

## **INDIAN RIVER-LINKING PROJECT**

# **'Conduct studies to assess** impact on Bangladesh'

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Water experts at a roundtable yesterday urged the government to conduct studies immediately to assess the impact of the Indian river-linking project on Bangladesh.

They said these assessments will help the country bargain with India and inform the international community about the adverse effects of the project.

The experts said the problem has to Bangladesh needs scientific and technical data to strengthen its position.

56th founding anniversary. State Minister for Water Resources

attended the roundtable as chief quest.



PHOTO: STAR A woman greets Kalim Sharafi, a noted Tagore song exponent, with a bouquet at a function at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium in the city yesterday on the occasion of his 80th birthday.



## Heat wave may continue UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country during the next 12 hours till 6.00pm today, with chances of rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty to squally wind at one or two places over Sylhet divisions.

Prevailing mild to moderate heat wave over Raishahi. Dhaka Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions may continue, Met office said.

v's highest temperature of 41 degree Celsius Yes

united and public awareness must be aised on this issue.

Prof Jahir Uddin Chowdhury of Banaladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) presented a keynote paper while Prof Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, vice-chancellor of BRAC University, moderated the roundtable.

Prof Jahir said the withdrawal of water from the Brahmaputra and the Ganges under the river-linking project will leave serious impact on the country's agriculbe solved politically and as such ture, fisheries, ecology, navigation, wetlands and groundwater. He said the Indian plan proposes a

The roundtable on The Impact of the transfer of 224 billion cubic metre of Indian River-linking Project on Bangladesh' water equivalent to about 25 percent of was organised by the Institution of the annual flow that enters Bangladesh Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) to mark its through the Brahmaputra and the Gange

Prof Jahir said if the flow of the Advocate Goutam Chakraborty Brahmaputra is reduced, salinity intrusion will be increased in the south-He said the government under a task central and the south-east regions as the force is watching the project plan of India. Brahmaputra contributes nearly 90 But all political parties have to be percent of the total water to control

Crescent Day today STAFF CORRESPONDENT The World Red Cross and Red

Crescent Day will be observed today with a call for positive attitude to life and respect for human values This year's slogan of the day is No discrimination' Bangladesh Red Crescent

salinity intrusion.

needed

Prof Jamilur Reza Chowdhury said

the government should immediately

inform India that the water transferring

under the river-linking project will make

serious adverse impact on Bangladesh.

tative of the IUCN- the World

Conservation Union, said the entire

matter is a political process and to make

it effective, solid technical data is

arrange a debate in parliament.

this issue, she added.

World Red

Dr Hasna Moudud said the government should sensitise the issue and

A national unity must be forged on

ProfAinun Nishat, country represen-

Society (BRCS) has drawn up programmes to mark the day. The programmes include pro

cession, drawing competition, voluntary blood donation, special fund collection, discussion and cultural programme, said BRCS Chairman Z A Khan at a press conference yesterday.

## Federation of **Film Societies** executives STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The film societies have unanimously elected a 14-member executive committee of Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies (BFFS). The committee was elected at a meting of the film societies on

Thursday, with filmmaker Morshedul slam in the chair. Zahirul Islam of Dhaka Film Society was elected general secre-tary and Ahmed Muztaba Zamal of

Rainbow Film Society and Sabbir Chowdhury of Zahir Raihan Film Society were elected vicepresidents

Other office-bearers are Rashedul Hafiz (Dhaka University Film Society) -- joint secretary; Humayun Kabir (Jamalpur Film Society) -- finance secretary; Fakhrul Arefin (Jahangirnagar Students Film Society) -- organising secretary; Masudul Hasan (Jahangirnagar Film Society) -- office secretary; and Rafiqul Anwar (Chittagong University Film Society) -- press and publication secretary. And the members are Alam Quoreshi (Dhaka Film Club). Sushil Sutradhar (Chipachas), Morshedul Islam (Chalachitram Film Society), Rahman Mostafiz (Sergei Bondarchuk Film Club), Qazi Jahidul Islam (Narayanganj Film Society) and Biplob Mostafiz (Bangladesh Film Society). The president will be elected in the first meeting of the executive committee.



Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon formed a human chain demanding measures to check air pollution at Shahbagh in the city yesterday.

## Govt criticised for delay in | CUET teachers forming anti-corruption demand commission

within a stipulate period.

NEWS

#### **STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

National Platform for Unity (NPU) President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday criticised the government for its dilly-dallying tactics on the formation of an independent anti-corruption commission. "There is widespread concern

among the people over the dilatory tactics of the government in taking steps to combat the rampant corruption which is damaging the national economy, impeding investment and negating good governance," said Dr Kamal in a statement.

He said this delay is undue since the law passed on February 24 for forming the commission is a selfcontained law stating that it will override other laws.

