

What's on today . . .

Conference: Bangladesh Rheumatology Society will hold its 2nd scientific conference. Venue: BCPS auditorium, Mohakhali. Time: 9.00 am.

Film Show: Four German films *The Little Attorney*, *Knockin on Heaven's Door*, *Black Rider* and *No More Mr Nice Guy* will be screened on the fourth day of German Film Week'99. Organiser: German Embassy. Venue: Goethe Institut, House no 10, Road no 9, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 2.00 pm, 4.30 pm, 7.00 pm and 7.15 pm.

Lecture: Dr Deb Kumar Roy, Assistant Professor, Media Lab, MIT (USA) will present a lecture on 'Multilingual Computing'. Venue: Grameen Bank auditorium, Mirpur. Time: 3.00 pm.

Film show: Tanvir Mokammel's *Chitra Nadi Pare* will be screened. Venue: Public Library auditorium. Time: 3.00 pm, 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm.

Certificate awarding ceremony: The Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Managers of Bangladesh will hold a certificate awarding ceremony. Chief guest: Abdul Matin Khasru, Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. Venue: Panda Garden (Abbas Garden), Mohakhali. Time: 7.00 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Film Show: Three German films *Comedian Harmonists*, *Rosini* and *The Tin Drum* will be screened on the final day of German Film Week'99. Organiser: German Embassy. Venue: Goethe Institut, House no 10, Road no 9, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 2.00 pm, 4.30 pm and 7.00 pm.

Film show: Tanvir Mokammel's *Chitra Nadi Pare* will be screened. Venue: Public Library auditorium. Time: 3.00 pm, 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Light rain may occur at one or two places over Chittagong division and weather will remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, said Met office adding that weather may deteriorate in next two days.

The country's highest temperature 34.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rangamati and the lowest 20.5 degree Celsius at Satkhira and Dinajpur.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:23 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:02 am.

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

	max	min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.0	23.8	64	76
Chittagong	33.5	24.4	73	77
Rajshahi	31.6	22.4	81	77
Khulna	32.0	22.5	66	94
Barisal	32.7	22.3	71	79



*Prothom Alo organised a roundtable on 'Recent trend in Bangladeshi films' at Hotel Sheraton yesterday.

Prothom Alo roundtable on films

Vulgarism in Bengali movies castigated

Personalities in the film industry at a roundtable yesterday blasted over increasing trend of 'vulgarism' in Bengali movies and said films are alarmingly affecting the values of the nation instead of reflecting society properly, reports BSS.

Organised by the daily Prothom Alo, the roundtable on 'recent trend of Bangladeshi films' touched all gamut of the film industry of the country.

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed attended the roundtable as the chief guest while Information Secretary M Akmal Hossain as the special guest.

Eminent litterateur Syed Shamsul Huq, Editor of the daily Prothom Alo, Motiur Rahman, legendary film actor Abdur Razzak, President of Bangladesh film producers and distributors association Masud Parvez, member of the Film Censor Board Kabir Sarwar, Murshedul Islam, actor Riaz, Popy and owner of the Lion Cinema Mirza Abdul Khaleque also spoke at the roundtable held at Sheraton Hotel.

The speakers discussed in detail the history of Bengali film, film policy, atmosphere in cinema halls, social values, sky culture, Film Censor Board, cut peace, import of foreign quality films, artists exploitation, down trend of cinema goes, infiltration of terrorists and criminals in the industry, role of law enforcers, government initiatives and the responsibilities of all quarters for the survival of the industry.

Initiating the discussion Prof Sayeed said there must have a vision behind every creation. "But unfortunately the vision and virtuous message are rarely found in the recent Bengali films," he said, adding the films should be created and dedicated for extracting 'good taste' in the minds of the common people, especially for the middle class society.

Prof Sayeed said film makers should consider that they are not out of society and they have an accountability for society.

Considering all these things the government is going to announce a national film policy very soon. To this effect, he said, the draft report preparation is nearly to completion.

