

What's on today . . .

ICC workshop: The two day-long ICC workshop on "In-columis 2000 and Transport Documents" will be inaugurated. Chief guest: Minister for Industries Tofail Ahmed. Venue: Ball room of Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 9:45 am.

Seminar: Centre for Advanced Research in Social Sciences of Dhaka University will hold a seminar on "The Rajshahi-5 Parliamentary by-election: An analysis". Keynote speaker: Arun Kumar. Venue: Centre premises at 401, Lecture Theatre, DU campus. Time: 10:00 am.

Computer Education Week: A week-long Computer Education Week will be inaugurated. Venue: BCS Computer City, IDB Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 11:30 am.

NMST lecture: National Museum of Science and Technology (NMST) will hold a lecture as part of its Lectures on Popular Science Series. Speaker: Prof Md Mujibur Rahman of Microbiology dept of DU will speak on "Role of Microbial Biotechnology in Industry". Venue: NMST auditorium, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 4:00 pm.

Uttam Kumar Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen Anthony Firingi starring Uttam Kumar and Tanuja. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Road No 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6:15 pm.

..... and tomorrow

IER function: Institute of Education and Research (IER) of Dhaka University will hold a function to mark the 40th anniversary of the institute. Chief guest: Education Minister A S H K Sadique. Venue: IER auditorium. Time: 10:00 am.

ICSBA assembly: An assembly of the friends and patrons of International Centre for Study of Bengal Art (ICSBA) will be held to mark its 5th founding anniversary. Chief guest: A S H K Sadique, Minister for Education. Venue: Sufia Kamal auditorium of National Museum, Shahbag. Time: 5:00 pm.

Seminar: The IBM Advanced Career Education (ACE) Centre will hold a seminar on "Computer Career: Choosing Specialised Education". Venue: ACE centre, 69/1, Panthapath. Time: 5:30 pm.

Uttam Kumar Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen *Chowrangee* starring Uttam Kumar and Supriya. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Rd No 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6:15 pm.

Weather

Moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Chittagong, Rajshahi, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and a few places over Dhaka and Khulna divisions with moderately heavy falls at one or two places over Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

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

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 35.0 degrees Celsius at Chuadanga and the lowest 24.0 degrees Celsius at Barisal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.41 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.28 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in Percentage
Dhaka	32.2	78
Chittagong	32.2	78
Rajshahi	34.3	77
Khulna	32.2	86
Barisal	31.5	93
Sylhet	32.0	76
Cox's Bazar	32.5	85

Tk 100 Prize Bond draw held

The 20th draw of the Taka 100 prize bond was held at the conference room of the Dhaka Commissioner's office yesterday, says a press release.

Following are the results of the draw:

১ম পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০৫৬১১১
২য় পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০২০২০০
৩য় পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০৮১০৩৭
৪য় পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০৮১০৩৭
৫য় পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০৮১০৩৭
৬য় পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০৮১০৩৭
৭য় পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০৮১০৩৭
৮য় পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০৮১০৩৭
৯য় পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০৮১০৩৭
১০য় পুরস্কার - টা ১,০০,০০০/-	০৮১০৩৭

Radio Metrowave begins evening transmission today

By Staff Correspondent

Radio Metrowave, the first private radio will start transmission of its evening session from today, says a press release of Metrowave Limited yesterday.

The evening session will begin from 6:00 pm and continue till 9:00 pm.

Programmes will include information on evening entertainment of Dhaka city, roundtable, chat shows and musical soiree.

The programmes will be transmitted on Medium Wave 256.41 metre and 1170 kilohertz.

OCAB condoles Shamsur Rahman's death

By Staff Correspondent

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Overseas Correspondents Association, Bangladesh (OCAB) was held yesterday at the National Press Club in the city, reports BSS.

The meeting condoled the death of Shamsur Rahman, a special correspondent of the Daily Janakantha and BBC's correspondent in Jessore.

The meeting, attended among others, by its President Farid Hossain and General Secretary Nadeem Qadir, said Rahman's killing was a threat to the freedom of press.



Lions Club of Dhaka Orchard Dist 315 A2 held a tree plantation programme at Motijheel Govt High School recently. It also carried out a cleaning programme as part of its anti-dengue activities.



Asian Development Bank (ADB) has allocated Tk 2500 each for shifting of slum-dwellers from the Greater Dhaka Flood Prevention Embankment as per requests made by the concerned personnel of Water Development Board. Approximately, 2500 families from Gabtoli to Basila area seen queuing up for collecting token.

Killings, terrorism result of religious fanaticism

Speakers at a seminar say

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar yesterday said the recent incidents of killing and terrorism in the country are the result of emergence of religious fanaticism in the country.

They called upon the people to begin a mass movement for resisting the fundamental forces. They also criticised the government for failure to arrest those involved in recent killing and terrorism incidents.

