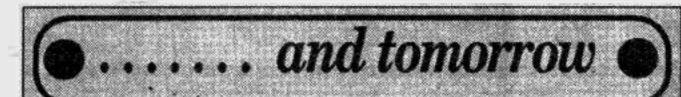
# What's on today . . . .

BMA discussion: Bangladesh Medical Association has organised a discussion meeting to mark the 54th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombing. Chief guest: Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad. Venue: Poet Begum Sufia Kamal auditorium. National Museum. Time: 11 am.



ADAB workshop: The Department of Environment (DOE), Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) and Coalition of Environmental NGOs (CEN) have jointly organised a national workshop on 'Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project." Chief guest: Minister for Environment and Forest Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, Venue: LGED auditorium (Level-2), LGED Bhaban, Agargaon. Time: 9:30 am.

ASK, BLAST memorial meet: Ain O Salish Kendro and Bangladesh Legal Services Trust have organised a memorial meeting on Dr Neelan Tiruchelvam, a valiant human rights activist who was killed in a suicide bombing in Colombo on July 29. Venue: CIRDAP Centre, Chameli House, Topkhana Road. Time: 4:30 pm.

SB College orientation programme: The orientation programme of BBA Second Batch of SB College of Business Administration will be held. Chief guest: Abdul Awal Mintoo, President, FBCCI. Venue: German Cultural Centre, Road No: 9, Dhanmondi. Time: 4 pm.

SSA meet: Sammilita Samajik Andolon has organised a meeting to exchange views with various socio-cultural organisations on human rights situation. Venue: Lounge of National Press Club. Time: 4:30 pm.

Awami Sechhasebak League discussion:
A discussion on Trial of the Killing of Bangabandhu — Contemporary Politics will be held. Venue: Institute of Engineers. Time: 4 pm.

# Weather

# Moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls may occur at places over Barisal and Chittagong divisions during the period, the Met Office said, adding, no appreciable change in day temperature is expected over the country.

The country's highest temperature was recorded 34.3 degrees Celsius at Sylhet and the lowest 22.8 degrees at Hatiya yesterday. The sun sets in the capital today at 6.37 pm and rises tomorrow

at 5:32 am. Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded

in some major cities and towns yesterday were: City/Town Humidity in

1700 TA 600 TO 500 TO 550	in Celsius		110 145 415.7	percentage	
valor memory.	Max	Min	<ul> <li>Morning</li> </ul>	Morning Evening	
Dhaka	32.6	26.9	81	78	
Chittagong	30.6	25.7	89	95	
Rajshahi	32.0	26.7	88	89	
Khulna	33.0	27.0	89	81	
Barisal	31.0	25.4	<b>⊕</b>	88	
Sylhet	34.3	26.5	78	85	
Cox's Bazar	28.0	25.0		95	
		Wee Desil. S	At all	Tiko-zali Cie.	



#### Dr Majeed Khan leaves IUB

Dr A Majeed Khan, President, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) has left the university recently, says a press release.

He had been associated with IUB for nearly a decade. IUB started working as a private university in 1993 with only six (6) students which now have crossed 12000 mark.

Under his leadership IUB was known as an institution for quality education for new generation. The former minister, Ambassador and life-long educationist is known nationally and internationally for his dedication to provide quality education in the country.

### Surma mail service reintroduced

Bangladesh Railway yesterday re-introduced Surma Mail train service between Dhaka and Sylhet, reports BSS. General Manager, Eastern

Zone Railway A T M Nurul Islam inaugurated the service of the Surma Mail at a simple ceremony at Kamalapur Station. Syed Qamrul Hasan, Divisional Railway Manager, Dhaka and other Senior Railway officials were present on the occasion.

