

News

● What's on today.... ●

Reception to PM: The Krishibid Institution will accord a reception to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on her receiving the Ceres Gold Medal awarded by the Food and Agriculture Organisation. Venue: Krishibid Institution premises, Farmgate. Time: 4 pm.

Seminar on Int'l Relations: CESTI of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka and International Relations Department of Dhaka University have jointly organised a seminar on 'Middle East Peace Process'. Keynote paper: Selim el Sayegh, a French scholar on International Negotiations. Venue: Cafeteria of Alliance Francaise. Time: 3:30 pm.

CDRB seminar: Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh has organised a seminar on 'American Culture in the Late 90s: Monica and Beyond'. Keynote speaker: Dr Peter J Bertocci, Professor of Anthropology Department, Oakland University, USA and Research Fellow of AIBS. Chief guest: John S Kincannon, Director, USIS, Dhaka. Venue: WVA auditorium, Road No: 27 (Old), Dhanmondi. Time: 4:30 pm.

Discussion on Child Rights: A discussion meeting on 'Rights deprived child' will be held as part of the Child Rights Week and World Child Day celebration programmes, organised jointly by Bangladesh Shishu Academy and Ministry of Women and Child Affairs. A prize giving ceremony and cultural programme will follow the discussion. Keynote speaker: Baby Moudud, Acting Editor of Shaptahik Bichitra. Venue: Academy auditorium. Time: 4:30 pm.

Inauguration ceremony: The inauguration of a Bengali newspaper *Meghbarita* on the web will be held. Venue: Pathshala, 16 Shukrabazar, Panthapath. Time: 3:00 pm.

Discussion meeting: The central committee of Bangladesh College-University Teachers Federation will hold a discussion meeting on occasion of World Teacher's Day. Venue: Ideal College premises. Time: 4:00 pm.

Multi-cultural evening: Anando, a cultural organisation will hold a cultural show by tribal communities of the country. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, House No. 510, Road No 7, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6:30 pm.

Open discussion: Biswa Shahitya Kendra will hold an open discussion on Abul Karim's book on poetry Jatra. Venue: Kendra premises at 14, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 6:30 pm.

Prize distribution programme: Chalachitra Film Society in association with Goethe Institut will hold the prize distribution ceremony of the Chalachitra-Prithom Alo Essay Competition '99. Charlie Chaplin's *Modern Times* will be screened at the end of the ceremony. Venue: Goethe Institut, Rd No 9, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6:30 pm.

● and tomorrow ●

BISS roundtable: Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) in collaboration with the German embassy will begin a two-day roundtable on 'Development Policy on the threshold of Year 2000'. Chief guest: Tofail Ahmed, Minister for Commerce and Industries. Venue: BISS auditorium. Time: 10:00 am.

Public Debate: Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association will hold a public debate on Draft Bill for Protecting Open Spaces of Cities. Chief Guest: Engineer Mosharraf Hossain, Minister for Housing and Public Works. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium. Time: 4:00 pm.

Discussion meeting: Bangladesh Shishu Academy will hold a discussion meeting on 'Children involved in domestic work'. It will be followed by a cultural show. Venue: Academy premises. Time: 4:30 pm.

Discussion meeting: Bangladesh-China Friendship Association will hold a discussion meeting followed by a cultural programme in celebration of the golden jubilee of China. Venue: Hotel Purbani. Time: 5:00 pm.

Weather

Light rain forecast

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

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, Met office said.

It also forecast that rainfall activity may decrease in the subsequent two days while south-west monsoon may withdraw from across the country within the next five days.

Country's highest temperature yesterday was recorded at 34.7 degree Celsius at Srimongal and the lowest 22.6 degrees at Rangpur.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:42 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:52 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	32.7	24.7	76	85
Chittagong	33.4	24.6	78	89
Rajshahi	33.0	25.4	75	83
Khulna	33.5	25.0	95	-
Barisal	34.0	25.5	83	82
Sylhet	34.0	25.0	80	77
Cox's Bazar	34.0	24.1	71	-

HERE and THERE

Red Crescent Society, EU

By Staff Correspondent
The two day-long disaster-management training course jointly organised by Social Based Disaster Preparedness division of Red Crescent Society and European Union (EU) concluded yesterday.

Sheikh Kabir Hossain, acting chairman of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society distributed certificates among the participants in the concluding ceremony.

Monir Hossain Khan, Treasurer of the Managing Board, Lutfur Rahman Chowdhury, Md. Masud Bhuiyan and International of Red Cross and Red Crescent delegate Bob MacKaro, DP Delegate Julian Francis were also among others present on the occasion.

A total of 41 participants took part in the course.

ISO

Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Shipping Col (retd) Shawkat Ali yesterday said the government was pledge-bound to implement the objectives of the International Shipping Organisation (ISO) by maintaining safe navigation and pollution-free sea environment, reports BSS.

He said this while addressing as the chief guest the inaugural function of the workshop titled 'Sea transport of Bangladesh in the next millennium' in the auditorium of the Mongla Port Authority (MPA) in Khulna to mark the World Maritime Day.

Abdul Malek, Director General, Department of Shipping, presided over the function while parliament member Mir Sakhawat Ali Daru addressed it as the special guest. Chief Engineer of the Marine Academy Sazid Hossain presented the keynote paper at the workshop.