An international circle is trying to destabilise the country through such killings and terrorism activities through these forces, they observed.

The speakers said that the incident of eight murders in Chittagong, killing of a journalist in Jessore and planting of a time bomb at Kotlipara were not stray incidents but very much inter-linked.

Bangladesh Foundation for Development Research organised the discussion at CIRAP auditorium which was presided over by Finance Minister Shah A M S Kibria.

Barrister Amirul Islam.

Hasan Imam, Enayetur Rahman, former ambassador Walur Rahman, Prof. Rafiqul Islam, Rawshan Jahan (widow of Kazi Aref), Sultan Sharif (president of Awami League UK chapter) and journalist Wahidul Haq spoke on the occasion.

Two keynote papers were presented at the seminar by Justice K M Sobhan and Minar Mansoor.

Kibria said it is apparent that the religious fanatics are emerging politically.

These forces are linked with the recent incidents of terrorism and the civil society has to think about how to tackle them.

He sought suggestions and recommendations from the conscious section of the society on how to resist these forces and save the country.

Barrister Amirul Islam alleged that Pakistan intelligence agency ISI is directly involved with terrorism activities in this part of subcontinent.

He observed that the terror-

ism was spreading rapidly due to lack of co-ordinated efforts by government agencies. The fanatics are trying to destabilise the eastern part of Indian sub-continent, he said.

Their main goal is to defeat India and establish a separate fundamental state in Bangladesh. He felt the necessity of declaring an emergency to resist these forces.

Hasan Imam said that although it had been proved that Islami Chhatra Shibir was involved with the killing of eight persons in Chittagong, a section was trying to divert the attention saying it as an outcome of intra-party conflict in the Chhatra League.

He also alleged that many fanatics were also incorporated in the army and police forces during previous regimes.

"We can not progress in any effort because they are all working against us," he said. These religious fanatics should be identified and eliminated from all important positions, Imam said.

Nikunja murder Domestic help cross-examined

By Court Correspondent

Jharna Debnath, the second prosecution witness in the sensational Nikunja Bihari Debnath Murder Case, was cross-examined in the 4th Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka yesterday.

Judge Syed Aminul Islam adjourned the proceedings of the case till August 8.

Jharna Debnath, a domestic help in her statement said that at around 7 am on January 11, she along with the complainant of the case, came to the ground floor after hearing the sound of calling bell and found Nikunja Bihari Debnath injured in a rickshaw.

The victim's son Nirupam Debnath took Nikunja to DMCH where the attending doctors declared him dead, Jharna added.

Nikunja Bihari Debnath, 55, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, was stabbed to death by a gang of muggers near the Swadhinata Sangram (struggle for independence) sculpture at the Dhaka University on January 11.

B Chowdhury

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He said DAB will hold a seminar on Dengue fever at the Jatiya Press Club on Wednesday and BNP will bring out a procession on Thursday at 4 pm from the party central office to create public awareness.

The press conference was also attended by, among others, BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, committee members MK Anwar MP, Abdullah Al Noman, Sadek Hossain Khoka MP, Dr Dewan Mohammad Salahuddin Ahmed MP, Prof MA Hadi, Dr AZM Zahid Hossain and Prof Abdul Mannan.

Journalist murder

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Magistrate M Shahidul Islam recorded statements of Janakantha and mother of Prof Dr Farida Khatun, died yesterday at her residence. She was 63, reports BSS.

Nurunnesa Begum is survived by two sons and two daughters. Her quikhuani will be held on Friday after Asr prayers at House No 19, Road No 3 at Dhanmondi Residential Area.



Girls Guides of Motijheel Model High School leading a procession in the city.

Students' processions to create mass awareness against dengue fever

By Staff Correspondent

Students of different educational institutions yesterday brought out processions to create awareness among the masses regarding dengue fever.

Scouts and Girl Guides of Motijheel Model High School and College yesterday brought out a procession at Motijheel Colony and adjacent areas to create awareness among inhabitants of the area.

The students also went to different flats of the colony and talked about dengue fever and Aedes mosquito. They also sprayed pesticides and put up posters in the area.

Principal of the institution A A Talibur Rahman led the awareness campaign.

Teachers and students of Dhaka Collegiate School yesterday also brought out a procession to create awareness against dengue fever.

The processionists marched through different parts of the old city.

Bangladesh Scouts will organise a rally today to create awareness among people to prevent dengue fever.

The rally will be brought out from Scout Building at 3:00 pm and will end at the Jatiya Press Club.

Obituary

Nurunnesa Begum, wife of martyred freedom fighter Abul Hossain and mother of Prof Dr Farida Khatun, died yesterday at her residence. She was 63, reports BSS.

