

## What's on today....

**Signing ceremony:** The consortium loan agreement signing ceremony of Anilma 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 - Muktagong, 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 Bahai Centre, 7 Nawratan 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.

## ..... and tomorrow

**Exhibition:** A group - exhibition of five young artists will be inaugurated. Venue: Goethe Institut's Exhibition Hall, House No 10, Road no 9 (New), Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6.00 pm.

**Uttam Kumar Retrospective:** Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen *Grihadaha* 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.

## Weather

### No change in temperature

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

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met office said.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 34.4 degree Celsius at Comilla and Jessore and the lowest 25 degree at Sylhet, Barisal and Rangpur.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.20 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.39 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
Dhaka	33.1	27.8
Chittagong	33.2	25.6
Rajshahi	33.3	27.3
Khulna	34.3	27.2
Barisal	32.7	25.0
Sylhet	32.2	25.0
Cox's Bazar	33.5	26.2

## HERE and THERE

### English debating championship

The first Mixed Doubles English Debating Championship was held at the Notre Dame College in the city Saturday, says a press release.

Thirty-two students from the English medium schools took part in the competition, jointly organised by Notre Dame College and Mastermind School.

Farhana Rahman of Mastermind School and Saugata of Dhanmondi Tutorial became champions jointly while Nader Rahman of Mastermind and Junaid Rabbani of Notre Dame College became runners-up.

Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Editor of The Bangladesh Observer, attended the function as chief guest and gave away the trophies.

### Workshop

A workshop on low-income rural housing has suggested building up a strong net-work comprising representatives from various organisations, institutions and individuals for finding out ways and means to resolve acute rural housing problem in the disaster-prone

areas, reports BSS.

Jointly organised by Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Exeter (UK) Higher Educational Links on Housing and Hazards (H&H) and PRHOSHIK's Housing and Sanitation Programme, the workshop was held on Saturday at Proshika Bhaban at Mirpur.

The inaugural ceremony of the workshop was chaired by Proshika President Dr Qazi Faruque Ahmed while the two working sessions were presided over by Proshika Director JK Baral and BUET Professor Salek Seraj.

In two working sessions, a total of four research papers based on working experiences on the related fields were presented by Benedict Porosh Sarder of Habitat for Human, Dulal Dey of Proshika, Dr Iftekhar Ahmed of BUET and Architect MS Rumana Kabir and her team.

Both the working sessions were followed by open discussions. Noted personalities on the related subjects took part in the interactions.

Over 60 prominent personalities from various public and private organizations, educational institutions, NGOs and professionals took part in the workshop.



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

From page 1

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-storied 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 Maxbom, 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

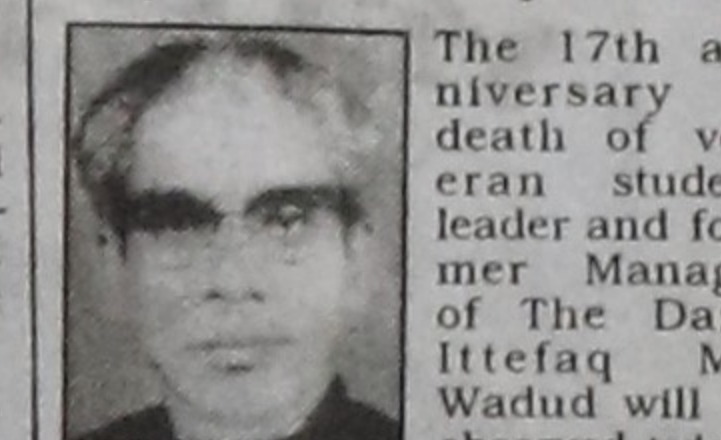
Dr Hamida Khatun, wife of noted lawyer and president of Gano Forum Dr Kamal Hossain, who has been struck with dengue fever was flown to Bangkok yesterday for treatment.

Dr Hamida, who is the Executive Director of Ain-O-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 MA Wadud will be observed today.

