

What's on today.....

Exhibition: A five-day-long exhibition of 40 art pieces from the 4th Berger Young Painters' Art Competition will be inaugurated. Venue: Zainal Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts. Time: 10:00 am.

Discussion meeting: A discussion meeting on "Bangabandhu and the four national leaders" will be held to mark the 4th National Day. Chief guest: Amir Hossain Amu, President member of Awami League. Venue: Dhaka College premises. Time: 11:00 am.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Dry weather is likely to prevail over the country in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged across the country during the period, according to Met Office.

The country's highest temperature was recorded yesterday at 30.7 degrees Celsius at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 13.4 degrees at Dinajpur.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:11 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:19 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
Dhaka	29.7	15.1
Chittagong	29.2	17.2
Rajshahi	27.6	16.3
Khulna	28.5	17.5
Barisal	28.7	16.2
Sylhet	29.5	17.6
Cox's Bazar	30.7	18.6

HERE and THERE

Women for Women

By Staff Correspondent

A two-day national conference on "Health System in Bangladesh: Women's Perspective" was held at Planning and Development Academy here on Friday and Saturday.

Women for Women, a research and study group, organised the conference which discussed the health and population policy, work strategies for implementation of programmes and women's health issue, said a press release yesterday.

Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) Chairman Prof Rehman Sobhan addressed the inaugural function as chief guest. In his speech, Prof Rehman Sobhan elaborately discussed the current health system and opportunity and limitation of women's health service.

World Bank's Social Sector team leader WB Herbert presented a statement on the bank's health related projects in the country.

Presided over by Prof Jahannara Haq, it was addressed, among others, by Dr Khaleida Salahuddin and Rawshan Jahan.

The conference was divided into six sessions and a total of 12 keynote papers were presented during the two-day programme. Recommendations were prepared and adopted through group discussion.

Kabi Nazrul College

Awami League presidium member Amir Hossain Amu yesterday urged the people to resist the opposition's conspiracy to create unrest and anarchy in society, reports BSS.

Speaking at a freshers' reception at Kabi Nazrul Government College, the Awami League leader said a political party which was born in cantonment has resorted to anarchic activities by joining hands with the defeated forces of 1971 under a blue print.

Amu urged the patriotic and

conscious section in the society to come forward to foil the evil designs against peace, democracy and development.

Speaking on the occasion as special guest, City Mayor Mohammad Hanif urged the opposition to follow the constitutional process to change the government instead of hatching conspiracy.

He advised the students to equip themselves with proper knowledge so that they should bear the responsibility of building a 'Sonar Bangla' as dreamt by the Bangabandhu.

Presided over by Kabi Nazrul College unit of the BCL, Ashraf Uddin Rubel, the reception was addressed, among others, by BCL central leaders Nazim Islam Babu, Golam Faruk Mannan, Miral Hossain, Glas Uddin Polash and Zahidul Islam.

Bangladesh Bar Council

Justice A M Bhattacharjee, former Chief Justice of Calcutta, Bombay and Sikkim of India delivered a speech on "Instructions to the New Entrant Lawyers" at the Bangladesh Bar Council's premises yesterday, says a press release.

Justice Bhattacharjee said that duty of lawyers is not to lead the court but to lead the client. He asked the lawyer community not to think like a court officer but to think like a client officer. Social justice should be linked with the interest of the weaker section of the society, he observed.

The programme was presided over by M Amirul Islam, Barister-at-Law, Vice-Chairman, Bangladesh Bar Council and Chairman of Legal Education & Training Institute.

Justice Ebadul Haque and Justice Abdul Mannan from Supreme Court of Bangladesh, M A Salam Talukder, Chairman, Human Rights & Legal Aid Committee of Bar Council and M Momen Rashid, Coordinator, Bar Vocational Course of Legal Education & Training Institute of Bar Council were also present.

More skulls, bones recovered from Mirpur mass grave

By Staff Correspondent

Excavators of the Liberation War Museum yesterday recovered 26 human skulls and 2226 different types of bones from the Mirpur Jallad Khana killing fields.

Besides, remains of everyday articles like plastic shoes were also recovered from the area.

