What's on today •

Roundtable: Dia Link Limited has organised a "Scientists" Roundtable" where Dr Meng will discuss the arsenic remediation technology patented by the Stevens Institute of Technology, USA. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 11:30 am.

PRIP publication ceremony: PRIP Trust in association with the Netherlands Embassy will hold the publication ceremony "Mukti Monchay Naree" by Dr Nibedita Daspurkayastha. Chief guest: Ms Nurjahan Begum, editor of Begum. Venue: WVA, House No 20, Rd No 16 (Old) 27 (New), Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 4.00 pm.

Meeting: Chinta, a fortnightly magazine, will hold a consultation meeting. Venue: Narigrantha Prabartana, 218 Sir Syed Road, Mohammadpur. Time: 4.00 pm.

Concert: Goethe Institut will present a classical German music concert by Oriol Berlin. Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall. Time: 7.00 pm.

Film show: Tanvir Mokammel's Chitra Nadir Pare will be screened. Venue: Shawkat Osman auditorium of Public Library. Time: 3.00 pm, 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm.

Discussion meeting: Ganosanskriti Parishad will hold a discussion on "Revolution and Mao. Venue: VIP lounge of Jatiya Press Club. Time: 5.30 pm.



Rally: Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation in cooperation with Dhaka University Tourist Society will hold a rally in the morning. A painting exhibition will be inaugurated in the evening. Venue: Rally — from National Museum to Jatiya Press Club; exhibition — Hotel Sheraton. Time: 7.30 am and 5.00 pm respectively.

Film show: Zahir Raihan Film society in collaboration with Goethe Institut will screen 3 movies The Witman Family, The Match Factory Girl and Krik? Krak! Tales of a Nightmare on the first day of its 3-day session of films from around the world. Venue: Goethe Institut, Road No 9, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00 pm, 6.30 pm and 7.45 pm.

Memorial meeting: City Awami League will hold a meeting in memory of its leader Maizuddin. Venue: Party's central office at Bangabandhu Avenue. Time: 6:00 pm.

Weather

Moderate rain likely

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

Moderately heavy falls are also expected at one or two places over Rajshahi Division. Met Office said day temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius

over the country during the period Country's highest temperature at 33.5 degree Celsius and lowest at 23.4 degrees Celsius temperature were both recorded at

Srimongal. The sun sets in the capital today, at 5.51 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.49 am.

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

City, 1	in Celsius		percentage	
Dhaka	Max 32.2	Min 25.3	Morning Evening	
			82	79
Chittagong	31.6	25.3	96	78
Rajshahi	28.5	25.5	. 155	92
Khulna	32.5	24.8	89	76
Barisal	32.5	24.8	78	80
Sylhet	33.2	24.5	80	78
Cox's Bazar	32.3	25.0	77	82
=				

HERE and THERE

A day-long orientation workshop for journalists on feature writing on woman and child issues was held yesterday, reports UNB.

A total of 25 journalists from national and regional newspapers attended the workshop, organised by Publication and Research Department of Press Institute of Bangladesh

Project Director of "Communication Technique for Achieving Woman and Child Development of Bangladesh" under the Information Ministry Khandakar Fazlul Rahman inaugurated the workshop. PIB Director General Dr

Sheikh Abdus Salam delivered the welcome address and Chief of Information and Advocacy Department of UNICEF June Kunegi spoke as special guest.

A K M Abdul Aziz, Q A Tahmina and Dr Zobaida Hannan conducted the three sessions of the workshop.

AAERSCI

A demonstration of scientific process of removal of arsenic from ground water at nominal cost with local ingredients was exhibited with easy-to-do guidelines at a seminar held by AAERSCI at CIRDAP auditorium recently, says a press reand Chief Scientist of non-governmental research organisation "AAERSCI" has invented the process, using absorbents made from coconut fibre, coconut shell and rice husk through an easy and indigenous process.

Dr M A Hasan, President

Delta Life Insurance Co

Twelve policyholders of Delta Life Insurance Company Ltd were elected directors, a press release said yesterday.

