

## Weather

## Temperature may fall

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Slight fall in night temperature is expected over the country during the period, the Met Office predicted.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 32.7 degree Celsius was recorded at Sylhet and the lowest 19.4 degrees at Sathkira.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5.16 pm and rises tomorrow at 6.09 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	31.8	72
Chittagong	32.6	73
Rajshahi	31.5	79
Khulna	32.0	78
Barisal	32.0	96
Sylhet	32.7	70
Cox's Bazar	32.6	77

## HERE and THERE

## CDRB

Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Minister of State for Planning has said that the government will continue to lend support to the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS) so that it can establish a linkage between scholars and researchers of the two countries, says a press release.

He was speaking at a seminar titled 'Generating Academic Interest about Bangladesh: The Role of the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies' in the city yesterday afternoon.

The seminar was organised by the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS) which is represented by Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh (CDRB).

Dr Syedur Rahman, President of AIBS and Coordinator of the Hubert H. Humphrey Programme at Penn State University, USA, was the principal speaker at the seminar. Chairman of CDRB and Editor of ASIAN AFFAIRS, Dr. Mizanur Rahman Shelley was in the chair.

In his key note speech Dr. Syedur Rahman, AIBS president, explained the vision statement, strategic goals and activities of AIBS to the audience and emphasised on the need for more collaboration between the scholars and research workers of USA and Bangladesh.

In his presidential address of the 24th death anniversary of Khaled Mosharraf today

The 24th death anniversary of veteran of War of Liberation Major General Khaled Mosharraf, Bir Uttam will be observed today, reports BSS.

"Khaled Mosharraf Bir Uttam Smriti Parishad" has chalked out an elaborate programme to observe the day in a befitting manner, which includes placing of wreaths at the grave of the former commander of the wartime special K-force at Dhaka Cantonment and holding of special prayers and milad mahfil.

Another milad mahfil will be held at the residence of Khaled Mosharraf at House NO-20, Road NO-56, Gulshan-2.

The valiant freedom fighter was killed in an army coup on November 7, 1975, three months after the assassination of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

## Death anniversary

The 9th death anniversary of Syed Golam Sarwar Mia of Pachgao Syed Bari of Chakhalil under Noakhali will be held on November 9, reports BSS.

A *Wajmahil* will be held on the occasion at his house attended, among others, by Pirjada Hazrat Moulana Abu Asraf, Syed Mohammad Gaziul Huq Chadpuri, Mufti-e-Azam Hazrat Moulana Abu Taher Rahmampur, Pirjada Moulana Amirul Islam Jalali, Hazrat Moulana Abu Sufian Abedi-Al-Quadri, Hazrat Moulana Abdus Sattar and Hazrat Moulana Gaziul Haque-Al-Quadri.

The 10th death anniversary of former Inspector General of Police Muhammad Habibur Rahman will be observed today, reports UNB.

*Qurankhwani* and *Milad Mahfil* will be held in his Dhanmondi residence in the afternoon.

Rahman was Chairman of Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) when he died of heart attack in 1989.

Tk 1 crore project to save Rangamati from erosion

RANGAMATI, Nov 6: Local unit of Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) has planned to expedite implementation of Rangamati town protection scheme from next month, undertaken at a cost of Tk one crore to protect Rangamati town from continuous erosion of Kaptai lake, reports BSS.

As fund is released, we have performed necessary formalities to start implementation of the scheme by the first week of December next, executive engineer of operation and maintenance division of Bangladesh Water Development Board Mohsin Ali told BSS on Wednesday.

A good chunk of areas at Reservebazar, Nutun Bus Stand, Porapahar, Kathalali Sarak Bandhar, DC Bungalow, SP Bungalow, Reservebazar, Police Line and Door Hill in the town have already been eroded by the lake, sources said.

## Two-day hartal

## Tight security measures taken

The government has taken up tight security measures to maintain law and order in the capital during the two-day hartal called by the opposition alliance, reports BSS.

Over 6000 security personnel will be deployed in the capital to guard key installations.

Besides, special teams of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Special Branch (SB) and Detective Branch (DB) will also be deployed in plainclothes in the city.

The Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) commissioner along with 11 deputy commissioners (DCs) will monitor and supervise the overall situation during hartal hours.