The Liberation War Museum initiated the excavation with the help of Bangladesh Army a week ago to recover the remains of the people who were killed by the Pakistani occupation forces and their collaborators during the War of Liberation in 1971.

The bones and skulls were recovered from a water tank adjacent to the pump house there.

The excavators yesterday recovered 26 skulls, 25 mandibles, 612 vertebrae, 56 hipbones, 43 scapulas, 35 femurs, 42 patella, 40 tibiae, 54 ribs, 49 ulna, 42 fibula, 174 tarsus-carpi and 372 metatarsus.

DU hall serves showcase on 3 students

By DU Correspondent

Authorities of Kabi Jasim Uddin Hall of Dhaka University yesterday served showcase notices to three resident students asking them why they should not be expelled from the hall.

Those who were given the notices are Kalam, Nasir and Ashraf.

Hall sources said that the showcase notices were served following a clash among the three students at the hall over violation of mess rules by a resident.

Students said mess manager Nasir cancelled Mostafa's lunch on Sunday because he came to the dining room the previous night in a lurch in violation of hall rules. Following the incident, Kalam, a friend of Mostafa, was locked in a fight with Nasir over the matter.

Later, Nasir's friend Ashraf arrived at the scene and beat up Kalam for insulting Nasir.

Later, hall Provost Prof. Mesbah Uddin Ahmed held a meeting with his house tutors and served the notices to the students.

Shantu for sustainable development in CHT

RANGAMATI, Nov 22: Jyotirindra Bodhipriyo alias Shantu Lama, chairman of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council, said here today that he wants to solve all the problems of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) permanently, reports BSS.

"We want to make plans which can ensure unity of the multi-lingual indigenous people living in CHT," Shantu said yesterday at the concluding session of a two-day workshop for checking out work plan for CHT.

Rangamati unit of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) organised the workshop, sponsored jointly by international federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and international committee of the Red Cross.

Ching Kew Reaza, president of Rangamati unit of BDRCS and chairman of Rangamati hill district council, presided over both the inaugural and concluding sessions.

Berger Young Painters' Award ceremony held

The award giving ceremony of the 4th Berger Young Painters' Art Competition was held at Hotel Sonargaon on Sunday, says a press release.

Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited has been organising the nation-wide art competition for the last four years to patronise the young painters of the country. This year, 259 participants took part in the competition.

Renowned artist Professor Aminul Islam was present at the function as special guest and distributed prizes among the winners of the competition. The winners are Mohammad Mustafa Shaheedul Islam, Rezaul Hoq Khan, Rahima Begum, Sufia Begum, Nahida Sharmin and Abash Kumar Indu.

Speaking on behalf of Berger Paints (BD) Ltd, Managing Director, Masih-ul Karim, said, "As a responsible corporate citizen, Berger is always committed to the society and Young Painters Art Competition is an example of Berger's social commitment."

Berger has also organised a 5-day exhibition at the Zainal Gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University with 40 selected paintings, which will be inaugurated by the Managing Director of Berger Paints (BD) Ltd on November 23 at 10 am.

Pirates hijack fishing boat

BARGUNA, Nov 22: Armed pirates hijacked a fishing boat along with seven fishermen from the bay, 70-km off Mohipur coast, early Sunday, reports UNB.

According to Patharghata Traders and Owners' Association, a gang of 20-25 pirates aboard a sophisticated engine boat waylaid the fishing boat, FR Dulal, at about 3 am and overpowered it.

Three of the fishermen managed to escape by jumping into the sea. They were rescued by another fishing boat, after floating for 10 hours in the bay.

Workshop on vegetable nursery 'Produce more vegetables to alleviate poverty'

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a workshop yesterday underscored the need for increasing vegetable production in the country to alleviate poverty and malnutrition.

They observed that low per capita vegetable consumption was one of the main reasons for malnutrition in the society. According to a paper presented at the workshop, the per capita vegetable consumption in the country is only around 50 grams against the standard of minimum 200 grams set by FAO.

Stressing on the need for commercial production of vegetables using modern technology, the speakers said that apart from helping many people come out from poverty level, this would also help improve their health condition.

Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre (AVRDC) is organising the two-day workshop in collaboration with USAID at a city hotel.

The opening session was addressed by Dr D P Singh, senior horticulturist of AVRDC, Dr M A Razzagha, director general of Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI) and Richard Rousseau of USAID.

