

## 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, Shahbag. 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 Muiyuddin 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 *adwas* (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 Shaheed Minar. Discussion — 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 countrywide screening of Mukti 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 Bochor starring Uttam Kumar and Supriya. Venue: Auditorium of Indian High Commission, House No 25, Road No 2, Dhanmondi 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, Satnasjid Rd, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 7.00 pm.

**Discussion:** The city chapter of Bangabandhu Parishad will hold a discussion. Time: 5-15 pm. Venue: Auditorium of NIP-SOM at Mohakhali.

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.

## ..... and tomorrow

**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: Construction of Identity." Venue: WVA auditorium, House No 20 (new) 405 A (old), Rd No 16 (new) 27 (old), Dhanmondi 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, Dhanmondi 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 Jessore 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.

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.5	27.4	84	65
Chittagong	34.0	25.2	77	79
Rajshahi	34.3	27.5	88	83
Khulna	35.0	26.5	75	90
Barisal	33.0	26.6	84	69
Sylhet	32.3	25.4	96	86
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.

Ukhia police arrested Noor from Ghungdhun village while he was fleeing a Harkatul camp in Nalkhyanchhari 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.

### Chehlum

By DU Correspondent. Chehlum of eminent politician, lawyer and cultural personality Syed Abdus Sobhan will be held at his Amalpara house in Jamalpur town after Juma prayers.

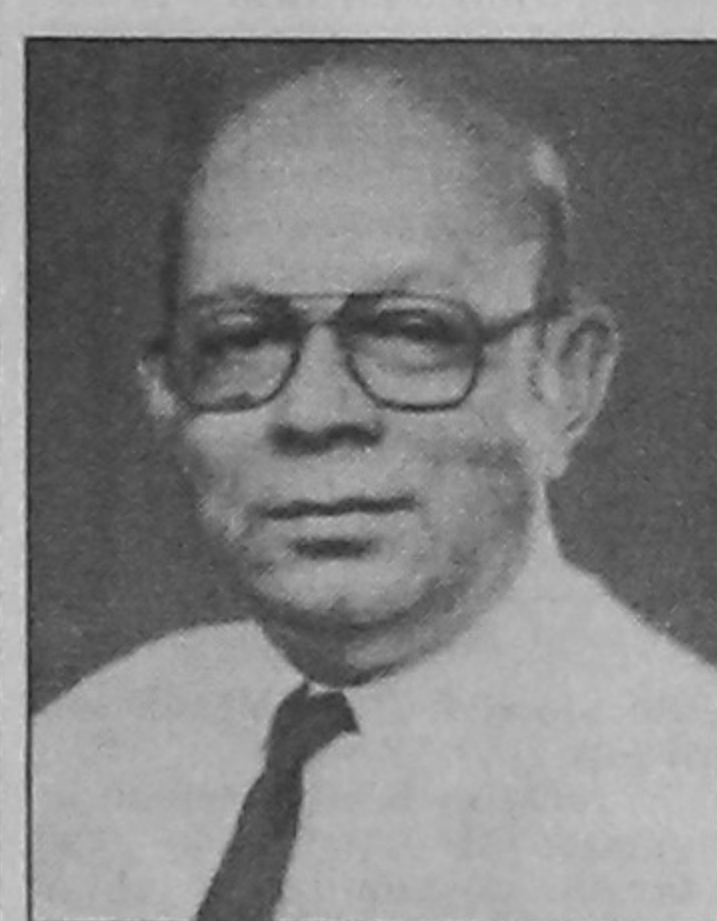
He died on July 5. He was elected member of parliament in 1979 as a candidate of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), said a press release.

**Urs**  
Annual Urs Mubarak of Hazrat Shah Pir Kalla Shaheed @ will be held at the Mazar at Kharampur, Akhaura-Brahmanbaria, from August 10 to 16, reports BSS. Fateha Sharif, milad mahfil, zikir, talqeen will be arranged on the occasion.

