METROPOLITAN/NEWS

'Implement nat'l women dev policy to establish rights'

RU CORRESPONDENT

Abritti Samonnoy Parishad.

The Ministry of Energy plans to

place again the draft coal policy

before the Cabinet Division by the

end of September, clarifying all

the queries that have cropped up

over the mining modalities con-

cerning the country's important

the Energy Division is now pre-

paring responses to the queries

recent meeting of the Council of

back the draft national coal

policy to the Energy Division for

Advisers in Chittagong.

more review and vetting.

Lankan army

Sri Lankan Army Chief Lt General

GSC Fonseka left Dhaka yesterday

He was accompanied by his wife

Quarter Master General Lt

General Md Jahangir Alam

Choudhury, on behalf of the

Bangladesh Army chief, saw Gen

Fonseka off at Zia International

Sri Lankan High Commissioner V

During his visit to Bangladesh,

Karishna Moorthy was also present.

Gen Fonseka placed wreaths at the

Shikha Anirban at Dhaka

Cantonment. He also called on

President Iajuddin Ahmed and the

Defence Services Command and

Staff College in Bangladesh, also

attended the induction ceremony

at 'Mirpur Hall of Fame' of the

8 robbers held

Police on Thursday arrested eight

members of an inter-district dacoit

gang from Charhajari and

Charparbati villages under

Companiganj upazila on different

gang member M Jahangir Alam, 32,

from the upazila headquarters on

statement, a team led by Officer-in-

Charge M Zakir Hossain and sub-

inspector (SIs) Ansarul Karim and

Shafiq later arrested five dacoits,

including Huq Shaheb, 32, Anwar

Hossain alias Khokan, 30, M

Rahmat Ullah, 29, and Jamaluddin,

ous robbers, including gang leader

Shuja, 40, during another raid late

They also arrested two notori-

30, from the two villages.

On the basis of his confessional

Acting on a tip-off, they arrested

in Noakhali

Fonseka, a graduate of the

Airport, said an ISPR release.

three service chiefs.

college.

UNB, Noakhali

charges.

that night.

at night.

Anoma Indumathi Fonseka and a

seven-member military delegation.

chief leaves

Dhaka

after a four-day visit.

UNB, Dhaka

According to official sources,

asked by the advisers in the committee.

UNB, Dhaka

natural wealth.

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP) General Secretary Dr campus. Maleka Banu yesterday urged the government to implement the National Women Development Policy-2008 for establishing rights of women in the society.

styled 'Samotar Jonno Chai Soman Sujog' organised by Rajshahi

seminar room of Sayed Ismail Hossain Siraji building on the

Makhduma Nargis Ratna was present at the programme as the special guest with RU unit President Prof Shahanara Hossain

Dr Maleka Banu said traditional social values of the country did not

Cultural activists take a vow to carry on their campaign for the trial of war criminals at the concluding ceremony of the

month-long countrywide campaign at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday, organised by the Bangladesh

Energy ministry plans to place draft

the rehabilitation and land

reclamation provisions laid

down in the draft policy, which

proposed not to give back the

owners after completion of coal

They also registered differ-

ence of opinion on royalty-

fixation provision, which the

draft policy made flexible for a

government's high-powered

policy regarding the share

developing companies drew

Sources said most of the and Exchange Commission second boon afternatural gas.

questions from the advisers.

the city yesterday.

UNB, Dhaka

tomorrow.

City/Town

Chittagong

Cox's Bazar

Rajshahi

Khulna

Barisal

Sylhet

Dhaka

next 24 hours as of 6:00pm today.

ing the period, Met Office said in a forecast.

some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in

Celsius

Max

30.7

29.0

32.6

30.0

32.0

27.0

30.0

Another provision of the draft

advisers put up questions about should be the appropriate

"acquired land to its original paring the answers and sugges-

They felt that the Securities the discoveries that unfolded a

Quarter Master General Lt Gen Md Jahangir Alam Choudhury sees off Sri

Lankan Army Chief Lt General GSC Fonseka at Zia International Airport in

Thundershowers likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by tempo-

rary gusty wind is likely at most places over all the six divisions in the

It said that day temperature may fall slightly over the country.

recorded at Mongla and the lowest of 23.6 degrees at Dhaka.

Moderately heavy to heavy rainfalls are also likely at places dur-

Yesterday's highest temperature of 33.0 degree Celsius was

The sun sets in the capital at 6:18pm today and rises at 5:40am

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in

Min

23.6

25.0

25.6

25.5

25.6

24.5

25.5

Humidityin

percentage

Evening

97

80

98

96

97

Morning

88

authority in dealing with the

matter while draft policy pro-

tions accommodating the views

The Energy Division is pre-

"We're trying to respond to all

the queries asked by the meeting

Energy Secretary Mohammad

alliance government had started

the process of preparing coal

policy, in view of substantial

deposits of the mineral fuel in

the country's northern region,

The immediate-past BNP-led

of the Council of Advisers,"

vides a specific procedure.

of the advisers.

