

## What's on today....

**Film show:** Goethe institut will screen Tanvir Mokammel's *Chitra Nadir Pare* in three shows everyday starting today. Venue: Goethe Institut. Time: 3:00pm, 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

**Exhibition:** The solo exhibition of Yasmin Ara Leena will be inaugurated. Organisers: Nandan and Gallery-21. Chief guest: Anwar Hossain Manju, Minister for Communications. Venue: Gallery 21. Time: 5:30 pm. The exhibition will remain open from 10:00am-8:00 pm everyday till Sept 18.

**Annual general meeting:** The AGM of Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Association (BPMMA) will be held. Venue: BPMMA conference room at 215/A Bara Maghbazar. Time: 10:00 am.

**Inauguration:** The inauguration of the orientation course of The College of General Practitioners of Bangladesh will be held. Venue: BIRDEM auditorium. Time: 3:30 pm.

**Silver Jubilee programme:** The Silver Jubilee programme of Dhaka University Finance and Banking Department will be inaugurated. Chief guest: Shah AMS Kibria, Minister for Finance. Venue: TSC auditorium. Time: 4:00 pm.

**Special meet:** A special meet up the Mahanagar Sharbojanin Puja Committee will be held. Venue: Dhakeshwari Mandir premises at Orphanage Rd. Time: 5:00 pm.

**Film show:** Three French movies *L'enfer*, *Max et les fer-raillours* and *Elisa* will be screened. Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka. Time: 11:00 am, 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm respectively.

**Biennial conference:** The biennial conference of Kishoreganj Samity will be held. Venue: Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) auditorium at Farmgate. Time: 4 pm.

## ..... and tomorrow

**Musical soiree:** Begum Sipra Khan will present classical vocal music. Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi. Time: 6:30 pm.

**Clinical meeting:** Z H Sikder Cardiac Care and Research Centre will hold a clinical meeting on "Cardioplegia solutions in Myocardial protection during cardiopulmonary by-pass". Venue: Conference hall of ZH Sikder Centre, West Dhanmondi. Time: 4:00 pm.

**Film show:** British Council will screen Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Henry V*. Venue: British Council auditorium. Time: 4:00 pm and 6:30 pm respectively.

**Installation ceremony:** The fifth installation ceremony of Lions Club of Dhaka Greater Rajdhan will be held. Venue: Winter Garden, Hotel Sheraton. Time: 6:00 pm.

## Weather

### Light rain likely

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

Moderately heavy falls is expected at one or two places over Rajshahi and Chittagong divisions during the period, the Met Office said.

The country's highest temperature was recorded 33.4 degrees Celsius yesterday at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 24.0 degrees at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.08 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.43 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	32.0	25.0	98	79
Chittagong	33.0	25.8	81	82
Rajshahi	30.7	24.2	88	79
Khulna	32.5	27.0	89	85
Barisal	32.0	27.0	89	85
Sylhet	31.2	24.0	89	81
Cox's Bazar	33.4	25.5	77	77



### BTV to procure programme from NHK TV

Bangladesh Television (BTV) has signed an agreement on procuring programmes from Japanese NHK Television, reports BSS.

According to the agreement, BTV will procure documentaries, informational and educational programmes at a cost of 3.5 crore Japanese yen for broadcasting.

Director General of BTV Syed Salahuddin Zaki signed the agreement on Wednesday.



### Dr Islam's body arrives today

The mortal remains of Dr Kamal Islam, state representative of UNICEF Calcutta who died in a plane crash in Nepal arrives today by Bangladesh Biman flight, says a press release.

His *namaz-e-janaza* will be held after *Esha* prayers at Lal-matia Jame Masjid at Block C.

Dr Islam's *qukhwan* will be held tomorrow at his 2/1 Lal-matia Block B residence, the release added.

### Shishu mela tomorrow

A day long *shishu mela* for over 600 disadvantaged children will be held on September 11 at the Shishu Academy in the city, reports UNB.

The fair has been organised for and by the children under the auspices of nine Dhaka based NGOs.

During the *mela* the children will express the life-style in own words, fears and hope through the several fun and creative short and unique performances.

There will be arrangements for stalls, magic and puppet show, food and drinks. The organisation Phulki will coordinate and UNICEF will extend financial assistance to the fair.

