

What's on today . . .

Film show: Chalchitram Film Society will screen *Madame Bovary* (French) on the 3rd day of its 3rd programme on the series 'A Tribute to the Great Filmmakers of the Century: A Selection of Films'. Venue: Auditorium of Alliance Française de Dhaka. Time: 6:30 pm.

Publication ceremony: The publication ceremony of the weekly *Asla Spandan* will be held. Chief guest: Minister for Water Resources Abdul Razzak. Venue: VIP lounge of National Press Club. Time: 4 pm.

General meeting: A general meeting of the Dhaka University Political Science Department Ex-students' Association will be held on its reunion programme scheduled for March 3. Venue: Head office of Eastern Bank Ltd. Jibon Bima Tower, 10, Dilkusha C/A. Time: 5 pm.

5th Club Camporee inaugural ceremony: The inaugural ceremony of the 5th Bangladesh Club Camporee, organised by Bangladesh Scouts, will be held. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the Camporee. Venue: National Scouts Training Centre, Mouchak, Gazipur. Time: 10 am.

Lecture on lead poisoning: Child Development Centre has organised a lecture session on Medical Aspects of Lead Poisoning. Dr Reinhard Kaiser, MD, MPH of the National Centre for Environmental Health, Centre for Disease Control, Atlanta, USA will deliver the lecture. Venue: Bangladesh Institute of Child Health (BICH) auditorium, Dhaka Shishu Hospital, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 12:30 pm.

Newspaper exhibition: A 3-day 'New Millennium World Newspaper Exhibition', organised by Abdul Awal Bulbul, executive member of Bangladesh Public Relations Association and PRO of Janata Insurance Company Ltd, will begin. Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad will inaugurate the exhibition. Venue: Bangladesh National Museum, Shahbagh. Time: 4 pm. The exhibition will remain open to public from 5 pm to 9 pm on the opening day and from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm on the rest two days. One hundred national dailies of 25 countries published on January 1 and 2, 2000 will be put on display.

Discussion meeting: Swadesh Chinta Sangha has organised a discussion meeting to mark the 80th birth anniversary of eminent intellectual Prof Ahmed Sharif. Venue: Student-Teachers' Centre (TSC) auditorium on DU campus. Time: 3 pm.

BSGE lecture: A lecture on 'Special Foundation Equipment and Techniques on Worldwide Projects' will be held. Wolfgang G Brunner of BAUER SPEZIAL TIEFBAU GmbH will deliver the lecture. Organiser: Bangladesh Society for Geotechnical Engineering (BSGE). Venue: Seminar room (1st floor) of Civil Engineering Building, BUET campus. Time: 5 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Seminar: The Centre for Human Rights will hold a seminar on Violation of Human Rights in Chechnya. Venue: VIP Lounge of Jatiya Press Club. Time: 3:30 pm.

Dr Aftab Ahmed, Professor of Political Science of Dhaka University will present the keynote paper.

Film show: Chalchitram Film Society will screen 'Farewell My Concubine' (China) on the 4th day of its 3rd programme on the series 'A Tribute to the Great Filmmakers of the Century: A Selection of Films'. Venue: Auditorium of Alliance Française de Dhaka, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi. Time: 6:30 pm.

Weather

Moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain or temporary showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at few places over Khulna division and at one or two places over Chittagong, Barisal, Rajshahi, Sylhet and Dhaka divisions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The country's highest temperature 30.3 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 12.2 degrees at Srimongal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:52 pm and rises on Monday at 6:33 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	23.3	18.0
Chittagong	30.0	16.0
Rajshahi	22.5	16.6
Khulna	27.0	16.2
Barisal	26.2	14.5
Sylhet	23.3	13.6
Cox's Bazar	30.3	18.2

HERE and THERE

Biochemical Society

A new executive council of the Bangladesh Biochemical Society was formed recently with Prof Muzammar Hossain and Prof Yearul Kabir as its president and general secretary respectively, says a press release.

