

What's on today....

Inauguration: The Continental Insurance Limited will be inaugurated. Chief guest: Finance Minister Shah A M S Kibria. Venue: Ballroom of Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 10.00 am.

Scholarship awarding ceremony: The 1st scholarship awarding ceremony of Shaheed Sheikh Russel Memory Fund will be held. Venue: University Laboratory School and College, DU campus. Time: 10.30 am.

Exhibition: The first solo painting exhibition of Zahirul Hoq Bhuiyan will begin. Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. Time: Inauguration: 5.30 pm; regular timing: 2.00 pm-7.30 pm.

Cultural evening: Rangs Electronics Ltd will hold a cultural evening. Venue: Officers Club, Bailey Road. Time: 7.30 pm.

Seminar: Centre for Advanced Research in Social Science (CARSS) of Dhaka University will hold a seminar on "Political Thoughts of Al-Mawardi." Venue: CARSS, DU campus. Time: 11.00 am.

..... and tomorrow

Handicraft exhibition: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka presents a handicraft exhibition by Clement N Ascension. The items are in wood, jute, tablecloths, pillow covers, leather products etc. Venue: Cafeteria of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Rd. Time: 9.00 am-12.00 noon, 5.00 pm-8.00 pm.

Vocal Classical Music: High Commission of India presents a vocal recital by Zainul Abedin, a singer from India. Venue: Auditorium of the High Commission of India, House no 25, Rd no 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 10.00 am.

Film show: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka will screen three movies *That Night in Varennes*, *The Watchmaker of Saint-Paul* and *Elsa*. Venue: Auditorium of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Rd, Dhanmondi. Time: 11.00 am, 4.00 pm and 6.00 pm.

Lottery draw: The draw of the Sandhani Blindness Eradication Lottery, 2000 will be held. Chief guest: Minister for Industries Tofail Ahmed. Venue: Jatiya Press Club premises. Time: 2.30 pm.

Exhibition: Gallery 21 presents the 1st solo painting exhibition of artist Atia Islam Anne. Venue: Gallery 21, 765 Satmasjid Rd, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.30 pm.

Exhibition: Rangs Electronics presents a two-day long audio video adventure Exhibition 2000. Venue: Hotel Sheraton.



Shopkeepers and employees of Peer Yamini Market held a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding permission allowing movement of rickshaws and rickshaw-vans on the roads in front of the market.

— Star photo

National Mourning Day observed abroad

The National Mourning Day and 25th martyrdom anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was observed on Tuesday at different Bangladeshi missions abroad with due solemnity, according to messages received in Dhaka, reports BSS.

Bangladesh mission in New Delhi arranged various programmes in observance of the day. The national flag was hoisted half-mast at the chancery building.

A *milad mahfil* was held where special prayers were offered seeking divine blessings for the departed souls of Bangabandhu and most of his family members who were assassinated on the fateful night of August 15.

Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Calcutta also organised discussion, which was attended, among others, by eminent intellectuals, writers, educationists and political leaders.

Bangladesh High Commission in Islamabad observed with due solemnity the 25th death anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in a day-long programme at the chancery premises on Tuesday.

The National Flag was hoisted at half mast in the

morning at the chancery.

High Commissioner Alimul Haque later inaugurated an exhibition of the posters and photographs along with a video projection of the life and achievements of Bangabandhu.

In the evening, a discussion on Bangabandhu was held.

Intellectuals, politicians and retired bureaucrats, among others, participated in the discussion which was chaired by the High Commissioner. Notable, among others, who spoke on the occasion were Syed Alam Der Raza, veteran politician Ahmed Raza Kasuri, Deputy High Commissioner Ms Nasim Firdaus and defence advisor of the Mission Brig M Mustafizur Rahman.

Dwelling at length on the human qualities of Bangabandhu, Mr Raza said that Sheikh Mujib would not hesitate to go to the gallows for the cause of his people and he was all through uncompromising on his principle of realising the rights of the commonmen.

The Bengali community in the UK observed the National Mourning Day on Tuesday in a befitting manner.

The Bangladesh High Commission in London and different socio-political organisations observed the 25th martyrdom anniversary of the Father of the

Nation amid elaborate programmes.

The officials and staff of the High Commission assembled at the mission yesterday morning where High Commissioner A H Mahmood Ali hoisted the national flag at half-mast and the national anthem was played. They placed wreaths at the portrait of the Bangabandhu.

Later, a discussion meeting was held at the mission where the speakers paid rich tributes to the Bangabandhu and discussed different aspects of the great leader's achievements.

The meeting, chaired by High Commissioner A H Mahmood Ali, was addressed, among others, by Investment Minister Ahmed Hossain Joarder, Minister (Press) Abu Musa Mohammed Hasan, Counsellor and Head of Chancery S M Zaidul Rahman, First Secretary (Commerce) Mahmud Reza Khan and Attaché Syed Nazmul Huda. Auditor Ismail Hossain and Administrative Officer Abul Hossain recited poems written in memory of the Bangabandhu.

The Ramna police arrested Shakil Khan on August 5. Later, he was released on bail.

Bangladesh mission in Beijing observed National Mourning Day and the 25th anniversary of martyrdom of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on Tuesday due to solemnity.

Rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at many places over the country with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over Chittagong, Rajshahi, Barisal and Sylhet divisions during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports BSS.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period. Met office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 33.7 degree Celsius was recorded at Chaudanga and the lowest of 23.0 degree at Rangamati.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.30 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.34 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	Morning	
Dhaka	31.6	27.5	76	79
Chittagong	30.0	23.2	98	98
Rajshahi	32.4	27.0	88	76
Khulna	33.2	26.4	90	93
Barisal	32.2	25.7	79	87
Sylhet	31.0	25.5	90	100
Cox's Bazar	28.5	24.2	98	100

PBCP leader Shailesh Biswas, his wife jailed for 10 years

From Staff Correspondent
KHULNA, Aug 16: Shailesh Biswas, leader of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) and his wife Nilima Biswas have been awarded ten years rigorous imprisonment in a case recorded with Dumuria thana of Khulna district under Arms Act in 1998.

The judgement was delivered today by Abdul Qudus Ali, judge of the special tribunal.

According to prosecution, police recovered a shutter gun from the possession of Nilima, wife of Shailesh Biswas, ring leader of the Dumuria-based unit of Purba Banglar Communist Party.

The arms was recovered from his house at Rangpur village under Dumuria thana.

Nilima was arrested for concealing the arms in absence of her husband.

Shailesh surrendered to police last year.

Blast in city : 3 children hurt

Three minor boys were injured in a bomb explosion at Kamrangirchar on the outskirts of the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Hospital sources said Mizan, 8, Helal, 10, and Murad, 10, were injured when unidentified miscreants hurled a bomb while they were playing under Kamrangirchar Bridge.

They were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with serious splinter injuries.

87-member police team leaves for UN Kosovo mission

An 87-member police team left the city for Kosovo yesterday to take part in the UN peace keeping mission in the war torn Balkan state for one year, reports BSS.

They will act as executive police of the United Nations team.

Led by Police Super Mahbub Mohsin the team includes two Additional SPs, two ASPs, 32 inspectors, 29 sub-inspectors and 21 Sergeants.

Earlier the team members met with Inspector General of Police Nurul Huda who advised them to uphold the image of the country through their honesty and hard work in the UN mission.

Congratulations



Fahim Rashid, son of Afreen Kamal and Kainul Rashid Chowdhury, has won a University Scholars scholarship for 2000-01 at the University of Richmond, says a press release.

The scholarship, valued at \$10,070, pays one-half tuition and is renewable annually for eight semesters of undergraduate study at the University of Richmond.

Students are selected for this award on the basis of academic ability, creativity and individualism.

Human chain formed in front of US embassy

Hundreds of protesters yesterday formed a silent human chain in front of the US embassy in Dhaka demanding extradition of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who are now living in the USA and Canada, reports BSS.

Wearing black T-shirts, they carried different posters and festoons inscribed with the demands to bring the killers back and submitted a memorandum to the chief security officer of the embassy in this regard, a press release said.

Scientists of the centre have agreed to work with DCC in the study that will commence today. The focus of the study is to find out areas where aedes mosquitoes are breeding and how widespread it is, said a DCC official.

The results will give us vital clues on how scattered aedes mosquito is in the city," the official said.

Subsequently, other areas where dengue infection has been widespread will come under cover of this continued but short study.

A day-long orientation course on how to conduct the studies will be carried out at the DCC Bhaban Wednesday. Three medical entomologists will be supervising the study expected to be completed by this month.

Trader shot dead in city

By Staff Correspondent

A young trader was shot dead by unidentified armed men at Chandni Chowk market in the city last night.

Mohamad Liton, son of Abdul Hamid was shot by two unidentified gunmen while he was walking on the first floor at about 7:45 pm yesterday.

Fatally injured Liton was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where the attending doctor declared him dead. The body was sent to the DMCH morgue for autopsy.

Liton was a cut piece clothes trader at Chandni Chowk market in the city. He is a resident of East Rampura.

The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately.

Meanwhile, mystery shrouds the death of a maid at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Selma Akther, 15, who was working as domestic help at the residence of one Yunus Hossain at Mirpur had critical injuries on Monday.

There were marks of assault injury in different parts of her body.

After admitting her at the DMCH the landlord went blind. The maid died at the DMCH on Tuesday night. The body was sent to the DMCH morgue for autopsy.

Sources said the Whips of BNP and JP have not yet signed vokalatnamas for the contempt petition to rush to the city for signing those and to be present at the Opposition Leader's residence at 9 am on Monday.

He further said possibly the

Secretary was coming under

pressure from those who had misled the PM.

"I never wanted to politicise the issue and did not tag the signatures of over 300 lawyers with the petition. They had earlier signed a Vokalatnama."

He was murdered for not supporting Shikdar in women and drug traffickings, Noor-e-Alam said.

Shikdar

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places of Shikdar at the time of the brutal murder.

Noor-e-Alam in his confessional statement on September 2 last year said Shikdar and other accused in the case hacked Jibol League activist Siraj to death on the night of October 2, 1997 at the Skid

Ghat.

Ershad cut the entire body of Siraj into three pieces and dumped them into the river

Bhairab on the same night.

Noor-e-Alam said in his judicial statement.

The clothes and skull of Siraj were, however, recovered from the riverbed by divers

of Bangladesh Navy in October

last year which were later identified by Sirjo Banu, mother of Siraj.

The government had

promised to reduce prices when

the oil prices would go down.

but it never kept the promise although oil prices nosedived in

1998-99.

Oil and gas prices

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raise petroleum prices on the

ground that the international oil

price had skyrocketed and that

the Bangladesh Petroleum Cor-

poration (BPC) had suffered a

loss of Tk 1300 crores in last

one year. The BPC pays tax to

the tune of over Tk 2000 crores

every year to the government</