

What's on today

Annual cultural programme: North South University will hold its annual cultural programme. Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall. Time: 4:00 pm.
Child Rights Day programme: Shishu Angina will hold day-long programme in observation of World Child Rights Day. Venue: Angina premises at House No 2, Road No 7, Block C, Section 6, Uttara. Time: 9:30-5:35 pm.
Poetry night: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka will hold its 5th Poetry night. Venue: Auditorium of Alliance Francaise. Time: 7:00 pm.
Film show: Tanvir Mokammel's Chitra Nadir Pare will be screened. Venue: Bangabandhu Medical University auditorium. Time: 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm.
Film show: Three French films Au revoir les enfants, Germinal and Buffet froid will be screened. Venue: Auditorium of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Time: 11:00 am, 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm.
Planning meet: Community Development Library (CDL), Dhaka and FOCUS, Bangkok has organised a two-day planning meeting on 'Nuclear Disarmament in South and Southeast Asia'. Venue: Hotel Abakash. Time: 9 am.
ASB lecture: The Asiatic Society of Bangladesh will hold the Justice Muhammad Ibrahim Trust Fund Lecture-1999. Prof Muhammad Yunus, Managing Director, Grameen Bank will deliver a lecture on 'Bangladesh 2020'. Venue: ASB auditorium. Time: 4 pm.
Sale of Books: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka will hold a three day long sale of old books, French novels, magazines, journals, biographies will be put on sale. Each book will cost Tk 50. The sale will remain open till October 17 from 5 pm to 8 pm. Venue: Alliance Francaise Gallery.

and tomorrow

Clinical meet: ZH Sikder Cardiac Care and Research Centre has organised a clinical meeting on ACERA (Ace Reception Antagonist). Keynote speaker: Dr Shamimul Haque, Assistant Professor of Cardiology. Venue: Conference Hall of the centre at Monica Estate, West Dhanmondi. Time: 9 am.

Weather

Temperature may fall
Temporary light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by gusty wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Khulna and Rajshahi divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB. Moderately heavy falls is expected at one or two places over the country during the period, according to the Met Office. Day temperature may fall by one or two degree Celsius across the country, it added.
Yesterday's highest temperature of 33.8 degree Celsius was recorded at Chittagong and the lowest 22.5 degree Celsius at Bhola. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:33 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:56 am.
Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Table with 4 columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in Percentage (Morning, Evening)



Lions Club of Dhaka Baridhara organised an eye-sight testing of school children on the occasion of 'World Lions Sighting Day yesterday '99' at the Rayer Bazar High School. Lion M H Rasheed and other lions of the Club seen in the picture.

Movement to go on to protect trees of Osmani Udyan

A cross-section of people at a meeting yesterday expressed their resolve to continue the movement to protect the trees of Osmani Udyan where the government plans to construct a conference centre for the proposed NAM Summit.

Police chief arrested over plot against Pakistan army chief

KARACHI, Oct 14: Pakistani paramilitary troops today arrested a top police official for involvement in a plot to 'physically eliminate' armed forces chief General Pervez Musharraf, officials said, reports AFP.

Obituary

M Zubaidur Rahim, an executive vice-president of Prime Bank Limited, died of pneumonia at hospital Wednesday morning. He was 56, says a press release.

He left behind his mother, wife, one son and a host of relatives, friends, colleagues, admirers to mourn his death. The namaz-e-janaza of M Zubaidur Rahim was held after Asr prayers and he was buried at the Banani graveyard.

His quail hunt will be held today after Asr prayers at his residence at House No 99, Road No 11/A, Dhanmondi in the city.



Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) brought out a procession in the Dhaka University campus yesterday demanding suspension of examinations.

Gunshots, blasts rock DU

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and incidents of rape across the country.
Four students were injured and at least seven vehicles were damaged on and around campus during the strike.
Activists of pro-Awami League BCL chased those of JCD out of the campus by firing shots and exploding crackers, witnesses said.
JCD had earlier called strike at all the universities in the country yesterday also to press home its demands including resignation of the prime minister, an end to terrorism, rape, murders, kidnappings and repression on JCD leaders and activists, withdrawal of 'false cases' against them and release of those detained.

Police sources said the trouble began when BCL activists chased JCD supporters by exploding crackers in Madhu's Canteen area at about 9:30 in the morning. JCD was preparing to bring out a procession in support of the strike.
Panic gripped the students and examiners as JCD activists also exploded crackers and began to run for safety.
JCD supporters took shelter at Shahbagh crossing and near the VC's residence. They damaged three motor vehicles at Nikhet crossing and four vehicles including a BRTC bus at Shahbagh crossing.
Campus situation deteriorated further at about 11:30 am when BCL activists firing shots chased JCD supporters at TSC crossing. Three JCD workers and a BCL activist were injured.