They were elected as directors at the policyholders' meeting held at the central office of the company. Dr Syed Mukarram Ali, Chairman of the company, chaired the meeting while election commission Chairman Justice Anwarul Hug Chowdhury. Managing Director (CC) Das Deba Prasad and company secretary Sultan-ul-Abedin Molla, were present on the occasion.

The elected policyholder directors are: Dr Kazi Aynul Haque, Kazi Imran F. Rahman, Abu Naser S K Siddique, M Gyasuddin Ahmed, Kazi Toufick F Rahman, Syed Abu Saleh Mohammad Faisal, A K M Abdus Salim, Zobaida Hannan, Abdul Quayum Khan, S M Kamrul Hack, Nazimuddin Ahmed and Jasimuddin

Photo-journalists

Chowdhury.

Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Matin Khasru, Afzal H Khan MP. Rahmat Ali MP, former minister Shamsul Islam, Gono Forum Chief Dr. Kamal Hossen, Jamaat-e- Islami Publicity Secretary Abdul Kader Mollah, Chairman of Editorial Board of the New Nation Mainul Hosein, Editor of the Bangladesh Observer Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Editor of the Financial Express Riaz Uddin Ahmed, Holiday editor Enayetullah Khan, Dhaka Journalists Union leaders Ruhul Amin Gazi and Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan. renowned journalists Gias Kamal Chowdhury and A B M Musa, photo journalists Kamruzzaman and Rafigur Rahman, Saiful Haq of Bangladesh Workers Party, Inspector General of Police AYBI Siddiqui, Police Commissioner A K M Shamsuddin and Islami Bank Vice- chairman Mir Qashem Ali

took part in the discussion. Editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam moderated the discussion. General Secretary of Bangladesh Photo Journalists Association A K M Mohsin presented a key note paper. President of the association Mohammad Salah Uddin gave

the welcome address. Abdul Matin Khasru said, "The government which believes in transparency and freedom of press should not create any obstruction in free flow of information.

He assured all co-operation of his ministry in framing necessary law for protection of journalists in their professional duty. He also stressed the need for bringing a change in the mind set of the people involved in maintaining law and

Dr. Kamal Hossen praised the role of photo-journalists in all democratic movements. He said police forget the basic training on when and where they should use force. "Police should remember that journalists never use force. They only go for covering the event."

He demanded full autonomy for Bangladesh Television. Dr. Kamal also said that journalists should be given protection from the attack of political activists and mastaans.

Enayetullah Khan alleged that police do not follow the police manual properly. "They act according to the order given by the political authority. Actually, the country has become a police state and police do not have any accountability."

Mir Qashem Ali offered free treatment of injured photo journalists at the Islami Bank hospital and financial support for any training programme.

A K M Mohsin in his key note paper presented a 25-point suggestion for removal of obstructions in professional duties by photo journalists and their professional develop-

Elections in 7 poursavas Oct 28

FARIDPUR, Sept 25: Election to the seven newly formed pourasavas in the country will be held on October 28, reports

According to a notificationof the Election Commission, the pourasavas are: Patgram (Lalmonirhat), Akkelpur (Joy-purhat), Taherpur (Rajshahi), Singra (Natore), Sandwip (Chittagong), Kendua (Netrokona) and Nagarkanda (Faridpur).

As per the schedule, the last date for filing nomination papers is October 4, scrutiny of those will be held on October 5 and last date for withdrawal of nomination papers is October

The Additional District Magistrates of the districts concerned have been made Returning Officers and TNOs Assistant Returning Officers for conducting the elections.



Law Minister Abdul Matin Khasru speaking at a roundtable on "Photojournalism in Bangladesh: Obstruction and Challenges for the next Millennium." Bangladesh Photojournalists' Association organised the event held at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

Star photo

144 industrial units continue dumping waste materials

Pollution proves fatal for marine fisheries in Bay

CHITTAGONG, Sept 25: Massive pollution in the Bay of Bengal threatens the stock of the marine fisheries and the volume of fishing rate has alarmingly declined in the last few years, reports BSS.

