

News

What's on today....

Biennial conference: Dhaka City Rickshaw Sramik League (DCRSL) will hold its biennial conference. Chief guest: Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Mohammad Hanif. Venue: WAPDA auditorium. Time: 3.00 pm.

Seminar: Bangladesh Arthanit Samity will hold a seminar on "Disparity, Corruption and Unrest in Education in Bangladesh in the light of the 21st century." Venue: Planning and Development Academy auditorium, Nukhet. Time: 3.00 pm.

Memorial meeting: Altaf Mahmud Sangeet Bidyaniketan will hold a memorial meeting on Shaheed Altaf Mahmud. Venue: Pallima Sangsad premises, Khilgaon. Time: 4.00 pm.

Launching ceremony: Society for Environment and Human Development (SEHD) will hold launching ceremony of its new publications "Bangladesh Jounota Bikri : Jiboner Dame Kena Jibika and The Chittagong Hill Tracts : Life and Nature at Risk." Venue: VIP Lounge of National Press Club, 18 Topkhana Road. Time: 4.00 pm.

Film show: High Commission of India will screen "Kahina Pyar Hat" starring Hritik Roshan and Amisha Patel. Venue: High Commission auditorium, House No 25, Road No 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6.15 pm.

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

Meeting: The general meeting of Dhaka-Rajshahi Customs, Excise and VAT Executive Officers Association will be held. Venue: Engineers Institution, Dhaka. Time: 10.00 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 Paltan. Time: 3.00 pm.

Concluding ceremony: The concluding ceremony of the folklore festival at Indian Cultural Centre will be held. Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.00 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: RAOWA Club, DOHS. Time: 5.00 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Seminar: Shobar Jonno Shasthya (Health for All) will hold a seminar on "Tetanus." Kenote speaker: Dr Shahin Ara Begum, Infectious Diseases Hospital (Mohakhal). Venue: Gano Shasthya Nagar Hospital, 14/E, Rd No 6, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5.30 pm.

Film show: High Commission of India will screen "Udhbar Ke Zindagi." Venue: High Commission auditorium, House No 25, Rd No 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6.15 pm.

Spanish film session: Zahir Raihan Film Society will hold a five-day Spanish film session. Venue: German Cultural Institute. Time: 5 pm & 7 pm.

Weather

Light rain likely

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

Moderately heavy falls is expected at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions. Met office said predicting slight fall in day temperature during the period.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 34.0 degree Celsius at Sylhet and the lowest 23.8 degree Celsius at Hatia.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.01 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.46 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	
Dhaka	32.2	27.1	79	98
Chittagong	32.1	25.0	72	79
Rajshahi	32.2	25.7	87	92
Khulna	33.0	25.0	84	79
Barisal	31.5	25.5	78	92
Sylhet	29.9	24.6	92	95
Cox's Bazar	--	25.5	--	--

INDO-BANGLA TRADE DISCUSSION WITH EXPORTER-IMPORTER OF INDIA

B K Kumar, President of Bengal National Chamber of Commerce of Industry, Calcutta (1st from left), C M Koyes Sami, President & Managing Director of AB Bank (2nd from left), Allama Siddiqui (3rd from left), Syed Manzurul Islam, First Secretary of Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Calcutta (4th from left) and Zahid Hossain Chowdhury, Country Manager of AB Bank, India (5th from left) seen in the picture in the open discussion on Indo-Bangla Trade held recently at Calcutta which was organised by Arab Bangladesh Bank Limited.

THIRD ROUND TABLE HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT APPRAISAL SYSTEM

The third roundtable on "Human Resource Management and Development : Appraisal System" was held at the Rapport seminar hall in the city recently. The roundtable was organised by Rapport Bangladesh Limited in association with GrameenPhone.



Visitors admiring a painting by artist Shahabuddin Ahmad at his solo exhibition that opened at the Shilpangan Gallery yesterday. The exhibition is being held as part of the celebrations to mark the renowned artist's 50th birthday.

— Star photo

Law on abandoned property affects all citizens alike

Chief Justice says at book launching ceremony

Chief Justice Latifur Rahman yesterday said the law on abandoned property is an important piece of legislation that not only affects the aliens but also the citizens alike, reports UNB.

The law is the offspring of the 1971 Independence War," the Chief Justice said at the launching ceremony of a book titled "Law of Abandoned Property (revised edition)" yesterday.

Law Commission member Justice Nayimuddin Ahmed, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association Barrister Mainul Hossain and author of the book MI Farouqi also spoke at the function chaired by M Mohsen Rashid at CIRDAP auditorium.

Observing that there are few

books on legal issues in our country written by lawyers or judges, the Chief Justice stressed the need for more such books by the lawyers on legal issues as well as human right problems.

