

DHAKA TODAY

**Documentary show**

A research institute 'Loko' in collaboration with a cultural organisation 'Binirman Andolon' organises a documentary film show as part of its protests ahead of Cancun conference of WTO. Venue: TSC road island, Dhaka University. Time: 6.00pm.

**Roundtable**

A roundtable on the 'Future of parliamentary democracy and Bangladesh today', organised by Sammilito Sangskritik Jote, will be held. Venue: CIRDP auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 4.00pm.

**TIB roundtable**

A roundtable on an Independent Anti-corruption Commission Bill, organised by Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), will be held. Venue: CIRDP auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 10.00am.

**Seminar**

The Centre for Advanced Research in the Humanities of Dhaka University organises a seminar on 'Prathamath Bishi's social thought and the contemporary world' with Professor Chirashri Bishi Chakrabarti of India as guest speaker. Venue: 434, Lecture Theatre of DU. Time: 4.00pm.

**Reception**

On the occasion of the 67th birth anniversary of Dr Mohammad Moniruzzaman, a renowned educationist and litterateur, Jatiya Lekkhok Forum organises a reception and musical soiree. Venue: Sufia Kamal auditorium of National Museum. Time: 4.30pm.

**Film show**

Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'Manon Des Sources'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

**Classical instrumental music**

On the occasion of the 31st death anniversary of Ustad Alauddin Khan, Bangla Academy organises an evening of classical instrumental music. Venue: Seminar room of the academy. Time: 6.30pm.

**Memorial meeting**

A meeting will be held to commemorate

the death of Mohammad Ataur Rahman, former executive director of Gono Unnayan Prochesta. Venue: LGED auditorium, Agargaon. Time: 4.00pm.

**Discussion**

Jatiya Chhatradhara organises a discussion on the occasion of its third founding anniversary with Gonoforum President Dr Kamal Hossain as chief guest. Venue: Planning and Development Academy, Nilkhet. Time: 3.30pm.

**Discussion on Mao Zedong**

On the occasion of the 27th death anniversary of Comrade Mao Zedong, Bangladesh Garib Mukti Andolon will hold a discussion. Venue: TSC seminar room of Dhaka University. Time: 4.00pm.

**Concluding function**

The concluding function of a week-long tourism and trade fair, organised by Hotel Sheraton, will be held with State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Ball Room. Time: 7.00pm.

**Blood donation**

Orca blood for life organises a voluntary blood donation camp. Venue: Bangladesh University, Mohammadpur. Time: 10.00am.

DHAKA TOMORROW

**Award distribution ceremony**

The distribution ceremony of National Film Award for 1999-2000-2001 will be held with Prime Minister Khaleda Zia as chief guest. Venue: Osmani Memorial auditorium. Time: 5.00pm.

**Film show**

Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'Swept Away'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina consoles the family members of Mozammel Haq, a slain AL leader, at his residence at Postogola yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

# Judicial inquiry into Mahalchhari incident demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples' Forum (BIPF) yesterday demanded judicial inquiry into the incident of Mahalchhari in Khagrachhari district where the hills people recently came under attack by the settlers.

The forum leaders also demanded of the government to bring to the book all persons involved in the attack.

They made the demand after the screening of a video footage on the incident of Mahalchhari at

the National Press Club in the city.

Reporters of different national dailies including The Daily Star and human rights activists were present while taking the footage at Mahalchhari.

"We were intercepted by the armed forces who initially did not allow us to take any photographs of the affected people and the place," said Prof Mesbah Kamal of Dhaka University who was a mem-

## US General Gregson arrives

UNB, Dhaka

Commanding General of the US Marine Forces Pacific Lt General Wallace C Gregson arrived in the city yesterday on a five-day visit.

During his stay, General Gregson will visit Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operations and Training Centre (BIPSOT) at Rajendrapur Cantonment and National Defence College at Mirpur Cantonment.

Other programmes of the US Marine Forces Pacific Commander include placing wreaths at the National Memorial at Savar and Shikha Anirban at Dhaka Cantonment.

He will also meet Chief of the Naval Staff Rear Admiral Shah Iqbal Mujtaba at the Naval Headquarters and Principal Staff Officer of the Armed Forces Division Major General AM Mahduzzaman at the Armed Forces Division at the Dhaka Cantonment, said an ISPR press release.

ber of the team that visited Mahalchhari after the incident.