Other members of the committee are vice presidents: Prof Syed Saleheen Qadri and Prof Ishtiaq Mahmud, treasurer: Prof M Khalilur Rahman, joint secretaries: Fahima Rokhsana and Dr M Aftab Uddin, members: Prof M Gausuddin, Prof Rafiqur Rahman, Prof H K M Yusuf, Muhammad Sadiqul Islam, Muhammad Matur Rahman, Prof M Anwar Hossain, Prof Mamun Rashid Chowdhury, Prof Aminul Haque Bhuiyan, Prof Laila Noor Islam.

Prof Haseena Khan and A F M Abdul Hye.

BPF, SUS

Bangladesh Protibondhi Foundation (BPF) and Samaj Udayan Sangstha (SUS) held a function at the auditorium of BPF. The function was organised in memory of Begun Sufia Kamal, says a press release. Teachers, staff of BPF, SUS, National Prof M R Khan, Prof Latifa Akanda, Nargis Jaffer, Shamsi Ara Hossain, Dr Sultana S Zaman, Prof Naushaba Khatun spoke on the occasion. A number of artists of Bangladesh paid tribute through their songs. A photo exhibition was also organised on the occasion depicting the work related to both BPF and SUS. The exhibition will remain open today and tomorrow from 8 am to 2 pm.

Top UN official in Iraq likely to quit in April

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 12: The top UN humanitarian official in Iraq is expected to leave his post in early April, after running afoul of the United States and Britain for criticising sanctions against Baghdad, UN sources said, reports Reuters.

Hans von Sponeck, a German career UN official, this month criticised the nine-year-old UN trade sanctions and said the humanitarian oil-for-food programme he heads was not even meeting minimum requirements of the country's 22 million people.

He will return to New York for consultations at the end of March and then go back to Baghdad briefly before leaving his post, the sources said. UN spokesman John Mills refused to comment on Friday but said the New York visit had been scheduled as early as last November.

Von Sponeck, was appointed to his post on Oct. 26, 1998, the fifth humanitarian coordinator to run the programme, which allows Baghdad to sell oil and purchase food, medicine and other goods under tight supervision. In November, Secretary-

General Kofi Annan extended his term to April 25 rather than for a full year as some expected, but refused to release him immediately as Washington had wanted.

Asked about von Sponeck's expected departure, US State Department spokesman James Rubin said: "Good."

"I think an article in the Iraqi press praising his approach to his work is ample evidence of his unsuitability for this post," Rubin said.

"His job is to work on behalf of the Iraqi people and not the regime and we look forward to an able manager who will maximize the benefits of the oil-for-food programme," he added.

On Friday, the Iraqi newspaper al-Tharwa said von Sponeck's analysis was based on facts and figures. "He did not publish personal viewpoints irrelevant to his job when he talked about the deterioration of the health or food situation in Iraq," it said.

Von Sponeck had been told to curb his public statements last November. But he resumed interviews with German and US media this month, an indication he planned to leave his job.

BNP leader Julmut Ali Khan dead

BNP leader Advocate Julmut Ali Khan died of old age complications yesterday. He was 71, reports UNB.

Khan, a founder member of BNP national executive committee, died at Combined Military Hospital at 1:05 pm, family sources said.

He left behind one daughter and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn his death. His *namaj-e-janaza* will be held at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque after Zohr prayers today and he will be buried at Banani Graveyard.

Khan was a joint secretary general of BNP from 1979 to 1985. During the BNP rule, he was Bangladesh Ambassador to Bhutan and to Thailand. He was also a Director of Bangladesh Bank and Chairman of Bangladesh Sangstha. In his student life, he was the first general secretary of Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU).

President condoles death

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed has expressed profound shock at the death of Julmat Ali Khan, a senior advocate of Bangladesh Supreme Court.

In a message of condolence, the President recalled his long professional career. Khan also proved himself successful as ambassador and in other responsible assignments like chairman of BSS governing body, he said.

The President said late Khan was a man of rare qualities and respected by all for his pleasing personality.

He conveyed heartfelt sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Khaleda condoles

BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia has expressed deep shock at the death of party leader Advocate Julmat Ali Khan.

