

What's on today....

Rally: Sylhet Bibhag Unnayan Parishad will hold a rally to mark the 81st birth anniversary of Bangabir General MAG Osmani. Venue: Kaman Chatter of Osmani Udyan. Time: 3:00 pm.
Seminar: Satanagarik Committee will hold a seminar on "the government's anti-people decision to give corridor to India". Venue: Engineers' Institution auditorium. Time: 3:30 pm.
Discussion meeting: Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) will hold a discussion meeting on the last day of its month-long programme to mark the 24th death anniversary of Bangabandhu. Chief guest: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Venue: Ramna Bazar. Time: 4:00 pm.
Launching ceremony: Software Shop United will hold the launching ceremony of Apech Mirpur Centre. Venue: Plot No 27-28, Block Kha, Mirpur 6. Time: 4:30 pm.
Discussion: British Council in association with Safety Association for Emergency (SAFE) will hold a discussion on "Youth and Community Role in Road Safety." Venue: British Council auditorium. Time: 5:00 pm.
Film session: Rainbow film society in association with Goethe Institut will begin a 3-day long film session titled "Focus on New Wave Film Makers. Two movies Breathless and Pierrot le fou will be screened on the 1st day. Venue: Goethe Institut. Time: 5:30 pm and 7:15 pm respectively.

..... and tomorrow

Film session: Rainbow Film Society in association with the Goethe Institut will screen two movies The 400 Blows and Fahrenheit 451 on the 2nd day of "Focus on New Wave Film Makers". Venue: Goethe Institut. Time: 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm respectively.

Weather

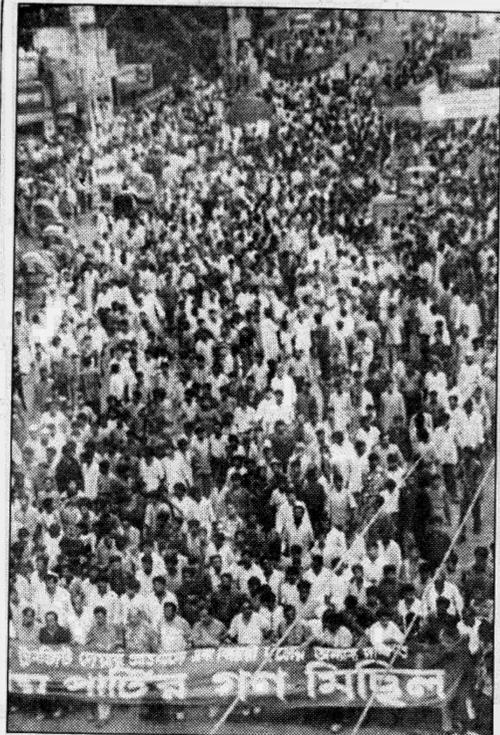
Temperature likely to rise
Light to moderate rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Chittagong, Barisal, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions and at a few places over Dhaka and Sylhet divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.
Moderately heavy falls may occur at one or two places over Rajshahi, Chittagong and Barisal divisions during the period, Met office said.
Met office also predicted slight rise in day temperature over the country.
The country's highest temperature yesterday was recorded 33.2 degree Celsius at Chittagong and the lowest 23.0 degrees at Satkhira.
The sun sets in the capital today at 6.18 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.40 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 31.0 26.5 80 70
Chittagong 33.2 25.2 81 81
Rajshahi 31.5 26.1 81 83
Khulna 29.2 26.0 95 97
Barisal 30.7 26.0 86 82
Sylhet 32.0 25.4 90 78
Cox's Bazar 32.5 24.8 89 85

