

What's on today...

CJFD roundtable: Chittagong Journalists Forum-Dhaka (CJFD) will hold a roundtable on "Construction of a Tunnel under the river Karnaphuli and its national perspective." Chief guest: Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Manju. Venue: VIP lounge of National Press Club. Time: 3:00 pm.

Lecture: The 11th Nazim Jesmin Memorial Lecture will be held. Venue: Auditorium of Institute of Modern Language, DU campus. Time: 4:00 pm.

Film show: Chalchitram Film Society will hold a screening of European films under the title "Focus on European Films." On the 1st day *The Ecstacy World of the Film Maker Werner Herzog* by Peter Buchka and *Aguirre, Wrath of God* by Werner Herzog will be screened. Venue: Goethe Institut, House No 10, Rd No 9, Dhamondi R/A. Time 5:00 pm & 6:30 pm.

Training: A three-day training course on "Refugee Law" begins. Organisers: UNHCR, InrI Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) and Bangladesh Bar Council. Venue: Bangladesh Bar Council. Time: 9:00 am-4:30 pm.

BIDS lecture 2000: Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) will hold a lecture on "Globalisation and Development: Opportunities and Hazards for Bangladesh." As part of its lectures to mark the new millennium. Keynote speaker: Prof Azizur Rahman Khan of University of California. Venue: BIDS Conference room (E-17), Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 3:30 pm.

Meeting: The regular and Board meeting of the Lions Club of Dhaka Golden will be held. Venue: Great Wall Chinese Restaurant. Time: 6:30 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Founding anniversary: Chandpur Zila Awami Forum will hold a function to mark its first founding anniversary. Venue: Rajuk auditorium, Dilkusha. Time: 5:00 pm.

Weather

Light rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Chittagong, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB. Moderately heavy falls at one or two places over Chittagong division may also occur during the period. Met office said. The day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 35.3 degree Celsius was at Khulna and the lowest 23.5 degree Celsius at Dhaka. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:05 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:44 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	23.5	76	65
Chittagong	32.6	24.9	82	82
Rajshahi	32.8	26.0	80	75
Khulna	35.3	25.5	79	77
Barisal	33.4	26.5	80	75
Sylhet	29.6	24.0	96	92
Cox's Bazar	---	25.6	82	---

Killing of Pahari Chhatra Parishad men condemned

By DU Correspondent
Greater Chittagong Hill Tracts Hill Students' Council (GCHTSC) yesterday brought out a procession on the Dhaka University campus protesting the killing of two activists Arun Bikash Chakma and Jata Chakma - of UPDF supported Pahari Chhatra Parishad. Following the procession, GCHTSC held a rally in front of the DUCSU building at noon. Addressing the rally, speakers blamed terrorists sponsored by Jana Sanghati Samity (JSS) for the killing and said, "JSS resorted to politics of killing and terrorism fatal losing the public support."

City's traffic problems to end in 3 years: Anwar

Communications Minister Anwar Hossain yesterday said that the city traffic problems would be over the next three years as the government projects in this connection are under implementation, reports BSS. He, however, observed that merely infrastructural development would not be able to ease the traffic problem unless people also show a positive change in their attitude and follow traffic laws. He was speaking as the chief guest at a seminar on "Traffic Management in Dhaka - Metropolitan: Today's Burning Issue" at the Engineers Institution.

Fuel price hike Students will have to pay more for their transportation

The unusual rise in bus fare prompted by fuel price hike has not only been the cause of concern for the commuters, but also for the school and college students, reports UNB. Take the case of the students of Vignarunnisa Noon School and College. From now on, each girl student of the prestigious institution will have to pay Tk 100 more each month as their microbus fare. The microbus operators have already informed the guardians that they have raised the microbus fare by Tk 100 per head due to fuel price hike. Talking to UNB, Principal of the college Prof Hamida Ali admitted that she too received a letter in this regard from the microbus operators. "But I have nothing to do with it as the microbuses are not under my management." She said a caretaker of the college and some other people operate the vehicles and they keep 10-12 microbuses inside the college compound for which they pay the authorities a certain amount of money every month. College sources said the microbus operators charge fare from the guardians of the students considering the distance between their residences and the college while the drivers take Tk 50 as tips. "This is not our business... the guardians can now give a second thought whether they will avail of the transport facility provided by them," Prof Hamida said. A good number of guardians, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said most of the microbuses used for carrying the students have already become unfit. "The money we are paying them (microbus operators) is too much compared to their service and vehicle condition," said one of the guardians. "Many service-providers are ready to take over the transport sector of the college, but they have been kept at bay," said a microbus driver, also seeking anonymity.