Dr Kamal said this is the same dilatory approach that the govern-



## appointment of vice-chancellor ment has taken in implementing the **CU CORRESPONDENT** Supreme Court verdict for separating the judiciary from the executive

Teachers of Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (CUET) yesterday demanded immediate appointment of a vicechancellor to infuse dynamism into academic and administrative activities of the university.

They sought the intervention of the prime minister and education minister in this regard.

The government upgraded four Bangladesh Institutes of Technology to universities last year but appointed VCs to three universities, the leaders of the teachers' association said at a press conference.

An acting VC has been running the CUET since September 1 last year, association President Md Abdul Wazed said.

The leaders said they have earlier sent two fax messages to the prime minister and urged her to appoint a noted engineer as the VC, but they have not got any response yet

The leaders also threatened to launch a tough movement after May 10 to realise their demand.

Association General Secretary Mir Mohammed Swaki Kawsar and Vice-President Md Ibrahim Khan were also present.

Obituary

## **Mathematics Olympiad** held in Khulna

ceremony

olympiad.

The Daily Star

Sheikh Abu Hasan, bureau chief

Vice-Chancellor of Khulna

of the Prothom Alo, conducted the

present on the occasion.

prisoners

condemned

## STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The Dutch-Bangla Bank-Prothom Alo Mathematics Olympiad of Khulna division was held at Khulna 7illa School vesterday.

University of Engineering and Over 1.500 students from differ-Technology Prof Dr Nawsher Ali, ent schools and colleges took part in Vice-President of Bangladesh the olympiad inaugurated by Mathematics Olympiad Committee Headmaster Abu Saeed Ahmed. Dr M Zafar Igbal and Deputy Editor The institutions are Khulna Zilla of the Prothom Alo Anisul Hug were

School, Govt Coronation Girls' High School, Khulna Public School and College, Navy School and College, Khulna Collegiate School, Khulna Girls' School, St. Joseph High School, Cantonment Public College, Khulna City College, Sundarban College, Kushtia Zilla School, Jessore Cantonment College, Jhenidah Cadet College, Bagerhat Govt High School and

Satkhira Govt College. The daylong programme included math drill, math booth, spot quiz, book fair, health camp, open discussion, opinion exchange for the distressed people of the warmeeting between teachers and guardians and certificate awarding ravaged country.

UNB, Chittagong Political leaders and civil society members at a rally here yesterday strongly condemned the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by American soldiers and decided to send relief materials

Torture of Iragi

DHÂKA

## **Cultural evening**

Discussion

4.30pm.

9.30am

5.00pm.

Reception

Film show

Dialogue

9.00am.

21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

Founding

anniversary

hold a discussion to mark the birth

anniversary of poet Rabindranath

On the occasion of World Red Cross

and Red Crescent Day, Bangladesh

Red Crescent Society organises an art

competition for the children. Venue:

Bangladesh Shishu Academy. Time:

Zia Shishu Kishore Sangathan organ-

ises a function to mark its 17th founding

Grameen Bank will accord a reception

to Sharmin Akter who won a gold medal

at the 9th Saaf games. Venue: Bank

Art competition

Roundtable Spectra Group organises a cultural evening to mark the birth anniversary of Welfare Association for Cancer Care poet laureate Rabindranath Tagore. organises a roundtable on 'Framework Convention on Tobacco Control: The programme includes a documentary on 'Rabindranath' by Satvaiit Ray. Bangladesh Perspective.' Venue: National Press Club. Time: 11.00am. Venue: Spectra Convention Centre, Gulshan-1. Time: 7.00pm.

## **BTS discussion**

On the occasion of World Thalassaemia Dakkhin Bangla Jubo Kalyan Samity will Day, Bangladesh Thalassaemia Samity (BTS) will hold a discussion with Health Minister Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain as chief guest. Venue: National Press Tagore, Venue: Shaheed Asad Auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: Club. Time: 10.00am.

## **Rotary Central**

Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1.30pm.

### **Rotary North West** Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of

Dhaka North West will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5.30pm.



#### anniversary with LGRD and Jacques Tati Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan as chief guest. Venue: Retrospective Bangladesh Shishu Academy. Time:

Zahir Raihan Film Society, in association with the Alliance Francaise, will screen four films made and acted by French filmmaker Jacques Tati. These are 'Watch Your Left', 'School for Postmen' and 'Evening Classes' at 5.00pm and 'Jour de fete' (Holiday) at 7.00pm. Venue:

## College student dies in Sylhet road accident STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Death of a college student in a road accident triggered a violent protest at Tilagarh on Sylhet-Tamabil

Highway yesterday. Rezaul Hasan Joy, a first year student of MC College, died on the spot when a speeding truck hit his motorcycle in Pirerbazar area at

about 1.00am. Two others were also injured. The truck sped away soon after the incident.

