

What's on today

Wheelchair March: A reception will be accorded to 5 disabled participants of the 270km long Wheelchair/Tri-cycle March, 2000 from Kushtia to Dhaka. National Forum of Organisation for Disabled (NFOWD) will accord the reception after placing wreath at the National Mausoleum, Savar at 10 am. Another reception will be accorded to them at Action on Disability and Development office at House No: 3, Road No: 13, Sector: 3, Uttara at 4 pm.

Seminar: Effective Schools Through Enhanced Education Management (ESTEEM) has organised a seminar on primary education management. Venue: BIAM auditorium, 75, New Eskaton. Time: 3 pm.

Meeting: Bangladesh Hindu-Buddha-Christian Oikya Parishad will hold a meeting on the occasion of the International Human Rights Day demanding repeal of the Vested Property Act. Venue: Ramna Restaurant. Time: 4 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Wheelchair March: The participants of the Wheelchair/Tri-cycle March, 2000 from Kushtia to Dhaka will present a memorandum at the Prime Minister's Office at 9 am. They will also meet the British High Commissioner at the Embassy at 10:30 am and the Speaker at the Jatiya Sangsad at 2 pm. Five disabled persons took part in the 270 km long march.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country in next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the northern part and river basins of the country during late night and early morning. Met Office said forecasting little change in night temperature over the country.

The country's highest temperature 30.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Kushtia and the lowest 12.6 degree at Srimongal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:10 pm and rises on Sunday at 6:26 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	26.2	17.9	79	76
Chittagong	29.5	18.0	67	67
Rajshahi	26.1	15.5	75	84
Khulna	28.8	16.5	81	75
Barisal	28.2	15.4	91	79
Sylhet	26.1	16.3	86	78
Cox's Bazar	29.5	22.4	88	60

Trader shot dead

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Police said they could not identify the rivals of Masum and Enamul who attended the meeting.

Four bullets hit Masum in his chest and head. He died while being taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Enamul was admitted to the hospital with bullet injury in his legs.

Masum, also a cable line provider, was the son of one Abdul Aziz of Khilgaon Chowdhurypara.

Police said Masum was taken into custody few days back but released. Masum had given Tk one lakh to Enamul for business, police said quoting local people.

Acting on an information, Khilgaon police recovered the decomposed bodies of two young men from the third floor flat of a building at East Rampura.

Politician dead

By Staff Correspondent

Aminul Islam Mojumder, a veteran left leader and noted educationist died at Uttara in the city yesterday. He was 68.

He was suffering from various diseases for long.

He left behind his wife, five sons, three daughters and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

A central member of Sramik-Krishak Samajbadi Dal (SKSD), Aminul Islam joined the Biplabi Smajbadi Dal-RSP when he was a student of Victoria College in Comilla during British regime. He was also the general secretary of the party.

He started his career as a teacher of Comilla Bagmara High School and served Bilyapur Hosa Mia School and Chandpur Janata School as the headmaster.

He took part in various movements, including Language Movement in 1952 and anti-autocratic movement in 1990.

Meanwhile, SKSD in a statement yesterday expressed deep shock at the death of its leader.

"Aminul Islam was the leader of destitute and served the masses till last day of his life," the statement said.

Private Security

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tive, they continue to work under these agencies, as they had given them money to secure the job.

It is difficult to prove such allegations, but since the culture of underhand dealings to get anything done anywhere, however legal it may be, seems to be ubiquitous, this has to be taken in one's stride.

Some quarters give specific reasons for the steady growth of business of the private security agencies. The main causative factor is stated to be the current proximity of anti-social elements to resort to chandabazi (forcible toll collection) from any shop or commercial enterprise to which they take a fancy as prospective victims.

In such situations, appeal to law for help rarely produces results. To discourage such tendency towards chandabazi, the owners of some commercial establishments sometimes find it a deterring effect when some private security guards, in full uniforms stand guard in front of their establishments.

Needless to say, such undesirable trend of chandabazi needs to be tackled with a firm hand by the government's law and order agencies.