'Permanent resistance a must to stop recurrence of dengue fever'

By DU Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar yesterday termed the spread of dengue and 'epidemic' in the country and stressed on a permanent resistance system, warning of its recurrence each year.

Addressing a seminar on "Dengue/Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever: Vector Mosquito and Strategies for Control", they urged city dwellers and concerned authorities to apply scientific methods to control mosquitoes, terming it the only way to prevent the disease.

The speakers noted that 'the best way to fight against aedes mosquitoes is to destroy their breeding grounds' and informed that two species of aedes mosquito, namely aedes aegypti and aedes albopictus transmit the virus from one person to another.

They observed that in Bangladesh dengue virus has not yet been isolated from mosquito saying "we should devote research activities in this line of direction."

"From epidemiological point of view it is very important to determine the vector species, otherwise we cannot fight against it," they pointed out.

"The average adult survival rate of aedes aegypti, the principal vector of dengue virus, is 8

days (WHO 1999) and to be an effective vector the adult mosquito must survive more than 12 days," the speakers noted.

This kind of mosquitoes bite people throughout the day and they are more active in the morning and afternoon and usually rest at night which is opposite to the characteristic of Culex and Anopheles mosquitoes," they added.

They described the aedes mosquitoes saying that they are commonly clothed with black scales with contrasting white scales which gives their legs and abdomen a conspicuously banded appearance. The black and white scales of scutum, the dorsal part of thorax, appear in definite pattern. This makes their identification easy.

On the basis of their breeding behaviour aedes aegypti is divided into three subgroups — domestic, pre-domestic and feral or wild. Domestic mosquitoes breed throughout the year in small collections of water and normally do not leave human dwellings in their whole life and anti-mosquito steps are effective against them.

Pre-domestic mosquitoes breed in small collections of water in places as discarded tyres, bottles, tin cans, plastic

cups, wet-cell batteries, earthen pots, coconut shells etc while feral breed in tree holes, leaf axils etc.

Both the domestic and pre-domestic varieties are responsible for the transmission of dengue, the feral type rarely visit houses.

They suggested that people not store water in containers continuously for more than seven days at a time and underscored the importance to monitor mosquito population regularly. Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof A K Azad Chowdhury was present at the programme as the chief guest while Prof Nazrul Islam, Prof Mahmud-ul-Ameen, Prof M Ismail Hossain and Prof K M Nurul Huda addressed the programme as key speakers.

The programme, held at the auditorium of Department of Zoology of the university in the afternoon, was jointly organised by Zoological Society of Bangladesh and Department of Zoology.

An exhibition on dengue related mosquito vectors was also held at the seminar library of the department. The informative exhibition was organised by Mahabubur Rahman Shetu, an MSc student of session 1995-96.

2002 DV Visa programme announced

The US State Department yesterday announced details of the fiscal year 2002 'diversity visa' (DV) programme. Under the diversity visa (DV) programme, 55,000 permanent immigrant visas are made available each year to lottery participants, a USIS press release said.

The Immigration Act of 1990 makes available 55,000 permanent (immigrant) resident visas each year by random selection through a diversity visa lottery. The DV-2002 registration mail-in period will be held from noon on Monday, October 2, 2000, through noon on Wednesday, November 1, 2000.

Bangladesh citizens are eligible to participate in the DV-2002 programme.

The visas will be apportioned among six geographic regions. A greater number of visas will go to those regions that have lower immigration rates, and no visas may be issued to countries that have sent more than 50,000 immigrants to the US during the previous five years. No one country can receive more than seven per cent of the available diversity visas in any one year.

Requirements for application:

— An applicant must be a native of a qualifying country.

— If a person was born in an ineligible country but his or her spouse was born in an eligible country, such a person can claim the spouse's country of birth, provided both the applicant and spouse are issued visas and enter the US simultaneously. If a person was born in an ineligible country, but neither of his parents was born or resided there at the time of the birth, such a person may be able to claim one of the parent's countries of birth.

— The applicant must also have either a higher secondary education (HSC) certificate or its equivalent, or within the past five years have two years of work experience in an occupation that requires at least two years of training or experience.

— There is no initial application fee or special application form to enter.

— The entry must be typed or clearly printed in the English alphabet on a sheet of plain paper.

For Bangladesh citizens: DV-2002 Program, Kentucky Consular Center, Lexington, KY 41902, U.S.A.

Only successful registrants will be notified by mail at the address listed on their entry. The notifications will be sent to the winners between April and July 2001, along with instructions on how to apply for an immigrant visa.

BFTA strike

Teachers' joint meet today

By Staff Correspondent

Leaders of eight teachers associations will hold a joint meeting today at 6:00 pm with a view to continue the on-going movement of the teachers and employees of non-government educational institutions of the country from a combined platform.

