

## What's on today

**Workshop:** Engineers Institution will hold a workshop on the report submitted by the task force committee for flood management related matters. Chief guest: Abdur Razzak, Water Resources Minister. Venue: IEB auditorium. Time: 4.00 pm.

**Discussion:** GC Dev Centre for Philosophical Studies of Dhaka University will hold a discussion on "Harmonisation of Sri Ramkrishna: Universal Endeavour of India". Venue: DU Arts Building.

**Seminar:** Bangla Academy will hold a seminar on "Unity among differences: In quest of Nazrul's mind" to mark the 23 death anniversary of the poet. Venue: Academy seminar room.

## Weather

## Moderate rain likely

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

Moderately heavy to heavy falls may occur at a few places over Barisal, Dhaka and Chittagong divisions during the period, Met Office said.

Day temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius over Rajshahi and may remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country.

The country's highest temperature was recorded 33.3 degrees Celsius at Chuadanga and the lowest 24.3 degrees at Srimangal. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:20 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:39 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
Dhaka	29.7	95
Chittagong	29.0	97
Rajshahi	31.8	81
Khulna	32.6	81
Barisal	31.5	89
Sylhet	27.4	96
Cox's Bazar	28.0	92

## Zafar says

From page 1

Chowdhury went on, "Even after his ouster from the bank, he used his illegal influence on it and during this time, his relation with other directors deteriorated. At one stage, vice chairman of the bank Humayun Zahir was killed."

Babu was also the chairman of Janata Insurance, a sister concern of UCBL, and was removed from the post for financial irregularities, he said.

Babu owes UCBL Tk 220 crore including Tk 96 crore in principal amount, and did not make any payment after losing directorship. It was alleged at the press conference.

UCBL filed a case against him at the money loan court and then decided to file another case at the Bankruptcy Court as per directives from the Bangladesh Bank.

However, Babu got a stay order from the High Court on the ground that two cases can not be filed on the same matter with two courts. Later, UCBL got a verdict in its favour, but Babu got another stay order from the Supreme Court. The case is still pending there.

Four months back, Babu appeared before the BB for restoration of his directorship as the central bank's penalty time had expired.

Following the appeal, the BB asked UCBL to inform his liability position. The bank sent the details and since then the matter is pending with the central bank.

## Ctg port

From Page 1

tagong Port on September 10 last year. They left the port after completion of their assignment on August 11.

Following the withdrawal, Port Users Forum, business leaders and Stevedores Agents Association urged the government to redeploy army at Chittagong Port for security reason.

## Kibria

From Page 1

The business leaders, led by FBCCI President Abdul Awal Minto, are also expected to meet Bangladesh Bank governor in this regard today, they said.

The central bank on Friday issued the show cause notice asking the UCBL management to explain by 3 pm today as to why the board should not be dissolved.

It served the directives following an attack on the bank board meeting on Thursday afternoon allegedly by Akhtaruzzaman Babu and his associates who formed the board chairman, Zafar Ahmed Chowdhury, and four other directors to sign their resignation letters.

## UCBL deposit

From Page 1

while the central bank appointed an administrator to run the bank.

When contacted, Zafar Ahmed Chowdhury, the "ousted" chairman, said it was true that there was huge withdrawal. "Pressure for cash withdrawal was tremendous outside Dhaka."

He feared that funds in large deposits might be shifted to other banks if the crisis prevailed.

UCBL Managing Director KC Rezaul, however, denied any such pressure. He said there was "usual withdrawal" which could be "around two to three crore". But he did not give the exact figures.

He said that confidence of the depositors was returning as there were also reports of receiving fresh deposits by the bank.

The UCBL developments may have some impact on the call money market. Talking to the Daily Star, some high officials of a number of private banks said they might call back their short-term loans to UCBL Sunday.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Bank appointed administrator took over the charge of the bank and sent letters yesterday to all branch managers to "work normally".

Police were deployed at the entrance to the bank's head office at Motiheel. None other than the 19 listed by the administrator were allowed to enter the bank.

## Bangla introduced on the web

Introducing a bilingual website to the global network of Internet portals, Bangladesh has stepped into world information superhighway, reports UNB.

Chief Justice Mustafa Kamal opened the website, [bd.orientation.com](http://bd.orientation.com), at a function jointly organised by Drik and UNB at a city hotel recently.

