

## News

## What's on today....

**CPD workshop:** Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) in association with Centre for Trade Policy and Law (CTPL) of Canada will inaugurate a 3-day long Policy Appreciation Workshop on "WTO and Bangladesh". Chief guest: Minister for Industry Totau Ahmed. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium, 17 Topkhana Road. Time: 9:30-10:30 am.

**Prize distribution ceremony:** The prize distribution ceremony of Begum Badrunnessa Government Women's College will be held to mark the conclusion of its Education and Cultural Week 2000. Chief guest: State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed. Venue: Auditorium of Shishu Academy. Time: 11:00 am.

**Print exhibition:** The first solo exhibition of A Rahman will be inaugurated. Venue: Zainul Gallery of Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. Time: 4:00 pm.

**Seminar:** Health for All (Shobor Jonno Shashito) will hold a seminar on "Alternative Food for Babies: National and International Guidelines for Marketing Control". Keynote speaker: Dr Sumaiya Hossain, Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation. Venue: Gano Shasthaya Nagar Hospital. House No 14/E, Rd No 6, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5:30 pm.

**CIS seminar:** Centre for International Studies (CIS) will hold a seminar and the launching ceremony as an approved Centre of Institute of Business Administration, UK. Venue: IDB auditorium. Time: 6:00 pm.

**Discussion:** Bangladesh Chhatra Federation (BCF) will hold a discussion on "Present Scenario of Education: Socio-economic Perspective". Prof Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Prof Ann Muhammad and Fazlul Hakim will take part in the discussion. Venue: DUCSU cafeteria, DU campus. Time: 4:30 pm.

**Award giving ceremony:** Monajatuddin Shishu Kishore Sangsritik Smriti Sangsads has organised a ceremony to give away Monajatuddin Gold Medal 2000. A discussion meeting and a cultural function will also be held on the occasion. Venue: PHED auditorium, 14, Shaheed Captain Mansur Ali Sarani, Kakrail. Time: 4:15 pm.

## ..... and tomorrow .....

**Discussion meeting:** Ex-students of Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University will hold a discussion meeting on Durga Puja. Chief guest: Provost of Jagannath Hall Dr Durgadas Bhattacharya. Venue: Praying room of the hall. Time: 6:00 pm.

## Weather

## Moderate rain likely

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

Day temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country during the period. Met office said.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 34.0 degree Celsius was at Chittagong and the lowest 22.5 degree Celsius at Sayedpur.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:53 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:48 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City	Town	Temperature		Humidity in Celsius	
		Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka		31.1	25.1	70	96
Chittagong		34.0	24.6	85	80
Rajshahi		27.7	23.2	98	93
Khulna		31.4	23.6	90	83
Barisal		32.5	25.0	87	86
Sylhet		31.0	25.5	83	79
Cox's Bazar		33.0	25.7	81	91

## HERE and THERE

## BAAS

By DU Correspondent

Prof Niaz Zaman, President of Bangladesh Association of American Studies (BAAS) and chairperson, the Department of English of Dhaka University, yesterday handed over a set of books to Vice Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury for the Department of American Studies.

Among others, Pro VC Prof Shahidat Ali, and Director General of Bangla Academy Prof Syed Anwar Hossain were present on the occasion.

## Sangbadik forum

A nine-member city committee of Bangladesh Manabdhikar Sangbadik Forum was formed here yesterday with Towhidul Islam (Inglab) and Mohsinul Karim Lebit (Muktakhantha) as president and general secretary respectively, a press release said yesterday, reports BSS.

The committee was formed in a meeting at its office premises, the release added.

It was presided over by advisor of the Forum Abdul Aziz.

## Opposition

From page 1

meeting only if the BNP Chairperson agrees," JP Presidium member Kazi Firoz Rashid told this correspondent.

"I do not see any reason to call a hartal now," said IOJ leader ARM Abdul Matin. "I think it will be unwise to call a hartal without any major issue."

He said the alliance should now step up its mass contact to mobilise public support before going for tough action programmes against the government.

Assistant Secretary General of Jamaat Mohammad Kamaruzzaman said there is proposal for calling a hartal centering the kidnapping of a Laxmipur district BNP leader but no decision has been taken as yet.

"I do not find any valid reason to call a hartal in an isolated way."

BNP sources said the party has planned a series of public meetings, demonstrations and mass processions. It has also suggested holding of joint public meetings of the four parties in greater districts in the coming months.

They also said other components of the alliance have also agreed to hold such meetings to be addressed by Khaleda Zia, HM Ershad, Golam Azam and Azizul Haq at Comilla, Dinajpur, Sylhet, Noakhali, Barisal and Faridpur in phases.

A senior BNP leader said they plan to hold joint meeting at Comilla, Dinajpur, Sylhet and Noakhali next month. Dates of the meetings will be announced from the Mymensingh meeting.

Meanwhile, alliance sources said preparations have been completed for making tomorrow's joint meeting a grand success. Many central leaders of the four parties are already at the Mymensingh meeting.

The White House was under pressure from lawmakers in Congress to release oil from the 571-million-barrel reserve created after the 1973 Arab oil embargo. Some lawmakers said OPEC had gouged consumers because the cartel did not increase production enough to replenish low petroleum stocks.

**Qulhwani**  
Aminul Haq, ex-superintendent engineer of PWD, died on September 22 at the age of 74, says a press release.

He is survived by his wife, one son and two daughters. His name is Jamai-e-Janaza will be held at his residence at House-59/B, Road-27(Old), Dhanmondi at 10 am on September 25.