The meeting will be held at the office of Bangladesh Teachers Association led by Principal Kamruzzaman.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the leaders of eight teachers associations with Principal Kamruzzaman in the chair.

The meeting is expected to announce a joint programme to press home their demands for 100 per cent salaries from the government exchequer, promotion and service rules of the teachers and employees of non-government educational institutions.

The teachers began the indefinite strike from July 10 in response to a call by the Bangladesh Federation of Teachers' Association (BFTA), a forum of non-government teachers association.

Mahathir: Recruitment

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with a total investment of US\$1.32 billion, Dr Mahathir said the presence of Malaysian investors reflects the confidence on Bangladesh's rising economy.

Dr Mahathir paid tribute to the able leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and hoped that more Malaysian companies would invest in Bangladesh.

At the same time, Dr Mahathir said Bangladeshi companies would also be encouraged to be more aggressive in attracting potential joint venture partners from Malaysia to invest in Bangladesh.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today extended an "open invitation" to Malaysian entrepreneurs to make Bangladesh their "next destination".

"In cooperation with their counterparts in Bangladesh or by themselves, Malaysian in-

vestors will find investment in Bangladesh highly profitable," she said.

Speaking at the banquet Hasina called for working together in helping shape the emerging new world order.

"Our planet earth has entered a phase of interdependence that we have not witnessed before," she said adding, "the forces of globalisation, liberalization, information technology and communication have opened up new hopes and opportunities."

Expressing her happiness at the large number of Bangladeshi nationals working here, Sheikh Hasina said, "Their employment has been mutually beneficial, and we are proud that they are able to contribute to Malaysia's national development."

"She said Bangladeshi workers can adopt themselves very easily in Malaysia because of similarity of culture faith and climatic conditions."

Sheikh Hasina hoped that Malaysia would continue to recruit Bangladeshi nationals in larger numbers. "On our part, we are prepared to meet your requirements for a competitive and disciplined work force," she said.

About 1.50 lakh Bangladeshi nationals are working in Malaysia, becoming the second largest foreign work force after Indonesia. During 1998-99 fiscal, Bangladeshis in Malaysia sent 67.52 million US dollars as remittance.

She observed with great admiration the remarkable accomplishments of Malaysia. "Economic prosperity and political stability have given Malaysia a special profile and standing in international affairs," she noted.

The Prime Minister observed that through cooperation Bangladesh could draw useful lessons from Malaysian experience in accelerating the pace of economic development.

Protest

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Roy and will intervene into BARC affairs if things go worse, sources in the ministry said.

They justified the posting and cited earlier recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee of the Jatiya Sangsad and donors.

The World Bank in 1998 gave views in favour of appointment of a qualified accountant to the post, they argued. World Bank funds the Agriculture Research Management Programme (ARMP) under BARC.

The ministry sources further argued that late last year, the Public Accounts Committee also favoured appointment of "more qualified persons" in posts involving financial management in autonomous bodies. The Committee had observed that incidents of financial irregularities were rising in autonomous bodies as the officials concerned failed to give proper advice to institutional heads.

Talking to this correspondent, leaders of agricultural institution, a body of agricultural scientists and BARC Officers' Welfare Association argued that BARC was a research-oriented body and a person without agricultural background would not be able to head the Wing.

They expressed deep anguish at the showcase notice on the BARC Executive Chairman and warned against any 'punishment transfer'. Already, a senior scientific officer of BARC, Saidur Rahman Selim, has been transferred to the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), they said.

Malaysia

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nology and is now turning for high-tech industries through the expansion of IT sector.

The prime minister congratulated Dr Mahathir on switching on the multimedia super-corridor that will usher in information age in his country.

In reply, the Malaysian prime minister said excellent bilateral relations are existing between the two countries. He hoped that the visit of Sheikh Hasina would further strengthen the bilateral ties.

Briefing newsmen, the PM's press secretary said the talks were held for over one hour and a half in a cordial atmosphere, where special emphasis was given on bilateral economic cooperation.

Hasina mentioned the role of the two countries in many international forums. "Our membership in different organisations, including the UN, OIC, D-8, Commonwealth and NAM, provide an excellent framework for promoting closer cooperation."

She recalled the visit of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to Malaysia way back in 1973, which had laid the foundations of bilateral relations.

Hasina said her government attached highest priority to improving condition of common people, providing them with all basic needs for a decent living.

Referring to the membership of Bangladesh and Malaysia in UN Security Council, she said both nations have identical vision on major international issues to consolidate their positions in the spirit of friendship and cooperation.

Malaysia is assuming the presidency of Security Council next month.

About the bilateral relations with her neighbours, the Bangladesh prime minister said improvement of bilateral ties with the neighbours would promote peace in South Asia.

"Bangladesh is committed to consolidating the regional cooperation in South Asia. In the SARC we have tried to learn from ASEAN experience," she said.