

Parliamentary form of govt

Tofael urges BNP to bring amendment bill

A prominent Awami League leader Wednesday appealed to the ruling party to bring a constitutional amendment bill in the ensuing budget session for reverting to parliamentary system and put an end to existing darchy.

"The present anomaly in the governance of the country can not continue indefinitely. This has been creating a lot of confusion among the people," said Tofael Ahmed MP, the Organising Secretary of Bangladesh Awami League.

Talking to UNB, he explained that as the situation now stands Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, for all practical purposes, has been enjoying the powers of a head of government as in the parliamentary system without any constitutional sanction.

But under the present Constitution, Tofael said, it is the President who is both head of state and government while a Prime Minister is merely a minister.

Reiterating the Awami League stand for parliamentary democracy, he suggested a joint meeting of the liaison committee of the three alliances to discuss and resolve the issue in the light of the November 19 joint declaration.

The Awami League leader said people have given their clear verdict during the anti-Ershad mass movement in favour of the parliamentary system. "The joint declaration of the three alliances also calls for parliamentary democracy."

If any steps are taken by the ruling party contrary to the spirit of the joint declaration,

the country will plunge into chaos and confusion, he warned.

"Nothing short of pure parliamentary democracy will be acceptable to the people", Tofael said when asked to comment on mixed form of government — striking a balance of power between the President and the parliament.

When his attention was drawn to constitutional necessity for presidential polls before October 22 if the system of government is not changed, he said in that case the present cabinet would have to be dissolved and presidential election held under the neutral caretaker government of Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed.

The Awami League leader however said the country can not afford a presidential election and people will not accept it.

Love

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and hospitable."

When asked from where love started she replied that both she and Spindle had stayed aboard the same ship in the Gulf and their intimacy gradually culminated into a deep love.

The silhouette of him appear in her mind so frequently that she can not forget Spindle even for a moment, Tammy informed.

Tammy joined the US navy influenced by a friend, she disclosed.

30,000 tin sheds

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relief centre in a suitable offshore island of the country. The team, comprising Hasan Chowdhury and Mottuddin Ahmed Chowdhury, will be meeting Bangladesh Red Crescent Society officials and others related with the country's disaster relief programmes to discuss the Association's participation and contribution towards building the shelter at any vantage point in any of the islands ravaged by natural calamities at various intervals.

The team also intends to hand over the first instalment of Taka 10 lakh towards the proposed project.

The Government has so far sanctioned Taka 5 crore 35 lakh 95 thousand cash money and distributed 54,394 bundles of C.I sheets as house building materials for the flood and cyclone victims, according to official handout.

The despatched relief

goods from Prime Minister's relief godown are 19,793 metric tons of rice, 7,680 metric tons of wheat, 394 metric tons of potato, 285 metric tons of dal, 597 metric tons of chira, 5,863 pieces of relief packets, 179 metric tons of gur, 22,51, 690 pieces of chapati, 185 metric tons of bread, 23,482 pieces of water canes, 1,94,498 kg biscuits, 4,79,025 pieces of sarrees, 66,717 pieces of lungi, 31,600 kg medicines, 5,700 tents, 1,17,887 pieces of utensils, 12,791 pieces of blankets, 2,93,446 pieces of baby garments, 5,87,883 pieces of old cloth and 426 rolls of polythin.

The transport planes and helicopters of Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, Japan and China made 473 sorties so far and airlifted 1200 metric tons of relief goods to the affected areas.

Meanwhile, 101 transport planes loaded with relief goods had arrived so far from abroad.

Khaleda returns

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and widen cooperation."

The Foreign Minister said that during the visit Begum Zia had detailed discussions with Saudi King Fahd, Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al-Sabah, and the Emir of UAE Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan on bilateral relations.

He said that the Saudi King discussed how best Bangladesh could solve problems posed by cyclone and floods. The question of taking up more joint venture projects also came up during the talks. Bilateral talks to follow will identify more specific areas of cooperation.

The Foreign Minister said he and the State Minister for Labour had talks with their Saudi counterparts while chamber representatives had meetings with the Saudi Commerce Minister and other representatives of the business circle.

He said that although the visit was not at the state level full dress meetings at the highest level took place, and the Prime Minister was given guard of honour.

