

## What's on today . . . .

**DU seminar:** A seminar titled "Globalisation: Socio-Economic and Political Effects on Bangladesh" will be held. Prof M Nazrul Islam of Department of Political Science of Dhaka University will present the key-note paper on the topic. Organiser: Centre for Advanced Research in Social Sciences of DU. Venue: Room no 404, Lecture Theatre of DU. Time: 11.00 am.

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

**Annual general meeting:** The annual general meeting of Bangladesh Terry Towel & Linen Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BTTLEMA) will be held. Chief guest: Tofail Ahmed, Minister for Commerce and Industries. Venue: Ballroom of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 7.00 pm.

**Film show:** Three new local documentary films by Sarwar Jahan Khan, Tuku Khandakar and Sameo Sheesh will be screened. Venue: Goethe Institut, House no 10, Road no 9, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6.30 pm.

## ..... and tomorrow

**BATEXPO'99 fashion show:** The BATEXPO'99 fashion show will be held. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 7.30 pm.

## Weather

### Rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Barisal, Rajshahi, Khulna and Chittagong divisions and at a few places over Dhaka and Sylhet divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

The day temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country during the period, according to Met Office.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 31.8 degree Celsius was recorded at Khulna and Jessore, and the lowest of 22.5 degrees at Rangamati.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:20 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:05 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	30.8	24.7	78	90
Chittagong	30.2	23.4	82	83
Rajshahi	30.2	24.5	86	83
Khulna	31.8	24.0	82	83
Barisal	30.4	23.5	87	92
Sylhet	29.0	24.2	80	88
Cox's Bazar	30.3	24.0	100	88

## HERE and THERE

### DRU

A two-day workshop on "Reporting on Information Technology" began at the Dhaka Reporters' Union (DRU) Office yesterday, says a press release, reports BSS.

Thirty reporters from different newspapers and news agencies are taking part in the workshop, jointly organised by DRU Computer Club and Business Information and Advertising Services (BIAS).

DRU President Shahjahan Sardar and General Secretary Mohiuddin Islam Raju, Convenor of DRU Computer Club Shaymol Datta and Managing Director of BIAS Naeem Ahmed addressed the inaugural function.

State Minister for Planning Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir will hand over the certificates of the workshop to the participants at 3 pm today, the press release added.

### USAID-CIDA

A day long Training on Health and Hygiene for Bakery Producers was organised at the training hall of Business Advisory Service Centre at Dhanmondi, says a press release.

The training organised by Training Task Group, Bangladesh, is jointly sponsored by JOBS project of USAID and BIEF programme of CIDA.

Public Health Specialist Dr Khairul Islam and Dr Mustafizur Rahman facilitated the Workshop while Prof M A Malek of IAFS Dhaka University and Dr ASM Humayan Farque, Director of Institute of Public Health were present as panel discussants.

This was the second training workshop of the series and will be organised soon, the release said.

### BCL president injured in road accident

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) President Bahadur Bepari and two other activists were injured yesterday when the microbus in which they were travelling fell into a roadside ditch near Kasba in Brahmanbaria.

Bepari was rushed to Bangabandhu Medical University Hospital but, he was later shifted to the Combined Military Hospital (CMH). Hospital sources said his condition was critical. Bepari was unconscious till late last night.

Witnesses said the accident occurred when a passenger bus hit the microbus at about 11 am yesterday.

### Qulkhwani of police sergeant Ahad Tuesday

The qulkhwani of police sergeant Abdul Ahad will be held at his 'Property Homes' residence at 17/A New Eskaton after Asr prayers on Tuesday instead of Monday, reports BSS.

The date of the qulkhwani has been shifted due to tomorrow's hartal, called by the opposition alliance, family sources said.

Friends, relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani.

### Workshop on 'strengthening local govt' begins today

By Staff Correspondent

A two-day workshop on 'Strengthening local government at union level' with the elected representatives of the Union Parishads begins in the city today.

LGED and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman will inaugurate the workshop, organised by the International Voluntary Services (IVS), at LGED Bhawan Auditorium at 9 am, says a press release.

Gordon H West, Mission Director of USAID, Dhaka, and Gias Uddin Pathan, Director General of NGO Affairs Bureau, will attend the inaugural function as special guests while ADAB Chairperson and Proshika President Dr Gazi Faruque Ahmed and Representative of the Asia Foundation Dr Karen L Casper will be present as guests of honour.

