

What's on today

National Workshop: A two day long national workshop on General Practice/Family Medicine in Bangladesh will be inaugurated.

NPC seminar: National Press Club will hold a seminar on "Professional Security of Journalists" as part of its 46th anniversary celebrations.

Training: Bentley Nevada Sales and Service, Singapore in association with landmark Bangladesh Ltd Dhaka will hold "Training on Machinery Diagnostic System".

NMST Lecture: National Museum of Science and Technology (NMST) will hold a lecture on "Genetic Engineering: Its Impact in Biotechnology".

Open drama: Brotee, Centre for People's Participation, Training and Research will hold an open drama called "Arsenic pala" to create awareness among the people about the arsenic poisoning in the country.

Lecture: Discussion Project will hold a lecture on stars. Venue: Bishwa Shahitya Kendra Auditorium at Kazi Nazrul Islam Auditorium.



Sultan's death anniversary today

The 6th death anniversary of eminent artist SM Sultan will be observed today, says a press release.

On this day in 1994, he left this world. To mark the day, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has organised a discussion meeting on "Artist Sultan: Life and works" at its Gallery Building at 5 pm.

.....and tomorrow

Award giving ceremony: Dr Md Ibrahim Smriti Parishad will award scientist Prof Kazi Abul Monsur posthumously with the Dr Ibrahim Gold Medal.

Inauguration: American Alumni Association will inaugurate its new office. Venue: House no 145, Road no 13/B, Banani.

Seminar: Shobar Jonnyo Shasthyo (Health for All) will hold a seminar on "Rabies: Its Prevention and Remedy".

Weather

No change in temperature

Light rain or thundershowers is likely at a few places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions during 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 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and the lowest 23.8 degree at Chittagong.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:37 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:54 am.

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

Table with 4 columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

Women folk must

From Page 1 next session. BNP MP Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan said constitutional provision for reserved seats for women in parliament has failed to ensure proper participation of women in politics.

Therefore, there should be a massive campaign to motivate the womenfolk to participate in politics and elections and to make people aware of women's constitutional rights.

Jatiya Party legislator Taslima Hossain said the present political practice is promoting only those women who are in advantageous positions in the society.

Both Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia are now in their present positions because of their family backgrounds," she said, admitting that a similar background also brought her to parliament.

She appealed to all major political parties to nominate at least 30 per cent of their candidates in elections from among women.

Awami League lawmaker SM Akbar said the role of women is changing fast in the society, but still there are difficulties to ensure their legitimate rights, especially in politics. The ruling party MP regretted that the large number of women elected to the local government bodies like the Union Parishad were not getting the authority to serve their electorate due to non-cooperation by their male colleagues.

Oona King, member of the British House of Commons, and Baroness Pola Uddin, member of

the British House of Lords, spoke about their experiences as women members of Labour Party. BNP MP Major (Retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed and women's right activists Maleka Begum, Shirin Akhtar, Afroza Parveen and Rokeya Ahmed were among others who participated in the open discussion.

Two terrorists

From Page 12 45, and Ali Hossain, 35, in Bholali area under Fatullah thana at 11 am. They chopped the victims.

The victims were rushed to Narayanganj hospital in critical condition.

The victims said the assailants were accused of local JP leader Halim Matbar Murder Case. However, they were released on bail only a week back.

Police refused to file case against the accused.

JP leader Halim Matbar was killed by a group of terrorists in the same area. Out of the 17 arrested, six are released on bail.

Swiss FM

From Page 12 Joseph Deiss will visit some of the SDC run projects.

Charge d' Affaires ad interim of Switzerland Giambattista Mondada will host a reception for the foreign minister on October 14.

The Swiss foreign minister will address a press conference on October 15 prior to his departure.

US: Oil, gas

From Page 1

Dhaka is seeking quota and duty-free access of garments to US market and also wants Washington to agree to formation of welfare associations instead of trade unions in Export Processing Zones.

President Bill Clinton and Sheikh Hasina are due to hold talks on October 17.

