

# Distribution of VGF cards, relief to be monitored, PM tells JS

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday reaffirmed that distribution of VGF cards and relief materials among the small and marginal farmers affected by the recent devastating floods would be monitored properly.

"We have integrated members of parliament and UP chairmen of the respective areas and involved army in

the proper listing of VGF cards," she told parliament replying to a question during the PM's question hour.

Mojibur Rahman (Jatiya Party-Lalmonirhat) raised the question on behalf of Mohammad Moshir Rahman Ranga (Jatiya Party-Rangpur).

Replying to Shamsul Alam Pramanik (BNP), she said the Prime Minister's Office and the district administration would monitor the

relief operations.

Khaleda told Justice Mozammel Huq (BNP) that banks have been advised to provide agricultural loans to the affected farmers without any collateral.

She mentioned that five kilograms of seed and 25 kilograms of fertiliser would be given free of cost to the farmers to recoup the losses caused by the devastating floods.



Awami League organised a foot march from Central Shaheed Minar to Bangabandhu Bhaban at Dhanmondi in the city yesterday to press home its demand for resignation of the government.

# Ratify ILO Convention on home-based workers

## Speakers urge govt at seminar

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Speakers at a seminar yesterday urged the government to ratify the ILO (International Labour Organisation) Convention on home-based workers.

They also called for incorporating the informal sector including child workers and domestic helps into Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP).

The seminar on the 'Role of home-based women and children workers and their rights in the Bangladesh context' was organised by Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association (BNWLA) at Dhanmondi in the city.

The speakers said a large number of women and children are working down to dusk with meager amount in informal sector due to lack of proper rules and regulations in this sector, which plays an important role in national economy.

They said many children including teenage girls are coming to urban areas from their village homes to work as domestic workers and facing physical torture, exploit-

ation and sexual harassment.

"A child department is going to be set up to ensure the rights of the children working in informal sector," said Mortuza Hossain Munshi, secretary of women and children affairs ministry, as chief guest.

The government should enact new laws on DNA test in all cases, especially rape cases, under the Women and Children Repression

Prevention Act to help identify the culprits, said Advocate Tawhida Khandaker.

BNWLA Advisor Advocate Fawzia Karim Firoz presented a keynote paper at the seminar where BNWLA Executive Director Salma Ali and INCIDIN Executive Director ABM Masud Ali also spoke.

# Three electrocuted

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia**

Three people, including a father and his daughter, were electrocuted in Jhenidah in the last two days.

Rezaul Islam alias Thandu, 45, an electrical parts trader, and his only

daughter Farzana Islam Emy, 17, were electrocuted at about 7:00am yesterday when they tried to remove a snapped wire from their rooftop at Chandna cinema hall area in the town.

On Tuesday evening, a 12-year-old schoolboy Monu was electrocuted as he came into contact with a falling powerline on the road.

The cable got snapped due to heavy rain and storm.

# 1.20 lakh VGF cards in Dhaka dist

**UNB, Dhaka**

Over 1.20 lakh distressed and flood affected families of the district have been brought under Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) programme.

Army personnel have examined the list of genuine card holders, prepared by the union parishad, and completed the selection of the families, an official source said.

# 1,025 more held

**UNB, Dhaka**

Police arrested some 1,025 people, including four identified criminals, on various charges during their countryside drive in the last 24 hours ending at 6.00am yesterday.

# Citibank donates computers to Ellenga school

Citibank NA, Bangladesh donated computers to Ellenga Jitendra Bala Girls' High School in Tangail recently as part of its initiative to help the young children learn information technology, says a press release.

The school is one of the pioneer institutions for girls' education in Tangail. About 600 students enrolled in the school but they are disadvantaged in terms of IT competency.

Citibank has made this contribution to provide training to the rural girls in the arena of information technology.

Sanjay Nayar, area head, Citibank South Asia, handed over the formal letter of contribution to Purobi Bhoumik, headmistress of the school.

Mamun Rashid, chief executive officer of Citibank Bangladesh, and other officials of the school were also present.



Sanjay Nayar, area head, Citibank South Asia, hands over a letter of contribution to Purobi Bhoumik, headmistress of Ellenga Jitendra Bala Girls' High School, in the city recently. Mamun Rashid, CEO of Citibank, and other officials of the school were present.

## DHAKA TODAY

**Puppet play** 4.00pm.  
Centre for Asian Theatre will stage a puppet play titled Mukhosh (Mask) directed by Raihan Akhter. Venue: Goethe-Institut Auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.00pm.

**Academy film show**  
Academy Film Society will screen an Indian film titled 'Chalte Chalte' (2003) and an American film titled 'Starsky & Hutch' (2004). Venue: Society Auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

**Band show**  
The annual cultural function and band show of Bangladesh University will be held. Venue: University Auditorium, Iqbal Road. Time: 11.00am.

**Orientation**  
The 36th orientation programme of International University of Business Agriculture and Technology for Fall Semester 2004 will be held. Venue: Auditorium of the Academy for Planning and Development, Nilkhet. Time: 3.00pm.

**Gold Medal award**  
The award of Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Gold Medal 2003 will be held with former Chief Justice Justice Mostafa Kamal as chief guest. Venue: Dhaka Ahsania Mission Auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.00pm.

**Discussion**  
Bangabandhu Parishad will hold a discussion on the August 21 grenade attack on Awami League rally. Venue: National Press Club Auditorium. Time: 3.00pm.

**Indian film show**  
The High Commission of India will screen a film titled 'Kaho Naa Pyar Hai'. Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House-25, Road-96, Gulshan-2.

**Seminar**  
A seminar on 'Earthquake engineering research in the University of Asia Pacific' will be held with Science and ICT Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan as chief guest. Venue: University Auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 3.00pm.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Thundershowers likely

**UNB, Dhaka**

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over Khulna and Barisal divisions and at many places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Sylhet and Chittagong divisions till 6.00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls is also likely at places during the period, Met Office said.

Day temperature may rise by 1-3 degree Celsius over the country.

Highest temperature 33.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Srimangal and lowest 21.6 degree Celsius at Rajshahi.

**The sun sets in the capital at 6:01pm today and rises at 5:46am 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	27.5	23.0	95	96
Chittagong	29.5	23.6	77	87
Rajshahi	25.8	21.6	96	96
Khulna	25.5	24.2	100	100
Barisal	28.0	24.0	98	100
Sylhet	32.0	24.3	75	79
Cox's Bazar	--	24.5	77	--