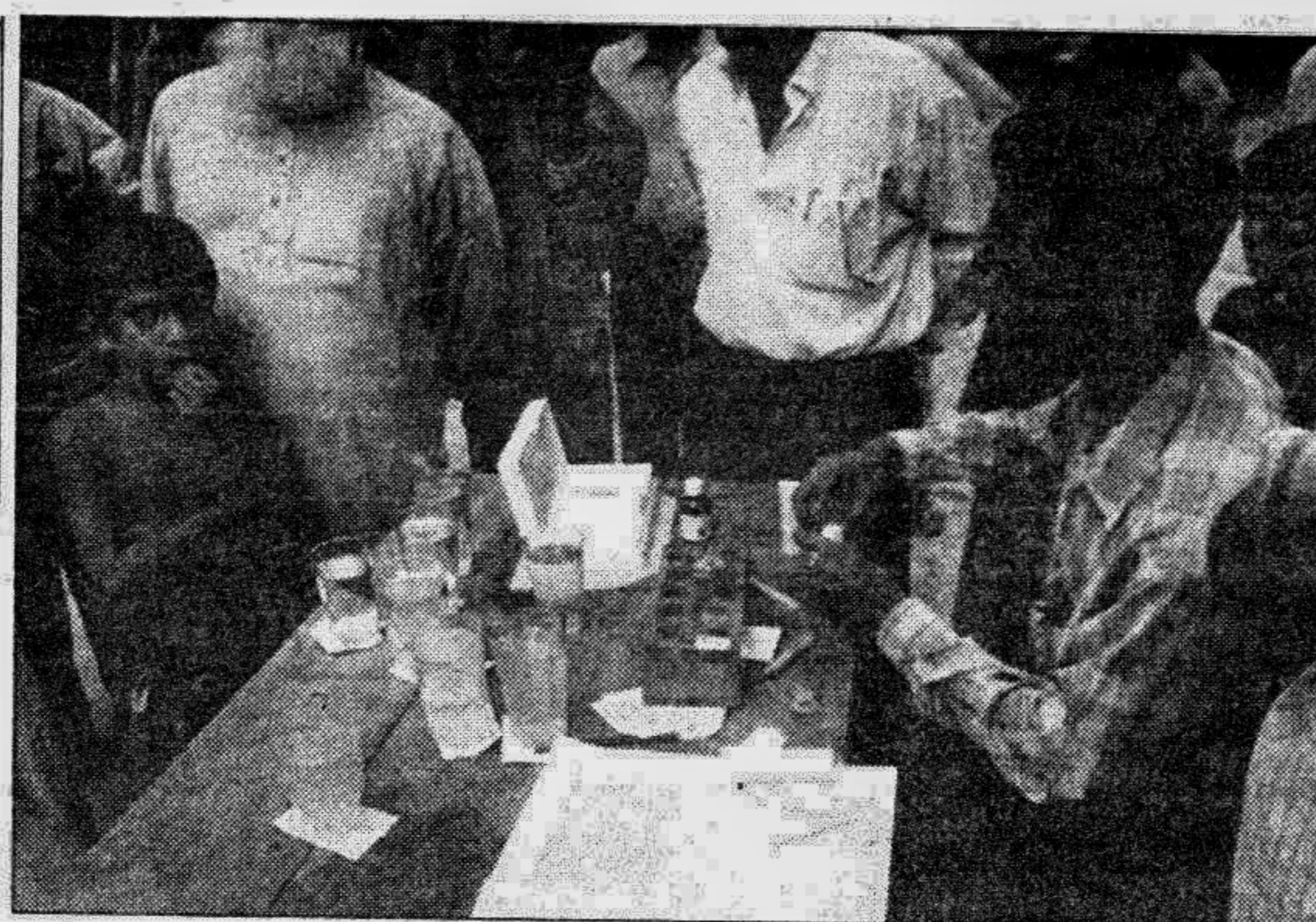
Speaking on the occasion the Chief Justice said with the opening of the Bangladesh site people both at home and abroad will be able to be introduced with the country's day-to-day scenario.

Emphasising the importance of objectivity in putting news and views on the website, he hoped it would play the role of a communicator, not of agency of publicity.

UNB Chairman Amanullah Khan said communication barrier between the nations had broken down, time and space no longer stand in the way of free flow of information across the globe.

Managing Director of Drik Dr Shahidul Alam said when 2.8 per cent people of the world got e-mail access, less than 0.4 per cent in South Asia had it.

Referring to the introduction of Bengali in the new website, Shahidul Alam said 80 per cent of the people who have access to Internet have to use English.



