

**Combing operation
871 arrested
on 157th day**

A total of 871 persons were arrested and 13 illegal weapons with 39 rounds of bullet and seven explosives were seized on the 157th day of the country-wide combing operation by the police, BDR and Ansar, reports BSS.

The combined forces arrested 420 persons in different cases from across the country including four metropolitan areas and seized the arms, ammunitions and explosives. They also arrested 445 wanted accused and two listed terrorists during the operation.

Of them, 164 persons including 23 warrantees were arrested with five illegal arms and 35 bullets and seven explosives from Dhaka Metropolitan area, 37 persons including six warrantees were arrested from Chittagong Metropolitan area, 12 persons including three wanted persons and one listed terrorist were arrested from Khulna Metropolitan area and five persons were arrested from Rajshahi Metropolitan area.

**Mukti Manchay
Naree launched**
By DU Correspondent

A book titled 'Mukti Manchay Naree,' written by Dr Nibedeta Daspurkayastha, was launched in a ceremony at the auditorium of Women's Voluntary Association (WVA) in the city yesterday afternoon.

The 'Begum' was present at the programme as chief guest while Suhashini Das unveiled the book as special guest.

The programme was jointly organised by 'PRIP Trust,' a non-governmental organisation, and Embassy of the Netherlands.

At the programme, Aroma Dutta, executive director of 'PRIP Trust,' honoured the pioneers of the women's movement in the country with the presentation of bouquet. They include Suhashini Das, Monjushree Chowdhury, Meher Kabir, Rani Dasgupta, Dr Staffa Ahmed, Majeda Khatun, Usha Daspurkayastha and Aisha Khanam.

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Venue: WVA auditorium
House # 20, Road # 16 (New) 27 (Old), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka.

Chief guest: Mr. Bazul M Chowdhury Rector, Independent University, Dhaka.

Last date of registration: 30 September, 1999, Thursday.

Contact: Co-ordinator (Training), C/o ITDE-Institute of Training & Development Education, 8/1, Ring Road, Shyamoli, Dhaka-1207, Dial: 9131465, Fax: 811843, E-mail: mauchak@citechco.net



The publication ceremony of "Mukti Monchey Naree" by Dr Nibedeta Daspurkayastha, organised by PRIP Trust in association with the Netherlands Embassy, was held at the auditorium of Women's Voluntary Association yesterday. — Star photo

**Y2K problems
SAARC states
urged to
exchange
information**

Bangladesh IT experts yesterday urged the SAARC countries to start exchanging information about the state of millennium bug (popularly known as Y2K) compliance immediately to escape the computer disaster scheduled to strike on the midnight of December 31, 1999, reports BSS.

The local IT (Information Technology) experts were sharing views with the officials and experts from different South Asian countries who participated in a regional conference on Y2K compliance.

Ministry of Science and Technology hosted the two-day conference titled "SAARC Y2K Conference" at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel which began on Saturday.

The IT experts opined that the telecommunication systems of the SAARC region should declare their Y2K readiness status as early as possible to avoid any disruptions in voice or data communication.

They stressed the need for ensuring Y2K readiness in all sea ports and airports of SAARC member countries to have uninterrupted business and trade in the region.

They requested the SAARC secretariat to act as the co-ordinating agency for collaboration and joint efforts of the SAARC member countries in addressing the Y2K issues.

The IT experts also sought regional cooperation in making an inventory or assessment of Y2K vulnerable machinery, systems or products containing time-related embedded chips.

"Since the deadline of 31st December, 1999, is approaching fast, each member country of SAARC should develop and test its national contingency plan immediately," the participants of the conference suggested.

**Red Crescent
workshop held**

Speakers at a workshop have identified 'governance' and 'management' as key elements for running a country-wide voluntary organisation like Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS).

Organised by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the workshop on 'Governance and Management' was held at Cox's Bazar on Saturday.

Speakers also reviewed the country's socio-economic condition and stressed the need for a realistic review of the activities of the BDRCS.