HERE and THERE

Gobinda Dev Research Centre
Some of the country's leading philosophers yesterday underscored the need for practice of "Philosophy of Integration of Ram Krishna" to solve the global crisis of tolerance and for creating respect to other's views, reports BSS.
"We can get the inspiration of being united under a common platform irrespective of all nations, religions, caste, ethnic groups, colours, rich and poor from the philosophy of Ram Krishna," said Dr. Muhammad Motiur Rahman, an associate professor of Philosophy Department of Dhaka University.
He was presenting the keynote paper at the seminar titled "Philosophy of Integration of Ram Krishna: Universal Practice of the Gobinda Dev Philosophy Research Centre of the university.
Presided over by acting Vice-chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. Shahadat Ali, Prof. Aminul Islam of Philosophy Department, Prof. Paresh Chandra Mondol of Sanskrit and Pali Department and Principal of Dhaka Ram Krishna Math and Mission Swami Akharananda Maharaj took part on the key-note paper.
Krishna can be termed as a glorious example of religious liberty and humanism.
BACI
The 30th Executive Committee meeting of Bangladesh Association of Construction Industry (BACI) was held recently at the BACI office ABC House at Kemal Ataturk Avenue, says a press release.
The meeting was presided over by the Association President Amirul Islam and was attended by the executive committee members. Matters discussed in the meeting included the discussion with the local World Bank Representative.

Obituary
Muntasir Hye Sabir, an intern of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), died of cerebral malaria on Sunday evening at the intensive care unit of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), reports BSS.
A large number of students, teachers and admirers went to the BSMMU to see the body of Doctor Sabir, 26, when the news of his death reached DMCH last night.
He left behind his parents, a younger brother and a host of friends and well-wishers to mourn his death.
Hundreds of students, teachers, officials and employees including the Principal of DMCH and Director of DMCH attended the Namaz-e-Janaza held at the college premises this morning.
He was later buried at the Banani graveyard.
Death anniversary
A milad mahfil will be held today at the Ganobhaban staff quarter to mark the 4th death anniversary of Kazi Iqbal Faruq (Enso), the former press secretary and personal secretary to Awami League President Sheikh Hasina, an Awami League press release said yesterday, reports BSS.
Relatives, friends and admirers of the late Iqbal Faruq have been requested to attend the milad after Magrib prayers and pray for the eternal peace of his soul.

Nousheen stands 3rd in DB combined list
Nousheen Tahsina Hassan has obtained the 3rd position, in the combined merit list of the HSC exams under Dhaka Board and has topped the list amongst girls, says a press release.
She appeared in the exams under the Commerce Group and obtained total marks of 829 with letter marks in 2 subjects.
Nousheen was a student of Viquarunnisa Noon College.
She is the eldest daughter of Quazi Shairul Hassan, a company executive and Shamima Hassan, a housewife.
Nousheen wishes to pursue studies in Business Administration.
CMP rounds up 54
CHITTAGONG, Aug 30: Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) arrested 54 persons on various charges from different areas of the city during past 24 hours ending 6 pm today, reports BSS.
Eight of the arrested were thieves and police recovered various stolen articles including radio, brief-case, cosmetics, sun glasses and clothes from their possession. They were picked up by the detectives of CMP from Purnagirza and Reazuddin Bazar areas.
Absconders, violators of CMP act and miscreants were, among others, arrested persons.



Jatiya Party brought out a procession in the city yesterday to protest the transshipment facilities to India. — Star photo

Exhibition on pollution control on Sept 7
A two-day catalog exhibition on "Pollution Prevention and Control-USA" will begin at the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) auditorium in the city on September 7, reports UNB.
Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed and US Ambassador John C Holzman will jointly inaugurate the exhibition, sponsored by the US Embassy in Dhaka and DCCI.
Over 100 US companies will display catalogs, technical literature and videos featuring the latest technologies and a wide variety of products, including waste treatment, water and wastewater management, treatment systems, air pollution control, monitoring and testing equipment and environmental consulting and management services.

Anindya stands 2nd in CB Science Group
From CU Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Aug 30: Anindya Iqbal secured second place in the combined merit list of Science Group in the HSC Examination from Chittagong University College under Chittagong Education Board this year.
Anindya obtained 899 marks with distinction marks in 4 subjects.
Talking to The Daily Star he said that he wants to be a honest man in life. He is interested to study in BUET or IBA in Dhaka.
Son of Dr Professor Bhuiyan Iqbal, and Dr Professor Lalla Zaman of Bengali Department, Chittagong University, Anindya hails from Laxmipur district.

Mou wants to be a computer engineer
Rubaiya Rahtin Khan (Mou) of Viquarunnisa Noon College, secured 15th position in the combined merit list of Science Group and 3rd among girls in the HSC examination from Dhaka Board, says a press release.
She obtained 920 marks with letters marks in four subjects.
She is the only daughter of Begum Nilufa Khan and Mr Mosharrif Hossain Khan, General Manager, Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF).
Mou wants to pursue higher studies in Computer Engineering.