SKOP strike

From page 1
The strike. Mill workers brought out processions and held rallies on Dhaka-Narayanganj Road demanding immediate implementation of the agreement. Workers also burned tyres on the road. They stopped a commuter train for sometime as a meeting was in progress on the railroad near Chhara Crossing. Mills workers also brought out processions and held separate rallies in Teigaon and Tongi industrial areas to press their demands. In Chittagong two pedestrians sustained minor injuries as mill workers hurled home-made bombs near the Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ). The injured were admitted to hospital. Delivery of goods from the Chittagong Port was normal but most inter-district buses stayed off roads due to the SKOP called strike. In Khulna, all the 11 jute mills and Dada Match Factory were closed as workers did not turn up or walked away from the mills. Some 4,000 workers of United Meghna-Chandpur (UMC) Jute Mills, the largest jute mill in Narsingdi abstained from works in response to the strike. However, workers of Bangladesh Jute Mills at Ghorashal attended their works, defying the strike.

Bill placed

From page 12
These provisions of the Bill will be applicable even if the identified places are held by the government, a local authority, an organisation or a company. If any one violate any provision of the Bill after its enactment, he will be jailed for a maximum of five years or fined Tk 50,000 or he will face both the jail term and fine. Introducing the Bill, Minister Hossain said various establishments are being set up indiscriminately on play grounds, parks and natural water bodies, seriously damaging the environment and expanding the urban areas in an unplanned way. It has now become urgent to have properly planned urban areas and to protect environment, the minister said. Meanwhile, Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid yesterday referred the proposed amendments to Rules of Procedure of the Jatiya Sangsad to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rules of Procedure for scrutiny and recommendation. Col (Retd) Shawkat Ali brought the amendments to some sub-clauses of Clause 2 of the Rules of Procedure concerning the functioning of parliamentary standing committees on different ministries and amendments to Article 264.

Adel

From page 1
night in his lawyer's chamber since his bail petition could not be heard on the day due to time constraint. He did not come out since police remained deployed around the Supreme Court building and in front of his lawyer's chamber on its premises. Following the HC order yesterday, Adel along with his family members left the Court. As they were leaving, police tried to chase his car. At this, the family members became agitated and showed the Court order to police. Police officials in plain clothes however followed him up to his residence at old Dhaka. Adel who was a deputy mayor of Dhaka has been charged with sedition as Pakistani national flag was hoisted at his residence on the independence day of that country on August 14. Thondker Mahub Hossain who moved the bail prayer on behalf of Adel said that hoisting of Pakistani national flag at his client's residence was beyond his (Adel) knowledge and the incident was planned to malign him politically. The Deputy Attorney General opposed the bail prayer and said the charges against Adel were non-bailable. Kotwali police brought the sedition charge against him on August 21. Police also attached Adel's moveable property on September 8 on the basis of an order from the CMM's Court. The order was given since he did not appear before the court.

Filing of cases against Ajker Kagoj reporter condemned

Former and present students of Mass Communication and Journalism Department of Dhaka University condemned filing of three cases against Anis Alamgir, Diplomatic Correspondent of the daily Ajker Kagoj, reports UNB. In a joint statement yesterday, 312 former and present students said some lawyers in Dhaka and Comilla filed the defamation cases to harass the journalist. They demanded immediate withdrawal of the cases. Prof QAIM Nuruddin, Prof Sakhawat Ali Khan, Prof Golam Rahman, Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, BSS Chief Editor Harun Habib, Journalist Ataur Rahman, Zakaria Kazal, Shahriar Shahid and Ajit Sarkar were among the signatories. He also pointed to the peculiar head pertaining to the risk

Renaming of DU Applied Physics dept Agitating students begin fast-unto-death

By DU Correspondent
"No decision has yet been taken from the meeting to solve the problem," he said and added that VC had requested the teachers to bring back the students to their classes. He however claimed that the problem lay with the Academic Council since the teachers of the department are divided on the issue. The agitating students told The Daily Star that DU VC Prof AK Azad Chowdhury had refused to talk to them when they went to meet him yesterday. "I will not talk to you until you go back to your classes," they quoted the VC as telling them. Meanwhile students of the Department of Applied Chemistry and Chemical Technology of the university has also begun the movement on the campus under the leadership of their department. The proposed new name of the department is "Department of Chemical Engineering and Technology."