Another policy is likely in the shortest possible time to resist infiltration of harmful alien culture in the name of free flow of sky culture. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has already directed to take all necessary steps in protecting the values

and heritage of country. Besides, the government is facilitating to establish a 'film city' in suburban Kabirpur of Savar at a cost of Taka 300 crore to feed the long cherished demand of the film industry for modern facilities. When completed the film industry will be highly benefited and the cost of the film making will go down considerably, the state minister observed. Films with 'alternative thoughts' will be encouraged by the government, he added.

Akmal Hossain, who is also the existing Chairman of the Film Censor Board, proposed to incorporate a film-concerned 'distinguished citizen' as the chairman of the censor board and nominate its members from concerned fields.

Syed Shamsul Huq said there should have no protection and geographical barrier in the issues of literature and art. "Films should be freed from the 'commercial consideration' and put into its origin form which reflects what we feel, think and suits our rich Bengali culture."

Film hero Razzak was very much critical on the recent trend of Bengali films saying the industry went one step backwards rather moving towards during the last two decades. Censor Board has the leading role to check vulgarism in the films, he said raising question how the vulgar posters are seen in the capital and other parts of the country?

Kabir sought government help to stop screening 'cut peace' in some cinema hall in the country even in the hub of the capital Dhaka. He called upon all to create platform in their respective positions against vulgarism and conspiracies to destroy the future generation.

Riaz and Popy alleged that the artists, especially the heroines are sometimes, exploited by the directors as they compelled them on wearing indecent clothes. "Sometimes a heroine has to wear costumes contrary to our culture and the values of herself," said Popy who was seemed to be hesitant for the comment.

Lion Cinema all proprietor categorically acknowledged that some unscrupulous businessmen in the industry were allegedly involved in screening 'cut peace' in shows.

Giving the winding up speech of the roundtable Motiur Rahman expressed his desire to hold more such discussions to exchange views for the development of this sector. He also sought help from the ministry of information to this affect.



BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia addressing a public meeting at the Kuliarchar Pilot High School under Kishoreganj district yesterday.



BFUJ staged a rally in the city yesterday in protest of the recent attack on photojournalists by police.

Indian, Pakistani envoys meet Noor Uddin

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Deb Mukharji called on Science and Technology Minister Ldr General (Retd) Mohammad Noor Uddin Khan at his office yesterday, reports BSS.

During the meeting they discussed matters of mutual and bilateral interests with special emphasis on strengthening co-operation between the two countries in the science and technology sector, an official press release said.

Earlier, Pakistan High Commissioner to Bangladesh M Iqbal Ahmad Khan called on Noor Uddin Khan at his office. He stayed with the minister for some time and discussed matters relating to mutual and bilateral interest, added the release.

Science and Technology Secretary M Fazlur Rahman was present during the meetings.

Bangla Academy exams postponed

The written examination for vacant posts of officers at the Bangla Academy scheduled to be held at 10:00 am on Friday at Dhaka College, has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances, says an Academy press release.

Prof N Islam honoured

By Staff Correspondent
Professor Nurul Islam has been awarded a medal by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh in recognition of his service as 'Emeritus Overseas Regional Adviser in 1998', said a press release last night.

The president of the college Professor James C Petrie presented him the medal on September 26 during the 10th annual conference of the API Delhi chapter last month, it added.

Rejoinder

By Staff Correspondent

Three agriculturists in a rejoinder to a Daily Star item on 'Leading agriculturists condemn govt move' denouncing plans to open agri-faculties in Science and Technology Universities said that no such 'resolution' was adopted at the meeting of the agriculturists last week.

The rejoinder was issued by Professor Mohammad Hossain Bhuiyan, General Secretary of Bangladesh Agricultural Institute Old Boys Association, Professor Mohammad Shahadatullah, Principal, Bangladesh Agricultural Institute and Zahidul Haque.

6 digits digital conversion work begins Friday night

All the present six digits digital telephone numbers of Dhaka city starting with the figure '8' will be converted into seven digits for technical reason, according to a T&T press release yesterday, reports BSS.