Tishna wants to be an engineer
From CU Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Aug 30: Tishna Sabrina stood 5th in the combined merit list of Science Group in the HSC Examination from Chittagong University College under Chittagong Education Board this year.
She obtained 887 marks with distinctions in four subjects.
While talking with this correspondent Sabrina said that she used to study for seven to eight hours every day before her exams.
She is aspires to be an engineer in future.
Daughter of Dr Professor Sekander Khan and Dr Professor Begum Syeda Tahera — both of Economics Department of Chittagong University, Sabrina hails from Panchlaish in Chittagong.

Demand for arrest of extortionists
Bangladesh Vegetable Oil Refiners' and Vanaspathi Manufacturers' Association yesterday demand immediate arrest of the terrorists responsible for attack on the employees of Messrs City Vegetable Oil Mills Ltd at Rugganj in Narayanganj, reports BSS.
The association in a memorandum to the home minister yesterday, said that a group of terrorists numbering about 20 to 25 attacked the employees of the mill on August 23 as their demand for Taka two lakh as extortion had been turned down.
The extortionists injured five employees and caused huge damage to the mill.

Normal work at UCBL head office continued yesterday. The bank in a statement Sunday assured all categories of depositors that the bank has sufficient reserves to face any situation arising out of Thursday's incident at its head office. — Star photo

BDRCS sets forth directions for next millennium

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) has set its strategic direction for the next millennium, anchored on the four main thrusts on disaster preparedness, relief, health and welfare, and promotion of humanitarian values, reports BSS.
The strategies were set at a meeting between BDRCS and Bangladesh-based International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRCS) held yesterday.
Speaking at the meeting, acting Chairman of BDRCS, Sheikh Kabir Hossain, said the society is intensifying its core activities, such as community-based disaster preparedness programme, cyclone preparedness, emergency response and health programme to face the challenges of the coming millennium.
He said the Society has planned to enhance its activities, particularly with the emerging of new disasters, both natural and man-made, most of which cause extensive damage to life and property.
The BDRCS is working closely with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRCS), based in Bangladesh and headed by Bob McKerrow.
Hossain said that hand in hand with strengthening community service programmes is the full promotion of humanitarian values that serve as a link and as a basis for all BDRCS actions and operations.
Setting up the style of leadership by example and as a take-off of promoting humanitarian values, Hossain said he has scheduled a two-day workshop for BDRCS Board members in September to ensure that the objectives and ideals of the Red Crescent movement as well as the role of the governance and the management staff is clearly understood and properly implemented.
Acting Secretary General of BDRCS A S M Akram said while the society prepares for the millennium, it continues to remain active in monitoring the current flood situation and responding to the needs of the victims.
Similar workshops will be conducted among the key management and field staff of BDRCS as well as among the community volunteers, he added.

Chinese team calls on Speaker

The visiting Chinese delegation headed by Zeng Jianhui, member of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) and Chairman of NPC Foreign Affairs Committee, called on Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury at his Sangsad Bhavan chamber yesterday, reports BSS.
The delegation is in city to attend the Asian Parliamentarians' Conference for Peace and Cooperation, beginning tomorrow. During the meeting, the Speaker briefly narrated the background of taking initiative by Bangladesh for arranging the Asian Parliamentarians' Conference.

Berger Painting Competition '99 announced

Berger Paints has announced its 4th Berger Young Painters' Painting Competition '99 to promote the young painters of our country, says a press release.
The 2000 Berger Corporate Calendar will incorporate the 5th award winning paintings of the competition. The prizes for the competition are: First Prize Taka 25,000, Second Prize Taka 20,000, Third Prize Taka 15,000 and Taka 10,000 each for 4th, 5th, 6th positions.
There is no restriction regarding subject of the painting competition. Size of the oil-based paintings will be 24"x24". For preliminary entry 5R size colour photographs of the painting are to be sent. The participants must be Bangladeshi and between 18-35 years of age.
The last date for sending the entries is September 15, 1999 at the following address: Sharmistha Rahman, Unitrend Ltd, Shreef Mansion (6th & 7th Floor), 56/57 Motijheel C/A.

