

## What's on today....

**Poetry recital:** A poetry recital by young poet Russel Asheki will be held. Venue: TSC road island. Time: 3 pm.

**BPS prize distribution ceremony:** The prize distribution ceremony of the Bangladesh Photographic Society's (BPS) annual photography competition '97 and '98 will be held. An exhibition of the entries will also be inaugurated. Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy Gallery. Time: 2.00 pm.

## Weather

### No change in temperature

Weather may remain dry over the country in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, Met office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 29 degrees Celsius was recorded at Sandwip and the lowest of 11.2 degrees at Mymensingh.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:20 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:40 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity percentage
Dhaka	25.5	13.0
Chittagong	27.7	17.0
Rajshahi	24.5	14.0
Khulna	27.0	13.6
Barisal	26.3	13.2
Sylhet	27.0	13.6
Cox's Bazar	27.6	16.5
		71

## HERE and THERE

### BMBAA seminar

Bangladesh MBA Association (BMBAA) organised a roundtable conference on "management of education in Bangladesh," at a local hotel on Sunday, says a press release.

Education Minister ASHK Sadique attended the conference as chief guest while Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad, Secretary, Ministry of Education, and Prof Shamsul Haque, Vice Chancellor of Comilla University, were present as special guests.

The conference was presided over by S M Kamal, vice president of the association.

In the business session, Dr Shamsul Haque, Professor of North South University, and Bazlur Rahman, Executive Editor of the Daily Sangbad, highlighted the deficiencies in the "management of education in Bangladesh."

### JU Film Society

SAVAR, Dec 28: A film session organised by Jahangirnagar University Film Society and Jahangirnagar University Students Film Society was held on the compound of Nabab Faizunnesa Hall of Jahangirnagar University on Sunday, reports UNB.

Two films — "Suchana" by Morshedul Islam and "Khondaker" by Md. Mostafizur Rahman, screened in the film session.

Meanwhile, the two organisations have placed a six-point demand including renaming of JU Auditorium after Shahid Zahir Raihan and allowing its use only by cultural bodies free of charge to the university authorities.

**Cooperatives Act**

### Jamdani saree exhibition

An exhibition of Jamdani craft designed by Mahmuda Begum began in the city yesterday.

State Minister for Planning Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir formally inaugurated the exhibition at Designer Den Art Craft and Fashion Gallery at Gulshan, a press release said.

UNESCO Special Envoy Bibi Russell was present at the inaugural session as special guest.

The latest designed sarees of Mahmuda Begum are being displayed in the exhibition which will remain open till January 7.

### BFAGA executive committee

A 10-member executive committee of Bangladesh Flying Academy and General Aviation Ltd (BFAGA) has been formed for two-year term (2000-2001), reports UNB.

The committee was formed at the 42nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the BFAGA held on the academy premises with its outgoing president Lt Gen (retd) Mahabubur Rahman in the chair.

The office-bearers are President Md. Mostafizur Rahman; Vice Presidents — Col Md. Joynal Abedin and Capt Ashraf Hossain; and Members — Waseque Hossain Belal, Capt Giasuddin Ahmed, Capt Rafiqur Rahman, Capt Aslam Shahid, Abdus Sattar Mini, Capt Zahid Hossain and Eng Nasiruddin Ahmed.

**Global workshop on environment begins today**

A two-day global workshop of Environmental journalists begins at CIRDAP in the city today, reports BSS.

Organised by the Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) in collaboration with Asia-Pacific Forum of Environmental Journalists (APEJ) the workshop, entitled "Challenges of New Millennium" Reversing Environmental Degradation and Role of the Media," will be participated by some 120 environmental journalists, experts and policy-makers from home and abroad. The workshop is being supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank, Ministry of Environment and Forest and some other development agencies.