Nine Additional Deputy Commissioners (ADCs) 23 Assistant Commissioners (ACs) and 62 Inspectors will lead different groups of law enforcers at strategic points. Besides, 194 sub-inspectors, 89 sergeants and 42 traffic inspectors will patrol the city round-the-clock during the hartal period.

Meanwhile, 1399 special armed forces personnel, 1644 riot police, 639 traffic police, 381 ordinary reserve force, 190 protection force, 12 platoons of armed police, 10 platoon of BDR, 65 women police and 440 special task force personnel will also be deployed.

Nine hundred and sixty police personnel will stand by in the police control room and 205 others will be on duty in the night.

## Kidnapping: DU authorities not aware of any terrorist circle

By DU Correspondent

Dhaka University authorities yesterday said that they were not aware of any terrorist circles involved in kidnapping incidents involving the university area.

Expressing concern over the recent press reports regarding usage of the university campus for kidnapping, the DU authorities in a press release said that such acts were definitely condemnable and was tarnishing the image of the university, it said.

Authorities have also urged concerned to inform the DU authorities if there is any information regarding terrorists or kidnapping groups on the campus.

"We will not tolerate any such activity on the campus which hamper the image of the university," it said.

## Reunion of DU Political Science Dept old students

The old students of Political Science Department of Dhaka University will hold a gala reunion after the holy Eid-ul-Fitr, reports BSS.

This was decided at a meeting of the old boys held in the city on Thursday with Principal Gazi Delwar Hossain in the Chair.

The meeting sought cooperation of the old students to make the event a grand success. It also urged the former students of the department to enroll their names to become member of the association.

They can enroll their names with the following persons: M. Talukdar, Tel: 8610618(O), 8611507(Res), Khairul Alam, Tel: 9558390-1, 9562348(O), 9665299(Res), Gazi Delwar Hossain, Tel: 9568392 (Res) and Shaiful Karim, Tel: 9555036-9(O), 9119612(Res).

## Police official killed in road accident

Mahbubur Rahman, 30, an assistant inspector of Dhaka Metropolitan Police was killed in a tragic road accident in early hours of yesterday morning while on duty at the Panthapath area in the city, reports BSS.

Mahbubur Rahman, who was on patrol duty along with a small police group, was hit by bus coming from Benapole while he was crossing the road.

Mahbub was first taken to the private Shamaria Hospital, just on the other side of the road and thereafter rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Police seized the bus but the driver managed to escape.

Mahbub, who hails from Laksham thana under Comilla, left behind his wife and 11-month-old daughter.

The body was sent for burial at his village home after *namaz-e-janaza* in the afternoon at Razarbagh Police line Mosque.

