

## What's on today.....

**Human chain:** Bangabandhu Kendra will organise formation of a human chain in front of the American embassy to protest the stay of killers of Bangabandhu in the USA and Canada. Venue: In front of US embassy. Time: 11.00 am.

## ..... and tomorrow

**ISTT seminar:** Institute of Science, Trade and Technology (ISTT) will hold a seminar on "British Educational system in context of globalisation in perspective of Bangladesh." Venue: CIRDP auditorium, Chameli House, Topkhana Rd. Time: 11.30 am.

**Discussion meeting:** Bangla Academy, Bangladesh National Museum, Shilpakala Academy, Nazrul Institute and National Library will jointly hold a discussion on "Society, Culture and State: Thoughts of Bangabandhu." Venue: Main auditorium of National Museum, Shahbag. Time: 5.00 pm.

**Career Night programme:** New Horizons Computer Learning Centre will hold its 3rd Career Night programme. Venue: National Museum, Shahbag. Time: 5.30 pm.

**Musical soiree:** Liberation War Museum presents a musical soiree by Mahmudur Rahman Benu. Rahman was a leading member of the cultural troupe that went around the refugee camps in the war fields during the Liberation War to encourage the fighters. Venue: Liberation War premises, 5, Segun Bagicha. Time: 7.00 pm.

## Weather

## No change in temp

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

Heavy falls is expected at places over Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions during the period. Met Office said adding day temperature will remain unchanged over the country.

The country's highest temperature 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chuadanga and the lowest 23.2 degree at Chittagong.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:32 pm and rises on Wednesday at 5:34 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
Dhaka	31.8	25.0
Chittagong	31.4	23.2
Rajshahi	33.7	27.5
Khulna	32.0	24.0
Barisal	29.5	24.5
Sylhet	32.0	23.0
Cox's Bazar	30.0	28.0

## Prof Firoza Begum's death condoled

The Council members and employees of MR Training and Services Programme (MRTSP) have condoled the sudden and sad demise of the past president and Executive Council member of the organisation Prof (Retd) Dr Syeda Firoza Begum, says a press release.

They recalled with profound respect the contribution made by late Professor Syeda Feroza Begum for the development of women's health at home and abroad till the last day of her journey to eternity.

They also prayed for the salvation of her departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

Bangladesh Pediatric Association condoled the death of Prof Firoza Begum.

Prof Nazmun Nahar and Dr M Shafiqur Rahman, president and general secretary respectively of the association in a message condoled death and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

## Kulhwani

The kulhwani of Professor Dr Syeda Firoza Begum will be held tomorrow at her 19/E, Green Road residence after Asr prayers, says a press release.

All her relatives, friends, colleagues and admirers have been requested to attend the kulhwani on time.

She died of cancer at the age of 71 on Friday at her residence at 11 am.

## No electricity at old HC building area

By Staff Correspondent

Three Benches of High Court (HC), offices of the Law Commission and Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI) located at Old HC Court building did not have power supply since Thursday night, officials said yesterday.

Judges of the three benches of the HC as well as the officials of the Law Commission and JATI attended their offices yesterday without electricity.

When asked about the reason of power disruption sources said, unauthorised use of electricity caused damage to the underground cable through which electricity is supplied in the building.

About 100 families of different staff members of the Supreme Court reside in the western portion of the Supreme Court complex and use electric heater for their cooking purposes.

Officials of the PWD electrical division who visited the site yesterday estimated that it would require about Tk 13 lakh to replace the damaged cable and restore power in the old high court building.

The power supply in the building would be disrupted again if the authorities failed to take drastic action against unauthorised users of electricity in the area, sources said.



Flash floods have broken down many roads in the country, since there are no culverts for the flood water to be released through, the heavy wrought of floods have left the Dhaka-Mawa link road from Sripur Sanbari to Doha broken at three points. Picture shows the situation at Kumaripara. A shako, a make-shift bamboo pathway has been erected here for temporary relief. To add to the misery of locals, those who set up the shako charge Tk 1 per trip on it. They are making a nice little profit out of the situation, and as in all stories in our country, it's the common people who are suffering.

— Star photo

## 'Meet demands of non-govt teachers'

Extending solidarity with the striking non-government teachers, opposition BNP lawmakers asked the government to meet their demands immediately, reports UNB.

