

## News

## What's on today....

**BIRDEM rally:** Physicians, doctors, nurses and other officials and staff of BIRDEM will hold a rally to demand a "Pollution-free Dhaka." Venue: From in front of BIRDEM hospital to Shishu Park. Time: 8:30 am.

**National conference:** Federation of Teachers Associations in Bangladesh will hold its national conference. Education Minister A S H K Sadek will inaugurate the conference. Venue: Polytechnic Institute auditorium, Tejgaon. Time: 9:30 am.

**COM TEQ '99:** The 3-day long fair COM TEQ '99 will begin. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

**Lecture:** Centre for Scientific and Technological Information (CESTI) of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka in Association with Bangladesh Institute of Research in Diabetes, Endocrine & Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM) will hold a scientific lecture session on "Endosulfines, endogenous regulators of insulin-release, possible implication in the genetic of diabetes". Venue: CESTI auditorium, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Time: 10:00 am-11:00 am.

**BR seminar:** Bangladesh Railway (BR) will hold a seminar on "Role of Dhaka ICD in Container Transport". Venue: Jalsaghara Hall, Hotel Purbani International. Time: 10:30 am.

**AMCHAM meeting:** American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh (AMCHAM) will hold a meeting on "Polio Eradication from Bangladesh." Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 12:30 pm.

**DRU meeting:** A meeting of the executive committee of Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU) will be held. Venue: DRU office, 8/4-A Topkhana Rd, Segunbagicha. Time: 1:00 pm.

**Meeting:** Campaign for Popular Education (CAME) will hold a meeting on creating awareness about the extinction of birds in the country. Venue: 5/14 Humayun Road, Mohammadpur. Time: 3:00 pm.

**ADAB seminar:** Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) will hold a seminar on "29 years of Independence: Women and the Poor of Bangladesh." Venue: Women's Voluntary Association (WVA), House No 20, Rd No 16, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 3:00 pm.

**Seminar:** ExecuTrain in association with Bangladesh 2000 will hold a seminar on Development of E-commerce Professionals in Bangladesh. Chief guest: Minister for Commerce Abdul Jalil. Venue: Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB). Time: 3:30 pm.

**SSJ gathering:** Sammilit Sangskritik Jote (SSJ) will hold a gathering to demand staying of the order of renaming of SUST hall names and to protest against fundamentalism in the country. Venue: Central Shaheed Minar. Time: 4:30 pm.

**Cultural evening:** Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy will hold a two-day cultural programme. On the first day of the programme today Papia Sarwar and Rowshan Ara Mustafiz will present songs. Venue: National Museum. Time: 6:30 pm.

## ..... and tomorrow .....

**Cultural evening:** Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy will hold the 2nd day of its cultural programme. Singers Shubir Nandi and Farida Parvin will present songs. Venue: Begum Sufia Kamal auditorium of National Museum, Shahbag. Time: 6:30 pm.

## Weather

## Thundershowers likely

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty to slightly wind is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and on the regions of Jessor and Kushtia in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere in the country during the period and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. Met Office said.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 36.0 degree Celsius at Jessor and the lowest 20.3 degree Celsius at Mymensingh.

**The sun sets in the capital today at 6.21 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.34 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	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.7	24.7	64	61
Chittagong	33.5	24.3	78	74
Rajshahi	35.8	25.0	83	66
Khulna	35.5	24.5	81	--
Barisal	34.0	23.5	85	70
Sylhet	33.7	23.0	78	77
Cox's Bazar	34.5	24.4	71	71

## HERE and THERE

## WPO seminar

By Staff Correspondent  
The Dhaka-based World Peace Organisation (WPO) yesterday held a seminar on "Ways of Establishing Permanent Peace in the World."

The seminar was held at the Dhaka University's TSC auditorium in the afternoon.

Advocate Syed Shah Alam presented the key-note paper in the seminar.

## ICAB

Institute of Chartered Accountant, Bangladesh (ICAB) on Friday honoured four personalities for their contributions to the 1952 Language Movement and the War of Liberation, reports UNB.

They are ASM Abdur Rab, Minister for Fisheries and Livestock, Khaled Mahmud Ali, Chairman Sadharan Bima, Dr Shah Mohammad Farid, Member Planning Commission and Advocate Gaziul Huq.

The minister received the ICAB crests from its president Abul Khar Chowdhury while three others from the minister at a function organised by the Institute, marking Eid reunion, Pahela Baishakh and holy Ashura.

## BCS Food (general) Officers' Assoc

Food Minister Amir Hossain Ansari yesterday said that the government was committed to ensure food security of the country, reports BSS.

To meet the food requirement of the people is a sacred responsibility of the government, he said while addressing the sixth annual meeting of the BCS Food (General) Officers Association at the Food Directorate recently.

