

## What's on today ....

**Central conference :** Biplobi Chhatra Sangha will hold its first central conference. Venue: Seminar room (2nd floor) of Teachers Students Centre (TSC) on DU campus. Time : 10:00 am.

**Annual general meeting :** The Gopalpur Thana Samity will hold its annual general meeting. Venue: Auditorium of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Shahbag. Time : 3:00 pm.

**Inauguration:** The Boutique Rong will be reopened with a new range of sarees and Salwar Kameez. Venue : Rainak Complex, BDR Gate-4, Dharmamandi, Rd No 2. Time : 5:00 pm.

**Jamdani exhibition:** Bangladesh Sanjukt Tanti Samity (BSTS) will inaugurate a special 10-day long Jamdani saree exhibition and sale on the occasion of Durga Puja. Venue: Premises of Sanjukt Handloom Weavers Services at House No 69, Rd No 9/A (New) 19 (Old). Dharmamandi R/A. Time : 11:00 am. The exhibition will remain open from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm everyday.

**Concluding ceremony:** Society for Environment and Human Development (SEHD), a Research and Development Collective (RDC) and Tauriga will jointly hold the concluding ceremony of a 2-day long workshop on "Land Laws for Indigenous Peoples in Bangladesh." Venue: Hotel Purbani International, Motijheel. Time : 4:00 pm.

**Meeting :** Bangladesh Shiksha Sangkritik Gosthi will hold a meeting. Venue: House No 7, Rd No 1/A, Sector No 4, Uttara Model Town. Time : 4:00 pm.

**Award distribution :** Bangladesh Shiksha Academy will formally present the Shiksha Academy Literary Award 1405 to recipient Dr Halima Khatun. Venue : Auditorium of Shiksha Academy. Time : 4:00 pm.

**Exhibition :** A two-day long exhibition of Shatadipi's collection of saree, salwar kameez and punjabi will begin. Venue : Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Road. Time : 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

**Inauguration:** The Ministry for Women and Children Affairs will inaugurate a week-long programme to mark Child Rights Week 2000. Venue : Auditorium of the Bangladesh Shiksha Academy. Time : 5:00 pm.

**Recitation:** Sraboner Adda, presents an evening of recitation. Five young poets will recite poetry at the programme. Venue : Srabon premises, 132 Aziz Supermarket (1st floor). Time : 5:00 pm.

**ROCA meeting :** The monthly meeting of Rangpur Old Cadets Association (ROCA) will be held. Venue: Coffee House, New Elephant Road. Time : 5:00 pm.

**Exhibition:** Bengal Foundation presents a solo painting exhibition by artist Ranjit Das. The exhibition will be inaugurated by Dr Anusuzaman. Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpalaya, House No 275/F, Rd No 27 (Old), 16 (New). Dharmamandi R/A. Time : 6:00 pm.

## ..... and tomorrow

**BSAF rally:** Bangladesh Shiksha Adhikar Forum (BSAF) will hold a rally to mark Girl Child Day, as part of the Child Rights Week 2000. Venue: From Press Club to Shiksha Academy. Time : 8:00 am.

**National confce :** BCS Coordination Committee (26 cadre) will hold its national conference 2000. Chief guest : Food Minister Amir Hossain Amu. MP. Time : 10:00 am.

**Reception:** Bangladesh Students Welfare Association will accord a reception to the 13 position holders of the HSC 2000 exam merit list in all three groups. Venue : Osmani Auditorium. Time : 11:00 am.

**BSCIC exhibition:** BSCIC will hold an exhibition of the handiworks of its internal training session of April-June 2000 batch. It will also hold a 3-day long handicrafts and design mela and give out certificates to the graduates of its Jan-March 2000 training session. Venue: Conference room of BSCIC. Time : 11:00 am.

**BIIT seminar :** A seminar on "Palestine and the Status of Jerusalem" will be held. Chief guest: Shahta Zarab, Ambassador of Palestine and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps. Venue : Bangladesh Institute of Islamic Thought (BIIT) seminar room, 145 Green Road. Time : 4:00 pm.

**Meeting :** Bangladesh Poribesh Rokkha Parishad (Porosh) will hold a meeting on the Arsenic Task Force it is working on. Venue: DPHE conference room. Time : 4:00 pm.

