

Environment-friendly 'block brick' to be introduced

Shahjahan Siraj tells Parliament

Minister for Environment and Forest Shahjahan Siraj said the government is planning to introduce environment-friendly 'block brick' to be produced in the compressed system as a substitute to brick produced in the traditional brick kilns.

With a view to protecting the environment, the government will also take a decisive stand soon to phase out the traditional brick kilns, the minister told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

He was replying to a question from Dr Dewan Mohammad Salahuddin of BNP.

He said the government has already issued circular to the brick kiln owners asking them to strictly follow the Brick Burning (Control) Act, 1989 and (Amendment) Act, 2001 to contain environmental pollution.

The environment minister said a nine-member advisory committee headed by minister-in-charge of each district or the Member of Parliament nominated by him has been formed at the district level to resolve brick field related issues.

Other members of the committee are DC and SP of respective districts, divisional forest officer, representative of the Department of Environment, upazila nirbahi officer, president/general secretary of district brick field owners' association and president of the local press club.

Replanning to another question form Golam Mohammad Siraj of BNP, the minister told the parliament that the country's total forest area is 71,56,550.168 acres, including 6,67,170 acres of rural forestry.

UNB adds: Replying to another question from Mohammad Amzad Hossain Sarker (BNP-Nilphamari), the environment minister said there will be no two-stroke vehicles on the city streets after December 31 this year.

With the help of all quarters, the government has succeeded in banning polythene, he said.

The minister also sought the cooperation of all so that the use and production of polythene could be stopped forever.

By-polls in 2 DCC wards Dec 18

UNB, Dhaka

By-election in Ward No 44 and 90 of Dhaka City Corporation will be held on December 18 next.

According to a gazette notification of the Election Commission, the date for submission of nomination papers to the returning officers is November 20.

It said the last date for scrutiny of nomination papers is November 21 and that for withdrawal is November 27.

The Deputy Election Commissioner of Dhaka has been appointed returning officer while four district election officers of Dhaka assistant returning officers for holding the by-polls.

The two seats of ward commissioner fell vacant following the death of ward commissioners KM Ahmed Raju and M Shahadat Hossain.

Award ceremony of essay and poster contests

The Lions Club of Dhaka South organised the award ceremony of the essay contest on 'Solidarity and Peace' and Lions International Peace Poster Contest 2002 on 'Dream of Peace', in the city recently, says a press release.

The participants of both the contests were from The Aga Khan School, Bangladesh International School, Scholastica and Zias Art Gallery.

Barrister Mainul Hossain gave away the awards and certificates among the winners.

Grameen Phone Ltd, Ittefaq Group of Publications, Dhaka Bank Ltd and Nestle Bangladesh Ltd sponsored the ceremony.

The first three winners of Peace Poster Contest from Scholastica were Tashnuva Ayesha Haque, Mahabuba Sudral and Raisa Sharmin. And from Zias Art Gallery, the first three winners were Ifreeta Rahima, Samrina Mannan and Fatema Tuz-Zohra.

The winners of the essay contest were Samina Rahman, Syed Rafiqul Hossain and Sharmin Ashraf of Bangladesh International School; Faruq Rifat Bilqis and Shahmuddin Sadi of The Aga Khan School; and Subhi Syed Hossain, Rakshinda Huq, Golam Rezwana Khan and Suhebhe Shahrin Ahmed of Scholastica.

Cultural function of Step By Step School

The Step By Step School organised the annual cultural function at the Public Library auditorium at Shahbagh in the city recently to raise funds for the treatment of underprivileged Thalassemia patients of Dhaka Shishu Hospital, says a press release.

The schoolchildren participated in the programme which was rounded off with a magic show by Ali Raj.

Sahara Ahmed, headmistress of the school, and Dr Waqar Khan, president of Dhaka Shishu Hospital, Thalassemia Centre, also spoke on the occasion.

Death anniversary

UNB, Dhaka

The first death anniversary of journalist Roulful Hasan will be observed today.

On the occasion, the Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association (BSJA) of which he was the president would arrange a milad mahfil at National Sports Council gymnasium after Asr prayers.

