What's on today

Viqarunnisa Noon College reception: Vigarunnisa Noon College will accord a reception to its successful HSC candidates. Chief guest: Minister for Commerce MA Jalil. Venue: College auditorium. Time: 9.00 am.

Durgapuja: Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission will jointly hold the Shashthi Puja. Venue: Math premises. Time: 7:30 am.

UNIC report launching: United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) will launch the World Investment Report Venue: CIRDAP auditorium, Chameli House, 17, Topkhana Road. Time: 11:00 am.

Comedy Film Week 2000: Dhaka University Film Society will screen Dunston Checks in, Home Alone-3, American Pie, Maverick and The Nutty Professor-2. Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium of Public Library, Shahbag. Time: 11:00 am, 1.00 pm, 3:20 pm, 5.20 pm and 7:30 pm respectively.

Elocution contest: Bangladesh Shishu Academy in association with Women and Children Directorate will hold a speech competition titled "Our security." Venue: Shishu Academy auditorium. Time: 2:00 pm.

Workshop: Help Age International will hold a National Workshop on Older People. Venue: IDB conference room. Chief guest: State Minister for Planning Dr Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir. Venue: IDB conference room. Time: 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

Workshop: A national workshop will be held on "Worst from of Child Labour." Organiser: International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Bangladesh Bar Council. Chief guest: Law Minister Abdul Matin Khasru. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon.

Seminar: Agribusiness Development Organisation of Bangladesh (ADOB) in collaboration with Winrock Int'l, USA will hold a seminar on 'The Prospects of Agribusiness in Bangladesh." Venue: ADOB Conference Hall, Concord Tower, Suite No 404, 113, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue (Bangla Motor). Time: 11.00 am.

Inauguration: Aftab IT Limited, a new internet service provider (ISP) will be inaugurated. Venue: Eastern Trade Centre (14thfloor), 56, Inner Circular Road. Time: 12.00 Noon.

Seminar: Haji Shahab Uddin Social Welfare Foundation is organising a Colgate Bright Smile art competition and seminar on occasion of World Children Day. Venue: Shishu Academy. Time: 3.00

Meeting: A view exchange meeting will be held demanding construction of the proposed guest building on the west side of Lalon Matar premises. Venue: Teachers' Lounge, TSC, DU campus. Time: 4:00 pm.

Lions' seminar: Lions Clubs International District 315 A2 Bangladesh will hold a seminar on the district Governor's call "Show Light Save Sight." Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 5.00 pm.

Edn and Cultural Week: Dhaka Christian Chhatra Kallyan Sangha begins a three-day long education and cultural week Venue: Church Community Centre, Tejgaon.



Durgapuja: Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission will jointly hold the Saptami Puja. Venue: Math premises. Time: Before 8.59

Workshop: UNICEF, Bangladesh organises a workshop on "Our wants and needs" to be participated by children between 10 to 18 years of age. Venue: Shishu Academy. Time: 9.00 am.

FPAB dissemination seminar: Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB) in collaboration with International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) will hold a dissemination seminar on the findings of "Needs Assessment Study on Adolescent in Bangladesh." Chief guest: State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr M Amanullah. Venue: Hotel Sheraton ballroom. Time: 10.00 am.

Comedy Film Week 2000: Dhaka University Film Society will screen Crocodile Dundee Police Academy-3, Liar Liar, The Full Monty and Mrs Doubtfire. Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium of Public Library, Shahbagh. Time: 11.00 am, 1.15 pm, 3.35 pm, 5.25 pm and

Discussion: Shishu Academy in association with Women and Children Affairs Ministry holds a discussion meeting on "Implementation of Child Rights Convention: Perspective Bangladesh." Venue: Shishu Academy. Time: 4.00 pm.

Cultural programme: Antaranga Shishu Sangathan will hold a cultural programme to mark Child Rights Week 2000. Venue: Shishu Academy auditorium. Time: 6.30 pm.

Moderate rain likely

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

Heavy rainfall at places over Chittagong division is expected during the period, Met Office said adding day temperature may rise by 2-3 degree Celsius over the country.

