METROPOLITAN

Durga Puja celebration

Home secy urged to take precautionary measures in Ctg

BSS, Ctg

The Hindu community in Chittagong has taken elaborate preparations to celebrate its greatest religious festival 'Durga Puja', with due fervour and gaiety beginning October 10.

The local administration and political leadership are extending necessary support to ensure smooth celebration of the festival.

The leaders of Chattagram Mahanagar Puja Udjapan Committee (CMPUP) had a meeting with home secretary Omar Faroque at the circuit house vesterday afternoon. The community leaders urged the home secretary who is on a visit here to take precautionary measures so that none could create problem to disrupt puja celebration, sources said.

The leaders of Hindu commu- val.

nity said this year they expect the number of Puja Mandaps to be set up in the district during the festival will be around 1200 including around 180 in the Port City.

Last year the number of Puja Mandaps erected in the city during Durga Puja was 156, President of CMPUP Advocate Sadanmoy Bhattacharya said. He said 169 Mandaps have so far been set up in the city and another eight to ten are likely to be added within days.

Meanwhile, the administration has taken all out security measures. so that the festival could be celebrated peacefully.

Bhattacharya said he was confident that the government will take necessary measures so that none could create any problem in the Puja Mandaps during the festi-

during a meeting with Deputy

Minister for CHT Affairs Moni

Swapan Dewan at his office yes-

UNDP delegation to the meeting.

ment partners and donor agencies

submitted the report to the gov-

ernment having visited the CHT to

assess whether the situation there

was conductive to development

the present on the present state of

law and order in the CHT as base-

less and motivated, the deputy

minister said the present situation

in the region is quite favourable

sporadic incidents in the region,

but these are in no way more seri-

ous compared to other parts of the

tion that his ministry would open

a monitoring cell in the ministry

and a coordination will in Ranga-

mati to provide administrative

operation in implementing the

development activities in the re-

Lissner sought government co-

support to the donor agencies.

gion without any hindrance.

Dewan further told the delega-

He said there may be some

Terming some press reports on

activities.

for investment.

Lissner led a six-member

Representatives of develop-

terday's an official release said.

Donors to resume dev work in CHT soon

BSS, Dhaka

Donor countries and agencies would soon resume development work in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) on the basis of a risk evaluation report submitted to the government.

This was stated by UNDP Resident Representative Jorgen Lissner

Standard of Dhaka Zoo to be upgraded: Khoka

BSS, Dhaka

Minister for Fisheries and Livestock and Mayor of Dhaka Sadek Hossain Khoka yesterday said the government took effective steps to upgrade the standard of the Dhaka country

"We want to develop the Dhaka Zoo and initiative are underway for regional and international assistance in this regard," he said while inaugurating a six-day workshop and third annual conference of South Asian Zoo Association for Regional Cooperation (SAZARC) here.

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Activists of the Student Alliance Against Repression parade the Dhaka University campus streets yesterday for realisation of its seven-point demand.

World Habitat Day today

BSS, Dhaka

The World Habitat Day will be observed in the country today as elsewhere across the world.

Housing and Public Works Ministry, in cooperation with the departments under the ministry, has taken up an elaborate programme to observe the day.

The theme of the day for this year is "City to City Cooperation." President lajuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia gave separate messages on the occa-

The President, in his message, called upon all to take effective initiative to make all towns and cities living-friendly by preserving congenial environment. Concerned authorities are to

take time-befitting development programmes for all cities and towns, he said.

year's theme a justified one in the perspective of population growth in the urban areas, the capital

Dhaka in particular.

Khaleda Zia, in her message, stressed the need for further cooperation and exchange of expertise among the organisations involved in development efforts of towns and cities to ensure best possible facilities for the city dwellers.

The Prime Minister said this year's theme -- "City to City Cooperation" is time-befitting and jus-

She said cooperation and exchange of expertise among the cities and towns will definitely support city development activities and "it will take our plan one step ahead to ensure modern amenities for the dwellers."

Khaleda said expansion of infrastructures and service facilities is related with the increase of city population. The enhancement of facilities should be considered on priority basis with the develop-The president termed this ment activities of the cities, she

The Prime Minister will inaugurate the day's programme at the Osmani Memorial Hall at 11:30 am

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan will inaugurate a colourful walkathon at the National Museum premises

Housing and Public Works Ministry in cooperation with department of housing and architecture has organised a week-long exhibition of "Building strategy and construction materials" a Ramna Park from today.

Minister for Housing and Public Works Mirza Abbas will inaugurate the exhibition at 12:00

Eight government agencies and around 60 private enterprises will take part in the exhibition to display their different products which include building technology, cement, rod, paint, plasticmade doors and windows, aluminum-made doors and windows tiles and other construction mate-



Bangladesh Chhatra League staged a sit-in in front of the Dhaka University vice chancellor's office yesterday demanding rehabilitation of its activists at different halls.