### Reception to Bibi Russel

A civic reception will be accorded to internationally acclaimed fashion designer Bibi Russel, who has recently been appointed a special envoy of UNESCO, says a press release.

The reception will be held at the main auditorium of the National Museum at 6.00 pm on November 2.



Sammilita Nari Samaj brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding direct elections to the reserved seats for women in the Jatiya Sangsad. — Star photo

## City polls talk

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these local body elections.

The elections to Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna city corporations have been scheduled for December 6 while disputes over delimitation of some wards are holding up polls to Dhaka City Corporation.

The local government minister said opposition participation was very much desirable but "elections cannot be postponed due to legal bindings".

The government would take all steps to hold the December 6 polling peacefully, he asserted, talking to UNB.

There are only eight days to go for fielding candidates.

Speaking to The Daily Star, another non-minister senior AL leader said talks would be welcome but did not indicate the ruling party was willing to make major concessions.

There are open invitation for dialogue on any issue, at any time. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is frequently inviting them to talks, said presidium member Abdul Jalil. On assigned by the PM, Home Minister Mohammad Nasim is also repeating such talks offer. They are most welcome to come and discuss in the parliament or sit with us anywhere they like.

Jalil did not confirm if the party had any concrete plan of action to try to bring the opposition to the negotiating table. But he hastened to add: "Anything can happen in the course of politics."

To a question, he said the AL was keeping an eye on the developments in the opposition camp while preparing for the mayoral polls. "We'll face the opposition campaign politically."

The smaller Left and Left-leaning parties are also opposing the holding of mayoral polls without the leading opposition parties. Partners in the AL government -- the break-away faction of Jatiya Party and the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) -- are however preparing for the city corporation elections.

"On principle, our party is for all kinds of elections, which are needed for the process of democracy and the Constitution to continue in the country. Democratic practice cannot be there without elec-

tions. And we will participate in the process," said Anwar Hossain Manju, the communications minister and secretary general of Jatiya Party (M-M).

Talking to The Daily Star, Manju said the city corporation polls would be discussed at the party's presidium meeting shortly.

Criticising the opposition stance, he said, "Their plan to resist elections is purely undemocratic... such practice will only endanger democracy and encourage the alternative forces."

Democracy cannot function with the culture of boycotting elections and the parliament, he observed.

Sources say the ruling party would also try to woo some smaller parties, besides trying to bring in candidates from the boycotting parties.

Party policy planners believe that many of the local leaders from the leading opposition parties would contest the city corporation elections as they did in the municipal elections in March this year. "I'm sure many of the opposition men would be in the race for the offices of ward commissioners... and we'll make attempts towards that end," a top AL leader said.

Elections to local government bodies including the city corporations are held on non-party basis but the political parties nominate their members in such polls.

The AL strategists believe the city elections would be a "test case" for the ruling party in facing the opposition agitation. They think the polls would divert the attention of many opposition leaders, activists and supporters from the anti-government campaign.

Besides, results of the city polls without the major opposition parties in the race would also help the AL strengthen its base in the big cities.

Meanwhile, the prime minister is expected to make a "significant" statement on November 3 about the December 6 mayoral elections when she is due to address a public meeting in the city, a source close to her hinted.

### Emergency meet of DMC Teachers Assoc today

By Staff Correspondent

An extended emergency meeting of the executive committee of Dhaka Medical College Teachers' Association will be held today, said a press release yesterday.

The meeting was called to find a solution to the impasse following the strike called by internee doctors which continued for the fourth day yesterday, it said.

The routine activities of the hospital came to a halt on the fourth day of the strike on Saturday, the release said. However, emergency medical services were provided and operations conducted following talks between the trainee doctors and the health minister on Thursday, the release said.

### Roundtable on 'security of female garments workers' held

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a roundtable have underscored the need for ensuring security of the female workers at the garments factories.

They also suggested forming a special 'squad' in the factories to protect the female workers from sexual harassment.

Child Women Relief and You (CWRU), a human rights organisation, organised the roundtable on 'The Growth of Garments Sector and Security of the Women' at Dhaka Club on Thursday last.

Advocate Fahima Nasreen presented the key-note paper while general secretary of Bangladesh Manabdhikar Bastabayan Sangstha Advocate Signa Huda was the moderator. Dr Rana P. Sattar, Rehana Siddiqui, Sirajul Haq Nasim, Masud Khan, Prof Shamsul Islam, Syed Borhan Kabir, Rebecca Siraj, Dr Mahbuba Nasreen and Mahmud Leena also took part in the discussion.

