

What's on today . . .

Orientation programme: University of Asia Pacific will hold the orientation programme of its fall '99 semester students. Venue: Room B102 of the university at House No 71 & 73, Rd No 5, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 9:00 am.

Clinical meeting: Z H Sikder Cardiac Care and Research Centre will hold a clinical meeting on "Exercise Tolerant Test." Venue: Conference room of Z H Sikder Centre, Monica Estate, West Dhanmondi. Time: 9:00 am.

Essay competition: Bangladesh Shishu Academy will hold an essay writing competition for children as part of its programmes for Child Rights Week '99. A discussion meeting followed by a cultural show will be held in the evening. Venue: Academy premises. Time: 11:00 am and 4:30 pm respectively.

Meeting: A meeting of the executive body of Bangladesh Agriculture Institute (BAI) Old Boys' Association will be held. Venue: Conference room of BAI. Time: 3:00 pm.

Lecture: Professor Muhammad Ishaq Trust Fund Lecture '99 will be held. Asiatic Society of Bangladesh has organised it. Venue: Seminar room of Asiatic Society. Time: 4:30 pm.

Discussion meeting: Bakht Shah Adhyattik Shilpi Goshti will hold a discussion meeting on Bengali *Kawali* pioneer Syed Mahmud Bakht Shah Chisti (R). It will be followed by a cultural event. Venue: Begum Sofia Kamal auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh. Time: 4:30 pm.

Musical soiree: Rabi Rashmi, a cultural organisation will hold an evening of Rabindra Sangeet to celebrate its 1st anniversary. Venue: Public Library Auditorium. Time: 6:30 pm.

CDC seminar: Two sessions of a three-day seminar on Communication, New Technology and Development, organised by Centre for Development Communication, will be held on the last day. Venue: CIRDAF auditorium. Time: 10:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Seminar: The British Council has organised a day-long seminar on 'Women, Careers and Leadership.' Venue: British Council auditorium.

Workshop: Institute of Training and Development Education (ITDE) will hold a day-long workshop on 'Executive Development: Key Factors for Success.' Venue: WVA auditorium. Time: 9:30 am.

Conference: The Regional Conference: SAARC NGO Women for Peace will be inaugurated, jointly organised by Women for Women: A Research and Study Group and UNIFEM. Venue: BRAC Centre, Mohakhali. Time: 10:00 am.

Meeting: An extended meeting of the Social Welfare Alumni Association will be held. Venue: TSC premises on DU Campus. Time: 4:00 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Prize distribution: Purbita, an organisation for female photographers, will hold the prize distribution ceremony of a children's art competition it held recently. Venue: Biswa Shahitya Kendra. Time: 4:00 pm.

Conference: The closing session of "Regional Conference: SAARC NGO Women for Peace" will be held. Organisers: UNIFEM and Women for Women: A Research and Study Group. Chief guest: Dr Neelima Ibrahim. Venue: BRAC Centre, Mohakhali. Time: 4:00 pm.

Weather

Light rain likely

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

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over Khulna and Sylhet divisions during the period. Met Office said.

Country's highest temperature yesterday was recorded at 34.6 degree Celsius at Sitakunda and the lowest 22.3 degrees at Sathkira.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5.45 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.51 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	31.3	24.2	83	88
Chittagong	33.3	24.5	86	75
Rajshahi	30.3	24.5	96	87
Khulna	33.0	25.0	96	80
Barisal	31.5	24.6	90	93
Sylhet	33.7	24.6	78	71
Cox's Bazar	34.0	25.0	85	85

HERE and THERE

CPB
By Staff Correspondent
Leaders of Communist Party Bangladesh (CPB) yesterday said the Chinese revolution has transformed China into a modern and technologically-advanced country from a half colonial, half feudal, suppressive and backward society.

The leaders were speaking at a meeting organised by CPB on the occasion of the golden jubilee celebrations of China.

Speakers congratulated the Chinese leaders, harbinger of Chinese revolution and present leaders on the occasion of its Golden Jubilee and said China is a bright example in front of developing countries and a challenge towards imperialism.