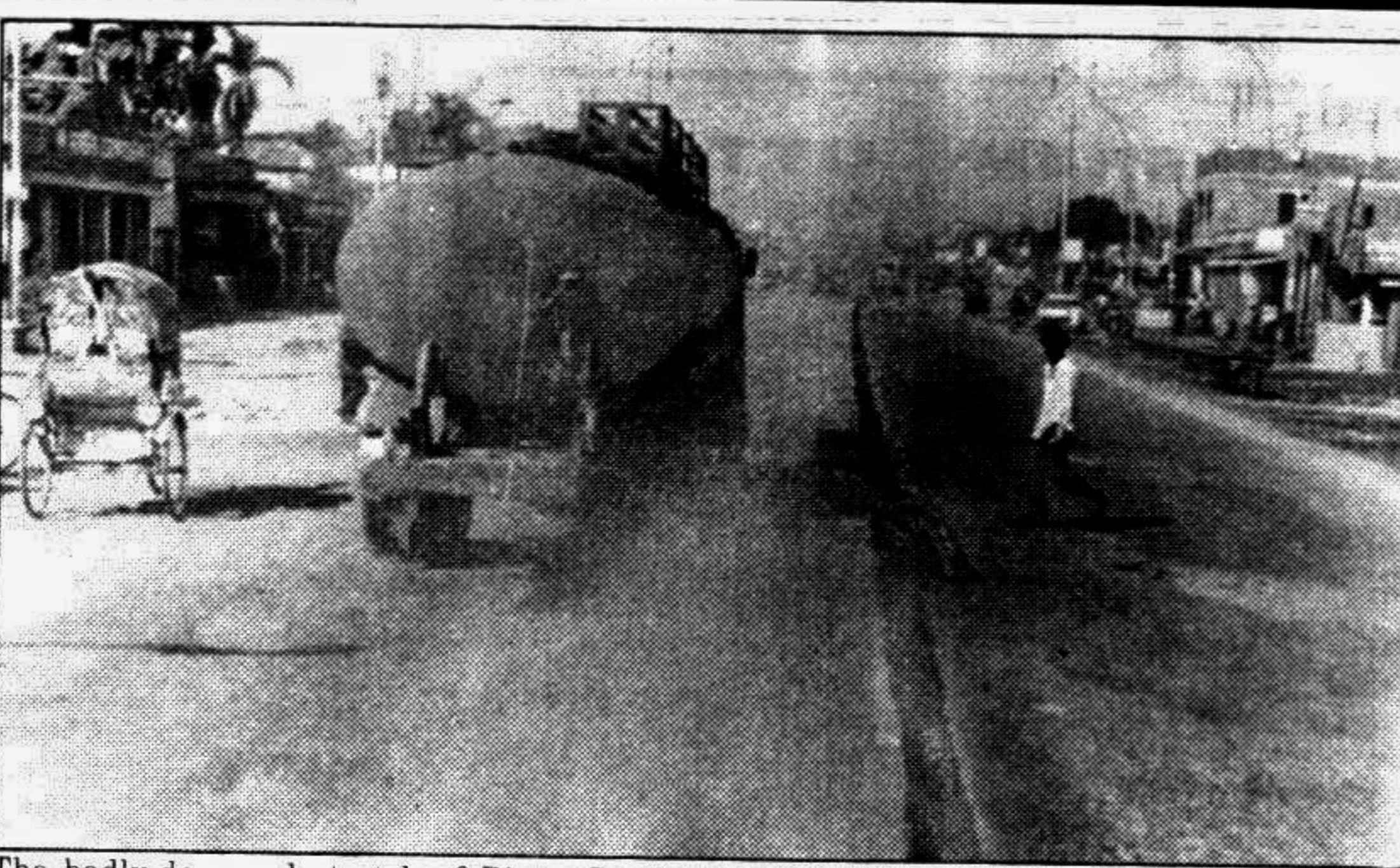
Senior police officers and colleagues of the deceased attended the *janaza*.

## Book on Hajj out

A book on the significance and rituals of the holy Hajj is available at bookshops, reports BSS.

The nearly 300-page book, *"Bakhyhe Amar Kaabar Chhab"*, jointly authored by A I M Akram Hossain, a retired government official, and Dr Nizamul Karim, a physician, gives the details of the philosophy and rituals of the holy Hajj for the Bengali-speaking readers.

Held at the National Press Club VIP Lounge in the city Thursday, the publication ceremony of the book was addressed, among others, by National Professor Syed Ali Ahsan and former VC of the Open University Dr M Shamsher Ali.



The badly-damaged stretch of Biswa Road at Rampura causes a dust storm everytime a vehicle passes by. Nearby shops are flooded in this dust every single day. — Star photo

## BCL ready to resist JCD on DU campus today

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University campus was tense yesterday as Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) finalised plans to resist arch-rival Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) during the opposition sponsored country-wide dawn to dusk hartal today and tomorrow.

BCL plans to oust JCD supporters again today if they try to enter the campus during the hartal hours, party sources said.

We will not allow JCD activists on the campus today and tomorrow because they are enforcing "illogical" hartals, said a top BCL leader preferring anonymity.

BCL during the last couple of months prevented JCD supporters from entering the university campus during hartals, ousting them as they tried to make their way to the campus or to bring out a procession or hold rally on the campus.

Campus sources said that

BCL activists will take position at different points of the campus from early morning today to prevent JCD supporters from entering the campus.

Meanwhile at a rally on the campus yesterday, the JCD leaders pledged that they would come to the campus to bring out a procession which they claimed is their democratic right.

They warned that an indefinite strike would be enforced at the university if JCD activists were intercepted on the campus during the hartal hours.

The JCD leaders also urged their political opponent to refrain from unleashing any "undemocratic" activities on the campus as they have done during earlier hartals.