### BPA condoles death of Dr Shameem Ahmed

The Bangladesh Paediatric Association (BPA) has deeply condoled the premature death of Dr Shameem Ahmed, an eminent paediatrician and a member of the association.

Dr Shameem was killed in a plane crash at Kathmandu recently. A press release of the BPA said that following a distinguished academic career in both undergraduate and postgraduate medicine, Dr Shameem was involved in research in primary health care of rural children with the ICDDR,B.

He was buried at his village home in Shahbajpur.

### FM calls for expansion of UN activities

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad yesterday called for expanding the UN activities by investing for the development of human resources at the advent of next millennium, reports BSS.

"United Nations must be able to take leadership in bringing about rapid economic and social changes in our country as a 25-year-old trusted partner of UN," he said as the chief guest at a function here to mark the 25th anniversary of Bangladesh's membership to the UN.

The minister expressed his gratitude to the UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, WHO and other UN bodies working alongside the government to fight poverty and to improve the quality of life of the people.

United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) organised the commemorative function which presided over by its President Prof Salahuddin Ahmed. Foreign Secretary CM Shafi Sami presented the keynote paper while UNDP Country Representative David C Lockwood addressed as the guest speaker.

### Taxpayers to submit returns directly

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) yesterday said that all taxpayers or their nominees are allowed to submit the income tax returns directly to deputy commissioner of taxes, reports BSS.

A release of the NBR said, the returns should mention the volume of income and paid taxes. The documents should be produced before deputy commissioner of the tax-circle and after affixing the official seal and signing, the concerned officer should immediately hand it over to the taxpayer or his/her nominee.

### New Korean food outlet in city

By Staff Correspondent.

Here is a good news for food connoisseurs of the city as they would be able to have the real taste of Korean cuisine at Shilla Restaurant, which was inaugurated in the city's Gulshan area yesterday.

Shilla, famous Korean food chain, started its journey through offering real Korean food prepared by Korean chefs. All spices and food stuffs will be imported from Korea.

The restaurant was inaugurated by the South Korean acting Ambassador in Dhaka as the chief guest while Zakia Rouf Chowdhury, a leading woman entrepreneur, attended the inaugural function as the special guest.

The food lovers would have a Korean atmosphere as the restaurant's interior was decorated with traditional Korean artefacts. There is also a mini Korean handicrafts shop inside the restaurant as the visitors would be able to collect Korean souvenirs.

"Korean community in Dhaka and Japanese staying in Dhaka will be the main customer of the restaurant," Park Woo-Hyun, Korean-born Managing Director of the restaurant told The Daily Star.

It would be also within the reach of local people, Park said. A full course of Korean food would cost only Taka 1500 to 3,000, he said.

### Journalist mugged

By Staff Correspondent

A journalist was robbed of Tk 12 thousand by a gang of muggers in the city's Paltan area yesterday noon.

The journalist was identified as AUM Fakrudin, an assistant editor of The Independent.

According to police, Fakrudin was travelling towards Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) after drawing Tk 12 thousand from a nearby bank. As he neared BSS, a gang of miscreants stopped him and at dagger point robbed him of the money. They were able to flee the scene.

A case was lodged with Motijheel thana in this connection.

