

News

● What's on today

Signing ceremony: The consortium lead agreement signing ceremony of Anilima Textile Limited with the consortium of Janata, Sonali, Agrani and the Trust banks will be held. Venue: Hotel Purbani International. Time: 12.30 pm.

Mass hunger strike: Sylhet Division Development Council will organise a mass hunger strike programme to press for its various demands. Venue: Osmani Uddyan premises. Time: 3.00 pm.

Discussion: Bangladesh National Personality Research Centre and World Bangalee Conference will hold a discussion on Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Venue: National Press Club auditorium. Time: 4.30 pm.

Founding anniversary: Bangladesh Youth Union will celebrate its 25th founding anniversary. A rally and reunion will be held on the occasion. Venue: Rally - Muktagon, Reunion - Liberation War Museum premises. Time: 4.00 pm and 6.00 pm respectively.

FEJB discussion: Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) will hold a discussion meeting on 'Kyoto Protocol: Where we stand'. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4.30 pm.

ICAB seminar: Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) will hold a mandatory CPE seminar for ICAB members on 'E-commerce: Perspective and Technology'. Chief guest: Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism and Housing and Public Works. Venue: ICAB auditorium, Chartered Accountant Bhaban, 100, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 4.00 pm.

Uttam Kumar Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen Saptapadi starring Uttam Kumar and Suchitra Sen. Venue: Auditorium of Indian High Commission, House no. 25, Rd no 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6.15 pm.

Prayer: The local Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Dhaka will hold an inter-religious prayer gathering for world peace. Venue: National Baha'i Centre, 7 Nawraton Colony, Circuit House Rd, Shantinagar. Time: 7.00 pm.

Prize distribution ceremony: Asiatic MCL will hold the prize distribution ceremony of Pepsi's Pepsi Magic Campaign. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 11.00 am.

Seminar: The Nazmul Karim Study Centre of Sociology Dept of Dhaka University will hold a seminar. Venue: Nat Mondal auditorium, DU campus (near DU Central Library). Time: 3.30 pm.



Members of poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's family placed wreaths at his grave on the Dhaka University campus yesterday on the occasion of the poet's 24th death anniversary.

— Star photo

17 JP men sued under PSA at Rangpur

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Aug. 27: Seventeen activists of the Jatiya Party district unit have been sued here under PSA.

Abul Kalam Patwari, Joint Secretary of AL district unit filed the case with Sadar thana today against the JP men for their alleged involvement in damaging and looting shops, assaulting the AL activists and snatching Tk 2000 from him during a clash in the town on August 25.

JP activists staged a demonstration in the town on August 25 protesting the HC verdict against their party chief H M Ershad.

100 killed

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Workers were killed and at least 30 others injured in blaze at a garment factory on February 11, 1995.

Twenty-three people were killed and more than 100 others injured in a stampede in a multi-storyed building housing three garment factories in Mirpur in the city on July 30, 1997. Nine people were burnt alive in a devastating fire in two garment factories, Rahman and Rahman Apparel Ltd, and Maxborn, in the city's Mirpur section 1 on July 16, 1997.

In another incident on Oct 13, 1997, one person was killed and 50 others were injured in a fire at Jahanara Fashion at Mirpur in the city. One person was killed and 50 others were injured at Bashundhara Garment on March 23 1998. On November 21, 1998 two people died in a stampede at Dorin Garment Factory at Mohakhali after seeing smoke in a nearby factory.

A security guard of Western Factory at Mirpur in the city died during an incidence of fire on February 2, 1998.

Earlier on July 9, 1999 three persons were killed and 700 people injured in a fire at Rose Knitting Factory at Gazipur on the outskirts of the city.

Dr Kamal's wife afflicted with dengue fever

By Staff Correspondent

Dr Hamida Khatun, wife of noted lawyer and president of Gano Forum Dr Kamal Hossain, who has been struck with dengue fever was flown to Bangkok yesterday for treatment.