Experts apprehend that fisheries resources might be reduced further and fin-fish and shell-fish once will be on the verge of extinction if pollution in the Bay of Bengal's water continues.

Experts on marine fisheries, water and environmental sciences told that industrial toxic waste, oil spilling, dumping of trash fish, illegal and over fishing, siltation and flood water stagnation, increase in the inland wastes, violation of laws related to marine fishing, artificial hatcheries, ignorance of fishermen about the Bay's fish stock and mismanagement of marine sector have resulted in decrease in fisheries resources. The picturesque Bay of Ben-

gal is enriched with nutrients, supplied by a network of rivers and their tributaries. The marine fisheries resources in the water area of the Bay covering an area of about 70,000 square kilometres are highly potential and fishing ground in the bay is considered to be one of the best in tropical countries. According to a government

report of 1995, permanent stock of marine fisheries in the bay is about one quarter million metric tons of which 9,000 metric tons are shrimp species. which is the most thrust sector for earning foreign currency.

Around 1.5 million people depend on fishing in the Bay of Bengal, of them, nearly .35 million are marine fishermen who are to be found along the 710 KMs coast stretching from the river Naaf, falls in the Bay in the South East of the country, to Raimangal river along the Indo-Bangladesh border in the West

Pirated CDs

Pak racket

detected

in city

flooding the Dhaka city market

with pirated CDs has been de-

tected at the ongoing annual

computer show in the city, re-

Officials of the Bangl lesh

Computer Society in a lrive

yesterday also recovered some

3,000 pirated CDs from three

stalls at the fair. Those are Ro-

bust Computers, Dhaka Busi-

Sources said the BCS had a

plan to catch the Pakistani ring

leader, Raziullah Khan, 29, red-

handed after they caught his

through the planned operation

as the two local associates of

Raziullah Khan fled the scene

during a chaotic situation on

the week-end eve following huge

As the gang went into hiding.

a BCS team led by its general

secretary Ahmed Hasan Jewel,

Sabur Khan and Munim Hos-

sain Rana conducted a drive

yesterday evening and found

the CDs in the stores of the

iullah Khan is the key person in

flooding the local market with

the contraband CDs after copy-

ing those in his country. These

software disks are brought in

brought in pirated CDs worth

some Tk 20 lakh for the current

IT show, maintains some local

agents. Usually he stays at two

hotels in city's Bijoynagar area.

ness, experts said, the pirated

CDs and software were also

damaging Bangladesh's pros-

pect in the global IT field as it

would stall flourishing of local

human resources and the

Tribal youth held

in Rangamati

tribal youth was arrested with

Marachhara in sadar thana

here today, reports UNB. Police said they, acting on a

tip off, raided the house of Bijoy

Kumar Chakma and nabbed

Shaymol Tripura, 19, with two

country-made LGs and one

round of bullet in the morning.

RANGAMATI, Sept 25: A

firearms from Bandar

"Apart from formal busi-

The man, who reportedly

through various channels.

Sources at the BCS said Raz-

But the BCS failed to follow

ness Machine and PC Net.

two sidekicks on Friday.

rush of visitors.

three stalls.

industry."

ports UNB.

A Pakistani racket who are

Fishermen who operate

about 16,000 coastal fishing vessels of which only around 6,000 are licensed produce on an average 2.5 lakh metric tons of marine fish every year, these vessels are mainly wooden and run by diesel engines.

Director of Marine Science Institute of Chittagong University Dr A K M Abdul Matin said toxication, illegal dumping of rotten rice, onion and other goods by foreign vessels, industrial and inland wastes, oil spilling in the Bay are the root causes of polluting the fin and sell fish resources.