He said if proper steps are not taken right now against the attackers, such kind of brutal incidents might happen in future.

While narrating the incidents of Mahalchhari, Sumana Lanker Vante said valuable goods were also looted from Buddhist temple.

Blaming the local administration for the attack, he said the incident took place before the eyes of police and armed forces.

"Peace in Chittagong Hill Tracts would never be achieved as long as armed forces will be there," Sumana Lanker Vante added.

Speaking on the occasion, Sudha Sindhu Khisha, a member of the central committee of Parbattya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS), said attack on the indigenous people has increased after the present government came to power.

## Water supply and sanitation Law soon to form regulatory body

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has finalised to set up an independent regulatory commission to ensure an efficient water supply and sanitation management.

A law to set up the 'Bangladesh Water and Sewerage Regulatory Commission' is likely to be enacted soon as a draft bill has already been prepared.

The government stressed the need for setting up the commission with a view to ensuring supply of pure drinking water and proper sewerage system across the country, highly placed sources said.

The commission will also work towards bringing transparency in water tariff, creating a congenial atmosphere for private sector investment, protecting consumers' interest and improving service to the subscribers.

A high-profile meeting with LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday discussed the draft bill titled 'Bangladesh Water and Sewerage Regulatory Commission Bill 2003', prepared by a taskforce.

The high officials discussed the proposed bill and decided to hold more meetings on the bill.

The taskforce was formed on July 12 following a cabinet decision to bring the water and sewerage authorities under a regulatory body.

Meeting sources said the proposed commission, if implemented, would encourage installation of private plants to meet the growing demand for water. The commission will also issue licences in this regard.

As per the draft bill, a five-member commission headed by a chairman would be formed. The chairman would be appointed from among the members.

The chairman and the members would be appointed by the president for a three-year term on the basis of the proposal of the Ministry of LGRD and Cooperatives.

The head office of the commission would be set up in Dhaka, but the commission can open its branch office in any part of the country with prior permission from the government.

## JU teachers begin class boycott today

JU CORRESPONDENT

The Jahangirnagar University Teachers' Association (JUTA) will begin a three-day 'class boycott' programme today as part of its agitation programme to press home its two-point demand including the removal of the vice-chancellor.

All examinations, however, have been kept out of the purview of the programme.

Earlier, the teachers boycotted the classes on September 3 and 4. The JUTA announced the programmes on September 1.

The other demand is punishment to the Jatiyatabadi chhatra Dal (JCD) activists who kept the provost and eight house tutors of the Shaheed Salam Barkat (SSB) hall confined.

The JUTA will hold a general meeting on September 14 to decide their next course of action.

## 1,478 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested a total of 1,478 people, including six listed criminals, during their countrywide ongoing drive in the last 24 hours ending at 6.00am yesterday.

They also recovered nine firearms and nine rounds of bullet.



PHOTO: STAR

Prof. Mesbah Kamal of Dhaka University speaks at the screening of a video on the incident of Mahalchhari at the National Press Club yesterday.

## AL to stage protests against environmental damage

UNB, Dhaka

The opposition Awami League has taken up a series of programmes to protest destruction of the environment by the government.

The party will organise a human chain at the Osmani Udyan at 3.30pm on September 27 to protest a government move to set up a CNG filling

station there.

It will also form human chains along the banks of different rivers on September 29 demanding steps to protect the rivers from the land-grabbers and to check erosion.

The demonstrations will be staged on the banks of Buriganga in Dhaka, of Kurnafuli in Chittagong, of Rupsa in Khulna, of Surma in Sylhet and of Kirtonkhola in Barisal, said an AL press release.

The AL will also hold a roundtable on 'National gas resource of Bangladesh and environmental implication' at the CIRDP auditorium in the capital on September 30.

AL General Secretary Abdul Ja'il criticised the government for taking a secret initiative to set up a CNG filling station at Osmani Udyan in the capital.

## Mohila Dal celebrates silver jubilee today

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Mohila Dal celebrates its silver jubilee today.

On this day in 1978, late President Ziaur Rahman launched the Mohila Dal as one of the front organisations of BNP, said a press release.

The Mohila Dal has drawn up daylong programmes, including placing wreaths at the Zia's mazar and offering fateha at 10.00am.

A colourful procession will also be brought out from the party's central office at 3.00pm. Women and Child Affairs Minister and central convener of the party Khurshid Jahan Haque will lead the procession.