The country's highest temperature 32.1 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Patuakhali and the lowest 22.5 degree Celsius at Chittagong.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:44 pm and rises on Wednesday at 5:51 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	27.9	23.0	89	85
Chittagong	28.0	22.5	92	92
Rajshahi	30.0	24.6	87	85
Khulna	29.8	23.5	90	84
Barisal	29.4	23.0	96	92
Sylhet	30.0	23.8	94	82
Cox's Bazar	28.6	25.0	98	92
Sylhet	34.2	24.2	82	76
Cox's Bazar	32.6	24.5	88	82

AL, BNP clash

From Page 1

The shutdown disrupted economic activities as most of the business establishments, private offices, shops and markets as well as educational institutions remained closed.

government and autonomous areas. Hundreds of workers of bodies and commercial banks main opposition BNP occupied went into business under tight Inner Circular Road adjacent to security. Riverine transports, BNP's central office during the trains and domestic and interna- whole day with riot police on tional flights operated as per watch. Barbed-wire fences were schedule. However, inter-district also put up on the roads leading buses stayed off the road.

A large number of state-run BRTC buses including doubledeckers; and minibuses, cars, auto-rickshaws, tempos and

As on previous occasions, of the city, rickshaws in larger number guarded different strategic points city.

of the capital. Vendors were found in good numbers on the city pavements, but the business was dull.

Street demonstrations by the partners of opposition alliance were mainly confined to Naya But government, semi- Paltan, Kakrail and Bijoynagar to the BNP office.

Workers belonging to the ruling Awami League and its front organisations dominated Topkhana, Press Club, human haulers plied on different Bangabandhu Avenue and routes. There was no picketing in Gulistan areas. The son of Dhaka the city streets during the hartal city Mayor, Mohammad Sayeed. led a procession from the old part

The ruling party also took dominated the city streets. Riot out processions condemning police and paramilitary BDR the hartal in other parts of the

Workshop on power

From Page 12 neighbouring areas. Direct power

purchase arrangement between generators and distributors should also be considered.

be protected by ensuring that system expansion and operation are least costly and quality of supply is maintained and tariff is reasonable. Consumers' voice and organisational accountability should be established in the form of citizen/client charter."

The recommendations further said. "A competitive power generation market should be developed, allowing single or portfolio generating companies to enter the competitive market without any barrier to entry for power generation through an environment providing level playing field for all developers."

The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB) should be fully functional as an 'independent transmission company in the public sector and provide open access to its transmission network to all generators and distributors.' Besides, an 'independent system operator' should be established in the public sector, the workshop suggested.

Giving a background of the reforms initiated in the power mented to motivate employees sector since 1993-94, the work- and upgrade their skill and all shop that appropriate mind-set conducive to reform is critical, regular consultation with

employees and labour unions would help sharpen understanding of the reform agenda at all levels, current reform efforts lack good communication strategy "Consumers' interests should and this process must be improved, continued and strong political commitment is the key to success of reform programme and a document providing the 'road map towards implementation of power sector reform' should be prepared.

It further said, "Attention must be given to corporatising distribution segments on priority to improve commercial performance and service quality.'

Private sector Power Generation Policy and the Model Security Package Documents developed for private investment in generation segment have been proved to be successful in attracting private investment with one of the lowest power tariffs in the world, the workshop noted. Besides, it said, the Rural

Electrification Board (REB) 'model has been proved to be successful,' DESA and PDB may learn from it, steps are needed to reduce peak load by introducing effective Demand Side Management. Needbased training programme have to be impleefforts must be directed towards collection of bills from consumers, it added.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina consoling an elderly woman at Badruddin Multilateral High School at Jhikargachha in Jessore district while distributing relief materials among the flood-hit people there yesterday. -PID photo

Gen Chisty in deep coma

By Staff Correspondent Gen (Retd) N A Chisty is fight ing for life on a life support machine at the Dhaka Combined Military Hospital (CMH), sources

The retired general was admitted to the CMH after he suffered a brain stroke on September 26 following an angiogram.

Doctors at the CMH declared the general as "brain dead" which means he is in a deep comma.

NGOs to discuss flood situation today

By Staff Correspondent

ADAB will hold a meeting with different NGOs today to share and discuss on the overall condition of flood situation and the immediate measures that need to be taken.

ADAB and its partner organisations are trying their best to mobilise and co-ordinate other NGOs in the rescue and relief distribution activities to floodvictims in the country.

PM: US visit

From Page 12 October 17 at the White House. The other official programmes of the day include laying wreath at the Arlington National Cemetery. meetings with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Attorney-General Janet Reno. A luncheon would be hosted in honour of the prime minister on October 17.