The US authorities are interested to see that Chevron be given operatorship of Block 9.

When asked about Humphrey's return, a spokesman of the US Embassy in Dhaka said, "He returned to continue the talks he had initiated. It is to resolve the unresolved issues."

Some other embassy officials told UNB, Humphrey will continue discussions on cooperation in gas sector.

He is scheduled to leave Dhaka this afternoon.



Dr Sultan Ahmed's death anniversary today

The 2nd death anniversary of Prof Dr Sultan Ahmed Chowdhury, a renowned child specialist, will be observed today, says a press release.

Dr Sultan, family physician of Bangabandhu, played a pioneering role in the field of medicine in the country. He was one of the leading forces behind the establishment of Dhaka Shishu Hospital.

In recognition to his services, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presented him Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) Gold Medal May 14, 1998.

The occasion will be observed through holding of religious programmes by the Dr Sultan Ahmed Smriti Sangsad, the release added.

Gen Nazirul Aziz Chisti dead

By Staff Correspondent Major General (Retd) Nazirul Aziz Chisti died at the CMH in the city yesterday, 14 days after he was declared 'clinically dead' by the doctors. He was 67.

According to family sources, Chisti was admitted to the CMH with chest pain on September 6 following which he suffered a massive heart attack.

On September 26, he suffered a brain stroke following an angiogram.

In 1981, General Chisti was the PSO to the Chief of Army Staff and the Chief Prosecutor to the Field Court Marshal. Chisti was instrumental in bringing in several administrative reforms that included setting up of Upazilla, a major step for decentralisation of administration.

The namaj-e-Janaza of General Chisti will be held at the Garrison Mosque (Signal Mosque) in Dhaka Cantonment after Zohr prayers today. Two more janaza will be held at Dhanmondi Eidgah Maidan at 10 am and Sobhanbagh Mosque at 11 am.

He will be buried at Banani Military graveyard.

Zimbabwe

From Page 1 wicket partnership of 95 with Craig McMillan, who made a punchy 52 at a run a ball.

The pair took the initiative after Twose left captain Fleming floundering mid-pitch and exposed to Guy Whittall's direct hit from mid-wicket.

Wicketkeeper Adam Parore hit two sixes in the final over of the innings as Henry Olonga made a mess of the last six balls, erratically conceding 19, but still managed to finish with the figures of 3-58.

(Scorecards and other stories on Page 13)



Chief of Army Staff Lt General Muhammad Mustafizur Rahman, Bir Bikram, handing over a cheque for Tk 40 lakh to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for her relief fund. - ISPR photo

World Mental Health Day Ctg jail clash

The World Mental Health Day 2000 will be observed across the country today with a call to rehabilitate the mentally disabled people by uprooting the barriers of superstitions and establishing a discrimination free society, reports BSS.

This year the World Federation of Mental Health has chosen the theme as "Mental Health and Work".

Institute of Mental Health and Research (IMHR) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) has taken up an elaborate programme to observe the day at Pabna Mental Hospital and at psychiatry department of all government medical colleges.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Sheikh Fazul Karim Selim will attend as the chief guest the inaugural function today at 10 am in the CIRDP auditorium. The inaugural function will be followed by a workshop.

A colorful rally will be brought out from Dhaka Medical College premises at 7:30 am to mark the occasion.

In a message, President Shahabuddin Ahmed said existing superstitions regarding mentally disabled patients and discriminatory behaviour hamper the rehabilitation process of the mental patients.

Meanwhile, senior superintendent of Chittagong Central Jail has been transferred to Rangpur Central Jail, sources said. The senior superintendent of Rangpur Central Jail has been asked to join Chittagong Central Jail.

The cabinet further approved proposals for formulating laws for the establishment of New Science and Technology Universities and recommendation of the committee on implementation of National Wages and Productivity Commission 1998 awards.

Satkhira

From Page 1 Khulna roads. BSS adds: "The prevailing flood situation in the district is likely to remain unchanged in the next 24 hours," Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) officials said.