The Emir of Kuwait assured to take back the 63,000 Bangladeshis who had to be repatriated following the outbreak of the Gulf war, and employ more people from Bangladesh. Reconstruction in Kuwait, however, will take time. Private businessmen who used to employ a bulk of the Bangladesh labour force have not returned to Kuwait as yet he said.

Out of the 600 oil wells set ablaze by fleeing Iraqi troops, fire of only 130 of them have so far been successfully extinguished. Clearing of mines is yet to be completed, he said.

The Emir of UAE during talks suggested that comprehensive plans should be prepared with help from experts for the rehabilitation of cyclone victims so that his country could contribute.

operations.

The Foreign Minister said the Prime Minister and the members of her entourage performed Umrah at the start of the visit. Begum Zia and the leadership of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party had a desire that they perform Umrah and say prayer at Madinah after the February election victory.

King Fahd is likely to visit Bangladesh by the end of this or early next year, the Foreign Minister said.

BSS adds : Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al-Sabah congratulated Begum Zia for the support and assistance rendered by Bangladesh during the Gulf war.

During the hour-long talks, the two leaders stressed that Islamic fraternity and brotherhood should be strengthened.

The Prime Minister described the occupation of Kuwait as an offence and said Bangladesh thought it was her sacred duty to come in the aid of the brotherly people of Kuwait.

Begum Zia also went round the city and saw the war devastation including the Palace of Emir.

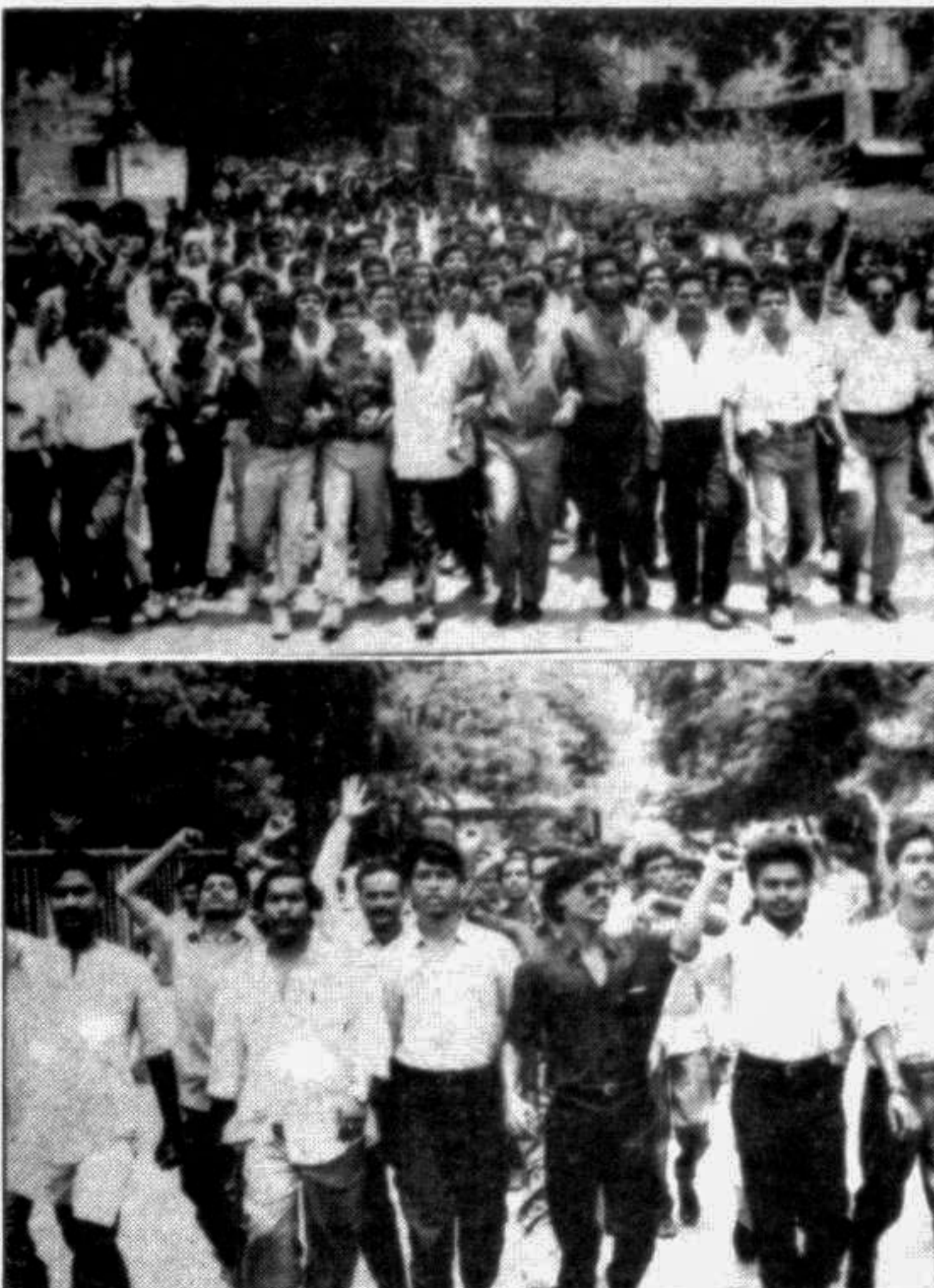
Begum Zia gave an interview to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) where she described the relations between the two countries as very friendly. She said Bangladesh was ready to extend all possible help to Kuwait in its reconstruction and rehabilitation work.

