

## Metropolitan

## ● What's on today.... ●

**Film show:** Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen 'La Nuit Bengal' directed by Nicolas Klotz. Venue: Indian High Commission Auditorium, Road-2, Dharmundi. Time: 6:30 pm.

**Rotary Club meet:** Rotary Club of Dhaka will hold its weekly meeting. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5 pm.

**Rotary Club meet:** The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Motijheel will be held. Venue: Residence of Rtn Abdus Samad, 504/A, Malibagh, Bagabagan. Time: 4:30 pm.

## Weather

## Dry weather likely

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office said, night temperature may remain nearly unchanged across the country during the period.

Country's highest temperature 31.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Barisal and the lowest 10.0 degrees Celsius at Srimangal.

The sun sets today at 5:17 pm and rises on tomorrow at 6:18 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in Percentage	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.3	76	12.2	85	74	74
Chittagong	29.0	70	15.9	70	70	70
Khulna	28.4	72	13.6	74	72	72
Rajshahi	27.2	80	13.5	79	80	80



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurating new double-decker bus service of BRTC in the city yesterday. —PID photo

## PM opens new double-decker BRTC bus services

A new lot of 37 double-decker buses joined the Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation fleet yesterday under a government plan for modernising the outmoded BRTC services to help it run profitably, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina formally put these double-deckers into service at a simple function at the main gate of Prime Minister's office yesterday.

She cut the red ribbon, entered into a bus and climbed upstairs before giving the go. The rest red-and-white buses were lined up on the road for the inauguration.

A roofless attractive tourist double-decker was also there for presentation. Four tourist buses are among the newly procured 37, two of which, with onboard restaurants, are operating on the Bangabandhu bridge, world's eleventh longest, for the tourists.

A total of 42 double-decker buses are joining the BRTC fleet this time, official sources said, with the rest five coming soon. These are of a total of 200 new double-deckers the government

decided to procure to give the state-sector road service a new look.

With these 35, the number of the two-storied bus of BRTC stood at 93, which will be able to carry 60,000 passengers every day.

The BRTC was also a losing concern, like many other state-owned enterprises, an official attending the meeting told the news agency. But after the assumption of office by the new government, it started earning profit, he said.

"BRTC has made a profit of Tk 5.78 crore in last two years for different reform measures taken by the government," he said, adding that the profit margins will rise further with the addition of new buses.

Before this government taking office, the total number of BRTC buses was 262, and now it stood at 403. Among these, BRTC procured 25 with its own resources.

The corporation has also enhanced the quality of its services and is taking some more expansion programmes for ensuring much better service to the people, the officer added.

## DUTA urges US, UK to resolve Iraq crisis thru' talks

Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) yesterday urged the United States and the United Kingdom to hold dialogue for resolving the crisis instead of any attempt to solve it by applying force, reports BSS.

The DUTA President Prof A M Youssif Haider and General Secretary Prof Muhammad Hussain Mansur, in a joint statement, said that continuous airstrikes on Iraq, centering the UN arms inspection, has been disrupting the normal life, in sovereign and independent country.

They condemned the air attacks on Iraq and said "such aggressive attitude was hampering the world peace."

British Council library hours during Ramadan

The British Council Library and Information Services in Dhaka and Chittagong has revised its opening hours for the month of Ramadan, says a press release.

The new timing is as follows: Dhaka Library: 10 am to 4 pm and Chittagong Library: 11 am to 4 pm.

## JASAS emergency meet tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

An emergency meeting of the Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangsritik Sangshtha (JASAS), the cultural wing of BNP, will be held on Wednesday at 10 am at BNP central office.

The meeting will discuss to chalk out programmes to celebrate the founding anniversary of the organisation and 3rd death anniversary of former general secretary Zahid Hasan Chunnu, said a release.

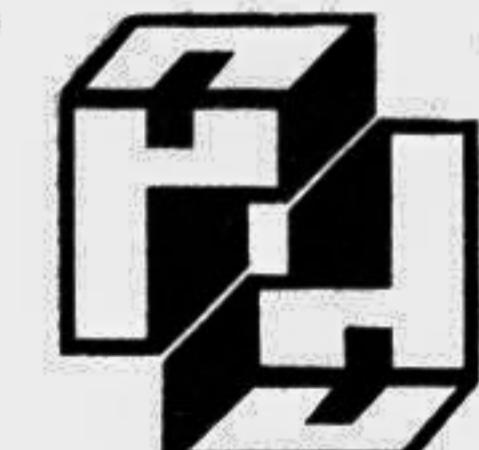
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