

News

● What's on today ●

FEMA meet: The Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) will hold a meeting with JSD leaders as part of its electoral law reforms drive in collaboration with Study and Research Group of Manabik Shahajahana Sangstha. Venue: 35-36, Bangabandhu Avenue (2nd floor). Time: 4 pm.

Council & Freshers' Reception: The council of Biplobi Chhatra Moity Jagannath University College unit and a freshers' reception programme will be held. Venue: Liberation War Memorial Sculpture premises on the college campus. Time: 11 am.

BISS roundtable: Bangladesh Institute of International 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 Turbani. Time: 5:00 pm.

Symposium: Bangladesh Supreme Court will hold a symposium on 'Root of All Discord and Unrest in the Subcontinent and Solutions'. Venue: VIP lounge of Jatiya Press Club. Time: 4:00 pm.

● and tomorrow ●

Monthly meet: The monthly general meeting of the association of Former Students of the Siddheswari High School 1967 will be held. Venue: Association office at 17, Rajuk Road, Chowdhurypara. Time: 5:00 pm.

Weather

No change in temperature

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

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

Yesterday's highest temperature of 32.8 degree Celsius was recorded at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 23.0 degrees at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:41 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
Dhaka	31.2	75
Chittagong	31.0	74
Rajshahi	32.0	80
Khulna	30.4	81
Barisal	28.8	91
Sylhet	28.7	100
Cox's Bazar	32.8	87

HERE and THERE

AIUB

AMA International University of Bangladesh (AIUB) had organised a seminar on 'Objective and Operations of the Asia Foundation', says a press release.

Shahajahan Kabir, Programme Advisor, The Asia Foundation, was the keynote speaker. Kabir highlighted the programme of The Asia Foundation in respect of providing books, journals to different universities and colleges of Bangladesh and also explains the global network of The Asia Foundation in promoting educational particulars in developing countries.

The seminar was presided by Carmen Z Lamagna, Vice-Chancellor of AIUB.

Prof Dr Anwar Hossain, Advisor and Academic Coordinator School of Business, AIUB, also spoke on the occasion. Dr Anwarul Abedin, Chairman, AIUB gave the concluding speech on the seminar. Faculty members, high university officials and students largely attended the seminar.

Workers Party

Workers Party of Bangladesh yesterday criticised the government for its failure to protect the country's border, and life and property of common people, reports UNB.

A meeting of the politburo of Workers Party also criticised the provocative attacks by the Indian Border Security Force at different frontier areas of Bangladesh saying it is 'definitely politically motivated'.

The left-leaning party said protests at high commissions level are not enough, rather the issue should be protested at political level and the problem should be solved immediately.

Workers Party demanded proper action by the government to protect the land and people's property.

It expressed deep concern over the deployment of Indian Army apart from BSF and opined that each of the incidents indicated the anti-Bangladesh attitude of the Indian government.

Presided over by General Secretary Rashed Khan Menon, the meeting was attended by Hafiz Akbar Khan Rono, Bimal Biswas, Nurul Hasan, Saiful Huq and Mahmudul Hasan Manik.

Lalmatia College

Education Minister ASHK Sadique yesterday said the government is determined to raise social and economic status of women in the predominantly male-dominated society to boost cultural dynamism, reports BSS.

The education minister was addressing as the chief guest, the reception accorded to talented students of Lalmatia Women's College in the city.

Meherunnissa, chairman of the college management committee presided over the reception. Vice Chancellor of National University Prof Aminul Islam, Whip of Jatiya Sangsad Prof Khaleda Khanam and Principal of Lalmatia College Marefa Khatun, among others, addressed the function.

The education minister said SSC and HSC examinations would follow fixed schedules from the year 2001. 'The first week of March would be earmarked for SSC examinations while the boards would conduct HSC examinations the last week of May,' he added.

City AL extended meet today

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Parliament effective and transparent.

Hasina said the ruling party has introduced the Prime Minister's question time in Parliament to ensure transparency and accountability. 'We have also introduced system that the Parliamentary Committees would be chaired by MPs instead of ministers,' she added.