The two countries are expected to sign some important agreements. However, discussions are going on regarding some vital agreements related to business and energy, duty-free access of Bangladeshi goods and extradi-

An official said that several issues will get priority during the Summit meeting between the two

heads of government. A treaty on avoidance of double taxation is expected to be signed. Another treaty on peaceful use of nuclear energy is also scheduled to be renewed for a period of 20 years following its expiry. Moreover, an air service agreement extending Bangladesh Biman's destination to some American cities, including Boston is likely to be signed.

Details of the programme are still being worked out, sources said. The Foreign Ministry however announced yesterday that "an interesting programme has been chalked out for the visit."

Khaleda

From Page 12 vital issue like gas.

"For the national interest it needs transparency and discussion with main political parties and the people," she was quoted to have told Humphrey, now visiting Bangladesh.

Khaleda's advisor MM Rezaul Karim who was in the meeting briefed newsmen.

PM asks

From Page 12 reschedule the agriculture loan and give fresh loans to the affected farmers and also supply agriculture inputs so that they can overcome their losses within a short time.

Before addressing the gathering she distributed relief among the flood-stricken people.

"We have enough food in our stock for four bumper crops in last four years, we have all other logistics to save the people," she said assuring continued service of the government.

The Prime Minister said the government would rebuild the damaged roads, bridges, educational institutions, mosques, temples and churches to help people of all faiths start life anew once the ordeals were over.

The government will give loan to the affected farmers and also to the fishermen, shopkeepers and other poor professionals affected by the sudden flooding here and in other frontier districts.

Tale of park From Page 1

park is more of a hazard to its users than a source of entertainment. Most of the children visiting the park keep away from the amusements installed recently as

these pose risk of serious injury. Due to total absence of maintenance, swings, seesaws, slides, pyramid climbs and the parallel bars have started crumbling.

The engineering section of the PWD said that the sets of playing equipment broke down because 'children do not play there'. "If you do not use something it is destined to crumble," said an engineer. Shahiduzzaman, Superin-

tending Engineer of PWD's Circle-1, however, took evasive actions to avoid talking to this correspon-

Pak FM

From Page 12

ignoring the advice expressed by her father 26 years ago" with reference to Hasina's observation that Pakistan should seek apology for the crimes it committed in 1971 during the War of Liberation in Bangladesh.

Earlier, Bangladesh instructed Haque to get confirmation from the Pakistan Foreign Office whether Sattar has made any statement at the press conference in Islamabad on September 25 in which he accused Sheikh Hasina of dishonouring her father on the question of asking Pakistan to seek apology

Bangladesh also asked the Pakistani High Commission in Dhaka to ascertain whether the remark made by Sattar as reported by the wire services was true or not.

From Page 1

accused named in FIR lodged with the police by the wife of advocate Islam.

Several teams of plain-clothes police were seen active in the town who conducted search in different parts to nab the

not been arrested.

officials expressed annoyance with the district police for their failure to nab the accused. Police said some of the accused

a senior police official.

10 missing

accused named in the FIR, has

were hiding in the Bayarchar jungle in Ramgati. It will be difficult for the police to nab them from the jungle unless heavily reinforced by men and arms, said

view that there was some injus-

was involved in a "power game."

"So, stern action should be

Ruling party lawmaker Sheikh

taken against those involved so

that army officers in future can't

Helal Uddin demanded that no

matter whether or not there was

any appeal from any of the

aggrieved persons, all proceed-

ings of the martial court trial

should be produced before the

parliamentary committee if the

committee asked for it even suo-

Two other agenda irregulari-

ties in purchase of Mig-29 fighter

planes and overhauling of N-32

aircraft were dropped from yes-

terday's meeting at the Air chief is

budget also could not take place

due to inadequate papers sup-

plied by the Defence Ministry. It

will be discussed in the next

Our Staff Correspondent adds:

Yesterday's meeting was attended

by five MPs, KM Shafiullah,

Shawkat Ali and Faruq Khan, a

retired Colonel, and Sheikh

Helaluddin of Awami League and

Akhteruzzaman from the opposi-

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina,

who was away in flood-stricken

areas, Chief Whip Abul Hasnat

Abdullah and Akbar Hossain, a

retired Colonel of the ruling party

and Prof Rezaul Karim of BNP and

GM Kader of Jativa Party

Education

From Page 1

improve the teacher-student

The Non-government Univer-

sity Act would be revised to cope

be spent for the education sector

under the policy till 2010,

sources in the Education Minis-

three years' discussion and eval-

(Ershad) were absent.

relation, the sources said.

with the needs.

try said.