In a condolence message, she said Julmat Ali was a veteran lawyer and a leader of BNP since its inception.

"In his death, we have lost a reputed lawyer and a politician. His demise is an irreparable loss to the nation," she said.

She prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

PID chief photographer dead

The Chief Photographer of the Press Information Department (PID) Tofail Ahmed yesterday died of cardiac arrest at Suhrawardi Hospital in the city. He was 50, reports BSS.

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed condoned the death of Tofail Ahmed.

In a message, he prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed his deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

The *namaj-e-janaza* of Tofail Ahmed was held at the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque after Asr prayers. The *janaza* was attended by the members of BCS Information Association and members of the PID Employees Welfare Association. The body was sent to his village home at Hassan Gajpur under Dagon Bhuiyan in Feni district for burial.

A condolence meeting in memory of Tofail Ahmed will be held at the PID newsroom during lunch break today.

The BCS Information Association and PID Employees Welfare Association also condoned the death of the Chief Photographer.

Actress Najma Hussain dead

Eminent radio and TV actress Najma Hussain died of cardiac arrest at her Rankin Street residence, Wari, in the city early yesterday morning, BTV sources said. She was 45, reports BSS.

She is survived by her husband, actor Nur Hussain Dila, a son, a daughter and a large number of colleagues, admirers.

Her *namaj-e-janaza* was held at Jugunagar Jam-e-Masjid and Bangladesh Television after Zohr prayers yesterday before she was buried at Azampur Graveyard.

The *qul-khawnt* of Najma Hussain will be held at 30/1 Rankin Street on February 15 after Asr prayers.

Valentine's Day programmes

Biswa Bhalobasa Dibash Udayon Parishad (World Valentine's Day Celebration Council) has taken up an elaborate programme to observe the day, says a press release.

The programmes will be held on Dhaka University Sharak Deep Swoparjito Swadhinata Mancha tomorrow which include reading love letters, reciting poems on love. Persons who are interested in participating in the programmes may contact Mufti Ahmed, president, Biswa Bhalobasa Dibash Udayon Parishad, Z-14, Tajmohal Road, Mohamudpur, Dhaka-1207. Tel: 019352511 or Ahmed Sabir Romeo, joint secretary Biswa Bhalobasa Dibash Udayon Parishad, 7/12, Block-B, Lal-matia, Dhaka-1207. Tel: 9131301, 9127886, 018231059.



The Prothom Alo, a leading Bangla daily, organised a roundtable on National Health Policy at the auditorium of Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS). Seen in the picture from (L to R) Dr D K Nath, Prof Muzaffar Ahmed, Mohammad Ali, Rashid-e-Mahbub.

NHP signifies turning-point in healthcare delivery system

Prothom Alo roundtable on Nat'l Health Policy

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a roundtable discussion meeting yesterday said that the National Health Policy (NHP), approved by the Cabinet, signifies a turning-point in the country's healthcare delivery system.

The discussants at the day-long roundtable at the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) auditorium, organised by the Prothom Alo, a leading Bangla daily, argued that despite its merits and demerits the policy document that holds the fate of healthcare facilities for the entire population should be perceived positively rather than considering it as a debatable issue.

"By continuing to denounce some of the contents of the NHP, which is yet to be placed in parliament, we are simply delaying the process to reach our goal. There could be contradictions, which have scopes for amendments, but that cannot hold us back from taking the policy forward," said Mohammad Ali, former health secretary during whose tenure the policy was formulated.

Another speaker said, "We do not have a health policy and we cannot expect a flawless one since we formulated it at such a huge cost, so we should endorse it shunning the trivial controversies."

Welcoming the discussants, Prothom Alo Editor Motiur Rahman said, "In the last 29 years we could not yet establish the fundamental rights of the people by providing them adequate healthcare facilities. In such a long period of time, we haven't had a health policy which has thrown the health sector in a complete disarray."

He said, "We have noticed that a new health policy has been formulated but it's taking too much time in the implementation process. There is no indication either for its implementation sooner."