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

The late Wadud was a close associate of Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardy 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 Gazilul Huq, MR Akhtar Mukul, Quayyum Chowdhury, Hasem Khan, Shamsuzzaman Khan and Dr Rafiqul Islam to celebrate the 75th anniversary of birth of MA Wadud.

### Poet Nazrul's death anniversary observed

By Staff Correspondent

The 24th death anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam was observed yesterday.

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

Opposition in Parliament Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury, Dr R A Gani, Abdul Matin Chowdhury, M K Anwar Shahjahan Siraj, Lt Gen (Retd) Mahbubur Rahman, Sirajul Islam Selim, Noim Jahangir, Rabeya Siraj, Brig (Retd) Anwar Hossain Khan Chowdhury, Washimul Bari Rajib, Shirin Sultana, Bilkis Islam and Habibul Islam Bobby were present on the occasion.

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



Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova Mohammed Shajahan hosted a reception at Sonargaon Hotel in the city yesterday on the occasion of the National Day of Moldova. — Star photo

### 11 killed in Ctg

From page 1

Talking to this correspondent during a visit to the factory site, Director of the company Mahbub Ali alleged that the disaster took place due to faulty planning and lapses in taking precautionary measures by the construction firm, KA Construction Company.

"The owner of the construction firm and the consulting engineer neither came to the spot after the incident nor contacted us" Mahbub said.

Police sources said the owner and staff of the construction firm located at Majirhat Road went into hiding after the incident.

Despite repeated attempts, this correspondent failed to contact the owner of the construction firm.

Construction worker Md Yunus told this correspondent that 110 workers were engaged today to construct the roof of the silo.

"About 50 workers including 20 masons were on the roof while others were moving up and down through the bamboo ladders, carrying construction materials," Yunus said.

"I was on the ground when it collapsed," Yunus said.

The workers were from Chaokbazar, Dewanhat and New Mooring areas, he said.

"I was paid Tk 150 per day, but today none of us got any payment due to the accident," Yunus said.

Another worker Ahmed Sagor said "I was carrying construction materials to the roof. I luckily escaped as I jumped from the ladder seeing the roof collapsing."

Sagor claimed that more than 15 people were killed in the incident. The actual death toll will be available after completion of search operation, he said.

Meanwhile, hundreds of people from surrounding areas crowded the gate of the factory but police have restricted entry. A pall of gloom has de-

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 unnerved seeing development works of the Awami League government. Now anti-liberation elements and fallen autocrat have united to unsettle 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 Shajahan, Office Secretary Adv Abdul Mannan Khan, Mymensingh District AL president Principal Matur Rahman, general secretary Nazimuddin Ahmed, Shamsul Huq MP, Moslem Uddin MP, Maulana Ruhul Amin Madani MP, Abdus Sattar MP and Mrs Jahanara Khan MP were present in the meeting.

### 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 Samikha Karmachari Union (JBKSU) 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.

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

### Jail Killing Case

From page 1

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 Sharar Rashid Khan, Major (Retd) Bazul 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

From page 1

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

From page 1

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 Baghatat 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 stake holders 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 Chowdhury thanked Dr Khan for the talk.

### Army

From page 1

gence reports which are confidential and cannot be disclosed to the Board."

They added that some cases were also unanimously rejected by the Board but were unilaterally pushed by the chairman.

Several generals feel that reports enclosed in the annual confidential report (ACR) of every officer speak for themselves and, therefore, pretext of confidential reports should in no way be used to hold up or speed up promotion of any officer which may discourage professionalism and encourage cronyism.

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.



### 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 secured a total of 861 marks with distinctions in three 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.



### Sadia stands 3rd in science group under DB

By DU Correspondent

Sadia Sharmin of Vigarunisa Noon College says

expellations of students for copying in exams is a good initiative to stop the menace. Teachers as well as administration have to be more responsible to help check adaptation of unfair means in the examinations, she thinks.

Sadia has stood third in the merit list among female students and 14th in the combined merit list in Science group under Dhaka Board. She has obtained 922 marks with distinctions in four subjects.