Discussion on the Defence

indulge in power game."

1981.

motto.

abroad.

JS body: Zia murder

From Page 1 lives, but we want to remove the stigma the family members have been bearing for last 19

vears. officers convicted were not even present at the place of occurrence on May 30, 1981 and one of those hanged was with President Ziaur Rahman during the November 7, 1975 revolt.

Shafiullah said: "If necessary, (Lieutenant) General (retd) HM Ershad will be called to the committee."

the Chief of Army when Ziaur Rahman was assassinated at Chittagong Circuit House.

However, there was report of heated exchange of words between committee member Showkat Ali and Army Chief Lt General Mustafizur Rahman.

Army Act, Akhteruzzaman, a retired Major and one of the defence committee members, said the government or the Army chief can repeal proceedings of a court martial. "And as the committee is in

view that there was some injustice in the trial and the judgement, so the martial law court proceedings should be revoked," pleaded the opposition MP who was expelled from his party, BNP.

Akhter accused the government of trying to save Ershad. Ershad was involved in the killing of Zia but he implicated the freedom fighters in the case".

The incumbent Army Chief Lt Gen Mustafizur Rahman also came under role of scrutiny in

Akhter said the trial took place as the then army chief (Ershad) was involved in a "power game." "So, stern action should be

taken against those involved so indulge in power game."

Ruling party lawmaker Sheikh Helal Uddin demanded that no lives, but we want to remove the matter whether or not there was stigma the family members have any appeal from any of the been bearing for last 19 years.' aggrieved persons, all proceedings of the martial court trial should be produced before the parliamentary committee if the committee asked for it even suo-

motto. Two other agenda irregularitles in purchase of Mig-29 fighter planes and overhauling of N-32 aircraft were dropped from yesterday's meeting at the Air chief is

Discussion on the Defence budget also could not take place due to inadequate papers supplied by the Defence Ministry. It will be discussed in the next

Committee on Defence Ministry recommended yesterday revocation of the court martial judgement that convicted 37 army officers, of whom 13 were hanged, of killing President Ziaur defence committee members. Rahman, reports UNB. entire court martial proceeding

"filegal and unjust", which were

aimed at eliminating the freedom fighter officers from the Army.

After investigating the martial

trial, the lawmakers were of the view that the proceedings should He observed that some of the be nullified vied Army Act 132 for the sake of justice. The decision came after a subcommittee headed by Showkat Ali, a retired army Colonel sub-

mitted its report maintaining that

the punishment given under In reply to a question, Martial Law was "preplanned and judgement was delivered without adequate witness and proof. The sub-committee also was of the opinion that the accused were Former President Ershad was not allowed to defend themselves and there was only three defend-

ing officers for the 37 accused army officers. Later, briefing newsmen, Committee Chairman KM Shafiullah, former army chief and retired Major General, said having gone through the Rules of Procedure Referring to Section 132 of the and Army Act it was viewed that the documents of the Martial Law Court could be seen by the com-

> mittee as there is no legal bar. Earlier, the Ministry of Defence and the Army chief had declined to furnish the lawmakers with the proceedings of court martial.

> When asked about the recent Army Headquarters clarification, he said the contention was not totally correct.

> General Shafiullah said the Defence Ministry and the Army chief agreed to assist the committee with all documents. The committee chairman also

> agreed that the Army chief deviated from his clarification given to the press that he has limitation as per the Army Act in providing the documents. Shafiullah, a freedom fighter

and the first Chief of Bangladesh Army, said injustice was meted out to most of the army officers hanged and convicted on charge of murdering Ziaur Rahman, and that army officers in future can't that most of the convicts were freedom fighters.

'We can't give them back their

He observed that some of the officers convicted were not even present at the place of occurrence on May 30, 1981 and one of those hanged was with President Ziaur Rahman during the November 7, 1975 revolt. In reply to a question,

mittee.' Former President Ershad was the Chief of Army when Ziaur Rahman was assassinated at Chittagong Circuit House.