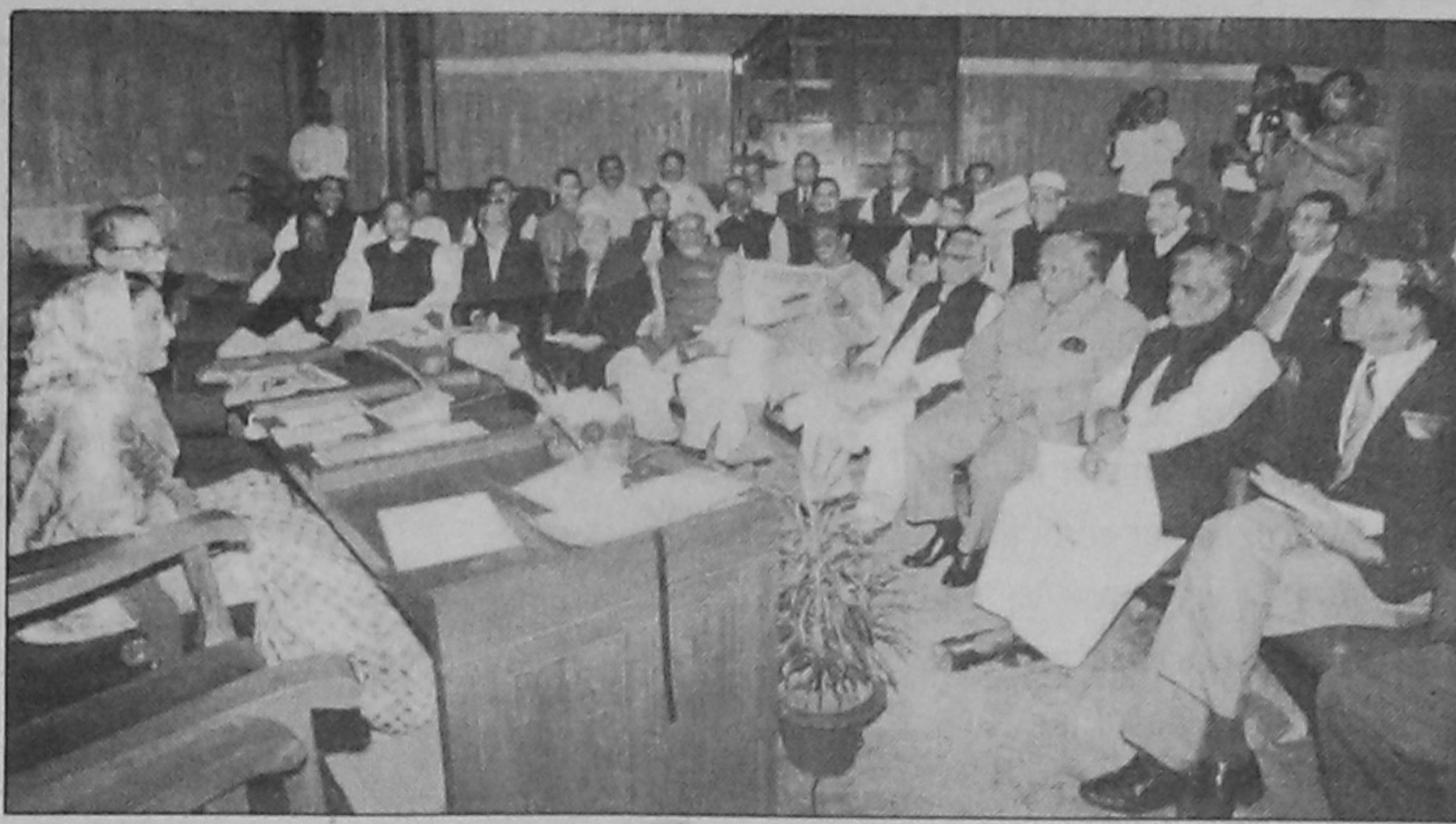
Roulful's family will also arrange a milad mahfil at his residence at House # 693, Road # 12, Baiful Aman Housing Society, Adabar, Shyamoli in the city after Asr prayers on November 21.

A special correspondent of the Bangladesh Observer, Roulful died on November 15 last year at the age of 54.

