



Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Inu) took out a procession in the city yesterday in support of two-day nationwide hartal beginning today. Awami League and JSD called the hartal protesting police action on opposition political activists and mass arrests.

FEMA to observe poura polls

BSS, Dhaka

The National Executive Committee of FEMA has decided to observe forthcoming pourasabha election by deploying stationary poll observers.

Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) organised a three-day training programme, in this

regard.

More than 100 representatives of the FEMA district units participated in the training.

FEMA district leaders will coordinate the activities of the poll monitors and send report to the National Headquarters in Dhaka to release it to the press.

Mass arrests condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The South Asian People's Union (SAPU) against fundamentalism and communism has condemned recent mass arrests of innocent people by police in the capital and elsewhere in the country.

In a joint statement issued on Monday, the union leaders said the BNP-Jamaat-led ruling alliance has tarnished the image for the country by depriving the people of their basic

human rights.

They said by resorting to repression on the people, the defeated forces in the liberation war are taking revenge of their defeat in 1971.

The signatories to the statement included union President Prof Kabir Chowdhury, presidium members Justice K M Sobhan, Major General (retd) C R Dutta, Prof Bohoruddin Khan Jahangir, Prof Ajay Roy and General Secretary Shahriar Kabir.

DHAKA
TODAY

Discussion

Amra Mujib Sena organises a discussion on 'Historic Mujibnagar Day and present Bangladesh.' It will be followed by a poetry recitation. Venue: Bishwasita Kendra auditorium, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 4.30pm.

Concluding function

The concluding function of the four-day-long folksong festival, organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, will be held with Law Minister Moudud Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: National Art Gallery of the academy, Segun Bagicha. Time: 6.30pm.

Reception

A reception for Maestro Afzalur Rahman and an instrumental recital titled 'Ganer Sangsar' will be held. Venue: Shaheed Zia auditorium, National Museum. Time: 6.30pm..

Film show

The Academy Film Society will screen an American film titled 'Auto Focus' (2002). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

Workshop

The opening session of a two-day workshop on 'Climate forecast applications in Bangladesh: experimental forecasts and concept note on next phase of CFAB.' Venue: BRAC Inn auditorium, Mohakhali. Time: 9.00am.

BCS (Taxation) meet

A meeting of the executive committee of Bangladesh Civil Service (Taxation) Association will be held. Venue: 2nd 12-storey Government Building, Segun Bagicha. Time: 4.15pm.

DHAKA
TOMORROW

Film show

The Academy Film Society will screen an Indian film titled 'Chalte Chalte' (2003), an American film titled 'Pirates of the Caribbean' (2003), and a French film titled 'The Realm of the Senses' (1969). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm, 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Dance day

On the occasion of World Dance Day, Nrityadhara organises a dance programme to be participated by its artistes. Venue: Mohila Samity auditorium, New Bailey Road. Time: 7.00pm.

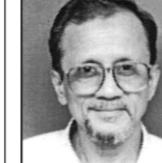
Condolence meet

The Sandip Samity, Dhaka organises a condolence meeting in memory of those killed in severe tornado and tidal wave that lashed the island on this day. Venue: Eastern University auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.30pm.



Members of the Professional Secretaries Welfare Association pose with the guests at a discussion at Sharaton Hotel in the city recently. The association organised the event to mark the International Administrative Professional Day.

Obituary



Alhaj Matiub Sobhani, son of late Khan Bahadur Ziaur Sams, died in the United States yesterday, says a press release.

Sobhani, former chief engineer of ICDDR,B and Birdeem, left behind his wife and two sons to mourn his death.

Halima Khatun

Halima Khatun, mother of Quazi Rajibuddin Ahmed Chapal, general secretary Bangladesh Archery Association, died of old age complications at Birdeem Hospital in the city on April 26 at the age of 77, says a press release.

She is survived by her three sons and four daughters.



Bangladesh Deed Writers and Stamp Vendors Sangram Parishad stages a demonstration in the city yesterday to press its seven-point demand.

ATTEMPTED RAPE CASE

Police submit charge sheet against Babul

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Badda Police yesterday pressed charges against Nurul Islam Babul, Chairman of Jamuna Group, in the attempted rape case.

The investigation officer (IO) of the case submitted the charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court, Dhaka showing seven people as prosecution witnesses.

During the investigation the IO seized a torn blouse which was dressed with the victim at the time of the occurrence.

In the case filed with Badda thana, a woman of Dholairpar under Demra thana in city alleged that she met Babul, a leading businessman and owner of the leading Bangla newspaper, Dainik Jugantor, at his office in Motijheel on March 17 for a job. Babul took her to Kuril Bishwa Road in Badda by a car, aided by an armed gang. She accused Babul of forcing her into a tin-roofed house near Bishwa Road and attempted to rape her.

Police arrested Babul at his Gulshan residence-2 on March 20 over the killing of dredger worker Alam Pramanik on September 1 last year. Later, he was shown arrested in the attempted rape case on March 23.

Meanwhile, the Fourth Special Tribunal for Prevention of Women and Children Repression, Dhaka yesterday rejected the bail petition of Babul in connection with the attempted rape case.

Judge Akhter Jahan Kaniz Fatema issued the order following a criminal revision filed by the defence lawyers seeking bail against the rejection order of the CMM's court.

Earlier, the investigation officer of the Alam Pramanik Murder case submitted a charge sheet against Babul, his son Shamim Islam and eight others.