Arsenic testing of tubewell water at Nayamati village under Bera thana of Pabna. Dhaka Community Hospital in association with UNICEF is implementing a multi-pronged community based arsenic mitigation project in four villages of the area.

## Police say Babu absconding

From Page 1

The directors of the bank, who were reportedly forced to resign by Babu's men, at a press conference yesterday alleged that "Babu and his hired goons" were staying at Hotel Sonargaon. Police said they could not trace any of them.

Following the allegation, The Daily Star contacted him at Sonargaon Hotel for his version of events. Babu also agreed to meet the Star journalists at his hotel suite.

Asked, he said there was no reason for him to be absconding as he did not commit any crime.

All their allegations against me are false. It is they who attacked me and Zahangir Alam at one stage pointed a pistol at me," Babu said.

He also claimed that the pistol was later recovered by bank officials and handed over to police.

Babu also said that police should investigate the whole incident and find out the real culprits.

Asked, police admitted having recovered a pistol but could not confirm whether it was the one reportedly snatched from director Monowara Begum who in an FIR alleged her licensed pistol had been snatched by Babu's men.

Yesterday at the press conference, the "ousted" directors alleged that police were not taking any legal steps against Babu, his son and the "hired criminals".

Showkat Aziz Russel, a director of UCBL, in a press release yesterday alleged, "... I think it is clear that the respec-

tive ministries and the police are not willing to assist us in any way due to their commitment towards the party..."

Zafar Ahmed Chowdhury, Russel and Monowara Begum filed three cases with Motiheel thana accusing Babu, his son Saifuzzaman Chowdhury and more than 30 "terrorists" in connection with the vandalism at UCBL bank boardroom Thursday.

In the three FIRs, Akbar and Kader -- who are wanted by Chittagong police in a number murder cases -- were mentioned as Babu's accomplices. The two are also known as pro-AL BCL activists in Chittagong.

But the OC said that in the FIRs only the names of the accused were mentioned but no details about them were mentioned.

When the OC was asked if he knew that Akbar and Kader were wanted by Chittagong police, the official said, "We need time to verify these information."

Meanwhile, a DMP official said police had gone to the UCBL office on Thursday following an instruction from Mukhlisur Rahman, deputy commissioner for eastern zone, "as there was information of vandalism on the fourth floor of the building."

The official, however, denied that police escorted Babu out of the building.

Meanwhile Akhtaruzzaman Babu and his two sons -- Saifuzzaman and Anisuzzaman -- filed three separate cases where they alleged that during the board meeting on Thursday, the

chairman (Zafar Chowdhury) and four other directors resigned willingly, following which Babu was elected chairman and his two sons were elected directors of the board unanimously.

They also alleged that the hired goons of the resigning directors tried to kill Babu and his two sons.

Babu in his FIR alleged that Zafar Chowdhury snatched Tk 50,000 from his pocket.

## Programme on Rabindra-Nazrul concludes

KHAGRACHHARI, Aug 28: A week-long programme on Rabindranath and Nazrul Islam organised by Khagrachhari Shilpi Sangsad concluded here last week, reports BSS.

The programme included discussions on the lives of the two great poets, essay competition on their literary works, recitation from their poems and musical sources.

The concluding day function was presided over by Khagrachhari Deputy Commissioner A K M Zafar Hossain.

District council chairman Jatindra Lal Tripura was present in the function as the chief guest and Pourashava chairman Monkaing Choudhury was special guest.

Prizes were distributed among the participants.

## The Daily Star-YEP seminar told

## Changes in worker-management ties must to raise efficiency level

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar in the city on Thursday underscored the need for qualitative changes in the relations between the management and workers in all such pressure. He said there was "usual withdrawal" which could be "around two to three crore". But he did not give the exact figures.

He said that confidence of the depositors was returning as there were also reports of receiving fresh deposits by the bank.

The UCBL developments may have some impact on the call money market. Talking to the Daily Star, some high officials of a number of private banks said they might call back their short-term loans to UCBL Sunday.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Bank appointed administrator took over the charge of the bank and sent letters yesterday to all branch managers to "work normally".

Police were deployed at the entrance to the bank's head office at Motiheel. None other than the 19 listed by the administrator were allowed to enter the bank.

## Bangla introduced on the web

Introducing a bilingual website to the global network of Internet portals, Bangladesh has stepped into world information superhighway, reports UNB.

Chief Justice Mustafa Kamal opened the website, [bd.orientation.com](http://bd.orientation.com), at a function jointly organised by Drik and UNB at a city hotel recently.

