What's on today ....

NMST lecture: National Museum of Science and Technology (NMST) will hold a lecture as part of its Lectures on Popular Science series. Speaker: Dr Donald Jams Gomez who will speak on "Thermophillic Enzynes in Biotechnology." Venue: Auditorium of NMST, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 4.00 pm.

Discussion meeting: Dhaka Bashi will hold a discussion meeting on "Role of Dhaka's leaders in development of Old Dhaka." Venue: Auditorium of National Press Club, Ramna. Time: 5.00 pm.

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.

..... and tomorrow

Discussion meeting: Dakkhin Bangla Jubo Kalyan Samity will hold a discussion meeting on Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Venue: National Press Club, Ramna. Time: 5.00 pm.

Weather

Light rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Barisal and Khulna divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

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

Yesterday's highest temperature of 35.7 degree Celsius was recorded at Sayedpur and the lowest of 25.0 degree at Teknaf.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:19 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	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.6	27.0	73	74
Chittagong	33.0	25.7	78	93
Rajshahi	34.5	27.0	78	83
Khulna	34.5	26.6	76	76
Barisal	32.0	26.8	77	76
Sylhet	31.5	26.0	93	84
Cox's Bazar	33.6	25.5	74	83

Attack on Shahriar Kabir

By Staff Correspondent

Shahriar Kabir, a writer and acting president of Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, was injured when a gang of unidentified miscreants made an attack on him near Bangla Motor in the city last night.

"It was an attempt of kidnapping," Kabir told The Daily Star at about 9:30 pm, about an hour after the incident.

The Gulshan Police said that they heard of the incident and sent some officers to the residence of the victim for details.

Foreign liquor seized in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 28: An anti-smuggling squad of Chittagong Customs House aided by BDR and magistrate, in a raid today recovered 676 bottles foreign liquor worth about Tk six lakh from South Patenga area, custom sources said.

Acting on a tip-off, the squad raided houses, shops and paddy fields in the area at 12 noon, the sources added.

However, huge smuggled goods reportedly unloaded at the outer anchorage of Chittagong port recently, reached Patenga, Anwara, Sitakundu and other coastal areas for transportation to Dhaka and other parts of the country.

Discussion on Kyoto Protocol held

Speakers at a discussion meeting yesterday called upon the industrialised nations, especially the USA and Japan, to take lead in early enforcement of Kyoto Protocol, for immediate cutback of greenhouse gases, reports BSS.

Held at the National Press Club, the discussion on "Kyoto Protocol : Where are we now" was organised by Commonwealth Environmental Journalists Association (CEJA), Asia-Pacific Forum of Environmental Journalists (AFEJ) and Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB).

Regional Information Officer of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Tim Higham read out the keynote paper while Managing Editor of The Daily Star Syed Fahim Munaim was present as special guest. FEJB chairman Quamrul Islam Chowdhury presided.

Tim gave a rundown of the global state of environment and said Kyoto Protocol has been a milestone in reducing greenhouse gas emission which is not a politically attractive one.

He said the global community should tackle the issue of major consumption by the minority, economic disparity and the widening gap between the haves and havenots and mobilise actions and mitigation measures like clean development mechanism.

Tim said UNEP has been trying to raise environmental awareness across the world.

Bangladesh Power Development Board

Re Tender Notice

দেশপ্রেমে উদ্বুদ্ধ হউন
বিদ্যুতের অবৈধ সংযোগ বন্ধ করুন

Tenders are invited from the enlisted contractors of PDB for supplying different types of tools in the Workshop Division of Ghorasal Power Station at an allocation of expenditure of Taka 1,90,125/= (Taka one lakh ninety thousand one hundred and twenty-five) only. Detailed tenders will be available on 12-9-2000 till 1-00 pm from Chief Engineer (Generation), PDB, WAPDA Bhaban, Dhaka/Chief Engineer (O&M), GPS, PDB, Polash, Narsingdi or from the undersigned by producing TIN Certificate for the current year and copy of enlistment of contractorship for the year 1999-2000 with prior permission and on payment of Taka 200/- (two hundred) (non-refundable) in the form of Bank Draft/Pay-Order from any schedule bank in favour of the Deputy Director (Accounts), GRAO, PDB, Polash, Narsingdi, Chief Engineer (Generation), PDB, WAPDA, Bhaban Dhaka or on cash payment from Pubali Bank, Polash Branch, Narsingdi.

