

What's on today

Open dialogue: Bangladesh Manobadhikar Samonny Parishad will hold an open dialogue on reserved seats for women in the parliament. Venue: LGED Bhaban seminar room. Time: 1-30 pm.

DCCI seminar: Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) will hold a seminar on 'Capital Market Development in Bangladesh: Problems and Prospects'. Venue: DCCI auditorium (5th floor), 65-66 Motijheel C/A. Time: 10.30 am-1.30 pm.

Comedy Film Week 2000: Dhaka University Film Society will screen Drop Dead Fred, Hot Shots Part Deux and The Kid. Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Public Library, Shahbagh. Time: 11.00 am, 1.15 pm & 3.15 pm.

BILIA Discussion: Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (BILIA) will hold a discussion meeting on 'UN Millennium Summit: Legal Implications of Unilateralism Through Unconstitutional Means'. Chief guest: Finance Minister Shah AM Kibria. Venue: CIRDA auditorium, Chameji House, Tophkhana Road. Time: 3.00 pm.

Founding anniversary: A two-day long function will begin to celebrate the 44th founding anniversary of Kendriya Kanchi Kanchar Mela. Venue: Kanchi Kancha auditorium, Kanchi Kancha Bhaban, 37/A Segun Bagicha. Time: 4.00 pm.

Concluding ceremony: Ministry for Women and Children Affairs and Shishu Academy will hold the concluding ceremony of the weeklong programmes on Child Rights Week 2000. Venue: Shishu Academy Auditorium. Time: 4.00 pm.

IMCB seminar: Institute of Management Consultants Bangladesh (IMCB) will hold a seminar on 'Issues in energy pricing in Bangladesh'. Venue: Ballroom of Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 5.00 pm.

Discussion meeting: Bangladesh-China People's Friendship Association (BCPFA) will hold a discussion meeting to mark the 25th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Chief guest: Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed. Venue: Hotel Purbani International. Time: 5.00 pm.

Rally: Bangladesh Sikkhak Samity will hold a rally and bring out a procession to mark International Teachers Day. Venue: Osmani Udyan. Time: Rally 10.00 am; procession-11.00 am.

BFTA rally: Bangladesh Federation of Teachers' Associations (BFTA) will hold a rally and bring out a procession to mark International Teachers Day 2000. Venue: Central Shaheed Minar. Time: 10.00 am.

Meeting: An emergency meeting of the Sammita Tran Committee organised by the Jatiya Mahila Songstha. Venue: 28/D, Tophkhana Road, Segun Bagicha. Time: 11.00 am.

Discussion: A seminar on 'Modern sewerage systems and the 21st century building technology'. Venue: Building materials exhibition at Ramna. Time: 3.45 pm-5.15 pm.

Fashion exhibition: 'Art in Iron' an exhibition of Shahrin's home interiors & fashion exhibition is going on. Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhaka. Time: 9.00 am-12.00 pm and 5.00 pm-8.00 pm till October 21.

Freshers reception: Women Entrepreneurs Association of Bangladesh will hold a freshers reception followed by a dinner. Venue: Hotel Sunderban Banquet Hall. Time: 7.00 pm.

Award-giving ceremony: The Shapla Cub award-giving ceremony of Bangladesh Scouts will be held. Chief guest: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Venue: Osmani Memorial Auditorium. Time: 11.00 am.

..... and tomorrow

Comedy Film Week 2000: Dhaka University film society will screen *The Sunshine Boys*, *Flubber* and a selected movie. The closing ceremony will also be held with screening of a selected movie from the weeklong sojourn. Venue: Shawkat Osman auditorium, Public Library, Shahbagh. Time: 10.00 am, 2.30 pm, 4.30 pm. Closing ceremony will be at 6.30 pm.

Film show: Two French movies *Mauvais Sang* and *Divia* will be screened. Venue: Auditorium of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Rd. Time: 10.30 am and 6.00 pm respectively.

BBS training: Bangladesh Bonsai Society (BBS) will hold a training programme. Venue: National Herbarium, Mirpur. Time: 3.00 pm.

Discussion meeting: A discussion meeting will be held to mark the 26th death anniversary of late Philosopher and politician Allama Abul Hashim. Venue: Tamoddun Majlis, 141 New Circular Road. Time: 5.00 pm.

Photography exhibition: The first solo photography exhibition of Dr Pierre Clauquin will be inaugurated. Venue: La Galerie of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Road. Time: 5.30 pm.

Flute concert: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka presents a Flute Concert by Murtaza Kabir Murad. Venue: Conference room of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Road. Time: 6.00 pm.