### Tenashinas Awards distributed

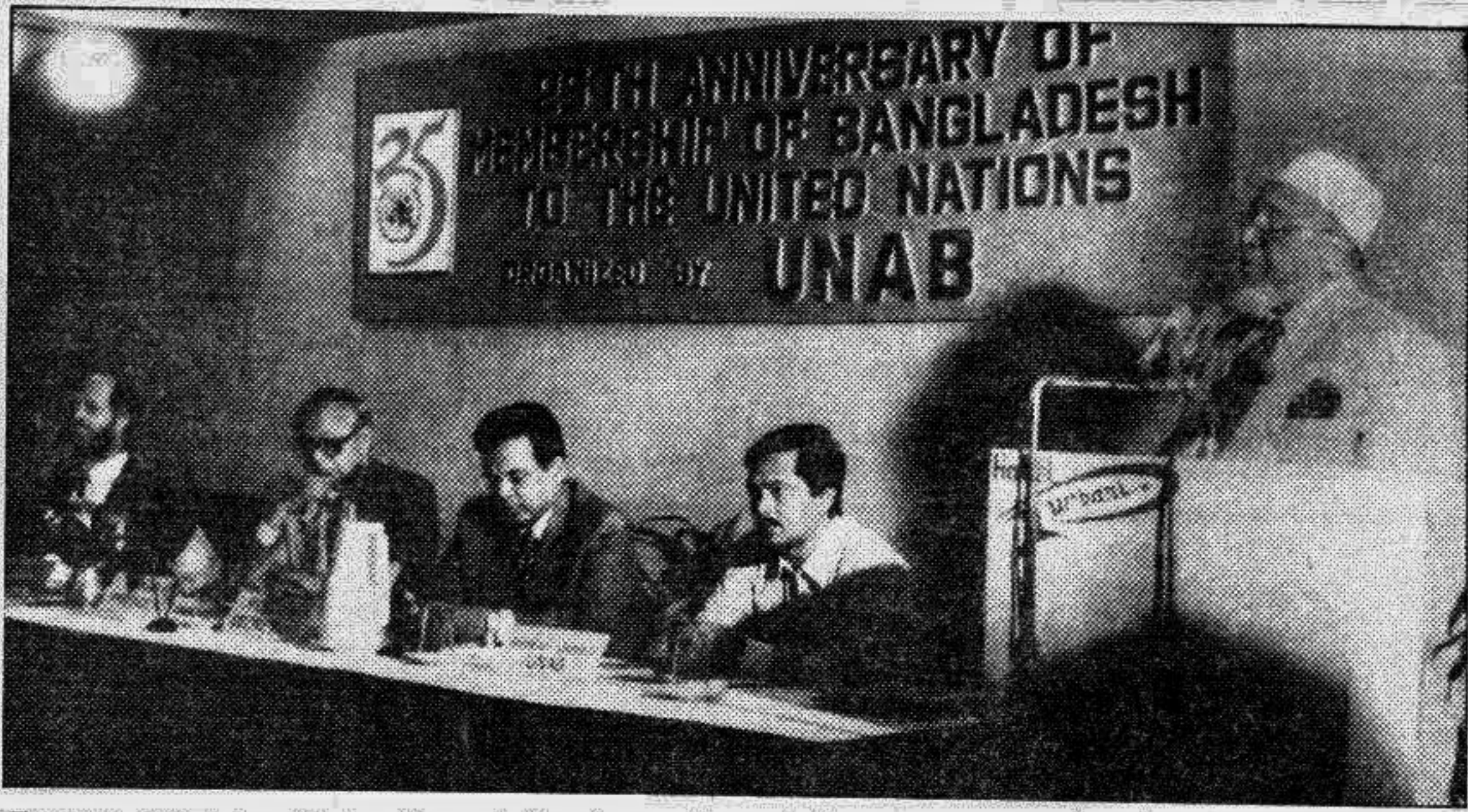
Television Nattya Shilpi and Nattayakar Sangsad (Tenashinas) yesterday honoured a total of 24 playwrights and performers for their outstanding contribution to the Bangladesh Television (BTV) programmes, reports BSS.

State Minister for Information Prof. Abu Sayeed attended the function as the chief guest while BTV Director General Syed Salahuddin Zaki as special guest.

Eminent actor and film maker Syed Hasan Imam presided over the prize distribution ceremony held at Mahanagar Nattayamancha at Gulistan area in the city.

Speaking on the occasion Prof. Sayeed called upon the artists and writers to depict the thousand-year-old culture and heritage of the nation and said there must a 'commitment' to every creation including the performing arts.

The Tenashinas awardees for the year 1995, '96, '97 and '98 are: Imdadul Huq Milon, Film actor Abdur Razzak, Afzal Hossain, Afroza Banu, Khairul Alam Sabui, Aly Zaker, Abdul Quader, Laila Hasan, Sami Kaiser, Kazi Asad, Nawazis Ali Khan, Mohan Khan, Azizul Hakim, Khaled Khan, Rubina Bipasha Hayat, Toukir Ahmed, Saidul Alam Tutul, Badiuzzaman Khan, Nader Chowdhury, Laki Inam, Tarana Halim, Faridur Reza Sagar and Hanif Sanket.



Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad speaking at the commemorative function to mark the 25th anniversary of membership of Bangladesh to UN, at Hotel Purbani yesterday. —Star photo

### WHO reports

## Tobacco-related diseases claim 1 in every 8 seconds

By Naimul Haq

Consumption of tobacco in the country like elsewhere in the world is on the rise. The situation here is considered to be one of the worst in the region.

Industrial manufacture of cigarettes and allied products, according to surveys, is growing fast. In 1992 Bangladesh produced about 75,000 million manufactured cigarettes and bids or 1.3 per cent of the world total, up from about 41,000 in 1985.

In 1993 earnings from tobacco export amounted to US \$10 million. Import cost of tobacco rose from US \$1.7 million in 1985 to US \$20 million in 1993. This was mainly due to an increase of over 500 per cent in tobacco leaf import costs.

The local cigarette market in the country is growing at 6.8 yearly. In 1996 there were 20 million smokers, one fourth of which were women. It is still growing at an alarming rate.

The consequences are grave. The death toll from tobacco related diseases are one in every eight seconds, according to World Health Organisation data. According to WHO death tolls from tobacco consumption, if this trend continues, will reach ten million annually by 2030 which is one in every three seconds.

WHO has decided to focus its attention and resources on tobacco use, to try to prevent at least some of these predicted deaths, and to prevent hundreds of millions to more in the decades to come after 2030.

At the WHO Regional Committee conference which concluded yesterday, regional policy framework for tobacco control and the regional action plan for 2000-2004 were adopted.

"One of our agendas for discussion here is tobacco control. And we have recommended that governments monitor and regulate tobacco use," Martha R Osei, WHO's regional adviser, health promotion and education, SEARO told The Daily Star.

Martha, an expert in the field, also said, "Countries are expected to implement the resolutions adopted during the session. But to control use of tobacco, we still have a long way to go because tobacco consumption is an addiction. You cannot cure it in a day."

A World Bank study has estimated that the use of tobacco results in a global net loss of US \$200 billion annually with half of these losses occurring in the developing countries.

The study estimated that

prevention of smoking is among the most cost-effective of all health interventions.

Studies also reveal that in a developing nation with a per capita gross domestic product of US \$2000, effective smoking prevention cost is approximately US \$20 to \$40 per year of life gained.

On the other hand, lung cancer treatment, which can prolong the lives of only about 10 per cent of affected people, would cost US \$18,000 per year of life gained.

WHO recommends comprehensive tobacco control strategies, with strong emphasis on legislation and education. "There is a need for urgent national and international action to restrict the spread of tobacco use," said one senior official.

Tobacco control must come from all sectors of society, from economic, health and social sectors. Effective policies and interventions can make a real difference," he added.

"For a developing nation like Bangladesh, the combined legislation, increased tax and comprehensive community-based strategies can steadily reduce tobacco consumption like in other developing nations," the WHO official told The Daily Star.

### 26 garments units identified for visa forgery

## Upward trend on in export: EPB

The country's export maintained an upward trend with a rise of 7.79 per cent over the target set for July, the first month of the current fiscal (1999-2000), reports BSS.

In July, the export earnings were US dollars 515.41 million against the target of 478.17 million dollars. This showed an increase of 1 per cent over the corresponding period of last year, an official press release said.

This was revealed at a meeting of the Management Board of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) at its Board Room in the city yesterday with Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed in the chair.

The Minister said despite the devastating flood lasting for three months, the export growth was about 3 per cent amounting 5,312 billion dollar in the last year. He said, we set export target for 1999-2000 at 5,738 billion US dollar targeting an 8 per cent growth.

The minister asked the EPB officials to implement the market development and export diversification projects. He said implementation of recently launched 46 million dollars export diversification project financed by the World Bank will also give an impetus to export diversification.

Pointing to the visa forgery in garments export in USA under quota category, the Minister asked the EPB to take stern and exemplary actions against companies involved with and keep constant vigilance to check any forgery. He said the government is going to introduce Electronic Visa Information System to halt any manipulation in garments export.

