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NEWS BRIEFS

Portfolio reallocated

Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed Monday brought a minor change in the council of ministers. In a reallocation of portfolio, Shipping Minister MK Anwar was given the charge of Commerce Ministry while Commerce Minister Keramat Ali got the Shipping Ministry, an official handout said, reports UNB.

24 Bangladeshis in Baghdad embassy

Some 24 Bangladeshis have taken shelter in the Bangladesh Embassy in Baghdad seeking repatriation, an official said today. The Bangladesh nationals working in different Iraqi establishments took refuge in the mission last week and approached the officials there for repatriation, reports UNB.

Opposition MPs' meet today

A meeting of the MPs' belonging to Awami League and other opposition parties and leaders will be held at the opposition briefing room at the Sangsad Bhaban at 10 am today according to a press release, reports BSS.

14 shops gutted in B. Baria

BRAHMANBARIA, July 29: Property worth about Taka 15 lakh were gutted in a devastating fire broke out in Sarail Bakal bazar Monday. A total of 14 shops were totally damaged by the fire, reports UNB.

Bank strike in Pakistan

LAHORE, July 29: Banks were closed today in Lahore, Pakistan's second biggest city, in protest at an attempted robbery in which gunmen killed four bank employees and two policemen on Sunday, reports Reuter.

No discouraged list : 100 pc foreign investment in any parts of country : DFIs' sanction limit raised to Tk 30 cr

Liberal industrial policy



ESTEGHLAL'S WINNING GOAL: These three pictures show Iranian champions Esteghlal Club's Abdul Samad Marfavy (left, bearded) scoring his team's winning goal against China's Liaoning FC in the final of the 10th Asian Club championship at Dhaka Stadium last night. At top, Liaoning goalie Xu Tao blocks Marfavy's shot; the ball moves towards the goal (middle); Marfavy rushes in again, ensuring goalie and ball are clearly inside the net (bottom). More pictures on Sport Page.

Esteghlal new Asian club champs

Afzal H Khan

Esteghlal Club of Iran are the new Asian Club Cup football champions.

In the final of the seven-nation meet at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday evening, the champion Iranian club beat defending champions Liaoning Football Club of China by two goals to one to lift the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Trophy, along with the Coca Cola Cup offered by the local sponsors of the meet.

The winners led 1-0 at the breather.

Esteghlal, who established themselves as the firm favourites quite early in the tournament, played strictly by the script till the curtain finally came down on the 11-day competition at a little before nine last night.

The tall, well-built Iranians whose brand of football convinced one and all of being a class above the fare dished out by the other six teams in the fray, once again dominated the proceedings with their free-flowing game. Theirs was a confident, unhurried approach, quite in contrast to the isolated, frenzied thrusts mounted by the Chinese champions early in either half of the match. The Iranian game was much more cerebral than the Chinese who often betrayed a woeful lack of innovativeness.

However, it must be conceded that the defending champions from China, handicapped as they were by the non-availability of three of their first-choice players, including number one goalkeeper Fu Yu Bin, who made themselves ineligible for the final by receiving the red card by the end of Friday's semifinal clash against North Korea's April 25, nevertheless managed to give a much improved performance compared to their earlier showings in the tournament. In fact, they, too, raised their game by at least one level. Yet that wasn't quite good enough to match the overwhelming superiority of the Iranians in every department of the game.

After a series of close calls and near misses by either side, Esteghlal duly secured the lead in the 20th minute. Majid Namgou Motlagh took a free-kick from the right, sailing the ball neatly in front of the Chinese goal. Right-back Reza Hassanzadeh Barvagh who had moved up for the occasion made no mistake in getting his head to the ball, nodding it into the net to the right of goalie Xu Tao (1-0).

Liaoning's best chance in the first session came in the very sixth minute when they failed to put the ball in an empty Esteghlal net after goalie Ahmad Reza Abedzagah had rushed out of his post in a failed attempt to cut off a dangerous ball down the left side.