Speaking on the occasion the Chief Justice said with the opening of the Bangladesh site people both at home and abroad will be able to be introduced with the country's day-to-day scenario.

Emphasising the importance of objectivity in putting news and views on the website, he hoped it would play the role of a communicator, not of agency of publicity.

UNB Chairman Amanullah Khan said communication barrier between the nations had broken down, time and space no longer stand in the way of free flow of information across the globe.

Managing Director of Drik Dr Shahidul Alam said when 2.8 per cent people of the world got e-mail access, less than 0.4 per cent in South Asia had it.

Referring to the introduction of Bengali in the new website, Shahidul Alam said 80 per cent of the people who have access to Internet have to use English.

In a competitive world the attitude of both the groups should be changed so that a better relationship develop between them.

The young professionals should work hard and be sincere in their respective jobs, on the other hand the employers of those professionals should change their dominating attitude and try to practice democratic norms in the organisations, they said.

The Daily Star and the Young Entrepreneurs and Professionals Forum (YEP) jointly organised the seminar on Employer-employees expectations in the new millennium at British council auditorium.

Large number of fresh graduates and young professionals from different business and corporate houses attended the seminar. Some human resources divisions heads of corporate houses who are responsible for recruitment participated in the discussion.

They also responded to different queries raised by the young professional regarding demand of the corporate houses and career development.

Both the groups exchanged views regarding the expectation from each other to face the challenges which are offing in future.

Masud Mannan Deputy Chief of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mahbubur Rahman, Head of Human Resource Division (Transcom) Group, Khushi Kabir of Nijera Kari, Shamsia Motasim, Manager Human Resource Division, British American Tobacco, Khan Sadat Anwar, Human Resource Manager, Hotel Sheraton also participated in the discussion.

Mahfuz Anam editor of The Daily Star also spoke on the occasion while Kazi Mahmud Ahmed of YEP performed as facilitator of the seminar. Osama Taseer, co-ordinator of YEP forum welcomed the participants.

The young professionals and fresh graduates while expressing their expectations from the employers stressed on congenial atmosphere at the working place, reasonable and equitable salary, training and evaluation of work, indiscrimination to sex, religion, job security and elimination of nepotism from the organisations to improve the quality.

The discussants emphasised on computer literacy and command on a third language besides English and Bangla, team spirit, leadership capability, vision for a better future devotion to profession and flexible attitude as the main criteria for higher level jobs and better career.

They said that apart from the above qualities, one should have passion for his country and people. If the new generation can improve their quality and have patriotism Bangladesh can surprise the world through rapid development, they noted.



Abdus Samad Azad, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, is seen presenting a souvenir to Yoshikazu Kaneko, Ambassador of Japan at a farewell dinner hosted by Rashed Maksud Khan, president Bangladesh Ceramic Society recently.

## Hasina: Join JS

From page 1

Jalal Mohiuddin, and Bhalul Moznum Chinnu also addressed the meeting. District AL convener Imamuddin Ahmed presided over the meeting.

The Prime Minister ridiculed the road march of the opposition. She said Begum Zia was heading convoy of hundreds of cars for joyride. The concept of road march came from Mao Tse Tung who used to walk miles after miles leading his followers for people's cause.

Now the BNP leaders have hundreds of cars. "But how many cars did they have before coming to power," Hasina posed a question. She noted with regret that the convoy of cars of Begum Zia killed and injured people on way and said, "They are agitating at the cost of lives of the people."

Pointing to various development programmes she said those were designed to ensure a better life for the common man.

Hasina said her government has taken plans to build up the communication network and rapid industrialisation. The government is specially concerned about raising the literacy rate.

The Prime Minister referred to the development programme taken up in Faridpur district and assured the problems of this neglected region would be solved gradually.

About the proposed Padma bridge, she said the government has taken initiative and sought international assistance to construct it.

She told the meeting that work on construction of the Arkhha bridge will begin soon.

## Shanti Nibash

Earlier, the Prime Minister laid the foundation of country's first "Tranquil Home" (Shanti Nibash) here for elderly people.

Six such centres will be built in each division where elderly people will get shelter.

The homes will be built within the premises of an orphanage with the idea that it would provide a homely atmosphere. Elderly people and children will live together, take care of each other.

While moving across the country, I saw many old-aged men and women suffer from lack of shelter. Shanti Nibash will be an abode for them," Hasina said while laying the foundation of 'Shanti Nibash'.

An amount of Tk 10 crore will be spent to build six 'Shanti Nibash' by June, 2000. Each of the homes will provide shelter to 60 women and 40 men.