**IUB discussion:** Centre for Social Science and Public Policy Research of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) will hold a discussion meeting on "Implications of Globalization and Policy of Market Economy for the development prospects of South Asian countries." Venue: IUB campus, House No 6, Rd No 14, Baridhara. Time : 4:30 pm.

**Contemporary dance :** Sristi Cultural Centre presents an evening of contemporary dance titled "Akruti". Venue: Main auditorium of National Museum. Time : 7:00 pm.

**Musical soiree :** Kranti will hold Sangeet Niyomito, its regular musical soiree. Compositions by Komal Das Gupta will be presented at the programme. Venue: Isfendiya Auditorium of Biswa Shahitya Kendra. Time : 7:00 pm.

**Porosh seminar:** Poribesh Rokkha Shopoth (Porosh) will hold a seminar on "Urbanisation in Bangladesh: Challenges". Chief guest : Minister for LGED Zillur Rahman. Venue: Council Bhaban of BUET. Time : 10:00 am - 7:30 pm.

## Weather

### Dry weather forecast

Weather will remain mainly dry and sunny over the country with a change of light rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind at one or two places in next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

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

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 35.0 degree Celsius at Khulna and the lowest 23.3 degree Celsius at Sirimongal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:49 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:50 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	33.8	25.5	68	68
Chittagong	34.0	24.5	90	81
Rajshahi	33.0	26.4	81	83
Khulna	35.0	25.8	78	77
Barisal	33.5	25.0	79	84
Sylhet	31.5	24.2	81	83
Cox's Bazar	33.7	25.5	78	80

## Chehlum



Chehlum of Ahmed Hossain Chowdhury, a former official of Meghna Petroleum, will be held at his residence at House - 7, Road - 5, Sector - 12, Uttara Model Town today, says a press release.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the chehlum.

## Padma

From page 12  
water level might have triggered the massive erosion.

Some local people at Daulabdia said they were afraid they would lose their land by giving shelter to the victims. They said the local administration should have come forward to help these people find a shelter.

Deputy Commissioner of Rajbari, ASM Hanif Uddin Sarkar seemed oblivious of the disaster as he spent the entire day yesterday in a meeting with the education department of the district. His office staff said that they were not aware of the erosions although one claimed that Sarkar did visit "some of the areas recently".

## PM's birthday celebrated

The 54th birthday of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was celebrated at Ganobhaban yesterday in a simple ceremony where admirers wished her a long and blissful life, reports BSS.

In the morning, the lush green lawn of the Ganobhaban, the official residence of the Prime Minister, was filled with her cabinet colleagues, party men, intellectuals, educationists, artists, poets, journalists and children who came to wish her.

Responding to the well wishers' warmth and affection, Sheikh Hasina sought blessings from all.

Party General Secretary Zillur Rahman, while welcoming party Chief Sheikh Hasina on the occasion said she has not only achieved respect and love of her countrymen but has also been able to earn regards of the world community.

Meanwhile Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee warmly felicitated Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and sent a bouquet of flowers for her on the occasion of her birthday.

Officials of the Indian High Commissioner handed over the bouquet to her at Ganobhaban.

## Marghub Murshed transferred to JMBA

By Special Correspondent  
Syed Marghub Murshed, Secretary, Fisheries and Livestock Ministry, has been transferred to Jamuna Multi-purpose Bridge Authority.

The transfer comes barely 11 weeks after he was posted in the Fisheries Ministry from the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Sources said the transfer order is likely to be handed over to Murshed soon.

The move followed intervention by certain high-ups who wanted to replace him finding it difficult to get things done their way, sources said.

Earlier, he had to leave the MOEF following disagreement on a number of issues with the high-ups including the appointment of Chief Conservator of Forests.

The controversial appointment is under investigation by the Parliamentary Standing Committee.

## BCL activist beaten up at DU hall

By DU Correspondent  
An activist of ruling party-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) was beaten up by rivals at the Kabi Jasim Uddin Hall of the Dhaka University yesterday.

Hall source said that two BCL activists - Khorshed and Morshed - were locked in an argument at the hall in the morning over attending a BCL procession on the campus.