Tenders will be received on 13-9-2000 till 11-30 am in the office of the Chief Engineer (Generation). PDB, WAPDA Bhaban, Dhaka, Chief Engineer (O&M), GPS, PDB, Polash, Narsingdi or office of the undersigned and tenders will be opened the same day at 12-00 noon before tenderers (if anyone remains present).

Power/Public-284(4)/2000-2001 **ExecutiveEngineer (Workshop)**
DFP 20426-23/8 Ghorasal Power Station
G-1511 PDB, Polash, Narsingdi

Latifur Rahman, Chairman and MD, Transcom Beverages Ltd., is seen handing over the key of an air-conditioned Daewoo Matiz car to 'Pepsi Magic' gift recipient Aklima Khatun of Satkhira at the National Press Club yesterday. Under the 'Pepsi Magic' promotional campaign, consumers won different gifts through scratch cards. These cards are available upon consumption of every bottle of Pepsi, 7-Up or Mirinda. The second phase of the gift giving ceremony was held yesterday. Also seen in the picture are cricketer Minhajul Abedin Nannu and TV presenter Abdur Noor Tushar. Abdul Malek of Sylhet, Papia Mukharjee of Khulna and Shafayet Ahmed of Rajshahi received Suzuki 100 cc motorcycles while 11 others received Daewoo colour televisions and Whirlpool refrigerators.
— Star photo

A discussion on 'Kyoto Protocol: Where are we now' was held at the National Press Club yesterday. Regional Information Officer of UNEP Tim Higham is seen speaking at the discussion. Managing Editor of The Daily Star Syed Fahim Munaim (extreme right) was present as special guest.
—Star photo

Condition of Dr Wajed improving

By Staff Correspondent

Dr Wajed Miah, the husband of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, has been undergoing treatment at the Combined Military Hospital in the city for over a month, officials said yesterday.

Dr Wajed was admitted to the CMH on July 22, an official said quoting his medical papers. He has been suffering from hypertension and diabetic problems, the official said, adding that the health condition of the nuclear scientist was improving.

A source at CMH said that the scientist was undergoing treatment for stress and strain related disease. He was earlier operated upon for his cardiac ailment about two years back.

Boral murder

From page 1

closed to police lines today for negligence of duty in launching drive against the suspects in the case. He is to wait for further departmental punishment, a source at the office of DIG, Khulna Range said. Hemayet reportedly helped Alamgir escape from Bagerhat town.

Home Minister Mohammad Nasim will visit Chitalmari on September 1, said an official source today. He will visit the house of Boral and address a meeting of his party workers there. Nasim will also address a meeting of law and order committee at Bagerhat town.

Leaders of Chitalmari Awami League and Bagerhat district Hindu-Bouddha-Christian Oikya Parishad have requested Nasim not to accompany a certain MP of a constituency of Bagerhat district to avoid unhappy occurrence.

Uneasy calm prevailed among police personnel of Chitalmari thana as they were found scared and reluctant to go on duty outside fearing further attack. Angry people ransacked Chitalmari thana on Sunday. The entire Chitalmari has been placed under strict security measure fearing further violence.

Qulkhwani

Qulkhawani of Syed Harunar Rashid, a former deputy secretary of Bangladesh Industry Development Corporation and Senior General Manager of Bangladesh Sugar and Food Corporation, will be held today at his residence at 84/2B, North Jatrabari, Bibir Bagicha after *Magrib* prayers, says a press release.

Harunar Rashid, died of a cardiac arrest at the Suhrawardy Hospital on August 27. He left his wife, a son, three daughters and a host of relatives and admirers.

Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the *qulkhwani*.