Speakers said China has acquired their present position through many ups and downs in time so we can learn from the Chinese development.

Presided over by Hena Das, member of the party's central

presidium, the meeting was addressed among others by Mujahidul Islam Selim, General Secretary, Binayok Sen, noted economist, Prof Anisur Rahman and Dr. Dibalok Singh.

Speakers also termed the Chinese success as the success of world's working class.

DU Mourning Day programmes on October 15

By DU Correspondent
The Dhaka University authorities have chalked out an elaborate programmes to mark the Dhaka University Mourning Day on October 15.

Thirty-nine students of Jagannath Hall was killed and a number of students were injured in a tragic accident on the day in 1985 as the rain-soaked roof of the hall's TV room was collapsed during a popular drama serial.

The programme includes hoisting black flags at all residential halls and important buildings with the university flag at half-mast and wearing black badges in the morning, mourning procession from the Aparajito Banerjee monument at the Jagannath Hall premises, placing wreath and observing one minute silence at 6:30 am, prayer of Hindu, Buddhist and Christians at the hall premises at 8:30 am, blood donation programme at the hall at 11:30 am and condolence meeting at Teachers and Students Centre (TSC) auditorium at 5 pm.

50th anniversary Chinese embassy hosts reception

Chinese Embassy in Dhaka yesterday arranged a reception on the occasion of 50th anniversary of the People's Republic of China, established through the October Revolution in 1949, reports UNB.

Hosted by Ambassador Wang Chungui, the function was attended by both government and opposition party politicians, diplomats, journalists and city elite.

Some seats lying vacant at DU Islamic Studies Dept

By DU Correspondent
Some seats in the first year honours course of the Department of Islamic Studies of Dhaka University for the session 1998-99 fell vacant, said a DU press release issued on Thursday.

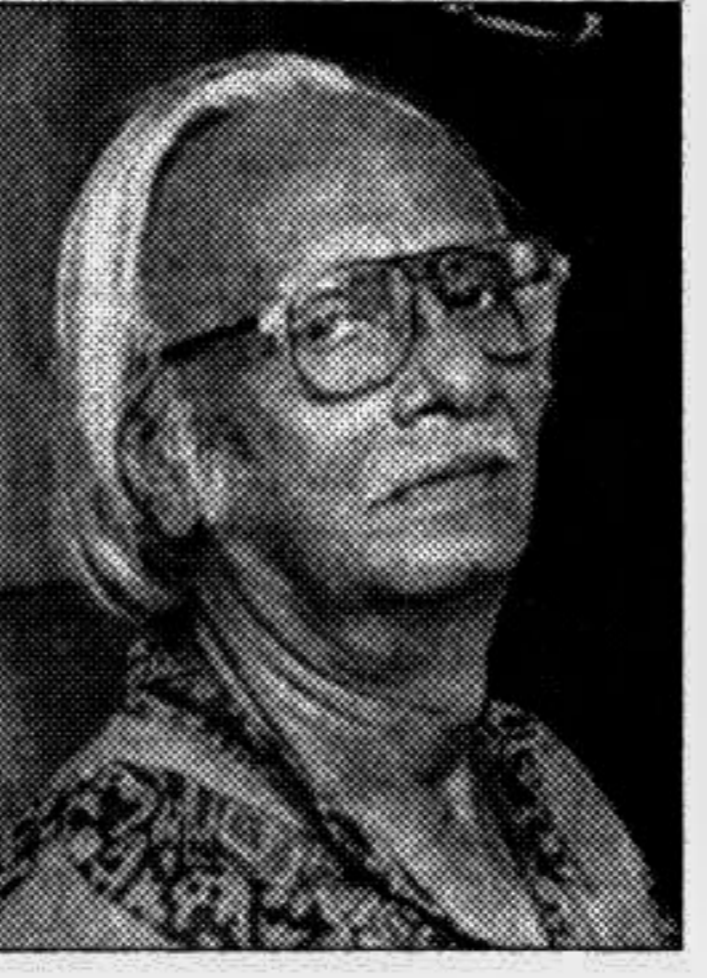
The students, according to the merit position from 2101 to 2350 in the admission test for the session 1998-99 under 'Kha' unit who had Islamic Studies in intermediate level, have been asked to appear at the viva voce on October 7 at 12:00 noon.

