## What's on today . . . .

Discussion and publication ceremony: Jativatabadi Peshajibee Parishad has organised at discussion on 'President Ziaur Rahman's contribution to the political arena' to mark his 19th death anniversary. Also, a publication ceremony of a book. 'Political Philosophy and Ideals of Zia,' edited by Dr Emajudin Ahmed will be held. BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will attend the programme. Venue: National Press Club auditorium. Time: 3:30 pm.

Contemporary Iranian Film Festival: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen two films - 'once upon a time, Cinema' and 'Gabbeh.' Venue: German Cultural Centre, Road-9. Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm and 6:45 pm.

Mediation programme: Quantum Foundation will arrange a day-long joint meditation programme of Quantum graduate. Venue: Quantum seminar room of Foundation, 119/P. Shantinagar. Time: 10 am.

Symposium: A symposium on 'Dilatrend - Management of All Stages of Hypertension to Heart Failure Continuum' organised by Roche Bangladesh Limited will be held. Prof M A Zaman, Director, National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, will preside. Dr Henry Krum, Associate Professor of Medicine, Alfred Hospital, Australia, will present the keynote paper. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 9:30 am.

## .... and tomorrow

Iranian film show: Zahir Rathan Film Society will screen three films - 'The Bread and Alley,' 'The Traveller' and 'Where Is My Friend's Home' - as part of the contemporary Iranian Film Festival. Venue: German Cultural Centre, Road-9. Dhanmondi. Time: 4:30 pm. 4:40 pm and 6 pm.

## Weather

## Temperature may rise

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Rajshahi. Sylhet, Chittagong and Barisal divisions and at a few places over Khulna division during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Day temperature may rise by 2 degree Celsius over the country during this period, Met Office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 35.2 degree Celsius was recorded at Jessore and the lowest of 21 degree Celsius at Chittagong and Cox's Bazar.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:41 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:11 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	
Dhaka	25.6	22.1	88	84
Chittagong	28.9	21.0	89 -	97
Rajshahi	31.5	25.0	94	83
Khulna	34.0	25.0	83	80
Barisal	31.6	23.5	87	98
Sylhet	23.1	21.2	100	91
Cox's Bazar	32.2	21.0	90	86

## HERE and THERE

#### Condolence meeting

The Philosophy Department of Dhaka University held a condolence meeting in memory of late Prof Quamruddin Hussain, former chairman of the department and a Language veteran, reports BSS.

Chairman of the department Prof Anisuzzaman presided over the meeting while faculty members, students and family members of the deceased attended it.

Prof Abdul Motin, Prof Aminul Islam, Prof AQ Fazlul Wahid, Prof Quazi Nurul Islam, Prof Ayesha Sultana, Rashida Akhter Khanam, Dr Kawsar Mustafa and Muhammad Nuruzzaman spoke on the occasion.

#### Bangladesh scouts

A talent search competition for Extension Scouts organised . by Bangladesh Scouts was held on Friday at the National Scout Bhaban, says a press release. The function was inaugu-

rated by Afzal Hussain, National Commissioner (Extension Scouting). Bangladesh Scouts.

Sixty Extension Scouts, both boys and girls from all over Bangladesh, participated in various items including dance. recitation, music, drawing, acting, handicraft, dress as you like, and best Extension Scouts.

Prizes will be distributed among the winners later.

#### National Heart Foundation

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad yesterday called upon the non-government organisations to supplement the government efforts to combat the menace of cardiovascular diseases, reports BSS.

Speaking as the chief guest at a function, organised by National Heart Foundation of Bangladesh at Mirpur, he said the government has undertaken various steps to improve health care facilities.

### Muktijoddha Sangsad official shot in city

By Staff Correspondent Mosharraf Hossain Chowdhury, an official of Jatiya Muktijoddha Krira Sangsad, was shot while passing through the road in front of national museum in the city early yesterday morning, hospital sources said.

Mosharraf was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital with bullet wounds in his 'Swat'

Two unidentified people riding in a motorbike fired at him while he was going home in a rickshaw, hospital sources said

quoting the victim. Ramna police said no case was registered and none was arrested in this connection.