Congratulations



The University of Dhaka recently conferred Ph.D. degree on Prof. Md. Aminul Haque Bhuiyan of the Institute of Nutrition and Food Science (INFS), of the university for his thesis titled "Studies on non-formal nutrition education programmes in Bangladesh: A critical analysis and future directions", says a press release.

His research under the supervision of M.A. Malek of INFS, DU, outlined various aspects of non-formal nutrition education in Bangladesh.

Professor Bhuiyan, a renowned Nutrition Education Specialist, earlier completed his Masters of Community Nutrition (MCN) degree from the University of Queensland, Australia. He is in possession of 50 research articles published in different national and international journals including American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, European Journal of Clinical Nutrition and other esteemed journals.

Prof Bhuiyan is also a co-author of five books/booklets on Nutrition in Bangla. He also worked under UNDP as an UNV Public Health Nutritionist in the Maldives for 2 years.

He is the son of Md. Mofazzal Hossain Bhuiyan and Hazara Khatun of village Dhorgaon, Nandail upazila under Mymensingh district.



By Staff Correspondent

Farhat Tasnim stood firstclass first in the MSS Final Year examination, 1997 (held in 2000) from the Political Science Department of Rajshahi University.

She also obtained first class first in BSS examination from the same department held in 1998.

Tasnim got first division in the HSC examinations in 1993 from Humanities group under Rajshahi Board.

She is the youngest daughter of Shirin Maqsooda and Prof. Muhammad Shahjahan, chairman, Department of Philosophy, Rajshahi University.

Tasnim is interested in teaching and want to be a researcher.



Rizwana Islam, a Bangladeshi student secured 4 A's in 'A' level examination held in 2000 conducted by University of London through the British Council covering Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Pure Mathematics, says a press release.

She had also secured ten A's in her 'O' level examination from the same University in 1998 covering Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Human Biology, Maths-A, Maths-B, Pure Maths, English, Bengali and Economics. She had obtained the highest mark in Human Biology.

She is the only daughter of Md. Sirajul Islam Bhuiyan, Executive Vice President, EXIM Bank, Moulvibazar Branch and Kameez Fatma Akhter, Teacher of the Banani Bidyaniketan.

She is the grand daughter of A.S.M. Fakhrul Ahsan, retired deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank.

Chehlum

Chehlum of Gazi Rafiqul Islam, the joint editor of Dainik Probat and chief feature writer of the Press Information Department (PID) will be held today after Zohr prayers at the Shymali residence of the deceased, says a press release.

Gazi Rafiq died on October 27.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is seen among the winners, who won prizes for their various youth development activities at a function organised at the Osmani Memorial Hall yesterday marking the inaugural ceremony of the Jatiya Jubo Utsab.

-Star photo

Thorns remain

From Page 1

From the outset, mistrust plagued Larma's relations with the government on the issue of RC leadership. In fact its composition. The issue was whether his nominees or those of the government would fill the posts of RC members.

The RC was seen as the key body for implementation of the peace accord. Larma took nearly two years to accept its Chairmanship.

Officials said that the main success of the accord was the return of some 65,000 refugees who had fled their homes in CHT and taken shelter in Tripura in 1986 after the collapse of peace talks.

Their rehabilitation as per the accord is almost complete, rations are still being given despite expiry of the stipulated period of one year and they are being helped with cash and in kind for resettlement, a highly placed source in the CHT Affairs Ministry said.

The ministry itself is the outcome of the treaty, he pointed out.

Besides, 780 former Shantibahini cadres have been given jobs in police department, others who had government jobs were reinstated and guerrillas who surrendered were given Tk 50,000 each to restart life and are still getting rations. All these show success of the accord, he noted.

Officials said that providing rations to them and the settlers in 'cluster villages' is costing the government huge amounts for procuring 28,000 tonnes of grains annually.

An official document on successes of the accord was released by the CHT Affairs Ministry at a press conference by Kalparanjani Chakma on November 18.

