

● What's on today . . . ●

Film show: *Muktir Kotha* by Tareque and Catherine Masud will be screened. Venue: Outdoor stage of Shishu Academy auditorium. Time: 5:30 pm.

Drama: Russian Cultural Centre presents *Sharban Ashbay-e*, a drama by Rehana Samdani. The drama will be presented by visually impaired performers. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Rd No 7, Dhamondi R/A. Time: 5:00 pm.

CESTI seminar: Centre for scientific and technological information (CESTI) of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka organises a seminar on "Art and Aesthetics of Architecture and Photography." Venue: Cafeteria of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhamondi. Time: 4:00 pm.

Workshop: British Council and Safety Association for Emergency (SAFE) jointly organises a workshop on "Occupational Safety." Venue: British Council auditorium. Time: 4:30 pm.

Launching ceremony: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka organises the launching ceremony of *Jonnoshthoborshor Jacques Prevert* (*Jacques Prevert aurait uno siecle*) by poet Prof Mahmud Shah Kureshi. Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Time: 7:00 pm.

● and tomorrow ●

Advocacy seminar: Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation (BBF) and BNP has jointly organised an advocacy seminar on Breastfeeding for Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Association (BPMPA). Venue: Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST), BCSIR, Science Laboratory. Time: 8:00 am.

Inauguration: Rudra Mela '99 will be inaugurated. Venue: TSC games room. Time: 9:00 am.

Inauguration: The inauguration of the Fourth Annual Quality Convention will be held. Venue: Auditorium of IDB Bhaban, E/8-A Rokeya Sharani, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon. Time: 9:00 am.

Film show: Three movies *L'argent*, (France), *Gabbeh* (Iranian) and *Le grand bleu* (France) will be screened. Venue: Auditorium of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Time: 11:00 am. 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

Annual general meeting: Bangladesh Cancer Society will hold its annual general meeting and conference. Chief guest: Salah Uddin Yusuf, Minister for Health and Family Welfare. Venue: Sasakawa auditorium, 1CDDR,B, Mohakhali. Time: 3:30 pm.

Certificate giving ceremony: The certificate giving ceremony of a 3-day long workshop on "Scientific Writing" will be held. Organiser: Bangladesh Institute for Promotion of Essential and Reproductive Health and Technologies (BIRPERHT). Chief guest: Dr M Amanullah, State Minister for Health and Family Welfare. Venue: BIRPERHT Training Room, House No 105, Rd No 9/A, Dhamondi R/A. Time: 4:00 pm.

Women lawyers' congress: The second women lawyers congress will begin. Venue: Democracy auditorium of Khan Foundation, Momenbagh. Time: 6:00 pm.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Weather may remain nearly dry over the country with partly cloudy sky over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Night temperature is likely to rise by 1 to 2 degree Celsius over the country during the period but may fall in the next two days. Met Office forecast.

The country's highest temperature 31.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 14.0 degrees at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:10 pm and rises on Friday at 6:26 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in Celsius	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	28.9	15.8	58	75
Chittagong	29.3	17.8	76	71
Rajshahi	27.8	16.0	87	77
Khulna	29.0	16.0	77	—
Barisal	29.0	15.4	80	90
Sylhet	29.4	16.2	62	73
Cox's Bazar	31.0	19.8	76	75

HERE and THERE

Pabna Samity

Pabna Samity in Dhaka will award *Pabna Padak-99* to four renowned persons of the district at its annual general meeting at Ramna Restaurant premises at Ramna Park on Saturday next, a Samity press release said yesterday, reports BSS.

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed will attend the function as the chief guest and formally hand over the Padak among the recipients. Prof Dr M A Kaderi, vice chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University and M Anwar Hossain, chairman of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation will attend it as the special guests. President of the Samity Prof Dr M Anwar Hossain will be presiding.

Meanwhile Pabna Samity executive committee has decided to award padak to Dr M Alimah Khutun for education and literature, Shamsun H Chowdhury for industry and business, Prof Dr Quaruzzaman for treatment and health and Engineering M M S A Mannan for public welfare.

All members of the samity have been requested to attend

the function with a registration fee of Taka 40 each.

Green Party

A new organisation, Green Party, has been formed to "promote and uphold the Green Agenda," said a press release yesterday, reports UNB.

