

# Nat'l Tree Fair begins today

BSS, Dhaka

The National Tree Plantation Movement and Tree Fair-2004 begins on the National Parade Ground in the city today.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia is expected to inaugurate the fair at 11 am.

Addressing a press conference in the PID conference room, Environment and Forests Minister Tariqul Islam said tree fairs would be held in 107 upazilas to strengthen afforestation programme.

Tariqul expressed the hope that saplings worth Tk 1.5 crore would be sold at the National Tree Fair this year. Saplings worth Tk 1.20 crore were sold last year.

He said the government has been working relentlessly for protecting country's forest resources.

He said a programme has been taken to plant one core coconut saplings in eight greater districts in the coastal areas. As part of this programme, 42 lakh coconut saplings would be planted in the current season, he added.

The minister said the Thai government has promised to supply one crore coconut seeds as a friendly gesture to Bangladesh. Four thousand seeds (Thai Tall Variety) are

expected to reach Chittagong by June and a Thai expert team is also expected to visit Bangladesh in July, he added.

Tariqul said that the forest department has been instructed to plant those trees which are on the verge of extinction. Effective measures are being taken to halt felling of trees and hill cutting. He said 15 staff of forest department were suspended in this connection.

He said 10 per cent of the country's total area is covered by forest which would be increased to 20 per cent by 2015.

## Wage Board Demand Day June 26

DU CORRESPONDENT

Sangbadik-Sramik-Karmachari Oikya Parishad will observe Wage Board Demand Day on June 26.

This was decided at a meeting at the National Press Club yesterday with Gias Kamal Chowdhury in the chair.

The meeting also decided to hold a grand rally and submit a memorandum to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia on the same day to press home their demands.

The parishad will also observe a work abstention from 11:00am to 3:00pm on June 26.

An extended meeting of all units of the parishad will be held at the National Press Club on June 12 to make the June 26 programmes a success.

Meanwhile, a 12-member committee has been formed with Gias Kamal Chowdhury, Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury and Fazley Imam as co-convenor to conduct the demonstration.

Ruhul Amin Gazi will act as member-secretary while Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul and Matur Rahman Talukder as joint-member-secretary of the committee.

A meeting of the parishad will be held at the National Press Club at 11:00am on June 5, says a press release.

## Chhatra Moitree's new committee

DU CORRESPONDENT

Abu Naser Anik and Sheikh Farook Ahmed have been elected president and general secretary respectively of the new central committee of Biplobi Chhatra Moitree.

Shehab Uddin Jewel, Mahfuzur Rahman Sumudra and Tanmoy Sarker Sagor have been elected vice-presidents.

Other office-bearers are Rakibul Hasan Runu-assistant general secretary, Abdullah Al Harun Moni-publicity secretary, Ashiqur Rahman Ashique-political, educational and cultural affairs secretary, Alimuzzaman Shohel-finance secretary, Mahubul Riton-office secretary and Sangeet Prasad Zitu-organising secretary.

The 27-member committee was formed on Sunday.



PHOTO: STAR

Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar presents Adhunik-2004 award to Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, executive director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, for his contribution to anti-smoking movement at the National Press Club yesterday while National Professor Nurul Islam, left, looks on.

## Strengthen anti-tobacco campaign: President

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed has called for further strengthening the anti-tobacco campaign to free the society from the curse of smoking.

The president's call came when a delegation of Adhunik (Amra Duman Nibarani), an anti-smoking organisation, called on him at Bangabhaban yesterday on the occasion of the World No Tobacco Day.

He said the anti-smoking campaign should be turned into a social movement which should be spread in all educational institutions and

homes to build a tobacco-free society.

The delegation led by National Professor Dr Nurul Islam highlighted different activities of the organisation as well as various aspects of the anti-smoking campaign in Bangladesh and elsewhere in the world which led WHO to come with an international accord on tobacco control.

## 2 JU JCD men expelled

JU CORRESPONDENT

The central committee of Jatityabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) has expelled two activists of Jahangirnagar University (JU) unit and served show cause notice on eight others for their involvement in an intra-party clash that left six injured on the campus on Saturday.

The decision to this effect was taken at a meeting between the central committee and JU unit committee at the central JCD office in the city on Sunday.

The expelled activists are Zicko, a first year student of English and supporter of President Parvez Mallick Group, and Sohel, a second year student of history and supporter of General Secretary Avi Group.

Of those served with show cause notice, Rabiul Islam Rabi, Koushik Ahmed Joni, Zahirul Islam, Azmir Hossain are the supporters of president group, while Shamsul Alam Palash, Harun-ur-Rashid Selim, Jamil Hossain and Imran Hossain are the supporters of general secretary group.

