

## What's on today....

**Seminar:** A day-long life seminar and live surgery on Phacemulsification, a modern technique of cataract surgery organised by the Retina Foundation and Eye Centre will be held. Venue: BIAM, 63 New Eskaton. Time: 8:30 am.

**Int'l conference:** Bangladesh Geographical Society inaugurates an international conference on "Disaster: Issues and Gender Perspectives." Venue: Bangladesh Institute of Administration and Management (BIAM) hall. Time: 9:25 am.

**Bangla Academy workshop:** Bangla Academy begins a 3-day long writer and researcher workshop on "The Liberation War of Bangladesh: Documents and History-related Book Publication." project. Venue: Seminar room of the Academy. Time: 9:00 am.

**Discussion meeting:** Chetana '71 will hold a discussion on "Awami's Four Years of Misrule, and There is Alternative to The Unity of Nationalist Power to Protect the Sovereignty of the Country." Venue: VIP lounge of Jatiya Press Club. Time: 3:30 pm.

**BUP meeting:** Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad (BUP) will hold a meeting. Venue: BUP seminar room, House No 33, Road No 4, Dhammondi R/A. Time: 4:00 pm.

**Exhibition:** The solo photography exhibition of Bayazid Akhter titled "Unity and Diversity" will be inaugurated. Venue: Conference room of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Time: 5:00 pm.

**Satyajit Ray retrospective:** Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen Ray's *Uttaran* on the 2nd last day of the third session of the retrospective on the late filmmaker. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Road No 2, Dhammondi R/A. Time: 6:15 pm.

**Discussion meeting:** Plassey Uddjapon Committee will hold a discussion meeting to mark the 243rd anniversary of the Plassey tragedy. Venue: Jatiya Press Club auditorium. Time: 4:00 pm.

**Founding anniversary:** Theatre Centre will hold a day long programme to mark its 18th founding anniversary. Venue: Theatre Centre auditorium, 4 Green Square, Green Corner, Green Road. Time: 11:00 am-9:00 pm.

## ..... and tomorrow

**Democracy Watch dialogue:** Democracy Watch will hold a dialogue on "Impediment, freedom and impartiality of the mass media and its prevention." Venue: Democracy Watch hall, 7 Circuit House Road. Time: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm.

**ADAB discussion meeting:** Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh will hold a discussion meeting on poetess Begum Sufia Kamal. The discussion will be followed by a cultural programme. Venue: Main auditorium of National Museum. Time: 5:00 pm.

**Children's exhibition:** A children's painting exhibition will be inaugurated. This will be followed by a cultural programme by children. Venue: Goethe Institut, House No 10, Road No 9, Dhammondi R/A. Time: 5:00 pm.

**Exhibition:** The 1st solo art exhibition of Rashidul Islam Khan will be inaugurated. Chief guest: Mohammad Nasim, Home and Telecommunications Minister. Venue: Drik Gallery, House No 58, Dhammondi R/A. Time: 5:30 pm.

## Weather

### Thundershowers 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 Rajshahi, Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period. Met office said.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 33.1 degree Celsius recorded at Sakthira and the lowest 24.8 degree Celsius at Cox's Bazar and Khulna today.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:49 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:12 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	31.8	25.5	78	90
Chittagong	31.5	25.0	92	75
Rajshahi	31.7	25.4	82	87
Khulna	31.8	24.8	80	93
Barisal	31.2	25.6	87	87
Sylhet	31.7	24.9	78	100
Cox's Bazar	31.5	24.8	80	82

### Habib accuses 4 including MP's son of killing Shipu

By Staff Correspondent

Joy Habib, one of the two arrested accused in Shipu Murder Case yesterday gave a judicial statement accusing four persons, including a son of ruling party MP of killing the businessman.

Iftikhar Ahmed Shipu, 38, a cellular phone trader was gunned down at UAE market at Banani in the city on May 21.

Joy Habib, in his judicial statement before the court of M Shahidul Islam, a metropolitan magistrate, said he came to know about involvement of four persons — Shaiful Alam,

### BCL activist stabbed to death in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 22: An activist of Bangladesh Chhatra League Bakalia unit was stabbed to death by his rivals at DC road here this morning, police said.

Shahidul Islam, 25, came under attack while taking tea at a tea shop there at 9 am today.

The attackers beat him seriously and at one stage stabbed him, police said.

He was immediately taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

### CEPZ

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Some other workers of two towel manufacturing factories yesterday also agitated demanding their wages as per 1993 circular of BEPZA which was cancelled later.