Mohsin told UNB.

coal policy before cabinet again

mining

The Council of Advisers sent offloading of the coalmine-

University (RU) unit of BMP at the accept women's rights and freedom, adding that the influential male-dominated society used

> The government must implement the national women development policy to protect women's rights, she added.

BMP RU unit Secretary Dr Mahbuba Kaniz Keya also spoke at the discussion.

The speakers at the discussion also called on the progressive forces to be united for the implementation of the women's development policy.

Eminent litterateur Prof Hasan Azizul Haque, former vice chancellor of RU Prof Saidur Rahman Khan and Prof Abdul Khalek also spoke.

into ditch at



Children are engrossed in painting at a drawing competition at the Institute of Fine Art at Dhaka University yesterday.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A team of Election Commission (EC) has visited Barisal to investigate the delay in declaring results of Barisal City Corporation election and alleged vote rigging.

Manirul Islam, returning officer of BCC election, told The Daily Star that Nurul Islam, joint secretary, and Shahjahan Mia, deputy secretary of EC, came to Barisal on Wednesday without any prior notice and left Barisal on Thursday

He said that the EC team interrogated officials and staffs of Barisal EC office concerned about the delay in declaring result and went through some electionrelated documents. However, he refused to give details.

AL candidate Shawkat Hossain Hiron won the mayoral race defeating Progressive Democratic Party's Sharfuddin Ahmed Santu, getting 46,795 votes while Santu bagged 46,208 votes.

road accident

Four people were killed in separate road accidents yesterday.

In the first accident, two betel leaf traders were killed and another trader was injured in a collision between two trucks at Prembagh on Jessore-Benapole road yesterday.

The police said the betel leafladen truck collided head-on with another jute-laden lorry in the morning, killing trader Nasir Sheikh, 44, on the spot.

Injured Shahjahan, 40, and Abdur Rashid, 37, were admitted to Jessore General Hospital where Shahjahan died.

The three traders were going to Rupdia Bazar in Jessore from Avoynagar with betel leaf when the tragedy struck them down. In another accident, a bicycle

rider was crushed to death under the wheels of a bus at Kagozpukur in the morning. Witnesses said Jabbar Ali, 40, of

Lawtara village in Sharsha upazila, was injured seriously when the speeding bus knocked down his

কিংবদন্তী সংবর্ধনা

bicycle and crushed him. He, later, succumbed to his

injuries at a local hospital.

In another accident, a truck ran over Laily Begum, 50, wife of late Ramjan Ali, when she was crossing the road in front of export terminal of the land port.

One run over by train

Our Correspondent in Pabna adds: At least one person was killed and 20 others injured as a train hit the people at Boral Railway Station under Bhangura upazila in the district on Thursday night.

The accident took place in the rail station area at around 7:30pm while they were returning home after watching a football match at Boral field.

Sources said when the people were returning home after watching the match, Dinajpur-bound Ekota Express hits them in the area, leaving at least 20 people injured.

Of the injured, Sultan Hossain, 42, of Monda village succumbed to his injuries on way to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital on that

232 DU teachers demand release of Khaleda, Tarique

DU CORRESPONDENT

A total of 232 Dhaka University (DU) teachers belonging to BNP-Jamaat backed 'white panel' yesterday expressed deep concern over the news of illness of detained BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and her son Tarique Rahman.

A joint statement, signed by white panel Convener Prof Sadrul Amin and Joint Conveners Prof Mohammad Aminur Rahman Majumder and Prof Sirajul Islam, expressed the hope that Khaleda and Tarique would be released immediately and necessary steps would be taken for their proper treatment.

"We have learnt from media that the condition of Tarique is very critical. We are urging the government to take necessary steps for better treatment of his illness on humanitarian ground," the state-

"It is our firm belief that the caretaker government would prove its neutrality by taking proper steps in this regard," it added.

SKAL Int'l Bangladesh executives

METRO DESK

ATMA Quddus, director of The Travel House, and Zakir Khan have been elected president and general secretary of SKAL International Bangladesh for 2008-09 at a meeting recently, says a press release.

Other office-bearers are Director of Jamuna Resorts Limited Rafiqul Islam and General Manager of Dhaka Sheraton Hotel Trevor Macdonald -- vice-presidents; Editor of The Travel World Shahabuddin Ahmed -- director (development and communication); and President of Guest House and Hotel Owners' Association Sadique Ahsan -- treasurer.

