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**JCD DU hall units to hold confces from Oct 15**

Conferences of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Dhaka University hall and faculty units will begin on October 15, reports UNB.

This was decided at a meeting of the JCD yesterday at the Business Studies Bhaban with JCD DU convener Monowar Hossain Rana in the chair.

JCD President Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anney and General Secretary Habib-un-Nabi Sohel and other central leaders were present at the meeting.

According to the schedule, conference of the Curzon Hall unit will be held on October 15.

The hall units held their last conferences in 1994.

The meeting also decided to submit a memorandum to Jahangirnagar University Vice Chancellor on October 11, demanding immediate arrest of those involved in violating three female students of the university.

JCD will also bring out a procession and hold a rally in front of the Press Club today demanding immediate release of the BNP leader Obaidur Rahman and Nurul Islam Manjur.



LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman, Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim, State Minister for Land Rashed Mosharraf Hossain taking part in a walkathon marking World Habitat Day '98 in the city yesterday. — PID photo

**Housing facilities for 30,000 landless families soon**

The government has taken steps to provide housing facilities for 30,000 floating families in the first phase under a massive rehabilitation programme, reports UNB.

The LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman said people rendered homeless by the flood and river erosion will be rehabilitated through housing projects in different districts. The housing projects will help reduce the pressure of floating population on the towns and cities.

Speaking at a meeting on the occasion of World Habitat Day as the chief guest at Shishu Park yesterday, the minister urged the non-government organisations to come forward in supplementing the efforts of the government.

Rehabilitation and Development Organisation for Landless (RADOL) organised the meeting in cooperation with LGRD and Cooperative Ministry and Ministry for Housing and Public Works. The main theme of the Day this year is 'safer cities'.

Director General of RADOL and member of National Habitat Committee Syed H Loton presided over the meeting.

Zillur said all thana headquarters of the country will be gradually upgraded as Municipality.

Construction of two satellite towns on the outskirts of the capital city is progressing. He said the satellite towns will help reduce the pressure of floating people and keep the capital safe. Lower-middle and middle class will get the housing facility in those areas.

Among others, Housing and Public Works Minister Mohammad Nasim and State Minister for Land Alhaj Rashed Mosharraf also spoke at the function.

Later, different NGOs, government organisations and people from all walks of life participated in a procession that ended at Osmani Uddyan.

**US grants \$ 1.3m to UNICEF for providing aid in flood-hit areas**

The United States has granted 1.3 million US dollars to UNICEF to provide medical and public health assistance in flood-affected areas of Bangladesh, reports UNB.

US Agency for International Development (USAID) through its Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) signed an agreement to this effect in Washington on September 23, according to a USAID release issued in the city yesterday.

The grant will be used to procure essential medicines, water purification tablets, high energy biscuits and other medical supplies.

UNICEF will work in collaboration with local implementing partners, including the ICDDR,B, CARE, Bangladesh and USAID-supported NGOs.

**Children's Day programme at British Council**

A debate competition and a cultural programme will be held at the British Council auditorium in the city from 3 pm to 6 pm today marking Children's Day, says a press release.

St Francis Xavier's Green Herald and Scholastica School will participate in the debate, on the theme, "Education for children should be mandatory."

Renowned debater Fakrul Islam Chowdhury, Shamim Reza and AH Monjurul Kabir will be judges at the competition.

The debate competition will be followed by a cultural programme. A choir from Green Herald School, a dance group from YWCA School and members of the Young Learners' Centre will perform songs, dance and recitations.

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

**Roundtable:** A roundtable discussion on Transparency, efficiency and accountability in public administration will be held. Organisers: Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad (BUP) and Public Administration Reforms Commission. Venue: BUP auditorium, House: 33, Rd: 4, Dhanmondi. Time: 3:30 pm-7 pm.

**Theatre:** Shubachan Natya Sangsad will present 'Khandani Kissa'. Organiser: Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation. Venue: Mahila Samity auditorium. Time: 7 pm.

**Club meeting:** The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Ramna will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5:30 pm.

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

**Club meeting:** The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Shahbagh will be held. Venue: Officers' Club. Time: 6 pm.

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