### Students block

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motor vehicles from Dhaka and the Northern districts came to a halt on the both side of the barricade for about two hours.

Students removed the barricade at about 6:15 pm following assurance of proper investigation from local administration.

### SNS demands direct elections to reserved seats in JS

By Staff Correspondent

Sammilita Nari Samaj (SNS) yesterday held a rally at Muktiangan demanding direct elections to reserved seats for women in the Jatiya Sangsad.

Presided over by Shirin Akhter, the rally was addressed by renowned writer Selina Hossain and convenor of Left Front Morshed Ali.

Speakers at the meeting said that women were in favour of increasing the number of reserved seats in parliament but they want direct elections to these seats, said a press release.

The rally was followed by a procession that ended at the Jatiya Press Club.

### Iqbal Ansari

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Class IV employees' movement and Language Movement respectively.

He was one of the first batch of students who violated Section 144 and courted arrest in front of the old Arts Building (now the new block of DMCH). He was elected a Joint Secretary of the National Democratic Front (NDF), the political front which opposed the military dictator Ayub Khan in the 1964 elections.

Khan was connected with many socio-cultural organisations and was the founder member of Drama Circle and President of Sangskriti Parishad of Dhaka University in 1955-56.

Politics came naturally to him because of his background. His mother late Anwara Khatun was first Muslim woman MLA in the Bengal Legislative Assembly elected in 1946. His father late Ali Amjad Khan was a Member of Parliament of Pakistan in 1960s.

Khan has authored three books, two of which — The Third Eye and the Babri Mosque, are on the geopolitical aspects of the sub-continent and the other a book of popular jokes.

Henry is survived by his wife Mumira, son Asif and daughter Tani, grand children Mehreen, Maisha and Ashnaad and a host of friends, admirers and well-wishers.

### Jubo League

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When Mashur along with his two friends were gossiping in front of the club at about 7 pm. The gang arrived there and locked in an altercation with Mashur.

At one stage, one of them shot Mashur from a point blank range and escaped the scene. Fatally injured Mashur was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he succumbed at about 8:15 pm, sources said.

When contacted late last night Uttara police, however, could not confirm the incident.

Earlier, Shamsul Huq Selim, an Awami League leader of DCC ward-74 was murdered on Tuesday while Sarwar Hossain Hiru, convenor of Awami Sechhasabak League, Dhanmondi unit, was shot dead at Green Road Thursday night.

### Housewife strangled for dowry in N'ganj

NARAYANGANJ, Oct 30: A young housewife was strangled allegedly by her husband or in-laws for dowry at Bepariara here early today, reports UNB.

Mahmuda Sultana Sammi, 20, daughter of Haji Sultanuddin Bhuiyan, was found hanging from a ceiling fan at her husband's house at Mubarrak Shah road.

Police arrested Sammi's husband Abul Kalam Azad alias Ripon, his father Abdul Aziz Shikdar, mother Monwara Begum, younger brothers Abu Zafar and Abu Bakar Siddique and elder sister Ruma Akhter in this connection.

Ripon, who was a house tutor of Sammi, married her on March 12 this year. Sammi passed SSC with star marks in 1996.

Sammi's brother Advocate BM Hossain told police that his family had given Ripon Tk two lakh, one colour TV and a refrigerator as dowry. But his sister was tortured for more dowry money.

He alleged that Ripon's family hanged Sammi from a ceiling fan after strangling her. Sammi was six months' pregnant.

In police custody, Reshma, a seven-year-old maid who works at Ripon's house, said she saw Sammi crying for help when Ripon made the attack on her. Ripon denied the allegation.

Sadar thana OC Zahurul Islam said preliminary investigation showed that it was not possible to commit suicide by hanging in the room where the body was found. He said they are waiting for autopsy report to know the cause of death.

### Hartal

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cedul Islam, ABM Ghulam Mostafa and Kazi Firoz Rashid of Jatiya Party.

In support of tomorrow's shutdown the alliance partners will hold demonstrations across the country today.

The main opposition BNP will bring out torch processions from 11 points of the city. They are: Bangshal crossing, New Market, Mohakhali, Rampura Bazar, Mirpur, Mohammadpur, Kafrul, Pallabi, Uttara, Shayampur and Tejgaon.