Intiaz Haider Chy

The first death anniversary of Intiaz Haider Choudhury, ex-Assistant Vice-President of Prime Bank and son of late Ehtesham Haider Choudhury will be observed today with due solemnity.

On this occasion, Qurankhwani and a milad mahfil will be held at the deceased's residence after Asar prayers.



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina speaks at the Awami League Parliamentary Party meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban in the city yesterday.

DU admission test from Jan 17

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Distribution and submission of forms for admission tests for first year honours classes of Dhaka University under 2002-2003 academic year is likely to begin from December 17 and continue till January 9, 2003.

The admission test will begin on January 17.

This was decided primarily at a meeting of the Deans of different faculties yesterday.

The final decision will be taken in another meeting of the Deans on November 23, said a dean on condition of anonymity.

Yesterday's meeting also decided that the admission test of Ka unit will be held on February 9, Kha unit on January 31, Ga unit on January 17 and Gha unit on January 24.

Admission forms for some 4,400 seats will be sold at Tk 225 each and have to submit the same to respective faculty offices.

Candidates willing to apply for

admission in Arts and Combined groups are to collect forms of Kha and Gha units from the TSC branch of Janata Bank.

Forms of Ka unit (Science group) will be sold at the Curzon Hall branch of Agrani Bank and Ga unit (Commerce group) at the Administrative Building branch of Sonali Bank.

Candidates having minimum 1150 marks in SSC and HSC examinations with at least second division in both the examinations are eligible to apply for admission in Kha and Ga units while Ka unit candidates require 1350 marks.

Candidates who will apply under Gha unit require minimum 50 per cent marks in Bengali and English in the HSC or equivalent examinations excluding the grace marks.

Besides, students from HSC Science group will require 1350 marks and from Arts and Commerce groups 1150 marks to apply under Gha unit.

Kathin Chibar Dan today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 'National Buddha Grand Convention 2002' and 'Kathin Chibar Dan' will be held in the city with due religious fervour today, says a press release.

The Bangladesh Buddhist Federation has drawn up elaborate programme on the occasion at Merul Badda International Buddha Bihar in the city.

The convention will begin at 9:00 am. The theme of discussion of this convention is 'Buddhism, Society and Culture in the context of Present Bangladesh'.

The Buddha puja will be held at 11:00 am and 'Kathin Chibar Dan' at 2:30 pm.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan will attend the convention as chief guest. Vice-President of Bangladesh Sangharaj Vikkhu Mahasabha Pandit Satyapriya Mahathero will preside.

Nabanno Utsab now on Dec 13

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Jatiya Nabanno Utsab, which was scheduled for today, will now be held in the city on December 13.

The Jatiya Nabanno Utsab Ujjapan Parishad today changed the date of the festival due to Ramadan, says a press release.

On the occasion, a daylong programme will be held at Bakulata of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University.

Poet Shamsur Rahman will inaugurate the festival.

One gets life term for murder

BSS, Sirajganj

The Additional District and Session Judge's Court here yesterday awarded life term to one Abdus Salam for killing a fellow villager in Chowdhali in 1999.

Judge Abu Ahmed Jomadar also fined the convict Tk 5000 in default, to suffer six more months in jail.

World Diabetes Day observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

World Diabetes Day was observed yesterday in the country as elsewhere in the world.

The main objective of the day was to create awareness among the people about the diabetes disease.

This year the theme of Day was 'Diabetes is a serious risk for eyes, control diabetes to avoid the risk of losing eyesight'.

The Bangladesh Diabetic Society and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare jointly took up elaborate programmes to observe the day.

These included walkathon and discussion meeting at the National Press Club.

Taking part in the discussion as chief guest, Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain said mass awareness is needed to control diabetes.

He said balanced food and exercise can help a diabetes patient lead a normal life.

"Five to ten per cent of the total health budget has been earmarked for the treatment of diabetic patients besides improvement of BIRDEM and other diabetic clinics at district level" the minister added.

State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Amanullah Aman urged the mass media to play significant role in raising awareness about diabetes among the people.

Presided over by Major General (Retd) Prof A R Khan, the discussion was participated by Mohammad Fazul Rahman, health secretary, Prof Hazera Mahtab, Prof AK Azad Khan, Dr Arup Ratan Chowdhury and Dr Mannan.