### CPE seminar

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) organised a Mandatory CPE Seminar on "Frauds and Forgeries in Banks & their Remedies" at ICAB auditorium on Friday, says a press release.

seminar while Zahir Uddin Ahmed, Member Council & Past President of ICAB, chaired the session. Prof Muzaffer Ahmed. of Dhaka University was present as chief guest.

Anis A Khan, Senior Manager, ANZ Grindlays Bank Limited, presented the keynote paper. Abbas Uddin Khan, Member Council & Past President of ICAB, was the officials commentator on the paper.

Prof Muzaffer Ahmed and Anis A Khan were given seminar crests.

The CPE Seminar was largely attended by council members, past presidents and members of ICAB.

The participants discussed various issues of frauds and forgeries concerning the banks and financial institutions and their remedies. They laid emphasise on the important role of auditors in the overall mechanism of controlling frauds and forgeries.



#### Death anniversary Today is the 29th death an-

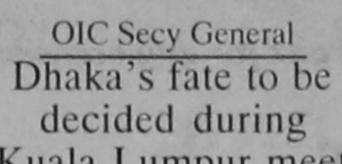
niversary of Captain Bashar, says a press release. This day in 1971, the Pak-

istani occupation forces tortured and killed him at a concentration camp in Dhaka. His body remains untraced till date. Captain Bashar was the first

Bangalee Army officer who hoisted the national flag of Bangladesh just after the historic speech of Bangabandhu on March 7 in 1971. He hoisted the flag of independent Bangladesh atop the perambulator of his baby daughter and went round the Chittagong Cantonment

He also shot down a helicopter of Pakistani Army flying over Halishahar in Chittagong. He played a pioneering role in putting up barricades on the streets to prevent unloading of sophisticated arms and ammunition from Pakistani ship

On the occasion of his death anniversary, a milad mahfil will be held at the residence of his brother, Khaleque Dad, at 12/1-A West Nakhal Para, Tejgaon, near Chhapra Mosque,



Kuala Lumpur meet A Turkish delegation that visited Dhaka last week didn't make any request to Bangladesh for withdrawing its candidature for OIC Secretary General, reports UNB.

They did not extend support to Bangladesh either, Foreign Secretary CM Shafi Sami told newsmen at the Foreign Office vesterday.

The five-member delegation led by Turkish Under Secretary Farooq Loglo came to Dhaka with Turkish candidate Ambassador Yasar Yakis who is running for the post.

Sami said during talks with the Turkish side, they had reiterated that Bangladesh is seriously in the race. Bangladesh announced its candidature

when none was in the race. He, however, said with the announcement of Dr Abdel Ouahid Balkeziz of Morocco from the Arab world a new situ-

ation emerged. The Foreign Secretary said in view of the new situation, Bangladesh would take decision about its candidature during the OIC Foreign Ministers' meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

.In reply, to a question, he said: "it is Asia's turn and now OIC with its collective wisdom has to decide whether time is for Asia or Arab.

As per charter of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), an incumbent secretary general could wish to run for a second term, but there is no such provision of retaining the post by the same group (Arab).

Asked whether Saudi Arabia, which openly gave support to Dhaka's candidate, still upholds that. Sami said it did not tell Bangladesh that it had withdrawn the backing.

To another query, he said if the ICFM meeting in Malaysian capital decides that it is now Asia's turn, "then we are confident." But, if it decides that turn belongs to the Arabs - "we will have to realise that we are not from Arab group."

#### Gono Forum concerned over law and order situation

By Staff Correspondent Gono Forum president Dr Kamal Hossain and general secretary Saifuddin Ahmed Manik in a statement yesterday expressed grave concern over the deterioration of law and order situation in the country.

They said that the number of incidents of killing, rape, robbery, extortion and grabbing of land and houses had risen alarmingly in the capital and other parts of the country.

The leaders alleged that some ministers and MPs or their relatives were also found involved in such acts.