The students have been asked to bring original mark-sheets of SSC and HSC examination, admit card of the DU admission test and two copies of passport size photographs during the viva voce, the press release added.

BUET exams date changed

All examinations of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), scheduled for Sunday, have been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances, reports UNB.

The examinations will now be held on October 10, said a BUET press release yesterday.



Art exhibition of Qayyum Chy begins today

A 10-day long 3rd solo painting exhibition by noted artist and a professor of Institute of Fine Arts Dhaka University Qayyum Chowdhury will begin in the city today, says a press release.

Noted elderly artist Safuddin Ahmed will inaugurate the exhibition at 5 pm at the Shilpanganj Art Gallery in the city's Dhanmondi area.

Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman, former Chief Advisor of the Caretaker Government will attend the function as chief guest while eminent educationist Prof Anisuzzaman will preside over the inaugural function.

About 123 works will be put on display and the exhibition will remain open from 10 am to 8 pm daily till October 12.

Call to resist multi-nat'l cos' gas export plan

By Staff Correspondent
Ganotantik Biploby Jote has called for building strong resistance against export of gas by the multi-national companies as well as the looting of this natural resource.

The call was made from the first day's extended meeting of the Jote held with Anu Muhammad in the chair. It was addressed, among others, by Badruddin Omar, Karim Abdullah, Mujibur Rahman, Hasibur Rahman, Barkatullah, Humayun Kabir, Zonaid Lucky, Farhad Hossain, Faruq Washif and Faizul Hakim.

SAF games

From page 1
Of the two bronzes in wrestling today, Kamal Hossain bagged one in the 63kg category. Mukesh Kumar of India took the gold in the event while Zahid Khan of Pakistan bagged the silver.

Jamaluddin won the other bronze in the 85kg category. India's Pawan Kumar clinched the gold and the silver went to Pakistan's Mohammad Usman.

The men's volleyball team reached the semi-finals today defeating hosts Nepal 3-0 in their last group B match.

Bangladesh, who earlier beat Maldives 3-0 in their group opener yesterday, reached the last four as group champions.

Bangladesh will now meet either India or Pakistan from the other group, which also involves Sri Lanka. The group A championship will be decided tomorrow.

If Bangladesh lose the semi-final, they will play for the third place play-off.