Discussion meeting: Swadesh Chinta Sangha will hold a discussion on 'Men-Women Relationship and State Mechanism'. Keynote speaker: Abdul Matin Khan. Venue: House no 25B, Road No 1, Dhammondi. Time: 10.00 am.

Weather

No change in temperature

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

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, Met Office said.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 34.3 degree Celsius at Khulna and the lowest 23.0 degree at Rangamati.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:42 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:52 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 | 31.7 | 25.6 | 74 | 76 |
| Chittagong | 31.8 | 23.2 | 82 | 80 |
| Rajshahi | 34.2 | 25.8 | 80 | 77 |
| Khulna | 34.3 | 23.5 | 84 | 80 |
| Barisal | 32.0 | 23.5 | 83 | 84 |
| Sylhet | 31.0 | 23.5 | 93 | 83 |
| Cox's Bazar | 32.2 | 24.0 | 80 | 80 |

A medical contingent of Bangladesh Army belonging to Bogra area providing medical assistance to the flood affected people of Chapainawabganj yesterday.



President of AmCham Forest E Cookson presenting the Keynote paper at a seminar on 'Issues in Energy Pricing in Bangladesh' in the city. Also seen in the picture (from L to R) Prof. Hafiz GA Siddiqi of North South University, Dr. M Shamsul Haque of Dhaka University and Dr. Nurul Islam of Institute of Appropriate Technology, BUET. (Story on Page 1).

Country's adolescent reproductive health situation poor

By Staff Correspondent

Adolescent reproductive health situation in Bangladesh can not be denoted as 'satisfactory', according to the Bangladesh Country Report presented at the 33rd session of the Commission on Population and Development of United Nations.

Bangladesh has the highest proportion of women under the age of 20 who are giving birth every year. The percentage of adolescent giving birth before 20 years of age are 60 per cent in Bangladesh, 49 per cent in India, 30 per cent in Pakistan and 22 per cent in the Philippines, speakers said at the Dissemination Seminar on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health in Bangladesh A Needs Assessment.

With the aim of identifying the current sexual and reproductive health needs of adolescent and youth in Bangladesh, the seminar was jointly organised by International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB). State Minister for Health and Family Planning Dr M Amanullah was present as chief guest at the seminar held at the Hotel Sheraton yesterday.

The adolescent population (10-19 years of age) is expected to stand at about 30 million or 23 per cent of the total population and it is likely to rise to around 33 million in the year 2005, Professor Abul Barkat, a researcher, presented this in his findings.

A substantial proportion of the adolescents and youths are not aware of the cause of menstruation, consequences of not maintaining menstrual hygiene, consequences of unprotected sexual act, gonorrhoea, syphilis, method of transmission of HIV/AIDS, use of condom for prevention of STD/HIV/AIDS, menstrual regulation, causes of STDs and availability of treatment facilities of STDs.

A large proportion of the married adolescents are unaware of the need for ante natal care, check-ups during pregnancy, post-natal care, emergency obstetric care and danger of abortion by untrained persons.

In 1997, out of about 3 million child births about 1 million were born to women aged 15 to 19. Country's adolescent fertility rate is one of the highest in the world with 147 births per 1000 women below 20 years of age which is five times higher than Sri Lanka.

Noted women activist Dr Neelima Ibrahim presided over the seminar.

Obituary

Moulana Shah Zakaul Haque, father of Brigadier Shah Akramul Haque of Laxmipur Dairabari, died on October 1 at the Combined Military Hospital, Dhaka. He was 90, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, 5 sons, 2 daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

Zebunnessa Chowdhury, wife of late Dr SD Chowdhury, former Vice Chancellor of Mymensingh Agricultural University, died yesterday afternoon at her Gulshan residence, says a press release.

She is survived by here only daughter, 3 sons and a host of relatives to mourn her death.

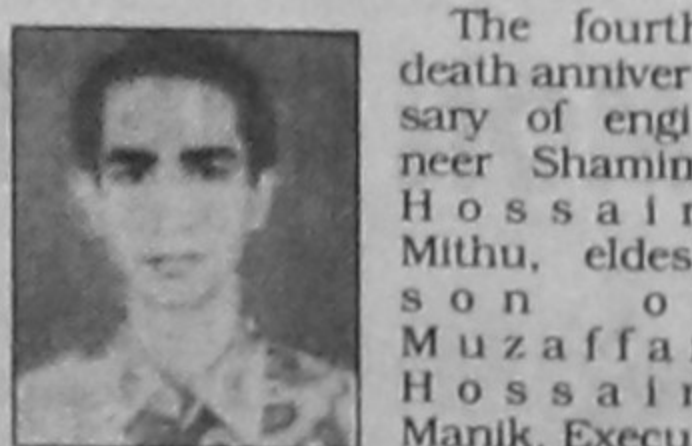
Zebunnessa's namaj-e-janaza will be held at the Gulshan Azad Mosque after Zohr prayers today (Thursday). She will be buried at the Banani Army graveyard.