Later, Khorshed along with another BCL activist Zakir caught hold of Morshed on the second floor of the hall in the afternoon and beat him up.

## JP Dhaka city unit executives

By Staff Correspondent  
Saifur Rahman and Taibur Rahman have been re-elected the president and general secretary of Dhaka City unit of Jatia Party.

They were re-elected by secret ballots at the second session of the city unit JP council held at the Engineers' Institution on Wednesday night.

JP Chairman H M Ershad congratulated the newly re-elected president and general secretary when they met him soon after the election.

## Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Mozibur Rahman Chowdhury (Piara Mia), founder president of the Manob Kalyan Society and former AGM of Sonali Bank, will be held at his 41/A Purna Palan residence in the city after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

Chowdhury died of a cardiac arrest at Manchester in the UK on September 14. He was buried at his family graveyard at village Baghdubi under Dagonbhuian pazzila in Feni district.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani.

## Obituary

Abdul Quader Mirdha, Director (Finance) of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation, died of a cardiac arrest at BIRDEM Hospital yesterday. He was 59, says a press release.

Mirdha left behind his wife, three sons, one daughter and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

His qulkhwani will be held at his residence at 324, Baitul Aman Housing Society, Road No. 3, Adabar, Shanol on Saturday after Asr prayers. Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani.



The China Heilongjiang Art Troupe in action.

## All set to charm

Chinese acrobatic dance group arrives in Dhaka with enigmatic show

By Cultural Correspondent

Dhakaites will be having a treat of Chinese Acrobatic dances this week. The China Heilongjiang Art Troupe is arriving in Dhaka to give performances for three days at the National Museum Auditorium starting from October 1.

The Heilongjiang Art Troupe boasts of quite a number of internationally and nationally acclaimed works of music, dance, vocal and acrobatic performances. Their performances have a distinctive national style with strong rural accents.

The troupe has a well experienced group of composers, lyricists, singers, instrument players, dancers and conductors. Through their combined efforts, they have been able to create places like the 'Boatmen's song on the Wusull River' which has been selected by the UNESCO as music teaching material. The large scale art gala show called 'Sun,

Ice and Asia' at the opening of the 3rd Winter Olympic Games, the internationally acclaimed 'I love You', 'On the Sun Island' and a host of other nationally acclaimed musical and dance pieces.

The troupe is headed by Cai Jin Zheng who will be leading his 30-member team who will put up the enigmatic show. The programme that will consist of dances, music, vocals and acrobatics promises to be a great show. Besides enjoying some internationally acclaimed music and dance pieces, one will be able to have a taste of distinctive Chinese instrumentals, not to forget the ever so wonderful acrobatic stunts.

The show will be inaugurated at the National Museum Auditorium on October 1 by State Minister for Planning Mohtashim Khan Alamgir. The show promises to attract a large audience.

## Olympic glory

From page 1  
him in the final phase to claim gold and silver in the two-day, 10-discipline event.

Nool also benefited from the intervention of a competition referee, who overruled the disqualification verdict that he had fouled on all three of his attempts. Without the points from the disqualification, Nool could never have caught up with Huffins.

Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov clawed his way to a redemptive victory in the Olympic tennis men's singles, defeating Germany's Tommy Haas 7-6 (7/4), 3-6, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 to assuage the memory of a mediocre season on the ATP Tour.

Dagny Mellegen's extra-time goal was truly golden, lifting Norway to a 3-2 victory over the United States in the Olympic women's football final.

One penalty point separated gold medalists Germany from Switzerland in the equestrian team show jumping, while Brazil defeated France in a jump-off for the bronze.

Yanina Korolchik of Belarus summoned up the best throw of her life in the last round of the Olympic final to claim the women's shot put gold. Cuba's Ivan Pedroso, the world's finest long jumper for the past five years, finally won Olympic gold as his last-gasp 8.55m jump denied Australian favourite Jai Taurina.

Greece's Konstantinos Kentis needed the fastest run of his life to edge Briton Darren

Campbell and Trinidad and Tobago's Ato Boldon in the men's 200m.

The double gold for Australian sailors, world champions Paul Foerster and Tom King, and Belinda Stowell and Jenny Armstrong in the men's and women's 470 dinghy class, looked like a breeze.