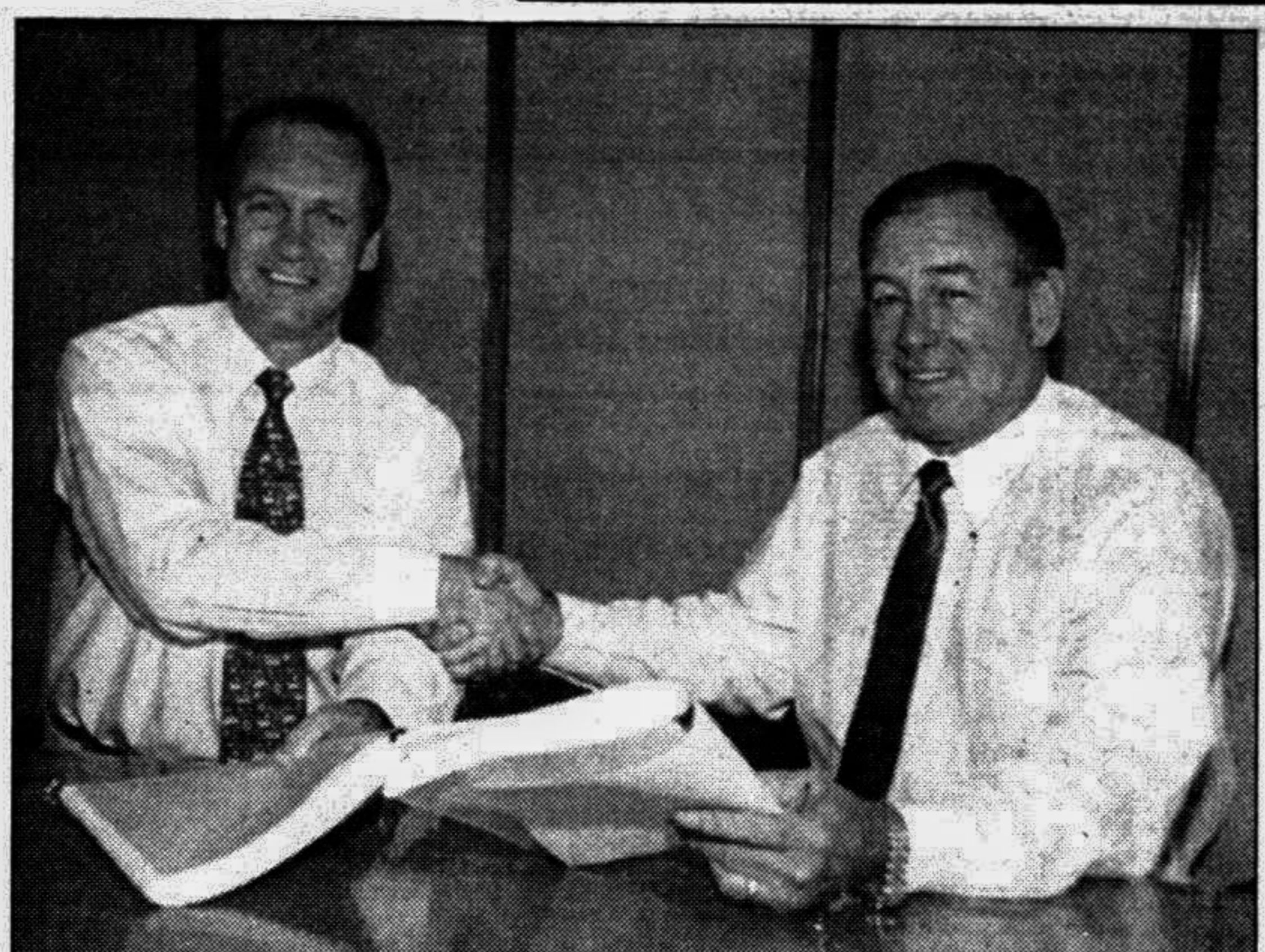
In the eves' volleyball, which is being conducted on a league basis, Bangladesh lost to Sri Lanka 0-3 today in their second match. In their first match, Bangladesh beat Maldives 3-0 on Thursday.

India and Nepal are the other two teams in the eves' volleyball competition.

Till Friday, the Indians maintained their domination in the seven-nation meet collecting 88 golds out of the 132 decided. Hosts Nepal remained second with 17 while Sri Lanka are trailing with only one less. Pakistan have bagged 10 golds to be in the fourth place while Bangladesh have the lone shooting gold to their credit.

Medals tally

Country	G	S	B	Total
India	88	48	22	158
Nepal	17	7	19	43
Sri Lanka	16	37	50	103
Pakistan	10	31	24	65
Bangladesh	1	9	29	39
Bhutan	0	0	4	4
Maldives	0	0	3	3



Andrew Vaughan, Managing Director of Shell Bangladesh Exploration and Development BV (left) and John Juby, Area Manager Pride Foramer South East Asia (right) signed a drilling contract at Shell Dhaka office yesterday. (Story on page 1)

Azad at UNGA session

Dhaka identifies itself with action programme of SIDS

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad has said that Bangladesh identifies itself with the programme of action of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS), according to a message received here from New York, reports BSS.

Azad was making statement on the twenty-second special session of the UN General Assembly on review and appraisal of implementation of programme of action for the sustainable development of SIDS states.

The Foreign Minister said eleven out of 43 SIDS are least developed countries, of which Bangladesh act as a coordinator.

He said that due to geographical region, Small Island States are vulnerable to natural and other forms of disasters such as global warming and consequent sea level rise, contamination of fresh water resources and rapid loss of bio-diversity. "To tackle all these problems urgent attention by international community is needed," he suggested.