But Shantu Larma alleged that the government was not implementing the accord properly and was violating commitments made during peace talks. Recently, he threatened to go back to the bush if the accord is not fully implemented.

Larma saw his political front split. The youthful supporters in the students and women's fronts during the bush war deserted him demanding 'full autonomy' of the CHT and organised themselves under the banner of United Peoples Democratic Front (UPDF).

They branded Larma as a traitor. A spate of violence between the two sides so far claimed 66 lives. Both sides blamed each other for the violence. Larma says 21 of those killed were his supporters and UPDF claims most of the victims were its supporters.

It suddenly changed the dimension of the CHT conflict. Initially it was presumed that there would be trouble between tribals and non-tribals. But an uneasy situation today dominates the forest clad hills and beautiful valleys.

Faced with internal rivalry, Larma accused the government of not implementing the peace accord fully and violating the 'pledges' made during the final phase of peace negotiations in

Dhaka in 1997.

The government denied the allegations.

He made a 19-point demand at a recent conference of his Jana Sanghati Samity (JSS) leaders and activists at Khagrachhari. His main grievances are that the government has failed to withdraw the military camps and is going ahead with acquisition of land for the military. He alleged that the government is not resettling the settlers out of CHT and also not rehabilitating the internal refugees and paying enough to the members of the RC.

Besides, he demanded a separate voter list.

But government sources said that withdrawal of the military completely is not feasible at the moment as tension still prevails in the region due to infighting of JSS and UPDF. The presence of military is also required to guard the rugged frontier to prevent extra territorial incursion as the border is porous and BDR does not have enough manpower, the sources added.

The government has prepared the list of internal refugees but JSS has been staying off the Task Force meetings. There cannot be a separate voter list for parliamentary elections, officials said.

Against this background, the future of the peace accord hangs in the balance. At the same time, a group that was accused of killing Manabendra Narayan Larma in his bush headquarters in Tripura on November 10, 1983 had reportedly been organising themselves.

The group led by Priti Kumar Chakma had declined to accept the truce that Shantu Larma had signed and the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) chief in November 1998 accused the Indian Border Security Force of harbouring the group that opened six camps across the border. The BSF chief had denied the allegations.

With the general elections nearing, Shantu Larma is quietly preparing to lay his claims on the three parliamentary seats from the CHT. His recent stance on the accord, absence from meetings of the Task Force for refugees and accord implementation committee have created a dead lock. But these were the outcome of his hardline stance that he has been forced to adopt in the face of his hard line opponents, observers believe.

Although there had been attempts by the government to mend fences with Larma and even the Prime Minister had two meetings in 1999 and another this year-- there has been no tangible progress, the observers pointed out.

He is coming to Dhaka again on December 7 to attend a convention of Garo tribals of Netrokona on December 8. His aides have sought a meeting with the Prime Minister.

But as electioneering is nearing, there is little chance that Shantu Larma would change his stance. He would like to have all the three CHT seats in parliament for his men to improve his bargaining power, keeping his eyes on future politics in CHT.

Bush, Gore lawyers spur

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It was not clear when a ruling would come or whether it would spell the end of the pitched legal, political, and public relations battle sparked by the inconclusive election to succeed President Bill Clinton.

If the justices say the Florida Supreme Court erred by ordering the hand counts to be included in certified results, Bush's lead would likely return to the 930-

JP MPs

From Page 12

Raushan Ershad said that before going to the prison, the JP chairman had called for 'keeping the unity of the 4-party alliance at any cost.'

JP secretary general Najur Rahman Manjur said the people and the party leaders and workers would together face the challenge thrown by the 'fascist Awami government.'

He said efforts would have to be made to strengthen the friendship forged by JP leader Ershad with the 'friendly 4-party alliance.'

Manjur said Ershad, the 'Palli Bandhu' (friend of the rural masses) would be freed from jail through legal battle and 'not as the lackey of the government.'

vote margin announced November 14 pending Gore's contest of the election.

Meanwhile, more than 650,000 ballots from Florida's Miami-Dade County were on their way inside a rental truck to the state capital of Tallahassee, where they will join 460,000 already there from Palm Beach county.