JCD leaders Monjur Elahi, Mozaffar Hossain Zakir, Tariqul Islam Bari, ABM Mosharraf Hossain, Manir Hossain and Asaduzzaman Asad addressed the rally held in front of DUCSU Building.

## RAKUB takes up Tk 50cr project for agro-industries

Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank (RAKUB) has taken up a 50 crore taka programme for setting up of agro-industries which includes agro-processing, agro-storage and marketing of agricultural products in the north-west region of the country, reports BSS.

Managing Director of the bank AKM Sajedur Rahman said this at a press conference in Rajshahi yesterday. He said a priority is being given to primary agricultural production such as commercial maize cultivation, development of grand parent, poultry breeding and hatchery in Panchargarh area.

NPK fertiliser blending factory at Bogra, mixed farming at Lalmonirhat and fruit processing at Chapainawabganj.

Quality seed is a prime input to increase production for which the bank has taken up a joint collaboration programme for increased quality seed with Grameen Krishi Foundation (SKF) at Rangpur, he added.

RAKUB has also decided to finance production of shrimp in fresh water in the 58 thanas of Rangpur and Dinajpur, which would be jointly implemented by North West Fisheries Project (NFWP) at Parbatipur and RAKUB with the objective to export fresh water shrimp in future.

He also said RAKUB has

launched a 5-year massive plan for agri-development following recovery of bad loans, besides giving improved service to the agriculturists in the northern region of the country.

The bank has reduced interest rate on lending up to three per cent to the maximum from November 1 last to attract the entrepreneurs for more investment in poultry, fish hatchery, seed multiplication, fertiliser blending and fruit and vegetable processing, the managing director said.

## 43 dev projects completed in Khagrachhari

KHAGRACHHARI, Nov 6: Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) in Khagrachhari Hill Region completed 43 projects in this hilly region last year, reports BSS.

LGED has also taken up road development projects to provide easy communication facilities to the people.

The projects include repair and reconstruction of bridges, culverts and roads in the remote areas of the district.

Four projects have been completed at a cost of about Tk 70 lakh under cluster village project at Ramgarh, Dighinala, Panchhari and Mohalchhari thanas.



It is a rickshaw, but not one that you can take a ride on.

Visitors at the 9th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh'99 admired the rickshaw displayed at the exhibition as an exquisite piece of local art. The month long art extravaganza opened at the Osmani Memorial Hall auditorium yesterday.

— Star photo

## Reunion held

The Bijoya reunion of the Hindu community under the auspicious of Mahanagar Sarbojanin Puja Committee was held at the Dhakeshuari temple premises in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Presided over by president of the committee Sri Bidhu Bhushan Saha, the function was addressed, among others, by Haji Selim, MP, Srimateh Swami Akharananda Maharaj, Father Benjamin De Costa, Prof. Lalit Mohan Nath, Advocate Shudhangsu Shekhar Halder, Dr Nim Chandra Bhownik, Kajo Devnath, Deepen Chattarjee and Advocate Satyendra Chandra Bhakta.

Speakers at the function urged the political parties to remain alert in future in announcing political programmes during religious festivals of any community.

The organisers postponed their cultural programmes protesting the call of hartal by BNP led oppositions during the Kali Puja festival.

Earlier, a special prayer was also offered seeking divine blessings for early recovery of justice Debesh Chandra Bhattacharya, Major General (Retd) GR Dutta and Foyiza Khasru, wife of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Abdul Matin Khasru.

## Missing Greek-Cypriots

## Cyprus govt apologises to relatives

NICOSIA, Nov 6: The Cyprus government formally apologised today to relatives of the 1,617 Greek-Cypriots it has kept listed as missing for the past 25 years after it emerged evidence was available all along to determine the fate of at least some of them, reports AFP.

"With a heavy heart, the Cypriot state asks the mourning relatives to accept a humble apology," Defence Minister Socrates Hasikos said at a ceremony to bless the remains recently exhumed from mass graves here.

## No plan to allow India to use Ctg port, JS told

State Minister for Shipping Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that there was no plan to allow India to use Chittagong Sea Port, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Mohammad Fazul Azim of BNP, the state minister said that the government had a plan to allow Nepal to use Mongla Port for international trade.