Presided over by the president of the association M A Hashem, the function was also addressed, among others, by Deputy Minister for Food Harendra Devnath Shambhu, joint secretary to the ministry Dulal Abdul Hafiz, director general of the directorate AKM Nurul Afzal.

## Death anniversary

The fourth death anniversary of Quazi Nuruzzaman, first VP of Saadat College in Tangail, will be observed today, reports UNB.

A *milad mahfil* will be held at Baitul Aman Jame Mosque at Motijheel Colony after Asr prayers.



FEMA held a seminar on "Women and Political Parties" at the Ahsania Mission auditorium in the city on Saturday.



Shiite Muslims mourn as part of an Ashura procession in the city on Sunday, the tenth day of Muhamarram. — Star photo

## Warrant of arrest against Manab Zamin editor

MUNSHIGANJ, Apr 17: A magistrate court here today issued warrant of arrest against the editor of the *Manab Zamin* and two others in a defamatory case filed by chairman of Munshiganj municipality, reports UNB.

Magistrate Mahfuz Karim issued the order of arrest of editor Matinul Rahman Chowdhury, publisher Mahbuba Chowdhury and staff reporter Shafiqul Islam Jibon.

Chairman Anisuzzaman filed the case accusing them of publishing 'false reports' in the daily on April 7 and 8 that tarnished his political and social image.

## Kibria

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were working against the poor people of Bangladesh.

"It is against the country, I went to Paris to get the donors' support for the programmes to eradicate poverty and they opposed it.

You will be surprised that they listed the signing of the CII agreement, the Ganges Water Treaty and bus service with Calcutta as the reasons why the donors should not support Bangladesh."

Kibria said donors expressed satisfaction over Bangladesh's achievement in the social sectors and managing the macroeconomy as a whole.

The donors assured Bangladesh of continued assistance, he said.

Prior to the meeting, the donors indicated they would give between 1.8 and 2.20 billion US dollars in fresh aid to the country in 2000-2001 depending on the progress of reforms and aid utilisation.

## President

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any problems," he said and regretted that instead of showing tolerance and unity to achieve the national goals, there has been tendency to look at everything from political angles.

"If you work there remains a possibility of making mistakes, but it is better to nurture the outlook of rectifying the mistakes by taking right decision thereafter," he said.

The president said that there should be the approach to accept how people evaluate a work instead of claiming one's own work as the best piece.

"Go alone" is against the spirit of democracy. If our political parties could realise this, it would bring prosperity for the people and the country."

Turning to the problem of overpopulation, which has a cascading effect on almost all other issues, the president said the political parties should forge consensus to implement the family-planning programme.

"Probably, they (politicians) prefer not to talk about the family-planning programme for fear of the conservatives who oppose the family-planning concept." There would be no problem in implementing the programme if all the parties could take a unanimous decision.

He suggested forming a party committee in every union and thana to stop the cheating on public examinations as it eats into the vitality of the country's education system.

Referring to the observance of Mujibnagar Day, Shahabuddin said farsightedness and sacrificing outlook of the wartime government opened the greatest chapter in the struggle for achieving national independence. He paid rich tributes to those who led the war to a successful end.

The discussion meeting was chaired by Prof Anisuzzaman, Chairman of Bangla Academy, and also addressed by Local Government Minister Zillur Rahman, Prime Minister's Political Adviser Dr S A Malek and Cultural Secretary Syed Abdur Rab.

## Javed trying to influence

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private bank at gun point last year and declared himself the chairman without any legal basis.

At a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday, Kamal termed the whole exercise of Javed illegal. He said there is no provision in the article of association of CCCI and Trade Organisation (TO) ordinance to bring a no-confidence motion against any elected director and even the board of directors do not have any right to cancel the membership of anyone.

Kamal also claimed the board could only suspend membership for a certain period and if it wished to cancel anyone's membership then it will have to convene a general meeting giving a 30-day notice.

"And only the general meeting can cancel anyone's membership after voting," he said. He also alleged that Javed forced the other board members to support him.

Kamal also claimed the government will act right so that nobody will even think of doing this sort of things in future.

Vice-president of the chamber Belal Ahmed was present at the press conference.

Monga port, one source noted.

The government had earlier produced a Tk 47 crore Project Concept Paper (PCP) for improvement of roads, bridges and ferry service in the northern region of Bangladesh.

Similar views were expressed by President of the Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) Pradeep Kumar Shrestha during a recent visit to Bangladesh.

"Nepalese businessmen are very much interested to use Monga Port for transhipment of their goods, but they are unable to use the port properly due to poor road communication between the transit point and the port," he told in Dhaka.

The experts also noted that the Nepalese economy and the business would also be immensely benefited from shipment through Monga as transportation through Bangladesh would be cheaper and faster.

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