

DHAKA TODAY

Cultural function
A discussion and a cultural function making the birth anniversary of poet Begum Sufia Kamal will be held. Venue: Liberation War Museum. Time: 6.30pm.

Film show
The Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen two films 'The Odyssey' and 'Maria's Lovers' directed by Russian filmmaker Andrei Konchalovsky. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre. Time: 5.00pm and 7.30pm respectively.

Musical evening
The Hamra Koyjan, Dhaka has organised a musical evening. Sarkat Mohiuddin Badal and Sharmis Sultana Rony will perform at the function. Venue: Shawkat Osman auditorium, Public Library. Time: 6.30pm.

FBCCI seminar
The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) organises a seminar on 'Problems of Ports and Shipping in Matters Relating to Export with Shipping Minister Akbar Hossain as chief guest. Venue: FBCCI Conference Centre. Time: 2.30pm.

Islamic Foundation
The Islamic Foundation of Bangladesh organises a discussion on 'The Involvement of Religious Leaders in the Development of Human Resources' with State Minister For Religious Affairs Mosharraf Hossain Shahjahan as chief guest. Venue: Imam Training Academy auditorium. Time: 11.00am.

Publication ceremony
The publication ceremony of a book titled 'Encyclopedic Compendium of the Laws of Bangladesh', organised by the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust, will be held. Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar will attend the function as chief guest. Venue: Supreme Court Bar Association auditorium. Time: 4.30pm.

IBA seminar
The IBA Alumni Association and the Institute of Business Administration of Dhaka University jointly organise a seminar on 'National Budget 2002-2003'. Venue: Hotel Purbani International. Time: 4.30pm.

DHAKA TOMORROW

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Mahila Parishad
In observance of 91st birth anniversary of Poet Sufia Kamal, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad organises a discussion on 'Movement against Repression on Women and Poet Sufia Kamal'. Venue: National Press Club auditorium. Time: 4.00pm.

ICAB seminar
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) organises a seminar on 'Communication Skills' with Disaster Management and Relief Minister Chowdhury Kamal Uddin Yusuf as chief guest. Venue: ICAB auditorium. Time: 5.00pm.

ICC dialogue
The International Chamber of Commerce, Bangladesh organises a business dialogue on 'Budgetary Measures: Imperatives of Global Competitiveness' with Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 10.45am.

Roundtable
The weekly Mridu Bhangan organises a roundtable discussion on the 'Budget for 2002-2003' with former finance minister Shah AMS Kabir as chief guest. Venue: Grand Azad Hotel, 55 Purana Paltan. Time: 1.30pm.

DANDY
The launching ceremony of Dandy Food Products will be held. Venue: Hotel Purbani International. Time: 12.00 noon.

Chhatra Moitree
The two-day national council of Bangladesh Chhatra Moitree will begin. Venue: TSC auditorium of Dhaka University. Time: 11.00am.

Malaysia urged to extend work permits of Bangladeshis

Information Minister Tariqul Islam stressed on promotion of cooperation between Bangladesh and Malaysia in the fields of Press and the Electronic Media, according to an official handout.

While talking to the Malaysian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Ashaary Sani, as he called on the Minister at his office yesterday morning, Tariqul Islam said, the two countries can benefit from increased exchange of training programmes for media personnel.

Tariqul requested the Malaysian envoy to persuade his government for extension of work permits of Bangladeshi expatriates in Malaysia and recruitment of an increased number of manpower from Bangladesh.

High Commissioner Sani sought the minister's consent to hold the first meeting of Bangladesh-Malaysia joint committee on promotion of cooperation in the media sector. The proposal was accepted in principle.

Information Secretary Mirza Tasadduq Hossain Beg and Principal Information Officer Fazal M Kamal also took part in the discussion.



PHOTO STAR

The divider on the Mirpur Road near Dhaka College is now being used as a storage place by the hawkers who run their trades on the footpaths nearby. In the process, the iron grills protecting the plants have been damaged, causing many trees to die off. The hawkers have even removed a part of the grill to facilitate the movement of rickshaws and rickshaw vans. The same is the condition of many road dividers in the city. The Dhaka City Corporation has planted trees on the road dividers and raised the protection grills for crores of taka. But its Engineering Department has failed to maintain the dividers properly. Also, in many areas of the city, hundreds of billboards have been put up on the dividers with or without permission of the authorities.

BUET budget approved

UNB, Dhaka

A Tk 28.49 crore budget of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) for 2002-2003 fiscal was approved at the syndicate meeting of the university on June 12 showing a deficit of Tk 1.85 crore.

A revised budget of Tk 28.79 crore for 2001-2002 fiscal was also passed at the meeting with Vice Chancellor and president of the syndicate Dr Nuruddin Ahmed in the chair.

Of the total budget allocation for 2002-2003 fiscal, University Grants Commission (UGC) will provide Tk 25.04 crore while Tk 1.60 crore will come from university's own resources.

