

What's on today....

Poster exhibition: Alliance Française de Dhaka will present a poster exhibition titled *L'architecture Française*. Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Road. Time: 9.00 am-12.00 noon & 5.00 pm-8.00 pm.

PGA conference: People's Global Action will inaugurate its two-day long regional conference. Venue: Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University's Dr Shahid Moin Hall. Time: 10.00 am.

Discussion meeting: Swadesh Chinta Shangkha will hold a discussion meeting. Topic of discussion will be on Abu Sayeed Ayub's *Poverty Shes Kothay*. Keynote speaker: Anjadul Hossain. Venue: House No 25B, Rd No 1, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 10.00 am.

Painting exhibition: Shilpangan presents a 12-day long solo painting exhibition by Shahabuddin Ahmad to mark his 50th birthday. Venue: Shilpangan, House No 25, Rd No 5, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5.30 pm.

Film show: Alliance Française de Dhaka will screen two French movies *Les dames du bois de Boulogne* and *Ma vie en rose*. Venue: Auditorium of Alliance Française de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Road. Time: 10.30 am & 6.00 pm.

Reunion: Srot Abritee Sangsad will hold a day long reunion programme to mark its 10th founding anniversary. Venue: Allipon auditorium of Circuit House. Time: From 11.00 am.

Meeting: Committee for Celebration of the 50th anniversary of the People's Revolution of China will hold a meeting. Venue: In front of (Paribesh Bhaban) Environment Building at Agar-gaon BNP Bazar. Time: 4.00 pm.

Discussion meeting: Founder of Pranab Math O Bharat Shebasram Sangha will hold a discussion meeting on "Jugacharya Swami Pranababonoda". Venue: 12, KM Das Lane, Tikatuli. Time: 4.00 pm.

Discussion meeting: Tamoddun Majlish will hold a discussion on the 53rd anniversary of publishing of "Pakistane Roshidhahsha Bangla na Urdu" the first book on the Language Movement. Venue: Central office premises at 141, New Circular Road, Magbazar. Time: 5.00 pm.

Theatre: Zivankathi will make an experimental presentation of *Shushutitha* by Rabindranath Tagore. Venue: Natnand, D1 premises. Time: 7.00 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Seminar: A seminar will be held on "Save Our Sky: Protect Yourself, Protect the Ozone Layer". Chief guest: Minister for Environment and Forest Sveda Sajeda Chowdhury. Venue: Ballroom, Hotel Sheraton. Time: 9.30 am.

Reception: Movement to Uphold Standard of Education and Prevent Copying will accord a reception to Workers Party General Secretary Rashed Khan Menon. Chief guest: President of Gono Forum Dr Kamal Hossain. Venue: National Sports Complex auditorium, 62, 3 Purana Pallan. Time: 3.00 pm.

BPS prize distribution: Bangladesh Photographic Society will hold the prize distribution ceremony of its recently held annual BPS competition 1999. Venue: BPS premises, 63/2 Laboratory Road. Time: 4.30 pm.

Meeting: Movement for Quota Free and Duty Free Export of Garments to USA will hold a meeting to press for their various demands. Venue: RAOVA Club, DOHS. Time: 5.00 pm.

Weather

No change in temperature

Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions may experience warm and humid weather in next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met office said light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Chittagong division and at one or two places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions during the period.

It said day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 34.0 degree Celsius at Dinajpur and the lowest 24.0 degree Celsius at Kishoreganj.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.02 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.45 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 | 32.4 | 27.8 | 67 | 75 |
| Chittagong | 33.0 | 24.8 | 72 | 78 |
| Rajshahi | 31.4 | 25.9 | 81 | 93 |
| Kishoreganj | 32.0 | 24.0 | 97 | |
| Barisal | 31.5 | 25.5 | 97 | 83 |
| Sylhet | 31.2 | 25.5 | 92 | 80 |
| Cox's Bazar | 31.8 | 25.2 | 75 | 87 |



Over 200 leaders and activists of Nawabganj thana Awami League, Jatiya Party and Workers' Party led by Dr Sirajul Islam and Adv M Ismail joined the BNP on Thursday. BNP central leader and MP of Dhaka-2 constituency Abdul Mannan welcomed the newcomers to the party fold at a simple ceremony.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY EGIS-II

(Environment and Geographical Information System
Support Project - Phase II)

Applications are invited from Bangladesh nationals for the position stated below under the Environment and GIS Support Project for Water Sector Planning (EGIS-II), a foreign-aided project engaged in water sector planning currently under the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of Bangladesh. In addition to support for WARPO, EGIS-II has plans to become an independent center for environment and GIS activities:

Junior Accountant

The Junior Accountant will be working closely with the Director. Administration and Finance. Minimum experience: 3 to 5 years preferably in foreign organizations. Educational background: Masters degree in Accounting or related disciplines. Must have excellent computer skills. Experience in the use of accounting software particularly, EXACT shall be an added advantage. Desired candidate should be capable in organizing, preparing and maintaining financial and personnel accounting records independently. Apart from these, candidates having experience in time and project management are highly preferred. Excellent command of spoken and written English is necessary.