They criticised the govern-ICAB Acting President Md | ment and its police department | the country to cover all targeted Nurul Hauge presided over the | for their failure to arrest the culprits.

### Asia Cup

From page 1

tesy call at 10 o'clock in the morning knowing in their hearts that a game on a soaked ground is absolutely impossi-

Even though the match has been deferred by a day, the chance of seeing runs flowing and wickets falling looked bleak with the foul weather adamantly hovering around for

a little longer. The prevailing condition also turned out to be a source of sheer disappointment for Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB). The organisers of the mega event blamed the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) for picking an odd time to play the event.

The tournament, originally scheduled to be held in Dhaka last year, was deferred twice due to the non- availability of the

all the three Asian giants. The month of May is not an ideal time that we all knew. But it was not our not our prerogative to fix the date rather it was imposed on us. It was the only time that was available to get all the teams together", said the BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury to the reporters yes-



People are availing every means to combat the waterlogging in the city the downpour in the past few days has triggered. Sandbags are stacked along the gate of the Additional IG's (Prison) house in Bakshi Bazar in Old Dhaka to stop water from entering the courtyard.

- Star photo

# Second round of 7th NIDs today

The second round of the intensified 7th National Immunization Days (NIDs) will be held today with a pledge to eradicate polio from the country by the end of the current year, reports UNB.

After the successful completion of the first round on April 23. preparations have been taken to make the second round even more successful, said an official handout. All under 5 children of the

country will be administered with two doses of oral polio vaccine (OPV) on Monday. Children between 1-5 years will also be administered with a highpowered vitamin A capsule with a polio vaccine.

Some 1.20 lakh vaccination centres have been set up across children. Health workers, village elders as well as personnel of the UNICEF, WHO, IOCH will work hand in hand to make the drive a success. The NIDs are being observed in the country since 1995 in line with a policy prescribed by WHO.

Parents have been advised to bring their under 5 children to nearby centres on Monday. Since polio is a disease of small children, special drive will be undertaken to ensure optimum coverage of this age group. With this aim, child to child search will be conducted throughout the country from May 30 to June 2 to ensure protection to every child against the po-

#### Plot to kill From page 1

officers had planned to use the Tamil guerilla outfit, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). The information was passed on to Bangladesh authorities. BBC correspondent Subir Bhowmik reported from Calcutta.

Earlier this month, BBC Bangla service reported from Calcutta that Indian intelligence service Research and Analytical Wing (RAW) had unearthed a plot to assassinate the Bangladesh PM and had alerted Bangladesh High Commission in India about this.

Polio is a highly contagious disease, which spreads through human excreta. The virus can remain dormant in a human body for as many as 35 days. But only I per cent of the affected children becomes paral-

Many countries of the world have now become polio free by observing a series of National Immunization Days. Indonesia. the Maldives, countries of North and South Americas as well as Europe have already become polio free.

### Tourist spot

From page 12 make it financially profitable.

The meeting discussed the possible tourist zones comprising Sagardari, Narail, Kushtia Shilaidah, Mujibnagar, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati-Chittagong Hill Tracts, Dinajpur-Panchagarh and Sylhet. It discussed various facili

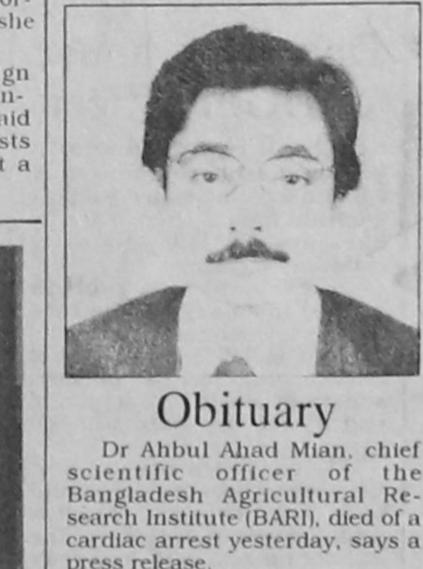
ties, including trekking in the hilly areas and ensuring security of tourists. It decided to restrict setting up of any establishments along the 90-mile marine drive from Cox's Bazar to Teknaf, which will be made a toll road. "Tourism could flourish in

Bangladesh following the Maldives, Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand, preserving Asian culture and religious values," the meeting viewed.