Under the new arrangement there will be 310 second class seats in the train and fare for Dhaka-Sylhet has been fixed at

Surma Mail will leave Dhaka at 7:45 pm everyday and reach Sylhet at 8:10 am on the following day. The Dhaka bound Surma Mail will leave Sylhet at 8 pm and reach the destination at 7:35 am the following morn-

# Islamic Foundation

DG says he is

not Kadiani Director General of the Islamic Foundation Maulana Abdul Awal yesterday accused a certain vested quarter of spreading lies against him and -said he is not a Kadiani' re-

In a statement, he said, " emphatically declare that I am not a Kadiani. Neither any of my forefathers nor any one of my present family members is a

Maulana Awal pointed out that as a government official he has some limitations to issue clarification with regard to persistent propaganda against him, but he was now compelled to do so to dispel misunderstandings.

He said the propaganda of the "atheists and murtads" against him is not a new phenomenon. In the past, many eminent scholars were subjected to such propaganda.

Maulana Awal said the roots of the propaganda run deep as he is making efforts to establish a transparent and corruption-free administration in the Islamic Foundation.

He said he participated in a dialogue on Islam under the auspices of OIC in Tehran last month. "My proposals and speeches were lauded in the forum. So the propaganda that the OIC refused me is false and

Maulana Awal said the vested group in the past removed DGs who tried to free the foundation from corruption. He sought all-out cooperation of all to foil the evil designs of the conspirators.

#### Indian envoy to visit CHT Aug 11

RANGAMATI, Aug 8: The Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Deb Mukharjee is scheduled to arrive here on August 11 on a two-day official visit to see for himself the situation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts following the signing of the landmark peace accord, re-

ports BSS. The Indian envoy is expected to hold separate meetings with the chairman of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council and local political leaders to know the situation in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

He will also visit handicrafts and cultural centres at Rangamati, officials said.



Birth anniversary of Fazilatunnesa observed

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), the student front of ruling Awami League held a milad mahfil in its central office yesterday evening to observe the birth anniversary of Begun Fazilatunnesa, wife of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rah-

BCL leaders and workers attended the function and offered munajat for the salvation of the departed soul of the wife of Bangabandhu.

A discussion meeting was also held on the occasion. which was addressed among others by, BCL president Bahdur Bepari, acting general sec-retary Anisur Rahman, Sujit Roy Nondi, Liakat Sikder, Ashraful Ajim Ruban and Shah Mostafa Alamgir.

They paid rich tribute to Begum Fazilatunnesa and discussed her various contributions during the War of Liberation of the country.

#### Memorandum submitted to DU VC

By DU Correspondent

Honours final year students of Anthropology Department of Dhaka University yesterday submitted a memorandum to the VC Prof. AK Azad Chowdhury demanding proper inquiry into the question leakage incident of the department.

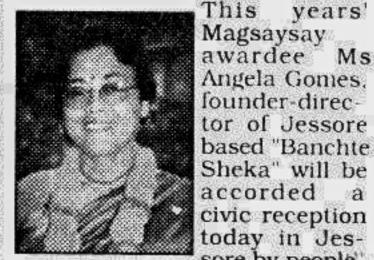
The memorandum signed by a total of 38 honours final year students of the department also demanded exemplary punishment to those involved in question leakage. The university authorities

on Saturday postponed an examination of honours final of Anthropology Department following leaking of question of the course on Friday. Their demands also included

holding rest of the examinations of the year under new sets of question paper. A four-member probe body

was also formed to investigate the question leakage incident.

#### Magsaysay awardee Angela Gomes to be accorded reception



today in Jessore by people" from all walks of life including the members of civil societies and different NGOs in greater Jessore, the district administration, local elite, journalists, intellectuals and social work-

ers, says a press release. USC Canada-Bangladesh and Adolescent Development Forum-Bangladesh has organised the reception for this award and Angela's outstanding contribution to the cause of disadvantaged women in ensuring their socioeconomic empowerment over the last one and half decade.

Manila based Magsaysay foundation declared this prestigious award last month which is recognised as Nobel Prize of Asia.