Janakantha

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The number of gunshots could be more. We are investigating the matter," said Iqbal Bahar, DMP deputy commissioner for southern zone.
"We did fire a few rounds of blank shots and teargas canisters which may have given him the impression," Bahar told The Daily Star when his attention was drawn to Masud's claim that 30-40 rounds of shots were fired.
Trouble erupted among some people, allegedly associates of the ex-Juba League leader, chased the processionists from inside an alley beside the old passport office, throwing bricks and chasing the processionists at about 6:30pm, according to witnesses.
At one stage, the processionists also chased the men from the alley. During the chase and counter chase the Janakantha building came under attack by some people from the procession, witnesses said.
Later, the Janakantha authorities in the FIR alleged that "activists from the procession at the instruction of BNP leader Anwar Zahid and others sitting on a truck attacked the Janakantha office.
The attackers were investigated and cheered by through a loudspeaker mounted on the truck," the FIR added.
Brandishing firearms, some of the attackers fired gunshots at the staff of the newspaper resulting in bullet injuries to Abdul Motalab Khan, an engineer and assistant manager at Janakantha's electrical department, the FIR said. He was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, the FIR said.
Police rushed to the spot, fired about seven blank shots and lobbed teargas shells to bring the situation under control, police said.

Soma wants to pursue studies on business

From CU Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Aug 30: Soma Dey secured the 4th place in the combined merit list of Commerce Group in the HSC examination from Ipsahani Public School and College under Chittagong Education Board this year.
She obtained 764 marks with distinctions in two subjects.
Soma wants to study business administration in future.
She is the daughter of Adhir Ranjan Dey, a Principal Officer of Sonali Bank and Mrs. Bela Dey. Soma hails from Anowara in Chittagong.

Water flow

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Obstruction in the normal flow of waters down the Meghna channel due to high tide in the sea and simultaneous swelling of rivers created deluge in the country last year.
Both the Ganges and the Brahmaputra are in spate now, flooding low-lying areas in the northern and central districts including Dhaka and Narayanganj.
The Brahmaputra has however started falling at its upper reaches, reports from India said.
The Ganges, fed by rain waters in its upper reaches, continued to rise yesterday. It will rise further.
The Meghna will also continue to flow above the danger level at Bhairab Bazar due to the slow discharge, he added.

People now united

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tion gathering, Begum Zia said people will not leave streets till the Awami League government is ousted.
"Movement has started against this autocratic, corrupt and repressive government," she said and urged the people to continue it and "free the nation from the misrule of AL".
She alleged that India had been seeking a "corridor" through Bangladesh to suppress the independence movement in its north-eastern states. The government move to give the "corridor" will be "suicidal," she added.
"India will use the facility to move troops and military hardware. Internal security and the country's sovereignty may be at stake".
Begum Zia said the Awami League government in its last three years did not fulfil any of its commitments given to the people, but is implementing the pledges it gave to India to remain in power. The Ganges Water Treaty protected the interest of India while the CHT agreement violated the constitution, she claimed. "BNP will never bear the responsibility of these anti-state and anti-people treaties and agreements".
People did not fight for independence to make the country dependent on others or to turn it into a province of any state," she added.
Referring to Opposition boycott of parliament session, she said the BNP is not attending the current session as the government planned to "legalise" its decision to give "corridor" to India in the name of discussion in the House.
Besides, the government is also planning to pass a "black law" in the name of anti-terrorism act to suppress the opposition, interfere in the judiciary and curb freedom of press. "After passing the black law, the AL government will proceed towards reintroduction of BKSAL," she claimed.
Referring to demolition of slums to free the city from slum-based crimes, she said terrorists do not live in slums but in the houses of Awami League Leaders and MPs.
The BNP chief said ruling party terrorists "captured" a bank in the presence of police but none was arrested. This is nothing new for AL activists as they had looted banks after independence, she alleged.
She said the "mass processions" in Chittagong on August 23 and in Dhaka yesterday clearly proved that people have lost their confidence in the government and want to get rid of its misrule.
Begum Zia called upon the people to make the Opposition's September 12 sit-in demonstration in front of the Secretariat a success. She declared that she would join the sit-in.