Every Shanti Nibash will have deputy director, deputy supervisor and doctor who will work under the supervision of a committee with the Divisional Commissioner as its head.

## Three tigers die

From Page 1

how the African fly came and infected the tigers. Dr Nazrul did not rule out the possibility that it might have been caused by mosquito.

But if that is so, how two other cubs which shared the same cage with Badsha and their parents survived? That remains a big puzzle which he could not answer.

Arjun had killed a rag picker, Zakir, 12, in 1997 when he was picking leaves from a moat beside the cage. The zoo authorities fenced the tiger cages after the incident.

Arjun became a father of four cubs last year. One cub died of suffocation when the mother, Mamota, fell on it shortly after birth.

Badsha, Raja and Sharmily had been doing well. But Badsha suddenly fell sick early last week, developing high fever and refusing food.

Badsha died despite medication and care. Mamota and Arjun also became sick at the same time.

When the high temperature declined, it was a sign that they would die. Dr Nazrul said about the sickness. However, their viscera have been sent for laboratory test. The exact cause of the death will be known later, he said.

But Fisheries and Livestock Minister ASM Abdur Rob did not rule out the possibilities of sabotage.

In 1996, four tigers were poisoned to death for which 14 zoo employees were suspended and prosecuted.

The minister has ordered high officials to form a seven-member committee immediately to investigate the deaths. Col. Mahboob, Commandant of

Army's Veterinary and Farm Corps would head the committee, BSS said.

Expressing deep shock, Rob said: "The government has taken serious exception to the issue as any death in the zoo hurts the psyche of the citizens, especially enthusiastic children, women, and the elderly."

He told BSS that the concerned ministry with the help of intelligence officials would find out whether there had been anything fishy in the deaths.

The minister said the government is determined to ensure the safety of the zoo population and their visitors at any cost to fulfil its moral obligation.

"The officials concerned are trying to ensure better management of the zoo," he said. "We admit that the National Zoo lacks well-trained officials, equipped with requisite knowledge of ethology (science of animal behaviour) and other aspects of the wildlife."

## Envoy summoned

From Page 1

action given to the press on Friday by Foreign Secretary C M Shafi Sami.

Shafi Sami expressing deep concern over the reported intrusion of Indian police into the Bangladesh territory said on Friday that such an incident was "only inconceivable, but also condemnable."

Despite the denial by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, the Indian press came up with reports that Assam and West Bengal police entered Rajshahi district in the second week of the current month.

The West Bengal government also denied the report of intrusion.

## UCBL incident

From Page 1

over Thursday's incident involving Akhtaruzzaman Babu and Zafar Ahmed, both leaders of the ruling party.

Chittagong City Corporation Mayor A B M Mohiuddin Ahmed said Thursday's incident is a problem of UCBL and the bank should resolve it.

The Prime Minister already intervened into the matter, he said and hoped that there would be a solution soon.

Chittagong (North) District AL general secretary M A Salam observed that the incident was not a political one but business related.

## Bulldozing slums

From Page 1

will be managed and consequently what shape it will take," Temple said.

According to WB's analysis of household data, in 1995-96, 57 per cent of the rural population was poor compared to 35 per cent in the cities and 90 per cent of the poor lived in rural areas. The analysis said that there were about seven million urban poor in the mid-1990s.

The challenges are to help the existing urban poor lift themselves out of poverty and prevent them from 'exploding' in cities.