The conversion work will start from 11:55 on Friday night as part of the countrywide telephone expansion programme. In this process all the present digital telephones starting with the figure '8' will be changed but the last four digits of all the present telephone numbers will remain the same.

The first two digits of the present number in Mirpur exchange starting with 80 will be changed into 801 while the first two digits of present number in Sher-e-Bangla Nagar exchange starting with 81 and 82 will be changed into 811 and 812.

The first two digits of present number in Gazipur exchange starting with 82 will be converted into 821 while the first two digits of present number in Mogbazar exchange starting with 83 and 84 will be changed into 831 and 832.

The first two digits of present number in Nikhet exchange starting with 86 will be changed into 861 while the first two digits of present number in Gulshan exchange starting with 87 and 88 will be converted into 881 and 882.

Besides, the first two digits of present number in Uttara exchange starting with 89 will be changed into 891.

The conversion process, the subscribers may face temporary problems. T&T Board regrets for the inconvenience caused to the valued subscribers, the press release added.

Three types of polio virus grip country 31 children infected so far

By Staff Correspondent

Leaders of Rotary International yesterday revealed that three types of polio virus named P1, P2 and P3 originating from neighbouring Myanmar have been infecting children in the country.

"Thirty-one children have so far been infected with these types of polio virus till September," said Iftekharul Alam, Chairman of National Committee of Rotary International Bangladesh while addressing a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

Previously there was only one type of virus P1 in the country, the rotarians said quoting EPI experts.

The leaders expressed grave concern over the situation and called upon the people from all walks of life to work unitedly to eliminate polio from the country by the year 2000.

"We will have to work together to save our children from the curse of this dangerous disease and join the forum which has been able to eradicate polio," said Mohammad Ozair Farooq district Governor 1999-2000 of Rotary International District 3280.

"We are determined to eradicate polio from the world by the year 2005 and Rotary Clubs have spent U.S. \$ 313 billion dollars for the treatment of 1 billion children so far," Farooq said.

In Bangladesh Rotarians are working along with the government, UNICEF, EPI and other donor agencies to eliminate the disease, he informed.

Rotary International has been encouraging the government to come forward with po-

lio vaccination programmes. Bangladesh started polio vaccination programme in 1986 with a target group of 2 per cent children, Farooq said.

Bangladesh has achieved about 76 per cent success in its polio vaccination programme though it is claimed that the rate is more than 95 per cent, the leaders alleged.

He said Rotary has so far spend 19.2 million dollars for the cause in the country and has also donated a US\$ 85,000 refrigerator van. It has also allocated 10 million dollars for the national laboratory to carry out polio detection tests.