Azad also said that assistance to SIDS has declined from \$2.36 billion in 1994 to \$1.96 billion in 1997. This reduction in assistance should be reversed, he suggested.

He expressed Bangladesh's solidarity with the Barbados programme of action for the SIDS, which was drawn in 1994 and is a blueprint of special measures needed for them.

He said five years have elapsed since a blueprint for meeting the needs of SIDS was drawn up at Barbados, and much remains to be done.

He, however, said the international community has not been as forthcoming as envisaged and promised. "The aid flow is decreasing, and the preferential trade terms accorded to many small island states are vanishing," Azad added.

He said the Barbados action programme needs an increasing flow of resources for its implementation and emphasised the need of the global interference should be made more responsive to the needs of SIDS.

Chaired by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad the meeting was addressed, among others, by Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal, Chairman G-77, Chairman NAM, Deputy Secretary General UNCTAD and Senior Advisor to the World Bank.

The core agenda of the meeting were the socio-economic developments in LDCs and progress in the implementation of the programme of action for the LDCs in the 1990 and follow-up and implementation of the initiative under the integrated framework for trade-related technical assistance for LDCs, supported by UNCTAD, WTO, ITC, IMF, World Bank and the UNDP.



Noted singer and drama artiste Shimul Yusuf presenting an item at the National Museum auditorium yesterday evening at the launching ceremony of the artiste's two CDs on Nazrul Geeti and Lalon Geeti. — Star photo

Faridpur-4 by-polls

JP faction nominates Nasir Uddin

The Jatiya Party (Mizan-Manju) yesterday nominated Principal Nasir Uddin Ahmed Muchha to contest the by-election to Faridpur-4 constituency, reports BSS.

The nomination came from a meeting of the party's Parliamentary Board held yesterday at the central office with party chairman Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury in the chair.

JP made the nomination by interviewing three intending candidates — Principal Nasir Uddin Ahmed Muchha, Nurul Abedin and Abul Hossain Master.

Party secretary general Anwar Hossain Manju, MP, President Member Sardar Anjad Hossain, Manirul Huq Chowdhury and Advocate Fazole Rabbil MP, interviewed them, the release added.

Concessions in CHT accord

From page 1
possible to rehabilitate everybody living there if the huge area is developed.

The President referred to the Prime Minister's assurance to all the tribal and non-tribal people on February 10, 1998, the day the armed members of the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity had surrendered in Khagrachhari, that they would be rehabilitated in the area.

"She (Hasina) has been given the Felix Houphouet-Boigny Peace Prize by the Unesco for the steps to achieve peace in the region," he said.

Referring to the law passed by Parliament to establish the CHT, Regional Council and amendments in the laws relating to the three Hill District Councils, the President said anyone could challenge any part of the three laws if it is contrary to the country's Constitution.

"However, as the laws concerning the three hill districts are act of parliament or general law, they could be amended by simple majority," he said. "But, in case of any amendment, it is desirable through consensus after discussion with every quarter."

President Shahabuddin said there might be reasons to oppose any portion of these laws, "but those could be resolved through discussion."

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also addressed the reception.

Speaker Humayun Rashed Chowdhury, Chief Justice Mostafa Kamal, former chief of caretaker government Justice Habibur Rahman, Justice Kemaluddin Hossain, cabinet members, parliament members, judges of the Supreme Court and High Court, diplomats, chiefs of three services, editors, and high civil and military officials were present.

Hasina said the uniqueness of CHT accord is that it was struck within the purview of the Constitution and without mediation by any third party.

"What we did, did within the ambit of the Constitution and without any mediation we have implemented it."

Hasina billed the CHT peace accord unique compared with other peace deals in the world. She said tribal guerrillas surrendered their arms and all refugees returned to their homesteads with the signing of the agreement.

The peace agreement, she said, eloquently speaks to the motto: "We don't want war, we want peace, we don't want conflict, we want understanding."

The Prime Minister thanked President Shahabuddin for according her reception for winning the Unesco Peace Prize.