Jatiya Party will bring out torch procession from Muktiangan following a rally by Dhaka city unit of the party. The party cancelled today's scheduled rally at Paltan Maidan.

Meanwhile Dhaka Metropolitan Police has prohibited procession, rally and carrying arms and ammunition in and around the Jatiya Sangsad Bhawan when Parliament goes into session from tomorrow.

The prohibition comes into effect from midnight tonight, said a DMP press release yesterday.

The areas under the prohibition are: Mohakhali crossing, Banglamotor, Old Airport, Farmgate, Sonargaon Road, Panthapath, Green Road, Shymoli, Dhanmondi Road 27, Shishu Mela, Rokeya Swarni, Parjatan Crossing, Indira Road and Manik Mia Avenue.

### JCD, police

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rush-hour traffic in central Dhaka into chaos. Police used tear gas and batons to save off the young BNP supporters who clashed with police for the second time since Thursday.

Police picked up eight persons. Police were yet to charge them until 9:30 p.m. Nor could their identity be known as police went for random charges on the JCD supporters, foiling their attempts to regroup which caught many passersby in the melee.

Trouble erupted after JCD activists tried to stage a march from Bijoynagar towards the party headquarters. Hundreds of police-backed by riot police swooped on the marchers which led to the violence in the area.

As tear gas shells exploded and police charging with clubs and guns at the JCD supporters breaking their ranks, they ran amok on the rush-hour traffic, smashing glasses of at least 20 vehicles, including cars. A micro-bus was set alight near Polwel market.

JCD later claimed that at least 20 of their supporters were hurt in police action. It also claimed that police locked the entrance of the BNP office and ill-treated the women activists.

In a statement, Amanullah Aman MP condemned what he said 'police attack on a peaceful procession of JCD'.

### 34 Shibir men

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and activists with arms and ammunition.

The recovered arms and ammunition included two sawed-off rifles, cocktails, 24 bombs, 12 pieces of iron rods and one dagger.

Police said the Shibir men gathered there to launch an attack on the local BCL office.

District unit of Shibir today brought out a procession in the town demanding release of the leaders and activists.

The processionists damaged six vehicles and ransacked some shops in the town, police and witnesses said.

### BATEXPO

From page 1

products at the fair.

Three seminars on problems faced by the sector will be held during the exhibition. A fashion show on November 1 will be an added attraction at the fair.

Participants in last year's fair had got export orders worth 43.52 million dollars, Sikkat said.

BGMEA Vice-president Anisul Haq and Benajir Ahmed were also present at the press conference.

### Change of Transcom phone numbers in Gulshan Tower

Telephone numbers of Transcom office in Gulshan Tower have been changed with effect from October 30.