The reception will be accorded in the premises of "Banchte Sheka" in Jessore. MA Zaman, Country-Director, USC Canada-Bangladesh and Chairperson Adolescent Development Forum-Bangladesh will preside. MS Asrukana Das, National General Secretary. YWCA-Bangladesh and Aminur Rasul, Deputy Commissioner, Jessore will be present as special guest and chief guest respec-

#### DUDS mock debate held Concerted effort a must to ensure peace in society'

By DU Correspondent Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof A K Azad Chowdhury said that violence,

terrorism and discrimination would be eliminated from the society through organising various democratic and cultural activities. The VC was addressing a par-

liamentary debate on "There is no alternative to extension of cultural activities to resist terrorism" as chief guest at the Aparajeyo Bangla on the campus yesterday morning.

Dhaka University Debating Society (DUDS) organised the parliamentary debate to welcome freshers at the university.

Prof Chowdhury said that cultural activities could play the pivotal role in making a peaceful society. Concerted effort is a must to ensure peace in the society. He called upon all to come forward in establishing such a peaceful society.

Addressing the function as special guest, Pro-VC Prof M Shahadat Ali assured all sorts of cooperation to flourish debate and cultural activities at the university.

DU Proctor A K M Noor-un-Nabi, who was the key-note speaker of the function, emphasised on various cultural activities to root out terrorism from the campus and the society.

DUDS President S M Tariqui Islam presided over the function while it's general secretary Shaikh Imtiaz delivered welcome speech.

A mock debate on "emergence of the freshers on the campus widen the sigh of the elder" was also held at the same venue on the occasion.



Radiology expert Dr MA Hasan addressing a press conference yesterday at the Liberation War Museum auditorium over the recovery of human skulls and bones from the Muslim Bazar Noori Mosque during excavation of a well there. -Star photo

# Sons and relatives of martyrs demand

# Try '71 war criminals

Relatives of martyrs and different social organisations yesterday reiterated the demand for trial of the 1971 war criminals as experts confirmed that the remains found at the mass grave in Mirpur are of Bangalees, reports BSS.

"I demand trial of those who killed my son and others during and immediately after the Liberation War," said elderly mother of martyred lieutenant Mohammad Selim, at a press conference at the Liberation War Museum, where the recovered skulls and bones were displayed.

Selim was apparently killed by the collaborators of the Pakistani army in January, 1972, during an official assignment in Mirpur, a Bihari inhibited area, which was freed from anti-liberation forces 45 days after the victory Day on December 16, 1971.

Bangladesh signed the "Convention on the Prevention and Punishment on the Crime of Genocide" after the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina came to power in June • Dr M A Hassan, a freedom

1996, paving the way for trial of the 1971 war criminals. along with two forensic experts UNB.

From Page 1

manded of the authorities to

ensure that no killers, rapists

or, extortionists return to the

"We demand filing of cases

campus.

against all the criminals for

possessing illegal arms, extor-

tion, torture on rivals and rape,

" said GSU leader Saikat Aich

course of action at a press con-

din Ahmed yesterday told stu-

dent representatives from resi-

dential halls that there was no

scope for cancellation of cer-

tificates of students responsible

for rapes and killing. "Since we

are filing crminal cases against

them, we have nothing more to

do," the VC was quoted as say-

tion(JUTA) brought out a silent

procession on the campus yes-

terday morning, demanding ex-

pulsion of the students respon-

sible for rapes, killing and ex-

tortion on the campus.It sup-

ported the GSU demands and

expressed solidarity with the

current agitation by the stu-

JUTA President Prof Abu Say-

eed Khan criticised filing of

cases against the rapists so late.

Because of this unusual de-

lay, there might be lack of evi-

dence in the case benefiting the

The lone survivor

local Awami League office there.

rapists, he said.

Addressing a rally later,

JU Teachers' Associa-

ference today.

GSU will announce its next

Vice Chancellor Prof Alaud-

studied the remains, said so far four skulls, 216 unbroken and hundreds of broken pieces of bones were found while structures of seven bodies were reformed. But there were many bones, which could not be linked with each other.

"Evidences gathered from formation of the teeth, size of skulls, height, the clothes, shoes and the skeletons show that they were Bangalees who were tortured and shot to death," he said adding that at least one of the victims was a

Dr Hassan, younger brother of lieutenant Selim and himself a former army officer, said the age group of the victims was between 25 and 30 and they were apparently residents of urban areas.