Interested applicants are invited to send their full resume within September 28, 2000 along with a recent photo to the Director, Administration and Finance, EGIS-II, House 49, Road 27, Banani, Dhaka-1213.

Women candidates are especially encouraged to apply.

* No walk-in interview is allowed. Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview. Any direct or indirect approach will result in immediate disqualification.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina making her valedictory speech at the 19th Session of 7th Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

ICE Convention 2000 on October 27

Institute of Childhood Education (ICE) in collaboration with ICE-Alumni Club will hold a day-long convention 2000 at the ICE premises beginning from 8.30 am on October 27, says a press release.

All ex-trainees and interested KG teachers and mothers have been requested to collect the registration card from the ICE office at House No 19, Road No 13A, Dhanmondi by October 15.

The convention will continue all day and will cover problems and other issues of early childhood education.



Prof Jamilur Reza gets SEED award

By Staff Correspondent

Former advisor to the caretaker government and chief of the committee for formulating National Information Technology Prof. Jamilur Reza Chowdhury has been awarded the prestigious Rotary SEED Award for 2000 for his outstanding contribution in the country's IT sector.

This was announced at a press conference organised by Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka (RCMD) at a local hotel yesterday.

The award includes Taka one lakh in cash, a 25-gram pure gold medal. The recipient is given every year to a living Bangladeshi for his outstanding contribution to Science, Education and Economic Development (SEED) that has benefited Bangladesh. Dr Muhammad Ahsan, a past president of the club told reporters.

The award will be formally handed over to Prof. Reza at a ceremony tomorrow at 7.00 pm at Hotel Sheraton. Chief Justice Latifur Rahman will hand over the award as the chief guest.

Prof. Muhammad Yunus of Grameen Bank, Prof. Shafiullah, Founder Director of Institute of Business Administration (IBA) of Dhaka University, Fazle Hossain Abed of BRAC and Prof. Abdullah Abu Sayeed of Biswa Sahitya Kendro were the past recipients of the award.

Former MPA dead

Alhaj Muhammad Sirajuddin, a former member of provincial assembly (MPA) and acting mayor of Dhaka, died of old age complications at National Medical Hospital in the city yesterday morning. He was 77, reports BSS.

Also an eminent social worker and sports organiser, Alhaj Muhammad Sirajuddin left behind his four sons, three daughters.

Greatest gala

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Sydney-siders too have had their fair share of inconvenience with transport disruption and spiralling costs.

Mistakes have been made - the decision to put Rome's Colosseum on the medals instead of Greece's Acropolis may have raised chuckles from many but was not well-received in Greece - the home of the Ancient Games.

But finally swimming pools, athletics tracks, football fields and gymnastic apparatus will fill the TV screens instead of committee rooms, construction sites and lobby briefings in luxury hotels.

The track and field is traditionally the mainstay of the Games but for the first week the swimming pool is the focal point and for many Australians it is the aquatic sports that are all-important.

Home heroes such as Ian Thorpe, Susie O'Neill, Kieren Perkins and Michael Klim will vie for supremacy with a strong American team featuring the likes of Jenny Thompson and Lenny Krayzelburg although Dutch pair Pieter van den Hoogenband and Inge de Bruijn and South Africa's Penny Heyns might also share the limelight.

On the track the hopes of a nation rest with Cathy Freeman

in the 200m and 400m.

Freeman is favourite for the longer distance where her principal rival is France's reigning champion Marie-Jose Perce.

Freeman is more than an Australian. She is an Aborigine and an icon for the host nation's indigenous community whose historic plight has only recently been recognised.

The likely individual star of the Games is American sprinter Marion Jones, going for five gold medals in the 100m, 200m, long jump, 4x100m and 4x400m.

American Maurice Greene is

not favourite for the men's 100m - the blue riband event of the games.

Other likely track stars include Ethiopia's Gebrselassie in the 10,000m and Morocco's Hicham El Guerrouj in the 1500m.

The minority sports such as synchronised swimming, beach volleyball, taekwondo and triathlon will enjoy their place in the sun.

And a family of 200 competing nations - and a forecasted 3.7 billion television viewers - should ensure that excellence, drama and diversity enjoy three weeks in the limelight before the intrigue and horse-trading resumes when the Games close on October 1.

Speaker embarrassed

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for consideration of their passage.

The bills include one that seeks punishment for not hanging the portrait of Father of the Nation at the offices of government, semi-government and autonomous bodies and educational institutions.