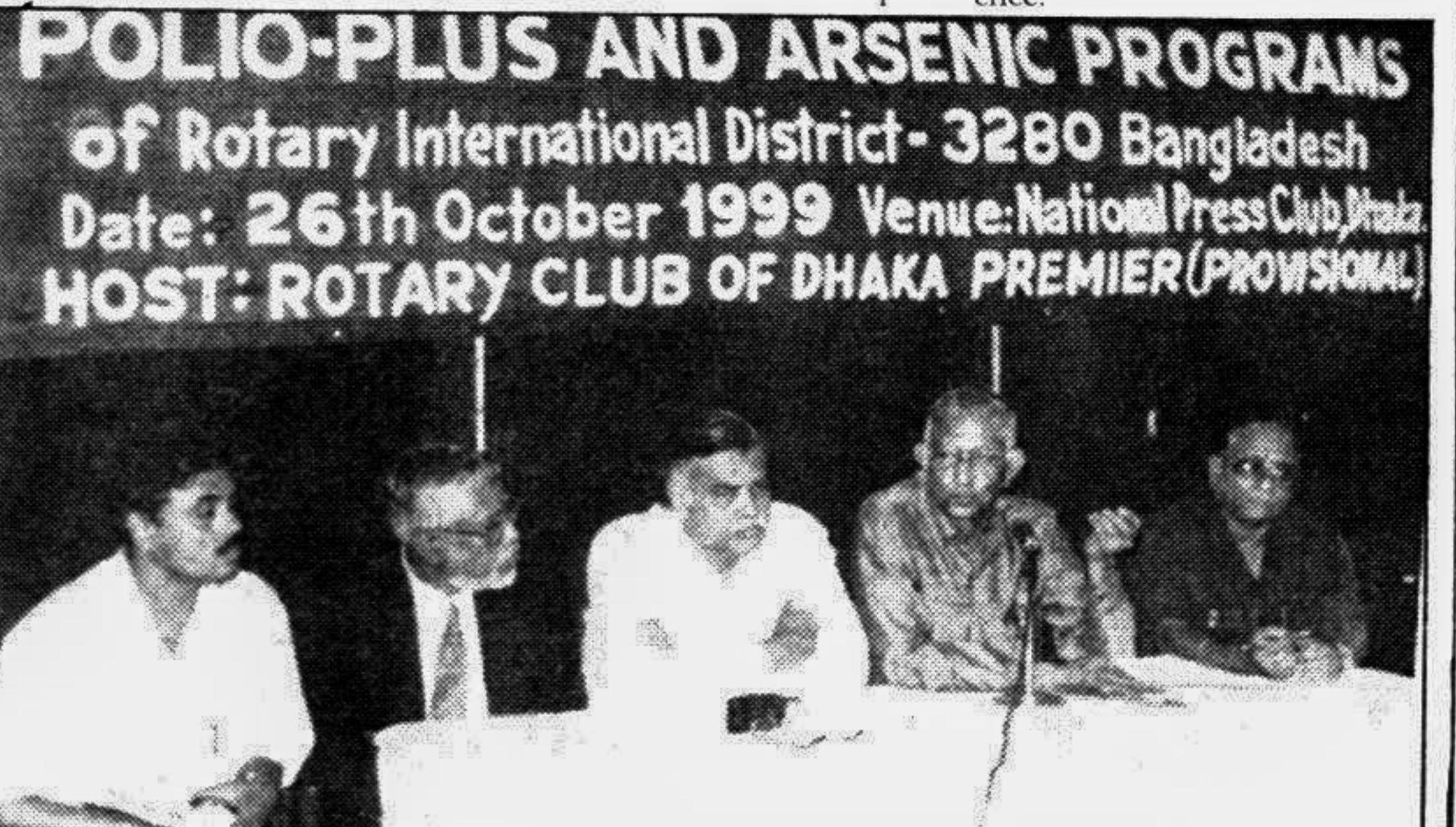
The leaders also expressed their willingness to work for arsenic mitigation programme in the country.

"Water in 59 districts out of 64 is contaminated with arsenic in the country, the leaders said.

Iftekharul Alam termed arsenic as a silent killer and urged people to create awareness regarding the adverse affects of arsenicosis.

Rotary International will initiate Polio plus, a polio vaccination programme on November 2 and December 2 this year. They will also form a human chain in the city to create awareness regarding Polio Plus and arsenic problems at 10:00 am on October 31. Other than their own members scouts, girls guide and students from different schools will take part in the programme.

M. A. Awal, Past Governor, Rotarian Prof. Jalal U. Ahmed, Shahidul Islam and Subash K. Aich were present at the conference.



Rotary Club officials spoke of their programmes on polio and arsenic at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. From left: Subash K Aich, Jalal U Ahmed, Mohammad Ozair Farooq, Iftekharul Alam and Shahidul Islam.

Solanki

From page 1

the first to go, edging to slip fielder Akram Khan of the bowling of off-spinner Shabbir Khan.

Shabbir equally shared six wickets with left-arm twister Enamul, whose 39 overs yielded 15 maidens and 75 runs.

The pitch offered an interestingly prominent turn late in the afternoon and the fortune of Mark Alleyne's side will depend on Solanki and the tail as they look to close the 46-run gap.

Solanki will resume the England A innings with James Kirtley, who was unbeaten on 7, today. BTV will air the match live.

(Details on Star Sport)

Tangail-8

From page 1

men attacked his election rallies, and so on.

Meantime, ruling party candidate Shawkat Momen Shahjahan accused his rival of distributing several thousand pamphlets (a kind of thin cotton towel) among the voters of the areas.