The Chinese started the second session in full fury but soon ran out of steam as the Iranians regrouped.

Three minutes after the resumption substitute Gao Xu, replacing Fu Bo, shot just wide of the Esteghlal post.

However, the Chinese push lasted long enough to earn them the equaliser in the seventh minute (52nd of the match) when an overlapping right full-back Xu Hui gave the finishing touch to an attempt at goal by left back Zhao Fa Qing after Gao Xu had sent the ball across the Esteghlal goal-mouth following a corner-kick by Haung Chong from the left flank (1-1).

The Iranians, for their part, missed two good opportunities in the 49th and 67th minutes when first Abbas Sarkhab and then Abdul Samad Marfavy failed to score after being set free inside the Chinese box.

The bearded Samad Marfavy, who had scored three goals in the earlier matches, soon made amends in the 75th minute when he managed to send the ball into the Liaoning net with Sarkhab neatly laying it on in his path (2-1).

To the ordinary spectator, denied the benefit of action replay, there remained some

Star Economic Report

studies on various sectors will be strengthened by the industrial promotional bodies, he said.

Industries Secretary Shafiq Alam and other high officials of the ministry were present at the press conference.

The Industries Minister told the newsmen that the so-called discouraged list did not really operate earlier, and led to many discretionary practices and exemptions with informal costs for the investors.

The policy retains only seven sectors for exclusive operations by the public sector and all other sectors will be kept open to the private sector. The reserved sectors include: (1) arms, ammunition and defence equipment and machinery, (2) generation of nuclear energy, (3) security printing (currency notes) and minting, (4) afforestation in reserved forest areas and mechanical extraction thereof, (5) air transportation and railway, (6) electricity generation excluding production through generators in the private sector, transmission and distribution, and (7) telecommunications. Even in telecommunication, private sector will be encouraged, side by side with the public sector, in operations at upazila (sub-district) levels in specialised services like telephone connections, cellular telephones, and paging, subject to clearance by the relevant ministry.

Under the 26-page new industrial policy, foreign private capital with liberal provisions for investments on a 100 per cent equity participation will be allowed in any part of the country. Such investments with cent per cent equity ownership were allowed under the earlier industrial policy for only Export Processing Zones.

Industries Secretary Shafiq Alam told the newsmen that the new industrial policy incorporated very liberal incentives to attract foreign private capital to the country. Elaborating on this point, he said that there would be no discrimination under the policy.

Growth rate 2.17pc • Sex ratio 106.1:100

Population pegged at 10 crore 80 lakh

The population of Bangladesh as on the night of March 11, 1991 is 10,79,92,140 according to the preliminary report of the population census 1991, officially released here Monday, reports BSS.

The male population is 5,55,79,003 while the female population stands 5,24,13,137. The sex-ratio is 106.1 males for 100 females.

The number of households enumerated in 1991, is 1,97,47,506. The average household size is 5.31 persons while it was 5.78 persons in 1981.

According to the report, annual population growth rate is 2.17 per cent in 1991 while it was 2.32 per cent in 1981.

The literacy rate in 1991 is 24.82 per cent while in 1981 it was 19.7 per cent.

Population density per square km is 782 persons in 1991 while in 1981 it was 624 persons.

The number of homeless and transient population counted in the census of 1991 is 5,25,250 which is 0.49 per cent of the total population, the report said.

It said, the highest literacy rate is reported in Dhaka district (43.35 per cent) while the lowest is in Sherpur district (14.65 per cent), the population growth rate is the highest in Dhaka district (3.64 per cent) and the lowest in Gopalganj (0.89 per cent).

The density of population is the highest also in Dhaka district (4203 persons per sq.km) and the lowest in Bandarban district (51 persons), the report said.

According to the preliminary count, 9.95 per cent of the population in Bangladesh live in municipalities compared to 9.23 per cent in 1981.

