

**Party programmes on Independence Day**

Various political parties have drawn up programmes on the occasion of Independence Day on March 26, reports UNB. Ruling Awami League will hoist national and party flags at its central and other offices in the morning. Its other programmes include placing wreaths, at the National Memorial at Savar, gathering at Bangabandhu Bhaban and garlanding the portrait of the father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Main opposition BNP will hoist national and party flags at its central office in the morning. Party workers led by Khaleda Zia will place wreaths at the National Memorial at Savar at 7.30 am. They will place wreaths at the mazar of late president Ziaur Rahman at 8.15 am.

BNP has organised a discussion meeting at the national Press Club at 4 pm on the day, said a party press release.

Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) will hoist national and party flags at its party office at 6 am and place wreaths at the National Memorial at 7 am.

**15 shops gutted in Sirajganj**

From Our Correspondent SIRAJGANJ, Mar 24: At least 15 shops of a market were gutted in a fire at Chandidasgai Bazar, about 5 kilometers from here, tonight.

According to fire brigade officials, an electrical short circuit sparked off the fire at around 8.30 pm.

At least 12 people were injured in the incident, five of them were admitted to local hospital.

Fire brigade personnel with the help of local people extinguished the fire after an hour of struggle.

**Affidavit**

I, Runa Dutta, D/o Madab Chandra Dutta, holding Indian Passport No: A 5256899 dt 2.4.98, will henceforth be known to all as Falguni Mohmud as per affidavit sworn before the Court of Executive Magistrate, Sealdah, Calcutta, India on 29.2.2000. C-277

**To-Let**

Lake side south east open 2000 sq feet deluxe apartment at Road No 5, Dhanmondi with excellent fittings. Contact: Hussain. Phone: 9552505. C-279



Newly elected leaders of Barisal Bar Council called on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at her Minto Road official residence in the city yesterday. — Star photo

**Night heron on verge of extinction**

Night heron, an indigenous bird, is in danger of becoming extinct as its natural habitat marshes are being increasingly encroached upon by humans, reports UNB.

Observing an alarming decrease in the number of herons, zoologists rang alarms that disappearance of this species would harm ecological balance and natural beauty of Bangladesh.

One of the researchers in this field took about a year to investigate the different activities, aspects of breeding for better farming and management of the Night Heron.

Professor Khalilur Rahman, a bird specialist and teacher of zoology of Dhaka University, conducted the study in different rural areas around the city and Dhaka Zoo in Mirpur.

The breeding season of the bird, Night Heron, is from February to October and its peak period of nesting is February.

Both male and female of a pair select the nesting site. Small branches and perils of different trees are their main nesting material where they remain at daytime. They leave the nest at night.

The birds move around the marshes to take their food, but because nowadays marshes are being occupied by people, there is an alarming decline in night heron breeding, he observed.

The bird feeds on small fishes such as Mola, Chapila, Balay, Tit-pull, Prawn etc.

Generally, the bird lays its eggs regularly one after another or in successive days with few exceptions between gaps of two days.

Incubation begins with laying of the first egg and its average incubation period is 21.47 days. Both the sexes take part in incubation, but the female Night Heron plays a major role in it.

Professor Khalil found that some 9.30 per cent eggs lost due to human interference, 11.62 per cent damaged due to heavy rainfall, 4.65 per cent damaged during handling, 32.55 per cent do not hatch due to infertility.

The nestling has a delicate and almost transparent abdomens. The body is light flesh-coloured and the eyes are closed at first.

Some 27.77 per cent nestling fail to fledge of which, 5.55 per cent is lost due to human interference, 11.11 per cent found dead due to disease, 5.55 per cent die of starvation and 5.55 per cent lost due to natural calamity.

**Trade fair in Khulna begins**

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Mar 24: A fortnight long international trade fair began in Khulna today.

The first ever industrial fair in Khulna was inaugurated by the Commerce Minister Abdul Jalil this afternoon.

Khulna Chamber of Commerce and Industry has organised the fair.

Being held at the local Circuit House Maidan, 10 countries including host Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Japan, Iran, China, Malaysia and Thailand are taking part in the fair.

The inaugural function was attended among others by State Minister Talukdar Abdul Khaleque, Whip Mostafa Rashidi Shuja, Sheikh Helaluddin MP, Abdul Awal Minto, president FBCCI and U Schram, Ambassador of Germany.

The fair will remain open from 10 am to 10 pm everyday till April 7. The entry fee is Tk 5.

**Pages from history**  
**The brave sons of Gazaria**

Gazaria, crisscrossed by the mighty Meghna and its tributaries in Munshiganj district. Its inhabitants demonstrated their courage and valor by resisting the Pakistan occupation army in the Liberation War, reports BSS.