Former director of Bangladesh Biman Raisuddin Ahmed conducted the election as the election commissioner SKAL International, a club of tourism professionals, has branches in 80 countries with

25,000 members. Bracnet Chairman Abdul-Muyeed Chowdhury is the

founder-president of the club. The meeting decided that the club will form chapters in Chittagong by 2008 and in Cox's Bazar by 2009.

Death anniversary

A CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

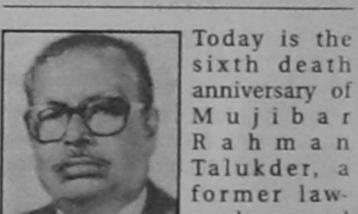
Today is the 10th death anniversary of RM Saiful Alam Mukul, editor of

the daily Runner. On the occasion, Jessore Press Club and Journalists' Union of Jessore will organise discussions,

the grave of Mukul. Journalist Mukul was killed in a bomb attack when he was going to

milad mahfils and place wreaths at

Mujibar Rahman Talukder STAFF CORRESPONDENT



his office in 1998.

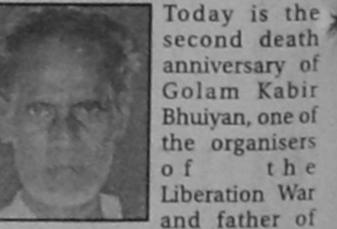
Rahman Talukder, a former lawmaker and former president of Patuakhali district of

Awami League, says a press release. On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at his residence in Patuakhali. Food will also be dis-

tributed among the destitute. Mujibar was elected member of the provincial assembly in the historic election in 1970. He was

also elected member of the parliament in 1991 and 1996. Golam Kabir Bhuiyan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



the

A discussion will be held marking the 37th death anniversary of Biruttam Khwaja Nizamuddin Bhuiyan. Venue: National Krishak League Organising Secretary MA Karim. On the occasion, a milad mahfil

Seminar Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital and

Parkway Health, Singapore jointly organise a seminar on 'Advances in treatment of cancer'. Venue: Sheraton Hotel, Time: 9:00am.

mitigation by Bangladeshi people'. Venue:

Dr Monaw-war Uddin Ahmad will deliver

National Professor Atwar Husain

Memorial Lecture 2008 on 'Competition,

regulation and the role of the state: The

case of Bangladesh'. Asiatic Society

A seminar on 'role of the media in tackling

climate change related calamities' will be

held. Venue: WVA auditorium. Time:

auditorium. Time: 4:30pm.

Press Club. Time: 3:30pm.

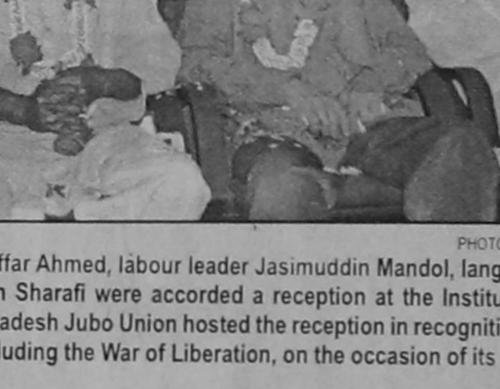
BISR conference room. Time: 5:00pm.

Web portal launching

The launching ceremony of the shopping web portal <www.chorka.com> will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time:

1:00pm. Workshop

Dhaka University Management Club and Bangladesh Supply Chain Council organise a workshop on 'Supply Chain Management'. Venue: Business faculty conference hall, Dhaka University. Time:



Lecture

Seminar

Discussion

9:30am.

From left) Prof Sardar Fazlul Karim, NAP President Mozaffar Ahmed, labour leader Jasimuddin Mandol, language movement veteran Abdul Matin and Tagore singer Kalim Sharafi were accorded a reception at the Institute of Diploma Engineers auditorium in the city yesterday. Bangladesh Jubo Union hosted the reception in recognition of their outstanding contribution to historic movements, including the War of Liberation, on the occasion of its 32nd founding anniversary.

1,300 Yaba tablets seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-1) and Detective Branch (DB) of Police seized 1,300 pieces of Yaba tablets and arrested three people in the city yesterday. The arrestees were identified as

Mohammad Nazrul Islam, Abdul Gafur and Amir Hossain. Rab-1 sources said they arrested

Gafur from Gulistan area with 1,000 pieces of Yaba tablets and Tk 1.3 lakh and Nazrul from Azampur area at Uttara with 50 pieces of tablets.

DB police sources said they arrested Amir from the city's Rampura area and recovered 250 pieces of Yaba tablets.

Lyricist Gobinda Haldar critically ill

Staff Correspondent

Noted lyricist Gobinda Haldar, who wrote a number of songs during the liberation war to inspire the freedom fighters, has now been critically ill and bedridden at his home in Kolkata, says a press release.

