

## ● What's on today .... ●

**Exhibition:** An Exhibition of student projects of BUET will be held. Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Time: 10.00 am-12.00 noon, 6.00 pm-8.00 pm.

**CUS seminar:** A two-day long seminar on "Secure Tenure: Access to Urban Land and Housing Finance" will begin. Organiser: Centre for Urban Studies (CUS). Chief guest: Engr Mosharraf Hossain, Minister for Housing and Public Works. Venue: LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 11.30 am.

**Film show:** Rashed Chowdhury's documentary film on sculptor Novera Ahmed "The Long Wait" will be screened. Venue: Public Library auditorium. Time: 11.00 am, 12.00 noon, 1.00 pm, 4.00 pm, 5.00 pm, 6.00 pm, and 7.00 pm.

**Exchange of views meet:** The Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) will hold an exchange of views meeting. Venue: Conference room of FBCCI. Federation Bhaban, Motijheel C/A. Time 11.00 am.

● ..... and tomorrow ●

**Launching ceremony:** The launching ceremony of Meherba Plaza will be held. Venue: 33 Topkhana Road. Time: 7.00 pm.

**Discussion meeting:** Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB) will hold a discussion meeting on "Registration of architects by Rajuk". Venue: Goethe Institut, House No 10, Rd No 9, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5.30 pm.

## Weather

## Dry weather likely

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country with partly cloudy sky over Dhaka, Chittagong and Barisal divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Night temperature may rise slightly over the country during the period while it may fall by 2 degree Celsius in subsequent two days, Met Office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 31.5 degree Celsius was recorded at Sitakunda and the lowest of 16.4 degrees at Sathkhira.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:12 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:15 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in	
	in Celsius	Max	Min	percentage
Dhaka	30.5	19.0	57	81
Chittagong	30.3	20.3	76	70
Rajshahi	29.7	17.8	80	84
Khulna	30.5	19.4	74	77
Barisal	30.5	18.0	82	81
Sylhet	29.9	19.4	78	69
Cox's Bazar	31.0	20.0	63	68

## Public Administration Reforms Commission submits report

The Public Administrative Reforms Commission (PARC) has so far submitted 23 adhoc recommendations to the government while some others are in the offing as the Commission now closes to finalise the preliminary draft report by December 31, reports BSS.

Since its reconstitution in October 1997, the PARC has given importance to the issue of adhoc recommendations since many of the matters that deserve early attention should not wait till the final recommendations, ATM Shamsul Haque, Chairman of the Commission said.

He said the government has taken a pragmatic approach by approving many of these adhoc recommendations as some have already been implemented while many others are being implemented after approval. Simplification of payment of travel tax is one such adhoc recommendation that has been implemented and "One-stop" utility bill payment system and several others are being implemented.

The appointment of Ombudsman is one of the adhoc recommendation of the Commission and it is in the process of implementation after the Prime Minister has declared its acceptance, Haque said. He expressed the hope that the final report of the Commission will be of tremendous importance and stressed the need for sound modalities to follow-up the recommendations after government's decision on the final report.

## Sayeed urges Betar to highlight programmes on Liberation War

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed yesterday called upon the Bangladesh Betar to properly highlight the incidents of mass killing and oppression by the Pakistani Army and their local collaborators during the Liberation War, reported BSS.

The State Minister made this call while presiding over a meeting of the high officials of the Information Ministry and Bangladesh Betar.

Underlining the role of media, especially radio, in creating a strong base for making the nation developed and prosperous, the state minister said the authorities would have to work for making the radio programmes consistent with the free flow of information.

The meeting discussed the development programmes that took place during the last three years in Bangladesh Betar.

The meeting was informed that during the period Bangladesh Betar established full-fledged stations in Thakurgaon, Barisal and Rangamati while the construction work for such station in Cox's Bazar is almost complete.

The meeting was also told that Bangladesh Betar won the international Radio Award 99, instituted by Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU).

## Obituary

CHITTAGONG, Nov 16: Prof AFM Serajud Dowlah Chowdhury, head of the department of Bengali, Chittagong Government College, died of cardiac arrest at his residence here today, his family sources said. He was 58, reports BSS.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.



Anti-hartal procession by ruling Bangladesh Awami League in front of Secretariat building during dawn-to-dusk hartal yesterday. —Star photo



Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) staged a protest rally in the city during hartal hours yesterday. —Star photo

## Task force report submitted

## Life span of 11 sugar mills has expired long ago

The life span of 11 sugar mills out of 15 in the country, all run by the government, has expired long ago and their worn-out machinery are causing a rise in the production cost, reveals a task force report.

The 15 mills with a production capacity of 2.10 lakh tons are far behind the annual sugar consumption of 3.80 lakh tons that will rise to 4.09 lakh tons in 2000 and 5.07 lakh tons in 2005.

Import will be the only option to meet the widening gap between production and demand if capacity of the mills is not increased and new mills are not set up, said the task force formed by the government with experts and officials.

The 14-member task force, headed by Shamsur Rahman Sharif MP, submitted its recommendations to the government recently with detailed as-

essment of the situation of sugar mills, identifying the causes of huge losses and suggesting remedies.

Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC), that runs all the sugar mills, has already initiated phased implementation of the task force recommendations.

"We've already taken effective steps for development of sugar cane cultivation. Measures have also been taken to increase sugar production," BSFIC Chairman AS Salauddin Ahmed said.

In line with the task force recommendations that call for reducing manpower, the BSFIC has stopped recruitment, he said.

The government is now looking for opportunities of balancing, modernising, rehabilitation and expansion (BMRE) under suppliers' credit arrangement. Teams from China and Pakistan have already visited the

mills for this purpose, officials said.

Sugar mills of annual capacity below 20,000-25,000 tons are not considered profitable. But the capacity of all mills but two is below 20,000.

The task force suggested increasing production capacity above 20,000/25,000 tons to make the mills profitable. It also recommended a sugarcane development programme to facilitate cultivation of high-yielding varieties and ensure adequate agricultural loans.

The task force suggested that the government should take steps for BMRE in nine mills and set up three new mills during the current fifth five-year plan (1997-2001), which will require an estimated amount of Tk 720 crore.

It also suggested that private sector should be encouraged to set up sugar mills in the country.

## DU Marketing Deptt silver jubilee

The Marketing Department of Dhaka University will hold a function at 9.30 am on November 19 at TSC in observance of its silver jubilee, reported BSS.

Vice-chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury will attend the function as the chief guest. About one thousand five hundred dignitaries will also attend it.

The department will also bring out a colourful rally from the Business Studies Building tomorrow at 10 am in celebration of the occasion. Students, faculty members and former students of the department will participate in the rally.

## JCD to observe Hatred Day today

By DU Correspondent

Jatiyatabdil Chhatra Dal (JCD), the student front of opposition BNP will observe "Hatred Day" today in protest of the "indecent" remarks of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Khaleda Zia.

Leaders and activists of JCD will bring out a procession from city's Muktangon at 3pm today to observe the day.

## Dacoity at night coach: 3 robbers held in Comilla

KUSHTIA, Nov 16: The second convocation of Islamic University will be held on December 5, reports BSS.

Chancellor of the university Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will attend the convocation, university sources said.

The IU Vice Chancellor at a press conference has sought co-operation of all for successful holding of the convocation.

## Reunion of freedom fighters Dec 7

The freedom fighters belonging to the Sector No 8 will hold a reunion at the Martyrs' Memorial Rakta Rin beside the Monoharpur Lake near Jessoro Cantonment on December 7, says an ISPR press release.

December 7 is a red-letter day in the history of the Liberation War. On this day, the valiant freedom fighters liberated the Jessor area from the clutch of the Pakistani occupation forces.

Freedom Fighters belonging to Sector 8 and members of the Martyred families who want to participate in the programme have been requested to fill in the prescribed forms available with district Mukti Juddha Sangsads and submit them to the Thana/District Mukti Juddha Sangsads.

A sub-regional workshop on promoting advocacy for "Adolescent reproductive health through effective communication: A training programme" for media practitioners will be held at a city hotel on November 20, reports BSS.

A case was filed in this regard.

## Regional workshop on adolescents November 20

A sub-regional workshop on promoting advocacy for "Adolescent reproductive health through effective communication: A training programme" for media practitioners will be held at a city hotel on November 20, reports BSS.

Leaders and activists of JCD will bring out a procession from city's Muktangon at 3pm today to observe the day.

By DU Correspondent

The meeting discussed the development programmes that took place during the last three years in Bangladesh Betar.

The meeting was informed that during the period Bangladesh Betar established full-fledged stations in Thakurgaon, Barisal and Rangamati while the construction work for such station in Cox's Bazar is almost complete.

The meeting was also told that Bangladesh Betar won the international Radio Award 99, instituted by Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU).

Additional Chief Engineer of Public Works Department Ahmedur Rahman was transferred as member of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha on deputation and his service was placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

The services Additional Di-

visional Commissioner of Dhaka M Mamta Uddin and Senior Finance Controller (Works) of Dhaka Cantonment Abdullah Al Mamun were placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.

Additional Chief Engineer of Public Works Department Ahmedur Rahman was transferred as member of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha on deputation and his service was placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.

Additional Chief Engineer of Public Works Department Ahmedur Rahman was transferred as member of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha on deputation and his service was placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.

Additional Chief Engineer of Public Works Department Ahmedur Rahman was transferred as member of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha on deputation and his service was placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.

Additional Chief Engineer of Public Works Department Ahmedur Rahman was transferred as member of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha on deputation and his service was placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.

Additional Chief Engineer of Public Works Department Ahmedur Rahman was transferred as member of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha on deputation and his service was placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.

Additional Chief Engineer of Public Works Department Ahmedur Rahman was transferred as member of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha on deputation and his service was placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.

Additional Chief Engineer of Public Works Department Ahmedur Rahman was transferred as member of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha on deputation and his service was placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.

Additional Chief Engineer of Public Works Department Ahmedur Rahman was transferred as member of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha on deputation and his service was placed under Housing and Public Works Ministry, said a handout.

He left behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Prof Chowdhury was held at Parade Ground this afternoon and he was buried at Shah Garib Ullah graveyard in the city.