His qulhwani will be held at his residence after Asr prayers on September 26.

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Qulhwani of Abdul Manan, a former deputy secretary, will be held at his Pallabi residence at Mirpur in the city Asr prayers today, reports BSS.

Manan died on Thursday due to kidney and diabetes complications at the age of 68. He is survived by his wife, a son and five daughters.

From page 12

promised funds.

"Use of fake documents of the government, Central Bank of Nigeria, Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation, etc., is a common practice," the CBN statement said.

It said that CBN has given advertisements in over 80 newspapers and magazines in 12 languages in 36 countries in its efforts to forewarn all corporations and individuals who are likely to fall prey to the scam and thereby curb proliferation of 419.

"Unfortunately, the scam continued unabated, even with increasing sophistication, because of the criminality, avarice and greed of the so-called victims of the scam, who are also villains," the CBN statement said.

In its letter to The Daily Star, the Nigerian High Commission said, "Nigeria, now experiencing civilian democracy, has opened its door for genuine business. The country seeks entrepreneurs in various sectors, including the textile, weaving and apparel sectors, in which Bangladesh has acquired expertise."

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## US

From page 12

home heating oil stocks, low crude oil stocks for the winter, especially in the Northeast area, and the reason we're doing this is not for price, but to deal with disruption, to deal with the problem of extreme shortages.

Mirani called upon the Armed Forces not to malign their image by coming to the defence of a handful of officers who disgraced the country, the armed forces and all of humanity with their wanton crimes documented in the HRC report and substantiated by the international Press and human rights organisations.

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## Pak generals

From page 1

which were documented by the international Press and human rights organisations. If the generals remain unrepentant, there is little reason for Pakistan or the international community to protect their misdeeds by saving them from facing the consequences, he said.

Noting that the Chilean dictator Pinochet was recently arrested, the former defence minister said that the said generals could face arrest for genocide in Bangladesh, which has already demanded the release of him till filing of this report at 7:30 pm.

The best way out for the coward generals would be to ask for forgiveness or be ready to face the consequences. It appears that the coward generals are still adamant and unrepentant and expect the armed forces of Pakistan to defend their genocide, corruption, drunkenness and loot and plunder, he said.

Police rushed to the spot after two hours and dispersed the clashing groups by firing blank shots and tear gas shells.

They also arrested three persons - Manik 40, Zahir 25, and Wares, 50, from the spot.

A tense situation is prevailing in the area.

## Gournadi

From page 12

Razzak Howlader and Munshi group also looted eight houses of their opponents and allegedly kidnapped a supporter of Mridha and Sattar group during the clash. Police could not trace him till filing of this report at 7:30 pm today.

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## Akhteruzzaman

From page 1

hur, Khanda, Delwar Hossain, Dr Khanda, Mosha, Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Ashraf Hossain and Barrister Aminul Haq held a meeting at the official residence of the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament yesterday evening and discussed all aspects of the letter.

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## Cricketers

From page 1

Bangladesh will start their maiden South Africa with a four-day match against a provincial team on October 12-15. They will also play three limited-overs matches against South Africa A before returning home on October 25.

(Details on page 14)



Rotary Club of Dhaka Central held its 17<sup>th</sup> installation ceremony at Hotel Purbani in the city recently.

## Installation ceremony of Rotary Club of Dhaka Central

The 17<sup>th</sup> installation ceremony of Rotary Club of Dhaka Central was held at Hotel Purbani in the city recently, says a press release.

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Deputy Minister for LGRD and President of Bangladesh Cricket Control Board, was present as chief guest while Mahfuz Anam, Editor of The Daily Star, was special guest.

Saber Hossain lauded the contribution of Rotarians in alleviating the suffering of the down-trodden people of the community. He also said that Bangladesh cricket is marching ahead step by step with a specific target and we have a plan to propose to hold World Cup Cricket in 2011.

President of Dhaka Central Rotary Club Dr Belal Samad PHF and his team promised to create awareness and to serve humanity through Paul Harris' vision of service and fellowship.

Based on a questionnaire consisting of 18 questions, a BILS Survey Team interviewed a total of 125 maid-servants in the city's Lalmatia, Dhammik, Kalabagan, Mohammadpur, Eskaton and Rampura area.

The survey was conducted to get an insight into the overall situation of the sector including reasons for taking up the occupation, child-labour situation, health and safety matters, working hours, wages, facilities and violation of workers' rights.

Based on the questionnaire consisting of 18 questions, a BILS Survey Team interviewed a total of 125 maid-servants in the city's Lalmatia, Dhammik, Kalabagan, Mohammadpur, Eskaton and Rampura area.

Among the interviewed maid-servants 50.4 per cent were found to be illiterate, 71.2 per cent chose the profession due to poverty and 8 per cent left their own houses due to domestic violence to take up this profession.

Almost 85 per cent of the maid-servants work 8 to 12 hours a day and the rest, 13 to 15 hours. Forty-eight per cent said they are used to being locked when their employers go out of the house. Forty-one per cent of the respondents said they get Tk100-200 as monthly salary.

Regarding torture, 70 per cent abstained from making any comments, as they were interviewed in the presence of their employers. Fourteen per cent said they are physically abused by the family members of employers, while 15.2 per cent spoke of mental torture.

Salma Ali, Advocate and Executive Director of Bangladesh National Women's Lawyers Association and Shamim Reza, Lecturer of Mass Communication and Journalism, made recommendations for formalising the process of appointment of housemaids including registration, Trade Union, as well as implementing the penal sanctions for employing children in domestic sector.

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