In the absence of the questioner, the question was raised by a treasury bench member Jalal Uddin Talukder.

In reply to a question, Maya said tender for dredging of the river leading to Mongla Port to maintain navigability of the port has been floated.

He told the House that a plan had been taken to modernise Khulna launch ghat.

## Only HR focused process can restore peace for Afghan people

Dr Kamal Hossain has presented a report to the UN General Assembly on the human rights situation in Afghanistan, reports UNB.

Acting as Special Rapporteur of the UN Commission on Human Rights, Dr Kamal has based his report from his three visits to the trouble-torn Afghanistan.

The report focused on the tragic plight of the Afghan people who have continued over two decades to be victims of gross violation of human rights and grave breaches of international humanitarian law.

The basic cause he stated, is that the Afghan people are virtual hostages in their own land and are being ruled by externally armed groups without their effective participation or consent, said the report of Dr Kamal who is also President of Gano Forum.

The report recommended that only through a human right-focused process of peace-building could make progress towards improving the overall human rights situation in Afghanistan.

While such an agreement was being negotiated, humanitarian assistance should be extended urgently to meet the basic needs for survival, in particular to the large number of people displaced by the recent resumption of conflict, the report recommended.

## Clinton 'may support' partial lifting of Cuba sanctions

WASHINGTON, Nov 6: US President Bill Clinton has said he could envision a partial lifting of four decades-long trade sanctions against Cuba, but only "under the right circumstances," reports AFP.

Clinton told a news conference Friday that he would be willing to entertain congressional legislation easing some restrictions against Cuba.

"Under the right circumstances, I could support that," he said.

But Clinton added that he was so far disappointed with Cuba's response to overtures made by Washington to improve relations.

"I have bent over backwards to try to reach out to them ... and every time we do something, they shoot planes down and kill people illegally, or puts people into jail," the US

president said.

"I almost think he doesn't want us to lift the embargo, because it provides him an excuse for the economic failures of his administration," Clinton said shortly after his return from a trip to Chicago, Illinois.

In an interview on the same topic Thursday, Clinton conceded that the US public would probably support legislation lifting sanctions on food and medicines to Cuba.

"I think the American people would like to be reconciled with the Cuban people," Clinton told the Telemundo television network.

A number of US politicians, especially those from farm states, have called in recent weeks for relaxing sanctions against Cuba, which were put in place in 1962, shortly after President Fidel Castro overthrew Havana's government.

## PM: Art, culture

From page 1

bandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, considering diversity of culture took effective measures for the flourishing of fine arts despite resource constraint in a war-ravaged country. He initiated the setting up of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Bangabandhu established folk art collection centre at Sonarganj for the folk artists and craftsmen, she said adding exhibition of Bangladesh arts in foreign countries and exhibition of local and foreign arts in Bangladesh were introduced during his period.

Later artists, intellectuals, litterateurs, singers, drama artists, professionals, workers, students and above all general people created a history of democratic movement for 21 years for practicing culture of art, literature, drama and music, she added.

After assuming office, the Prime Minister said, her government has ensured congenial atmosphere for art and culture along with other sectors. "We have taken effective measures for development of art and culture of our country."

She said the government is working for establishing cultural district covering

Suhrawardy Udyan, Bangla Academy, Shilpakala Academy, Art Institute, Poet Nazrul's Mazar, Public Library and Ramna Park.

"We have taken steps to build cultural structures including the Independence Column, National Theatre State and Poet Nazrul's Monument," she said adding construction of National Art Gallery at the Shilpakala Academy is going on.

She asked the authorities concerned to expedite the work of Art Gallery so that the next Asian Art Biennale could be held there.

The Prime Minister said: "We always look forward. We have broken the boundary of backwardness. We believe art and artists cannot be chained or restrained."

Works of art and artists need free atmosphere. The artist creates his great work in a free atmosphere and enriches the culture of fine art," she said.

The Prime Minister said the exhibition would create awareness among the artists of the country. It will have positive impact on future creation of arts. She hoped that the artists of the country would be able to bring-honours in future being benefited from this exhibition.

## Draft of proposed extradition treaty submitted to Canadian govt

The draft of a proposed extradition treaty from Bangladesh has been submitted to the Canadian government for bringing back two of the self-confessed killers of Bangabandhu from that country, reports UNB.

