

News

● What's on today ●

Conference: CIPROCO Computers Limited in association with ESRI South Asia User Conference Tour 2000 — Bangladesh. Venue: Ball Room of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 9:30 am.

Press conference: Bangladesh Society of Haematology will hold briefing on conference on "Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever and Its Treatment." Venue: Samad Seminar Room, Block C (9th floor), Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Shahbagh. Time: 10:30 am.

PIB discussion meeting: Bangladesh Press Institute (PIB) will hold a discussion meeting on "Bangabandhu in the memory of contemporary journalists. Venue: PIB auditorium. Time: 10:30 am.

BMA discussion meeting: Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) will hold a discussion to mark the 55th anniversary of the Hiroshima Nuclear tragedy. Venue: Auditorium of BMA, 15/2 Topkhana Road. Time: 11:00 am.

Discussion meeting: Bangla Academy will hold a discussion meeting in observance of Rabindranath Tagore's death anniversary. Selina Hossain will present a paper on "Rabindranath, the Flute and tunes of Bengal." Venue: Seminar Room of Bangla Academy. Time: 11:00 am.

Seminar: Steering Committee of the Asia Foundation Programme on Sub-regional Cooperation will hold a seminar on "Prospects of Sub-regional Cooperation in Transport." Chief guest: State Minister for Planning Muhiddin Khan Alamgir. Venue: Top of the Park of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 3:30 pm.

Discussion meeting: Bangladesh Mahila Parishad will hold a discussion meeting to mark the Rabindra-Nazrul Jayanti. Venue: Sufia Kamal auditorium of National Museum, Shahbagh. Time: 4:00 pm. The discussion will be followed by a cultural show.

Rally and human chain: SANGAT — South Asian Network for Gender Activist and Trainer — will hold a rally and human chain formation to mark Hiroshima Day. Venue: Central Shaheed Minar. Time: 5:00 pm.

Rally and discussion: National Adivasi Coordination Committee Bangladesh will hold a *adivasi* (indigenous) rally in the morning and a discussion in the afternoon on occasion of International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. Venue: Rally — Central Shahid Minar. Discussion — TSC auditorium. Cultural programme — TSC auditorium. Time: Rally 10:00 am, discussion 4:00 pm and cultural show: 6:00 pm.

Film show: The official launching ceremony of the nationwide screening of *Muktir Kotha*, a documentary on ordinary people's contributions in 1971, by Tareque and Catherine Masud will be held. Chief guest: State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed. Venue: British Council auditorium, Nilkhet. Time: 6:00 pm.

Uttam Kumar Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen *Shudhu Ekti Bochhor* starring Uttam Kumar and Supriya. Venue: Auditorium of Indian High Commission, House No 25, Road No 2, Dhamondi R/A. Time: 6:15 pm.

Play: Department of Theatre and Music of Dhaka University presents a play *Tobatek Singh*. Organiser: Indian High Commission. Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House No 754, Satmasjid Rd, Dhamondi R/A. Time: 7:00 pm.

Discussion: The city chapter of Bangabandhu Parishad will hold a discussion. Time: 5:15 pm. Venue: Auditorium of NIPSON at Mofizkhali.

Chief guest: Dr SA Malek, political advisor to the Prime Minister and general secretary of the parishad will attend the function as the chief guest.

Roundtable: The National Press Club in association with Zoological Society of Bangladesh and Dept of Zoology of Dhaka University will hold a roundtable discussion on "Dengue virus: Its transmission and prevention". Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10:00 am.

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Foundation laying ceremony: The foundation stone of SM Sultan Smriti Shangraha Shala will be laid. Chief guest: State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs. Obaidul Kader. Venue: Narail residence of the artist. Time: 10:00 am.

Handover ceremony: The handing over ceremony of 4 multinational government industries to the private sector will be held. Venue: Ballroom of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 11:30 am.

CDRB seminar: Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh (CDRB), representative of American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS), will hold a seminar on "Baul Women in Bangladesh: Constructions of Identity. Venue: WVA auditorium, House No 20 (new) 405 A (old), Rd No 16 (new) 27 (old), Dhamondi R/A. Time: 5:00 pm.

Uttam Kumar Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen *Nayak* starring Uttam Kumar and Sharmila Tagore. The film is directed by Satyajit Roy. Venue: Auditorium of Indian High Commission, House No 25, Rd No 2, Dhamondi R/A. Time: 6:15 pm.

Discussion: Bangabandhu Jubo Parishad will hold a discussion in observance of 25th death anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Venue: Jatiya Press Club. Time: 4:00 pm.