Flood hits 18 dists

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Bhagyakul. The Mahananda is flowing 32 cm above the danger level by 32 cm at Chapainawabganj.
In the Meghna basin, the Meghna is flowing 11 cm above the danger mark at Bhairab Bazar.
With the monsoon remaining active over the country, light to heavy rainfall was recorded at one or two places in the Brahmaputra basin, very light to moderate fall at most places and very heavy fall at one or two places in the Ganges basin.
Light to moderate rainfall was also recorded at most places in the Meghna basin and very light to light fall was recorded at a few places in the South Eastern Hill basin till 9 am yesterday.
The rainfall was recorded at 88.0 mm at Chilmari, 82.0 mm at Dalia, 81.8 mm at Dinajpur, 64.3 at Kurigram, 53.2 at Panchagarh, 41.3 mm at Bogra and 27.8 mm at Jamalpur during the period.
UNB adds: Flood situation in Manikganj further worsened yesterday following incessant rain during last 24 hours.
Road links of the district headquarters with four thanas cut off as flood water inundated connecting roads.
Some 65 unions of Shibbalay, Harirampur, Ghor, Daulatpur, Satoria, Singair and Sadar thanas were seriously affected by the flood.
In Bogra, about three lakh people of Sariakandi, Sonatala, Ghatiali and Sherpur and Dhanut thanas have been marooned.
Road link between Sariakandi and Dhanut thana headquarters snapped yesterday.
Incessant rains submerged vast tracts of cropland in Sadar, Shibganj, Nandigram, Dupchachia and Andamighi thanas.
Our Correspondent from Rajshahi said, the flood situation in Naogaon, Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj districts took a serious turn following torrential rains in last few days.
Flood waters from the overflowing Chhoto Jamuna entered Naogaon town and submerged Dakhin Kalitola, Mother Ghat, Dalpatti, Ukilpara, Bangabaria, Old Kuria area and the district jail area.
The road connecting Patnitolta and Sapahar thanas has been submerged at places as the Atrai river overflowed the embankment.
Flood waters also entered in villages in Manda, Mohadevpur, Atrai and Raniganj thanas.
Nandaibari dam may collapse any time, sources said. The district administration and Water Development Board met Sunday and decided to undertake all possible measures for saving the dams and embankments in the district.

NGOs: Sundarbans

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with management and preservation of the same.
"Much to the pride of the nation, part of the unique ecosystem and rich biodiversity of the forest has been declared (as a) World Heritage (Site) and has been brought in the list of UNESCO as such implying that the glory is shared equally with the entire human community," it observed.
All the leading dailies published the event of such incorporation that reflected the willingness of the government of Bangladesh to fulfil its commitment, as expressed in various international conventions e.g., Ramsar Convention, Biodiversity convention, convention concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, CITES etc. for preserving important eco-system for the benefit of the global community.
The declaration of the Sundarbans as an "ecologically critical area" clearly manifests the concern of the government for the conservation of the precious forest. In realisation of its commitment, the government

Bank CEOs

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of the UCBL head office and demanded immediate steps by the central bank to restore discipline in the bank and punish the offenders, the sources said.
They observed that the sponsors' acts were demoralising for the employees and also tarnished the image of the country.
There is no scope to see it lights in one MD of a private bank was quoted as telling the meeting.
The meeting also expressed its concern over the home ministry's action putting the bank head office under lock and key.
The Club in a press statement said: "Such violent incident in a financial institution will not only undermine its own position but also raise genuine fears in the minds of banks' employees about their personal safety and also of customers and of general public as to how far it is safe to keep their money in the custody of financial institutions in the country.
"This will also adversely affect the image of the country's banking sector abroad.
The bankers hope that the inquiry which are being held will unearth the motive for such an incident in a banking house and the authorities will take appropriate action against the perpetrators of such an heinous act," the statement said.

Ershad

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Party.
He said that nowhere in the world, "a bank was robbed in the way a ruling party central leader did just the other day in the city. It is amazing that no charge sheet against him was made as yet".
Ershad criticized the government for eviction of slum dwellers without prior arrangements for their resettlement.
JP secretary general Nazim Rahman Manju also spoke briefly while senior party leaders including Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Raushan Ershad and TIM Faziye Rabbi Chowdhury were present.
Despite repeated announcements by Ershad and his men over loudspeakers that party leader from Narayanganj Nasim Osman would join the procession with 100 trucks, it did not happen.