Acting on a tip-off by local agents that the youths of Gazaria Pilot High School were to organise resistance, the Pak army encircled the entire Sadar union and part of Hosendi union and opened indiscriminate fire, killing more than 400 people in three villages on May 9, 1971. The largest number of people were killed at Goshair-char followed by Nayanagar and Balurchar.

Hardly a week before the massacre, local youths and students had held a secret meeting with the then Dhaka City Chhatra League vice president Sheikh Ataur Rahman (Dhanu) in the chair to organise the Liberation War. It was attended by Narayanjan Tolaram College students leader, Amirul Islam Patal, Dhaka University student, Abul Queshem, now Divisional Commissioner of

Khulna, local student leaders Fazlul Haq, Abul Khaleque Alo, Tanesh Uddin Ahmed, Abdul Hakim, Abdul Malek and many others.

The killing did nothing to dampen the spirit of the local people. The attack rather sealed the people's determination to join the Liberation War with whatever they had in hand of the thana started crossing the border only to return with arms and ammunition after training.

The Martial Law Authorities at that time had issued warrants of arrest against Abul Queshem, Fazlul Haq and Abul Khaleque Alo on charges of organising the Liberation War.

The first guerrilla encounter took place in Alipura village point of the Dhaka-Chittagong Highway in August, 1971. Hasanuzzaman Chowdhury, then a student leader, Rafiq, Humayun Kabir Minto and others ambushed 10 army men and Razakars. They killed all of them excepting three members of Pakistani Army. In their desperate move, the freedom fighters wanted to take their captives across the border and went up to Khalipur bordering village. Having been informed that the captured soldiers were being taken to the liberated area, the army attacked the freedom fighters and rescued their colleagues.

In early October, the guerrilla fighters kidnapped Muslim League leader and Razakar commander Gasnabi Chowdhury (Khoka Miah) and two of his accomplices Majibur and Atabar. In retaliation, the Pakistani army captured Abdur Rab Rari of Bahur Char village and Arshad of Gazaria village. Arshad survived the inhuman torture they were subjected to but Abdur Rab succumbed.

On December 3, when a gun boat of the Pakistani soldiers was bombed on the river Meghna near Kalipura point, the soldiers took shelter at Kalipura village. The freedom fighters encircled them from all sides. The Pakistani army, however, managed to rescue their men.

On December 16, these freedom fighters got another information from their comrades of Gagutia village under neighbouring Homna thana that more than one hundred Pakistani soldiers, detached from all modes of communication, had taken up position in the village and refused to surrender to the Mukti Bahini. Under the leadership of Thana Commander Rafiq, Bir Pratik, they joined their colleagues in Homna and fought the last battle till the surrender of the occupation forces.

The details of the nine-month-long guerrilla war still haunt the memories of the people of the thana. They all also remember the way, Nazrul, general secretary of Jagannath College, embraced martyrdom near his village home.

Nazrul, a commander of liberation forces at the fag end of the war, chased a group of occupation army on Dhaka-Chittagong Highway and compelled them to surrender. But one of the soldiers managed to hurl a grenade at him and he died right there.

The villagers also remember the other freedom fighters who embraced martyrdom. They include Hamid, Ibrahim and Abdur Rab Towhid, Sattar, Nazrul Islam and many others.



Bangabandhu Jubo Parishad has organised the second Street Drama Festival on the occasion of Independence Day. Its adviser Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique inaugurated the festival at the TSC road island yesterday.

**HOUSE TO-LET**  
South facing Duplex-3 Bed with bath, 2 Guest with bath, Servant room with bath, Drawing cum Dining, Kitchen, Store, Garage, Small lawn etc. at Plot # 24, Road # 9 B, Sector # 5, Uttara, Dhaka. Contact : 8611175, 8912141, 8612334.

**NEXGEN**  
SAT I&II TOEFL  
IBA GMAT GRE  
Khurshid Alam MBA (TORONTO) A-6/2 Lalmaia  
811 84 84, 812 55 56, 812 53 43

**TO-LET**  
1st floor 3-bed, 3-bath, drawing, dining, verandah plus garage to-let at 9A, Dhanmondi. Contact: 8012511-14 Ext. 304, 324832, 917669. C-276

**Wanted**  
1000 to 1300 sq ft apartment in Banani or Gulshan for rent/sale. Contact: 011-805350, C-278

**JOB OPENING**  
A position of senior secretary at the Canadian High Commission has become available beginning 1 May 2000. The successful applicant would be working in the Development Section as the secretary to the Head of Aid. Potential applicants require previous secretarial experience, secretarial training, computer skills, administrative skills and must be fluent in English and Bangla. The ability to speak French will be considered an asset.