Death anniversary



The 12th death anniversary of former secretary, Al-haj MA Rashid will be observed today, says a press release.

A milad mahfil will be held today after Magrib prayers at his son's residence. All relatives, friends and admirers are requested to attend.



The fourth death anniversary of engineer Shamim Hossain Mithu, eldest son of Muzaffar Hossain Manik, Executive Editor of the New Nation was observed yesterday, says a press release.

Shamim died of meningitis in Montreal, Canada at the age of 29.

Odhikar survey

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The country, the survey revealed. The Odhikar report further said that 22 people were killed, 22 injured, 38 abducted and raped in different border incidents during this period.

Fifteen people were killed, 47 injured, five women raped and 26 people abducted in separate incidents in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, said the survey report.

During the last nine months, a total of 26 cases were lodged under the Public Safety Act in 10 police stations of Dhaka metropolitan police. These stations are Mohammadpur, Mirpur, Ramna, Sababagh, Kotwali, Motijheel, Lalbagh, Cantonment and Dhammondi.

Babubazar

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tre of city, was long neglected. With the commissioning of digital exchange, trade and business of the area will expand, she said.

She said the government has so far brought 31 districts, including Dhaka, under the digital telephone network. 'The whole country will be brought under telecommunication network gradually by providing digital lines in the remaining districts and upazilas,' she added.

Hasina expressed her desire to answer questions from people through Betar (radio) programme every month if the Telecommunication Ministry makes such calls, particularly the outside calls, toll-free.

The Telecommunication Minister assured her that telephone calls to put questions to the Prime Minister will be made free.

Hasina also talked over telephone with Dhaka City Mayor Mohammad Hanif, Kamal Ahmed Majumder MP, Haji Mohammad Selim MP and Segupta Yasmin MP at the Babu bazar end.

Cricket

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only the nine Test-playing nations were allowed to participate.

Bangladesh warmed-up for the England encounter with a 34-run win over Kenya and nine-wicket defeat against Sri Lanka.

TEAMS
BANGLADESH: Naimur Rahman, Khaled Masud, Javed Omar, Al Shariar, Ehsanul Haq, Habibul Bashar, Akram Khan, Aminul Islam, Enamul Haq, Hasibul Hossain, Manjurul Islam, Mohammad Rafique, Mushfiq Rahman and Bikas Ranjita Das.

ENGLAND (from): N Hussain, M Trescothick, A Stewart, A Flintoff, G Hick, G Thorpe, C White, M Elhaam, A Giles, A Caddick, D Gough, M Hogart, V Solanki and M Alfyne.

Humayun Zahir

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Humayun Zahir, a leading businessman, was shot dead by a group of assailants on the premises of his Dhammondi residence on April 8, 1993.

Zahirul Haq Khan father-in-law of Humayun Zahir filed a murder case accusing seven people with Dhammondi thana the same day.

The investigation officer of the case submitted a charge sheet before the CMM's court against seven including Akhteruzzamna Babu.

Babu and Abdul Matin who were granted ad-interim bail by the High Court Division of the Supreme Court in 1997 appeared before the trial court.

Of the accused Tanmoy, Kalsar, and Alam now in Jail were produced before the court.

District PP Mohammad Ali appeared for the state while Advocate Mahbub Ahmed for the accused.

USGS

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export after keeping reserves for next 50 years.

About the USGS survey he said, 'We have nothing to hide about our study' as the methodology and technology of the USGS in making the assessment is very transparent and fair.

Humphrey, however, said Bangladesh badly needs hard currency and decision should be made by the government keeping the interest of the people in view.

Asked about any possibility of signing any accord between Dhaka and Washington on sale of gas during the Prime Minister's visit to USA, he said: 'I don't anticipate any agreement on the export. We're discussing a number of issues and this point will be premature.'

In reply to a question about his Tuesday's statement about corruption in the energy sector, Humphrey said he did not accuse the government as corrupt. But there is chance of corruption if an authority has got the responsibility of dealing with setting prices, signing production-sharing contracts and regulatory authority. 'What we want is that corruption does not turn into cancer.'