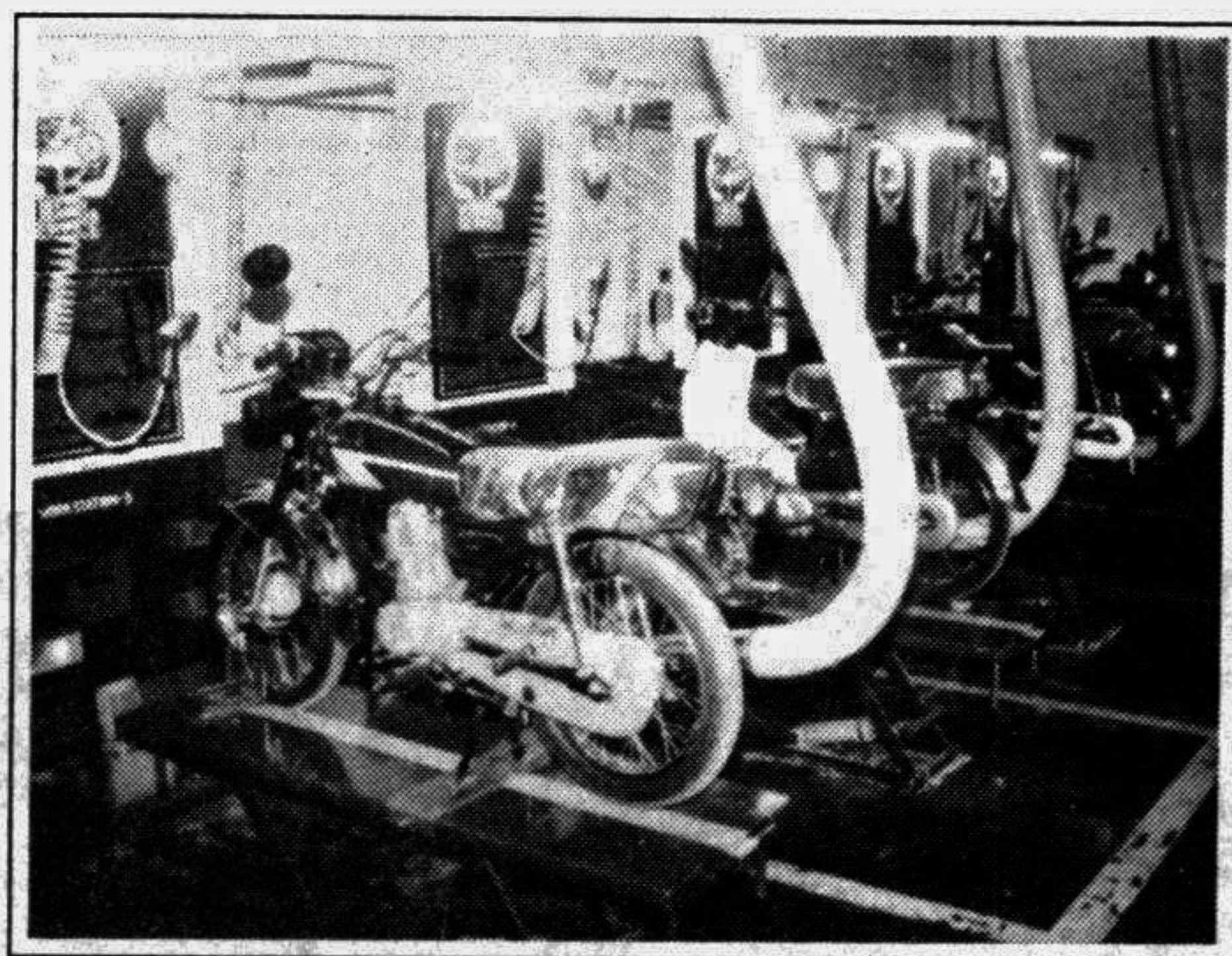
The telephone numbers are as follows:

Old Number	New Number
874662	8814662
874663	8814663
874668	8814698
874701	8814701
883281	8823281

In addition, telephone numbers 9887373 and 9883812 are also in operation.

## নূতন মিলিনিয়ারের চ্যালেঞ্জ মোকাবেলায়

হোডা/হিরো হোডার অটোমেটেড সার্ভিস ওয়ার্কশপ



ঢাকায় এখন  
অটোমেটেড  
সার্ভিস সেন্টারে  
২ সপ্তাহ ব্যাপি  
ফ্রি-সার্ভিস

স্থান :- হোডা সার্ভিস ও ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, ৩৪৩-৪৪, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা। টেলিফোন : ৮৮২৬৮৭  
তারিখ :- ৩১শে অক্টোবর '৯৯ থেকে ১১ই নভেম্বর '৯৯ (সাপ্তাহিক ছুটির দিন ব্যতিত)।  
সময় :- সকাল ৮.০০ থেকে বিকাল ৫.০০ পর্যন্ত।

\* এছাড়াও প্রতি কফিদিবসে নিখারিত চার্জের বিনিময়ে অটোমেটেড যন্ত্রপাতি ব্যবহারে সার্ভিসিং, মেরামত ও ওয়ারেন্টিং করা হয়।

বিক্রয়োত্তর সেবা এবং "হোডা জেনুইন পার্টস" প্রাপ্তির নিশ্চয়তা আমরাই দিয়ে থাকি।

হোডা জাপানের একমাত্র পরিবেশকঃ

এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড

২৬৫-২৬৭ টংগী গাজীপুর। ফোন : ৯৮০৩১১, ৯৮০৩১০, ৯৮০২৩৭, ৮৮২৬৮৭

ফ্যাক্স :- ৮৮-০২-৯৮০২৩৭, ই-মেইল :- ablhonda@bdcom.com



RLTA

### SEMINAR ON Integrating Water Management Cooperative Associations with the Cooperative Management System



A seminar on 'Integrating Water Management Cooperation Associations with the Cooperative Management System' was held at the LGED headquarters in the city yesterday.