Among others, Sheikh Kabir Hossain, acting Vice-Chairman of the BDRCS, Monir Hossain Khan, Treasurer of BDRCS, Mohiuddin Ahmed, Member of Managing Board, M A Samad, Advocate Suruz Ali, Lutfur Rahman Helal, MA Masud Bhuiyan, Adv. Moyeen-uddean, KM Hossain Ali Hassan, and Bob McKerrow, the head of delegation of IFRC in Bangladesh, spoke on the occasion.

**SCF activist
beaten up
at DU hall**

By DU Correspondent

An activist of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) was beaten up allegedly by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) workers at Salmullah Hall of Dhaka University on Saturday night.

The victim was identified as Kamol, a third year student of Geography.

Campus sources said a group of BCL men went to his room at the dormitory and took him out. They beat him up and compelled him to leave the hall.

Kamol formally lodged a complaint with the university authorities. When contacted, Proctor Prof A K M Nurun Nabi said that action would be taken soon against those who are responsible for the incident.

Meanwhile, the left-leaning student organisations yesterday brought out separate processions and held rallies on the Dhaka University campus demanding of the authorities to make public the names and identity of '60 listed terrorists' who are responsible for campus violence.

The organisations are Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU), Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) and Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO).

**BCL harassing
innocent DU
students: JCD**

By DU Correspondent

BNP's student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) yesterday alleged that the armed goons of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) are harassing the "innocent" students of the university in the name of Shibir activist.

The JCD leaders were addressing a rally in front of DUCSU building on the campus to protest the recent kidnapping and demanded immediate release of its activists.

They alleged that the BCL outsiders were perpetrating crimes taking shelter at different halls on the campus, but the university authorities are patronising them rather than attempting to arrest or punishing them.

The JCD leaders said that the student community would not tolerate such heinous incidents on the campus any more.

The leaders demanded immediate arrest and punishment to those on the list of 60 outsiders and terrorists prepared by the university authorities. They also demanded unconditional release of its all arrested leaders and workers.

Presided over by Manir Hossain, the rally was addressed by JCD leaders Monwar Hossain Rana, A B M Mosharrar Hossain, Rehana Akhter Rana, Sultan Salauddin Tuku, Zakir Hossain, Forhad Hossain Azad, Shammil Akhter, Haider Ali and Asaduzaman Asad. Earlier, JCD brought out a procession on the campus.

**JP mourning
procession
tomorrow**

Jatiya Party will bring out a mourning procession at 4 pm on September 28 to pay homage to two BDR jawans who were killed in firing by Indian BSF in Chapainawabganj last week, reports UMB.

Party chairman H M Ershad will lead the procession that will parade to the BDR gate at Peelkhana in the city, said a party press release.

Meanwhile, Jatiya Party secretary general Nazir Rahman has asked the party men to organise rally, demonstration, torch procession on October 2 to mobilise support for the October 3 countrywide hartal planned by the opposition.

**Shahabuddin's solo
exhibition date
extended**

The solo painting exhibition of noted artist Shahabuddin Ahmed at DD Gallery has been extended up to September 30, says a press release.

The exhibition which opened on September 17 has on display about 50 of the artist's recent drawings.

The exhibition is open from 10:30 am to 8:00 pm everyday.

**Murder of jute
trader: Two
arrested**

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ. Sept 26: Police today arrested two people on charge of killing Paban Sureka, a leading jute trader. Paban was wounded seriously when the gunmen fired on him in the town on September 23. He died in hospital the next day.

The arrested were identified as Ayjja, 34, and Akhter, 32.

Police suspected that the two riding on motorcycles followed Paban's car from near a bank. When Paban alighted from his car to walk to his office, the two fired on him and ran away with the money he had withdrawn from the bank.

Further investigation is going on. Two motorcycles have been seized from them, police added.

**Young man stabbed
to death in Ctg**

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG. Sept 26: A young man was stabbed to death by some unidentified assailants at Mian Khan Nagar Boidyartek under Chandganj thana in the city on Saturday night.

Police recovered the dead body of the victim identified as Azam, 32, from the said area at around 2 am on Saturday.

A case has been filed in this connection.

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