Humphrey said during his talks with state minister Abul Hasan Chowdhury they agreed on a number of issues, including partnership in energy sector. 'We have reached agreement on principle on a number of issues, including energy sector, and our bilateral relation is thriving,' he told newsmen.

About US-Bangladesh ties he said: 'We are progressing, we have institutionalised our relationship.'

Shipu murder

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the Penal Code. Ishtiaq Ahmed, younger brother of the victim, filed a murder case with Gulshan thana accusing Shafitul, Jewel and Jubair.

The charge sheet referred to 30 witnesses and 15 alambats, seized during the investigation.

During the investigation, police recorded a judicial statement of one accused Joy Hasib under Section 164 of CrPC. Two of the 30 witnesses also recorded their judicial statements.

According to the charge sheet, the murder took place when the accused went to the UAE market and pressed Abul Kalam Azad, manager of Shipu's shop, to replace an old mobile telephone set. As Azad refusal, the killers shot Azad in his leg.

Being informed, Shipu rushed to his shop. The killers then shot him in the chest. Shipu was rushed to Dhaka CMH where he died soon after admission.

The condition of Azad is critical as he is suffering from Hepatitis-B virus due to transfusion of infected blood during treatment of the bullet injury.

The IO told the Daily Star that if the witnesses give statements before the court as was recorded by him, none of the accused will be able to escape punishment.

Sunamganj AL

From Page 1
pendence and sovereignty and ensure development. If Awami League is not re-elected, development will suffer and people will be deprived.

The Prime Minister accused BNP Chief Khaleda Zia of selling out the interests of the country while in power for personal benefit. 'They would not hesitate to sell gas and independence if they get yet another chance. Independence, democracy and people's interest are not safe in their hands.'

She said conspiracy is on to snatch away people's right to votes earned through movement. The four 'defeated' parties have united to grab power by illegal means, she claimed.

The Prime Minister criticised the Opposition leader for calling hartal at a time when the country is facing floods in the southwest districts.

Khaleda Zia, who visited the flood-affected areas after 10 days of the onslaught, disrupted relief operation by calling hartal, she said.

Refuting an Opposition allegation the Prime Minister said BNP governments and the government of Ershad had followed a foreign

policy subservient to India during their rule. But now, they are criticising the AL government which is trying to protect country's interests.

She alleged that BNP allowed a massive flow of Indian goods into Bangladesh by reducing duties to 25 per cent from 400 per cent. Thus they turned the country into a market of Indian goods. Bangladesh is now exporting over 25 items to India free of duties due to the successful diplomacy by the AL government.

She said corruption charges have been brought against the government of Khaleda Zia, which bought two Airbus aircraft at a cost of 150 million US dollars, while the price was 130 million US dollars. Her government also spent additional 15 million dollars in the name of purchasing spare parts for the aircraft. 'There is no corruption charge against us.'

During the floods of 1988, Hasina said, the government of General Ershad plundered huge money by misappropriating relief and depriving the distressed people. There is proof to plundering relief after the cyclone of 1991 when Khaleda Zia was in power.

SC should monitor

From Page 1
Such cases are not complicated in nature and so, there is no reason why the High Court should be burdened with 'piles of such cases', he said.

He said the courts passed verdicts in 47 per cent of the cases filed, but only six to seven per cent cases were settled satisfactorily.

'Why the banks wait so long to file cases after loans turn bad?' asked Justice Ahmed. 'The bankers need not wait so long because they know well who is a good borrower and who is a bad one.'

M Aminuzzaman echoed the views of the Law Commission member, saying judges, lawyers and bankers can prolong a case for an indefinite period.

He said the bankers should also be careful in sanctioning loans and they should be held responsible for wilful mistakes.

S A Chowdhury said hardly eight to nine per cent of the cases are settled by the courts.

'If we wait to bring about a change in the banking system, the attitude of bankers should be changed and quality of lending should be improved,' he said.

The Bankruptcy Act is not being implemented properly as the receivers are not taking responsibilities, he said. 'There is no monitoring at law departments in banks, which need to be strengthened.'

Filing cases is not enough. There must be accountability in monitoring these cases, he maintained.

Barrister Shamim Khaled Ahmed said disposal of a suit is done quickly but the problem lies in execution. Recovery of defaulted bank loans is very poor.

'If we compare the Artho Rin Adalat with the Bankruptcy Act, effectiveness of the latter is very weak,' he said.

Dr Sohrabuddin suggested that there should be provision for writing off bad loans on a regular basis.