Siddiqui has applied to the Election Commission for allocating him gamchha as election symbol, while the EC is yet to decide about it.

However, the EC sent his allegations to the Electoral Enquiry Committee. In Tangail and the Committee served separate notices on the home minister, state minister for foreign affairs, the PM's adviser Asaduzzaman and Kader Siddiqui on October 20 to defend themselves either in person or through their lawyers.

The Committee has not heard anything from the home minister as yet, said Shahidullah Bakul over telephone yesterday.

Kader Siddiqui was present in person before the committee on October 24, while lawyers of state minister Abul Hasan Chowdhury and PM's adviser Asaduzzaman sought 15 days' time for preparing the replies. The Committee lowered them two days and re-fixed the date of hearing on October 26.

The lawyers of the state minister and the PM's adviser submitted their written replies before the committee yesterday. But Siddiqui's lawyer sought one day on the ground that his client, who was not in town yesterday, wanted to remain present in person.

"So, I have to entertain the petition of Siddiqui's lawyer," Shahidullah Bakul said. "The hearing will begin at 10:30 am tomorrow."

Replying to another query, Bakul said the hearing over, the committee would send its reports along with its observations to the Election Commission.

Indian naval ships to make goodwill visits at Ctg Port Nov 1

Three Indian Naval ships will make a four-day goodwill visits to Chittagong Port from November 1, a press release of the Indian High Commission said yesterday, reports BSS.

This will be the fourth visit by Indian naval ships to Chittagong in this decade.

The goodwill visit of the INS Rana (destroyer), INS Khanjar and INS Khukri (Both missile corvettes) with Rear Admiral V Bharatan, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern fleet, on board is taking place this time following the last such visit of Indian Naval Ships INS Tir and INS Krishna in April, 1998.

Bangladesh Naval Ships have been calling on various Indian ports regularly. Four such calls took place since 1997 with the last one from March 30 to April 4 this year at Port Blair, the press release said.

Attack on DMC doctors condemned

By Staff Correspondent

Different organisations of doctors community have strongly protested Monday's attack on Dhaka Medical College Hospital and condemned ransacking of property in the DMCH and Dhaka Dental College premises.

The Dhaka Medical College branch of Internec Doctors Council observed a day-long work abstention at DMCH and demanded implementation of a three-point proposals within 15 days.

The demands include, ensuring security and congenial work atmosphere of the doctors, punishing the attackers and realizing compensation and ensuring presence of specialist doctor in hospital during admission.

The Dhaka Dental College Teachers' Association (DDCTA) at its academic council meeting yesterday in view of the attack announced indefinite strike from Tuesday.

One murdered in Rajshahi

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Oct 26: One Rajab Ali, 40, of Madhupur village in Poba thana of the district was murdered by some unidentified miscreants at the same village last night.

According to family sources, Rajab Ali went out of his house at about 8:30 pm but did not return.

His body was found in a nearby ditch this morning.

A case was registered with Poba thana today.

None was, however, arrested in this connection till filing of this report 7.30 pm today.

Hasina visits her school in city

Plant more trees to protect environment

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon all, particularly teachers and students, to plant trees in a massive way to protect the environment from degradation and pollution, reports BSS.

"Keep no extra space at the premises of your educational institutions and fill it with green trees both timber and fruit bearing," Sheikh Hasina told teachers and students of Azimpur Government Girls' School and College.

An ex-student of the school, Sheikh Hasina visited the school to plant some seedlings together with her old school-mates as well as some of the teachers of her time. She planted a number of saplings of local varieties like 'Kul' baral, 'Kamranga', 'Jam', and 'Sheuli'. Principal of the college as well as her classmate in the school, Hosne Ara, received the prime minister at the campus.

Later addressing an audience comprising alumnus and the present students of the institution, the prime minister highlighted the steps taken by her

government for expansion of education in the country.

Chairman of the school management committee Haji Mohammad Selim, MP, and principal of the college Hosne Ara also spoke on the occasion. Education secretary, Kazi Raquib Uddin and Director General of Primary and Mass Education Nayer Sultana were present, among others, on the dais.