## PM distributes foods, clothes among poor

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday distributed foods and clothes among the destitute in the city on the occasion of the 23rd death anniversary of President Ziaur Rahman.

Khaleda visited more than 30 city points where BNP arranged distribution of food among the poor.

The Prime Minister first went to Shaheen Bagh and then to the other areas including Arzotpara, Karwan Bazar, Tejgaon, Begunbari, FDC Gate, Tongi Diversion Road, Bishal Centre, Moghbazar, Modhubagh, Mouchak, Paribagh, Siddeswari, Kazipara, Green Super Market, Rajabazar, Tejgaon College, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Monipuripara, Kamarbari, Nakhlapara, Airport Road, Shewrapara, Pallabi, Gabtali Bus Stand, Kalyanpur, Tejgunipara, Shaheed Smriti School, Pallabi MI Model School, Haroon Molla Market, Mirpur Section-10 Town Hall, Section 1 Crossing, Buddhijibi Mazar premises, and Manikdi Adarsha Bidya Niketon.

She also distributed clothing among the poor at Kalyanpur Bus Terminal and visited a free medical camp at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar BNP office organised by Doctors Association of Bangladesh (DAB).

She was accompanied by party leaders -- city mayor Sadek Hossain Khoka, Works Minister Mirza Abbas, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Selima Rahman, political secretary to prime minister Harris Chowdhury and Mosaddek Ali.

## Three Biman passengers arrested with fake tickets in Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Three passengers were arrested with forged tickets before boarding a Bangladesh Biman flight at Chittagong Shah Amanat International Airport on Sunday night.

Bidarshan Barua, Nayan Barua and Ruki Barua were scheduled to fly to Muscat at 9:00pm but their tickets were found to be fake during the checking of tickets.

The three, hailing from Abdullahpur of Fatikchhari Upazila, were handed over to Patenga Police Station yesterday afternoon.

The ticket numbers issued by Rubel Travels, located in Sadarghat area, were illegible because of overwriting, which caused suspicion among the airport security men and Biman staffs, said Sub-Inspector Mamun of Patenga Police Station.

The arrestees, however, claimed innocence and said they did not have any idea whether the tickets were forged, he added.

It is the third such incident in two weeks. An Abu Dhabi-bound passenger and another Dubai-bound passenger were found carrying fake tickets on May 24 and May 17.

Sources at the airport alleged that a powerful syndicate, backed by some influential BNP men, has long been engaged in selling fake tickets and cheating innocent people.



## Jica Alumni Assoc executives

Golam Kibria Bhuiyan and Ejar Uddin have been elected president and general secretary of the Jica Alumni Association for 2004-2006, says a press release.

Election to the 25-member executive committee was held on May 28.

Other elected office-bearers are Azmal Chowdhury, Prof. Dr Khurshed Jahan and Khaleda Fahmi - vice-presidents, Dr Abul Hossain and Khandaker Mostan Hossain - joint secretaries, Md Shamsul Alam - treasurer, Md Abdul Malek - organising secretary, Zafar Ahmed Khan - office secretary, Dr Md Saleh Ahmed - publication secretary, Dr M Mofazzal Hussain - seminar & research secretary, Shireen Sultana - cultural secretary, and Dilara Rahman - social affairs secretary.

And the members are Dr Monira Parvin, Rahman Samina, M A Malek Chowdhury, Dr Md Rafiqul Islam, Dr Md Abdur Rashid, Md Serajul Kabir, Abdullah Harun Pasha, Kazi Abdul Bari, Syed Mahfuz Ahmad, Md Fazlur Rahman and Md Azizul Haque.

## Fruit trader murdered, police informant shot

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a bullet-riddled fruit trader from Sutrapur while criminals shot a police informant in Mirpur yesterday.

On information, Sutrapur police found the body of Bellal Hossain, 36, in the north of Dhupkhola field at 7:30am. The body bore marks of seven gunshots, said the primary inquest report.

Police sent the body to Mitford Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Victim's wife Kamrunnessa identified the body at the morgue.

Bellal went out with one of his friend Ibrahim on Sunday morning and did not return since then, she said in the first information report (FIR) that she filed with Sutrapur

Police Station.

In Mirpur, a gang of seven called Ruhul Amin, 35, a police informant and shop-owner at Kalyanpur Bazar, out of his shop and took him behind the bazar at 8:30am.

The gang, led by one local goon Ripon, shot him twice in the head and fled the scene.

Ruhul was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where he was undergoing treatment.