Earlier, Md Liakat Hossain Moral, Faculty Member, Abdul Jalil Chaudhury, Assistant Professor and Md Mohiuddin Siddique, Lecturer of BIBM jointly presented a key-note paper on 'Enforcement status of laws relating to defaulted bank loans'.

বাড়ি ভাড়া পুনঃ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বারডেম হাসপাতালের নার্সদের বাসস্থানের জন্য সেগুনবাগিচা, নিউ ইকটান, ইকটান গার্ডেনস, শান্তিনগর, নয়াপল্টন, হাতীরাপুল, সেন্ট্রাল রোড/ভূতের গলি ও বকশীবাজার এলাকায় অবস্থিত ন্যূনতম ১০,০০০ (দশ হাজার) বর্গফুট ফ্লোর স্পেস বিশিষ্ট ভবন ভাড়া করতে ইচ্ছুক।

- ১। এক বা একাধিক ফ্ল্যাট/বাড়ি একাধিক মালিকানাও বিবেচনা করা হবে। তবে কোন ফ্ল্যাট/বাড়ি ৩৫০০ বর্গফুট এর কম হবে না।
- ২। বাড়ি/ফ্ল্যাটগুলোতে নিম্নে বর্ণিত সুবিধাদি বিদ্যমান থাকতে হবে।
ক. কমপক্ষে ৭ (সাত) টি গেছলখানা/টয়লেট;
খ. রান্নাঘর (স্টোর রুমসহ) কমপক্ষে ৮০০ বর্গফুট জায়গা;
গ. ভাইনিং হলের জন্য ৪০'x২০' = ৮০০ বর্গফুট-এর এক বা একাধিক কক্ষ থাকতে হবে।
ঘ. সার্বজনিক বিদ্যুৎ, পানি ও গ্যাসের ব্যবস্থা এবং ভবনের চারিদিকে নিরাপত্তা বেটনি থাকা বাধ্যনীয়;
৩. বাড়ি/ফ্ল্যাট ৫ম তলার উপরে অবস্থিত হলে লিফ্ট-এর ব্যবস্থা থাকতে হবে;
৪. বাড়ি/ফ্ল্যাটগুলোর পার্শ্বে অন্তত ২০ চওড়া রাস্তা থাকা বাধ্যনীয়;
- ৫। বাড়ি/ফ্ল্যাটগুলো কমপক্ষে ৫ (পাঁচ) বছর মেয়াদে ভাড়া নেয়া যেতে পারে।
- ৬। উল্লেখিত শর্ত পূরণে অগ্রহী মালিকদের বাড়ির প্ল্যান ও আনুমানিক দলিলাদি সহ আগামী ১২.১০.২০০০ খ্রীঃ রোজ বৃহস্পতিবার দুপুর ১২:৩০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে সমিতির ২২৪ নং কক্ষের সম্মুখে রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাজের মধ্যে গালাসীলযুক্ত খামে প্রস্তাব লিখিলে জনা অনুরোধ করা হলো। উক্ত প্রস্তাবগুলো দরদাতা/ভাড়া নেয়ার মনোনীত প্রতিনিধিদের সামনে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) এ দিনই বেলা ১২:৩০ মিনিটে খোলা হবে।

ডি-৬৭৪

পরিচালক
লজিস্টিক সার্ভিসেস



Bank of Small Industries and Commerce Bangladesh Limited
Head Office, Dhaka
Sena Kalyan Bhaban (6th floor)
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RE-TENDER NOTICE

For purchase of 11 unit of Brand Computers

Sealed tenders are invited for supply of Pentium-III brand computer with DAT and CD-ROM drive. The participant company should be the authorized distributor of the quoted brand, and should have at least three years' proven experience in supplying computer to any schedule bank in Bangladesh.

Earnest money will be 2.5% of the quoted price. The companies already participated in the recent tender and submitted earnest money to the bank need not to submit further earnest money with their offer.

Tenders in sealed cover may be dropped in the box kept at Head Office. Tenders will be received upto 11:00 A.M. on 15th October, 2000. These will be opened at 11:15 A.M. on the same day in presence of bidders, if any.

The schedule may be obtained from the Computer Division of Head Office between 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. of all working days, free of cost. No schedule will be distributed after 1:00 P.M. of 14th October, 2000.

The offers should have validity for at least 30 (thirty) days from the date of opening of the tender. The Bank shall not be under any obligation to accept the lowest quotation. The Bank authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers, in part or full.

Abul Kashem Md. Shirin
A.G.M., Computer Division