Books by Grass

From page 1
Standing outdoors, Grass said Sunday would be sunny in the south, then urged people in neighbouring Austria to turn out to vote against a rightist party whose popularity is growing.

Praise poured in for Grass from literary contemporaries abroad. British author Salman Rushdie, in a statement through his agent, called him "the greatest European novelist of the second half of the 20th century."

But some critics in his own country took a mixed view of the laureate whose political activism has often caused controversy.

Several said that Grass, while clearly deserving the prize for perhaps 20 years, was past his prime.

Many critics felt his 1995 novel "The Broad Field" fell short of the definitive explanation of Germany's post-unification identity that the nation was awaiting.

"The later works serve to darken the luster of the early ones," wrote Thomas Steinfield in the conservative Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung newspaper.

"For decades, Grass stayed a victim of his first phenomenal success — the literary wonder-kind that had just as much trouble growing up literally as his hero, the tin drummer Oskar Matzerath," said the Sued-deutsche Zeitung daily.

The Nobel Academy said "The Tin Drum" a German literature "new beginning after decades of linguistic and moral destruction."

The prize also bolstered the author's standing as a moral arbiter of post-unity Germany who has untiringly warned his compatriots to remain vigilant against racism.

The man who once said the horrors of Auschwitz could not have occurred without a strong Germany was horrified at the nation's quick unification in 1990 after the fall of the Berlin Wall, and has never shed his fear that Germany may stray again.

"It can't be that my children and grandchildren will have to suffer under the stigma of being German," he said after Thursday's announcement.

"But these late-born children also have a share of the responsibility for ensuring that such things — even their stirrings — never happen in Germany again."

Grass also has infuriated politicians in recent years with critics of "barbaric" capitalism taking over after communism and by attacking German immigration policy as racist.

Amethi: Indian polls

From page 1
There wasn't any focus, and many of the issues raised failed to find sympathy among people.

The latest poll published today in the Times of India predicted that the alliance led by Vajpayee's Hindu nationalist BJP party would win an overall majority in parliament, but by a far slimmer margin than expected.

The poll gave the multiparty coalition 284 seats — a majority of 101 in the 545-member parliament. Pre-election polls had suggested the alliance would win more than 300 seats.

The survey said the BJP would remain the single largest party but without improving on the 182 seats it had in the last parliament.

Sonia's Congress party and its allies were forecast to win 179 seats, with the Congress itself slightly improving over its 1998 election showing by winning about 150 seats.

In Sunday's polls both BJP and Congress will make their last ditch efforts to woo the 133 million voters in 118 constituencies in ten states and one union territory, according to BSS.

Ramna Kali Mandir's allegations

By Staff Correspondent
Leaders of Ramna Kali Mandir and Anandamoyi Ashram Puja Uddjapan Parishad yesterday demanded of the government to allow devotees to celebrate Durja Puja at Ramna Kali Mandir, adjacent to the Suhrawardi Udyan.

At a meeting yesterday they alleged that they have been prevented from worshipping at the Ramna Kali Mandir and termed the action "contrary to constitutional rights and religious sentiment."

The leaders also demanded reconstruction of Ramna Kali Mandir and Anandamoyi Ashram side by side with the construction of Bijoy Complex.

The Mandir and the Ashram situated near the former Race Course Maidan was raged to ground by Pakistani occupation army on the eve of the country's independence, they informed.

Presided over by Prof. Lalit Mohan, President of Ramna Kali Mandir and Anandamoyi Ashram Puja Uddjapan Parishad, the meeting was addressed among others by advocate Subrata Barua, General Secretary of the Parishad, Profulla Kumar Halder, Bidhubhusan Saha, Chittir Majumdar, Dr. Nimchandra Bhoomik, Kajo Dev Nath and Premranjan Dev.

Sangu-I

From page 1
exploring for new potential, which could add to the gas reserves in Bangladesh," the release added.

French company Pride Foramer is the drilling contractor for this project. The contract between Shell and Pride Foramer was signed on September 10.

The release added that Energy Explorer IV, the drilling rig, has been modified to suit high pressure, high temperature wells in Bangladesh and meets the high health, safety and environment standard of Shell.