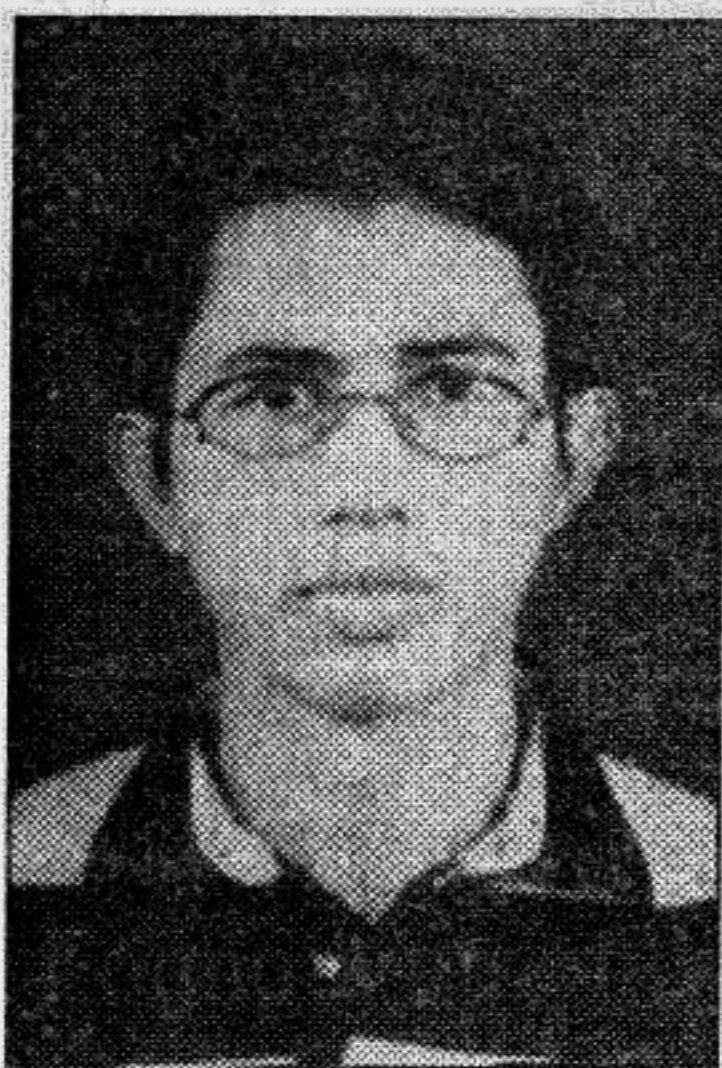
Temple said, "Urban development hasn't received anywhere near comparable attention."

Speaking as a special guest, Minister for LGED Zillur Rahman said that the recommendations from the workshop would receive utmost government attention. He called for development work currently going on in the country, but admitted that planned urbanisation is yet to take place.

"We are trying to solve this problem and the government is taking up short and long term programmes for planned urbanisation," the minister said.

In his opening remarks, Asian Development Bank's Resident Representative Philip S. Shuphaphat said that under ADB's new country operational strategy in Bangladesh, the urban sector continues to remain as one of key sectors in which the ADB will direct its operations to achieve the objective of poverty reduction in the country.

The workshop will provide an opportunity for broad-based consultations among government officials, various stakeholders and development partners. WB's South Asia Infrastructure Team prepared a draft Urban Strategy Study for discussion in the workshop.



## Muhit wants to be an engineer

From CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 28: Abdullah Al Muhit stood 17th in Science group in the HSC Exam from Chittagong College under Chittagong Board this year.

He obtained 862 marks with letter marks in three subjects. Son of Prof Dr M A Wahab Chowdhury of Chittagong Medical College Pathology Department and Begum Rawshan Ara, Muhit wants to be an Engineer in future.

He hails from Madarbari of Chittagong city.



## Niyamul wants to study business administration

From CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 28: Niyamul Haq stood fifth in the combined merit list from Commerce group in Dhaka Board.

Niyamul, who was a student of Dhaka Commerce College secured 827 with letter marks in four subjects.

He is the son of Md Obaidul Haq, Deputy Commissioner of Customs, Excise and VAT and Sania Haq.

He wants to study Business Administration in future.



## Rahnuma hopes to study in environmental science

From CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 28: Rahnuma Rahman (Chumki), has obtained the 7th position in the combined merit list of HSC exams under Dhaka Board, says a press release.

Rahnuma, a student of Viharunissa Noon College appeared from the Humanities Group.

Rahnuma who stood 4th in merit list among girls wants to prosecute higher studies on environmental science.

She also stood 17th in the combined merit list of the SSC examination, '97.

Rahnuma is the daughter of Md Mokhlisur Rahman, a businessman and Rabeya Rahman, a housewife.

## Foundation of 2 bridges laid in Lalmonirhat

LALMONIRHAT, Aug 28: The Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) today started construction of two bridges — Burimari-Dharla Bridge and Baura-Shanlajan Bridge — under Patgram thana of Lalmonirhat district, reports BSS.

State Minister for Planning Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir inaugurated the project taken up at a cost of Taka 1,82,24,438 in the current fiscal year.

Speaking on the occasion the minister said the government was committed to balanced development of all the parts of the country with a view to changing the economic condition of the people.

During his visit to Lalmonirhat, Dr Alamgir distributed relief materials of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society to the erosion-affected people of Patgram thana.

## Teacher dies at the age of 108

Alhaj Mohammad Moinuddin, probably nation's oldest person, and a dedicated teacher, died on Friday at his village home at the age of 108, reports BSS.