## Hartal in the city



The opposition called half day hartal had different faces in different parts of the capital city yesterday. At Bijoygar (Top) pro-hartal pickets stopped a three-wheeler and pushed it over in protest while at city's busy Farm Gate area (2nd from Top) vehicles plied as usual despite the shutdown. The bottom most picture shows street urchins making good use of an empty street at Kakrail.



### 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.

**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.

### 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 Integrated Food Security Pro-

gramme of Care-Bangladesh Shaheen Anam addressed the function. Sazedur Rahman of SAARC Meteorological office search 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 Ruppang in the last 24 hours. Police said, two people were killed on Tuesday morning in 'Adhula' on Dhaka-Sylhet highway when a speeding truck hit a rickshaw. The rickshawpuller 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. Two different cases were filed with Ruppang thana.

### Attempt on Hasina's life: Chandrika concerned

The Sri Lankan President and the Foreign Minister have expressed deep concern at the report of unearthing two huge bombs at Kotallipara in Gopalganj district which were aimed at assassinating Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, reports UNB.

Sri Lankan President Chandrika Bandarnake Kumaratunga and Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar personally expressed their concern to the Bangladesh High Commissioner in Colombo when the latter called on them recently, according to a message received here yesterday.

### Dengue: 11 more hospitalised in Chittagong

From Staff Correspondent  
CHITTAGONG, Aug 8: Eleven more dengue patients were admitted to the hospitals and private clinics in the city today, according to BMA information cell here.

Besides, 11 cases were reported positive in different labs in the city today, information cell said. Meanwhile, Dr Khurshid Jamil, General Secretary of BMA Chittagong Unit, said many other cases of dengue virus are yet to be reported in Chittagong.

### Teenage boy shot in city

A teenage boy was shot last night at city's Shiddheswari area, police and hospital sources said, reports BSS.

Ranna police said two persons, Johnny and Yamin, were arrested in this connection. The victim was identified as Tonny, 17, of Shiddheswari, police said. Local people rushed Tonny to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

No case was registered in this connection.

### Anwar

From page 12  
Anwar's codefendant and adopted brother, Sukma Dermawan, guilty.

The judge described the testimony of their former family driver and accuser, Azizan Abu Bakar, as unimpeachable. During the case, Azizan had twice changed the years that he said he had been sodomised, finally settling on one occasion in 1993.

"I'm satisfied that the prosecution has proved its case beyond reasonable doubt," Ariffin said. "There is no necessity for Azizan to lie. He has nothing to gain, but everything to lose. There were some discrepancies, but they were explained."

About 200 pro-Anwar supporters gathered outside the courthouse. There was no violence, but they were confronted by hundreds of riot police with water cannon on standby. At least two people were arrested, including Tian Chua, a deputy leader of the National Justice Party led by Anwar's wife.

### Pro-opposition

From page 1  
BNP lawmaker, told BBC Bangla Service on Monday that they are going to file the petition.

Some other lawyers who are not linked with the opposition groups are also mulling over a move to have Barrister Mamul Hossain, President of Supreme Court Bar Association, file another contempt petition, the sources added. However, the Bar president said he may consider the move if it is backed by all irrespective of party affiliations.

Meanwhile, Advocate Khadaker Mahbuddin Ahmed, a senior lawyer who chaired Monday's rally at the Supreme Court Bar Association premises before the march, had a meeting with two senior counsels—Barrister Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed and Dr Kamal Hossain.

The contents of their discussion could not be known immediately. But sources said he had discussed the issue of filing of the contempt petition and next move of the 11 lawyers who had criticised the prime minister for her remarks. Sources said a meeting with Chief Justice Latifur Rahman to discuss the issue was also being considered.

**BCS (Tax) Assoc protests**  
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. The meeting was addressed among others, by Md Sajjad Hussain, Mahbub Ahmed, Md Wahid Hossain, MA Kader Sarkar, Md Sajjad Hossain Bhuiyan, Mokbul Hossain Paik and Mutasim Billah Faruqi.