Suicide

From page 12

tailed address. When contacted, police said that they were not aware of the incident.

In another incident, Lucky, wife of Jahangir Miah of Moghbazar, was found hanging from the ceiling of their house yesterday morning.

Police recovered the body and sent it to the DMCH for autopsy. A UD case was lodged by her relatives.

Body of Nilufar Begum, wife of Khalilur Rahman, was found hanging from a tree at Madinabagh at Shympur yesterday morning. Police recovered the body and sent it to Mitford hospital.

Victim's brother Alauddin filed a case with Shympur thana.

Fuel price hike

From page 1

Tk 900 crore a year from oil import and sale in domestic market till recent years. However, price hike in the world market and managerial problems then led to losses.

The government had increased the prices of petrol and octane in mid '97 by around 60 per cent and also of diesel by a small proportion, arguing that oil prices in the international market had gone up sharply and BPC was incurring huge loss. But it also said at that time the prices would be brought down if the oil price in the world market dropped significantly.

However, from late '97 to mid '99, prices of oil in the global market remained quite low but the government took no step to "adjust" domestic prices. Instead, from late last year, it was trying to increase prices on the plea that oil prices in the world market were soaring again.

The country consumes some 16 lakh tonnes of diesel, 4.5 lakh tonnes of kerosene, two lakh tonnes of petrol and one lakh tonnes of Octane. BPC imports about 1.2 million tonnes of crude oil and refines it at its processing plant to turn out diesel etc. It also imports 1.8 million tonnes of petrol, diesel and other petroleum products.

GSP issue

From page 1

investment if trade unionism is allowed there. The US Trade Representative Office (USTRO) rejected the government's previous submission regarding workers rights at the EPZs.

Presided over by Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Dr. S A Samad, the meeting also discussed issues relating to the bilateral relations between Bangladesh and US.

External Relations Division Secretary Dr. Moshiur Rahman, Commerce Secretary Golam Rahman, National Board of Revenue Chairman Zakir Ahmed Khan, Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) Chairman MAB Siddique Talukder, BGMEA President Anisur Rahman Sinha and Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) Secretary C K Haider were among those who attended the meeting.

Lawyer held on charge of raping girl in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Aug 28: A lawyer was arrested by Sonadanga police last night on charge of raping a girl.

Advocate Pradip Kumar Saha allegedly raped a 12-year-old girl at about 10 pm on Sunday at his residence in Sonadanga residential area.

The victim is a maid of Bachchu Molla, a tenant of the same four-storied building.

The girl was raped when she entered Saha's bed room with a glass of water for him, police said. Advocate Saha is a father of three sons who are studying in West Bengal. His wife is also staying with her children in Calcutta.

Meanwhile, leaders of Khulna Bar Association said Saha's membership will be cancelled.

Khaleda

From page 12

Turning to election, Khaleda said the Awami League never came to power through people's mandate, rather by resorting to terrorism and vote rigging.

The Awami League has become scared, as people have rallied behind the opposition alliance, she said adding they (AL) again want to return to power through terrorism, vote rigging and by devious means.

"But this time people will foil their evil design," she said.

The former prime minister said the people have rejected the Awami League. "Sensing this many leaders of Awami League have bought houses in London and America. Even they also bought tickets to flee the country as their time is running out."

She called upon the people to stand against the "conspirator, repressive and killer government" and said: "Inshallah, the government of the nationalist forces will be formed in the future."

The opposition leader said the government failed to carry out any development work in its four and half year rule. "They have destroyed education, economy and everything."

She criticised the government for raising the prices of oil and gas after two months of passing the national budget.

Khaleda asked the local people to extend all cooperation to local leader Khurrum Khan Chowdhury so that "he can serve you."

Presided over by former MP Khurrum Khan Chowdhury, the meeting was also addressed by BNP leaders M Morshed Khan, Amanullah Aman, Shamsuzzaman Dudu and Wahidul Alam Chowdhury and Anwarul Haq Chowdhury.