"We expect that the government would take initiative for its early implementation (placing it in the parliament for discussion) giving relief to the existing problems."

Seeing it in a critical point of view, Dr Zafarullah Chowdhury of Consumer Association of Bangladesh said, "A vested quarter of the Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) has been manipulating the policy document for their interest although the document has been approved by the Cabinet. The same BMA leaders have been fooled the nation in previous occasion and they are doing it again."

Other discussants questioned the relevance of establishing community clinic under the reformed health programme (HPSP) at a cost of huge foreign loan. "In most cases, we have failed to make the existing healthcare infrastructure even functional, then why should we skip the existing ones and construct more infrastructure which is meaningless."

Some of the discussants also questioned whether the committee, formed to formulate NHP, had sought opinion of the general people. Questions were also raised about the 26-member NHP Formulation Committee. They said that the committee dominated move by doctors community and less by the civil society. "It lacks balance," commented one of the discussants.

Other discussants said that the policy document does not reflect views of many important stakeholders like nurses, village doctors and also those who are practising *Unani* and *Ayurvedic* medicine.

The document focuses on doctors and their interests are reflected more prominently in the document than the man target group — the people and their interests. Doctors are health providers whereas the policy is intended for the general people. It is very unfortunate that the NHP does not reflect people's voice properly.

Dr Quazi Quamruzzaman, Chairman of Dhaka Community Hospital Trustee said, "We have noticed in the past that consultants were hired at a cost of millions of Taka but we have had little benefit from them and on top of that there is little transparency noticed in the policy document."

Among others, who spoke on the occasion were economist Prof Muzaffar Ahmed of Transparency International Bangladesh Trustee, Monzoor Karim, former health secretary and also a consultant of Unicef, Dr M A Sobur, convenor of forum of healthcare, Dr Humayun Hye, former World Bank consultant on health, Prof Rashid-e-Mahbub, BMA president Dr D K Nath, Additional Secretary, Health Ministry, Taposhi Bhatlacharya, president of Diploma Nurses Association.

The National Health Policy was submitted to the Prime Minister in July 1998. After ten months, the Cabinet approved the policy in May, 1999. The policy document focuses on certain strategies for implementation of the recommendations.

Health policy to be announced soon

Preparations complete to recruit 1000 doctors: Selim

CHITTAGONG, Feb 12: Health and Family Welfare Minister Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim today said that all preparations have been completed to recruit 1000 doctors and 2000 nurses to improve the health sector, reports BSS.

The new health policy will soon be announced and urged upon the doctors and nurses to improve quality of services delivered to the patients.

Selim said this while paying a surprise visit to Chittagong Medical College Hospital today.

The minister assured that all sorts of modern medical equipment including operation light and surgical apparatus will be provided for smooth running of operation cases.

The health minister said that there is no scarcity of X-ray film in the hospitals and the government has made a satisfactory reserve of X-ray films which could fulfil the requirements more than one and half year.

Selim went round different wards, sections including operation theatre, surgical, antenatal and postnatal and cardiology units of the hospital and talked to the patients about their welfare.

Later, the Health Minister had a meeting with divisional health and family planning officials at Chittagong Circuit House today.

Sheikh Selim directed the authority concerned to gear up field level family planning activities with a view to reducing the population growth rate from 1.5% to 1.2%.

Terminating arsenic contamination and HIV/AIDS as most impending dangers for the coun-

try, the health minister said the government has undertaken effective steps to train up the family planning workers on the diseases to create massive awareness among people.

Selim urged the doctors to devote more attention to the wellbeing of the poor and to be punctual in attending duty. In spite of resource constraint, the present government is firmly committed to ensuring health service to the doorstep of the people. "The success of our endeavour depends on your sincerity, honesty and service," he said.

Selim said as the purchase system of the Central Store Department (CSD) has been eased, necessary surgical and pathological equipment can be collected without difficulty.

In this regard he said there are adequate stocks of the X-ray films in all hospitals now which was unthinkable in the past. Incentive care unit and gynecology department of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University would be modernised for ensuring better service to the cardiac patients and expecting mothers, he said.