Anal Raihan, son of noted film maker Zahir Raihan, and Jahanara Lodi, daughter of martyred police officer Ziaul Haq Khan Lodi, both killed in Mirpur immediately after the liberation, also spoke at the \*press conference. Anal Raihan said: "Memory

is not so important at this moment. More important is revenge. The killers should be fighter and radiologist, who tried immediately, according to

He demanded formulation of a

set of regulations to prevent

Quamrul Ahsan told reporters

that the university authorities

should have expelled all the

formation of a judicial probe

body to investigate alleged in-

volvement of some teachers in

the manipulation of tender and

collection of 'percentage' of

BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi

Chhatra Dal (JCD)-Local group

and Non-local group-brought

out separate processions and

held rallies on the campus, de-

manding expulsion of all the

rapists, killers and extortion-

memorandum to the VC.

ists. Local group submitted a

Leaders of Non-local group

demanded action against 'so

called JCD activists' who co-

mmitted 'rapes and abetted' that

2 Indian smugglers

killed in Netrokona

suspected Indian smugglers

were killed when BDR opened

fire on them near Bhabanipur

border outpost under Durgapur

thana of the district today, BDR

All shanties and structures were demolished by bulldozer at the TT Para slum except the

The Dhaka University Debating Society (DUDS) held a mock parliamentary debate at the

foot of the Aparajeyo Bangla on the Dhaka University campus yesterday.

sources said, reports BSS.

NETROKONA, Aug 8: Two

Two rival factions of the

JUTA leaders also demanded

JUTA general secretary Syed

sexual repression.

rapists last year.

tender money.

on the campus.

JU authorities file case

Zahir Raihan went to Mirpur as someone told him that his brother Shahidullah Kaiser was there. Zahir never returned.

Jahanara Khan Lodi, daughter of martyr Ziaul Haq Khan Lodi, the then SP of Dhaka city, said: 'My father was freed from jail on December 17, 1971. On January 30, 1972 he was sick but was asked by his seniors to go Mirpur. He went but never

"We don't know why all the people were taken to Mirpur. Was it a conspiracy to kill them?" the relatives of the martyrs posed the similar question.

Mofidul Haq, a trustee of the museum, said "the discovery of the martyrs 28 years after the independence is again a reminder for us that the then Pakistani political and military leadership and their collaborators should be tried in the International Criminal Court.

The grave came to light on July 27 when workers carrying out an extension work of a mosque in the Pallabi area struck three skulls and some pieces of bones.

A number of mass graves have been found in Mirpur and surrounding areas after the liberation.

Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Fisheries-and Livestock yesterday agreed upon launching a combing operation against the current net holders in the greater interest of growth of different species of fish in the country, reports

At a meeting held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, the members also suggested for closing current net manufacturing units by engaging magistrates to stop their sale and use in different areas. The members viewed that all

and management prospects of shrimp hatchery in Satkhira district, government cooperation to the private sector hatchery, provision to keep canals open for supply of water in shrimp culture areas, adequate electricity, hygienic marketing system for shrimp and formulating shrimp policy.

With the committee chairman Advocate Mosharaf Hussain in the chair, the meeting was attended by members -Minister for Fisheries and Livestock ASM Abdur Rob. Sayed Rafiqul Huq, AK Fazlul Huq. Kamrun Nahar Putul, Mozammel Hussain and Mohammad Fazlul Hug.

#### Combing operation against current net soon

activities on the development of fist resources should be conducted through this ministry.

They also discussed facilities

seriously if transit is introduced because all investors will go to India to invest there instead of investing in our country. This transit will also make our country a market of India fully," she observed. The BNP Chairperson said

and misleading.

local company.

Nepal and Bhutan also wants to do business with Bangladesh. but India never allowed Bangladesh and Nepal only 16 miles of transit. "So how can we allow India 300 kilometres of transit.