His wife Nur Jahan Begum told newsmen at DMCH that since Ruhul worked as a police informant, he developed rivalry with many goons in the locality.

Ripon threatened her husband to kill a week ago as Ruhul helped police arrest some of his men, she added.

## DHAKA TODAY

### Calligraphy exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of the 7th calligraphy exhibition, organised by Dhaka Sahitya Sangskritik Kendra to mark the Seeratunnabi (SA), will be held. Venue: Sufia Kamal auditorium, National Museum. Time: 4:00pm. The exhibition will remain open till June 15.

Ramna will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5:30pm.

### Muldhara

Weekly opinion sharing meeting of Muldhara International Centre will be held. Venue: Zakia Alam Auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 6:30pm.

### Photography exhibition

The opening ceremony of a photography exhibition titled 'Borders and Beyond' will be held. Photographs of ten photographers from Denmark, England, Mexico, Palestine, Russia, South Africa and Switzerland will be on display. Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi. Time: 5:30pm. The exhibition will remain open till June 21 from 3:00pm to 8:00pm daily.

### Dialogue

A national dialogue on 'Standard-compliant production and processing options for sustainable shrimp sector in Bangladesh' will be held with Commerce Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: IDB Bhaban, Agargaon. Time: 11:00am.

### Condolence meeting

Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad will hold a condolence meeting in memory of slain Awami League lawmaker Ahsanullah Master. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4:00pm.

## DHAKA TOMORROW

### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen an American film titled 'Dare Devil' (2003). Venue: Society auditorium, Jigatola. Time: 6:30pm.

### Jubo Sanghati conference

A conference of Dhaka City (South) Jatiya Jubo Sanghati will be held with Jatiya Party Chairman Hussain Mohammad Ershad as chief guest. Venue: Mohanagar Natyamancha, Gulistan. Time: 3:00pm.

### Discussion

Industrial and Business Association will hold a pre-budget discussion. Venue: Islami Bank Tower, Dilkhusha. Time: 4:00pm.

### Condolence meeting

A citizens' condolence meeting will be held in memory of former Buet professor Dr Golam Mohiuddin. Venue: National Museum auditorium. Time: 5:00pm.



## Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty to squally wind is likely at few places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal Divisions till 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 36.5 degree Celsius and the lowest 23.0 degree Celsius were recorded at Jessore yesterday.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:42pm today and rises at 5:11am 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	34.2	23.9	71	63
Chittagong	33.0	26.5	75	76
Rajshahi	35.6	23.6	80	75
Khulna	35.5	24.4	77	68

### ABMH Khandaker



He left behind his one son and two daughters.

His qulkhani will be held at his Gulshan residence tomorrow after Maghrib prayers.

### Nazlee Haque



Saturday night at her Gulshan residence in the city at the age of 47, says a press release.

Her Qulkhani will be held today after Maghrib prayers at her Gulshan residence.

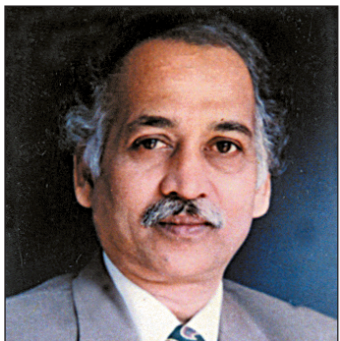
She is survived by her husband, one daughter and one son.

### Death anniversary



Today is the 33rd death anniversary of martyred freedom fighter Abdul Kader Meah, says a press release.

Kader Meah, officer-in-charge of Debiganj thana, was killed by the Pakistani occupation forces at Open Choukivaji Dangapara of Bhushir Bandar area in Debiganj thana on this day in 1971.



## Prof SMA Faiz appointed DU VC for 4 years

DU CORRESPONDENT

Prof. SMA Faiz took over as vice-chancellor of Dhaka University yesterday after his fresh appointment for four years.

He was appointed from a three-member VC panel elected by members of the DU Senate on May 23. Two other members are Pro-VC Prof. AFM Yusuf Haider and Prof. Wakil Ahmed.

President Iajuddin Ahmed, also chancellor of the university, appointed Prof. Faiz on Sunday.

A teacher of the department of soil, water and environment, Prof. Faiz has been serving as VC since September 2002 after Prof. Anwarullah Chowdhury, then vice-chancellor, resigned in the face of massive student protests against police atrocities inside Shamsunnahar Hall, a dormitory for female students.

Taking over the charge, Prof. Faiz sought cooperation from teachers, students, officials and employees to maintain academic atmosphere and improve the quality of education.

"I will try to restore the past glory of the university," he said.