CEPZ sources said workers of those factories kept the officials hostage to realise their demand, but police later rescued them. The factories are Globe Textile and Bangladesh Towel.

Sources, However, said today the workers of the two factories attended their duties. But production in three US factories remained suspended for the past 11 days, sources added.

## Major reshuffle in administration

In a major administrative reshuffle more than a dozen secretaries have been given new assignment and job contract of some is extended, said an official hand out yesterday, reports UNB.

Secretary of Statistics Division Mamun-ur-Rashid has been made Secretary of the Election Commission, Additional Secretary of Industries Ministry K M Elsanul Huq Acting Secretary of the Statistics Division, Member Secretary of Public Administration Reforms Commission Al Amin Chowdhury takes over as Acting Secretary of the Industries Ministry, Environment and Forest Secretary Sayed Marghub Morshed takes over as Secretary of Fisheries and Livestock Secretary replacing Ayub Kadri who goes to Food Ministry as Secretary.

Morshed has been replaced by Jute Secretary Mahfuzul Islam. A Q M Kamrul Huda, transferred as the Additional Secretary of the Home Ministry, has been made Acting Secretary of the Jute Ministry.

Food Secretary Mahfuzul Kabir has been made OSD at Establishment Ministry.

Quamrul Islam Siddiqui, who was removed from PDB, has been appointed Additional Secretary on deputation under

the President's 10 per cent quota and made Acting Secretary of Jamuna Bridge Division.

The contract of PARC Member Amrul Islam has been extended by six months from June 30.

The LPR of Captain Abdul Halim, Commander of DC 10-30 of Bangladesh Biman, has been cancelled and his appointment extended by one year on contract subject to his physical fitness.

Chairman of Petrobangla Mosharrar Hossain has been appointed to the same post on one-year contract.

IGP A Y B I Siddiqui has been appointed as Chairman of the Tariff Commission on deputation.

Joint Secretary of Election Commission Dr Omar Faruk Khan has been made OSD in Establishment Ministry while Joint Secretary of Commerce Ministry M A Kamal sent on deputation to National Nutrition Project as Executive Director.

OSD (Jt Secy) of Establishment Ministry Kazi Nasirul Islam has been made Joint Secretary of Power Division, CMM of Dhaka A K M Abdullah appointed as Joint Secretary of

Fisheries and Livestock Ministry and Joint Secretary of the ministry Syed Golam Kibria transferred to Finance Division with the same rank.

Joint Secretary M Abu Zafar who is under transfer order as Additional Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong has been appointed Director, Export Promotion Bureau, on deputation. His transfer order has been cancelled.

Murari Mohon Dutta has been transferred to BTMC. A K M Delwar Hossain to Primary and Mass Education Division, Tazul Islam Khan to Forest Industries Corporation, Joint Secretary Shamsul Huq to National Handicapped Development Foundation.

Acting Joint Secretary Mohammad Abdul Haye has been promoted as Joint Secretary.

The service of Director of CMSD Brigadier Mohammad Shahjahan has been placed under the Health and Family Welfare Ministry on deputation to take over as Director of Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Col Mohammad Masud has been sent to Sylhet Medical College Hospital and Col M Zillur Rahman to Chittagong Medical College Hospital on deputation.



Ekattarer Ghatak Dalal Nirul Committee (Committee for Annihilation of the Collaborators of the '71) brought out a procession in the city yesterday on occasion of their 3rd metropolitan conference. —Star photo

### Housewife

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"I asked my younger son to open the door when policemen knocked the door at about 1:30 am on June 17," she said.

"The team led by Sis Anwar and Shahed entered my bed room and wanted to know about my elder son Liton, who lives in his uncle's house nearby," she said.

"Some of them asked me to take them to that house. I took them there although they could not show any warrant or charge against Liton," she said.

"On return to my house, I found my son Rubel and daughter Sheely lying on the floor and some policemen beating them," she alleged.

"Failing to find Liton, the policemen abused all the family members and then took me and my husband to the thana," she said.