On breach in Gumti embankment, she advised the government to immediately repair it and stop of spending crores of taka for the memorial of family members. "This embankment can be repaired with only a few crores of taka. Immediately stop other spending and save thousands of people through repairing the embankment," she

Earlier, Begum Zia visited the Gumti embankment and saw for herself the havoc of the flood affected people at Ebdatpur, Rampur and Burichang areas. She also talked to the people and inquired about their well-being.

Presided over by district BNP convenor Col (Retd) Akbar Hossain MP, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, MP. M K Anwar MP. Selima Rahman and Lt. Gen (Retd) Mahbubur Rahman.

#### TT Para From Page 1

set fire to the slums to rest con-

Two people including a woman were reportedly shot dead, a couple of month's back, during crossfire following the arrest of two drug dealers from the area. Locals, however, alleged that

traders but they reacted when one of their kin was killed. Rabeya, a widow from Balurmath slum said that police put fire to the slum while local people and slum dwellers requested them not to evict

police kept silent after taking

huge bribes from the drug

She alleged that criminals were out of police reach but they have to face a mountain of problems, as she has no way to return to her village in Kishoreganj. She was living by collecting waste paper with her four

Another day labourer Majid also alleged that a local BCL leader of the area Ansar went to the spot and requested police not to evict the slum-dwellers. But police seriously manhandled him. He was released later.

daughters.

-Star photo

Police officials were found using loud speakers and asked the slums dwellers to leave the spot with their belongings, immediately.

Senior officials said that they are planning to evict other slums in different parts of the Police also recovered a pistol

and a sword from the slum during the drive. Fire brigade officials, pre-

sent at the area, said that they. were informed at about 12 pm and six units of fire-fighters immediately rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control after two hours.

None, however, was injured.

# Petrobangla PSC

From Page 1

As per the amendment, a

PSC operator must pay for the

damages caused to a gas struc-ture if the damage is caused by a

blow-out due to the oil compa-

ny's inefficient operation. The amendment further dictates

that "the compensation can not

be considered cost-recoverable".

The amendment has been done

keeping in mind the experience

in Magurchhara, the sources

After the Magurchhara

blow-out in June 1997.

Petrobangla could not assess

the damages or demand proper

compensation due to absence of

any relevant clause in the PSC.

Although Petrobangla experts

had assessed that a gas reserve of at least 200 billion cubic feet

worth 200 million dollars was

damaged by the blow-out, Petrobangla did not even dis-

cuss the matter with Occidental.

provides that oil companies

"must obtain clearance" from

Petrobangla before any expen-diture. This has been done in

view of the experience in Sangu

Petrobangla, after revising thrice, had approved a 178 mil-

lion US dollar budget in 1996

for development of off-shore

Sangu gas field. Although the

budget included a contingency

expenditure of 25 million dol-

lars. Cairn went to Petrobangla

again with a 264 million dollar

budget proposal in late '97.

Cairn had said that its earlier

assessment was wrong and that

it had already spent 264 mil-

lion dollars for development of

proved Cairn's "self-modified

budget", which is fully recover-

able from gas sales from Sangu.

Now, as Cairn has sold its con-

cerns to Shell, it is likely that

there will be a "fresh battle"

between Petrobangla and Shell

over the budget, the sources

Regarding 'operation cost'

the amendments say that a PSC

operator must obtain permis-

sion to assign a contractor to

set up gas processing plant,

connection pipeline etc. In se-

lecting a contractor, a PSC op-

erator must give priority to a

cerning ownership of assets and

liabilities clearly says,

Petrobangla will be the only

Khaleda

From Page 1

Zia said this is completely false

"Bangladesh will be affected

Another amendment con-

Petrobangla has not yet ap-

the gas field.