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Children performing a folk dance at the annual cultural function of Step By Step School at the Public Library auditorium in the city recently.

'Stock of fertiliser sufficient'

BSS, Dhaka

The country has sufficient stock of fertiliser and the production, distribution and retail price of fertiliser are normal and stable compared to corresponding period of the last year.

This was informed at a meeting of the coordination committee on fertiliser distribution at the ministry of industries with co-chairman of the committee Industries Secretary Al-Amin Chowdhury in the chair.

Another co-chairman of the committee and agriculture secretary Ayub Quadri and officials of concerned ministries, Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BICIC), Agriculture Extension Division and Bangladesh Fertiliser Association attended the meeting.

The government decided to import 4.5 lakh tons to meet the gap.

Under the import decision, 4 lakh tons would be procured from KAFCO of which 1,41,935 tons have been received already.

The remaining 50,000 tons of the total demand were scheduled to import from abroad out of which, letter of credit (LC) for 25,000 tons has been opened and the process of opening LC for remaining 25,000 tons is on.

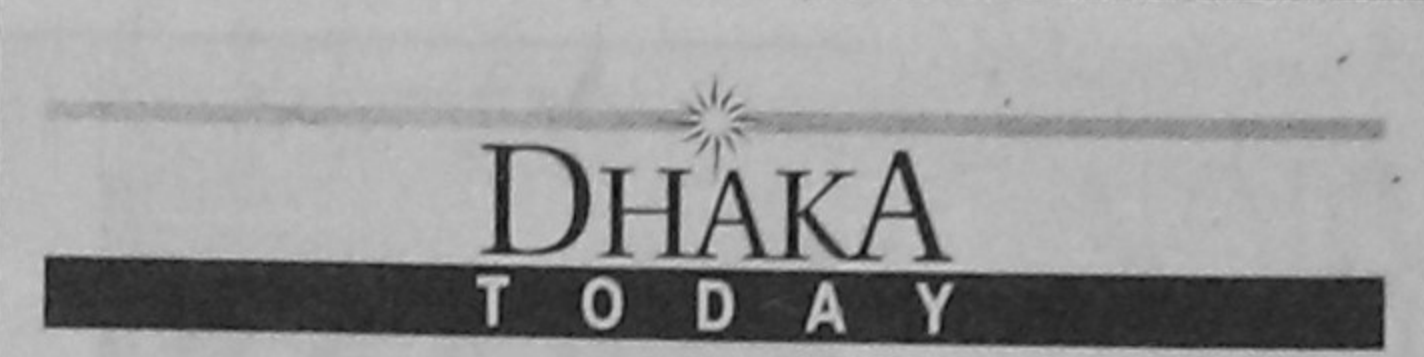
The meeting was further informed that the government would be able to reach the fertiliser at a fair price to the farmers during the coming IRRI-Boro paddy season as all sorts of preparations and arrangements for fertiliser production transportation, distributions have already been made.

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Painting show
The inaugural ceremony of a solo water colour exhibition of S Helal Uddin will be held with State Minister for Cultural Affairs Begum Selima Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Divine Art Gallery, Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 11:00 am.

Indian film show
Zahir Raihan Film Society in collaboration with the High Commission of India will screen two films titled 'Satyajit Ray, Film-maker' and 'Hari-Bhar'. Venue: High Commission of India Cultural Centre auditorium, Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi. Time: 6:15 pm.

Seminar
City University organises a seminar on 'Higher Education: Perspective Bangladesh' with Education Minister Dr Osman Faruk as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 3:30 pm.

Conference
The first conference of UNESCO-BAFED Researchers Forum for dissemination of educational research on Basic Education will be held. Venue: IDB Bhaban, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar.

Launching ceremony
The launching ceremony of a web portal on education by Weeny Soft Ltd will be held. Venue: IDB Bhaban, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 10:00 am.

Presentation
Remians Business and Professional Forum organises a presentation on 'The Lakes of Dhaka City- an analytical overview of a critical component of our urban resources'. Venue: BRAC Centre Inn, Mohakhali. Time: 2:30 pm.