In a joint statement yesterday, 108 MPs headed by Leader of the Opposition Begum Zia accused the government of betraying the teachers by reneging on its commitment that compelled them to continue their strike.

"We are observing that the government is unwilling to fulfil the demands of the non-government teachers, rather it let loose terrorism to foil their ongoing movement," the statement said.

The lawmakers alleged the government resorted to heinous tricks to stop their movement although it, before assuming power, had made several commitments for the welfare of teachers.

Among the signatories are BNP chief and Leader of the Opposition Begum Zia, Deputy Leader, Prof. A. Q. M. Badruddoza Chowdhury, MPs M Saifur Rahman, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Oli Ahmed, Khandakar Delwar Hossain, Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain, Sheikh Razaak Ali, Sadeq Hossain Khoka, Col Akbar Hossain, Barrister Nazmul Huda, Barrister Amirul Islam, Barrister Zamiruddin Sirker and Shamsul Islam Chowdhury.

## Nat'l Mourning Day

## COAB to suspend broadcast of most foreign channels

By Staff Correspondent

Cable Operators Association of Bangladesh (COAB) has decided to mark the National Mourning Day by suspending broadcast of most foreign channels till midnight tonight.

"We'll only broadcast BTV, ETV, Channel I, ATN, BBC and CNN to mark the National Mourning Day," said SM Anwar Parvez, convenor of the association which represent over 2500 operators in the country covering an audience of over 2.5 lakh.

The association convenor clarified that the COAB has no connection with the cable operators affiliated with Nationwide Communications against which it was agitating.

Nationwide Communications provided the pay channels to COAB till March when it decided to enhance the rental of those channels and COAB disagree. The COAB members have launched a movement against Nationwide Communications ever since.

The Nationwide Communications has claimed that we have signed an agreement with it late last month. But actually we did not sign any agreement. Our movement will continue," Parvez said.

## Ctg killings

From page 1

seized by police from the residence of Hazarika in two raids, conducted as per his confessional statement.

Police said they have already got some very important information from Hazarika, but would not divulge those for the sake of investigation.

Hazarika used to conduct arms and ammunition trade through an agent in Chittagong city and earned huge amount of money, they said, adding efforts were on to round up this agent.

This agent used to procure arms and ammunition from some insurgent groups active on Bangladesh-Myanmar border.

Meanwhile, hunt was on to nab six other members of the killer gang involved in Bahadur-darhat carnage.

Hazarika is a close associate of ring leader Sajjad, police said.

The arms and ammunition supplied by Hazarika were used in Bahadur-darhat incident, police sources said.

## Public opinion needed to try war criminals

Speakers at discussion say

By Staff Correspondent

Public opinion has to be created across the country to put pressure on the government for the trial of war criminals, observed speakers at a discussion on trial of war criminals: precondition for establishment of democracy and rule of law.

Abdur Razzak, Minister for Water Resources was the chief guest at the programme which was also attended among others by prominent lawyer Barister Amirul Islam, cultural personality Hasan Inam, litterateur Syed Shamsul Huq and Mujahidul Islam Selim, secretary general of Communist Party of Bangladesh.

Haroon Habib, Managing Director and Chief Editor of the state run news agency BSS in his key note raised a question whether the heard earned independence and sovereignty of the country can be preserved without trying war criminals.

"Tribunals should be set up across the country and efforts be made to try the war criminals as per law of the land and as well as international law," Habib said.

Abdur Razzak, Minister for Water Resources said, "public opinion has to be created across the country so that the government is pressurised to try the criminals."

## BCL protests move to file case against Hasina

## Rally on DU campus

By DU Correspondent

Ruling party-backed student organisation Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday brought out a procession and held a rally on the Dhaka University campus protesting the 'evil design' of opposition leader Khaleda Zia of lodging a case against Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Addressing the rally, the BCL urged people who believed in the rule of law to come forward to resist the opposition's move.

Presided over by Bahadur Bepari, president of BCL, the rally was addressed, among others, by Ajay Kar Khokan, general secretary Sajjad Hossain and A K M Azim.

Besides, BCL national executive committee in an emergency meeting condemned the opposition MP's decision to file case against the Prime Minister.