Earlier, Khaleda unveiled a stone plaque at Shialdhara Bazar in Nandail thana in memory of the 24 people who were electrocuted and 34 others injured during campaign on June 1 in 1996 ahead of the last general election.

She also distributed 12 rickshaws among the family members of the victims.

Air fares

From page 1

to expand its fleet by leasing a 50-seater Dash-8-300 aircraft from GE Capital of Switzerland in November and two other same type of aircraft later.

The government opened the domestic aviation sector to private operators in 1994.

Aero Bengal was the first company to start domestic flights, but stopped operations in 1997.

Air Parabat started service in early 1998 with two Czech made 19 seater LET aircraft.

It leased a Soviet made 48 seater Antonov-24 aircraft to compete with GMG, replacing its small aircraft.

Last month, Air Parabat suspended operations for three months due to high fuel cost for the AN-24 aircraft. It is waiting for replacement with a bigger and more fuel-efficient LET aircraft, company sources said.

Best Aviation introduced commercial Helicopter service for the first time in the country but folded its operations recently as it could not cope with high operational costs.

Aviation fuel price in Bangladesh was re-fixed at 48 cents a litre in 1994 in the wake of Gulf War. It was not reviewed although international prices tumbled to around 10 cents later, leaving Dhaka as the most expensive place for refueling.

Govt lawyers

From page 1

However, highlighting the problem of acute shortage of magistrates in the lower judiciary, Khasru said, "Before we proceed with the idea of a Prosecution Cadre, we are going to recruit some competent lawyers as magistrates to expedite disposal of pending cases."

They will be recruited through the Public Service Commission (PSC), he added.

Sources said some 100 such magistrates will be recruited initially if financial and other aspects are okayed at an inter-ministerial involving the ministries of finance, law and establishment.

Some lawyers who work as public prosecutors said that recruitment of lawyers as magistrates would help reduce the log-jam of cases in lower courts. They suggested that public prosecutors should also be recruited through the PSC.

One lawyer said some 150 PPs, SPPs and APPs appear before the Dhaka District Court, CMM Court and other lower courts in the capital. The number is too small to pursue so many cases at a time.

On an average, courts in divisional headquarters have 30 prosecutors and those in districts have 15 to 20.

There are only 30 to 35 GPs and AGPs in Dhaka. Their numbers are far less in other districts, sources said.

Garments

From page 1

BGMEA. Only 4000 workers from 400 factories in the city have so far taken training, sources said.

As per rules, a garments factory must have an emergency exits and the size of the staircase must be in proportion to the number of workers.

But in most of the factories, staircases are too narrow and usually kept dumped with goods, said an official of Fire Service and Civil Defence Department.

Most of the bodies of the 12 victims at Globe Knitting were recovered from the third floor, which was covered with machines, bundles of fabrics and garments. There was hardly any space to move freely.

Another major cause of deaths from fire incidents is the too inadequate space compared to the manpower, another official said.

BGMEA sources said, last year its Safety Cell identified 227 garments factories in the city having no emergency exit.

Motior Rahman, a Deputy Director of Fire Brigade, said four groups comprising officials from Fire Service, BGMEA and other organisations concerned later inquired into it and found that the number of such factories was 127.

"We will not give clearance any more unless factories have emergency exit", he said adding, negligence by authorities of Globe Knitting was responsible for Sunday's disaster.

FS: Islamabad

From page 1

his visit, Sami replied," Our perception is that we have made a beginning and the process is on."

Explaining the purpose of his mission in visiting Islamabad and New Delhi, he said, "Our mission was to apprise (the two) governments of the need for having peace and stability in the region. We must devote our time to basic economic problems for development.

"The South Asian region is the home of fifty per cent of the world's poor and focus of the governments should be directed towards reduction of poverty."

He said, "our concern for regional cooperation and the revival of SAARC was also conveyed. The process of SAARC had been stalled and we hope that it would be revived.'

Asked what was the outcome of his mission, Sami replied, "Our goals are well defined but we did not go with specific proposals to the (two) countries".