Shafiullah said: "If necessary,

(Lieutenant) General (retd) HM

Ershad will be called to the com-

However, there was report of headed by noted educationist heated exchange of words Prof. M. Shamsul Huq was The Parliamentary Standing between committee member formed in January 1997 to frame Showkat Ali and Army Chief Lt the National Education Policy. It General Mustafizur Rahman. submitted its report to the Minis-Referring to Section 132 of the try of Education in September Army Act, Akhteruzzaman, a

1997. retired Major and one of the Later, the government formed another six-member committee said the government or the Army headed by Prof. Anisuzzasman The committee found the chief can repeal proceedings of a with four lawmakers as its advisers to evaluate the Shamsul Huq

court martial. "And as the committee is in committee report.

accused. Abu Taher, district Awami League leader and pourashava chairman, who is the number one

Informed sources said CID

tice in the trial and the judgement, so the martial law court proceedings should be revoked," in the summer. pleaded the opposition MP who was expelled from his party, BNP. Akhter accused the govern-

ment of trying to save Ershad. "Ershad was involved in the killing of Zia but he implicated the freedom fighters in the case" The incumbent Army Chief Lt standards.

Gen Mustafizur Rahman also came under role of scrutiny in Akhter said the trial took place his future, the Windies will be out as the then army chief (Ershad)

revive their dwindling cricket organisers have insisted that With their inspirational bowler Curtley Ambrose having retired, stage some of their group and another star bowler matches, but that chance will

leading. We sell gas at 1.1 dollars per unit and subsidise in purchasing IOC gas because we had production shortage. The present saturation in gas supply situation would not have prevailed had there been no IOCs. So we should look at IOC gas price and local gas price separately for the sake of keeping the sector economically

Gas export

From Page 12

policy for Bangladesh are also

saying that India is most likely to

offer 2.5 dollars per unit at the

border point and 3.5 to 4 dollars

after transmission of the same up

be offered by Indian is likely to be

lower, IOCs and foreign experts

suggest that Petrobangla should

purchase all the gas from IOCs

and then export from the national

the IOC gas in long term would

come down to only 85 cents per

tricky," said a well-placed finan-

cial analyst of the government.

"Oil companies' share of gas

during the first seven-eight years

of production includes cost recov-

ery. In other words, they take

around 80 per cent of the gas

After the cost recovery,

55 per cent to 60 per cent.

Under this "controversial" calcu-

lation, they have merged

Petrobangla's share of gas with

that of the IOCs both during cost-

In addition, they have also

In one word, this generalised

gas production cost aims at pro-

tecting the GPSA pricing for IOCs

in the context of the idea of gas

lated by the IOCs and foreign

experts is erroneous and mis-

"This production cost calcu-

merged the production cost of

Petrobangla gas fields, which is

lower than 40 cents per unit.

export, he added.

"This calculation is very

However since the gas tariff to

to Delhi.

20 per cent"

periods.

Another government energy expert involved in planning, "We are not eager to export gas. But According to them, the price of the oil companies are eager because they are now signing memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with bulk gas consumers in Indian.

"So, if we decide to export gas, we must first make sure that we have at least 30-40 trillion cubic feet of proven reserve. Secondly, the IOCs must make their own arrangement to export their share of the gas after giving us taxes at a produced and Petrobangla gets rate that would not look like

subsidy. "We invited these oil companies Petrobangla's share of gas rises to at a higher cost for exploration of gas fields. We actually do not have much proven gas reserve to support continuation of gas related development projects. None of our Production Sharing Conrecovery and post cost-recovery tracts (PSCs) was designed for

export," he added. Though Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina made a clear-cut announcement during US President Bill Clinton's visit to Bangladesh that Bangladesh would not export gas before ensuring 50 year's reserve, activities in the gas sector in the last several months indicate that the government's policy makers are leaning towards the idea of exporting gas after the next election.

Lanka in their opening match at

the Nairobi Gymkhana on

believes the young men are ready

to step into the shoes of the great

West Indies chicketers, who domi-

nated world cricket in the 1970s

Campbell and the recalled wicket

keeper Courtney Browne are the

only experienced players in the

Guyana opener Azeelmul

Haniff, Jamaican all-rounder

Marlon Samuels and Sylvester

Joseph are batsmen making their

Although they are ranked

It is the objective of the ICC

outsiders, Kenya has a lot to

achieve in staging the limited-

international debut in the tour-

14-man West Indies squad.

Adams, Brian Lara, Sherwin

But captain Jimmy Adams

Wednesday.

and 80s.