It suggests a three-month jail term or a fine of Tk 10,000 or both for defying the proposed law that also seeks such punishment for making indecent remarks about Father of the Nation or defaming him.

BNP's Abdul Mannan sponsored the two other bills - one seeking amendments to the CRPC and the other to the Civil Courts Act. He was not present in the House.

Akhteruzzaman tried in vain to make it an issue while requesting the Speaker to leave the matter to the House. "Once the bills are included in the agenda, these are property of the House. You cannot withdraw it, only those who moved the bills can do so," Akhter said.

But the Speaker said it was his prerogative to withdraw the bills. "Withdrawal from the agenda and withdrawal from the House are not the same thing," he argued.

Later, Health Minister Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim rose to come in aid of the Speaker. "This is entirely the Speaker's prerogative to remove the bills from the agenda,"

Finding the bill titled Preservation and Exhibition of the Portrait of Father of the Nation Act, 2000 on the day's agenda, Akhter brought in the House newspaper files to show that sponsor of the bill Dewan Farid Gazi joined the Cabinet of Khandakar Mushatq Ahmed after the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

He also sought in writing the Chair's permission to speak on the bill. As Akhter tried to speak on the matter, the Speaker advised him to go

through the newspaper.

His attempt failed, the BNP MP exhibited the ruling party members pages from the newspapers that showed Dewan Farid Gazi taking oath in the Mushatq Cabinet.

Hearing of Adel's bail petition on Sunday

By Court Correspondent

The hearing of Jahangir Mohammad Adel's bail petition in a session case has been fixed on Sunday by the Metropolitan Court of Sessions, Dhaka yesterday.

Adel, a former Deputy Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation and leader of Jatiya Party, was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail after the CMMs Court rejected his bail prayer on Wednesday.

Adel's bail prayer was moved by his lawyer T M Akbar at about 9.30 am yesterday.

The court inspector Shah Alam opposed the bail prayer saying that the documents from the lower court were yet to reach the MCS. After hearing both the sides, the court fixed September 17 for hearing the bail prayer.

Adel is facing sedition charge as Pakistani national flag was hoisted atop his house in the city on August 14, national day of that country.

Adel had surrendered before the High Court on September 10 and prayed for bail.

He spent the night at the chamber of his lawyer at the HC building to avoid arrest as the bail prayer could not be heard on that day because of time constraint. The court on Monday ordered him to surrender before the CMM's Court.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Shalendra Kumar Adhikari on Wednesday ordered the jail authorities to give him first class division in jail. He also ordered return of Adel's movable property, attached on September 7 on a court order.



Renowned music composer Sheikh Saadi Khan playing a new cassette by singer Irfat Ara Nargis at the launching ceremony of her new solo album at the National Press Club yesterday.

Hasina asks AL MPs to take preparations for election

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has asked her party lawmakers to strengthen the party at grassroots level and take preparations for next general elections, reports UNB.

Addressing a meeting of Awami League Parliamentary Party at Sangsad Bhaban yesterday, she urged the MPs to project before the people the country's socio-economic development that has taken place in last four and a half years.

She asked her party MPs to work for strengthening the party and solve all intra-party conflicts at local units.

She advised the lawmakers to stand beside the people at the time of distress.

Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah and party MPs attended the meeting.

President

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world leaders including UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, US President Bill Clinton, British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, on the sidelines of the UN meet.

She said she presented a keynote paper in a debate on "Women Shaping Globalisation", organised jointly by State of the World Forum and UNIFEM.

Hasina said she was conferred honorary degree "Doctor of Humane Letters" by the Bridgeport University of Connecticut for her struggle for democracy and peace.

Mayor of Bridgeport City declared September 5 as Sheikh Hasina Day.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed appreciated the Prime Minister for her success in the UN Millennium Summit.

Gunman

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goods including 42 match boxes, a heater plate with wires and 7 Indian coins.

Army experts handed these over to police for producing before the court as evidence.

Three cases were filed against the gunman under Arms Act, Explosive Act and Public Safety Act.

If convicted the gunman will face capital punishment, police said. Police sources said despite interrogation the motive behind the hostage drama still remained unclear.

BTV to telecast live opening of Olympics

Bangladesh Television will telecast live the finals of a number of events of Sydney Olympics, including the inaugural and concluding ceremonies, reports UNB.

Finals of soccer, tennis, badminton, hockey, volleyball, boxing, table tennis, swimming and athletics are expected to be broadcast through satellite, said a BTV press release.

The inaugural session will go on air at 1.45 pm today.

BTV will also telecast the highlights of the biggest sports carnival twice a day at 1.00 pm and 10.30 pm.

Sylhet hartal

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was also addressed by former Sylhet paurashava chairman A F M Kamal, town BNP president Ahsa Reza Chowdhury and general secretary Nasim Hossain.