Dr Hamida, who is the Executive Director of AIN-SALISH Kendra left for Bangkok aboard a Thai aircraft yesterday afternoon. Dr Kamal Hossain is accompanying his wife.

Family sources said Dr Hamida has been suffering from dengue fever for the last 10 days.

Death anniversary

By Staff Correspondent

The 17th anniversary of death of veteran student leader and former Manager of The Daily Ittefaq M A Wadud was observed today.

He was the founder member of Ganotantri Jubo League, East Pakistan Muslim Chhatra League, East Pakistan Awami Muslim League, The Weekly Ittefaq, The Daily Ittefaq and Central Kochikanchar Mela.

The late Wadud was a close associate of Hossain Shahid, Shahrwary and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

He spent a long span of his life in prison due to his involvement in politics.

Late Wadud had worked relentlessly for the economic emancipation of the country till his death.

A committee was formed recently with Gazul Huq, MR Akhtar Mukul, Quayyum Chowdhury, Hasem Khan, Shamsuzzaman Khan and Dr Rafiqul Islam to celebrate the 75th anniversary of birth of MA Wadud.

Meanwhile, hundreds of people from surrounding areas crowded the gate of the factory but police have restricted entry.

A pall of gloom has de-

Poet Nazrul's death anniversary observed

By Staff Correspondent

RANGPUR, Aug. 27: Seventeen activists of the Jatiya Party district unit have been sued here under PSA.

Different socio-political and cultural organisations arranged various programmes, including discussion meetings, and cultural functions, to mark the day.

People from all walks of life visited the grave of the poet on the Dhaka University campus and paid homage to his memories. They placed wreaths at the grave and offered *fateha*.

Teachers, students, officials and employees of Dhaka University brought out a procession from the Aparajeya Bangla and held a discussion meeting on the premises of the poet's grave. The discussion was followed by a cultural function.

DU Bangla Department also organised a discussion meeting at the Arts Faculty building.

BNP leaders and activists placed wreaths at the grave of the poet and offered *fateha* in the morning.

Deputy Leader of the

Bangla Academy held a discussion meeting at its seminar room in the morning. Prof Begum Akhter Kamal, Prof Abdul Mannan Syed, Dr Syed Anwar Hossain and Muhammad Nurul Huda took part in the discussion.

Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy held a discussion meeting and a cultural function at its Gallery Bhaban in the afternoon. Journalist Obaidul Huq attended it as chief guest while Prof Abul Kashem Fazul Haq, poet Mohammad Rafiq, artist Khalid Hossain and Prof Selim Al Din took part in the discussion.

Garments fire

Nirjon does not support student politics

By DU Correspondent

S M Shahriar Nirjon of Dhaka College topped the combined merit list in Science Group under Dhaka Board securing 953 marks and distinctions in four subjects.

Son of SMA Mannan, an engineer of PDB and Shirin Banu, Nirjon wants to be a professor of computer science in BUET in future. He, however, is not interested to go abroad before completing his graduation.

He did not have any particular study routine but studied for longer hours than usual before his exams. He did not have any private tutors at home but studied in a batch at a coaching centre.

Nirjon, who is youngest among two brothers, expressed satisfaction over his results and thanked his parents and brother for inspiring him.

"I don't support student politics," he said, adding "students should keep busy with their studies."

PDB

From page 1

General Secretary respectively of Collective Bargaining Agent (CBA) of Bangladesh Jatiya Bidyut Sramik Karmachari Union (BJSKU) in a statement requested all workers and employees of the PDB to submit their leave applications with their respective controlling authorities by August 30.

The 14-point demand includes cancellation of the decision for transforming Ashuganj-Haripur Electricity Stations into companies, cancellation of the decision to hand over PDB's supply line and installation to Rural Electrification Board (REB), halt to the move against trade union activities, and payment of dues of electric stations and electric transmission zones of 1997-98.