recorded at Chuadanga and the lowest of 22.1 degree at Dinajpur. The sun sets in the capital at 6:31pm today and rises at 5:19am tomorrow.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

	City/Town Temperature		Humidity in			6
			in Celsius percentage		age	
		Max	Min	Morning	Evening	
	Dhaka	36.7	27.6	69	43	
	Chittagong	34.4	26.5	75	76	Ē
	Rajshahi	39.6	26.2	69	53	
	Khulna	37.2	26.2	77	53	a
	Barisal	35.8	26.8	74	56	F
	Sylhet	34.0	24.0	63	63	
	Cox's Bazar	35.0	26.6	72	75	t

Bangladesh Debate Federation in association with the Prothom Alo organised a roundtable on 'Debate: Evaluation method and relevant thoughts' in the city yesterday. Over 150 representatives from debating societies took part in the roundtable, with federation President Bulbul Hasan in the chair. Former secretary general of the federation Abdun Noor Tusher moderated it.

## UNB, Dhaka

Mostafa Golam Haider, managing director of Noami Group, died of a cardiac arrest at Sikder Medical College Hospital here yesterday at the age of 47.

Haider, younger brother of former president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association Mostafa Golam Quddus, was also a member of the association. The BGMEA has expressed

profound shock at the death of Haider

auditorium, Mirpur. Time: 3.00pm. Alliance Francaise, Dhanmondi.

#### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen an Academy Film Society will screen an American film titled 'Cabin Fever' American film titled 'Badlands' (1974). (2003). Venue: Society auditorium, Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

### Discussion

Development Organisation of the Rural Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Poor (DORP) will hold a dialogue on Association organises a discussion on 'Health in PRSP- Bangladesh'. Venue: 'Enforcement of law for banning hydrau-LGED Bhaban, Agargaon. Time: lic horn.' Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10.00am.