Officials and correspondents from the other flood-hit districts reported that excluding Chaugachha upazilla, flood situation in Sharsha, Jhikargachha and other places in Jessore, Jhenaidah, Chuadanga, Meherpur, Kushtia, Magura, registered moderate improvement.

Satkhira district administration said a vast area of Tala upazilla was submerged following the collapse of Nagorghata-Harkata embankment. Tension mounted in the locality when people of Sharle village cut a portion of Sharle-Maskhola embankment to release water.

The people with the assistance of the local administration made a temporary outlet through another embankment near Binerpota bridge area.

Qulkhwani

By Staff Correspondent The qulkhwani of Additional Superintendent of Police Mohammad Mesbahul Islam Chowdhury will be held at the Ramna Police Complex after Magreeb prayers today.

Mesbah, aged only 37, had been suffering from rare Hepatitis C and breathed his last at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib University Hospital in the early hours of Sunday.

He was survived by his wife and a son.

Relatives, colleagues and admirers have been requested to attend the qul and pray for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

The qulkhwani of former joint secretary and Executive Director of Human Development Foundation, AIM Nurul Huda, will be held at his residence in the city after Magreeb prayers today, reports UNB.

Friends, relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the Qulkhwani at his Sanghad View Apartment residence at 75/1 Indira Road, Farmgate.

Nurul Huda died at the Heart Foundation Hospital on Friday at the age of 68.

Amit's operation today

All is set for 12-year old Shaikat Rahman Amit's operation at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Hospital today, reports BSS.

Amit who has been suffering from the wild polio virus will be fitted with a breathing pacemaker. The polio virus has destroyed vital nerves forcing the 12-year old on an artificial breathing device for the past few months.

Help poured in from people all over the country to help fund the Tk 41.33 lakh pacemaker for the boy.

Akhteruzzaman

From Page 1 sent the matter to the EC along with Akhter's reply.

The MP from Kishoreganj in reply to the Speaker made a proposal for holding a referendum for his electorate, saying that they recommended his return to parliament.

He refuted Opposition Chief Whip's claim that his expulsion was tantamount to resignation from the party and so his seat should be declared vacated.

The Speaker sent the matter to the Election Commission with a note that Akhter's proposal for referendum "requires special consideration".

Tk 30 cr plan

From Page 12 non an emergency basis by sinking tubewells. The UNICEF would provide baby food.

The deputy commissioners concerned would arrange Vulnerable Group feeding (VGF) cards for flood victims as per instruction of the Prime Minister to provide food aid to the needy till the next harvest.

The meeting also took up the issues of water logging in the area in the wake of recession of floods and cutting of roads, culverts and embankments for release of waters. A meeting on the issues was also held yesterday at Jessore Cantonment with the GOC in the chair and attended by DCs and officials from the RHD.

The External Relations Division of the Finance Ministry would seek foreign assistance, particularly from the World Bank and the ADB to make an assessment of damage of roads, culverts and bridges.

The Water Development Board, RHD and Local Government Engineering Department would prepare a plan to solve the problem of logging, the inter-ministerial meeting decided.

BNP protests

From Page 12 tively, keeping the original name. But all of a sudden, the Prime Minister changed the name, Khoka said.

"Why do they not construct a new project and name it after Osman Ali? Can Osman Ali be compared with General Osman? Will freedom fighters and people accept such things? It is not wise on the part of a government to do such things nakedly."

Khoka said General Osmani was not a member of BNP but BNP government named the stadium after him to show respect to him.

Speaking at the press conference, MK Anwar MP said the AL government allocated Tk 500 crore in the last fiscal and Tk 548 crore in the current fiscal for various constructions to be named after family members of the AL chief.

Among others, BNP leaders Noim Jahangir and Chowdhury Alam and freedom fighters Faruq Azam BP, Saqat Ahmed Khan and Mainuddin Ahmed Manik were present at the conference.