Jail Killing Case

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Eight of the accused — Taheruddin Thakur, Shah Moazzem Hossain, K M. Obaidur Rahman, Nurul Islam Manzoor, Lt Col (Dismissed) Syed Farookur Rahman, Lt Col (Retd) Sultan Sharmin Rashid Khan, Major (Retd) Bazlul Huda, and Major (Retd) Khairuzzaman — are now detained at the Dhaka Central Jail. They were produced in the court during the hearing yesterday.

Garments fire

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Hours to douse the blaze. Gulshan police said that more than 50 workers trapped inside different floors of the factory were rescued.

According to witnesses and police, most of the trapped workers came out breaking the wall on the third floor while others climbed down.

Felling of trees

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Telapia, an alien species, now dominates the wetlands, harming the native species of fish.

Dr Khan said that he saw indiscriminate felling of trees in the forest. "Forest department officials seldom venture out to the ranges. They do not go far beyond their beats without escort by law enforcing agencies."

"A lot of 17,000 cubic feet of teak, all properly sized, were lying for quite some time in the open at the stackyard of Baghaiahat forest office, a testimony to a seizure that are only made when law enforcers found those being floated down the river. But these seized timbers worth millions of taka are being wasted there," Dr Khan added.

He suggested that Jhum cultivation should be stopped, forest department has to increase its surveillance, both tribals and settlers should be encouraged to become stakeholders in forestry and management of national parks or wild life sanctuaries must have knowledge of eco-tourism to save whatever is surviving.

FEJB Chairman Quamrul Islam Choudhury thanked Dr Khan for the talk.

Army

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Scended in and around the factory area and production in the first unit of the factory has been suspended, factory owners said.

Diamond Cement Factory started operation in 1988 with an initial investment of Tk 70 crore.

Hasina

From page 1

and comfort that they enjoy as parliament members.

"Such political bankruptcy was never seen ... The political leadership that cannot make any sacrifice cannot give anything to the nation or the people," she said.

Hasina said having failed to remove her elected government through movement, they were now trying to oust it through conspiracy and creating political instability.

"The opposition has become unversed seeing development works of the Awami League government. Now anti-liberation elements and fallen autocrats have united to unseat the government forcibly," she said.

Hasina accused her opponents of plotting to kill her and protecting the self-confessed killers of Bangabandhu by creating unrest and chaos.

Expressing her firm faith in the people, the Prime Minister said Awami League won the trust and confidence of the masses by working hard for improving their well-being in last four years.

Awami League presidium member Abdul Mannan MP, Joint Secretary Shamsur Rahman Khan Shahjahan, Office Secretary Adv Abdul Mannan Khan, Mymensingh District Al president Principal Matiur Rahman, general secretary Nazimuddin Ahmed, Shamsul Huq MP, Mostem Uddin Madani MP, Abdus Sattar MP and Mrs Jahana Khan MP were present in the meeting.

Sources also said that in 1996, at the initiative of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the recommendation of then Chief of Army Staff Lt General Mahbubur Rahman a full-fledged Promotion Board was formed to look into cases of promotion from the rank of Brigadier to Major General and all the senior army officers welcomed the move.

They feel that the prime minister should have a similar board set up, this time too, to consider the cases of promotion to the rank of Major General so that competent officers get their rightful position.

Jewel 5th in DB science group

By DU Correspondent



Private tuitions should be banned: Imtiaz

By DU Correspondent

Mohammad Imtiaz Khan Partha of Dhaka Commerce College has stood second in the combined merit list of commerce in this year's HSC exams under Dhaka Board. He obtained 948 marks with distinctions in four subjects.

He is the eldest son of Md Rafiqul Islam Khan, manager of Janata Bank DMCH branch and Jinnatun Naher.

Expressing his satisfaction over his result, Imtiaz said that a rigid routine is not needed for producing good results but rather a student should be punctual in his studies. Identifying one's own weaknesses and working to better them helps, he said.

He also said that private tuitions at school level should be banned as it makes teachers reluctant to teach at school.