The second amendment

among the oil companies.

owner of all movable and imcerns in Bangladesh to Shell movable assets under a PSC (as and Unocal respectively. Petrobangla had to face a lot of it is ultimately bearing all costs). In the past, the ownerlegal crisis because of deals

ship issue was vague. As per the amendments, administrative costs will not be more than 2.5 per cent of the total expenditure of a PSC operator. Petrobangla will now be able to control unnecessary administrative expenditure of PSC operators in Bangladesh and abroad, which they often

PSC operators must inform Petrobangla while awarding contracts to third parties for any work in their respective blocks, the amendments dic-

All these amended clauses are now being discussed with oil companies negotiating under the Second Round Bidding. Unocal has already said it agrees on all amendments except those relating to blow-out and assigning a third party before discovering a gas field.

PSC experts say, the first round of agreements with Cairn, Occidental, Okland and UMC will not be as beneficial as initially thought because the authorities lacked experience in PSC negotiations.

"It is for the benefit of the oil companies and the country that the PSC should be a win-win system for oil and gas exploration in Bangladesh. If PSC operation is not profitable for Bangladesh, oil companies will ultimately have to go from here because of low returns," commented a Petrobangla expert.

### Transhipment

From Page 1 Bangladesh Employers Federation President ASM Kashem, BKMEA President Manzurul Haq, Finished Leather and Leather Goods Exporters Association President MA Satter Bhuiyan, Industries Secretary KM Ejazul Huq. Governor of Bangladesh Bank Mohammad Farashuddin, Additional Secretary of Commerce Ministry Fazlul Huq, Vice Chairman on EPB A B Chowdhury, and representatives of ministries concerned

Speaking on the occasion, President of MCCI said. "We are supporting transhipment as we made a study three years back and found the transit very profitable for Bangladesh."

The BGMEA President said, "It is an opportunity due to our geographic location to develop the economy of the country and opportunity does not come all the time.

The DCC1 President said, "Transhipment is a commercial proposition and we don't want to see it a political issue as it is a service activity." He suggested the government to make short-term tranship-ment agreement on trial basis

to assess success and problems and make future planning. The Chairman of Privatization Board said that global trade is moving fast, nobody will wait for anything. He said the government should take bold and decisive action on transhipment as it would be

beneficial to our economy. Appreciating the comments of the participants, the minister said that the present government had given more importance to private sector as it is 'the engine of growth.'

He said the cabinet had agreed in principle to allow the expert committee to examine the transhipment facility. He said, if the experts com-

mittee find transhipment profitable the work for infrastructure development would start. The minister said "we will demand similar transhipment facility to India for movement

of goods to and from Nepal and Bhutan. MSC From page 12

Munna (Mohammedan).

TEAMS Muktijoddha Sangsad: Arun, Hasan al Mamun, Jewel, Rajani, Titu, Masud Rana. Bakhtiar, Liton (Walid), Alieu Rahman (Joy), Effieni (Tushar)

and Nakib. Mohammedan SC: Ponir (Nizam), Shahajada, Faisal, Rezaul, Monwar Munna, Selim, Motiur Munna, Ashkar Babu, Shamim (Don), Anwar and Al-

Referee: Gopinath gain.

# Noori Mosque

From Page 1 three more skulls (one of the lower jawbones matched with its skull), a bullet-pierced jungle boot used by the freedom fighters and small pieces of clothes were also found from the site. More than 100 small pieces of bones were also recovered during the excavation.

"There are no bronze badges. leather boot, rank identification, name plate or belt a soldier would be wearing during war. This tells us that the victims are Bengalees murdered by the Pakistani army," Dr Hasan added.

Also, several bones were found with clear evidences that these were pierced by bullet. Examination of other bones reveals that one of the victims was hit in the eye with a sharp hard object. Examination of some spinal bones showed that some of the victims were tortured to death.

"The find gives clear evidences of genocide carried out by the Pakistani army and their collaborators," said Akku Choudhury, director of the Liberation War Museum. Representatives of the Noori

mosque committee, while talking to the press, proposed that the mosque be renamed as Shaheed Muktijoddha Mosque. Some inhabitants of Mirpur Section-12, who were also pre-

sent at the briefing, suggested that the street next to the mosque be named after Zahir Raihan, a film director best remembered for his epic documentary — Stop Genocide.



School of Communication held a cultural function recently at its office.

