

## What's on today....

**Andrei Tarkovsky retrospective:** Zahid Rahnai Film Society will screen *The Mirror and Stalker*. Venue: Goethe Institut, Road No 8, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5:00 pm.

**SCF council:** Samajtantrik Chhatra Front will hold its second council. Venue: TSC auditorium. Time: 11 pm.

**Workshop:** A three-day workshop on report writing, organised by the Minorities Rights Commission, will begin. Venue: Seminar room of Ad-Din Hospital. Time: 9 am.

**Dance drama:** Bangladesh Ballet Troupe will present a dance drama titled *Kusum Swarna* (The dream of Kusum) to mark its 19th founding anniversary. Venue: Central Kachi Kanchar Mela auditorium, Segunbagicha.

**Mourning procession:** Bangladesh Photo Journalists' Association will bring out a procession to protest the killing of journalist Shamsur Rahman. Venue: Association office. Time: 1 pm.

**Discussion:** Bangladesh Astronomical Society will hold a discussion meeting to mark the 7th death anniversary of Mohammed Abdul Jabbar, an eminent astronomer and the Founder-President of the Society. Venue: Auditorium of International Childhood Education, Road 13/A (New), House-19, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm.

## Weather

### Rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over the country with heavy falls at places over Chittagong and Barisal divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

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

Yesterday's highest temperature of 31.0 degree Celsius was recorded at Srimangol and the lowest of 22.5 degree Celsius at Chittagong.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.47 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.23 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
Dhaka	28.3	25.0
Chittagong	26.3	22.5
Rajshahi	29.6	25.8
Khulna	26.4	24.4
Barisal	28.0	24.5
Sylhet	30.2	24.2
Cox's Bazar	28.0	25.0

## HERE and THERE

### Lecture series on biotechnology

By DU Correspondent

Speakers at a discussion on Tuesday stressed the need for bio-safety guidelines to prevent misuse of biotechnology in the country and said, "the test of all genetically modified organism should be done in controlled environment with caution."

Addressing the inaugural ceremony of four-month-long lecture series on "Biotechnology and Renewable Energy," the speakers also underscored the importance of use of biotechnology in the country's different sector.

Organised by National Science and Technology Museum (NSTM), the programme titled "Lecture series on Popular Science" was inaugurated by Lt Gen (ret) Mohammad Noor Uddin Khan, Minister for Science and Technology, at the NSTM auditorium in the city.

Prof Hadiuzzaman of Dhaka University delivered the keynote speech on "Biotechnology: Bangladesh Perspective."

He suggested setting up biogas plants in all the cities and villages to save the stock of natural gas and to maintain the country's ecological balance.

He pointed out that Bangladesh has huge potential of setting up enzyme industry,

which is much used in genetic engineering.

"Micro-propagation is another prospective sector in the country, which can earn foreign currency and also meet the nation's demand for essential crops," he added.

Prof Zaman hoped that the local scientists would be able to solve domestic problems by developing biotechnology in the newly established National Institute of Biotechnology (NIBT).

### Bangladesh scouts

A two-month-long Computer Training and Disaster Management Course organised by Bangladesh Scouts in cooperation with NTRAMS, Bogra, concluded on Tuesday, says a press release.

Habibul Alam, Bir Pratik, National Commissioner (Programme), Bangladesh Scouts, was present as chief guest and distributed certificates among the participants.

The function was also addressed by Md Babul Akhteruzzaman, Course Coordinator, and Mesbaudhin Bhuiyan, Deputy National Commissioner (Programme), Bangladesh Scouts.

Thirty-five rovers, both boys and girls, participated in the course.

### BCL leader's death anniversary observed

By DU Correspondent

JSD-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday observed various programmes marking the 13th death anniversary of Asad Ahmed Munna.

The BCL brought out a procession and placed wreath at the Shaheed Munna Monument on the Dhaka University campus.

They also held a rally at the monument premises which was addressed, among others, by Prof Harun-or-Rashid, Karim Sikder, Enamur Al Amin, Munir Ahmed Lenin and Motaleb Hossain.

Addressing the rally the speakers said the death of Munna is a milestone in anti-terrorism movement as "through his supreme sacrifice the Paribesh Parishad of the Dhaka University was formed and the authorities started allotment of seat in the dormitories on the basis of merit."

Meanwhile, the BCL announced that they would observe Taher Day, marking the 24th death anniversary of Colonel Taher.

### EU grant to promote IPR

The European Commission will provide a grant of seven lakh euro equivalent to Tk 3.5 crore in the field of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), in Bangladesh, says a press release.

EC Commissioner for External Relations, Chris Patten has signed the financing agreements with Bangladesh and Sri Lanka recently as part of a 2 million euro, five-year economic cooperation programme between European Union and South Asia in the field of IPR.

### FEJB workshop concludes

By Staff Correspondent

A two-day workshop on environmental reporting and photo exhibition on the 'environmental degradation in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT)' and 'arsenic contamination' ended in Dhaka yesterday.

It was arranged by the Forum for Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) at the Jatiya Press Club.

Syed Marghub Murshed, Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, was present at the concluding ceremony as chief guest.

Marghub Murshed lauded the role of the FEJB in creating awareness about the environmental hazards. The forum has gained international recognition over the years, he pointed out, adding that it is a working partner of the government's efforts to protect the environment.