ICC trophy

From Page 1 cricket for the right reasons.

"We had a directive from the Board to leave players out so we've done that," he said. "Nothing is bigger than the game. No individual is bigger than the

Pakistan, beaten by Australia in the 1999 World Cup final, and defending champions South Africa are fancied to do well and England, in buoyant mood after a successful summer in which they beat both West Indies and Zimbabwe, have in captain Nasser Hussain's words "turned a cor-

They will be without opener Nick Knight and left-arm pace bowler Alan Mullally, both injured, but will be looking to hard-hitting opener Marcus Trescothick to continue the exciting form he showed during his first taste of international cricket

England will face the new member of ICC Test group, Ban-

gladesh, on October 5. The West Indies, humiliated by future. England in their recent Test

to promote the development of the sport worldwide, but the competition will provide a test of the country's ability to host other high-profile events in the

overs tournament.

Time and again the South series, look on their youth to African 2003 Cricket World Cup Kenya would be given the opportunity, along with Zimbabwe, to Courtney Walsh yet to decide on only be guaranteed depending on how well they organise the ICC of their depth when they play Sri KnockOut Trophy.

Durga Puja

From Page 1 Melangan. The daily programmes will be followed by

different events including blood

donation and colourful rally. President and secretary of Mohanagari Puja Committee, Dr Nim Chandra Bhowmik and Advocate Satyandra Chandra Bhakta, have greeted the countrymen on the eve of the Durga

They have urged the government to ensure all facilities including proper supply of electricity and maintenance of law and order at the city's puja ven-

Chittagong says, the Durga Puja will also be celebrated in about 1000 puja venues in the city and elsewhere in the district this year. Addressing a press conference at Chittagong Press Club yesterday. Dr Gobinda Prashad am on the day of Nabami Mahajon and Prof Narayan

Chittagong Central Puja Celebration Committee said extensive programmes have been chalked out to celebrate the puja in a befitting manner. Committee leaders Binode

Chowdhury, president and gen-

Vihari Chowdhury, Principal

Laws to stop From Page 1

The court now has sentenced the killers to capital punishment, which must be executed so none could dare kill children in future, she added.

Hasina rebuked the opposition for calling hartal on the children's A total of Tk 30,000 crore will day being observed across the world, saying it has denied the rights of children and also restricted their rights to free movement.

The policy was framed after "How could they enforce the hartal today? Didn't it cross their mind that today is the World A 65-members committee Children's Day?" she asked. "It is not the government's programme, it's an international day. The opposition could have chosen another day for hartal," she said.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Prof Zinnatunnessa Talukder, Secretary of the Ministry Prof Tehmina Hussain and UNICEF country representative Shahida Azfar also spoke at the function.

Ardendu Bikash Rudra, journalist Samir Bhattacharya, Indu Nandan Datta and Advocate Subhash Chandra Lala, among

others, spoke on the occasion. The committee placed a sevenpoint demand includes scrapping of the Enemy (vested) Property Act in the coming parliament session, turning the Hindu religious Welfare Trust into Hindu Foundation, declaration of four days public holiday on the occasion of the Durga Puja, trial of the killers of president of Bagerhat district Puja Celebration Committee Advocate Kalidas Baral in a special tribunal and formation Another report from of a board for proper maintenance and management of the

endowed property. The committee will also form human chain, observe silence and display black banners in all puja venues for one hour from 10 (October7) to press home their demand for annulment of the eral secretary respectively of the Enemy (vested) Property Act.

Pir murder

From Page 12 Mujibur Rahman Chisty was killed at his Mohammadpur residence in the city on Thursday night.

official, the "suspicious lifestyle" of Chisti has made investigation complicated. Chisti had links with influential people at home and abroad. Another police official said Chisti's connection with a num-

According to the senior police

ber of 'suspicious people' has made police to suspect that he was not killed only for property. Some sources in police claimed that Ershad and Aman were hiding in Dhaka or its adjacent

areas. The OC of Mohammadpur

thana told The Daily Star last

night that police teams would be sent outside Dhaka to trace them. Some other law forcing agencles including the Detective Branch are also investigating the

murder.

Meanwhile, Alamgir, the caretaker of Chisti's Mohammadpur house, who was taken on two days' remand on Sunday, told police that he was not involved in the murder. Alamgir will be produced before the CMM's court today.