Prime Minister Hasina, who is also president of the NPP, called for formulating comprehensive guidelines to attract local and foreign tourists in the country

"Bangladesh, endowed with exquisite flora and fauna, is located in a very lucrative position from tourism point of view. The authorities concerned should take more care in projecting the country's natural landscape and beauty for foreign tourists and travelers," she

Nearly two lakh foreign travelers visit Bangladesh annually, officials said. They said the number of foreign tourists is increasing by 10 per cent a vear.



dent of Bangabandhu Parishad Gazipur district branch. Dr Ahad made significant

contribution to agricultural research in Bangladesh. He was honoured with the Kabi Gobinda Chandra Das Gold Medal in 1997.

of Science (BAAS), president of BARI Scientists Association (BARISA), vice-president of the Bangladesh Horticulture Society, president of the Agricultural Research Club and secretary general of the Bangladesh

He left behind his wife, three daughters and a son. The Bangabandhu Parishad, Gazipur district branch, BRRI Officers' Welfare Association

### Daily Star unit of DUJ

By Staff Correspondent Biswadip Das and Mohammad Elias have been elected unit chief and deputy unit chief respectively of The Daily Star unit of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ).

A three-member election commission headed by Abul Mansur Choudhury conducted the election at The Daily Star office yesterday. The two other members of the commission were Aasha Mehreen Amin and Kamal Nasser. Earlier, the annual general

meeting of the DUJ unit was held with outgoing unit chief Nurul Kabir in the chair.

### Month-long DU vacation begins May 31

The month-long vacation of the Dhaka University will begin on May 31, reports UNB.

Classes and administrative activities of the university will remain closed on May 31 due to Akheri Chahar Shomba. The summer vacation will begin on

Administrative activities will, however, continue during the summer vacation.

to reopen on July 1.

### Dhaka hails Israeli troop pullout

Bangladesh yesterday hailed the withdrawal of Israeli troops from South Lebanon and expressed the hope that this would lead to durable peace in the Middle East, reports BSS.

Welcoming the pullout of Israeli troops, Foreign Secretary CM Shafi Sami told a press briefing that "Bangladesh also hopes that Israel would take positive steps in all other tracks, including on the question of Golan Heights, to achieve a comprehensive, just and durable peace in the Middle

After 22 years of forcible occupation, Israel withdrew from South Lebanon three days ago much to the rejoice of the Lebanese and peace-loving people of the world.

### MP Kamal

From page 1

to get out of my house" Majumder added, "My son is not an angel." He may be a little indisciplined but he cannot be a murderer or a terror

In reply to a question, he said, " Police raided my Banani house on Saturday and conducted a search for about an hour, although I am a ruling

Defending Jewel, Majumder said that his son was with him | the Myanmar ambassador in when the incident was reported to have taken place.

The FIR mentioned that Jewel was seen there along with those involved in the murder but the press has accused him as killer, the MP said. I reply to a question, he said

he remained out of touch with the press on the advice of his well-wishers and associates. Demanding CID investiga-

tion into the case, the MP said three attempts on his life were made in the last few months. The same group is now accusing his son to tarnish his image. He did not specify the group. Meanwhile, Gulshan police

said that they could not arrest any of the three accused in the murder case. DMP Commissioner Matiun Rahman, when asked about this, said, "Prime Minister

Sheikh Hasina has personally

directed police for arresting

Jewel" He, however, could not explain failure of police to arrest the accused as yet.



press release.

Dr Ahad was also the presi-

He was also the executive member of the Bangladesh Association for the Advancement

Agronomy Society.