Workshop
A day-long workshop on 'Noise pollution and its impact', organised by the Coordination committee for noise pollution resistance, will be held. Venue: ICCDRB auditorium, Mohakhali.

Meeting
A meeting of Dirai Association, Dhaka will be held. Venue: Shahid Bagh. Time: 7:00 pm.

5-member JS panel of chairmen nominated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday nominated a five-member panel of chairmen to preside over the 5th session of the 8th parliament in absence of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.

The nomination was made as per the article 12 (1) of the Rules of Procedures.

Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar announced the name of the panel of chairmen in the first sitting of the 5th session yesterday morning.

The nominated members are: Abu Yusuf Mohammad Khalilur Rahman (Joypurhat-2), Abdul Karim Abbasi (Netrokona-1), Dr TIM Fazle Rabbi Chowdhury (Gaibandha-3), MA Zinnah (Chittagong-1) and Prof Amanullah (Mymensingh-1).

The Jatiya Sangsad also adopted separate obituary references at the death of seven former parliament members and two ex-advisors.

Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar moved the obituary references separately for former minister and member of erstwhile provincial assembly and the JS Kazi Abdul Kader, former members of the national assembly of erstwhile Pakistan Advocate Sirajul Haq and Ruhul Amin, former MPs Dewan Sirajul Haq, Advocate Moqbul Hossain, Ashraf-ud-Dowla Pahlouan and Captain (Retd) Jahangir Osman Bhuiyan, Bir Protik, former information advisor Akbar Kabir and former agriculture and forest advisor Azizul Haq.

The JS recalled with gratitude the contributions of the deceased in their respective fields.

The Sangsad also conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved families and prayed for the salvation of the departed souls.

The House observed one-minute silence as a mark of respect to late legislators and advisors and special prayer was offered for eternal peace of the departed souls.

Earmarked land for hotel, motel can't be used for other purposes

BSS, Dhaka

Earmarked government khas land allocated for construction of hotel and motel in the resort town of Cox's Bazar cannot be converted for other purpose, an inter-ministerial meeting decided here yesterday.

Land Minister M Shamsul Islam presided over the meeting which also decided that after getting lease from government the entrepreneurs should complete construction work within three years.

The meeting also opined that government, considering special situation might extend the tenure for two more years. If the lease recipient dies or becomes bankrupt then the land can be transferred to another entrepreneur with 25 per cent deposit to government exchequer.

Deputy commissioner of Cox's Bazar will scrutinise the applications of the lease agreements for construction of hotel and motels. He would send the approved files to the land ministry and inform divisional commissioner about the issue.



Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country today.

Night temperature may fall by one to two degree Celsius over the country, Met Office said.

Country's highest temperature 29.2 degree Celsius was recorded at Jessor and lowest 16.3 degree at Rajshahi yesterday.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:13 pm today and rises at 6:14 am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest 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	27.3	19.2	80	73
Chittagong	28.8	21.6	83	67
Rajshahi	27.8	16.3	85	80
Khulna	28.4	18.5	85	80
Barisal	28.2	19.5	81	82
Sylhet	26.0	19.7	93	91
Cox's Bazar	28.8	23.0	77	82

LEGAL NOTICE

In the Supreme Court of Bangladesh
High Court Division
(Statutory Original Jurisdiction)
Company Matter No. 98 of 2002

In the Matter of:
An application under section 151 (4) of the Companies Act, 1994
and
FLORA LIMITED, 114, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka. —PETITIONER

-Versus-
The Register, Joint Stock Companies and Firms of Bangladesh,
24-25, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000 —RESPONDENT

Notice is hereby given that upon an application filed by the Petitioner under Section 151(4) of the Companies Act, 1994 for obtaining permission-condonation of the delay in submission of returns of allotments of shares of FLORA LIMITED, the company Bench of the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh presided over by Mr. Justice A.B.M. Khairul Haque was pleased to admit the same on 05.11.2002. His Lordship has fixed the matter for hearing on 06.12.2002.

If any one is interested to oppose the said application he may do so by an Advocate or in person. Copy of the same may be obtained from the undersigned upon payment of prescribed fees.

SK. YEAD ALI, Advocate,
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and
S.K. SIKDER, Advocate,
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