

News

● What's on today... ●

Rally: Gano Forum has arranged a rally to protest against police and pro-government terrorist attack on its 'human chain' and proposed public security act. Venue: Muktangan. Time: 3:00 pm.

● and tomorrow ●

Seminar: A two-day international seminar on 'Quaternary Development and Coastal Hydrodynamics of the Ganges Delta in Bangladesh' will be inaugurated. Venue: Bangladesh Petroleum Institute (BPI) auditorium, Plot 5A, Sector 8, Uttara. Time: 9:30 am.

ICC workshop: International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Bangladesh will organise the inaugural session of a workshop on 'Letters at Credit in Practice with Associated Products'. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 10:00 am.

Loan distributions: Krishibank will begin the 4th phase of its loan distribution under slumdweller rehabilitation programme 'Ghore Phera'. Chief guest: SAMS Kibria, Minister for Finance. Venue: Krishibank Bhaban, 83-85, Motijheel. Time: 10:25 am.

Weather

Moderate rain likely

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

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

Day temperature may fall by one or two degree Celsius, it added.

The country's highest temperature yesterday was recorded at 34.2 degree Celsius at Jessore and the lowest 24.2 degrees at Srimongal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:59 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:46 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
Dhaka	31.2	85
Chittagong	32.5	85
Rajshahi	32.1	94
Khulna	34.0	98
Barisal	32.7	97
Sylhet	31.7	83
Cox's Bazar	31.5	85

HERE and THERE

Central Women's University

The Orientation Programme of the freshers of Central Women's University was held recently.

Begum Kulsum Huda, former Associate Professor of Dhaka University and Member of Board of Trustees of Central Women's University presided over the function.

Telephone Subscribers Assoc

In order to avoid illegal billing and harassment by the line men and to ensure real telephone services in the country, a 11-member Telephone Subscribers Association (TSA) was formed at a local hotel yesterday headed by Enayet Karim and Samsul Alam Zulfiqar as Convener and Co-convener respectively, says a press release.

The other members of the association are: Nasir Uddin Sarkar, Matin Uddin Bhuiyan, Hemayet Uddin, Rosy Begum, Mohammed Ahsanullah, Zulfiqar Mahmud Ratan, Iqbal Mahmud and Shamsuddin Ahmed.

The TSA will form a national standing committee within a month in Dhaka.

The association has chalked out a 7-point demand including privatisation of the T&T Board to ensure real telephone services to clients.

NIPORT

A weeklong short-term training on Population Dynamic for Demographers and Family Welfare Personnel of India concluded at the NIPORT auditorium yesterday, reports BSS.

Speaking as the chief guest at the Annual General Meeting of the BCS (Economic) Officers' Association at the NEC conference room, Mr Asaduzzaman said that the present opposition parties were now agitating not to deliver goods to the people but to obtain power.

Asaduzzaman said that anomalies, if any, would be removed from the government service. He said equality would be brought in the government cadre services on the basis of efficiency and merit.

Presided over by President of the Association Dr MA Mabud the function was addressed, among others, by State Minister for Planning Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Planning HN Ashikur Rahman.



Col (Retd) Abdul Latif Mallick inaugurated 'Laila Charitable Dispensary' in memory of late Laila Nesa Chowdhury, at Manikdi under Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

DU teachers' orientation course begins

A 12-day orientation course for lecturers of Dhaka University was inaugurated yesterday with a call for upholding the image of the country's highest seat of learning through discharging the duty vested upon them, reports BSS.

Vice-chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury inaugurated the course at the DU's Institute for Education and Research and said this orientation course would help these young teachers get familiarised with the glorious past as well as administrative and academic programmes of the university.

Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Md Shahadat Ali presiding over the inaugural session expressed the hope that the young teachers would try to teach their students of the highest standard and keep it up throughout their professional career.

A total of 31 lecturers are taking part in this orientation course, the press release said.

Leena's exhibition extended to September 22

The solo painting exhibition of Yasmin Ara Leena has been extended till September 22 in response to the requests by the visitors and hartial, reports UNB.

The week-long exhibition began on September 10 at Gallery-21 in Dhanmondi and was to be concluded on September 16.

Leena is a speech-impaired artist. She has completed training on technical education from Kalyani Mentally Retarded Foundation after having education up to class VII.

She is currently a technical teacher of the Foundation.

The exhibition has been jointly organised by Gallery-21 and Nandan Art Centre, a painting school.

Combing operation 1004 arrested

A total of 1004 persons were arrested and one illegal weapon with four rounds of bullet seized yesterday on the 149th day of the nationwide combing operation by police, Bangladesh Rifles and Ansar forces, reports BSS.