TV GUIDE												
All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.	BTV 07:30 Bangladesher Hridoy Hote 09:00 Satellite programme 12:15 Shongbad Potrer Pata Theke 12:30 Health Bulletin 01:05 Special Drama on	09:35     Amare Karo Tomar     11:25     Dindarpan     2:30     As G       Beena     ATN BANGIA     5:15     King		CopsJayengeWhat Were You12:00YatraThinking?NATIONALSTAR SPORTSIndia's Child Genius-Decographic12:00Curtain RGEOGRAPHIC12:00Asian 9-Ball Tour TaiwanTop Drive Getaway2:30National Geographic1:30The X-FilesSpecial#3(L)	mouth (L) <b>10:00</b> Epl Postshow Premiership Postgame (L) <b>10:30</b> English Premier Football League 2003/04 Birmingham England Birmin Gham City Vs							
BTV News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55	Tagore		TAGORE'S ANNIVERSARY SPE		Liverpool (L)							
am.12:10 pm. 2:00 pm. 3:00 pm. 4:00	02:05 Online 02:30 Ta Ta Thoi Thoi		TAGORE 5 ANNIVERSART SPE		ESPN							
pm. 7:00 pm. News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm.5:00	03:05 Nibedan		the state		11:30 Espn School Quiz 2004 (R)							
pm.8:00 pm.	04:05 Nakshatrer Alo		The The second		12:00 English Premier League							
News (English) at <b>3:00 pm. 10:00 pm.</b> Late Night News (Bangla and English)	04:30 Jhilmil 05:05 English Debate		THE PARA		Preview (R)							
11:30 pm.	06:10 News For Children		SHE LA S		12:30 Sri Lanka Tour Of Zimbabwe 1st Test							
CHANNEL-i Breakfast News 7:15 am. 9:00am	07:00 Share Market and				Day 2 Highlights(R)							
News (Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30,	Weather Forecast 07:05 Musical Programme				1:50 Sri Lanka Tour Of							
12:15 am.	on Tagore				Zimbabwe 1st TestDay 3 1st Session(L)							
Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at <b>11:30 pm</b> .	08:30 Anirban				4:00 Nba Action (R)							
ATN BANGLA	10:25Teknaf thekey Tetulia10:35Drama: Aparichita				4:30 Sri Lanka Tour Of							
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am. 12:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm. 11:00 pm.	CHANNEL-i		A		Zimbabwe 1st Test Day 3 2nd & 3rd							
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and	09:45 Tritiyo Matra (Tagore	Strir Patro Chhinnopotro	Sharashori-Rabindranath	Shyama Hridoye Rabindranath	Session(L)							
English) at <b>11:30 pm.</b> Latest News (Bangla) at <b>9 a.m,10:00</b>	Special)	On ATN Bangla at 4:30pm On ntv at 3:05 pm	On Channel I at 7:50 pm	On ntv at 9:45 pm On ATN Bangla at 9:00pm	5:25 English Premier							
am, 11:00 am.1pm. 2:00 pm.3:00 pm.	10:30 Tagore Anniversary Celebration Live from	Tele Film Videography from Tagore's Jayanto Chattopadhyay, Wahida Chhinnopotro	Magazine Programme Rizwana Chowdhury Bonnya, Lily	Dance Drama Magazine Show Sadya Islam Mao and Kabirul Islam Pragyna Laboni, Kazi Arif, Sohel	Football League 2003/04 Manchester							
4:00pm.6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.	Celebration Live from Kolkata	Mallik Jolly, Golam Farida Chhonda Created by Noazesh Ahmed		Ratan Rahman. Ria	England Manche Ster							
<b>ntv</b> News Headlines (Bangla) at <b>10:00 am</b> .	01:00 Shamoyiki (Tagore				United Vs Chelsea (L)							
12:00 am. 5:00 pm. 6:15 pm. 9:30 pm.	Special)	09:00 Shoptaher Khobor   12:40 Special Drama:   10:30 F/X	Khan, Divya Bharati) <b>7:30</b>	Xena:Warrior Princess   3:30 Mission Wild   3:00 Asian 9-Ball Tour Taiwan	7:30 Sri Lanka Tour Of Zimbabwe 1st Test Day							
News (Bangla) 7:30 am. 2:00 pm. 7:30 pm.10:30 pm.	01:30 Sangbadpatrey Bangladesh and	09:30 Tomar Beena Baje Moddhyabortini 12:15 Spide		Tna Wrestling     4:00     Return To The Wild     Quarterfinal #4(L)	3 2nd & 3rd							
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and	Public Reaction		ring Las Vegas Mustaf,/Vadh (Nana 9:30 Istorm Patekar) 10:30	Mutant X     4:30     National Geographic     4:55     Formula One Qualifying       Enterprise     Special     Barcelona Spain	Session(L)							
English) at 11:30 pm.	02:00 Balmiki Protibha		finger 5:30 China Gate (Om Puri, 11:30	Enterprise     Special     Barcelona Spain       Baywatch Hawaii     5:30     On Assignment     Spanish Grand Prix	9:00 Sportscenter Weekend (T)							
	03:00 Tele Film: Rashmonir Chhele	03:05 Chhinnopotro 06:20 Kabyo Braomon 7:00 Bad 0	Company Amrish Puri) STA	AR PULS 6:00 Tomorrow's World Qualifying (L)	9:10 Harsha Online Ian Chappell(R)							
NewsHeadlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm.	04:30 Dekhar Gaan Shonar	05:10     Robir Alo     08:00     A-ha Satkeche     8:55     Van V       05:40     Alokpat     Kemone     Liaiss	Wilder: Party 9:00 Hamara Dil Aapke Paas	Mirch Masala 6:30 Dogs With Jobs 7:00 Futbol Mundial (R)	10:00 English Premier Football							
Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30	Gaan	06:20 Shubho Shondhya 08:30 Rabinrdanath O 10:30 The F	Rock Aishwarva Rai) 3:00	Musafir Hoon Yaaron     7:00     Toyota World of Wildlife     7:30     Epl Saturday Premier- ship Saturday       Raiu Chacha     7:30     Earth Report     Ship Saturday	League 2003/04 Leeds							
pm. Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30	05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma 05:45 Rabi Thakur Kabi	06:50 Sangskriti Ei Shilaidaha 12:45 Guar	rding Tess STAR WORLD 3:30 6:30	Raju Chacha     7:30     Earth Report     ship Saturday       Kya Baat Hail     8:00     Geowatch Asia     Preview(L)	England Leeds Unite D Vs Charlton							
pm.	05:45 Rabi Thakur Kabi Thakur	Shoptaho     09:00     Hridoye Rabindranath     MGM       08:10     Mega Serial: Teen     10:30     Arup Tomar Bani     MGM	2:00 Action Man 7:00	Bachcha Party 8:30 Panda Nursery 7:55 English Premier Football								
BBC WORLD	06:45 Janmer Prothom	Purush UDO 9:00 Frate	ernity Vacation 2:30 Monster Farm 7:30	Khichdi 9:30 Self-Portrait League 2003/04	12:00 Anthology Nba's							
Every hour on the hour	Shubhokkhan	08:50     Dance Drama: <b>HBO</b> 11:30     I Sho       10:45     Richie Rich     2:00     Tadp	ot A Man In Vegas     3:00     X Men     8:00       sole     3:30     The Kumars At No. 42     8:30	Jaaduu 10:30 National Geographic Leicester England	Furious Finishes Of							
	07:50 Sharashari-			Dulhan Hum Le Special Leicest Er City Vs Ports	The 90's (T)							