Speaking about various prevailing problems in the health sector, the minister said, "Many problems remained unsolved due to indecision and steps could not be taken timely." He said there is no scope to examine quality of the medicine, which are being sold in rural dispensaries and pharmacies. Drug administration will be reshuffled, he said.

Chittagong City Corporation Mayor A B M Mohiuddin Chowdhury, Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong S M

Mobalul Islam, acting Principal of Chittagong Medical College (CMCH) Dr Subhagata Chowdhury, pro-vice chancellor of the USTC Dr LA Quader and director of the CMCH and Civil Surgeon Biswanath Paul, among others, addressed the meeting.

3 criminals held in Ctg

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Feb 12: Three criminals were arrested from different parts of the city today.

Paharoli thana police arrested Md Quamrul Hasan Munir, 22, a terrorist and absconding accused in three criminal cases, including murder from CDA Market area this afternoon.

Detective Branch of police arrested one Ershadul Islam, 26, from Kulapara area at Mohora under Chamegon thana today. Ershad was arrested for his alleged involvement in terrorism, extortion and abduction.

Joint rally

From page 1

Against such a background the bill waits to become a law automatically 15 days after its passage by parliament, the government leaders have said.

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia, JP chief Ershad, leaders of left-wing 11-parties, eminent constitutional lawyers Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed and Dr Kamal Hossain called on President Shahabuddin Ahmed recently. They all urged the President not to sign the Public Safety Bill.

Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Dr Kamal Hossain and Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, President of Supreme Court Bar Association have submitted a memorandum to the President urging him to refer the bill to Supreme Court.

With only a couple of days left for the President to make up his mind, the opposition hopes to marshal as many supporters as possible to build a pressure upon the government and the President to rethink, opposition sources said.

Police sources said they have taken adequate security measures to guard against any untoward incident.

BDR and Armed Police Battalions will remain standby.

War against commonman

From page 1
such as customs clearance, port clearance, utility connections like electricity, telephone, gas, water, must also be free from administrative delays and harassment.

Bangladesh must accelerate industrial growth by liberalising the economic and trade policies, suggested Minto.

The government must also develop a viable employment and manpower policies to raise the technical capability of the population, since human resource development has not been adequately addressed. This is reflected in Bangladesh's high illiteracy rates among men (51 per cent) and women (74 per cent).

He said the population is growing by 1.6 per cent, which means about 30 lakh young boys and girls enter the job market annually. The employment situation will become more grave when most of the people currently employed in the agriculture sector become unemployed.

Minto said special job-creation programmes, such as food for work, should be expanded.

NGO programmes should be also strengthened and encouraged to undertake more self-employment, trade and productive activities.

Minto said industrial growth was the only way to reduce unemployment. It increased production and created jobs. Unemployment was the root of the social disorder, political instability, mugging and extortion inhibiting the country's process and creating its deplorable economic situation.

In the long-term, Minto said there should be a separate policy to promote small, medium and cottage industries. "It is necessary to provide a separate package of incentives and facilities to attract investors in this group of industries."

However, Minto said a dearth of credit and equity support was a major impediment to industrial development. Access to credit at reasonable rates should be ensured, since current interest rates were extremely high. Companies cannot be competitive if their capital costs are high, he said.

President put to test

From page 1

fences. Under the law, a tribunal will have no authority to grant bail to any accused during the investigation period, the stipulated time being a maximum of 75 days.

The Opposition found the Bill a repressive one aimed at crushing its movements. A deeper look into the Bill shows that it is not used for political purposes, although the governing party has consistently been denying any such intention.

It is hard to accept that diverting the direction of a car against the will of its driver is a bigger crime than damaging the vehicle. But the Bill provides a maximum of 10 years rigorous imprisonment for damaging a vehicle, while a maximum of 14 years rigorous imprisonment for forcibly diverting the vehicle's direction. Many believe that the government has gone for such unsound provisions with the political motive of foiling opposition processions which usually causes diversion of traffic movement.