And both sides warred over plans by the Republican-held Florida legislature to side-step the courts entirely and meet in special session to award the state's 25 Electoral College votes, which can put either man in the White House.

An additional million ballots from three other counties -- Broward, Pinellas and Volusia -- could also find their way to Circuit Court Judge Sanders Sauls' courtroom in Tallahassee if the Bush camp gets its way.

The Bush team on Friday was expected to ask Sauls to dismiss the Gore contest which seeks manual recounts of about 14,000 disputed ballots.

Sauls on Wednesday ordered the two shipments in order to have them on hand by 5:00 p.m. (2200 GMT) Friday ahead of a Saturday hearing to determine whether the disputed ballots should be counted.

Khelafat Andolon expresses moral support to Laden, Taliban

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Khelafat Andolon has expressed its full moral support to Taleban and Osama bin Laden with a view to establishing Islamic rule in the world.

This is the first organisation in the country that has openly expressed its support to the Taleban movement and controversial Muslim leader Osama bin Laden.

The announcement was made at a discussion organised by Khelafat Andolon on the occasion of the first Friday of the holy month of Ramadan, observing it as a day for establishing Islamic rule.

Despite unfavourable situation prevailing in Bangladesh regarding the Afghan Talebans and the radical Saudi businessman, Khelafat Andolon has expressed its full moral support to Taleban and Osama bin Laden with a view to establishing Islamic rule in the world, speakers at the meeting said.

The meeting also expressed support for Baitul Makkadas, Kashmir, Arakan and Chechen movement.

Speakers said human development and peace is not possible without establishing Islamic rule in the world.

The meeting was addressed among others by Ameer-e-Shariat Hazrat Maulana Shah Ahmedullah Ashraf Ilmi-Halife Huzur, General Secretary Zafarullah Khan, International Affairs Secretary Alhaj Anisur Rahman Jinnah and Dhaka City Ameer Abu Zafar Quasemi.

Blast at soap factory in N'ganj: 10 hurt

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, DEC 1: At least 10 people were injured in an explosion at a soap factory in Rasulbagh area of Bandar thana last night.

According to local people, a container full of chemical suddenly exploded with a big bang at Jamal Soap Factory at around 8 pm, injuring 10 factory workers.

Five adjoining tin-shed houses were damaged in the explosion, witnesses said.

Revolver snatched from policeman

SHERPUR, Dec 1: Terrorists snatched away a revolver from a Sub-Inspector of Nakla thana today, reports UNB.

Local terrorist Masud Alam and his accomplices attacked SI Masud at noon while he along with four policemen went to the village Kejaikata in Nakla Upazila hearing the news that two groups of villagers have been clashing for few days.

Attorneys for Gore, who has contested the Florida election, say the ballots must be hand counted immediately.

The Bush camp has vehemently opposed any recount of the disputed Palm Beach and Miami-Dade ballots, insisting that they have already been tallied twice and rejected both times as non-votes by machines.

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PM blasts opposition

From Page 12
the historic language movement, the six-point movement and the War of Liberation.

She said the youths had made a lot of sacrifice in those movements and provided leadership. Sheikh Hasina also appreciated their role in the struggle for establishing the right of franchise.

Sheikh Hasina also remembered with gratitude the contribution of Father of the Nation for the youth forces. She said had the youth development projects been implemented after his death, the economic condition of the country would have been much better today.

She said that 52 Youth Cooper-

ative Associations were formed during 1974-75. The prime minister also distributed prizes among 17 youths who became self-reliant after receiving training and loan from the department.

The function was also addressed, by State Minister for Youths, Sport and Culture Affairs Obaidul Quader, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Zainal Hazari, Youth and Sports Secretary Manik Lal Samadpur, director general of Department of Youth Development AFM Matur Rahman and recipient of the trophy Meway Marna.

AIDS prevention

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eradicating the taboo on sex education in order to educate people about the importance of safe sex.

He said preventive measures are needed to contain venereal diseases in the country. He also proposed for ensuring use of condoms in the red light areas of the country.