Illegal and over fishing including trafficking of fish varieties, particularly the commercial fishing of shrimp and mismanagement threaten the marine fisheries resources. Dr Matin said. There are indications that

chemical ingredients that used in dry fishes and pesticide residue seepage into sea water deteriorate the marine Eco-system which also ultimately will have adverse affect on zooplankton and phyto-plankton. Industrial effluent including

also threatening to unstable the future growth fish, degradation of marine environment will subsequently affect the prospect of fish resources development and various economic development in the Bay of Bengal. A survey conducted by the Fisheries Resource Institute of the Department of Fisheries re-

that of shrimp hatcheries is

vealed that the use of pesticides has increased by 400 per cent since 1977, the report said agro-chemicals are major sources of marine pollution frequent spills during oil transportation contribute to the degradation of marine environ-

Senior scientific officer of the Marine Fisheries Department Ali Azam Khan who gave some accounts of the spilling of oil in the Bay said around 2200 metric

As many as three hundred

people, most of whom women

and children, become victims of

acid throwing in the country ev-

ery year. The number has been

estimated on the basis of inci-

dents reported by the press but

there are many more incidents

speakers at a discussion on

"Acid throwing: Current situa-

tion in Bangladesh" held at

Gonoshasthay Kendra yester-

The speakers termed the

acid throwing on girls as a so-

cial evil and underscored the

need for a social movement

would set up an Acid Burn Unit

at the Gonoshasthay Nagar

Hospital. A burn unit for treat-

ment of the acid victim would

start functioning from mid Oc-

tober this year. The project will

be implemented in collaboration

with COOPI and Gonoshasthay

From page 1

Kancha" (snow leopard) also

marched past along with the

seven contingents during the

ner Baikuntha Manandhar.

who won three SAF marathon

golds in a row, lighted the 8th

SAF Games torch, which was

brought from Lumbini, the

The programme concluded

with some brilliant laser-ani-

mated displays and a cracking

fireworks exhibition organised

brass band supported the entire

the countries, except

Bangladesh, led their respective

contingent. Whip Mizanur

Rahman Manu MP, the

Bangladesh Chef-de-Mission,

was reportedly indisposed. In

his place. Deputy Chef-de-Mis-

sion Manzur Hasan Mintu led

Bangladesh amidst loud cheers

from the crowd. General man-

show with captivating music.

The Royal Nepalese Army

The Chef-de-Mission of all

by the Chinese.

birthplace of Gautam Buddha.

grand opening of the Games.

The Game's mascot "Him

Nepal's ace marathon run-

Kendra.

seats.

The GK announced that it

against this type of crime.

This was stated by the

which are not reported at all.

tons of oil came from the foreign vessel MV Killoti near Kutubdia channel in 1989 which spreads miles after miles in the Bay affecting the marine fisheries and 200 metric tons of oil and 1400 metric tons of rotten rice from fire affected ship at MV Caria Santosa ran aground near Anwara last month is silently pervading the pollution in the Bay.

Hundreds of metric tons of oil from prolonged anchored vessels and thousand of other fishing trawlers is degrading the marine environment to the large extent, Khan further said

Department of environment sources said eight industrial belts having around 144 industrial units, which are very close to the bay and located on the bank of the river Karnaphuli in Chittagong are continuously discharging non-degradation, solid and liquid wastes into the coastal and marine water.

According to the official record available to the agency the industries which discharge toxic wastes into the marine water include 19 tanneries, 26 textiles, one oil refinery, a TSP fertiliser plant, two chemical industries, five fisheries processing units, two cement factories two pesticides industries, four dying and 75 other small indus-

Seafood processing industry also counted for polluting the marine environment, wastes from seafood processing industries are dumped into the places, close to the sea.

A government report said that about 2528 tonnes waste from shrimp was dumped into the Bay through the Karnaphuli River during the 1994-95 fiscal

Environmental officials said that 98 per cent industries, located in Chittagong including the multi-national companies have no certificate of clearance from the environment depart-

Country representative of

COOPI Dr. Alexjandra Ferry

told the gathering that "the pain

of the victim is seemingly end-

less as the people around her

will always react to the disfig-

urement, usually in an unkind

said acid throwing incidents

sometimes also happened in her

country, Italy, but it had been

stopped by creating awareness

among the people.