But their victories ended 28 years of suspense since Australia's last Olympic sailing triumphs.

They also made this the most successful Australian Olympic team, taking the hosts past their previous best 13 gold medals set in Melbourne in 1956.

Romanian gymnast Andreea Raducanu waited out nail-biting 24 hours only to learn that he bid to have her all-around title restored had been denied by the Court of Appeals for Sport.

The tribunal declared that Olympic officials were right to strip Raducanu of her gold, even though the banned pseudo-ephedrine revealed in her drug test was taken inadvertently.

"The panel is aware of the impact of its decision on a fine, young elite athlete," CAS acting secretary general Matthieu Reeb said.

"It finds, in balancing the interests of Miss Raducanu with the commitment of the Olympic Movement to drug-free sport, the Anti-Doping Code must be enforced without compromise," he said.

## More uniform men

From page 1  
nessmen and people with little or no expertise in banking or economics. Moreover, a few who are known to have tried hard to restore banking sector discipline and set high moral standards have been ignored.

Two such former directors, Khushi Kabir and Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, who served in Sonali and Janata banks respectively, were ignored this time.

According to sources, the Finance Ministry proposed Khushi Kabir's name, but the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) dropped it. Khushi Kabir is known to have played a key role in opposing imports of two-stroke three-wheelers ignoring a government ban.

On the other hand, Bhattacharya is known to have made more foes than friends because of his obsession with ethics. He recently had differences of opinion with the finance minister over the state of the economy.

The name of economist Dr QK Ahmed, who headed a committee to revamp Bangladesh Shilpa Bank, was proposed for the chairmanship of the same bank by Finance Ministry, but it also did not get the PMO's nod for unknown reasons, sources said.

Then, it is quite frustrating to watch fresh appointments or term renewals. It puts question marks over the government's seriousness in bringing about discipline in the banks.

Other than the seven defence officials, a number of ruling partymen and businessmen retained their positions.

Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, an advocate and a Gopalganj AL leader, has been appointed for a year at Agrani Bank. Narayanjan AL leader

Prof Nazma Rahman's term in Rupali Bank was also extended. ANM Shafiqul Haq, a Sylhet-based AL man, and Bahauddin Bahar, a Comilla-based ruling party supporter, received reappointment at Bangladesh Krishi Bank.

SM Abdul Khaleq, former President of the Chittagong Chamber, got a year's extension with the House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC) and a less known person, Ataur Rahman, was inducted into the Corporation's board.

These recent moves have cast doubts on the future of reforms that the banking sector so desperately needs.

## Dacoity

From page 1

Ibrahim after a case was filed by one Abdur Rahman.

Dacoits also looted Tk 2.30 lakh in cash and gold ornaments from a house at North Jatrabari in the early hours of yesterday. One Tozammel filed a case with Demra police in this regard.

At about noon on Wednesday, a gang of eight dacoits entered the second floor flat of a building at Nabo Roy Lane in Old Dhaka, tied up the inmates and took away Tk three lakh and 125 totals of gold. One Abul Kalma Azad filed a case with Kotwali police in this connection.

Dacoits boarding a bus in the guise of passengers looted Tk 88,000 from passengers when it reached near Shaugila cinema hall at Dholakhal in Shyamampur area at about 2:45 pm on Wednesday. One Kafiluddin filed a case with Shyamampur police in this regard.

## BHP Steel reintroduces its products

By Staff Correspondent

BHP Steel yesterday reintroduced its Zincalume and Colorbond products in the local market yesterday.

On the occasion, the company organised a seminar in the city to create awareness among its potential buyers.

For the last 30 years, the BHP had been marketing its products in the country through its agents, said Noor Crookshanks, General Manager, Steel Business Development, South Asia.

"But from now on, the BHP Steel will market its products through McDonald Bangladesh Ltd, the authorised distributor for BHP."

He said that the distributor has set up a plant in Gazipur at a cost of 1.5 million US dollar. This plant will now produce the goods. The BHP Steel will supply the raw materials and also take up steps to monitor the quality of the products.

## Milon murder

From page 1

Milon's killing might have links with smuggling of dollar through ZIA as he was a leading member of a syndicate that smuggles dollar, the sources claimed.