As in 1981, sex-ratio, population density and literacy rates are higher in municipal areas compared to rural areas.

The results of the preliminary report are based on summary data on tally sheets, and

Highlights

- Following are the highlights of the new industrial policy announced by Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan in Dhaka on Monday, reports BSS.
- Liberalisation of procedure for setting up of new industries.
- Withdrawal of regulatory measures and "discouraged list" for industrial investment.
- Reactivating and strengthening the existing industries by adopting an industrial reform programme after careful study and evaluation of these units.
- Encouragement for rapid growth of export-oriented industries.
- Promotion of private sector industrial growth to facilitate establishment of competitive market economy.
- Raising the ceiling for private sector investment without prior government approval from Taka 10 crore to Taka 30 crore.
- Raising the limit of investment in small scale industries from Taka 1.5 crore to Taka 3 crore.
- Increasing the limit of equity participation by foreign entities.

Police hunt for Milon's killers in DU halls

By DU Correspondent

Heavy contingents of police and BDR sealed off the Dhaka University campus Monday evening to nab the alleged murderers of Dr Shamsul Alam Khan Milon.

Acting on a secret tip-off that the alleged murderers including Golam Faruk Obhi, Gazi Quamrul Islam Sajal, Masudur Rahman Masud, and Mirza Masud Jewel had taken refuge in the DU halls, a special squad of Detective Police backed by uniformed policemen and BDR personnel stormed the Jagannath Hall at about 8 pm. However, they had to come out of the Hall in the face of protests by the residents.

Hall sources said that the protesters, reportedly belonging to the Awami League-backed Chhatra League (S-A), pelted stones at the policemen injuring several of them.

They also brought out a procession instantly in protest against the police entry.

Police then took up positions around the Jagannath Hall and foiled an attempt by the protesters to set a motor-bike ablaze near a Hall gate.

Later, demonstrators from the Jahurul Haq Hall area tried to damage vehicles at the Nilkhet crossing. But police guarding the area chased them away.

Police also entered the Surjans Hall and the Kabi Jasimuddin Hall and searched a number of rooms there. But they failed to recover any firearms or arrest any of the suspected killers or armed men.

Witnesses reported that they had seen Sajal, Masud and Jewel in a BCL (S-A) procession that paraded the Teacher Student Centre (TSC) area about two hours before the police action.

Police forces were suddenly alerted at about 7.30 pm in the

Discussion on amendment bills begins today

By Staff Correspondent

The Constitution 11th and 12th Amendment Bills, as modified by the Parliamentary Select Committee, were tabled in the Parliament on Monday by Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz.

Discussion on the bills is expected to start today (Tuesday) when the session of the House resumes at 11 am.

A total of 84 members of Parliament have proposed amendments seeking to circulate the bills for eliciting public opinion before their consideration by the House.

The bills which seek to validate the appointment of Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed as Vice President and all his actions as Acting President, and to introduce a parliamentary system were introduced by the government on July 2.

The Select Committee report with suggested modification to the 11th and 12th Amendment Bills by incorporating certain provisions of the private member's bills were submitted to the Parliament on Monday.

An editorial on Page 4

'Finance Minister owes AL MP Tk 6 crore'

By Staff Correspondent

A member of Parliament is not a purchasable commodity, Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas said in Parliament on Monday while giving his ruling following a point of privilege raised by AL member Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury.

The AL MP wanted to know from the chair the fate of his privilege notice relating to publication of his name in the list of bank loan defaulters. The notice was referred to the Committee on Privileges on Sunday.

Chowdhury said he did not take Taka six crore as loan from Janata Bank as was announced by the Finance Minister in reply to a question in the House. He thus argued that the Finance Minister owed him the amount. And he promised to disburse the money among the 330 members of Parliament if he got the money.

He said his privilege was hurt because of giving of the untrue information by the Finance Minister.

Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas said Chowdhury's argument was valid in respect of the question of privilege which the Committee on Privileges would examine. But the other part of his statement was unacceptable.