The rig is certified by American Bureau of Shipping (ABS). A ware barge, supply boats and helicopter support the work offshore.

To be fully prepared for the working conditions in the Bay of Bengal all parties involved, including Petrobangla, attended a workshop on high pressure high temperature in Shell's Dhaka office in July 1999, the release further added.

Chehlum of Salam Talukdar held

The chehlum of BNP's former secretary general Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar was held in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

BNP chairperson and Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia attended it.

BNP leaders Prof. A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and Sadeq Hossain Khoka were, among others, attended the chehlum held at the Old DOHS community centre.

Khaleida

From page 1
gas-electricity, plundering of bank and state resources by the ruling party men and repression on Opposition.

The Leader of the Opposition in Parliament said the present government has taken the country on the verge of ruination and it became very difficult for commonman to lead their life due to failures and incompetence of the ruling party.

She said democracy, democratic norms and institutions, industry, business, agriculture now become at stake due to the three and a half years misrule of the government. "This government instead of doing welfare of the nation has created fresh crisis and problems. They are mainly generate right and improving their own luck and devote to serve the purposes of India," she added.

Khaleda Zia said the government since its assumption to power have been obstructing and launching attack on the opposition in holding of rally, meeting, procession, hartal and other democratic programmes.

She said observing hartal is people's democratic right and the ruling party when in opposition enforced 173 days of hartal and held unspecified number of blockade, gherao and other programmes without any obstruction.

But now the ruling party is nakedly obstructing the opposition in observation of political programmes and even putting blockade on activists to go to their party office, she added.

CIP list

From page 1
Shah Alam.
The ten CIPs from the frozen food sector are its President Kazi Shahnewaz, former president of Razzakia, Fenusa Mian Farazi, Mohammad Musa Mian, Abdul Jabbar Mollah, Shahidur Rahman, Tauhidur Rahman, Rezaul Haq, M A Sattar, and Salahuddin Ahmad.

The two CIPs from the tea sector are Sayeed Hossain Chowdhury and A Q I Chowdhury and the two from agricultural goods are A M Aga Yusuf, and Mohammad Monsur.

One CIP each was selected from five sectors. They are: Alim Abdur Razzaq, and from raw jute, Jashim Uddin from chemical products, Abu Alam Chowdhury from handicraft, M Al Noman from dehydrated salted fish, and M A Sabur from specialised textile.

Eight businessmen were declared CIPs from miscellaneous sector. They are: M Anisur Razaq, Managing Director of Bangladesh Export Ltd, Mohammad Razzab Sharif Managing Director of Sharif Melamine Industries Ltd, Aziz Al Kaisar Managing Director Ambar Cotton Mills Ltd, Jahangir Alam Khan Managing Director J K Fabrics, Ishaq DMajumdar Managing Director of An-A Fabric, Ekramul Haq, Managing Director of Unitek Spinning Ltd, Aminur Rashid Khan Managing Director of Lalmai Footwear and A K M Fazul Haq Managing Director of Skyland and Firm Ltd.

Ctg port

From page 1
terminal, Chittagong Port will be able to handle another two lakh containers.

Earlier, two container terminals known as multipurpose berths (MPB) were set up at the port at a cost of Tk 400 crore. The MPBs have a capacity to handle 1,90,000 containers. But the number of containers already exceeded 2,50,000 TEUs with a growth of 25 per cent a year, the sources said.

Arrangements are underway for phasewise procurement of modern equipment and the tug boat, and installation of the power sub-station.

The BNP Chairperson in her statement asked the paramilitary BDR and police not to involve in government's illegal and anti-democracy activities and reminded that the current movement is against this subservient government.

She observed that the government which has already isolated from the people are tactfully trying to confront the police and BDR along with party terrorists against people. "I hope the police and BDR to this respect will remain alert for the greater interest of the country."

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF DHAKA NORTH WEST
14th INSTALLATION MEETING
30th September '99 Venue: W.V.A

The 14th installation ceremony of the Inner Wheel Club of Dhaka North West was held at the Women's Voluntary Association (WVA) auditorium on Thursday. — Star photo