## 70000 marooned

From page 1 Kamalgoni. Patan. Usher, 98 mm rainfall from 6 pm Sat-Madhabpur and Munsibazar unions in Kamalgonj upazilla and Kamarchak in Rajnagar upazilla.

rainfall totalled 182 mm in the area since Saturday, aggravating the flood situation, the Me-

The Met office said rains are likely to continue today with temporary gusty winds at many places in Dhaka, Rajshahi. Sylhet, Chittagong and Barisal divisions and at few places in Khulna division. The rains may decline in the next 48 hours

from 6 pm yesterday, it said. in greater Sylhet may worsen due to the rainfall and rush of waters from the upper reaches. Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) said here yester-

The Brahmaputra-Jamuna

registered further rise at all points as the Ganges-Padma receded at the upstream but swelling at the downstream, the FFWC said. Rivers in the Meghna basin except the Khowai at Habiganj rose sharply, it added. The Manu at Manu Railweay

Bridge and Moulvibazar, the The university is scheduled | Surma at Kanaighat and the Kushiyara at Amalshid in Sylhet are flowing above danger levels, the FFWC said.

Rivers in Chittagong region continued to fall, but those in the Brahmaputra basin, except Teesta, marked rise. The rivers around the capital -Shitalakhya, Buriganga

Bazar rose by 13 cm. The Gumti in Comilla swelled sharply but was flowing 77 cm below the red mark, vesterday.

The Dhaka city experienced

urday to 6 p.m. yesterday. clined yesterday after three days of downpour. The Met of-With cascading waters, the fice forecast fair weather soon with weakening of the low over

The cautionary signal num-

UNB adds: Zahidul Islam, 14. a class IX student and Suruja Khatun, 30, of Sreepur thana in Magura died on the spot and 10 others were injured The overall flood situation in lightning during the storm that started at about 6 am. Others were injured in house col-

> The worst affected villages are Aksi, Gangnalia, Sangachha, Laskarpur, Sreepur, Ghariapur, Takhalpur, Shalikha, Bunagati, Gangarampur, Birpur, Isakhada.

In Jhenidah, a man and his daughter were killed and about 15 others injured in a nor wester that hit two upazilas of the district early morning yesterday.

daughter Rupali, 12, of Ghilabaria village in Shoilakupa upazila. They were killed in lightning.

The worst affected areas are

# Myanmar PM's visit

From page 1 visit by such a high ranking Myanmar leader to Bangladesh since independence. Myanmar, besides India, is the only other neighbour of Bangladesh sharing a common land boundary of

The Myanmar Prime Minister, who is a senior general and also Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of his country was due to head a 65-member entourage comprising at least four cabinet minis-

The visit was aimed at 'warming up ties' between the two neighbours and there was 'much expectation and anticipation' that the matter of the repatriation of remaining 21,000 stranded Rohingya refugees, maritime boundary demarcation, border trade, and opening up of surface and water communication links between the two countries would be

'settled mutually." The foreign secretary said Dhaka formally informed him vesterday and expressed his sorrow about the 'illness of his Prime Minister.

The announcement was made without mentioning a likely date of visit or terming it as 'postponed'. Sami said, the Myanmar

ambassador had told him that

### Body to probe incident involving army officer

Jessore area army authorities have instituted an inquiry registered with the government. committee to probe the incident involving an Army Captain Md Mehdi Feroze Khan and some youths in Barisal on May 24, an ISPR press release said yester-

day, reports BSS. The committee will be headed by an army officer and will also include a Magistrate as a member.

#### Bangladesh From page 1

BCB boss. I am not very sure about when we would be able to play

our first Test because ICC might also allow us to play Test cricket from January 2001. If that happens, there is no question of playing Test in December," he said. His deputy Syed Ashraful Huq meanwhile did not rule out

the possibility of a Test match on December 16. "If Bangladesh get the Test status with immediate effect and India do not have any commitment in December, the Test match might well take place from the Victory Day," he said. Bangladesh's bid for Test Bishu, 28, could swim ashore. status got a tremendous boost on Friday when the Cricket

mously recommended ICC to recognise Bangladesh as the tenth Test-playing nation in its next meeting, starting at Lord's from June 22. "This is a very big news for Bangladesh. We have gone another step ahead. Because, it is the powerful Cricket Committee of ICC who have strongly recommended us. This recommendation will have a decisive

bearing on the ICC Executive

Committee (Playing) of the ICC

in its meeting at Lord's unani-

considers our case," said Ashra-Chaired by Sir Clyde Walcott, representatives of all the nine Full Members and three Associate Members were present in that Friday meeting.

