

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.

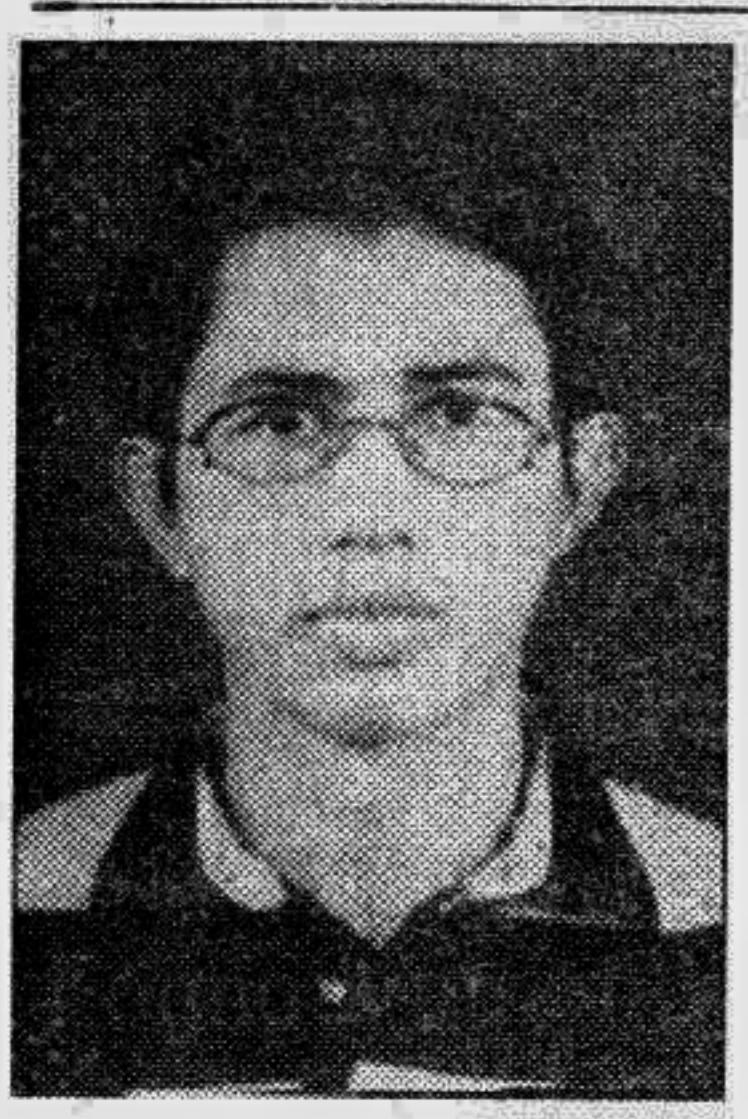
Day temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius over Rajshahi and may remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country.

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	Morning	Evening	
Dhaka	29.7	24.7	95	88
Chittagong	29.0	25.0	97	86
Rajshahi	31.8	25.4	81	80
Khulna	32.6	26.7	81	92
Barisal	31.5	25.0	89	85
Sylhet	27.4	24.5	96	-
Cox's Bazar	28.0	25.0	92	93



Muhit wants to be an engineer

From CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 28: Abdulla 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 Rawson Ara Muhit wants to be an Engineer in future.

He hails from Madarbari of Chittagong city.



Rahnuma hopes to study in environmental science

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 Vigarunnissa Noon College appeared from the Humanities Group.

Rahnuma who stood 4th in merit list among girls wants to pursue 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. Mokhlesur Rahman, a businessman and Rabeya Rahman, a housewife.

Foundation of 2 bridges laid in Lalmonirhat

LAJMONIRHAT, Aug 28: The Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) today started construction of two bridges — Burimari-Dhara Bridge and Baura-Shanijan 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.

Niyamul wants to study business administration

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 Sana Haq.

He wants to study Business Administration in future.

Combing operation: 991 held

A total of 991 persons were arrested and 23 illegal arms with eight bullets and eight explosives seized during the 128th day of the countrywide combing operation by Police, BDR and Ansar, reports BSS.

The combing force arrested 421 accused from across the country including four metropolitan areas and seized the arms, ammunition and explosives. They also arrested 565 accused and two listed terrorists during the operation.

Of them, 125 persons including 16 warrantees were arrested from Dhaka metropolitan area and seized one weapon with one terrorist, 30 persons including three warrantees from Chittagong metropolitan area with five illegal weapons, 12 persons including four warrantees from Khulna metropolitan area and three persons from Rajshahi metropolitan area.

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

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.

He was buried at the family graveyard beside his wife Alhaj Khatemunnes Khaton who passed away only two and a half months ago, family sources said.

Thousands of people from all walks of life attended the namaz-e-Janaza of Alhaj Moinuddin, who founded the Sherpur Bagrasha School in 1921 and taught there for over 40 years.

He also co-founded Bakshijan Girls' High School and taught there for several years as an honorary teacher, and helped set up Khatun Moin Women's College at Bakshijan, Jamalpur, in 1955 to promote women's education in rural area, sources said.

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.

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Zafar says

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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 H Muzammil 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 appealed 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

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Chittagong 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 Mintoo, 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 forced the Board chairman, Zafar Ahmed Chowdhury, and four other directors to sign their resignation letters.

UCBL deposit

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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.

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

The meeting on "Need for a National Law on Refugees" was held at BRAC Centre under the aegis of Dhaka University based organisation, Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU).

With Justice K M Sobhan in the chair, the meeting was participated by a host of parliamentarians, jurists, academics and civil society activists.

The meeting split into two sessions had detailed discussions on advantages and disadvantages of enacting refugee laws and also considered the proposed model law for refugees drafted earlier by an eminent persons' group of the South Asia.

Taking part in the meeting, Dr Kamal Hossain said that enactment of a law would ensure a standardised treatment to



Arsenic testing of tubewell water at Nayamat 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 respect

chieftain [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.

The programme on Rabindra-Nazrul concludes

KHAGRACHARI, Aug 28: A week-long programme on Rabindra-Nazrul Islam organised by Khagrachari 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 Khagrachari Deputy Commissioner A K M Zafar Hossain.

District council chairman Jatin德拉 Lal Tripura was present in the function as the chief guest and Pourashava chairman Monkaona 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