bengali words in his writings from the regional languages of rural

Bengal, Choudhury added. "The elements of Renaissance reflected his life and works," he said.

Professor Mustafa Noor-ul-Islam pointed out that the late Abul Mansur had an extra-ordinary writing ability and was a superb story teller through his mighty pen.

Rafiqul Islam in his paper gave a brief resume of Abul Mansur Ahmad's life and works and termed him "the most brilliant architect" of political writings in the Bengali literature which also reflected the socio-culture realities of the then society. "Abul Mansur Ahmad had a multi-dimensional life which is rare in our society." he noted.

Later, the acting director general of the Bangla Academy. Golam Moinuddin, presented a set of books on writings by the late Abul Mansur Ahmad. The Academy is publishing his complete works, of which the first two volumes are already in the market.

## Two brothers

From Page 1

went underneath a building raised on pillars, in the submerged area. He swam in the water under the building for some time and then drowned, police sources said. As some local people in-

formed Biplob that his brother drowned, he rushed to the spot and started a search for him underneath the building. At one stage he also disappeared. Local people rescued Biplob and rushed him to Dhaka Medi-

cal College Hospital, where doctors declared him dead. The body was sent to DMCH

morgue for autopsy. An unnatural death case was filed with Shabujbagh thana in

this regard.

The city BNP chief disand Aziz-ul Haq, Member, UCEP Board of Governors, self-criticism as one of the key ordinated by the agricultural tributed relief goods at Manija Shamim Hasan, Member, UCEP Association, Dr M B dit and Accounts M Hafizuddin characteristics of the great perextension bureau but the selec-Rahman Girls High School, Khan, Post and Telecommuni-Zaman, Deputy Director (Programme) of UCEP and other sonality. tion of farmers will be made by Ganderia Colony Govt Primary cations Secretary S D Khan and K G Mustafa said he con-School, Mohila Samity Govt local committees that include tributed to the founding of the Primary School and Karatitola