Dr Mahfuzul Huq, coordinator, Sustainable Environmental Management Project (SEMP) of the Ministry of Environment, and Sunil Kanti Bose, deputy secretary also spoke on the occasion. Dr Huq gave a background on the SEMP under which the FEJB, one of the 38 components, is helping implementation of the project by raising awareness.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Hamid, aged around 30, a resident of Tarai thana in Kishoreganj. Hamid died on the spot.

Police seized the Khulna bound bus from Dhaka and arrested its driver.

### One killed in road accident

By JU Correspondent

A young man was crushed under the wheels of an inter city bus while crossing the highway near the Praantik Gate of Jahangirnagar University yesterday evening.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Hamid, aged around 30, a resident of Tarai thana in Kishoreganj. Hamid died on the spot.

Police seized the Khulna bound bus from Dhaka and arrested its driver.



Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) staged a protest rally in the city yesterday demanding exemplary punishment to the killers of Shamsur Rahman, Janakantha, based in Jessore. — Star photo

### Journalists demand arrest of Shamsur Rahman's killers

Journalists of different national dailies and news agencies demonstrated in the city yesterday demanding immediate arrest of the killers of journalist Shamsur Rahman, reports UNB.

Addressing a protest meeting at the Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) office, journalist leaders said the killing of Shamsur Rahman proved that now the journalists are not safe in the country.

"The killing was a pre-planned one and the killers committed it knowing the consequence," DRU president Anwarul Huq told the meeting.

Later, the journalists brought out a procession in the city and joined another protest rally in front of Jatiya Press Club.

DUJ Leaders Akhter Ahmed Khan, Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan, Selim Samad, BFUJ leader Zakaria Kaja, DRU vice president Mahfuzul Rahman, acting general secretary Saleh Shibly, Sakhat Hossain Badsha, Pathik Shah, Azmal Haq Helal, Parvez Khan, Fazul Bari, Kuddus Afrad and Shamsul Alam Liton addressed the rally.

Addressing the rally, the journalist leaders alleged that Shamsur Rahman wanted security from police but they did not ensure it.

They demanded that the government should take steps to ensure the safety of journalists.

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### GCO submits memo to DU VC

By DU Correspondent

Ganotantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) submitted a memorandum to the Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University yesterday to press home its various demands including immediate formation of a probe committee to investigate the recent killing and rape incident on the campus.

The GCO, a conglomerate of some left-leaning student organisations, brought out a procession on the campus and held a rally in front of the Vice Chancellor's office at noon.

Addressing the rally, the GCO leaders demanded immediate arrest of the terrorists and armed hoodlums from the dormitories of the university.

They urged the authorities to ensure safety of the general students in the residential halls.

The leaders demanded that complaint cell headed by teachers be set up so that the female students can lodge complaint about harassment without fear.

The GCO leaders threatened to launch a movement on July 26 if their demands are not met within next seven days.

Among others, Dipanker Saha Dipu, Imam Gazzali, Tahmidul Haq Mukti and Sharifuzzaman Sharif addressed the rally.

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### Save Buriganga Movement body programme

By Staff Correspondent

Save Buriganga Movement Committee has taken up elaborate programmes for the next two weeks to accelerate their movement during a meeting of the committee yesterday, said a press release.

Members of the committee along with representatives of ADAB - MSS, Parash, Bangladesh Eco-village Network, VHSS, SCI took part in the meeting which was presided over by Prof Mozaffar Ahmed.

The programme of the committee includes boat procession, massive mass contact, information collection, campaign at educational institutions and discussion on river laws, it said.

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### 10 researchers to get PM's scholarship

A meeting of the Scholarship Implementation Committee yesterday nominated ten researchers for the Prime Minister's Research and Higher Education Assistance Scholarships, reports BSS.

The nominations were finalised at a meeting of the committee under the Prime Minister's Fund for Research and Higher Education Assistance Scholarships held in the conference room of the Prime Minister's office. Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Dr S A Samad chaired the meeting.

According to an official press release today, the nominations were finalised considering the recommendations of an expert committee.

The recipients are: Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Lecturer, Bangla Department, Dhaka University, Kushum Lata, Lecturer, Pathshala University College, Rajbari, Mohammad Jasin Uddin, Botany Department, Dhaka University, Sujit Kumar Dey, Chemistry Department, Dhaka University, Mohammad Mahbubul Haque, Assistant Professor, the Department of History, Chittagong University, Mohammad Habibur Rahman, Assignment Officer, Prime Ministers Office, Mohammad Tajul Islam, Dhaka University, Laisa Ahmed Lisa, Lecturer, Biochemistry Department, Rajshahi University, Dr Shahen Ara Anwar, of 18, Lake Circus, Kalabagan and Rukana Begum, Lecturer, Accounting Department, Rajshahi University.

He said there is no chance of deferring the holding of election to the Parishad as Section 20 of the Act contemplates that the election will be declared and held by the Election Commission and the government will not have any option or scope to defer it.

Responding to objection to

following a report published on the daily on collection of tolls by Tangail police.

A correspondent of daily Mukatahantha was mercilessly beaten up on May 31 for a report on "irregularities of doctors in emergency department."

Five journalists and their family members are on the run after terrorists backed by some ruling party leaders issued threats on their life in Lalmonirhat on August 18.

Miscreants beat up and issued death threats on two journalists of daily Prime and Akter Smriti in Mymensingh for publishing reports against them on the same day.

Two journalists of daily Dinkal and Weekly Habiganj Parikrama were beaten up by a gang of hoodlums for doing a report on the internal conflict of BNP's student wing Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on August 26.