वांश्नापिन मुक्तियांका कन्गां प्राञ्छ

স্বাধীনতা ভবন শিল্প ও বাণিজ্য বিভাগ সংগ্ৰহ শাখা ৮৮, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা ঢাকা-১০০০

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031	পিই/টিএ/আই- এনটি/টিআর- ৩৪৭/২০০২-২০০৩/ তারিখ ০৫/১০/২০০২ইং	(১) পরিশোধিত সাদা চিনি	2%	৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার) টাকা।	৩০/১০/০২ ০৩-০০ ঘটিকা	৩০/১০/২০০২ ০৩-১৫ ঘটিকা

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No state-sponsored violence on campus in last one year

Farruk tells newsmen

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Dr Osman Farruk yesterday said there was no state-sponsored violence in educational institutions of the country since the BNP-led four-party alliance government assumed power

was not possible for the ministry to contain all sorts of trouble that took place on the campus during the period. The minister was addressing a

press briefing on the progress of education sector of the country during the last one year since October, 2001. Held at the ministry, the brief-

ing was attended by State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Huq Milon, Deputy Minister Abdus Salam Pintu, Secretary Mohammad Shahidul Alam and high officials of the ministry and director-

The state minister in his speech regretted the police action on the students of Shamsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University (DU), killing of BUET student Sabequn Nahar Sony and unscheduled closure of DU and BUET during the period.

"Those incidents were improper and should not have taken place during our time," said Milon adding that violence originates at educational institutions and a

Speakers at a seminar yesterday

laid emphasis on greater public

awareness to stop violence against

women saying that law alone can-

They suggested amendment to

all discriminatory laws with strong

policy recommendations to com-

bat violence against women, up-

holding the basic human rights in

Sensitising Police and Community

to Combat Against Women' was

organised by the Centre for

Women and Children Studies

(CWCS) at Bangladesh Institute of

Administration and Management

The seminar on 'Two Years

not eradicate the crime.

all spheres of national life.

(BIAM) auditorium here.

BSS, Dhaka

eliminate them.

He said the government is considering all-out steps to eliminate

campus violence. "We will involve teachers, stu- far appointed 1,009 teachers out of dents, guardians and local leaders a total four thousand vacant posts to form committees to build a in higher secondary level. mass campaign against campus

dents' politics Dr Farruk said the government took a series of measure to implement the recommendations of the Education Reforms Committee which suggested for imposing a ban on teachers students politics.

"Students and teachers should have political belief but that should not be reflected in party

The minister underscored the need for political consensus for cheating in public examinations as establishing a congenial academic atmosphere free from arms and violence.

is not possible only for the government to establish a congenial academic atmosphere," he added.

Narrating various development activities in education sector, the minister said the BNP government has arranged stipend for female students up to HSC level.

htabunisa Currey, Deputy Head,

Department for International

Development was the special

guest. Dr Khaleda Salahuddin

presided over the inaugural ses-

Mudabbir Hossain stressed the

need for awareness about the ex-

isting laws to combat violence

against women. He said a good

number of laws including the

speedy trial act were enacted to

prevent the violence against

and Trisha murder case, Chowd-

hury said it has been proved that if

society helps police they can en-

sure punishment to miscreants.

Referring to the trial of Shihab

President of the organisation

women and children.

Inspector General of Police Prof Ishrat Shamim made some

Mudabbir Hossain Chowdhury recommendations to combat vio-

was the chief guest while Dr Me- lence against women.

Besides, the government has formed Teachers Welfare Trust for the teachers of non-government

Public awareness can stop

violence against women

social campaign is needed to educational institutions and their salary benefits will be raised to 100.

per cent from present 90 per cent. He said to ensure the standard of education, the government so

The government has allowed He, however, admitted that it violence," the state minister 15 new universities under private sector and work is in progress to Replying to a question on stu- establish a women university to be named "Asian University for Women" in Bogra where women

> higher education. Dr. Farruk said to ensure standard of education and eliminate corruption and irregularities from public universities, the government has brought reforms in University Grants Commission (UGC) and syndicates of universities.

from Asian countries will pursue

He claimed the control of one of the major success of his ministry. "We have rewarded the teachers and officials who risked "Without political consensus, it their lives to prevent copying," the minister added.

Tk 1.20 lakh looted from filling station cashier in Ctg:One held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Muggers stabbed a cashier of a filling station and looted Tk.1.20 lakh from him in broad day light in the city's Oxygen area under Baizid Bostami thana yesterday.

Police later arrested one bullethit mugger from Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) as he came there for treatment.

Three to four snatchers waylaid the auto-rickshaw of cashier Ashish of Hajee Wadud & Sons in front of the Pubali Bank at around 10 am and took away the money. Cashier Ashish along with his colleague Shahjahan was going to the bank to deposit the money.

At one stage, one alleged mugger identified as Alauddin alias Biplob was mistakenly shot in his own hand when he tried to fire at Shahjahan. The muggers left the scene immediately along with their injured accomplice.

Police raided different clinics and hospitals in the city and arrested Alauddin from CMCH ward. Cashier Ashish and Shahjahan identified the mugger at the police

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