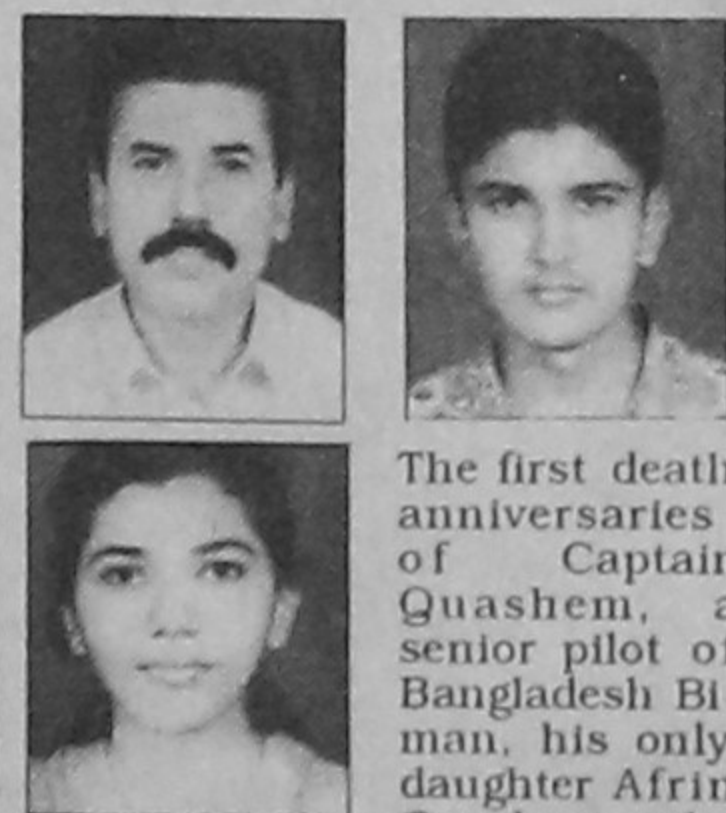
During confinement in the thana, policemen did not allow them to meet their relatives, she alleged.

"The OC of Sabujbagh thana asked me to give a statement that my son and daughters tried to snatch arms from the policemen at my house. As I refused, they beat me and my husband," Julekha alleged.

They were produced before court and then sent to the Dhaka Central Jail the next day.

### Death anniversary

By Staff Correspondent



son Raihan Quasem will be observed today.

A *milad mahfil* will be held after Asr prayers at their residence at 23, Dilo Road on the occasion.

Quasem and his children were killed in a tragic road accident last year.



### Call to build movement against collaborators and killers of 1971

By DU Correspondent

Speakers at a discussion yesterday urged the common people of the country to form a social and cultural movement to resist the religious fanatics and killers and collaborators of 1971.

They also observed that the pro-liberation forces will not be able to unite the despite congenial socio-political atmosphere.

Held at the Teachers and Students Centre (TSC) auditorium of Dhaka University in the afternoon, the discussion was organised by the Dhaka city unit of *Ekattar Ghatak Dalal Nirul Committee*, the committee to annihilate killers and collaborators of '71 to mark its third two-day long council.

Addressing the programme as the chief guest, Kabir Chowdhury said, "the elimination of killers and collaborators also means elimination of their followers and successors and we can resist them politically besides through cultural activities."

Prof Borhanuddin Khan Jahangir said, "it is possible to try the war criminals of 1971 by stabilising relationship between the country's present political stand and international organisations."

While inaugurating the council, noted Poet Shamsur Rahman said, "we have to resist the four-party opposition alliance right now, otherwise we would not be able to leave peacefully."

Presided over by Shahriar Kabir, the programme was also addressed, among others, by Advocate Gazul Haq, Prof Muntasir Mamun, Syed Hasan Inam, Hashem Khan, Shamoly Nasrin Chowdhury, Ayesha Khanom, Kazi Mukul and Sadiqur Rahman Porag.

Earlier, the *Nirul Committee* also brought out an anti-fundamentalism and anti-communalism procession and paraded on the some city streets.

The programme was followed by a cultural show in the evening.

### Road accidents kill 10 in 5 districts

At least 10 people were killed and 50 others injured in road accidents in different parts of the country yesterday, reports UNB.

Three of the killed were reported from Chandpur while two each from Gazipur, Sherpur and Munshiganj districts and one from Jamalpur.

In Chandpur three people, including a minor boy, were killed and 20 others injured when a bus fell into a roadside ditch at Sajipur in Kachua thana on Kachua-Chandpur road.

Police said the accident occurred at about 11 am when the driver of the Chandpur-bound bus from Kachua tried to save some ducks on the road and lost control over the steering.

Three passengers whose identity could not be known died on the spot.

Two of the injured were admitted to Comilla General Hospital, 10 to Kachua Thana Health Complex and eight to Gouripur Thana Health Complex.