Minister for Environment and Forest Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury will inaugurate the workshop at 10 am. Environment Secretary Syed Marghub Murshed, Resident Representative of UNDP Andre Klap, FEJB Chairman Quamrul Islam Chowdhury, APEJ Chairman Dharman Wickramaratne, CEJA Secretary General Nina Ratulade and FEJB General Secretary Bakhtiar Rana will address the inaugural session.

Different global and national environmental issues like air pollution, land degradation, arsenic contamination and sustainable environment management will come up for discussion in three technical sessions of the workshop.

Daily Independent Editor Mahabubul Alam and Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam will be guests of honour at the first technical session.

Holiday Editor AZM Enayeturrahman Khan, Financial Express Chief Editor Reazuddin Ahmed and Banglar Bani Executive Editor Shafiqul Aziz Mukul will be guests of honour in the concluding session.

**955 km road construction project in CHT**

KHAGRACHHARI, Dec 28: The government has taken up a project to construct 955 km roads in three hill districts to develop the communication network in the region, reports BSS.

According to Roads and Highways Department sources, the project will start next month with the financial support from the donor countries. About Tk 600 crore has been estimated for the construction of 50 roads in Khagrachhari, Bandarban and Rangamati districts in five years.

Roads and Highways Department will implement the project.

After the implementation of the project, 25 thanas will have direct communication with the three hill district headquarters.

Reiterating her willingness to resolve the political dispute through discussion, Hasina said, "We want understanding, and we are sincere about it."

**Obituary**

Kazi Md Rahmatullah, an Industrialist and Managing Director of Delta Group, died on December 25, says a press release.

His quikhwani will be held at his residence, 14 Delta Dahlia, 36 Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani, after Asr prayers today.

Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the miad mahfil.

**Muhurirchar**

From page 12 take place in the absence of a demarcated boundary line, sources added.

The temporary boundary line will help reduce the number of border clashes, in the area sources said.

Permanent boundary can be drawn only after India ratifies the Mujib-Indira agreement of 1974, sources said.

## Pages from history

### The liberation of Comilla

COMILLA, Dec 28: Comilla derives its name literally from "Koh Mila" in Persian meaning "meeting of peaks" — the Mainamati and the Lalmai Hill Range and the confluence of the Gumi river where they attacked the Pakistani forces with artillery and mortar shelling.

Freedom fighters Nizamuddin, Azad, Sizul, Munir, Zohirul Haque Dudu, Shafiuulla, Aolad Hossain, Quayum, Basirul Islam, Mohammad Shahidullah and Kader Mia eleven valiant sons of the soil were killed on the south-eastern side of Comilla district at Bettara under Chowdagram Police Station on the Dhaka-Comilla Feni-Chittagong highway.

Senior Awami League leader and Chairman of the South-eastern council during the Liberation War late Zuhur Ahmed Chowdhury and First Administrator, Comilla, Advocate Ahmed Ali hoisted the national flag before thousands of joyous people and about a hundred freedom fighters gathered in front of the town hall.

The previous night freedom fighters and the allied forces had jointly launched an attack on the Pakistan's 22 Baluch regiment at the outskirts of the town and they were forced to retreat because of the three-pronged attack. Many of the fallen Pakistan occupation army had surrendered to the Mukti Bahini and Mitra Bahini (allied forces).

The bodies of the martyrs could not be buried instantly but following the liberation of Comilla their remains were collected and formally buried in Bettara village and a "Shaheed Minar" was later raised there.

The day is celebrated with fanfare each year. On the occasion rallies are brought out, discussions take place and cultural programmes are arranged as to pay tribute to those brave sons of the soil who laid down their lives to give us the independence that we enjoy today.

11 Gurkha Regiment of the allied force led by RK Majumder and Major Ainuddin of the liberation army entered Comilla from across Tripura of India where the freedom fighters had got sanctuary and substantial

assistance.

Some of the freedom fighters led by Lt. Dedarul Alam had entered Comilla through the Bibir Bazar checkpoint and crossed the Gumi river where they attacked the Pakistani forces with artillery and mortar shelling.

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