Some of his famous songs are 'Mora Ekti Phulke Bachabo Bole Juddho Kori', 'Purba Digante Surja Uthechhe', and 'Ek Sagor Rokter Binimoye Banglar Swadhinata

Anle Jara'. Friends, admirers and wellwishers of the lyricist will organise a programme at Dhaka Regency Hotel at Airport Road in the city at 7:00pm tomorrow to raise funds for

his treatment.

DHAKA ODAY

tance and use of deep tubewell for arsenic

Seminar Shishu Polli Plus, Save the Children UK

and Australian High Commission jointly organise a seminar on safe custody o children in Bangladesh. Venue: Cirdap auditorium. Time: 10:00am.

Roundtable

Bangladesh Heritage Foundation organises a roundtable on 'quality of education and impact of student politics: Reflections of students, teachers and guardian'. Venue: Bilia auditorium. Time: 2:45pm.

Seminar

The Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) organises a seminar on the themes 'earthquake resistant constructions in northeast India' and 'cyclone and its preparedness in Bangladesh'. Venue: IEB seminar room, Time: 5:30pm.

Photo presentation

Dristipat and Dhaka University Management Club jointly organise a photography presentation titled 'Heroes never die: Tales of political violence in Bangladesh'. Venue: Business Studies faculty conference room of DU. Time: 10:00am.

Symposium

The closing session of the internaand food security in South Asia will be 10:00am.

Seminar

tional symposium on climate change held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time:

Bangladesh Institute of Social Research 3:00pm. (BISR) organises a seminar on 'accep-



will be held at his residence at

release.

Alam, former executive director Swanirbhar Bangladesh. says a press

On the occasion, his family members requested all to pray for his departed soul.

She was addressing a discussion in the chair.

BMP Vice President Dr

women in different ways at will.

Economist Prof Sanat Kumar

Saha said democracy cannot be established without ensuring

women's rights in the country.

Student missing after falling

> year student of Law department at Stamford University, along with his five classmates came here to visit the waterfall.

> But all the six students fell into the ditch while taking a bath. Later, five students managed to come out of it, but Md Shahi still remains missing.

Fire brigade personnel from Moulvibazar rushed to the spot and started searching for the victim, but he was not rescued till filing of this report at 8:15pm. Zahid and Rehnuma, two class-

mates of the victim, said Shahi is

the son of Abdul Motin of Laxmanpur village under Dajgonbhuiyan upazila in Feni. Abdullah Harun Pasha, station officer of Moulvibazar Fire Brigade, said due to heavy current in the ditch, divers could not reach the deep water of the ditch to rescue

the victim. Baralekha Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Bijoy Krishna Debnath said the forest department was assigned to construct a wall around the ditch, but it has not yet been constructed.

40 injured in clash between villagers in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Al least 40 people were injured in a daylong clash between the villagers of Belpukur and Zamira village under Puthia upazila in Rajshahi

vesterday. Some 13 of the injured people were hospitalised during the spo-

radic clashes. Police and Rab were deployed there to bring the situation under control.

Police and witnesses said the

clash erupted at around 11:30am centring on an arbitration. The arbitration meeting was arranged to solve a dispute between two brothers of Belpukur village. A villager of neighboring Zamira village came to testify at the

arbitration. Then villagers of Belpukur chopped him. Hearing the news the villagers of Zamira swooped on the villagers of Belpukur and ransacked around 30 houses leaving at least 30 people including children and women

injured. In the afternoon, villagers of Zamira again attacked the Belpukur villagers and looted belongings of the villagers.

the situation under control. More police were deployed there as the situation remain tense. Police arrested two persons --Abul Hashem and Zamal Uddin

Police have to open fire to bring

from the scene. Barisal Board increases SSC exam fees

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Barisal Education Board authorities have increased fees for the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations.

Controller of examinations of the board Muhammad Shah Alamgir told The Daily Star yesterday that the decision was taken as per the directives from the education ministry. The probable date for the next SSC

examination is February 15, 2009. The new rate of fee for each subject is Tk 55. Earlier, it was Tk 45. Besides, fees for transcription increased from Tk 30 to Tk 35 and

center fees from Tk 160 to Tk 200

for the centres in city and from Tk

200 to Tk 250 for the centres outside the city.

Bangabandhu Parishad organised the event to mark the National Mourning Day. Madhabkunda OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar EC team visits A student of a private university in Barisal to probe Dhaka remained missing after he fell into a ditch at Madhabkunda allegations of waterfall in Baralekha yesterday vote rigging Baralekha police and witnesses UNB, Benapole said Al Fateh Md Shahi, 24, a 4th