Kuwaiti team meets Speaker, Khasru Baghdad urged to free POWs, pay compensation

By Special Correspondent
Bangladesh and Kuwait have emphasised on release of Kuwait prisoners of war Paw still held in Iraq and payment of compensation by Baghdad for damages it caused during its invasion of Kuwait in 1990. The Kuwaiti team came up during discussions held by a Kuwaiti Parliamentary delegation with Bangladesh leaders and parliamentarians, including Speaker Humayun Rasheed and Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Abdul Matin Khasru. The five member delegation with two officials of Kuwait Parliament arrived in Dhaka on Sunday for a two-day visit. They called on Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury and discussed various issues of bilateral interest. They also called on Law Minister Abdul Matin Khasru in his office and Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid at the state guest house. They held meeting with members of Foreign Relations Committee of Parliament. The meeting reviewed the excellent relations that exist between the two brotherly countries and discussed matters of mutual interest as well as issues of international interest and that of the Islamic Ummah. In course of talks in the evening, the two sides emphasised on the early release of Kuwait prisoners of war still being held in Iraq, which has become a humanitarian issue. Payment of compensation by Iraq for the wanton and extensive destruction caused by it during their aggression on Kuwait also figured prominently in the talks, the release added. "It was agreed that the realisation of such compensation will act as a deterrence to future aggressive designs. The Kuwaiti Parliamentarians sought the help of Bangladesh for the ongoing UN compensation committee talks in Geneva," it added. The two sides discussed ways of strengthening further the friendly and brotherly ties between the two nations. During a meeting with the Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industries leaders, the two sides exchanged ideas about diversifying and expanding trade relations between the two countries. They stressed on the need to have more exchange of visits at various levels and aspects to promote trade and commerce. The FBCCI President identified various sectors where Kuwait investment can be made. The delegation which consists of Dr Abdul Muhsen Medej Al-Medej, Abdulwahab Rashed Al-Jaroon, Rashed Saif Al-Fujailan, Faisal Fahad Al-Shaya and Hussain Ali Al-Bahrani leave Dhaka today.

IT firm charged

From page 1
at Tk 60 lakh, which also is not supposed to exceed Tk 30 lakh. The cost of telephone installation was shown at Tk 37.77 lakh without mentioning the number of telephone connections," the letter said. It claimed Rasput was operating 50 telephone lines, and by considering the BTB fee for a telephone line, which is Tk 18,600, the price should be at Tk 9.30 lakh. Citing a number of such unusual discrepancies, the letter said that the SEC should formulate a technical body of experts to look into the matter and assess the actual position of the company. Failure to do so would mean irreparable damage to investors' confidence in the IT sector and very serious repercussions for a long time to come, the ISPs in the complaint warned. When asked, many stock brokers and analysts said that the regulators should have scrutinised the prospectus carefully prior to giving consent. They pointed out that there were lack of disclosures and breakdowns in the prospectus, which the SEC should have asked for. One stock market analyst said according to the prospectus the work site is at Zigatola, where the V-SAT is being installed. The site has been rented for 10 years and the company's registered office at Dhamondi is rented for five years. But the company also says that it would spend Tk 55 lakh for land procurement, development and construction. "But why when the company is making profit at the moment without having any land or building," he wondered. "Most ISPs in Bangladesh do not operate from their own building since their way of doing business is not like that of those in manufacturing business. Where is the land and building, anyway?" he asked. On the other hand, the company has made an advance amounting to Tk. 63 lakh against the land and the building. There are no details regarding area, location or procurement plan in the prospectus, he added. Though the BTB connection fee covers cable installation, it is not understood why the company claims to be requiring Tk. 69 lakh for telephone line and cable installation, he said. "Surprisingly, the company earned exactly the same amount, nothing less nothing much, by developing web pages and providing IT solutions which is very unusual," said one broker. He also pointed to the peculiar head pertaining to the risk