Dr. Samata Sen of Dhaka

Medical College said that acid

burning injuries could not be

cured totally but patients could

recover if they were given psy-

people in our country do not

know what to do immediately

after an acid attack. Many pa-

tients come to the country's only

burn unit at DMCH quite late,

rector of the GK said that to

combat acid attack "We all

have to fight socially against it."

ager Lt Col Lutful Huq acted as

Rinky, who won gold in the

Commonwealth and the SAF

Games, carried the national

came by road all the way from

their country to witness the last

regional Games of the century.

made their presence known

Games for the second time after

1984 when they organised the

first SAF Games, also in Kath-

First gold

From page 1

tough competition from Indian

sprinter Anil Kumar, who has

0.19 seconds better timing to

his credit. Kafi's timing in the

event is 10.49 seconds. Even

Maksud Ahmed of Pakistan has

Asia Chintika De Zoysa pulled

out of the games as he has

been suffering from chicken-

The fastest man of South

a better time of 10.44.

Nepal is hosting the regional

with their noisy applause.

flag ahead of the contingent.

Ace shooter Saiful Islam

The few Bangladeshis, who

his deputy.

mandu.

Dr. Morshed Chowdhury, Di-

sometimes after a month.

He also said most of the

chological treatment.

In reply to a question she

Acid throwing: 300 fall

victim each year

By Staff Correspondent

According to World Health Organisation, accepted standard of Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) level in the marine water is five Parts Per Million (PPM), but BOD level in different parts of the Chittagong coastal belts is between 0.7 and 38 PPM, discharge of solid and chemical waste is the main cause of such high percentage of BOD level, environment officials said. Discharge of BOD, persis-

tence organic pollutants and organochlorine in the Bay are increasingly linked with number of deformed marine fish and these types of polluted water might decrease the reproduction of marine fish fry in the near future said the sources adding that solid and liquid waste from scrapped ships also cause imbalance in marine environment Over 200 scrapped ships

have occur cut in ship breaking yards, mainly located in the coastal areas along Patenga, Fouzde and Bl. breaking zone, cut pieces of iron mixed with fuel are often found dumped into along the sea

If such wide scale of marine water pollution continues, one day the marine fishes will be compelled to change their habitation and may migrate to Indian and Myanmar oceans, senior principal officer of Marine Fisheries Ali Azam Khan ob-The experts suggested intro-

duction of mother vessels for collecting small fish thrown away by different small fishing boats and creating awareness among fishermen to protect the hunting of small and low priced fish fry. They urged the government

to bring the violators of environmental laws into book through the proposed "environmental court" in order to sustain a healthy and balanced environment for the country and the people.

Ershad Shikder From page 1

din, and marry him in May this

Apart from his two wives at home, Ershad hardly passed a single night without going to one of his many mistresses. He never hesitated even to violate young wives of his armed cadres.

According to police, he raped Ramisa, Beauty, Rani and her daughter Nisha at gun point several times during last two years. All these women are wives of his armed cadres.

Shamsu Sarder of Skid Ghat was stabbed to death by Ershad because he protested rape of his daughter.

Ershad's bodyguard Noor Alam told police that Ershad had physical contacts several times with the mother of his first wife Khodeja even after marriage. Khodeja never dared to protest it. "He raped my wife several

times and also my sister-in-'aw, Noor Alam told police. "My ife Rani was raped several imes at his Ice Factory at Noor Alam said the mother-

in-law of Ershad was a 'call girl'. She had close links with a lot of wealthy men including some political leaders. Ershad also used his mother-in-law to get rid of criminal cases against

Laily, 30, of Diarha village and Moina, 28, of Jugihati village under Rupsha thana were not only his mistresses but acted as agents in the police department. In case of necessity, Ershad offered these two young women to police. Attractive whores of Banis-

hanta red light area under Mongla thana were frequently brought to his "harem" at the Skid Ghat for performing obscene dance. Even he forced young wives of his armed cadres to drink and dance with them. A female teacher of a local primary school was ravished by

Ershad Shikder for refusing to marry him. Later, she resigned and left the school without taking her salary as Ershad called her in his office to take salary Even 'eunuchs' were not spared.

sexually perverted women, Ershad Shikder was a wanted man because he offered them huge amount of money and gold ornaments. These women include wife of a ward commissioner and employees of some bank and insurance companies.