## Peaceful hartal

From page 1  
Teenaged garment workers Jahanaara and Mahfuzah died under the wheels of a minibus at Motijheel while they were going to their factory at Purana Paltan. Police arrested the driver and seized the minibus. Trucks killed Dabiruddin, 60, at Nayabazar and Kamal Hossain, 22, at Uttara, police said.

An unidentified young man was killed in another road accident in Mirpur. No major incident of clash and arrest was reported in the city during the hartal from 6 am.

Eleven people were injured, five of them in a police action on a BNP procession at Jurain at about 8.30 am and four others in a bomb explosion near Lalbagh Fort in the morning.

Two of the persons injured in the explosion were identified as Nazimuddin and Abdul Bashir.

Picketing was hardly seen in most areas of the city. However, pickets damaged a few autorickshaws and rickshaws at Bijoygar and Naya Paltan areas and set fire to two rickshaws and damaged some others at Shaheed Faruq Sarak at Jatrabari.

Shops, business establishments and educational institutions in the city remained closed. Banks were open with main their gate closed. Attendance in government offices was less than normal.

Inter-district buses and trucks to and from the city remained off the roads. Some BRTC buses and privately owned minibuses and autorickshaws plied on some specific routes. Movement of rickshaws was almost normal.

BNP, Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Islami, Islami Oikya Jote and

### 2 police officers sued under PSA

PATUAKHALI, Aug 8: Two police officers in Dumki upazila were sued under Public Security Act (PSA) for illegally detaining and harassing a village watchman, reports UNB.

They are OC of Dumki police station Mohammad Shahjahan and assistant sub-inspector Mohammad Nurul Haq.

Abdul Quader, chowkidar (watchman) of Leubkhalu union, filed the case against them alleging that they arrested and confined him in the thana hazat filing a false case against him on August 1.

They, however, released him the following day forcibly taking his fingerprint and recording a statement.

Quader further alleged that the police officers also demanded Tk 5000 from his wife for his release.

### Ctg hartal

From page 12  
goods to and from Chittagong Port remained suspended while cargo handling in the jetties was as usual, port sources said.

Big shopping arcades and markets were closed. Attendance was thin at both private and public offices.

Mills and factories at the industrial belts of Patenga, Sitakunda, Nasirabad and Kalurghat suffered production loss due to thin attendance of workers, sources said.

### Kashmir

From page 1  
A leader of Harkatul Mujahideen described Hizbul's return to arms as "a very wise move, otherwise the freedom struggle will have suffered a major blow."

Sources in Pakistan-based militant coalition Mujahidda Jihad Council (MJC) said a decision cleared the way for the Hizbul's return to the umbrella group from which it was expelled after its unilateral ceasefire declaration.

Salahuddin expressed great respect for the MJC and denied any "serious rift" within the Muslim separatist movement. The leader of Pakistan's main fundamentalist party, the Jamaat-e-Islami (JI), also applauded the move and said "Jihad is the only solution to increase pressure on India."

Meanwhile, the Indian government accused Pakistan today of sabotaging the Kashmir peace process by pressuring the militant group Hizbul Mujahideen to call off its ceasefire in the region.

"Pakistan's object has been to derail the peace process by seeking to involve itself as a party in discussions between India and the Hizbul Mujahideen," the government said in a written statement.

The sabotage of the peace process by Pakistan clearly shows its callous disregard for the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir," it said. The reaction came after the Hizbul supreme commander in Islamabad called off the group's 15-day ceasefire and directed its field commanders to resume fighting against Indian forces.

The Hizbul announcement followed the expiry of a deadline for India to respond to demands for unconditional, tripartite talks including the Kashmiris and Pakistan.

"Pakistan agencies have put intense pressure on the Hizbul Mujahideen leadership in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir to sabotage the ceasefire," the Indian statement said.

"India remains firmly committed to the peace process and calls on all those who have taken to arms to return to the path of peace," it added. The government also reiterated its willingness to engage Pakistan in a dialogue once Islamabad ceases to sponsor "cross-border terrorism."