The speakers noted that the quality of 80 per cent of vegetable seeds used in the country is poor. They observed that vegetable production could be increased manifold through usage of high yielding varieties.

The northern districts including Thakurgaon, Dinajpur

and Panchagarh, because of its meteorological advantage, being less vulnerable to flood, cyclone and other natural calamities, can be an ideal place for cultivating such varieties round the year to meet local demand as well as for export, they pointed out.

Dr Kazi M Bodruddoza and Dr Abul Kashem chaired two technical sessions of the workshop on "Development of Entrepreneurship in Vegetable Nursery and Seed Business in Bangladesh." Research papers were presented by Seraj A Chowdhury, Habibur Rahman, Quazi Tofazzal Hossain, Dr S M Monowar Hossain Bablu Mirza, Ayub Hossain and B I Siddique.

The speakers said that vegetable seed production must be increased manifold to meet local demand. At present, local entrepreneurs are producing only 300 tonnes of quality seeds against a demand of 3000 tons, the workshop was told.

The BARI director general in his paper said that at present we get two million tonnes of vegetables from four lakh hectares of land. "It is half of the yield in other countries of the region and one-fourth of that obtained in China, Korea and Japan," he said.

He noted that there has not been much research in this regard in the private sector. BARI has released more than 35 varieties of different vegetables and more are in the pipeline, he said.



Supply of freshwater fish is aplenty in the market at this time of the year. The demand is also high considering the relatively cheaper prices —Star photo

M A Chowdhury Ltd appointed distributor for GrameenPhone

An agreement has been signed appointing M A Chowdhury Ltd as a distributor for marketing and sales of EASY card and pre-paid service of GrameenPhone, says a press release.

Kafil H S Mueyed, DGM Marketing of GrameenPhone, and Salahuddin Chowdhury, Managing Director of M A Chowdhury Ltd, signed the agreement in a ceremony on November 20.

Khandaker Hafiz, Channel Sales Manager, GrameenPhone; Mir Jahiruddin Ahmed, Sales Officer, GrameenPhone; Sohail Zaman, Corporate Manager, ANZ Grindlays Bank, Khulna; and Abul Hasnat Chowdhury, an eminent businessman of Khulna, were present on the occasion.

M A Chowdhury Ltd will operate in 25 departmental stores and retail shops in Khulna City, Khulshpur, Fultala, Dowlatpur, Noapara, Rupsha and other areas.

Iranian delegation praises success of family planning programmes

Members of the visiting five-member Iranian population delegation praised the success of family planning programmes of Bangladesh and also appreciated the government's role in this regard, reports BSS.

During a meeting with State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr M Amanullah at his office, the delegation led by Dr Safieh Shahriari Ashraf also expressed the desire to learn from Bangladesh's experience in family planning programmes for replication in their own country.

The Iranian delegation members were especially interested in the successful experience in strong government commitment, Government-NGO collaboration, community participation, strong IEC activities for reproductive health and family planning and also the steps taken for essential obstetric care.



GrameenPhone signed an agreement with MA Chowdhury Ltd on Saturday, appointing the organisation as a distributor for marketing and sales of its Easy card and prepaid service.



This woman makes a living by selling foods to day-labourers on the street side in Karwan Bazar area. Rates vary from Tk 10 to 12 for a single meal. —Star photo by Amran Hossain

Discussion meet held on Jail Killing Day

Participants at a discussion on "Mansoor Ali and the 24th Jail Killing Day" yesterday urged pro-liberation and democratic forces to forge unity against evil forces who are trying to destroy the spirit of the Liberation War and destabilise the country, reports BSS.

They said that the four national leaders, who successfully led the War of Liberation in 1971 under the leadership of Bangabandhu were assassinated in captivity as they did not compromise with their killers.

Held in Sufia Kamal auditorium of the National Museum the discussion was organised by Shaheed Mansoor Ali Smriti Sangsad. It was presided over by Khondakar Asaduzzaman, adviser to the prime minister on Liberation War and Ministry of Establishment.

It was addressed, among others, by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Awami League Presidium Member Syeda Zohra Tajuddin, Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzag, Home, Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Mohammad Selim MP, National Professor Kabir Chowdhury and Director General of the Bangla Academy Syed Anwar Hossain.