Abbas, Sunil Gavaskar and Ranjit Fernando represented Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka in the meeting. Former Kenyan captain Harilal Shah represented Kenya in the meetThe intensity of rains de-

West Bengal and Bihar in India. teorological Department said in ber three, hoisted at Chittagong. Mongla and Cox's Bazar ports earlier, were lowered yesterday afternoon as the turbulent Bay showed signs of calming down.

The deceased were identified as Atiar Rahman, 40, and his

In Barisal, at least 50 people were injured when a nor wester lashed two Gournadi and Aghailihara thanas of the dis-

and Turag -- also continued to Gournadi Sadar, Batajore and Billogram of Gowranadi thana The Meghna at Bhairab and Fulosri, Chhaygram, Patihar. Bhadragram and Sheral of. Aghailjhara thana. Sixteen of the injured were admitted to hospitals.

#### their Prime Minister General Than Shwe would be writing a letter to his Bangladesh coun-

terpart Sheikh Hasina. "informing her of the situa-Meanwhile, an 11-member advance team of the Myanmar government which arrived here on Thursday left Dhaka for

> Yangon yesterday. The advance team led by a Director General of the Myanmar foreign ministry came here to prepare the necessary groundwork and the agenda for the proposed talks between officials of the two countries,

#### sources said. Under the banner

From page 1

Firoz said they could not take the restaurant on lease as the authorities are vet to decide on handing over half of the lake between Road-8 and Road-27 to the Bangabandhu Memorial

However, Abul Hossain Kabir denied to have any relationship with the occupiers of the restaurant. He said they were trying to cash in on the name of Russel Sangsad. The DCC's chief executive

officer, responsible for imple-

mentation of the lake project,

Museum.

could not be reached for his comments. Russel, the youngest son of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, was killed along with other family members on August 15, 1975. However, the Russell Smriti Sangsad based in

## Shukrabad in the city is not

the rape case.

Shazneen From page 1 Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka till disposal of

Shazneen, 15. youngest

Chairman of Transcom Group. was raped and murdered at their Gulshan residence on April 23, 1998. Shahidul Islam Shahid, a domestic help of the house is

the principal accused in the

case while contractor Hasan is

Shahid, Hasan, Badal, car-

All the accused were present

the alleged mastermind.

daughter of Latifur Rahman.

penter Shamiram, Guard Humayun Kabir and maids, Minu and Parveen were arrested soon after the incident. Among them. Humayun Kabir died of cardiac arrest last year.

#### at the court during the proceedings vesterday.

A three-member committee has been formed to probe the

accident. Chief Whip Abul Hasanat Abdullah today visited the spot. The traffic on the road which was suspended after the accident, resumed this after-

#### Shimul From page 1

der Phultala thana

noon

Police arrested two young boys from one of the houses. Shimul claimed that they were Committee meeting when it his informers. Phultala thana police will

also seek remand of Shimul for

questioning about the murder

of Shahidul Islam Khokon of Awami League. Shimul also confessed to the police that his most faithful cadre Ganesh was Former cricket greats Zaheer murdered near Khulna Medical College Hospital at his instruction in 1998. Meanwhile, all units of KMP

have been put on high alert following naming of six 'godfathers' in the city by Shimul.

Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled, Director of Kachi Kanchar Mela and Deputy Governor of Friends, relatives and adand BRRI Employees Welfare Bangladesh Bank, and Ahmed Ismet, Executive Vice President of EBL, were present on mirers have been requested to Association expressed deep the occasion. shock at his death. attend the milad.

M Khairul Alam, Managing Director of Eastern Bank Limited, handed over a cheque for

Tk 3 lakh as donation for the Trust Fund of Central Kachi Kanchar Mela to its organiser

Dil Monowora Monu recently at Kachi Kancha auditorium in the city. Among others,