Meanwhile, as part of month-long programme to mark the 25th anniversary of the assassination of Bangabandhu, the BCL will be-

gin fast-unto-death at National Press Club from August 17 demanding immediate execution of verdict of Bangabandhu Murder Case. Similar programme will be observed in all the districts simultaneously at press club premises or at Shaheed Minar.

In observance of National Mourning Day today, the BCL processions from different DU halls will assemble at the Suopajita Shadinata on TSC road island at 12 midnight.

hoist national and organisational flag half mast at its office at 5:30 am, place wreath at the portrait of Bangabandhu at 6 am, hold millad mahfil at different hall mosques including Central Mosque after zohr prayers and hold worship at Jagannath Hall at 7:00 pm.

The BCL will hold millad mahfil and take oath the mazar of Bangabandhu in Tungipara on August 16. The BCL will leave city for Tungipara at 6:00 am.

Meanwhile unconfirmed reports gathered from different sources said that there was difference of opinion on Mori's itinerary. Sources said the government was "unhappy" that the itinerary did not include a visit to the Bangabandhu Memorial.

Officials of the Foreign Ministry neither denied nor confirmed the report.

When asked about this, a Japanese embassy official said, "We are trying to fit as many programmes as possible during the 26 hour visit." He however did not comment about inclusion of any specific programme.

At the press briefing, the Japanese ambassador also told about the programmes in the itinerary so far confirmed. Those are: welcome ceremony at Zia International airport, official talks with Prime Minister Hasina, meeting with Leader of the Opposition, dinner hosted by Sheikh Hasina, courtesy call on President Shahabuddin Ahmed, placing of wreath at Savar National Memorial and farewell ceremony at Zia International Airport.

The Japanese official said he was bewildered at such comments. "We can not understand why your side, as host, is making such wild remarks. So far we are concerned, the visit is on and we look forward to the trip."

## Humayun Zahir murder: Hearing adjourned

By Court Correspondent

The 8th Additional District and Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka yesterday adjourned the hearing of arguments in the sensational Humayun Zahir Murder Case till August 21.

Judge Mir Mohammad Awlad Hossain adjourned the proceedings after hearing the arguments from the prosecution side.

District Public Prosecutor Mohammad Ali submitted many important points derived from the deposition of prosecution witnesses and sought punishment of the accused.

## Dengue

From page 1

patients ask only for platelet," said a doctor at the centre yesterday.

The centre supplied 778 bags of platelets since August 6. On August 8, 136 bags were supplied followed by 121 bags on August 9, 124 bags on August 10 and 92 bags on August 11.

In the meantime, the centre has run out of culstised blood donors. "It is sometimes very difficult to find appropriate donor for patients," the doctor said.

One unit of platelet made from four bags of blood costs Tk 2000 (Tk 500 X 4). Normally each unit consists of about 8,000 platelet.

## Bushra murder

From page 1

But they did not get any important information from them about the murder. CID police did not pray for further remand for interrogation.

Police in its report said, the information given by the accused were verified.

Bushra Islam Phool, 18, a college student and only daughter of a retired police officer was murdered at her Hazipara residence on the night of July 1.

Nasim

From page 12

They belonged to the group doing politics in the name of religion.

But, he regretted opposition leader Khaleda Zia was misleading the nation dishing out that the killing was result of internal conflict in Awami League.

Earlier, Nasim visited the residence of Rab. It was a heart rending situation. As he stepped into the house, widow, sons and daughter of Rab burst into tears. Nasim consoled them. He also offered Fateha at the grave of Rab.

## Manju retreats

From page 1

said that he expressed the apprehension in the wake of the opposition's boycott of parliament, attempts on the life of the prime minister and killings of important personalities in the country.

Government sources said Manju's comments came at a time when some leaders of the BNP-led opposition alliance were casting similar doubt on the fate of the national election.

Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Mottur Rahman Nizami also told newsmen on Saturday that he was doubtful about AL's move as far as holding of next elections under a caretaker government was concerned.

An influential minister and Awami League policymaker told the Daily Star yesterday that the government of Sheikh Hasina was determined to complete its tenure, which would expire on July 14, 2001.

He also said that AL strongly believed that any change in power should be in line with the democratic and constitutional norms.