Weather

No change in temp likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Rajshahi, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka and Khulna divisions with moderately falls at places over Sylhet division 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 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Khulna and Jessor and the lowest 24.5 degree at Srimangal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:36 pm and rises on Thursday at 5:32 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
Max	Min	Morning Evening
Dhaka	33.5	27.4
Chittagong	34.0	25.2
Rajshahi	34.3	27.5
Khulna	35.0	26.5
Barisal	33.0	26.6
Sylhet	32.3	25.4
Cox's Bazar	33.7	25.4
	71	81

Harkatul Jihad cadre arrested in Cox's Bazar

COX'S BAZAR, Aug 8: Police arrested cadre of Harkatul Jihad at a bordering village of the district tonight, reports UNB.

The arrested was identified as Noor Mohammad, 40, a national of Myanmar.

Khulna police arrested Noor from Ghungdhum village while he was fleeing a Harkatul camp in Naikhyanchhara upazila during a raid by army and BDR.

He had long been residing in the deep forest in the area and providing training to the fundamentalists, police sources said.

Chehul

By DU Correspondent

Chehul of eminent political, lawyer and cultural personality Syed Abdus Sobhan will be held at his Amlapur house in Jamalpur town after Jum'a prayers.

He died on July 5. He was elected member of parliament in 1979 as a candidate of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), said a press release.

He published forty-eight research papers in various national and international dailies. He was associated with various professional organisations relating to science and agriculture both at home and abroad.

Judgement in Siraj Murder Case today

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Aug 8: Judgement in Siraj Murder Case will be delivered by the special court tomorrow.

Juba League activist Siraj was killed on the night of October 2 in 1997 at Skid Ghat by Ershad Shikdar and some of his armed cadres. Later his body was dumped into the river Bhairab as told by Noor-e-Alam, approver of all murder cases against Ershad Shikdar.

Annual Urs Mubarak of Hazrat Shah Pir Kalla Shaheed will be held at the Mazar on Kharampur, Akhaura-Brahmanbaria, from August 10 to 16, reports BSS.

Fateha Sharif, *mitab mahfil*, *zirqa* will be arranged on the occasion.

BAU teacher Prof Yusuf Chy dead

Professor Yusuf Chowdhury, a retired teacher of the Department of Agricultural Chemistry of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) and an agricultural scientist of international repute died of cardiac arrest on Saturday morning. He was 66, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, two sons, one daughter, relatives, colleagues, admirers to mourn his death.

He published forty-eight research papers in various national and international dailies. He was associated with various professional organisations relating to science and agriculture both at home and abroad.

Disaster management

Speakers suggest more active role of local bodies

Speakers at a seminar on disaster management on Monday proposed government should gradually withdraw its supervisory role from disaster management programmes and encourage the local bodies to take up the role after ensuring adequate resources and necessary authority to them, reports UNB.

They also suggested change in the weather signaling system during disaster, as the signals denote almost same meaning in different situations.

The proposals came from the seminar organised by NIRAPAD (Network for Information, Response and Preparedness Activities on Disaster) in the city Monday afternoon.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, USAID Disaster Officer Flynn Fuller and Programme Coordinator of International Food Security Pro-

gramme of Care-Bangladesh Shahid Anam addressed the function. Saezur Rahman of SAARC Meteorological Research Centre and Dr MA Momen presented papers at the seminar.

People of this country are living with these disasters. Although a reputed international media had forecasted that some 20 million people would die in the devastating flood of 1998, that was also proved wrong," the minister said.

MA Momen said UP chairmen are the essential persons of the local government who should be made more capable to undertake both structural and non-structural solutions to cope with disasters.

Four killed in separate incidents in N'ganj

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Aug 8: Four people were killed in two different accidents in Rupganj on the last 24 hours.

Police said, two people were killed on Tuesday morning in 'Adhulla' on Dhaka-Sylhet highway when a speeding truck hit a rickshaw. The rickshaw puller Iman Ali, 29, died on the spot. The passenger of the rickshaw Korban Ali, 32, died while being taken to hospital.

In the other incident, two people were killed on Monday evening when a passenger trawler collided with a sand loaded cargo boat on river 'Balu'. The two passengers of the trawler Asaruddin, 65, and Badsha, 11, were killed on the spot. Three other passengers, Sumon, 25, Kabir, 35, and Asma, 17, were critically injured.

The meeting was, addressed among others, by Md. Sajid Hussain, Malibub Ahmed, Md. Wahid Hossain, MA Kader Sarkar, Md. Sajid Hossain Paik and Mutasim Billah Faruqi.

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Civil Service (Taxation) Association has expressed deep concern at the incident of obstruction on a tax cadre official in joining Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) as its Member Director (Administration and Finance), said a press release.

In an executive committee meeting of the Association on Monday, it resolved that government should immediately implement its decision of posting Tax Commissioner Ashim Kumar Roy at BARC.

It criticised those who had obstructed Roy from joining his new position.

The meeting, chaired by the Association president KM Shakhawat Hossain, also urged the government to appoint people in the administration through open competition on the basis of skill and efficiency.

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