A term position (3 months) as junior secretary in the Development Section at the High Commission is also available beginning 1 May 2000.

Interested applicants for both positions are asked to submit their CVs to the attention of:

Mr Steve Hawley  
First Secretary Management  
Canadian High Commission, GPO Box No 569  
Dhaka-1000  
no later than 5 April 2000.

**Rotary News**  
**North West meeting**  
The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held today at 5:30 pm at the Dhaka Club Ltd., Ramna in the Family Lounge (Ground Floor), says a press release.

Members are requested to attend on time.

**Eating Out**

**Sajna An Exclusive Restaurant**  
Serving full range of Indian dishes. Also available  
\*OUTSIDE CATERING \*TAKEAWAY \*PARTY FACILITIES  
House # 10, South Avenue, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212  
Phone # 8811684, 8512458, Fax # 880-8828802 E-mail: sajna@citechco.net

**SANTOOR**  
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House No. 2, Road No. 11 (New), Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209, Telephone: 823336, 9128737

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Phone # 870225, 872679 Fax # 880-2-881202

**High Commission of India**  
Dhaka  
(Establishment Section)  
**Sale of Office Equipment and Old Furniture**

The High Commission of India, Dhaka, invites sealed bids for the sale of its old furniture/equipment which would be on display at House No 25, Road No 2, DRA, Dhaka on March 27th and 28th, 2000 between 10 AM and 4 PM. The bidders will have to deposit Tk 5000/- as refundable earnest money. The bids shall have to be deposited in the office of Head of Chancery between 10.00 AM and 5.30 PM on March 28th, 2000. The quotations shall be opened in the presence of all the participating bidders at 5 PM on the same day. The successful bidder shall have to pay the final amount after deducting the earnest money latest by 3 PM on March 29th, 2000. It is mandatory that the successful bidder make arrangements for removal of the various items from the Mission premises latest by 5 PM on March 30th, 2000. The High Commission of India reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without assigning any reason thereto.

D-294 Head of Chancery

**10 betel-nut trees disappear from TSC crossing**

Some 10 betel-nut trees disappeared from the 'Swoparjito Swadhinata' crossing of TSC on DU campus on Wednesday night, reports UNB.

Cigarette vendors, mobile shop owners of TSC crossing and employees of DUS cafeteria allege that sculptor Shamim Sikder had hands behind it as her sculpture could not be seen for those trees.

Shamim Sikder, teacher of varsity's Institute of Fine Art, has been whitewashing her work 'Swoparjito Swadhinata' for last few days.

She denied the blame. "I do not know anything about the matter as I was busy with my own task," she told UNB.

Felling of the green foliage at the university is, however, not a new happening.

In the midst of Eid-ul-Azha vacation at the university, foremen cut down one big 'Korol' tree beside the central mosque of the varsity. When asked, one of them said they came to prune the branches of the tree that expanded on to the electric wires.

Earlier in the first week of February, someone cut and sold some trees from the dormitory premises. General secretary of SM Hall unit of Chhatra League was blamed for the incident. A fact-finding committee was formed with instructions to submit report within a week.

"Although, the report could not be completed till date, we hope it will be submitted on March 31," one of the committee members said, preferring anonymity.

He said one of the major causes for delay in submitting report is that the students do not dare to open their mouths to the committee members.

SM Hall Provost Prof RIM Aminur Rashid refused to comment about the delays in submitting report. But he said, "The culprit, whoever, must be punished."

DU Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Shahadat Ali said he would talk to the caretakers, guards and estate office about the matter. Incidences like this must be protested, he said.

He informed that nobody is allowed to cut trees without prior permission of Arboriculture committee of the varsity that plants trees on the campus. Prof Ali heads the committee.

"In the coming monsoons, we will plant trees on the campus, specially beside the newly reacted teachers' complex near the British Council," he added.

**BJMC Advertisement International Tender Notice**

Sealed tenders are invited by Deputy General Manager, Hafiz Jute Mills Limited, Baro-Awlia, Chittagong from manufacturers for import of the undermentioned machine parts/items on FOB/C&F Chittagong via air/sea route against 22nd Japanese Credit Exempt Grant (1st installment).

1. Various types of chain.
2. Ball & Roller Bearing.

Tender schedule with detailed description of requirement will be available (except on the date of opening) from General Manager (Finance), BJMC, Dhaka; Manager (Accounts & Finance), BJMC, Chittagong & Deputy-General Manager (Accounts & Finance) of the mills against payment of Tk 70.00 (seventy) only non-refundable. Tender can be dropped in the tender box kept at BJMC (Planning) Division, Dhaka, BJMC, Chittagong & at the mills before 11:30 minutes of 26-4-2000. Tenders will be opened on the same day at 12:00 Noon in presence (if any) of the tenderers. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender.