In his keynote paper, chairman of Technical Committee of the National AIDS Committee Maj Gen Doctor ASM Matur Rahman said more effective global coordination and cooperation were needed to further strengthen the HIV/AIDS prevention programmes.

He said the existence of the complex interactions between HIV infections on the one hand and factors like poverty, ignorance, illiteracy and social inequality on the other has made the situation in the country

extremely complicated.

Focusing on this year's AIDS Day theme 'Men make big difference', Matur Rahman said over 70 per cent of HIV infections in the world occur due to sexual interactions between men and women and 10 per cent between men and men. Another five per cent of HIV infected are drug abusers using hypodermic needles, four-fifths of whom are men. "Ensuring participation of men in the fight against AIDS is thus the surest way to check the epidemic," he headed.

"High prevalence of HIV infection in the neighbouring countries, increased movement of population, lack of awareness on HIV infection, commercial sex workers, high prevalence STDs, increasing number of homosexuals, low popularity of condoms and lack of voluntary blood donation have made Bangladesh at risk."

Human Rights

From Page 1

tion, killing, custodial deaths, abduction and women trafficking increased sharply, claimed the human rights organisation. However, it did not provide the total incidents recorded in last nine months.

The proposed commission would be empowered like a court and the Chairman of the Commission would be vested with power equivalent to that of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The four other members of the Commission would enjoy ranks equivalent to the rank of Appellate Division Judges.

As per the proposal the commission shall have, to some extent, the rule making power with prior approval of the President.

The President shall appoint a person, having proper knowledge on human rights, as the Chairman to the Commission following suggestion from a panel, comprising the Prime Minister, the Chief Justice, the Law Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, told a senior law official quoting from the draft.

To monitor the enforcement of the human rights and fundamental rights guaranteed by the constitution and to aid and advice the society, organisation working on human rights, executive, judicial and legislative body of the state," the draft provided regarding its function and jurisdictions.

The proposed commission will investigate complaints lodged by

any aggrieved person regarding violation of any human rights by any person, group or organisation or Public Servant.

It will also examine the matters like terrorism which hinder the enjoyment of human rights and to submit the recommendations for getting rid off from such matters and scrutinize the arrangements of the protection of human rights as provided in the Constitution.

The commission would submit its recommendations for the effective enforcement of government arrangement for anti-terrorism.

The proposed Act also provides powers to the commission for investigation of any complaints under this act. The commission shall have the same power as the Civil courts have under the civil procedure to issue summons to ensure presence and to examine the witness on the oath, discover and produce any documents, taking evidence on the oath.

The commission would call for any public record or documents from any office as per the proposed Act.

According to the Constitution "The Republic shall be democracy in which fundamental human rights and freedoms and respect for the dignity of the human person shall be guaranteed and in which effective preparation by the people through their elected representatives in administration at all levels shall be ensured."

Office of the Superintending Engineer
SCADA O&M Circle
Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA)

Local Tender Notice

Memo No DESA/SE/SCADA-206/2000/09 Dt: 20/11/2000

Sealed bids are hereby invited for Personal Computer (PC), Laser Printer & UPS from bonafide suppliers having valid (i) Trade Licence, (ii) Income Tax Certificate, (iii) VAT Registration Certificate, (iv) Agency/Dealership Certificate, (v) Experience Certificate & other related valid papers as mentioned in the tender document for the concerned supply works.

Tender bidding documents containing terms & conditions and specification may be had up to 3rd January, 2001 till 12:00 Noon on payment of Non-refundable Tk 500/- (Tk five hundred) only per set in the shape of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of the Addl Director, RAO, DESA from the office of the (1) Member (Engg & Comm), DESA, 1, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka, (2) Secretary, DESA, 1, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka, (3) Superintending Engineer, SCADA O&M Circle, DESA, Dhaka & on cash payment from (4) Manager, Sonali Bank, Bazme Quaderia Branch, Katabon, Dhaka (after obtaining prior permission from the undersigned) with the following terms & conditions