Responding to various demands raised by Haji Mohammad Selim for development of the college and school including upgrading it into an university college, "I was a student of this campus and I shall do all the needful for its development."

The prime minister fondly recollected her days at the school.

Earlier, the prime minister witnessed a colorful PT performance displayed by the girls of the school and college. She also took salute of the girls in ceremonial dress.

Before leaving the premises Sheikh Hasina spent time with her former school mates.

Road march

From page 1

will start from Madhabpur-Chunarughat in Habiganj and extensively visit Moulvibazar, Sunamganj and Sylhet. Khaleda Zia is expected to address at least 22 specific spots in greater Sylhet.

Meanwhile, senior BNP leaders, including MA Mannan, ZA Khan, Redwan Ahmed, Mohammad Shahjahan MP and Mujibur Rahman will begin an organisational tour today to Comilla and Sylhet to oversee the preparation for the planned road march.

Three other partners of BNP-led alliance have almost completed preparation for their separate two-day road march to different parts of the country.

Leaders and activists of Jatiya Party led by HM Ershad will lead October 31-November 1 march in Comilla and Noakhali districts. Jamaat led by its Ameer Golam Azam will take a similar road march from Chittagong to Cox's Bazar while Islamic Oikya Jote will hold a public meeting at My-mensingh Town Hall Maidan on November 1.

He said, 16,518 square feet floor space will be built and the shop owners will have to pay a rent of Tk 48 per square foot annually.

"We are also planning to build more markets near Panthopath and Khilkhet in the city and in Narayanganj," he said.

CONGRATULATION!

"ALBAR" Congratulates the following students who have successfully entered the 2nd year of LL.B (Hons), University of London, after having passed LL.B (Hons) year One/Diploma-in-Law, University of London, External Programme, June 1999.

SL.	CD.No.	Name of Students
01.	31901	Md. Shoyeb Adnan
02.	31902	Al Hasan Ahmed
03.	31903	Romel Chowdhury
04.	31904	Taria Musree Dimple
05.	31905	Farhana Ershad
06.	31906	Jihan Jennifer Hassan
07.	31907	Karishma Jahan
08.	31908	Sadat Khan
09.	31909	Sadia Malik
10.	31911	Md. Forqukh Rahman
11.	31913	Shamolima Sarkar
12.	34240	S M Zakir Hossain
13.	34242	Hossain Md. Alamgir
14.	34244	Mohammad Saifulah
15.	36009	Alam Sakib
16.	36006	Riad Mahmud(R)
17.	36008	Nausher Rahman(R)
18.	36001	Alam Shahi
19.	36019	Badruneesha
20.	12471	Tabssum M Kishwar

ALBAR

ACADEMY OF LAW, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & RESEARCH (former Bhuiyan Academy)

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Chief Planning Bangladesh Water Development Board

WAPDA Building (2nd floor) Motijheel C/A, Dhaka

Notice

Notice for Pre-qualification/Short-listing of local consulting firms to carry out the Consultancy Services for Feasibility Study for comprehensive South Comilla and North Noakhali Drainage Project.

Applications are hereby invited from the local consulting firms enlisted under the long-listed panel of the Bangladesh Water Development Board during the year 1998-99 for pre-qualification/short-listing to provide consulting services for the Feasibility Study for comprehensive South Comilla and North Noakhali Drainage Project.

Representative of interested firms may collect the copy of the TOR, the prescribed form 1, 2, 3 and 4 from the office of the undersigned and the office of the Director, Planning-I, BWDB, Dhaka during office hour till 18th November, 1999 at the cost of Tk 100/- (one hundred) only in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of "Deputy Director/RAC Chief, Central Regional Accounts Centre (RAC)." The last date of submission of the application with requisite documents in 6 (six) sets to the office of the undersigned is 21st November, 1999.

The authority reserves the right of cancellation of any or all the applications without showing any reason whatsoever.

AKM Halimur Rahman

Chief Planning

Bangladesh Water Development Board

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