Carmichael College closed sine die as rival students clash

From our Correspondent

RANGPUR, July 29: Rangpur Government Carmichael College was closed sine die today after an armed clash between the activists of Jatyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Islami Chhatra Shibir.

Twenty five persons including three police personnel were injured in the clash that lasted more than one hour.

The clash broke out at around 2.30 pm when JCD and Shibir activists confronted each other over the issue of the college students union election scheduled to be held on August 14. JCD today held a sit-in demonstration in front of the office of the Principal in protest against the new voters list in which the name of the former general secretary of the college students union did not

Gorbachev invites Yeltsin, Kazakh leader to summit with Bush

MOSCOW, July 29: Mikhail Gorbachev made a powerful gesture to the cantankerous Soviet republics Monday, issuing surprise invitations for local leaders to participate in this week's summit with US President Bush. Bush hoped the meetings would shift relations out of the shadows of the arms race and cement an era of cooperation.

Even before Bush's arrival, Secretary of State James Baker huddled with Soviet officials to settle the details of Middle East peace talks. Soviet officials said "the time is ripe" as diplomats awaited Israel's decision on whether to participate.

Bush and Gorbachev are to sign a historic treaty Wednesday to cut long-range US and Soviet nuclear arsenals. "We've accomplished a first," Bush said Sunday. "A significant reduction in these strategic arms offers hope."

"This is the first post-Cold War summit in a sense," he said. "A lot has happened; a lot of change is still going on."

Jack Matlock, US ambassador to the Soviet Union, Monday said he expected the summit to be more cooperative than previous Bush-Gorbachev meetings because US-Soviet relations have evolving away from confrontation.

"Our policies in most areas are becoming more and more parallel, more and more mutually supportive, and that's the major change," Matlock said in an interview on NBC's Today show, adding that Gorbachev could benefit at home if he as seen as effective in dealing with another major world leader.

"There are domestic problems," he said. "They make no secret of those. And yet solving those domestic problems depends in part on a successful foreign policy."

As Bush was in flight from Washington, Soviet officials announced that Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation and a sometimes rival, would participate in summit talks along with Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev.

Gorbachev's invitation punctuates the growing power of the Soviet republics and matches Bush's own gesture: Bush meets with Yeltsin on Tuesday and will travel to the Ukraine for meetings with republic officials on Thursday.

"President Yeltsin is invited to what is a really historic summit along with President Nazarbayev and other comrades," said Gorbachev's spokesman Vitaly Ignatenko. "A meeting like this should have appropriate representation."

The arms race has dominated three decades of super-power summits. Once-searing issues such as the Berlin Wall and the Warsaw pact have disappeared and the Soviet army is pulling back to within its own borders.

But serious political and economic problems have emerged as a result of the breakdown in Soviet Communist authority.

Gorbachev is pushing for a new Union Treaty that gives the 15 Soviet republics more control over their affairs. And he seeks Western aid to help introduce a market economy.

The state Tax news agency said Sunday that economic issues will be a top priority at the summit, the two leaders' fourth and their first in the Soviet capital.

AFP adds: US President George Bush arrived in Moscow today for a two-day summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Bush was met at the airport by Soviet Vice President Gennady Yanayev, Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh and US Secretary of State James Baker.

Bush was to spend the night at Spaso House, the official residence of the US Ambassador to Moscow, before starting meeting with Gorbachev.

The 10 million dollar (about Taka 37 crore) Shaheed Suhrawardy General Hospital Complex (Phase I) and Dhaka Dental College project with assistance from OPEC Fund for International Development (OPECFID) will be taken up immediately for implementation, reports BSS.

This was decided at the official level meeting held in Dhaka Monday between the OPECFID delegation and Economic Resources Division. The two sides also decided to take up technical education project worth 6 million dollars (about Taka 19 crore), official

Suhrawardy Hospital project to be taken up soon

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