Jagpa brought out separate processions in different parts of the city during the hartal hours. BNP brought out processions and held rallies at Naya Paltan, Mouchak, Mallbagh, Shahjahanpur, Bijoygar, Sutrapur, Dhanmondi, Green Road, Elephant Road, Jatrabari, Lalbagh, Mirpur, Pallabi and Hazaribagh areas.

The party activists brought out three big processions from its central office at Naya Paltan, Mouchak and Science Laboratory crossing. The processions were led by BNP leaders Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Mirza Abbas, ZA Khan, Sadek Hossain Khoka MP, Major (Retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed MP, Abdul Mannan MP, Abdul Hye MP, Gayeshwar Chandra Roy, Rezvi Ahmed, Mustafizur Rahman Babul, Chowdhury Alam, Abdul Latif, Sramik Dal leader Shahidul Islam Dulal, Chhatra Dal leaders Habibunnabi Khan Sohel, Monwar Hossain Rana and Shahabuddin Laitu.

Police dispersed a BNP procession from Purana Paltan when some of the processionists damaged an auto-rickshaw and an auto-rickshaw at Bijoygar at about 11.20 am.

Activists of ruling Awami League and its different front organisations led by State Minister for Shipping Mofazzel Hossain Chowdhury Maya brought out a "peace" procession from the party central office at Bangabandhu Avenue and paraded up to Jatiya Press Club in the morning.

According to our correspondents' reports, the seven-hour hartal was also observed by and large peacefully in districts.

Our Staff Correspondent from Barisal reported that Khalilur Rahman Khaili, Joint Secretary of Barisal town Jatiya Party, was bullet-hit in the left leg and at least nine others were injured when a party procession came under attack allegedly by Chhatra League activists at Hemayetuddin Road in the town during the hartal hours.

Khaili has been admitted to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital. Others were treated in different clinics.

Barring this incident, the hartal hours passed off by and large peacefully in the district. Police arrested two pickets in the town.

In Khulna, production in state-owned and privately run mills and factories and operation of the shipyards were affected by the hartal.

A BNP office at Satpai in Netrokona was ransacked allegedly by Chhatra League activists during the hartal hours. Police arrested five pickets from the area.

Hartal was not observed in Shaikhupura thana in Jhenidah district.

**Joint survey**  
From page 1

In addition to publishing press announcements, the BIWTA has delivered letters by hand to the encroachers urging them to remove the encroachments within August 28.

The BIWTA has also sent copies of those letters to the Superintendent of Police, Deputy Commissioner (South) of Police, Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka, ADC Revenue and Officers-in-Charge of thanas concerned.

After the ultimatum is over, BIWTA will go into action to clear the Buriganga of illegal encroachments, sources said.

### Vajpayee

From page 1  
bus service between Agartala and Dhaka as well as rail links between Agartala and Akhaura.

The issue of putting into operation rail connection between Petrapole in India and Benapole in Bangladesh also figured in the talks.

The Bangladesh envoy also called on Indian External Affairs Minister Jaswant Singh and discussed issues of mutual interest. He also met former Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral and senior opposition leader Pranab Mukherjee of Congress who is also a former External Affairs Minister.

**SAFE**  
From page 1

"But before sending these recommendations, they would have to be approved by the executive committee after having the consent of SAFE members," Khosru said.

He also said such common regulations would provide a common platform enabling cross-border trading and listing in different member bourses, while offering a wide range of diversified products in bigger volume.

Khosru said the first publication of 'SAFE NEWS' prepared by the CSE, the SAFE secretariat for the year 2000-2001, will be presented in the conference.

He termed global as well as regional trading as "inevitable" while speaking on the strained relationship among some of the member countries. "It is totally up to us to decide whether we would like to be left alone and miss the bus. The choice is ours."

Khosru said the people in the region share similar social and economic structure, which will go a long way to derive a common platform. The problem, he said, would be in the variable monetary exchange systems of the member countries, which need to be streamlined for the smooth cross-border transfer of funds.

The next meeting and the first annual general meeting (AGM) of SAFE will be held in Colombo in January.