They arrested 467 people accused in different cases from across the country including the four metropolitan areas and seized the arms and ammunition. They also arrested 536 wanted accused during the drive.

Of them, 159 persons including 30 warrantees were held from Dhaka metropolitan area, 16 including two warrantees from Chittagong metropolitan area, eight including one wanted person from Khulna metropolitan area and 11 including four warrantees from Rajshahi metropolitan area.

A total of 196 persons including 121 wanted accused were held from Dhaka range, 185 including 123 wanted persons from Chittagong range, 195 including 130 warrantees from Rajshahi range with one illegal weapon and four bullets, 141 including 56 wanted persons from Khulna range, 40 including 28 warrantees from Barisal range and 53 including 41 wanted persons from Sylhet range.

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Photo Journalists' Assoc roundtable on Sept 25

Bangladesh Photo Journalists' Association will hold a roundtable on 'Photo Journalism in Bangladesh: Hurdles and Challenges of the New Millennium' on Sept 25 at the VIP Lounge of the Jatiya Press Club, says a press release.

Editors of different dailies, politicians, members of journalists bodies, NGO representatives and defence personnel will be among those who will participate in the roundtable.

New RU student advisor

RAJSHAHI, Sept 18: Dr Chowdhury Sarwar, Assistant Professor of Geology and Mining Studies Department of Rajshahi University, has been appointed as Student Advisor of the University, reports UNB.

He took up the charge today as additional responsibility.

Freire's birth anniversary today

Today is the 78th birth anniversary of Paulo Freire, a radical Brazilian educator known for his methods of using everyday words and ideas to teach non-literates to read — and to be critically inquisitive about prevailing social and political systems, says a press release.

Freire refined the traditional education methods beginning in the late 1950s during literacy campaigns among the peasants in the poverty-stricken northeast of Brazil. By the late 1980s, Freire's techniques had been put into use in the United States by black, Hispanic and feminist organisations carrying out literacy programmes or training teachers.

Freire died on the May 2, 1997 leaving behind a legacy of an education of political nature for the emancipation of the oppressed people.

An article on this legendary figure will be published tomorrow.



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Cancel proposed education policy: Student bodies

Different student organisations brought out processions and held rallies on the Dhaka University campus yesterday demanding cancellation of proposed National Education Policy.

Bangladesh Chhatra Federation (BCF), Biplobi Chhatra Moity (BCM), Jatiya Chhatra Dal (JCD), Chhatra Okkya Forum (COF) and Biplobi Chhatra Sangha (BCS) jointly held a rally at Aperajeo Bangla, following a procession on the campus at noon.

Addressing the rally, the leaders said that according to the proposed National Education Policy poor students will not be able to continue their studies. They urged upon the student community to resist the proposed education policy.

Among others, Zouaied Saki, ABM Shamsul Haq, Prokash Datta, Reza Sahib, Al Huda Rajat, Sahidul Islam Sabuj and Jesmin Ara Pinki addressed the rally.

Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) also held a rally in front of the Madhu's canteen to press home the same demand.

The DU unit of BCF brought out a procession and held a rally in front of the Madhu's canteen at noon. The leaders said, 'government is patronising madrassah education system more than the general education, which is producing religious fanatics.'

The rally was addressed, among others, by Nasir Uddin, Iftekher Aliab and Neeru Mohammad.

Rafiqullah Khan and student leaders addressed the programme.

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Meanwhile, on the third day of six-day long Education Conference yesterday, Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) held two discussions at the Teachers and Students Centre (TSC) of the university.

The discussion was held on 'Education philosophy and privatisation' and 'Boundless higher education and present perspective'.

Among others, former DU vice chancellor Moniruzzaman Mia, Prof. Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Col (Retd) Kazi Nuzzaman, Prof. Sardor Rahman, Dr. Mesbahul Kamal, Dr. Rafiqullah Khan and student leaders addressed the programme.

They want to close down several other papers which more or less reflect the people's opinion ahead of next year's elections," the signatories said, most of whom are members of Iran's influential Freedom Movement, a tolerated liberal opposition group.

They also demanded reform of the judiciary and called on it to take 'disciplinary measures' against the head of Tehran's press court, Saeed Mortazavi, who ordered the closure of the popular moderate Neshat newspaper about two weeks ago.

"A certain political faction has systematically opposed all forms of reforms initiated by President Mohammad Khatami since his election in May 1997.

Since coming to office, Khatami has put the easing of press restrictions near the top of his reform agenda, leading to a new openness in discussions of the nation's political affairs.

But the conservative-dominated courts have fought back, banning newspapers and arresting or interrogating dozens of journalists.

Although the editors made good their vow to defy the closure by bringing a new daily, Akhbar-E-Qtesad, to the newsstands, they made clear that it was not a replacement for the popular Neshat.

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