The Leader Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia met the President to request him not to assent to the repressive law. The President reportedly told the BNP chief that there was no point in refusing to assent to the Bill as it was passed as a Money Bill.

Under Article 80(3) of the Constitution, a Money Bill passed by parliament automatically turns into a law in 15 days from the date of presenting it before the President for his assent. The article says: The President, within fifteen days after a Bill is presented to him, shall assent to the Bill or, in the case of a Bill other than a Money Bill, may return it to Parliament with a message requesting that the Bill or any particular provisions thereof be reconsidered and that any amendments is specified by him in the message be considered; and if he fails so to do he shall be deemed to have assented to the Bill at the expiration of that period.

The Leader of the Opposition still requested him not to give his assent to the Bill, arguing that it would then lack suffer moral legitimacy.

Other political parties, some face to face and some through the media, made the same request to the President. Jatiya Party led by Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Monju did not do so, but leaders of the party at a recent meeting of its extended central committee criticised 'certain provisions' of the Bill. Various professional groups have also protested the Bill.

The strongest blow to the Bill came from former foreign minister Dr Kamal Hossain, former adviser on the caretaker government Barrister Ishtiaque Ahmed and President of the Supreme Court Bar Association Barrister M Shafique Ahmed. They submitted a memorandum to President Shahabuddin Ahmed on Thursday, claiming that the Bill did not fall within the definition of Money Bill as per Article 81 of the Constitution.

The jurists requested the President neither to assent to the Bill, nor to refuse to do so. They, rather, advised him to refer the matter to the Supreme Court under Article 106 of the Constitution for its advisory opinion whether it was a Money Bill or not.

The Article says: If at any time it appears to the President

that question of law has arisen, or is likely to arise, which is of such a nature and of such public importance that it expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon it, he may refer the question to the Appellate Division for consideration and the division may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report its opinion thereon to the President.

However, Money Bill, according to Article 81(1), means a Bill containing only provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters:

- the imposition, regulation, alteration, remission or repeal of any tax;
- the borrowing of money or the giving of any guarantee by the Government, or the amendment of any law relating to the financial obligations of the government;
- the custody of the Consolidated Fund, the payment of money into, or the issue of appropriation of moneys from the Fund;
- the imposition of a charge upon the Consolidated Fund or the alteration or abolition of any such charge;
- the receipt of moneys on account of the Consolidated Fund or the Public Account of the Republic, or the custody or issue of such moneys, or the audit of the accounts of the government;
- any subordinate matter incidental to any of the matter specified in the foregoing sub-clauses.

Rules of Procedure of the Jatiya Sangsad also provides a definition of the Money Bill. Rule 127 says, "Finance Bill means the bill ordinarily introduced in each year to give effect to the financial proposals of the government for the next following financial year and includes a Bill to give effect to supplementary financial proposals for any period."

If referred to the SC, scope is likely to be created for it to make observations on certain other aspects of the Bill, such as recognising the offences as non-bailable. Restricting the authority of the court to grant bail is a fundamental breach of the spirit of Rule of Law which preaches that a person is innocent until proved guilty. But the Bill assumes that every accused is guilty until proved innocent."

However, Prime Minister's Adviser on Parliamentary Affairs Suranjit Sengupta has reportedly warned that the President has no scope to refer the Bill to the Supreme Court without violating certain provisions of the Constitution. In this regard, he quoted Article 81(3) of the Constitution that says: Every Money Bill shall, when it is presented to the President for his assent, bear a certificate under the hand of the Speaker that it is a Money Bill, and such certificate shall be conclusive for all purposes and shall not be questioned in any court.

However, all concerned are to pass a few crucial hours to see what the President eventually does as regards the controversial Public Safety (Special Provisions) Bill, 2000.

Pinochet's health worsens

SANTIAGO, Feb 12: The health of former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet has suddenly worsened and family members will travel to London to see the ailing ex-leader, reports AFP.

5-day hartal in Sylhet

From page 1

Sources said, the leaders of opposition alliance are planning to reduce the hartal by two days considering the problems of the