In Gazipur two people were killed and eight others injured in separate traffic mishaps here yesterday. The dead were identified as Hafiz Uddin, 70, and Mamun, 8.

Police and witnesses said pedestrian Mamun was run over by a speeding Chandana-bound truck in Soydana Haajirpuku area on Dhaka-My-

mensingh road at 8:30 am and Hafiz was crushed at 10 am by a speeding Dhaka-bound army vehicle at Bahadurpur village on the same road.

In another mishap, eight people were injured at Soydana area on the same road when a passenger bus and a truck collided head on. Separate cases were filed with the police.

In Sherpur, two people were killed and 15 others injured in a mishap on Sriabordi-Sherpur road in Sriabordi upazila.

The deceased were identified as Tota Mia, 35, of Chandanpur in Islampur upazila of Jamalpur district while another as Sheikh Farid alias Bhutta, 15, of village Halgara in Sriabordi.

Police said the accident took place at Langarpara at about 11:30 am when the Sherpur-bound bus fell into a roadside ditch after its drive lost control over the steering, killing Tota and Bhutta on the spot.

All the 15 injured were admitted to the local upazila health complex.

The bodies were sent to sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

### Chehlum

The *chehlum* of Dr Jahan Ara Rabbee, Additional Director General Health (Retd), wife of Shahid Dr Md Fazle Rabbee, will be held today after *Maqreb* prayers at her residence, says a press release.

### Agri-DDP

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total agricultural value. Kazi Shahabuddin, a senior research fellow at the BIDS, emphasised prioritisation of resource allocation for different sub-sectors of agriculture.

India's National Professor Dr EA Siddique who imparted some technical training on hybrid to Bangladeshi experts told the Daily Star that Bangladesh should invest more on agricultural research and build up an expertise-base.

"Despite being an agricultural economy, Bangladesh suffers from lack of human resource base as more and more experts tend to migrate to developed nations due to insufficient incentives back home."

Siddique felt sorry for Bangladesh's low investment in agricultural research. "In India half the agriculture GDP is allocated for research. We're trying to raise the allocation up to one per cent."

A recent publication of the International Food Policy Research Institute argued that "increased spending on agricultural research appears necessary to the future of Bangladesh, given the importance of agriculture to rural income growth and poverty alleviation. Where will the resources come from — this is a question of priority in resource allocation. The government needs to weigh the relative merits of subsidies involved in fertiliser marketing, public output marketing, and agricultural research spending."

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### Into the 5th yr

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power. Some 2,500 councillors, each representing 50,000 people, are expected to attend the council from 72 organisational districts of the party. Besides, AL representatives from the Upazilas will also join in. Nominees of the party branches in the USA and the UK are also likely to participate.

Politicians, diplomats, intellectuals and professionals have been invited to the opening ceremony. Aspirants, especially younger ones are least bothered about the special council since it is highly unlikely that there will be changes in the party's top executive body styled the central working committee.

The council has also failed to inspire workers low in the ladder. For there will be the same councillors as elections to most of the districts were not held during the last three years.

Preparations for the council started only a few days back although it was announced about a month ago.

Ruling party's internecine conflicts, strategies to combat the 'combined opposition' and preparations for the next general elections are the issues on the table.

The party constitution empowers the central committee to extend the tenure of all committees, subject to approval of the following council. A working committee meeting on Wednesday decided to extend its tenure by another three years, which the council is expected to endorse today.

### Manoranjana

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Bangladesh. A member of the Advisory Council of the Mujibnagar government during the war of independence in 1971, he was the first ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan.

Dhar was elected MP in the first parliamentary election of Bangladesh and was made Law Minister of the Awami League government. He continued with the same portfolio in the post-August 15, 1975 government of Khandokar Mushtaque Ahmed.

A student leader and freedom fighter during the British period and veteran parliamentarian Manoranjana Dhar spent 27 years in jail for political reasons. He was general secretary of Bengal Provincial Unit of Indian Students' Council in 1928.

### Book publishers

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not export those to India despite a huge demand for those books there," Hamidul Islam said.

Ananda's move would make Bangladesh a market of Indian books, Parishad leaders said.

The press conference was also attended by some authors and writers including Imdadul Haq Milon, Humayun Azad, Shawkat Ali, Osman Gani, Rafiquzzaman and Anisul Haq.

The decision was allowed to do publishing business in the country if it publishes books of Bangladeshi authors and exports those for Indian readers," Milon said.