The incident took place in the presence of police. Police picked up some activists but they were later released.
The DU authorities' attempted to hold the scheduled examinations yesterday despite the strike. But activists of JCD created a chaotic situation in the examination centres by damaging flower tabs and window panes at the Arts Faculty building and tried to prevent examiners from appearing at the examinations.
Several hundred of police were deployed at different important points on the campus to provide security to the teachers and examiners.
Witnesses said attendance of examiners was not 'satisfactory' yesterday.
But the DU authorities claimed that almost all the examinations scheduled for yesterday were held and 80 to 90

Mintoo under fire from colleagues

Business leaders representing some chambers and associations yesterday blasted President of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FBCCI) Abdul Minto for resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner.

Syed Jahangir's solo opens at DD today

One of the initiators of modernism in Bangladeshi art Syed Jahangir's one-man show opens at DD Gallery today at 5:30 in the evening.

Bangladesh

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The Commonwealth countries as enunciated in the Harare principles in 1991 by the Commonwealth Heads of Government. Subsequently it has been reiterated in the Millbrook Commonwealth Action Programme on the Harare Declaration in New Zealand summit, he added.

Traders

The Officer-in-charge said that a number of notorious extortionists of the area have already been booked after the installation of the new system.

SAARC summit

happenings in Pakistan, officials at the Sri Lankan foreign office said their government was keeping a close watch on the situation and was specially worried about the impact of the coup on the summit scheduled to begin on November 23.

No cheers

Cabinet also requires its expansion by at least two more ministers from among the MPs to maintain the proportion of MPs and non-mps in the Cabinet.

CTBT

White House campaign in support of the CTBT, the Republican Senate majority, which argued the treaty would hurt US national security, steered the measure to a drubbing that was never really in doubt.
This treaty does not meet even the minimal standards of previous arms control treaties... it is ineffectual, even dangerous, in my judgement; it is unverifiable and it is unenforceable.
Senate Republican Majority Leader Trent Lott said after the vote.
Senate Democratic Minority Leader Thomas Daschle warned that by turning down the treaty, 'we are turning our backs on the world community.' He said treaty advocates would bring CTBT up 'this year and next year and however long it takes' to win approval.

Republican resistance, likely to be particularly heated as the United States heads towards the 2000 elections, presents a high hurdle to such a plan.
Veteran Democratic Senator Robert Byrd abstained, while four Republicans broke ranks with their party to back the accord, which would have required 67 of all 100 voting senators for passage.
The acrimonious debate that filled the ornate chamber recalled harsh words exchanged earlier this year during Clinton's impeachment trial over charges he improperly sought to conceal an affair with a White House intern, Monica Lewinsky.

Clinton said late Wednesday that the CTBT was 'critical to protecting the American people from the dangers of nuclear war.'
'It is therefore well worth fighting for - and I assure you, the fight is far from over,' he said.
The officer-in-charge said that a number of notorious extortionists of the area have already been booked after the installation of the new system.
MA Noor, president of Karwan Bazar Saw Mills and Timber Merchants Welfare Association, told The Daily Star that it was after incidents of kidnapping of extortion of money from the local traders that the latter decided to do something about it, without waiting for the government to everything.
We thought of the system as a 'quick remedy' against the extortionists as they often flee after doing their bit even before the police can reach the spot,' he said. He added that after its introduction now the extortionists are getting caught and handed over to the law enforcing agencies in encouraging numbers.
He informed the Star that two such attempts by the extortionists have been foiled recently.
The system introduced some six months ago was now being replicated in the neighbouring markets of the locality.
Encouraged by the success of the new system, the 342 shops of the market have been covered by four alarm bells around the market area, and owners of each of the installations have expressed their willingness to pay Tk. 200 each for the expansion and further strengthening of the system.
The electric switch button separated from the main board and fixed in one corner of the room is actually marked for use as the alarm button,' he said.
As soon as the bell rings, all shopkeepers rush out and run towards the affected shop, he said, he added, adding that the alarm also alerts the Ansars.

DU vacation

UNB adds: Dhaka University goes on a nine-day Durga Puja vacation tomorrow amid a volatile campus situation.
Official sources said the university classes would resume on October 24. However, official activities will remain closed only on October 20 and 24 on account of Bijoya Dashami and Laxmi Puja.

Ershad Shikdar

Rahim Khan, Additional IG (Admsn). But the source of money spent in constructing the house, as stated in the letter, definitely needs to be investigated and before that the allegations made in the letter will not be taken into confidence, the official added.

Democracy

From page 1
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Pakistan cut

From page 12
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CHOGM hosts

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cratically elected government on Tuesday.
Mbeki, who becomes Commonwealth chairman at the Nov 12 gathering, pointed out that the group made a commitment in 1991 to defend democratic rule. The 54-nation organization includes Britain and its former colonies.