It said a 15-member committee was constituted with journalist Shamsuddin Ahmed Pearce as convenor and Saleem Samad as member-secretary.

A 15-member convening committee of the Green Party has been formed with journalist Shamsuddin Ahmed Pearce as convenor. Other members of the convening committee are Advocate Z Khan Panna, Md. Huddin Ahmed Bulbul, Advocate Rokhsana Khondker, Akbar Imam, Mohammad Yunus (New York), Shireen Fatema Liza, Ishtiaq Aziz Ulfat, Golam Mohammad Chowdhury (London), Habibullah Babul (Frankfurt), Mahibur Rahman Babu (Augsburg), Monirul Huq, Syed Lutfi Haque and Saleem Samad. A full-fledged committee of the Green Party will be formed at a national conference in Dhaka soon.

Anniversary of CHT accord

From page 12 remained critical of the government because the agreement failed to be fully materialised.

He had sharply criticised the government for not living up to its promise on a number of accounts like failure to roll back the security forces camps; only 65 of them had been folded, he alleged in an interview with The Weekly 2000.

He also criticised the government for leaving the CHT treaty implementation committee in cold. There had not been a meeting since November last year. His list of complaints run deep on the issues of failure to start land survey, rehabilitate the displaced tribes people and not doing enough to resettle the settlers elsewhere.

There had also been clashes between settlers and tribal people occasionally but the clashes failed to make any serious dent on the security situation despite tensions.

Death anniversary of Begum Syed Mustafa Ali Dec 6

The first death anniversary of Begum Syed Mustafa Ali, mother of late SM Ali, founder editor of The Daily Star, will be observed on December 6, says a press release.

To commemorate the death anniversary, a *Milad Mahfil* and *Doa Mahfil* will be held at her daughter Principal Fowzia Ali's residence on Friday.

A *Qurankhwan* and *Milad Mahfil* will also be held at her son Syed Eقبال Ali's residence followed by feeding of orphans on the day.

Begum Ali died of lung failure at a clinic in Paris on December 6, 1998. Her son, Syed Muazzam Ali is the Ambassador of Bangladesh to France. She went to Paris for treatment.

Chawk Bazar Exchange Conversion of analog telephone numbers begin

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB) has been replacing analog telephone numbers of group 23 and 24 under the newly established Chawk Bazar Telephone Exchange by digital numbers from yesterday, a BTTB press release said last night.

It includes Chawk Bazar, Chawk Circular Road, Water Wards Road, Islambagh, Shyesta Khan Road, Bangali Road, Abdul Hasnat Road, AC Roy Road, DC Roy Road, Aga Sadeq Road, Moulibazar, Begum Bazar, Becharam Deuri, Mokim Katra, Imamganj, Mitford Road and adjacent areas of Mitford Hospital, the press release added.

The consumers will get a new digital telephone set (free of cost) after returning the present set connected with the analog number phase by phase, it said.

The six digit numbers of those areas will be replaced by seven digits numbers. The first two digits — 23 and 24 — will be replaced by 731 and last four digits of the previous numbers will remain unchanged.

In this process the first two digits of about 700 numbers have already been replaced by 731. The authorities have said that there has been problem in keeping the last four digits unchanged in the remaining telephone numbers. These numbers will be changed into new numbers and list of those will be published as advertisement, the press release added.

"Last month, DESA's collec-



ADB Resident Representative Philpith Supaphiphat speaking at a press conference at ADB office in Dhaka yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

— Star photo

ADB: Cut system loss

From page 1

deals have reduced the overall cost of power. In future, if all power deals offered such low prices, the power tariff might be lowered, he said.

Rahman emphasised that the government must continue to speed up reform in the energy sector like it did when it approved recently the set up of the Ashuganj Power Company.

"We are not trying to privatise the state owned entities," Khalid clarified, "but we are trying to promote competition and break monopoly in the sector since there private investment is coming to this sector."

The bank maintains that by bringing the authority's system loss level down to 18 per cent and improving its' bill collection ratio to 95 per cent from the present level of 60 per cent, the authority could become a commercially viable entity. The authority loses roughly Tk 20 crore monthly.

"DESA is working on improving its' performance. Within a couple of months, computerised billing will replace conventional billing," said S Chander, the energy division's senior project engineer. Revenue theft will also slashed, he added.

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