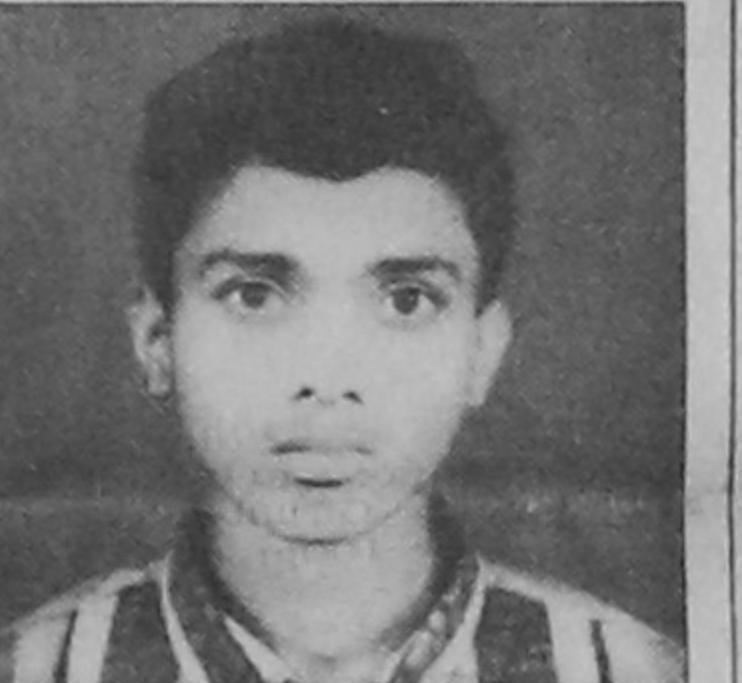
"Both as lawyers and judges, we seldom write books on legal subjects. This culture and habit is to be developed because it is the eminent lawyers and judges who are most capable persons to write on legal subjects," he said.

The Chief Justice, however, hoped that the lawyers of eminence would also write books on contemporary legal problems and issues such as human rights problems, reform of prisons and improvement of police administration.

MI Farouqi said that law of abandoned property is basically an administrative law. And administrative law by turn is part of the constitutional law.

— Star photo

Congratulations



Rabiu wants to be a Chartered Accountant

From Our Correspondent SATKHIRA, Sept 15: Rabiu Islam of Tala Shahid Muktijoddha College has stood 12th in the combined merit list of Commerce Group under Jessor Board.

He obtained 831 marks with distinctions in two subjects.

Rabiu is the son of Surat Ali Gazi and Hamida Begum from Pania village in Kaliganj upazila.

Rabiu had no private tutors to help him in his studies. He likes to read books in leisure and wants to be a Chartered Accountant in future.

He said, "We will test water samples for arsenic with spectrophotometer at Tk 300 per test and also use the laboratory for

New water testing laboratory set up

By Staff Correspondent

NGO Forum has launched a water quality testing laboratory at its Lalmatta office premises in the city recently.

The laboratory, set up mainly to test arsenic in tubewell water, has been built at a cost of about Tk 30 lakh provided by DANIDA. It can carry out up to 30 tests a day.

NGO Forum is an apex body of small non-government organisations and community based organisations (CBOs) working in water and sanitation field.

The School of Environmental Studies (SOES) of Jadavpur, India will provide technical assistance and its Director Dr Dipankar Chakraborty will work with the project, one of the biggest in the country, in the domain of arsenic mitigation.

We have the best technologies with all modern equipment as well as laboratory technicians but time would tell how good the laboratory is. Nevertheless, we are trying to get international recognition," Dr Abu Hasnat Milton, Chief of Arsenic Cell of the Forum said.

"We will test water samples for arsenic with spectrophotometer at Tk 300 per test and also use the laboratory for

verifying water quality in our project areas."

"In fact," Dr Milton said, "the idea of the laboratory is to provide safe water to our clients through regular monitoring."

The laboratory facilities include tests for all sources of bacteria and pathogens. It also has facilities to test for fluoride, nitrate, nitrite, bi-carbonate, sodium, potassium, calcium, pH balance, turbidity in water.

NGO Forum has also taken up action research programme on Rain Water Harvesting in Rajshahi and currently working on a two-bucket system to evaluate the bucket treatment unit in Ghor of Manikganj district.

The Forum has so far tested 20,056 tubewells and found about 23 per cent of them contaminated by groundwater arsenic.

The Forum has a network of more than 530 grassroots NGOs and CBOs through which it works for a safe water operation in the country, one of the biggest in South Asia.

"We have taken up the laboratory project in view of the number one environmental (groundwater arsenic contamination) problem in the country," S M A Rashid, Director of the Forum, said.