Among others, chairman of the MPA Nazmul Ahsan and Ship Surveyor AFM Sirajul Islam took part in the discussion.

BUDNA

Chittagong chapter of Bangladesh Unemployed Diploma Nurses Association (BUDNA) elected 21-member executive committee at its general meeting held at Chittagong Nurses' Institute in Chittagong recently, reports BSS.

The meeting was presided over by Kanchan Bala Marma, member of the association.

The newly elected office-bearers of executive committee are — president — Surya Begum, general secretary — M Arif Hossain, organisational secretary — A MM Ahsanir and treasurer — Nandita Mondal.

The meeting in a resolution thanked the government for appointing 4000 nurses in hospitals and clinics. It called for appointing 2000 more nurses in hospitals and clinics.

A discussion meeting titled 'Cessna-150 accident: Related Points' was held at the National Museum auditorium. Minister for Environment and Forests Begum Sajeda Chowdhury was present as the chief guest at the meeting.

The programmes ended with the distribution of prizes to winners of the children's art competition held in Lara's memory. Lara's mother Selina Hossain, a renowned litterateur, gave out the prizes to the winners.

Fareea Lara Foundation

A series of programmes were held by Fareea Lara Foundation in observation of the first death anniversary of the young pilot, says a press release.

The foundation held an open camp for poor ENT patients at Rajendrapur. State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr M Amanullah inaugurated the camp as the chief guest.

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Writer Selina Hossain, mother of Fareea Lara who was killed in a plane crash last year, giving out the prizes to winners of an art competition held in Lara's memory by the Fareea Lara Foundation recently.



Militants' bid to disrupt Kashmir polls

ANANTNAG (India), Oct 4: Making good their threat to disrupt polls in Kashmir, separatist militants triggered a series of explosions in the lone parliamentary constituency that was voting today, leaving one dead and 20 wounded, reports AP.

Repolling or delayed voting is also scheduled in some states on Tuesday, Wednesday and Oct 28, although counting begins Wednesday and results are expected this week.

Two explosions in Pampore, 35 kilometers south of the regional capital, Srinagar, injured nine other policemen and two polling agents who were supervising voting.

AL activists

From page 1

Police and witnesses said more than one thousand people appeared in front of the court premises at about 4:15 p.m. yesterday and tried to enter the court house.

Police stopped them at the court gate the latter clashed with police. To bring the situation under control police resorted to 'lathi' charge and lobbed tear gas shells and fired rubber bullets to disperse them. The clash continued till 4:45 p.m. leaving at least 20 people including four policemen injured.

The mob then damaged at least five vehicles and ransacked about ten shops in the area.

The injured were identified as Abdur Rahim, Sarwar Jahan, and Habibur Rahman, who were admitted to local clinics with injuries who were released after being given first-aid.

Additional police forces were deployed in and around the area after the incident.

A case has been lodged with Narayanganj Sadar thana in this connection. Police picked up 34 people from the spot, on charges of involvement with the incident.

Shikdar's wife

From page 1

CMM's Court in connection with 'Panna Murder Case' on October 6.

The DC further said the latest medical report issued on Saturday (October 2) showed that he is alright.

A KMP source said detectives are investigating the issuance of 'false' medical certificates by senior superintendent of Jessore Central Jail Mohammad Jahangir Hossain declaring Ershad Shikdar physically unfit for movement. The certificates were issued to prevent taking Shikdar on remand in Khulna.

Another source said the IGP will send a 20-member team to Khulna on October 6 for questioning Ershad and his associates arrested so far.

They are the new faces in the 25-member team selected from Chittagong and Rajshahi divisions after the DIG, Khulna Range, Lutful Kabir withdrew names of 20 police officers on Thursday last.

The new police officers to be sent by the IGP will quiz Ershad in batches of five or more during the remand. Five officers of KMP will join the team.

The DC (Headquarters) told this correspondent today that none of the twenty police officers had even served in any position in the KMP. So, the question of their having links with Ershad Shikdar does not arise at all.

Meanwhile, one Chaltara Khanam on Thursday filed a General Diary with Pabna Sadar thana against Ershad Shikdar, sources said.

Chaltara is elder sister of Syed Monirul Islam, a leading businessman of Khulna and leader of city Awami League, and wife of a senior official of the judiciary posted in Pabna.

The journalist leaders at the same time, expressed annoyance that the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases did not provide ambulance to transfer the journalist to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). It was reported that DMCH authorities advised the relatives of late Nurul Islam to take him to other hospitals, they said.

The journalist leaders urged the head of the government to take the matter into her notice and demanded exemplary punishment to the persons responsible for the such negligence.

Twelve of the injured were admitted to Sadar Hospital.

The body Ameena Begum was sent to Sadar Hospital for autopsy. A case was filed with the local police.

Bus-truck collision on Dhaka-Mymensingh road: 1 killed

GAZIPUR, Oct 4: A woman was killed and 21 others wounded when a bus carrying them collided head on with a truck at Hotapora on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway today, reports BSS.

Ershad renewed the agreement and then Begum Zia, too, did so in 1993," a message received here yesterday quoted Kibria to have told the expatriates.

"It is not the height of inconsistency for Begum Zia to speak against an agreement which was signed by her husband and renewed by herself," he added.

The Finance Minister said Begum Zia got exposed to the

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