The speakers said that the anti-liberation forces killed the four national leaders only to destroy the ideals of Bangabandhu.

FBCCI

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grammes like hartal," he said. According to the FBCCI chief, apart from political instability and hartal, other impediments to economy are irregularities and harassment over power, port, bank loan, export-import, investment, revenue and VAT.

In this respect, he described how a businessman here has to bear more cost. While 1,600 US dollar is to be spent to send a jute container from Chittagong to Brussels, it costs only 900 US dollar from Calcutta.

Similarly, one investor here has to pay Tk 81 to make a phone call to USA, but in India it is only Tk 40, he said.

In his annual report, the FBCCI president identified some 30 problems that stand on the way to boosting the country's economy.

Listing FBCCI steps in resolving problems of the business as well as the bid to boost international trade, Mintop stressed regional and sub-regional economic cooperation among Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, northeastern states of India, and the Chinese provinces nearest to Bangladesh.

In this respect, he mentioned the visits of FBCCI delegation to a number of countries and participation in international investment forums and seminars.

The AGM was also addressed by FBCCI vice president M A Mumin, Akbar Ali, Mainuddin Manik, Jahangir Alam, Amir Hossain Khan, Manjur Ahmed, Moslemuddin Ahmed, Mir Nasir Hossain, A Rouf Chowdhury, Delwar Hossain, Abul Kashem Ahmed, Shahjada Mia, Nazrul Islam, Shahidul Islam Milon, Khodadad Ahmed, A K M Shamsuddoha, Khurshid Ali Mollah, Delwar Hossain, S U Haider, Iqbal Jamal Jewel, Abdur Rahman and Yusuf Ashraf.

IIT members urged to impart quality edn

GAZIPUR, Nov 22: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today urged the members of the Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT) to impart quality education based on appropriate technology for economic growth of the Muslim Ummah and groom skilled manpower to face the challenges of new millennium, reports UNB.

"We want to make OIC an effective and active organisation for world peace and welfare and development of the Muslim Ummah," she told the 13th convocation ceremony of IIT, an important organ of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

Terming Islam the religion of universal peace, Hasina said: "We want to equally contribute to the human welfare and development of the world through the welfare of Muslim Ummah."

The member states of OIC will have to play due role for increasing the effectiveness of OIC, she added.

The prime minister said the present government, since assumption of office, has been actively participating in the OIC activities and mentioned her active role in the OIC summits in Islamabad and Tehran.

The Prime Minister thanked the OIC member states for morally and materially contributing to the IIT.

For realising the education and research potential of the IIT, what is needed is proper academic planning, availability of necessary educational

equipment, academic staff and scholars, she said.

Regular flow of fund is needed for this, she mentioned saying that IIT is totally dependent on mandatory contribution from the OIC member states. "I am very much perturbed to know that during the last financial year (1998-99) the contribution received by IIT towards its budget was only 14 per cent."

"This is really an alarming situation for the very existence of the institute," Hasina said and appealed to the OIC members for early payment and regular contribution to the budget of IIT.

She also appealed to the affluent ones for making generous donation to IIT.

The prime minister at the congregation handed over degrees and diplomas to the graduating students. She entered the auditorium following the academic procession wearing the congregation gown.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Education Minister A S H K Sadique, Labour and Employment Minister M A Mannan, students and teachers of the institution, educationists, diplomats and intellectuals joined the academic procession.

OIC assistant secretary general Ambassador Khalid Saleem, IIT director general Prof A Anwar Hossain and Registrar M A Afzal also addressed the function.

PM: Sufia Kamal

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poet at hospital in the afternoon of November 20 to inform her of the UNESCO declaration of February 21 as International Mother Language Day and her government's efforts in this regard.

"I feel so sorry that I could not share the national pride with the poet as she died in the morning of that day," lamented Hasina.

"She used to bless my father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in his struggle for independence and me in my struggle against autocracy. In fact, she was my family guardian... I used to rush to her whenever I had a problem."

Hasina went on, "I found shelter in her after I lost my parents and other members of our family. Her love and affection for me knew no bounds."