The meeting was informed

that 26 companies were identified so far for visa forgery mainly in 634/347/348 categories. The companies are: Banita Garments, Dabstar & Associates, Harbor Fabrics, Showa Associates, Al-Amin Apparels, Bengali Apparels, Shour Apparels, Such Apparels, Miaco, EMI Knitting Arkadia Apparels, Arwars, Texan Fashion, US Garments, Shatil Garments, Eastern Garments, Alcom International, Eldorado Garments, Excel Apparels, Khoi Fashion, Shown Apparels, Unipex Apparels, Bismillah Garments, Sun Gin, Hope Fashions and Peoples Apparels.

EPB already imposed 400 per cent fine against the companies and the companies have been asked to refund the quotas within three months, the press release said.

The meeting decided to hold up the export of the companies involved with forgery for next two years on those particular

categories. At the same time, government will start defalcation case against those companies.

The meeting decided to make a full-fledged survey on export oriented garments industries. The survey will be conducted by joint teams named by EPB and BGMEA to make an up-to-date data-base report on the industry.

The meeting decided to arrange an international leather fair in Dhaka early next year. It is also decided to arrange a National Handicrafts Exhibition in Dhaka next month.

Commerce Secretary Sayed Alamgir Farouk Chowdhury, former advisor to the Caretaker Government, Syed Manzoor Elahi, BGMEA President Anisur Rahman Sinha, EPB Vice Chairman A B Chowdhury representatives of concerned ministries and organisations and high officials were present in the meeting.

### Japan donates Tk 11m worth of vaccines

The Japanese government has donated vaccines worth 256 million Japanese Yen (equivalent to Taka 11 crore) to Bangladesh for expanded programme of immunisation (EPI), reports BSS.

The Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh, Yoshikazu Kaneko, handed over the vaccines to the Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Salahuddin Yusuf, at his latter's Secretariat office yesterday morning.

### Arms factory unearthed

Mohammadpur police yesterday unearthed an arms manufacturing factory and recovered three pipe guns and huge arms manufacturing materials, reports BSS.

A team of Mohammadpur police, acting on a tip off, raided a workshop at Katarua area and seized the arms and arrested Abul Kalam, owner of the workshop and his staff Lito.

Police said the arrested were involved in arms manufacturing and trafficking in the city for long time.



Recipients of the BTV Nattya Shilpi O Nattayakar Sangshad's Tenashinas Awards '95, '96, '97 and '98 at Dhaka Mahanagar Nattya Mancha yesterday. —Star photo

## Talking tough

From page 1

cation. "We apprehend that there may be provocation from the government side to foil the programme. But we will try our best to show utmost tolerance with the objective of integrating all sections of people into the current agitation," he added.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has instructed leaders of different levels of the party and its front organisations to guard against any untoward incident, a party vice chairman said.

Moreover, he said, instructions have been given to different units of the city BNP and party units in the districts adjoining Dhaka to avoid any confrontation when they will proceed towards the Secretariat on Sunday morning. They have been asked to take alternative decisions if they are obstructed on way to the venue.

Though the BNP, JP, Jamaat and IOJ are yet to disclose their 'strategies' for the sit-in demonstration, top level sources indicated that BNP men would assemble at Dainik Bangla Oshang and its adjoining areas and then proceed towards the Secretariat.

Party chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Zia will lead the demonstration. During the five-hour sit-in, according to earlier decisions, party leaders will address the protesters. The speakers will mainly concentrate on government's 'failures, misdeeds, corruption, politicisation, nepotism, transit and the new anti-terrorism act,' party sources said.

## How can we

From page 1

headed, renewed the agreements."

Earlier, the prime minister blasted Khaleda for her 'repeated attempts to mislead people by making false statements against the government.'

"She told people that the country's mosques would be converted into temples if Awami League is voted to power, that Chittagong Hill Tracts would be part of India if the peace treaty is signed and so on."

But her statements have been proved totally false and baseless, Hasina said. "Now that we have deployed some BDR personnel to help tackle the terrible traffic jam in the city, she has started propagating that the Army Forces has been assigned to safeguard Indian trucks."

The PM also came down heavily on BNP for shedding

BNP expects that tens of thousands of people would join the sit-in.

JP leaders and activists will assemble near the Mathshya Bhaban, those of Jamaat at Bijoyanagar and IOJ men at Purnana Paltan crossing. Chiefs of the parties will lead their respective party demonstrations.

A senior BNP leader said the party has also sent letters to all district units and MPs to ensure their "token participation" in the demonstration.