His killing also affected dollar price at the korb market at Motijheel in the city. Dollar was selling at Tk 59.35 before the killing on Wednesday. The rate declined by 20 poisa yesterday, they said.

Milon used to buy and sell dollars in huge amounts, allegedly with the backing of some ruling party MPs. After his killing, many traders did not turn up at the korb market yesterday, they said.

Milon, who started life as a chicken seller, later became an armed cadre and extortionist, using his identity as an activist of Jubo League, youth front of Awami League.

After the 1975 change-over, he went to India and returned to the country after three years.

About two years back, he was barred from entering the Prime Minister's Office.

Milon was buried at his family graveyard at Munshiganj on Wednesday night.

Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Minister of State for Shipping, accompanied the body to his village home, sources said yesterday.

Maya, a former leader of Jubo League, attended the Namaj-e-Janaza of Milon, held in front of the AL central office at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city and at Munshiganj, the sources said.

The Janaza at both the places were also attended by Jubo League leaders Auranga Liaquat and Hannan, who are also barred from entering the PM's Office, the sources said.

## Khaleda

From page 1

incapability in governing the country," the BNP Chairperson was quoted to have told the US envoy in reply to queries.

She said it became necessary to take people's fresh mandate by holding immediate election.

Khaleda Zia's advisor MM Rezaul Karim briefed newsmen after the meeting.

Replying to a question from the American official about possible results of the election, Khaleda said four-party alliance would win the general elections by huge margin of vote if the poll held in a free, fair and neutral manner.

"If the people get the opportunity to exercise their franchise, they would elect candidates of the 4-party alliance as people have lost confidence in the Awami League government for the present worsening law and order situation in the country," she said.

As the envoy wanted to know the opposition leader's opinion about what steps could further strengthen the relations between the United States and Bangladesh, she said the bilateral ties enhanced following the recent visit of President Bill Clinton to Bangladesh.

Earlier, the newly appointed US ambassador, Mary Ann Peters, called on the BNP chief at 29 Minto Road.

The US ambassador was also present at the meeting of the US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State with the Leader of the Opposition.



Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury and other BNP MPs held a meeting with the DC and SP of Laxmipur district over the abduction of advocate Nurul Islam at the Circuit House yesterday.

-- Star photo



Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury and other BNP leaders visited the residence of advocate Nurul Islam, who was kidnapped on September 18, in Laxmipur yesterday.

--Star photo

## Acid thrown on teenaged girl in Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 28: A young girl received severe burn injuries when unidentified youths threw acid on her in the early hours yesterday.

The victim has been identified as Sweet, 15, daughter of one Baduzzaman of RIM Degree College.

Neither the family nor police could specify the reason behind the attack.

The youths threw acid on Sweet, who was sleeping, through the window of her bedroom at around 3 am on Wednesday, police said.

The girl was first rushed to the Shahjadpur General Hospital and later shifted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital after her condition was deteriorated.

Kazipur police said that they were investigating the incident. None has been arrested in this regard.

The victim's father filed a case under Women and Children Repression act with Kazipur police.

## Khilgaon SI

From page 1

Samity Limited. At that time, a police team from Khilgaon thana, led by SI Matiar Rahman, was passing through the area. Sensing police presence, the youths went out of the club through back door and tried to flee, she said.

Chased by police, the youths jumped into a jheel. All but Oli swam ashore and police picked up one Shamsul. Oli drowned as police did not allow the local people to rescue him, she alleged.

## Environment court

From page 12

Chittagong.  
On the Buriganga alone, there are 246 encroachers, choking the river. These include factories, dockyards, houses and business establishments.

The polluters and encroachers are operating with impunity in the absence of environment courts, the sources said.

Fish resources in long stretches of the rivers have virtually disappeared due to high rate of pollution.

The situation worsens during dry season. But the DOE can not prosecute the polluters and encroachers in the absence of courts.

## Livestock Directorate officials continue agitation

By Special Correspondent

The officials of Livestock Directorate observed a two-hour 'pen down' strike and wore black badges for the fourth day yesterday to press home their demands for upgradation of posts for deputy director and district livestock officer.