The speakers demanded immediate withdrawal of the Airbus Purchase Case against Khaleda, Saifur and others. The case was lodged with an evil motive, they said.

A rally was held at the Madhuban Point in the afternoon with Sylhet district BNP president M A Haque in the chair.

The government has become unbalanced and started filing false cases against BNP leaders, they added.

PHA 2000

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and Sanitation Project of Proshika told the press.

"Health-news of mufassil-dwellers do not feature prominently in the national dailies. We are endeavouring hard to involve both the electronic and print media on public health issues", M. Noman, Director of the Development Organisation for the Rural Poor (DORP) opined.

"The genesis of PHA can be traced back to 1985 as a challenge to the prevailing western notion about health practices. It revived the traditional health customs of Third World Countries and combined the regional approach with the universal We take pride in informing you that on September 23, the global secretariat of PHA 2000 will shift to Dhaka", Mr. Noman informed the press.

The assembly will promote the development of health systems that are equitable, inclusive and of high quality, thereby benefiting all, particularly poor and under-privileged citizens.

Traditional system of knowledge and health would be emphasized in the conference. Similarly the PHA 2000 would uphold the use of indigenous medicinal herbs and plants instead of the million dollar drug business, proper preservation of forest and harvest-products, maintenance of the symbioses within the ecosystem, reducing social inequity and empowerment of the marginal classes.

Khaleda performs Umrah

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia performed Umrah in Makkah Wednesday night on the first day of her 10-day visit to Saudi Arabia, reports UNB.

Khaleda, a royal guest of Saudi King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, performed the ritual under state management, a BNP press release said here yesterday.

After performing Umrah, she prayed to the Almighty for continued peace and progress of Bangladesh and its people as well as for the Muslim Umrah.

A large number of expatriate Bangladeshis also performed Umrah with her.

Young man

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Selimi, 16, son of Abdus Satter, was a resident of 10, Bhajohari Shahar Street at Narinda.

The gang of about ten, led by one Masum, appeared in front of Selim while he was having conversation with his friends at about 12.45 pm, police said.

Witnesses said, the miscreants encircled Selim and then chopped him. To be sure about his death, they also shot him and left the place leaving him seriously injured. The victim died on the spot.

The killing was a sequel to previous enmity among the miscreants, according to the FIR filed with the police.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Victim's father Abdus Satter filed a case with Sutrapur thana accusing Masum and ten others for the killing but none was arrested till last night.

New lease

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ommendations. The committee also sent a copy of its recommendations to the Establishment Ministry.

Earlier, the Public Administration Reforms Committee also recommended for the extension of retirement age from 57 to 60 years on the ground that life expectancy in the country has risen.

The government of Khaleda Zia extended the age-limit for entry into government services from 27 to 30 years while the Ershad government raised the retirement age from 55 to 57 years.

A health ministry official said they are not concerned at the crisis. "There are many other issues we have to look into," the official said seeking anonymity.

There are five local pharmaceutical companies which manufacture and import IV fluids.

PM

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consideration, which will hopefully be done shortly.

Referring to JP leader Jahangir Mohammad Adel's taking shelter in the High Court premises she said, "What will happen if all the terrorists take shelter in the court premises? How terrorism can be checked in such a situation?"

The Prime Minister noted with satisfaction that the country not only achieved self-sufficiency in food but also produced a surplus last financial year. Inflation has been kept at 2.7 per cent. Export rose 23 per cent.

She admitted problem in the power sector where the demand is increasing everyday. But there were some willful faults and attempt of sabotage," she alleged.

Hospital

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cent dextrose in water (about four lake bags), dextrose saline (about 3.5 lake bags) and cholera saline (about four lake bags per year).

A source at the plant said its production capacity is gradually going down. It now produces about 7,000 bags of IV fluid a day (four days a week) as against more than 9000 bags earlier.

During spot visits to several city hospitals, it was found that most of the patients were asked to buy IV fluid on their own. On an average, each saline bag costs between Tk 55 and Tk 75 in the market.

But in some medicine shops near the hospitals, it was found that the retailers were making more than 40 to 50 per cent profit taking advantage of the crisis.

"Prices of the saline bags are higher at night when patients require those on an emergency basis. Those who suffer from body fluid loss and kidney ailment require saline most," said one doctor at DMCH.

A 500 ml saline bag produced at the IPH plant costs Tk 21 while a one litre bag costs Tk 30.

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QUEENS UNIVERSITY

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Oxfam

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES, OXFAM SOUTH ASIA

Oxfam GB requires two Senior Managers with substantial management experience preferably gained in humanitarian work, a good grasp of development/humanitarian issues in the South Asia context, strong representational abilities and a demonstrated commitment to addressing gender and diversity issues.

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