The Forum has a network of more than 530 grassroots NGOs and CBOs through which it works for a safe water operation in the country, one of the biggest in South Asia.

Princes and politicians joined boxing legend Muhammad Ali, Bill Clinton's daughter Chelsea and the world's richest man Bill Gates for Australia's big night out on the world stage.

The showbiz spectacular at the opening ceremony took the crowd on a musical journey through time from its Aboriginal origins 40,000 years ago to its cosmopolitan present as a melting pot of immigrants from around the globe.

A lone horseman led a cavalry charge of 120 stockmen in a flamboyant opening florish.

Then the sky became the sea as 13-year-old Nikki Webster soared above the arena on a high wire to "swim" through divers, exotic fish and giant pink jellyfish in a sequence that epitomised Australians' love affair with the ocean.

To the sound of a didgeridoo, hundreds of Aborigines filled the arena for a dance of reconciliation and spiritual cleansing in a country still haunted by the injustices of the past.

And there was a huge cheer for the four athletes from the ravaged territory of East Timor marching behind the Olympic flag.

Leading them was boxer Victor Ramos, who fled for his life into the mountains during last year's killing spree by pro-Indonesian militia.

They danced for joy and punched the air, blowing kisses to the appreciative crowd.

The roar was deafening when the entire Australian team poured into the stadium and in a gentle note of self-mockery, threw stuffed toy kangaroos into the crowd to cries of "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie!"

Others wrapped in flags and clutching beer bottles and cans gashed out at the water and listened to the sounds from loudspeakers set at intervals along the quay.

Down by the waterside at Sydney's Darling Harbour, a crowd of around 12,000 packed into Tumbalong Park to watch the ceremony on a big screen.

Others wrapped in flags and clutching beer bottles and cans gashed out at the water and listened to the sounds from loudspeakers set at intervals along the quay.

He was suffering from old age complications.

Dr Ahmed is survived by his wife, two daughters, four sons and grandchildren. He hailed from Sonagazi of Feni district.

International Ozone Day today

International Ozone Day will be observed today with a firm commitment to protect environment, reports BSS.

In a message on occasion, President Shahabuddin Ahmed said the impact of depletion of ozone layer is more or less spread over all the countries of the world depending on their location.

He pointed out that Bangladesh falls within the impact zone of the ozone layer depletion and protection of it is of utmost necessity in ensuring the existence of plants and animals in the world.

Bangladesh, the President said, is a signatory to the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the ozone layer and has been working towards its effective implementation.

In a similar message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said her government is firm to protect environment and it had signed a number of protocols and conventions including the Montreal Protocol to achieve this goal.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest with support from UNDP has already chalked out an elaborate programme to observe the day. A day-long seminar has been organised today at 9.30 am where Environment Minister Sajeda Chowdhury will be the chief guest. State Minister for Environment H N Ashiquur Rahman, UNDP Resident Representative Jorgen Lissner and Environment Secretary Mamun Ur Rashid will address it.

Chairman of Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) Quamrul Islam Chowdhury called upon the government to phase out ozone depleting substances side by side with raising the issue globally so that Bangladesh could secure international support as an affected country.

Underpinning improving relations between India and the United States are blossoming links in trade, especially those born out of the information technology revolution.

As partners on "every digital map" the United States and India should work to find new ways of fighting poverty, illiteracy, hunger, disease and pollution," he said.

Striking a familiar theme often taken up by leaders of developing nations in Asia, he suggested the world's financial system was biased in favour of the rich.

A situation that provides comfortable living standards to one-third of the world's population, but condemns the remaining two-thirds to poverty and want, is unsustainable," he said.

The prime minister spent

Reception accorded to meritorious SSC students

Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Mohammad Hanif yesterday asked the students to acquire morals side by side with their institutional education, reports BSS.

Speaking at a reception accorded to the meritorious students who secured positions in the merit list in this year's Secondary School Certificate Examination at Bangladesh Shishu Academy, Hanif described the students as the future driving force of the nation.

He expressed the hope that the students would make contributions to building the nation by dedicating themselves to the services of the country with their talent, wisdom and sagacity.

Organised by the Dhaka Jibon Foundation, the function was addressed, among others, by State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Prof. Zinnatunnesa Talukder, Ward Commissioner Sabera Begum and Director of Shishu Academy Golam Kibria.

Later the Mayor distributed crests and certificates among 37 meritorious students as recognition of their brilliant academic performance.

Aktheruzzaman

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liament during the long boycott.

Party sources mentioned that Akther was suspended and served with show cause notices four times in the past on charges of activities that embarrassed the party.

When contacted last night, Aktheruzzaman said he received a letter regarding his expulsion from the party. "Yes, I have received a letter containing the decision taken by the party and accepted it."