Move to replace Bhuiyan

From page 12
the party affairs, the sources said. Failing to convince Khaleda Zia through the JP leader, the hardliners launched a campaign against Bhuiyan, spread rumours and managed to get some reports published in some newspapers that BNP would soon have a new secretary general. Finally, a group of the hardliners met Khaleda Zia on Sunday night and suggested her to send Bhuiyan abroad for treatment and appoint an acting secretary general to run the party affairs till his fully recovery. But she told them that Bhuiyan's health condition was good. She however said Bhuiyan could go abroad for a medical check-up after her trip to Saudi Arabia. Khaleda Zia was scheduled to leave for KSA yesterday to perform Umrah at the invitation of the Saudi King. But she could not go because of flu. She is expected to leave for KSA within the next three-four days on a weeklong visit. The sources said the hardliners also planned to send one or two of their men with Khaleda Zia to convince her to replace Bhuiyan. Knowing this, she decided that no party leader should accompany her during the visit. Talking to The Daily Star, an influential senior leader among the hardliners said they are now planning to ask some prominent persons' staying in KSA to convince her. He said they are determining to replace Bhuiyan and will do everything needed for this. He claimed that the move is backed by majority of the party men, especially the young section. He said they are determining to replace Bhuiyan and will do everything needed for this. He claimed that the move is backed by majority of the party men, especially the young section. He said they are determining to replace Bhuiyan and will do everything needed for this. He claimed that the move is backed by majority of the party men, especially the young section.

Boral killing Bagerhat AL denies Helal's link

By Staff Correspondent
Bagerhat district unit of Awami League has disclaimed any involvement of party lawmaker Sheikh Helal in the killing of local AL leader Kaldas Boral. Issuing a press release on Sunday, the Bagerhat district AL also blamed the main opposition party BNP for propaganda against Sheikh Helal. It further stated that Sheikh Helal, who was in Dhaka then, rushed to Bagerhat immediately after he got the news of Boral's murder and brought out processions and observed hartal there in protest. Bagerhat district AL referred to press reports about involvement of Alamgir, a local leader of the party's youth front Jubo League, in the killing and mentioned that Alamgir was expelled from the party immediately.

Women's JS seats

From page 1
crease in the number of reserved seats and a provision for direct election to such seats. So long, women members for the reserved seats have been chosen by the ruling party although there is provision for their election by elected MPs in the next election. Rabeya Bhuiyan, who herself submitted a private members' bill on the women's reserved seats, told this correspondent that she strongly opposed the government-sponsored bill as the existing provision did not help empowerment of women. She said she suggested in the Standing Committee meeting that there should be separate constituencies for women and those should not overlap the constituencies where direct elections are held. "The JP lawmaker also proposed raising the number of such reserved seats to 100. Another BNP member on the committee, Khalequzzaman, seemed least bothered about the bill on retention of women's seats. "We have brought the bill and it is now BNP's turn to help its passage. The opposition party is free to suggest any change and the House can adopt those if it deems those fit," he said. The government and the opposition are equally responsible for protection of rights of women who constitute half of the population, he added. So far, the committee met thrice to finalise its recommendations but none of the three BNP members on the committee attended the meetings. The lone Jatiya Party (Ershad) member Rabeya Bhuiyan however attended one meeting. Sengupta hoped that BNP would give their views on the bill in the House, saying the government is ready to accommodate their views. If they skip their constitutional duties, they must be answerable to the people. BNP can't afford to ignore the issue because they will have to seek women's votes. Jamiruddin Sircar, a BNP member on the Standing Committee, said there was no discussion in his party on bill. "We cannot amend the Constitution to retain women's present share in parliament as we are boycotting the House proceedings. We do not have an early election is held," the former education minister told The Daily Star. Asked how could his party expect to amend the Constitution alone, he said, "In the next election, we'll campaign for two-thirds majority in the parliament. If we can earn that strength in the next parliament, then we can raise the number of women's reserved seats to 50/60 or whatever is needed." Replying to a question why BNP was not supporting the bill now, he said how they could go to parliament unless their four-point demand was met. Explaining BNP's brief attendance during the last session, he said, "We once went there to remind about our demand."

2 killed in road accident in Mymensingh

From our Correspondent
Mymensingh, Sept 11: Arafat Ali, 21, a medical student of Community Based Medical College, Mymensingh, and Mukul Chandra Das, a driver of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) were killed in a road accident five kilometers from Mymensingh town at Shikarika today at about 2 pm. According to reports, driver Mukul of BAU car no. Mym. Ka 357, carrying four 2nd year students of Community Based Medical College, hit a roadside tree when he lost control of his vehicle while trying to overtake.