Imtiaz, who wants to study BBA at Dhaka University, said that his parents and teachers inspired him to work hard.



Iftekhar 2nd in science group under DB

By DU Correspondent

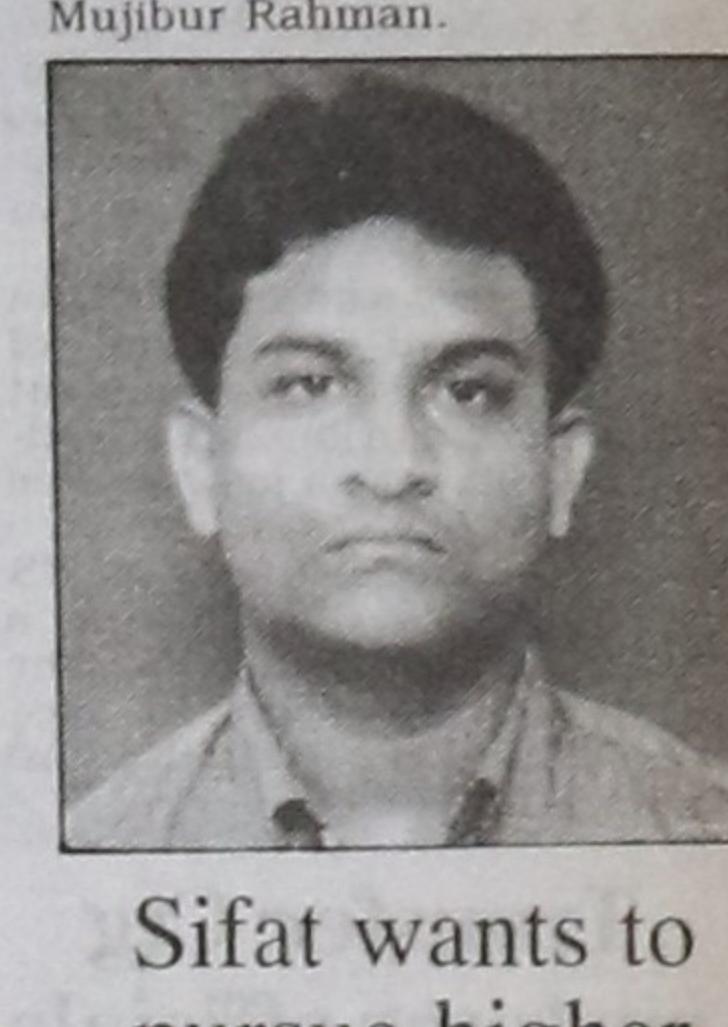
A T M Iftekhar Hossain of Rajshahi Cadet College has secured the second position in the combined merit list of Science Group in this year's HSC exams under Rajshahi Board.

He is the son of Md Motahar Hossain and Moslema Khatun.

Iftekhar thanked his mother, grandmother and his college principal Abdul Quddus for inspiring him to achieve his result.

He said that mass awareness has to be created against adoption of unfair means in examinations and that the questions of exam papers should be changed frequently to help contain the menace.

Travelling is his hobby and Iftekhar has travelled all over country. His favourite personality is Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.



Sifat wants to pursue higher studies in IT

By Staff Correspondent

Imtiaz Md Sifat of Comilla Victoria Government College secured the third position in the combined merit list under Comilla Board of this year's HSC exams.

He obtained 922 marks with distinctions in four subjects.

Sifat is the eldest son of Dr Fariduddin Bhuiyan, Director of Comilla Medical Centre Ltd and Sultan Hossain Ara, a housewife.

He said that his parents and teachers have been the inspiration behind his results.

Sifat wants to pursue higher in information technology.



Jewel

5th in DB science group

By DU Correspondent

A S M Zahidur Rahman Jewel, a student of Dhaka College, obtained fifth position in the combined merit list of Science group in this year's HSC examinations under Dhaka Board. He secured 934 marks with distinctions in four subjects.