Daughter of Dr Motiur Rahman of BSMMU and Dr Bilquis Ara Begum of DMCH, Sadia is the second among three sisters.

She wants to study in BUET and be a computer engineer.

Sadia, who stood second in the combined merit list of her SSC exam said, "Though I am happy with my result, I expected to do a little better." She used to study for five to six hours a day.

She loves to hear music and Nagar Baul James' songs are her favourite.



### Tanveerul stands 5th in combined CB merit list

By DU Correspondent

KM Tanveerul Islam of Ispahani Public School and College secured the 5th position in the combined merit list of Science Group under Chittagong Board in this year's HSC exams. He obtained 881 marks with distinctions in four subjects.

Son of KM Sirajul Islam, a freedom fighter and general secretary of Chittagong C&F Agents Association, Tanveer is interested to pursue studies in computer science. He is the eldest among three brothers.

Tanveer stood 10th in his SSC examination.

### Mizan Chy

From page 12

with five other accused rented a house at 11/C, Road No 17, Banani Model Town under a lease agreement from the complainant in October 1996.

Dipu Chowdhury, one of the sons of the petitioner, gave Tk one lakh as advance money. Later the accused did not pay house-rent to the landlord for a long time.

Mohammad Harun Malik filed a complaint case with the CMM's Court, Dhaka on July 27 in 1998 against six people including Mizan Chowdhury. The court after hearing, issued summons upon the accused the same day to appear in the court.



### Iftekhar 2nd in science group under DB

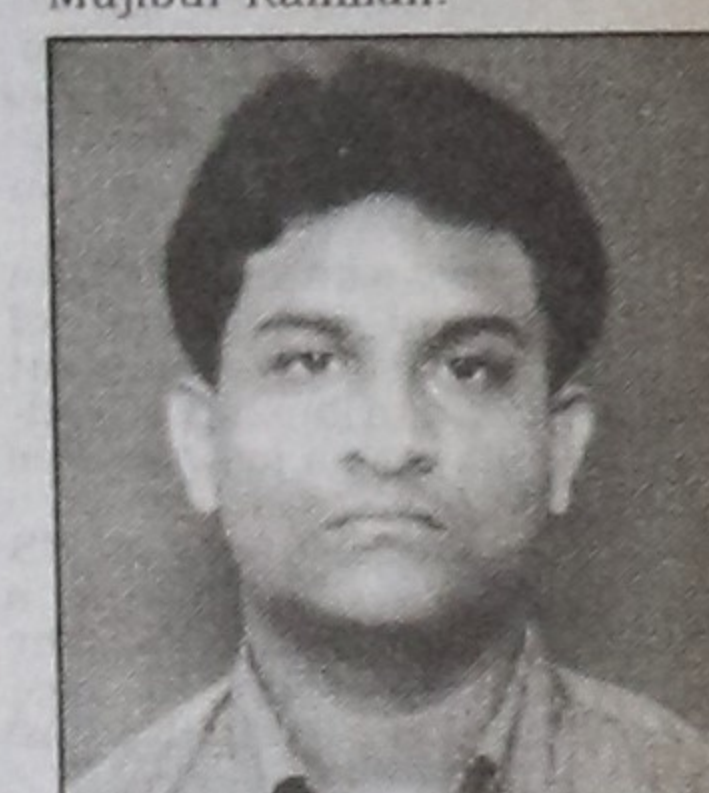
By DU Correspondent

A T M Iftekhar Hossain of Rajshahi Cadet College has secured the second position in the combined merit list of Science Group under Rajshahi Board. He obtained 948 marks with distinctions in four subjects.

He is the son of Motalar Hossain and Moslema Khatun. Iftekhar thanked his mother, grandmother and his college principal Abdul Qudus for inspiring him to achieve his result.

He said that mass awareness has to be created against adaptation 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 Sultana Hasin 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.

Jewel, who also stood fourth in the SSC examination, wants to be a computer engineer in future. He likes reading books and listening to music.