

News

What's on today....

FPAB workshop: Family Planning Association of Bangladesh will hold a 6-day long workshop on "Integrated Community-Operated Reproductive Health Programmes focusing on Women's Empowerment beginning today. Venue: BRAC centre, Mohakhali. Time: 9:00 am.

Satyajit Ray Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society presents *Hirak Rajar Deshe* (The Kingdom of Diamonds) on the 3rd day of the retrospective. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Rd no 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6:15 pm.

Folk theatre festival: Nagri Showkhin Jhumur Shilpi Gosthi will present *Gouri Mala*. Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy. Venue: Public Library auditorium. Time: 7:00 pm.

Pre-opening ceremony: The pre-opening ceremony of Learning and Research Analysis will be held. Venue: Winter Garden, Hotel Sheraton. Time: 7:30 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Satyajit Ray Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society presents *Gupi Bagha Fire Elo* (The return of Gupi and Bagha) on the 4th day of the retrospective. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Road No 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6:30 pm.

Folk theatre festival: Binodan Jhumur Jatra will present *Sati Keno Kolanke* on the 2nd last day of the weeklong folk theatre festival. Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy. Venue: Public Library auditorium. Time: 7:00 pm.

Weather

Light rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over the country with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over Dhaka, Barisal, Chittagong, Sylhet and Rajshahi divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The country's highest temperature 34.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Mongla and the lowest 24.2 degree Celsius at Sylhet.

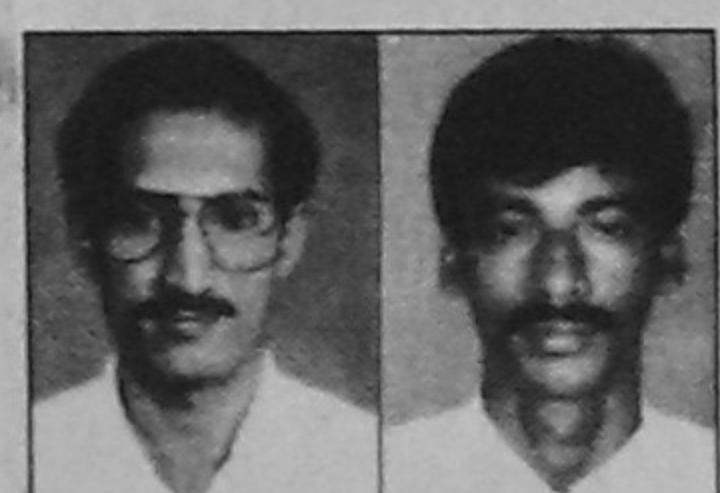
The sun sets in the capital today at 6.46 pm and rises on Monday at 5.10 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
Dhaka	29.7	86
Chittagong	31.0	88
Rajshahi	32.7	95
Khulna	33.2	83
Barisal	31.8	84
Sylhet	28.1	100
Cox's Bazar	27.6	95

HERE and THERE

Daily Star
Employees
Union



By Staff Correspondent
An eight-member new executive body of the Daily Star Employees' Union has been formed with M Nazrul Islam and Altaf Hossain Azad as its president and general secretary respectively.

The committee was formed at the general meeting of the union yesterday with chief of The Daily Star Unit of Dhaka Union of Journalists Biswadip Das in the chair. President of Press Sramik Karmachari Union, Daily Star unit Abul Hashem attended the meeting as special guest.

The other office-bearers are M Shahidul Islam Molla, vice-president, Tapan Chandra Das, assistant general secretary, Ayub Khan, treasurer, Ruhul Amin Babu, cultural secretary, Mojibur Rahman Sharif, publicity secretary and Jalal Akan, member.

East West
University

The orientation for the freshers of East West University (EWU) was held at its premises in the city yesterday with governor, Bangladesh Bank, Dr. Mohammad Farashuddin in the chair, reports BSS.

11-Party Alliance
denounces budget

By Staff Correspondent

The 11-Party Alliance held a rally and brought out a procession in the city's Newmarket, Nilkhet and Hatirpool areas yesterday to protest the proposed budget. They termed it anti-people and a 'rip-off', says a party press release.

The party plans to hold a similar rally and bring out procession from the city's Bahadur Shahi Park today at 5 pm.

Obituary

Alhaj S M Shakhat Hossein, a noted social worker, politician and organiser of the liberation war died yesterday at his Mohammadpur residence. He was 76, family sources said. Reports BSS.

Hossain, who hails from Bagerhat district, left behind his wife, a son, three daughters and a host of admirers to mourn his death.

His *qulkuwan* will be held after Asr prayers on June 15 at his 14/14 Saltmullah Road residence at Mohammadpur.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation stone of the 5th Bangladesh-China Friendship bridge yesterday. The bridge will be built over River Gabkhan at Jhalakathi.