Gur production

From page 1 Training Institute (SRTI) Md

"Instead of some 10,000 bullock-crusher and 3,000 powercrusher in operation in the country for gur production. some 300 modern gur mills would suffice."

A cabinet meeting on April 19, 1987, had decided to take steps for attaining self-suffi-ciency in gur production, with the main thrust on intensive cultivaton of sugarcane in nonmill zones.

The then government assigned Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC) the job of preparing a plan for at-taining the goal. BARC formed an expert committee headed by the then DG of BARI Dr M Mosharraf Hussein, asking it to submit a report.

The expert committee. among other things, recommended formation of a Gur Development Board. To justify the need for it, the committee argued that there were 'some specific jobs to be carried out beyond the capacities' of Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) and Bangladesh Food and Sugar

Development Corporation. Gur Development Board is needed for jobs like area delimitation of mill and non-mill zones, site selection for new mills, development of technology for improvement in crushing, processing and preserving cane, seed development for quality cane and market promotion, it noted.

Non-availability of bank loans for cane growers in nonmill zones and extension pro-

grammes biased towards cereal crops were seen as constraints to increase of gur production.

Gur Control Act, 1956, restricts production of gur in mill-zones. But an UNDP report estimated that 60 per cent of cane in mill areas got diverted to gur industry. It stressed expansion of non-mill cane growing areas and designing effective crushers. UNDP also proposed setting up of a body specifically for development of gur sector in non-mill zones.

FAO office in Dhaka had submitted a proposal in this regard to the Ministry of Agriculture in 1986. Australian Development Assistance Bureau and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) had also offered assistance . JICA proposed in 1995 construction of two smallscale gur processing factories at the cost of Tk. one crore.

Experts told The Daily Star that gur has an established place in the local diet. It is a unique food in its own right. Gur producing cottage industries provide employment opportunities for rural people. Gur sales create local markets. promote business and associated transport activities.

The existing power crusher equipment suffers from poor designing, unable to crush for sustained periods without frequent mechanical failure and general wear of components. Experts fell that rate of gur recovery from cane can be enhanced using modern crushers. Present gur recovery is ap-

proximately 8.8 percent on cane by weight.

BNP vows to resist

From page 1

without provocation. Frequent attack by the BSF was a clear threat to Bangladesh's independence and sovereignty, he said.

He regretted that the government never protested such acts of aggression nor took necessary steps to curb such activities against Bangladesh. He called upon the heroic people of the country to collectively resist the heinous Indian designs along the border.

Mannan Bhuiyan said that the AL han made a number of pledges before coming to power to the people of the country, but after assuming power the AL never implemented a single commitment to the people.

On the issue of crisis in supply of electricity, he said that the government had destroyed the prospect of power generation and foreign investment in this sector in the country as it always had plans for importing power from India.

On transit issue, Mannan Bhuiyan declared that the people of the country would not allow the government to provide transit or transhipment facility to India and would resist the move at all costs.

Bhuiyan, apparently ended the meeting hastily after a police official requested the BNF leaders to vacate the road to ease the traffic jam. He said that now a days it had become very difficult to move because of unbearable traffic jam and observed that it would not be possible even to walk along the

Drama group comes to aid of a teacher

MYMENSINGH, Sept 25: In a noble gesture, Jhilik, a local theatre group organised charity show of drama 'Hypocrite' here to raise funds for kidney transplantation of an ailing teacher, reports UNB.

Hasnara Begum, 40, the teacher of Mymensingh Kachijhuli Primary School, is suffering from kidney problem. The drama association also

organised a seminar on kidney and heart diseases at the Town Public Hall today. Speaking at seminar before the drama was staged, State

Minister for Health Dr M Amanullah said kidney and heart diseases are complicated. He said the treatment cost of such diseases is very high, but the patients may mitigate sufferings by living a disciplined

Stranded Pakistanis clash in Mymensingh

MYMENSINGH, Sept 25: Two groups of stranded Pakistanis of the 'Bihari Camp' in Patgudam area of the town clashed today leaving 10 people injured, reports UNB.