About Tk 18.87 crore of the budget will go for payment of salary and pension of the teachers, officials and employees while about Tk 4.11 crore for education sector, said a press release.

Pilferage at ICD 12 employees punished

BSS, Ctg

Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) has taken punitive measures against 12 employees posted at Inland Container Depot (ICD) at Kamalapur in Dhaka for their involvement in pilfering imported goods showing fake documents. CPA sources said yesterday.

Among the punished staff, six were from the security department including two gate sergeants and one assistant sub-inspector. Others were from the traffic department of the CPA.

The punishment ranges from removal from service to suspension of some financial benefits.

The punished employees were accused of taking away a container full of imported fabrics for ready-made garments from ICD on July 23 last year. The fabrics were imported by Honour Way Textile and Apparel Limited at Savar EPZ.

The gang looted the fabrics and abandoned the container at a place near Savar EPZ.

CPA took the decision yesterday following recommendations of a three-member verification committee headed by Deputy Secretary (PR) Syed Farhaduddin Ahmad.

Earlier, an investigation committee found that an organised gang active around the ICD were engaged in various types of crimes including grabbing of imported goods in connivance with a section of CPA employees.

Meanwhile, the CPA placed under suspension a senior outdoor assistant of its traffic department Shyamol Banerjee for his alleged involvement in Sunday's

BAF launches tree plantation drive

UNB, Dhaka

The Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) yesterday formally launched a week-long tree plantation programme in line with the national programme that began on June 15.

Chief of Air Staff Air Vice-Marshal Fakhrul Azam inaugurated the programme by planting a star-apple sapling at the Air Force Headquarters premises.

Principal Staff Officers and senior officers of the Air Headquarters were present on the occasion.

BAF Women Welfare Association has also joined the tree plantation programme. The BAF will plant 15,000 saplings this year, said an ISPR press release.

Seminar on Humphrey Fellowship

BSS, Dhaka

The American Centre will hold a seminar on the Hubert H Humphrey Fellowship Programme on June 20 at 3:00 pm at the CIRDP auditorium in the city.

All those interested in applying for a Humphrey Fellowship for the 2003-2004 academic year are invited to attend, a US embassy release said.

The goal of the seminar is to inform interested applicants about the Humphrey Fellowship. Previous Bangladeshi participants in the programme as well as officials of the American Centre will speak about the application process and the goals and benefits of the programme. A short video about the fellowship programme will also be shown.

The Hubert Humphrey Fellowship is for mid-career professionals from both the public and private sectors with a public service orientation for one academic year of study in the United States. All expenses for the fellowship programme including airfare, tuition and fees are paid by the United States government.

Multi-storied parking lot to be constructed in city

UNB, Dhaka

A multi-storied parking lot will be constructed in the capital to ease traffic congestion.

A high-level meeting of Dhaka Transport Coordination Board at Nagar Bhaban yesterday decided in principle to construct the parking lot in the city's Motijheel-Dilkusha area.

City Mayor Saïek Hossain Khoka, also chairman of the Board, presided over the meeting which discussed the nagging problem of traffic jam in the city of about 10 million people.

The meeting also reviewed the projects being implemented under the board and stressed the need for greater coordination among the organisations involved, said a DCC press release.

Khoka urged the organisations concerned to work speedily and implement all the decisions taken so far by the board to reduce the city's traffic problem.

Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Sramik Federation president Shajahan Khan MP, BRTC Chairman Taimur Alam Khandakar, BRTA Chairman Jalal Uddin, DG of Bangladesh Railway Ataur Rahman, Divisional Commissioner of Dhaka Abu Solaiman Chowdhury, Savar Municipality Chairman Ashraf Uddin Khan Imu, BIWTA Chairman M Shahidul Islam Chowdhury, Joint Secretary of Local Government Division M Fazlul Haque, DMP Commissioner Abdul Quaiyum, DC (Traffic) Abu Musa M Fakhrul Islam Khan, Director of the Department of Environment Abdus Sobhan, Chief Engineer of Roads and Highways Division, administrator of Narayanganj Pourasava and high officials of the agencies concerned attended the meeting.

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Sadnan Sharif Chowdhury (Rahul), a student of Rajuk Uttara Model School and College, died by a tragic train accident on 15th June 2002, at Uttara. He used to be a student of class IX (Business studies) of English Medium Section in this institution since 1998. During his stay in this institution he was found a very social, amiable, energetic & curious boy. We are deeply shocked at his sudden and premature death. We pray to Almighty for his eternal bliss and peace. May the Almighty give patience and strength to bear the irreparable loss to the bereaved members of the family.

Principal and all
Members of Rajuk
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STUDY IN AUSTRALIA

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CONTACT US:
House # 31
Road # 9/A
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Time: 10 am - 5 pm
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