Those who spoke on the occasion included Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Syeda Zohra Tajuddin, Amir Hossain, Amir Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzag, Quamruzzaman, Forest and Environment Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, Abdul Jalil, Dr. Mohammad Selim, Mayor of Dhaka Mohammad Hanif and State Minister for Shipping Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya.

Earlier, the meeting observed one minute's silence in honour of the late poet and prayed for salvation of her departed soul.

BNP: Manner

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The Opposition to attend the function.

The BNP statement said that a messenger, whose identity could not be known, left the invitation card with the private security personnel at the gate of Khaleida Zia's cantonment residence on November 10.

Although the protocol is to make a prior appointment and then hand over an invitation card, but it was not maintained. Even, none of the personal staff of the Leader of the Opposition was contacted, it claimed.

The press release also denied a report that a Brigadier had handed over another invitation card for the Leader of the Opposition on Sunday.

Invitation cards reached the residences of BNP Secretary General Abdur Mannan Bhuiyan MP and M Saifur Rahman MP on Sunday, when Bhuiyan was in his constituency and Saifur was attending a function as per their earlier programmes, the press release said.

2 shot in city

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man shot Jahid in his leg and left the scene riding a motor bike with his friend in front of a Chinese Restaurant at Nilkhet at about 2 pm, hospital sources said.

The incident occurred when Jahid pushed the friend of the young man with his body as they came out of the restaurant. It enraged the young man and he locked in an altercation with Jahid. At one stage he shot Jahid and drove off with his friend, sources added.

State funeral

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all members of the UNESCO General Council for announcing 21st February as the International Mother Language Day. To celebrate the UNESCO recognition, the meeting also decided to hold festivities across the country on December 7.

The Cabinet also approved the draft of the Copyrights Act, 1999.

It also approved the proposal for extension of time from November 25 to December 9 for the intending Hajj pilgrims to deposit money against the overall expenditures, including house-rent.

Sharif

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He called for a free and fair trial. "What I only want is an open, free and fair trial. This is my demand and the demand of each one of us. That will itself expose the hollowness of accusations against us," Sharif told reporters.

Outside the courthouse, dozens of Sharif's supporters shouted "Long live Nawaz Sharif" and "Nawaz Sharif we are with you."

His court appearance today was in keeping with Pakistani law which requires an accused to appear in court at specific intervals. No plea was entered.

Earlier today his mother, wrapped in a black shawl with only her bespectacled eyes visible, arrived in southern Karachi to visit her jailed son. He is expected to meet with his family later today in the fast 41 days.

I haven't seen my brother, who also was in the same vicinity and detention," Sharif said.

His brother, Shabbaz, a former chief minister of Pakistan's populous Punjab province has not been seen since the coup. He is being investigated on charges of corruption, army officials have said. "I have been subjected to solitary confinement... I was confined to a room and I did not know what was happening outside the room. We are still subjected to the same treatment," he said.

Sharif was given permission to see his wife, Kulsoom, and his mother, Shamim, and his daughter during an appearance last week at the anti-terrorist court, which is to hear the case against him.

The army filed a police complaint on Nov 11 accusing Sharif and several others of hijacking, treason, conspiracy to murder and physical endangerment.

Until Sunday his family had been confined by the army to their homes outside the eastern Punjab capital of Lahore. The army announced late on Sunday that the family was free to leave their homes. Sharif's wife took a commercial flight to southern Karachi, although lawyers for Sharif did not know when or where the meeting between Sharif and his family would take place.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Television
121, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
Shahbagh, Dhaka-1000
TV (Engg). 05-Computer.02.

Extension of Time for Submitting Tender

Tender No-TV (Engg).05.Computer-02/99.

The date for submitting tender invited for procuring computer equipment for a project titled "Introducing Computer System in Bangladesh Television" has been refixed on 29.11.99 by extending the date due to unavoidable circumstances. Submitting of tender time for opening and place are unchanged. A pre-bid meeting will be held on 24-11-99 at 11:00 AM in the office chamber of the Chief Engineer in presence of the participants on request of the probable valued participants in the tender. Representatives of the concerned establishments are requested to attend.

Sayed Lutfi Ali
Project Director
Project for Introducing Computer System in Bangladesh Television
DPP 26053-21/11
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