World White Cane Safety Day today

World White Cane Safety Day will be observed in the country as elsewhere in the world today with a pledge to ensure safety for the blind people, reports UNB.
Various organisations, including the Social Welfare Ministry and National Forum of Organisations Working with the Disabled (NFOWD) have taken separate programmes to observe the day.
President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued messages on the occasion stressing the need for proper rehabilitation of the blind in the society.
The day's event begins with a colourful rally from the Children's Park at 9 am, which will end at Swede Bangladesh Auditorium at Eskaton Garden.
A discussion on White Cane for Safe Movement of the Blind will be held on the occasion. State Minister for Social Welfare Dr Mozammel Hossain will attend the discussion as chief guest.

Pak parliament bldg

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could call early elections, change the prime minister, but keep Parliament intact, induct a national coalition government of politicians, create a civil administration of technocrats and retired politicians, or run the country himself.
The army has ruled Pakistan for 25 of its 52 years, although the country has had a fragile democracy for 11 years.
International demand has been building for a quick return to democracy.
In Washington, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said the coup created a 'level of uncertainty' in South Asia. She said US officials were trying to persuade Pakistan's military leaders to restore democratic government.
A military takeover of this kind... does make it difficult to continue business as usual," she said.
UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged the army to restore civilian rule quickly.
The International Monetary Fund, which last year negotiated a 1.6 billion dollars loan to Pakistan, announced an immediate cutoff until democracy is restored.

Economists say Pakistan's battered economy can ill-afford further delays in international funding. Its foreign reserves are roughly 1.5 billion dollars, enough to cover only two months of imports, in a nation heavily dependent on foreign shipments of even its staples, such as cooking oil.
Washington played down concerns about the coup's effect on Pakistan's nuclear programme, since it has always been under the military's control.
India put its soldiers on alert following the coup a move the army spokesman in Pakistan called 'ridiculous' and a ploy to raise international concerns.
'India's action was totally absurd... putting its forces on alert... as if Pakistan is going to precipitate a war,' Brig Rashid Qureshi told The Associated Press.

Throughout Pakistan, people took the coup in stride and few longed for quick elections.
'There should be no elections before accountability,' said Abdul Rashid, a lawyer in Lahore.

Jobs bid to reward
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articles or reports on small and medium enterprises.
Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed attended the launching ceremony at a local hotel as chief guest. Among others by Gordon H. West, mission director of USAID, Anthony Dalgleish, JOBS programme manager and senior business advisor, Dr. Zia U. Ahmed, senior policy advisor and Khandakar Monirul Alam, president of National Press Club, were also present.

Speaking at the function, Tofail Ahmed said development of cottage, small and medium scale industries is the best strategy for the country's economic development.
'Our export prospects of SME and cottage industries products are very high but it has not been realised due to lack of market information and product diversity.'
Setting up of SMEs would give higher dividends than heavy industries and the present government has taken different initiatives for the development of SMEs and cottage industries, he observed.
To develop the SME sector, SME sector is inherently weak which needs government support, he said assuring that USAID would extend its support as long as JOBS is successful in the country.
Khandakar Monirul Alam underscored the need for focussing on the SME sector. 'We are not able to set up big industries as we don't have expertise and technology for big industries.'

Duties, taxes on raw materials should be reduced so that the entrepreneurs can compete with the imported products, he said.
The three awards include: A study or travel grant of US \$ 5,000, US \$ 3,000 and US \$ 2,000 for the first, second and third winner respectively. The period of publication of the articles or stories has been fixed from July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000. The reports should be submitted by August 1, 2000.

Pink panel bags seven posts in CU election

From page 1
CHITTAGONG, Oct 14: Awami League-backed pink panel bagged seven out of nine posts while BNP-Jamaat supported white panel got two in the Dean, Syndicate, Finance Committee and Academic Council elections of the Chittagong University today.
Prof Dr Sayed Mohammad Atahar of Management Department has been elected Dean of Commerce faculty and Prof Dr Abu Naser Mohammad Munir Ahmed of Political Science Department has been elected Syndicate member from white panel.
Other Syndicate members are: Mohammad Abdullah Mamun, associate professor of Management Department, Mohammad Atiqur Rahman, assistant professor of Management from pink panel.
Meanwhile, Prof Dr Mohammad Alauddin of Bio-chemistry Department has been elected finance committee member from pink panel.

Terror

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ing, university officials said last night.
The explosion took place at about 7:45 pm with a big bang, they said. Nobody was injured, nor anyone arrested in this connection till writing of this report at 10:30 pm last night.
Soon after the blast the guards on the campus rushed to the spot and doused off the fire, officials said.
Police rushed to the spot immediately, but the army bomb squad will be requested to visit the site this morning, officials said.

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