—PID photo

Alleged MPs won't be able to evade police interrogation

Killers to be arrested at any cost: Nasim

Referring to recent deterioration in the city's law and order, the home minister said

Court recalls arrest warrants against Dilip Kumar, Vyjayantimala

slums were contributing significantly to the situation.

Killers and terrorists consider slums as their safe havens for possessing illegal arms and dealing in drugs. It can not continue, he said, adding slum dwellers would be rehabilitated outside the city.

Nasim also called upon journalists to expose the facts as it were. "Please write what you see in front of you, but please do not make speculative stories."

In an interview with Ekuhshey Television earlier, Nasim, also the organising secretary of Awami League, called upon the four-party opposition alliance to return to right track of politics, bidding good bye to harta.

He described the proposed budget as pro-people and balanced, adding people from all walks of life appreciated the budget.

He invited opposition lawmakers to join the budget session and make constructive criticism at the right place mirroring the hopes and aspirations of their electorate.

Nothing happened that presented barriers to joining parliament, he observed.

Amu to contest by-polls in Jhalakathi-2

JHALAKATHI, June 10: Food Minister Amir Hossain Amu will contest by-election in Jhalakathi-2 Constituency, reports UNB.

The JS seat fell vacant following the death of Jafikar Ali Bhutto of Jatiya Party.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today introduced Amu as the Awami League candidate for by-election to the vacant seat.

"Amir Hossain Amu will be our candidate for by-election," she told a public meeting at the local stadium.

Arrest identified terrorists soon, IGP asks DMP officers

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Mohammad Nurul Huda directed the field level officers of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) yesterday to arrest the identified terrorists immediately, reports BSS.

Dr Reaz Mobarak expressed his discontent saying that measures to address air pollution have not been covered in the national health policy. He emphasised on the need for clear guidelines for screening high-risk population like traffic police, regular long-distance travellers, street urchins, slum children, people living within 50-100 yards of pitched roads and recycled industries, recycle workers and vendors, and then take necessary measures.

"If we can combat disasters like '98 flood, we definitely can make sure pollutant-free air for the citizens," said Abul Hasan Chowdhury, the State Minister for Foreign Affairs, in his speech.

He urged the police personnel to ensure security of the people living in the metropolitan areas.

DMP Commissioner Motiur Rahman, Additional Commissioner Mozammel Haque and officials concerned were present at the meeting.

Sound pollution in Dhaka city causes heart disease, blood pressure, he added.

Dr Atiq Rahman said integration of environment with production system is necessary for business development. Environment is not only a challenge but also a good opportunity for business.

"I am saddened by the news of President Assad's death and want to offer my condolences to his family and the Syrian people," Clinton said in a statement from Minnesota, USA where he was travelling.

Air pollution problem must be addressed on priority basis

By Staff Correspondent

City's air pollution problems should be addressed on a priority basis, said environmentalists at a seminar yesterday.

The seminar titled "Environmental Degradation and Our Responsibilities in the 21st Century" was organised by Rural Organisation of Health and Environment (ROHE), a non-governmental agency engaged in awareness building on health and environment in the countryside.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury addressed the seminar as the chief guest. Secretary Syed Margoub Morshed, Ministry of Environment and Forest, former secretary and legal adviser, ministry of foreign affairs A. K. H. Morshed, also spoke at the seminar, which was chaired by Ruhul Amin Mazumder, adviser ROHE. Dr. Reaz Mobarak, developmental paediatrician and epidemiologist, and Prof. Ferz Ahmed presented their respective papers -- *Children: Victims of Air Pollution and Air Pollution in Dhaka city* -- while making suggestions for pollution-free air in the city.

Revealing the horrendous magnitude of air pollutants and their effects on dwellers, especially on children, the experts sought government policy guidelines. "If two-stroke engines are taken off the roads, it won't make any

difference," said Abul Hasan Chowdhury, the State Minister for Foreign Affairs, in his speech.

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Block 9 was originally re-

served for BAPEX before the second round bidding. It was included in the second round block bidding as a strategy to attract foreign oil companies.

Clinton morns

US President Bill Clinton

mourned the passing of Hafez

Al-Assad today and said despite

his differences with the late

leader, he "always respected him."

"I am saddened by the news

of President Assad's death and

want to offer my condolences to

his family and the Syrian people," Clinton said in a statement from Minnesota, USA where he was travelling.

The first batch of graduates from BIMDT seen at the institute's 1st convocation ceremony

held at the IDB Bhaban auditorium at Sher-e-Bangla

agar, Dhaka.

Obituary

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liberation war died yesterday at his Mohammadpur residence. He was 76, family sources said. Reports BSS.

Hossain, who hails from Bagerhat district, left behind his wife, a son, three daughters and a host of admirers to mourn his death.

His *qulkuwan* will be held after Asr prayers on June 15 at his 14/14 Saltmullah Road residence at Mohammadpur.

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