Amit

From page 12
saving device. "The biggest challenge now is to implant the breathing aid which will come from Dobbelle Institute. But at the same time we would like to find out what is the state of Amit's nerves which have remained inactive for the last one year," said Dr Moulana Hassan of BSMMUH. Amit's life hangs in the balance as he lies connected to a ventilator (artificial breathing machine) in a paralysed state at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH) for the last one year. He suffers from worst form of paralysis caused by a wild poliovirus, which destroyed the nerves controlling his breathing and limb movement. The incidence of the disease is one in a million worldwide. Dr Hassan also said, "Since we have surplus money it would be wise to utilise the extra money for two very effective and precise tests, though the tests are expensive. One is EMG or electromyogram and the other is 'nerve conduction velocity' test." The tests combined would cost roughly Tk five lakh while a motorised wheelchair would cost another five lakh taka. An engineer would arrive in Dhaka along with the breathing pacemaker as soon as Dobbelle receives the money. Local neurosurgeons would implant the device that would keep Amit alive for the rest of his life. A handful of people in the world has received such expensive implant. And the boy who is in the centre of these frantic activities looked very excited about the promising prospects. "I should soon be moving around like you," said Amit, making no attempt to hide his hopes of a better life.

Sydney ready

From page 1
ment. "This has to be one of the most terrific community celebrations we have ever seen in our shire and I hope everyone will take this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to line the route and cheer the flame on its way," she said. Sartor said the final touches were being put to preparations for the torch's arrival in the city centre on Thursday. Australian Sprinter Melinda Gainsford-Taylor, Duel US Open champion Pat Rafter and swim legend Dawn Fraser will carry the flame towards Town Hall where Sartor will welcome IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch at a reception. "Sydney is ready," Sartor told reporters. "In case you hadn't noticed this already, it's sparkling. The banners are out, the flowers are out." The identity of the torch carrier who will light the flame at the opening ceremony remains a secret.

Kotalipara

From page 12
come to power through election. The home minister said Harkatul Jihad leader Mufi Abdul Hannan, who got arms training in Afghanistan, was engaged in the abortive bid to kill Sheikh Hasina and topple her government. Twenty-five other arrested in this connection also admitted that they were involved in the plot, he said. Nasim also blasted two senior lawyers of the Supreme Court for sheltering Jatiya Party leader Jahangir Mohamad Adel, accused in a sedition case, in the High Court building. "Nasim bitterly criticised BNP MP Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury for escorting Adel to the High Court, Chowdhury might have sheltered Adel when he was hiding, Nasim alleged."

Prof Kabir Chy declared persona non grata by Khulna imams

From Staff Correspondent
KHULNA, Sept 11: Khulna Zila Imam Parishad declared national professor Kabir Chowdhury persona non grata in Khulna for his alleged 'insolent' remarks against Islam. Declaring him Murtad, the Imam Parishad leaders demanded his immediate arrest and exemplary punishment. According to Imam Parishad, Prof Kabir Chowdhury preferred 'Joi Bangla' slogan to saying 'Bismillah' before starting speech at any function in Bangladesh. He allegedly made this remark while addressing a function at chief guest at Khulna University on Saturday. Kabir Chowdhury came to Khulna to attend a grand function being held at Chuknagar under Durumia thana in memory of those who laid down their lives during the War of Liberation in 1971. Held at the official residence of the Leader of the Opposition, the meeting was attended by Standing Committee members Khandaker Dewhar Hossain, Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Barrister Aminul Islam, Salahuddin Qader Chowdhury, Anwar Zahid and Nazrul Islam Khan.

US Open

From page 1
attack. "It reminded me of myself when I was 19 and came here and won for the first time," said Sampras, the Grand Slam career champion with 13 titles. "The way he's playing, he's the future of the game. I didn't feel old. I felt I was standing next to a big dude." Sampras fits the description. He is 6-foot-4 (1.93 meters), equipped with a big serve so necessary in modern tennis and all the other tools that go with it. He can whistle shots at 136 mph (219 kph), the way he did at Sampras. And he can pass and lob and kiss the sidelines with returns.

Rangpur AL

From page 12
at Mahasthan Gar in Bogra district which was followed by five more way-side meetings in Gobindaganj and Palashbari upazilas in Gaibandha district and Pirganj, Mithiapukur and sadar upazilas in Rangpur district. Ershad will address a public meeting at Rangpur Public Library ground at 3 pm tomorrow. Tension was mounting in the district town as Awami League activists will also gather at the same venue to stage anti-Ershad demonstrations on the same day.



Members of Dhaka Indian Women's Association (DIWA) presenting a cheque for Tk 70,000- to Dr Sultana S Zaman, General Secretary of Bangladesh Protebondhi Foundation (BPF) on Sunday.