The communications minister was not available for comments. It was reported from his residence last night that he was in Gopalganj and would be back in the city today.

## Mourning nation

From page 1

cuted in this land, Inshallah," Sheikh Hasina asserted.

She cautioned that these forces want to create anarchy, plunge the country into darkness and retard its progress.

The Prime Minister called upon the people to take a fresh vow to complete the unfinished task of the Father of the Nation by building a happy and prosperous "Sonar Bangla".

The official programme of the day will begin with the President and the Prime Minister placing wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu at the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum in the city at 5:30 am.

The Prime Minister will then leave for Tungipara where she will offer Fateha and place wreaths at the mazar of Bangabandhu at 10 am today.

Ruling Awami League has taken up elaborate programmes to observe the day. These include hoisting of National Flag at half-mast and black flags atop the Bangabandhu Bhaban and AL offices, placing wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu

at the Bangabandhu Museum, offering Fateha at the Bangani graveyard, destitute feeding and special prayers. The party will also bring out a mourning procession in the city at 4 pm today.

AL leaders will offer Fateha at Bangabandhu's mazar at Tungipara tomorrow. On August 17, party chief and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will address a rally at Paltan Maidan in the city.

Different socio-cultural and political organizations have also chalked out separate programmes.

The organizations include Gano Forum, Bangabandhu Jubo Parishad, Awami Ulema League, Bangladesh Christian League, Dhaka Club Limited, Committee for Annihilation of the Killers of 1975, Muktiyoddah Smriti Sangrakshan Sangsad.

Bangla Academy, National Museum, Shilpakala Academy, Nazrul Institute and National Book Centre will jointly organize a discussion on Society, Culture and State: Bangabandhu's Thought at the National Museum at 5 pm today.

Bangabandhu Kendra will stage a sit-in in front of US Embassy here today demanding extradition of Bangabandhu's killers from that country.

National dailies will bring out supplements and the state-run electronic media will put on air special programmes.

## Flood

From page 1

rise, 22 registered fall and one remained static.

The Brahmaputra-Jamuna and Padma marked further fall at all points. Most of the rivers in the Meghna basin rose while the rivers in Southeastern Hill basins registered rise and fall.

In Brahmaputra basin, the Jamuna was flowing 11 cm above its danger level at Aricha while the Lakhya 39 cm at Narayanganj, Turag 13 cm at Mirpur and the Kalliganga 42 cm at Taraghat points.

The Padma in the Ganges basin was flowing 26 cm above its red mark at Goalunda and 47 cm at Bhagyalok points.

The Surma was flowing 76 cm above the danger level at Kanaighat and 5 cm at Sunamganj while Kushiara 63 cm at Analsaid and 6 cm at Sheola and the Meghna 10 cm at Bhairab Bazar points.

## UNDP official calls on Kalpa Ranjan Chakma

UNDP Assistant Resident Representative Ms Shireen Kamal Sayeed yesterday called on Chittagong Hill Tract Affairs Minister Kalpa Ranjan Chakma at his office, reports BSS.

They discussed the probable projects to be undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the overall development of the hilly region.

## Ganabhaban rejects

From page 1

lengthy discussion in a cordial atmosphere.

On the other hand, Barrister Mainul Hossain, Barrister Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed and Barrister Najmul Huda said they were expecting a statement from the PM.

Mainul Hossain told BBC radio last night that if the PM did not come up with a statement, they (lawyers) would file a contempt petition. "There is no alternative. We have a decision in this regard and we have to show to the judges that lawyers are with them," he added.

He said he was still hopeful that there would be a statement. "We don't want a political confrontation on the issue," he said in response to a question on the issue of BNP MPs' filing a contempt petition. Lawyers are not involved in it, he added.

Before leaving for London yesterday, Barrister Ishtiaque Ahmed told newsmen, "We expected that as per her (PM) commitment, she would give a statement, a balanced statement, that would put an end to all controversy. That is what we expected. It would be undesirable if there is no statement."

Barrister Najmul Huda, who was among the lawyers who met the PM, also said the PM agreed to issue a statement.

UNB adds: "I believe the misunderstanding has now come to a happy end." Khasru said referring to the recent controversy over the Prime Minister's remarks about courts and lawyers in an interview with BBC.