Killing now order of day: Khaleda

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia yesterday said killing has turned into an order of the day following the Prime Minister's statement "ten dead bodies would be fallen against one," reports UNB.

Following the Prime Minister's remark, bodies are being fallen one after another," she said while addressing a gathering on Nawabpur High School premises in the afternoon marking the chehelum of Adv Habibur Rahman Mondal, a city BNP leader, who was gunned down last month on way to his office.

"One day you (Prime Minister) would have to give reply for these killings when you would no longer be a Prime Minister," she said.

BNP chairperson blamed the leaders of the party in power for telling a lie inside parliament.

"We have documents of telling a lie in the parliament," she said adding, how people would keep confidence on them if they frequently speak falsehood?

Her instruction came when advocate Islam's wife, three daughters and only son met her at her 29 Minto Road official residence yesterday evening, party sources said.

Khaleda suggested forming the committee headed by BNP lawmaker from Luxmipur Ziaul Huq Zia and asked for raising a handsome amount of money to meet the essential expenses of Nurul Islam's family who resides in the capital.

The Opposition leader said Awami League neither exercises democracy nor believes in it, although frequently cries for democracy.

Referring to the abduction of Luxmipur BNP leader Adv Nurul Islam, Khaleda said abductors were moving openly, but they are not being arrested.

Another report adds: Khaleda has directed her party leaders to form a committee for extending assistance to the family members of Nurul Islam.

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Palestinians, Israelis

From Page 1 today, with Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov calling on Syria for an end to the current violence.

Ivanov, who met today with Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad before heading to Lebanon, Israel and the Palestinian territories, also gave lively satisfaction to Damascus by insisting that Israel work to resolve its dispute not only with the Palestinians but with Syria.

"It is necessary, before all else, to stop the violence against the Palestinians. It is not allowed for them (Israel) to kill innocent civilians," Ivanov said after a meeting with Assad and Foreign Minister Faruq Al-Shara.

Faruq Al-Shara said that Damascus did not want war, but warned Israel that it would be the loser if it launched an attack.

Assad also discussed the situation with French President Jacques Chirac and British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook.

The international moves followed an eruption of cross-border fighting and the abduction on Saturday by Shi'ite Muslim Hezbollah guerrillas of three Israeli soldiers.

Barak has warned that Israel will hold Syria responsible for the well-being of the three Israelis, while Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Ephraim Sneh said Syria will be "the address of our response" if border violence persisted.

Despite Barak's ultimatum, the Palestinians and the Syrians who effectively control Lebanon were in defiant mood.

"The Israeli threats do not scare us. Israeli is the one responsible for the ongoing escalation," Arafat's top aide Nabil Abu Rudeina told AFP in Gaza.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, threatened today to resume terrorist activities in Israel in an escalation of the intifada (Uprising).

Overnight, Jerusalem, Nazareth and Hebron were the bloody scenes of stone-throwing violence and deadly gunfire exchanges. An Israeli Arab man died from a bullet wound to the chest late Sunday during clashes between Jewish and Arab youths in Jesus' boyhood town.

Seven others were in serious or critical condition from bullet wounds and another 40 Arab men, most in their early 20s, were treated for exposure to tear gas.

Israeli police spokesman Ran Ofir said his troops used tear gas only to separate the sides and did not open fire. The regional police commissioner ordered an investigation into the shooting while Arab leaders in Nazareth called for a general strike Monday accompanied by three days of mourning.

A Palestinian man was found in the village of Azoun near Nablus this morning, dead from a bullet wound to the head, Palestinian officials said. They said he had taken part in clashes with Israeli troops at midnight.

Another Palestinian man was found dead on a road near the West Bank town of Ramallah. Hospital officials said he had been beaten to death.

The death total in 11 days of violence was 86.



Prof Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) addressing the international seminar on 'Women in National Politics' at the British Council auditorium yesterday. (From L to R) Taslima Hossain MP, Suranjit Sengupta MP, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Parliamentary Affairs, Oona King, British MP and Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan MP are also seen. - Star photo

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