The parishad has taken up an action programme to mobilise public opinion against Ananda's 'aggressive move'.

The government will again fail to attain the revenue target set in the proposed budget and the fiscal deficit will be Tk 4,000 crore, for which provision for Tk 3,500 crore bank borrowing has been kept.

The expenditure for paying salary of government employees has increased to 32 per cent of the revenue expenditure and that bank borrowing to about 20 per cent.

If the revenue expenditure for salary and bank borrowing goes that high, I wonder what will happen to infrastructure and other development programmes," Saifur said.

Regarding foreign exchange reserve, Saifur said, during BNP government it was around three billion US dollars, which has now come down to around 1.5 billion dollars.

On inflation, the former finance minister said, it re-

turned to the burning issue of power sector, she said only 1700-megawatt electricity was produced a day when she formed government but now it was possible to add more 1256-mw power to the national grid.

She hoped that additional 1879 mw of electricity would be produced at the power plants being set up in public and private sectors. Besides, specific and pragmatic plans have been undertaken to supply electricity at fair price to all by 2020.

About the country's promising oil, gas and natural resource sector, she said Tk 655 crore was proposed in the new budget for its development.

The Prime Minister reiterated her stand that surplus national gas could be exported meeting the domestic requirements and keeping the reserves for next 50 years.

Outlining her government's industrial policy, she said the pragmatic policy encouraged flourishing private sector and opened up new opportunity for foreign investment.

She said foreign investments of nearly 12 billion US dollars had been registered in

handling of the vessels. Officials of the Department of Shipping said it is also possible that none of the two vessels had any warning lights. Moreover, the Badarpur channel has shrunk to a dangerous level due to lack of dredging by BIWTA.

About 300 launches are plying the major routes from Dhaka's Sadarghat with 'one or the other official clearance'. But a top official of the Department admitted that over 500,000 others, many carrying heavy cargoes and passengers are plying the country's waterways without any document or clearance whatsoever.

Under existing laws any vessel with an engine capacity of over 16 horse power must obtain registration and 'survey' clearance from the Department of Shipping.

The Department is responsible for issuing fitness certificates after regularly inspecting the vessels and setting up mobile courts to implement navigation laws. BIWTA's responsibility is to ensure port facilities, berthing, timely departure and keep the navigation channels open by dredging. Recently, BIWTA was given the responsibility to check overloading and other irregularities and prosecute the offender.

At city's Sadarghat launch terminal, country's biggest passenger port, two powerful speedboats are lying idle. A

## PM renews call

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ity to alleviation of poverty and taken extensive programmes to eliminate it forever," she said, adding Tk 9898 crore has been earmarked in the new budget for 2000-2001 to eradicate poverty.

Hasina said with a mission to remove illiteracy by 2005 the government made the highest allocation to education sector and approved a new health policy to reach medical services to the poor as per her election commitment.

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last four years of her government in power compared to barely 5.7 billion USD during BNP's five-year rule.

About the telecommunications, she said works are on to install 138,500 digital telephones in Dhaka city along with 216,000 telephones in different districts.

On law-and-order situation, the Prime Minister said her government is committed to ensure a terrorism-free society by taking stern action against terrorists whoever they are.

She said peace had been restored in Chittagong Hill Tracts with the signing of CHT peace accord that put an end to two decades of insurgency. Recently, she said, terrorists in the country's southwestern region have surrendered following government's special mopping-up operation.

To modernize police force, a police staff college was set up to impart training to officers while steps were taken to give risk allowance for members of the police from constable to inspectors.

Hasina said National Defence College, Military Institute of Science and Technology, Armed Forces Medical College and peacekeeping operation centre set up under the Awami League rule started functioning to enhance professional standards and excellence of the armed forces.

Besides, she pointed out MIG-29, transport aircraft, helicopters, radar and arms and ammunition were purchased to boost strength of the airforce, while frigate is being bought for the navy.

When asked about mobile courts, he said during Eid rush they have to step up their activities for safety of passengers.

"The problem is that when an inspector sues an offender, the country's only Marine Court in Dhaka takes years to give a verdict," said Badiuzzaman explaining why the transport workers have no respect for law.

But at the Sadarghat office of the Survey Department, officials said the Marine Court is too lenient to offenders. The fine for an offense never exceeds Tk 200.

Sources in the Department of Shipping confirmed that since independence only one searanger's license was cancelled.