



On behalf of IFIC Bank Ltd, A S F Rahman, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the bank, 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, Shafiqul 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.

Hun Sen urges King Sihanouk to break deadlock

SIEM REAP, Cambodia, Sept 3: Strongman Hun Sen handed King Norodom Sihanouk responsibility for breaking Cambodia's political deadlock Thursday while thousands of people kept up road-block protests demanding his election victory be overturned, reports AP.

What's on today....

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 Sept 10.

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: 4:30 pm.

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 Shewarpara. Time: 4 pm.

Teenage girl raped in city

By Staff Correspondent
A teenage girl was raped allegedly by one Ashrafuzzaman in the city's Madartek area on Friday, according to police 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 Sulaiman 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.

JCD alleges extortion by BCL activists

By DU Correspondent
BNP-backed Jatiyatadabi 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.

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" from 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 Hawiadar, director of the IBA Nurur Rahman, director of the Health Economics unit of the health ministry Nazmul Kawlin.

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, it was made a 4-year course.

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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 ahead.

In a separate message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina felicitated the Prime Minister of Swaziland on the same occasion.

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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 UNB.

The committee will investigate whether work on the embankment was done in accordance with tender specifications.

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.

Dhaka's call at NAM summit

From Page 12
Movement for next millennium.

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 being 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 initiative to further deepen South South cooperation and support regional cooperation for development," 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 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 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 the project.

Prof. Serajul Islam Choudhury said this while exchanging views with the journalists at Port Rest House in Chittagong in the afternoon.

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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 BSS.

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

US embassy, 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.

BNP hatching conspiracy against govt, says Zillur

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman has accused BNP of hatching conspiracy to put the government in an awkward situation by demanding the formation of an 'all party relief committee', reports UNB.

The opposition leaders are trying to do politics with the relief operation, Zillur said while inaugurating a programme of feeding 6,000 flood-affected at two flood shelters at Armanitola Government High School and Armanitola Government Primary School centres in the city.

Lalbagh thana unit of Awami League, Haji Md Selim MP and different local voluntary and social organisations have jointly taken up the programme.

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 victims.

He made a fervent call to all the voluntary organisations to come forward to help the flood victims. Zillur termed unfortunate and inhuman the opposition's attempt to derive political benefit capitalising on the miseries of the people.

The minister also called upon the victims to face the calamity with courage and fortitude. The government is ready to provide people with adequate relief materials, he added.

Local MP Haji Md Selim and leaders of Awami League, Jubo League and Chhatra League were present on the occasion.

Relief activity confined to TV, alleges Khoka

BNP city convenor Sadek Hossain Khoka MP yesterday criticised the government for what he said confining its relief activity in the state-run television, reports UNB.

"Miseries of the flood-stricken people have increased manifold for lack of co-ordination and responsibility by the government," he said while distributing relief at various flood shelters in ward No. 81 of Sutrapur thana.

Khoka alleged that distribution of a meagre relief by the Prime Minister or a few ministers is only visible in the Television.

International donors have refrained from responding well with assistance "due to such blatant falsehood of the government," he said.

The city BNP chief distributed relief goods at Manija Rahman Girls High School, Ganderia Colony Govt Primary School, Mohila Samity Govt Primary School and Karatitola Model High School.

Death anniversary

By Staff Correspondent
The 17th death anniversary of Shamsuddin Chaklader a Hockey player 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 thirties.

A milad mahfil will be held at the residence of his fourth son Major (ret'd) Shahabuddin Chaklader, the former hockey captain of Bangladesh, at House No 2, Sector 7, in Uttara in the city this afternoon after Asr prayers.



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, HPR 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, and Aziz-ul-Haq, Member, UCEP Board of Governors, Shamim Hasan, Member, UCEP Association, Dr M B Zaman, Deputy Director (Programme) of UCEP and other senior officials were also present during the visit. — UCEP photo

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 recruitment date of constable, both male and female, in the Rangamati district police, earlier fixed on September 10 next, has been deferred due to devastating flood in the country, police sources said, reports BSS.

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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 Niño 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 imbalance.

JS body on Public Accounts meets

A meeting of the Parliamentary 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 Telecommunications 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 parliamentary secretariat press release said.

Besides, the meeting reviewed the progress of implementation of its earlier decision relating to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications and fixed the deadline for executing the unimplemented decisions.

The members of the committee 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 Audit and Accounts M Hafizuddin Khan, Post and Telecommunications Secretary S D Khan and other officials concerned were present.

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 major 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 Siddiqi said Abul Mansur Ahmad had a political life integrated with the contemporary society and his political writings would help understand a particular time in the national history. "Politicians like Sher-e-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 worthwhile", Prof. Siddiqi termed self-criticism as one of the key characteristics of the great personality.

K G Mustafa said he contributed to the founding of the 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 extraordinary 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 analysed the socio-cultural 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 Moynuddin, 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.

Local people rescued Bibop and rushed him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

The body was sent to DMCH morgue for autopsy.

An unnatural death case was filed with Shabubagh thana in this regard.

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