The Prime Minister said: 'I wish I could reply the Opposition Leader's questions in Parliament. But she never asked any question.' She also mentioned the live broadcast of parliamentary proceedings through radio and direct telecast of question hours through television.

She said the ruling party has invited the opposition to take part in the discussions on the Ganges Water Sharing Treaty, the CHT peace agreement, law and order and other crucial issues in Parliament. But the opposition parties did not turn up.

Hasina said her government has ensured impartial voting system in the country and mentioned that all the elections held under the present government, including local body polls and by-elections, were free and fair.

Death anniversary

The sixth death anniversary of Prof Dr Surya Jabeen is on October 7, says a press release.

A *milad mafil* will be held on Friday after Magrib prayers at the Lake View Clinic, Road: 79, Gulshan in the city.

Prof Surya Jabeen was a renowned gynaecologist in the country. She served as a professor of gyna/obs in Dhaka, Chittagong, Mymensingh and Sylhet Medical College.

Canadian envoy presents credentials

Newly appointed Canadian High Commissioner to Bangladesh David D Preston presented his credentials to President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Welcoming Preston, President Shahabuddin recalled with gratitude the support extended to the cause of liberation of Bangladesh by Canada in 1971.

He said Canada is an important development partner of Bangladesh. He appreciated the numerous programmes undertaken by the Canadian government in Bangladesh.

Death of Hasan Saeed condoled

Leaders of the journalist community yesterday expressed their profound sorrow at the untimely death of Hasan Saeed, a senior journalist of the country, report agencies.

Abul Kalam Azad and Akhtar Ahmed, president and secretary general of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Altaf Mahmud and Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan, president and general secretary respectively of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), in a joint statement condoled the sudden death of Hasan Saeed. They said Saeed was very active even at this age.

Leaders of the National Press Club also condoled the death of Hasan Saeed. Club president Khondaker Monirul Alam and general secretary Swapan Kumar Saha said, 'The death of Hasan Saeed has caused an irreparable loss to the nation.'

Overseas Correspondents Association, Bangladesh (OCAB) condoled the death of one of its founding members, Hasan Saeed. OCAB president Matiur Rahman Chowdhury and general secretary Nadeem Quadir expressed sympathy and prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

Bangladesh Photojournalist Forum (BPJF) president Pavel Rahman and general secretary Sheikh Mosarraf Hossain expressed sympathy for the members of the bereaved family.

In separate condolence messages Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), Bangladesh, Dhaka Reporters Unity and Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique of Mass Communication and Journalism Department also condoled the death.

Lions eye-sight testing programme

Lions Club of Dhaka South, Dist. 315 B has organised a two-day school eye-sight testing programme, Vitamin A capsule distribution and De-worming programme throughout the day today and tomorrow at different schools in Savar, says a press release.

Govt urged to convert agri colleges into agri universities

By Staff Correspondent

Some leading agriculturists of the country have denounced government's current move of converting the agricultural colleges into science and technology universities.

They also decided to hand over a memorandum to the Prime Minister next week seeking her intervention to stop the conversion process.

They were participating in a meeting of the Bangladesh Agriculture Institute (BAI) Old Boys' Association held at BAI Conference Room on Saturday, said meeting sources.

The agriculturists protested September 11 conversion of Haji Danesh Agriculture College into a science and technology university and demanded of the government to upgrade the agriculture colleges into agricultural universities.

They also resented that scope of agriculture education was being squeezed in the country by placing the specialised education under the Education Ministry instead of keeping it under the Agriculture Ministry.

Former agriculture minister and president of the BAI Old Boys' Association chaired the meeting, attended among others, by its secretary and an Assistant Professor of BAI Mohammad Hossain, ex-DG of Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BAR) Dr Md H Mondal, ex-DG of Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI) Dr Aminul Islam, Principal of BAI Shadatullah, former Director of Bangladesh Sugarcane Research Institute (BSRI) Md Yasin Ali, a former teacher of Bangladesh Agricultural University Prof MA Hashmat, ex-director of now-defunct Jute Extension Directorate M A Samad and organising secretary of the Association Nazrul Islam.

Siddiqui

From page 1

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