## Polls schedule

From page 1

Chowdhury, Chamber Judge of the Supreme Court's Appellate Division, yesterday stayed the HC order regarding Chittagong City Corporation until November 9. He would hear the case on that day.

GC activities regarding the election process have already been interrupted due to the court proceedings, Abu Hena explained. "We have to wait for the court decision, which is expected to come on November 11."

Replying to another question, the CEC said, "We would decide a fresh schedule for the city corporation elections after November 11."

## DU: Show cause

From page 1

are holding 'orientation programmes' for the newly recruited lecturers to make them aware of their academic duties. Thirty-three lecturers were given various instructions in the first such programme held late last month.

When contacted, pro-Vice-Chancellor of DU Prof. M Shahadat Ali said that they would do everything to stop unauthorised consultancy and restore academic discipline at the university.

Evading a direct answer on show cause notice, Prof Ali said that the authorities would not hesitate to take action against those teachers still involved in unauthorised consultancy, violating rules.

"We have been able to bring back a congenial academic atmosphere at the university and we hope to be able to restore academic discipline by stopping unauthorised consultancy and making the teachers accountable," he added.

Talking to this correspondent, many teachers observed that the university authorities should be much more strict to implement their various instructions regarding consultancy. Some, however, believed that the authorities would never be able to do anything in this regard.

## Sec 144 at Monohardi

NARSINGDI, Nov 6: The district administration today imposed Section 144 on Monohardi thana headquarters banning rallies of the ruling Awami League and main opposition BNP at same venue at the same time, reports UNB.

Monohardi TNO. Office sources said Section 144 was imposed for 12 hours from 12 noon as Monohardi units of Awami League and BNP called for rallies at the local bus stand opposing and supporting 42-hour countrywide hartal beginning 6 am Sunday.

Additional police force, led by a magistrate, was deployed at bus stand to ward off any untoward incident.

## Road accident kills 4 in Rajshahi

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAH, Nov 6: Four people were killed and 10 others injured, five of them seriously in a road accident at Alimganj in Poba thana last night.

The dead were identified as Shahjahan Ali, 50, Zahid, 16, Habu, 10, and Chelli, 45.

The accident occurred when a Chapainawabganj-bound night coach hit two rickshaws in which the victims were returning home from a Taisir Mahfil.

Shahjahan, Zahid and Habu died at the spot while Chelli succumbed to injuries on way to hospital.

The seriously injured Omar Ali, 50, Monowara, 40, Ayesha, 8, Begum, 35, Lovely, 10, and Tosiqul, 12, were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

The killer bus managed to flee. A case was registered with Poba thana in this connection.

## Land policy

From page 1

water bodies like small ponds, the responsibility will be with their owners. In case of big water bodies like rivers, canals, haors, baors and bils, the government will remain responsible for keeping them intact.

Depleting a gloomy picture of ever-decreasing per capita arable land in the country, the draft policy says no prime agricultural land will be allowed to be used for other purposes. Per capita arable land is 0.18 acre now against 0.30 acre in 1974, it notes.

No new industries, commercial establishments, offices and rest houses will be permitted in urban residential areas and existing structures will have to be relocated outside residential areas.

It suggests "vertical expansion instead of horizontal advancement" in construction of houses, hospitals, educational institutions and other structures to ensure "best possible use of scarce land".

Land reserved for forestry can not be used for any other purposes, it says. Forest areas were reduced to about 46 lakh acres in early 1990s from about 55 lakh acres in 1971-1972, it says.

The rural economy should be developed to stop influx of the rural poor to urban areas, which has made urban life extremely unhygienic and miserable. About 18.73 per cent of the total population live in urban areas, which constitute only 6.49 per cent of total lands in the country. The draft policy also noted the growing population pressure on the two major cities - Dhaka and Chittagong.

Of the total area in the country, 64.2 per cent is under agriculture and 17.3 per cent is under forestry. Urban areas comprise 8.1 per cent and water bodies 6.5 per cent, it said.

## Body of young man recovered

By Staff Correspondent

Body of a young man was recovered from an under-construction building at Nawabganj under Lalbagh police station in the city at nine last night.