Meanwhile, BNP has continued mass contact in different parts of the capital city to mobilise public support for the sit-in demonstration.

Party central leaders said there is apprehension among the people that there may be 'trouble' during the demonstration. But they assured that they want to observe the programme peacefully.

BNP and its different front organisations will jointly bring out processions from 24 places in the city this afternoon to drum up support for the programmes.

Talking to The Daily Star, a top BNP leader said the party is moving in a well-planned way to force the government to hold the national elections in the first quarter of 2000.

"Our target is to start the one-point movement from November 7, the date for the planned Dhaka siege programme. We want to intensify the current movement by going for tougher programmes one after another during September and October," he said.

such 'crocodile tears' for the armed forces, claiming that Ziaur Rahman had hanged hundreds of army officers. "Besides, which government did import cars manufactured by Indian companies like Tata and Ashoke Leyland?"

She also said governments of Ziaur Rahman, HM Ershad and Khaleda Zia followed a foreign policy subservient to India. "When in power, none of them spoke a single word against India. So they failed to secure the country's due share of Ganges water."

Blasting the opposition movement aimed at ousting her government, the prime minister asked, "What prime minister committed that it always talks of toppling my government?"

She said that her government had rather been trying its best to ensure a better living for the common people. "We have introduced old-age pensions, made provisions for allowances to widows and deserted women, set up shelters for landless poor, created a rain water bank for the unemployed youth and so on."

Justifying the government's recent slum eviction drive, Hasina said 90 per cent of the slum dwellers were willing to return to their rural homesteads. She gave an account of various programmes the government and the NGOs have taken to rehabilitate the squatters in their respective villages.

"As soon as the rainy season is over, we would expedite the process of sending the slum dwellers to their original homesteads."

The premier claimed that her administration had restored discipline in the banking sector and taken the black money holders to task, set up power plants, curbed terrorism, brought back congenial academic atmosphere in the educational institutions, increased literacy rate to 58 per cent and so on. "If I had good cooperation of the opposition, we would have been able to lead the nation more successfully to the next millennium."

Criticising the Opposition for its absence from the just concluded peace conference of the Asian parliamentarian in the city, Hasina said it was only natural that political parties would have differences of opinions on various domestic issues. "But why should we expose them or foreigners?" she wondered.

She recollected that when in opposition her party MPs actively participated in the SAARC conference held in Dhaka.

Before announcing the proposition order of the President, Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid told the House that the session was 'very brief, but fruitful'. He, however, said that he consistently felt the absence of the opposition while conducting the House.

Earlier, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, an MP belonging to the Jatiya Party faction led by Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Monju, praised the government for its 'pro-people performances' and criticised the opposition for staying outside parliament.

### Ban on gatherings

From page 1

tal, Doyel Chatter and Anti-Corruption Bureau office in Segun Bagicha.

Sources said police administration has taken strict measures to keep the situation under control. Police and BDR will be deployed in and around the Secretariat from midnight on September 11.

The sources hinted that movement of some officers and employees of the Secretariat are being monitored by the law enforcing agencies. The officers and employees would be checked at the gates of the Secretariat on September 12.

Police sources said all 'suspected' Dhaka-bound transports would be checked at the entry points of the capital city from September 11.

### RAJUK

From page 1

struction Act. As per the Notification by the Housing and Public Works Ministry of 1996, no such building can be constructed within 50 metres of an intersection. If the road is 23 metres or more wide, only then a developer can construct on a maximum of 500 square metres.

The near-complete building has only 10 parking spaces in the basement and four at the entrance.

When contacted, its developer, Engineer Kabir Ahmed Bhuiyan, claimed that the basement could accommodate 18 cars as the driveway into the basement could also be used for parking. However, said he was aware of the traffic problem in the area.

"I can assure you, once we start business, we will employ people to manage traffic in the area and keep it clear," Bhuiyan said.

### Ijtema at Chhagalnaiya

CHHAGALNAYA, Sept 9: A three-day *Ijtema* began at Chhagalnaiya High School ground yesterday, reports BSS.

About 50,000 devotees are attending the congregation. A big pandal has been set up to accommodate the devotees. Discussion on the life of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SM) and *tafsir* from the Holy Quran are being held in the *Ijtema*.

Akhari *munajat* will be held on the concluding day on Friday.