BJMC- 119 dated 14-3-2000  
DFP-6306-15/3 G-544

**NOTICE**  
Effective 1 May 2000, the Canadian High Commission's visa section will only accept Bank Drafts from the Bank of Nova Scotia. Bank hours for issuing drafts will be 0900 to 1200 hours from Sunday to Wednesday at the following address:

**BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA**  
HOUSE # 113-116  
OLD AIRPORT ROAD  
RANGS BHABAN (3RD FLOOR)  
DHAKA  
TEL: 8110161

**Management Section**  
Canadian High Commission  
D-293

**DESA Local Tender Notice**

Memo No PS-2/Pro-2/1048 Dated: 13.3.2000

নিয়মিত বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন  
সদ্বা বেলায় বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহার হ্রাস করুন

Dhaka Electric Supply Authority invites bids for different electrical materials against the following tender. Reputed manufacturers/their representatives are eligible to participate in this tender.

Sl No	Tender enquiry number	Materials	Last date for buying tender document	Tender submission/opening date	Cost of tender document
1	1048/O&M/Battery	Battery charger battery bank & equipment.	7.5.2000	9.5.2000	Tk. 5000/-

Tender documents will be available for inspection and purchase (through application) during normal office hours in any of the following offices:

- Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, 1st 12 Storied Govt Building, Segunbugicha, Dhaka.
- General Manager, Consumer's Services (North), Dhaka Electric Supply Authority, 75-Kakrail, Dhaka.
- General Manager, Consumer's Services (South), Dhaka Electric Supply Authority, 12/1/A, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.
- Project Director, Greater Dhaka Power Distribution Project, House No 47, Road No 135, Gulshan, Dhaka.
- Director, Procurement & Store Management, Dhaka Electric Supply Authority, 1, Abdul Ghani Road, Dhaka-1000.
- Secretary, Dhaka Electric Supply Authority, 1, Abdul Ghani Road, Dhaka.

The cost of tender documents (non-refundable) shall be paid through Pay Order/Demand Draft issued by any scheduled local bank favouring "Director, Finance & Accounts, DESA". Tender document shall be obtained personally and DESA will not take any responsibility for sending tender documents to any body.

Tenders shall be received in the abovementioned offices on the specified date up to 11.30 hrs (BST) and tenders received will be opened publicly on the same day at 2.30 hrs (BST). Late tenders, if any, shall summarily be rejected.

DESA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at any stage without assigning any reason therefor.

DFP-6435-19/3 G-552  
**Director**  
Procurement & Stores, DESA

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Health and Population Programme Project  
IDA Credit No: 3101-BD

**Request for Expression of Interest**

1. This request for expression of interest follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development Business No. 495 of 30 September 1998.
2. The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for Health and Population Program Project (HPPP).
3. The services include assisting the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), Government of Bangladesh in the following areas:  
**Package S-2124:**  
Technical Assistance for Strengthening of Regulation Wing of MOHFW  
**Brief description of the assignment are:**  
Three(3) Individual Consultants' Services would be required to support the regulatory activities/functions as per Operational Plan under the direct control of the Line Director (Regulation) to ensure co-ordination among different government and non-government sectors with regard to law/regulations/operations/ordinances/acts/policies, as per Operational Plan including drug, environment, occupation, food and sanitation. Specifically consultants' TOR will include compilation/collection of existing laws etc. related to health/population/public health/clinical health, review of existing laws related to health/population/public health/clinical health, drafting/formulation of new laws/policies and amendment of existing laws policies etc., as per approved operational plan and direction of the Line Director (Regulation). Two consultants will work under the supervision of the Chief Consultant.

The consultants will be appointed for 6 (six) months initially and on the basis of satisfactory service they will be appointed for further six months. The contract will be renewable for two years on the basis of satisfactory service and necessity of work. The consultants will be required to work full time for the assignment.

4. The Line Director (Regulation) now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the service (description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills etc). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.
5. A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, January 1997 (Revised September 1997 and January 1999).
6. Interested consultants may obtain further information and background documents from the office of the undersigned (Room No 315, Building No. 3, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka. Telephone No 8619280) between 1200 and 1500 hours, on all working days. Expressions of interest must be delivered to the same address by May 10, 2000.

**M Abdus Salam**  
Joint Secretary and  
Line Director (Regulation).  
DFP-6647-21/3 G-546