When asked if bilateral problems were discussed with Pakistan's military ruler, he said, "It was. We discussed the division of assets and the repatriation of the stranded Pakistanis."

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over a cheque for Tk 2 lakh to the father of Saikat Rahman Amit for his treatment yesterday. Amit, 12, has been undergoing treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital as he was affected with Wild Polio virus.
— PID photo

Rito has stood 3rd in JB Science Group

By DU Correspondent

S M Iftekharul Amin Rito of Jhenidah Cadet College has secured the third position in the combined merit list of Science Group under Jessore Board with 951 marks and distinctions in four subjects.

He is son of Sheikh Ruhul Amin, a government official and Ilma Akhter Daizy, an official of BTV.

Rito wants to be a computer engineer in future.

Ahmedur has stood 3rd in RB Science Group

By Staff Correspondent

S S Ahmedur Rahman from Rajshahi Cadet College stood 3rd in the combined merit list in Science Group under Rajshahi Board in this year's HSC exams.

He obtained a total of 994 marks.

Ahmedur thinks that determination and steady study is a key factor for any success. He wants to study computer science in future.

Ahmedur is the eldest son of Anisur Rahman, Country Director of DHV Consultants BV (The Netherlands) and Shamsad Rahman.

He loves to read books and play cricket.

Rahima wants to study literature

By Staff Correspondent

Musammat Rahima Akhter of Adhyapak Abdul Majid College has obtained 5th position in the combined merit list of the Humanities group under Comilla Board in this year's HSC examination.

She stood first among girls in her group securing a total of marks and distinctions in two subjects.

Rahima had no private tutors to help her in her studies but she says that her brothers and teachers helped her a lot.

She says that to achieve good results, a student should first of all have confidence in herself and also concentrate on her studies.

She says that at present there is no security of life in the country and therefore there is an urgent need of political stability.

Rahima, who loves to listen to music and read books in her spare time, wants to pursue higher studies in literature. She hopes to be a professor in future.

Kudrat wants to study BBA in future

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Aug 28: Md Kudratullah of Amritalal Dey College of Barisal stood 1st in Commerce Group in the combined merit list in the HSC examination this year.

He obtained 904 marks with distinctions in three subjects. Kudrat's father Habibur Rahman Talukder is a retired District Education officer. Mother Hosne Ara Begum a housewife. He is the second amidst three children.

Kudrat likes to collect stamps.

He wants to study BBA in future.

Shimu wants to be a computer engineer

By DU Correspondent

Umme Farhana Hossain Shimu of Viqarunnisa Noon College stood fourth among the females and obtained 19th position in the combined merit list of Science Group under Dhaka Board with 917 marks and distinction in four subjects.

She is the eldest daughter of Md. Makbul Hossain, a Railway official and Fatema Hossain.

Shimu, who stood 18th in the combined merit list her SSC exams, wants to be a computer engineer.

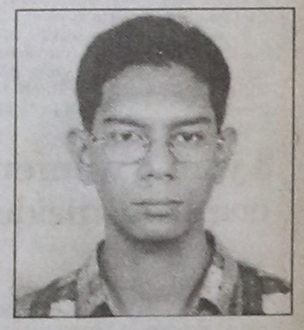
Hasan wants to be a computer engineer

By DU Correspondent

Hasan Jamil of Dhaka College secured eighth position in the combined merit list of Science Group under Dhaka Board with 930 marks.

The only son of Jamirul Akhter, a lawyer of Supreme Court and Hasina Begum, Hasan wants to be a computer engineer in future.

Hasan, who also stood sixth in the combined merit list in his SSC exams, likes to read books and listen music in leisure.



Mahmood stands 16th in Humanities Group under DB

By Staff Correspondent

Mahmood-ur-Rahman of Dhaka College has stood 16th in the combined merit list of Humanities Group under Dhaka Board in the HSC exams.

Mahmood is the son of Muhammad Shafi Uddin, Station Manager of Bangladesh Betar.

Mahmood also stood 2nd in the combined merit list of Humanities Group under DB in his SSC exams.