Asked for comment on the outcome of the meeting, Khasru said the Prime Minister made her observations in reply to a specific question put up by BBC about law-and-order situation in the country.

About the meeting with senior lawyers headed by Supreme Court Bar Association President Barrister Mainul Hossain at the Ganabhaban, he said the Prime Minister told the lawyers that she had not made any remarks against the judiciary or the role of lawyers.

The Prime Minister said being the chief executive of the Republic, it is her constitutional responsibility to provide security of life and property of the people. But she noted that while discharging her responsibility in reality she was facing inconveniences, Khasru added.

She said it is the expectation of all that the three organs of the State — the Executive, the Judiciary and the Legislature — would work in their respective jurisdictions with due respect to each other.

The Prime Minister said the judiciary is the last resort for the people, particularly those who are aggrieved.

## India—Kashmir

From page 12

Kashmir Valley have observed India's Independence Day as a "Black Day" since 1989 when the fighting that has so far claimed 25,000 lives erupted.

India accuses neighbouring Pakistan of fomenting and backing the militancy, a charge Pakistan denies.

Pakistan President Rafiq Tarar said in an address today, when his country celebrates independence from Britain, that Islamabad would continue to support the struggle in Kashmir.

Military leader Gen. Pervez Musharraf repeated the promise in his speech.

Last month, hopes of peace arose when the Hezb-ul Mujahadeen, the main militant group fighting government troops in Kashmir, announced a cease-fire and the Indian government responded by suspending its offensives against the group.

But peace talks fell through when India refused a demand to include Pakistan in the discussions. The Hezb-ul Mujahadeen broke the cease-fire with a powerful car bomb in downtown Srinagar that killed 14 soldiers and a journalist and wounded 25 others on Aug 8.

Across the city today, police searched for stolen cars that officials fear can be packed with lethal explosives and placed in public places.

Soldiers wearing bulletproof vests and helmets inspected cars at checkpoints and looked for bombs under cars at parking lots. Pedestrians were stopped and frisked on the main thoroughfares. Most shops were closed and roads were deserted.

Sharpshooters took positions in multistory houses overlooking the Bakshi Stadium, where Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, the state's top elected leader, was to deliver a speech on Aug. 15. Police fear rocket attacks on the stadium.

## Save Amit

From page 12

in his struggle to find ways to keep Amit alive. We cannot just disconnect and let Amit die."

Barely able to speak, Amit expectedly asked this correspondent whether the money for the pacemaker has actually been raised.

"Uncle, I want to be a doctor and dedicate my life for treating those who suffer from dreadful diseases like mine," pleaded Amit.

There are now only two ways to keep Amit alive. One is to keep him on the ventilator, meaning that the poor boy will lie in bed for the rest of his life.

The other is to implant a pacemaker in him that will eventually enable him to breathe with an aid and move around in a wheelchair.

Amit's father, Moshur Rahman, seeks assistance in raising money for the pacemaker costing about Tk 50 lakh (US\$76,000) from the Dobbie Institute in New York.

The money has to be paid in advance for the institute to send the pacemaker for implantation by local neurosurgeons. "I promised my son to keep him alive by any means. So I appeal to all to come forward and join me in this struggle, though a difficult one," said Moshur.

Amit's schoolteachers and classmates have appealed to Dobbie for a price reduction in humanitarian ground. In fact, the doctors have also joined the campaign to raise money for the pacemaker that would open up the possibility of a decent and, hopefully, productive life for Amit.

Any contribution should be directed to: Savings account number: 11070

Pubali Bank, Shahbagh Branch, Dhaka.

## Death anniversary

The third death anniversary of Hosne Ara Karim, wife of late Enayet Karim will be observed tomorrow, says a press release.

Relatives, friends, and admirers are requested to pray for her departed soul.

Rafiqul

Kafil Uddin

ICB Officers' Association

The new members of the executive committee of the ICB Officers' Association were elected recently, says a press release.

Kafil Uddin Ahmadd Chowdhury was elected the president while Md Rafiqul Islam Bipul was elected the general secretary.

Other members elected in the polls include Mir Md Khairul Alam (joint general secy), Helal Uddin Ahmadd (treasurer), Md Abdul Wahid (organising secy), Md Mosharraf Hossain (officer secy), Md Ilyas