Police said the clash ensued between supporters of Camp Chairman Abdur Rashid and Rashid Mistry over alleged misappropriation of government wheat.

Mountain

From page 1 Water River", in a verdant val-

ley in Yunlin county to the southwest, was dammed by a further landslide, forming a large new lake. A further 37 people were buried alive. "About 2,500 square meters

(225,000 square feet) of earth and rocks poured into the river from both sides of the mountains," King Shao-hsing, deputy director of Taiwan's Water Resources Bureau, told AFP.

"There is no immediate danger of overflow at this point unless heavy rains or a typhoon hits," he said.

Typhoon Cam, currently hundreds of km southwest of Taiwan, is forecast to bring rain to quake-hit regions by Saturday afternoon, although the chances of a direct hit were roads if and when Indian trucks begin to ply along the Bangladesh roads.

Many central BNP leaders expressed their dissatisfaction at the rather hasty conclusion of the meeting. The meeting was addressed,

among others. by city BNP joint convenors Salahuddin Ahmed, Kazi Abul Bashar, Muktijoddha Dal general secretary Mesbahuddin Sabu, Fazlul Haq Milon, Nabiullah Nabi, Juba Dal city president Abu Sayeed Khan Khokon, Sramik Dal leader Abul Khair and JCD leader ABM Mosharraf Hos-

The meeting over, the BNP leaders and activists brought out a procession at 5:35 pm which ended in front of party's central office at Nayapaltan at 5:52 pm. BNP activists chanted 'oust-government' slogans.

Meanwhile, Jatiya Party organised its protest rally at Kalabagan, Jamaat at the North gate of Baitul Mukarram national mosque and IOJ at Purana Paltan mosque premises. They also brought out processions in the city and chanted anti-government, anti-India slogans and those in favour of October 3 hartal.

Demonstration

From page The demonstrators also distributed leaflets which described government's "fascist and antistate activities" among the journalists and citizens of France, the press release said.

They also held a rally there which was chaired by Dr Abdul Malek. It was addressed among others by BNP central leader Shamsul Alam Chowdhury, JP's France unit president Shabbir Ahmed, Austria BNP president KMJ Shams Babu, Belgium BNP president Nurun Nabi, France BNP leaders Joynal Abedin Sarwar Hossain, Nurul Islam Dhali, Giasuddin Ahmed Al Mamun, Jatiya Janata Party leaders Atiqur Rahman and Rina Sultana and JP leader Humayun Kabir

Addressing the meeting, the leaders said Unesco has surprised the peace loving people of the world by awarding the prize to Sheikh Hasina, who is heading a fascist and autocratic regime" in Bangladesh, the press release said. They accused the present Awami League government of making the parliament ineffective.

Leaders said currently human rights and democratic rights are absent in Bangladesh while the opposition leaders and activists are becoming the frequent victim of repression and terrorism resorted by the Awami League government.

They alleged that the AL government had killed more than 400 opposition leaders and workers in the last three and a half years and arrested some 20,000 opposition activists on false charges. Hundreds of thousands of others were also being harassed through various talse cases filed by the government, they added.

They alleged that the AL government managed the award for Sheikh Hasina by gi ving false information, lobbying, and propagating an untrue story of establishing of peace on Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Obituary

CHOUM UHANI, Sept 25: Harendra Lal Majum der, former assistant headrnaster of Begumganj Mcdel High School in Noakhali district, died at his Choumuhani Bazar residence this afternoon. He was 93, re-

Noakhali dis trict, Majumder was associate d with the establishment of Falyan High School and Aruin High School at Maijdee in Nc akhali A populair teacher, Ma-

jumder workeed with Begumganj Model School f or nearly three decades befor e | nis retirement in late '70s. He hailed fr om village Kadra

in Noakhali di strict. He left behind his wife a three sons, a daughter and hundreds of students and ar imirers to mourn his death.

ports BSS. A veteran edu cationist of