In the evening, Begum Zia left for Abu Dhabi on her way to Dhaka.

Al-Nahyan

President of United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan has said his country would cooperate with international community in the implementation of any plan aimed at finding a permanent solution to the recurring floods and cyclone in Bangladesh.

The UAE ruler said this when Begum Zia met him at Beach Palace in Abu Dhabi Tuesday night on the last leg of her three-nation Gulf tour.



DHAKA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS ON WEDNESDAY: Demonstrating students of (clockwise) Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Chhatra League (S-A), Jatiya Chhatra League and Chhatra League (Inu). — Star photo.

St. Louis

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supplies to devastated areas of southeast Bangladesh. Supplies consisted of water, clothes, medicine, food and ROWPU.

Most of the American servicemen now in Bangladesh were on their way back home after serving in the Persian Gulf war. As one of them said: "It is great to be here doing the reverse role of a soldier."

Besides the task of liberating Kuwait from Iraqi occupation the US military forces also played a vital role in providing humanitarian assistance and support to the millions of Kurds and Shi'ites forced out from their homes by pro-Saddam forces of Iraq.

The US Military ships arrived in Bangladesh at the direct instruction of President George Bush.

The US Task Force comprised of about 7600 personnel has been ferrying relief supplies to people on remote islands.

US medical and environmental specialists are at work decontaminating water supplies and inoculating survivors of the floods against water-borne diseases.

During the operations of the Task Force, President Bush also sent Mrs Marilyn Quayle, wife of Vice-President Dan Quayle, to see for herself the devastation caused by the April 29 cyclone.

Zia's death

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wreaths at the mazar of the late leader at 9 am and a milad mahfil will be held at the central office of BNP at 11 am.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Zia Parishad, Juba Dal, Samik Dal and other front organisations of BNP will observe the day through different programmes.

Shishu Academy has arranged a speech competition at 3 pm today on this occasion.

St. Louis

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Contenders for party leadership include Sharad Pawar, chief minister of the economically powerful state of Maharashtra, and Narain Dutt Tiwari, former chief minister of Uttar Pradesh which has provided all but one of India's prime ministers.

Pawar declined to comment about Rao's election.

Polling started the day before Gandhi's killing. The remaining two days of voting cover 60 per cent of constituencies.

Rao was chosen after Gandhi's Italian-born widow Sonia, 44, turned down pleas from the Congress leadership to become party figurehead to maximise a sympathy vote in the polls.

The post-mortem report on Rajiv Gandhi conducted by Madras Government Hospital brings into sharp focus the devastation caused to the body of Rajiv by bomb explosion at small town Sriperumbudur on May 21 night.

According to the Hindu daily, the findings states that left lung, spleen, brain and upper jaw of Gandhi were missing from the body. The report also said that the body had been riddled by spherical pellets of two mm each. Both heart and the liver were found lacerated. On the lower jaw, only six teeth were found on the left and five on the right. His stomach was found empty and the doctors concluded that Rajiv probably had not taken food for four hours before the blast.

Report from Colombo said: A Sri Lankan sailor who as-

Rao made Congress chief

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saulted former Rajiv Gandhi with his rifle four years ago has said he sent a message of condolence after Gandhi's assassination last week.

The local Davina newspaper quoted sailor Vijita Rohana today as saying he sent a telegram to Gandhi's wife Sonia expressing his condolences.

Rohana, a member of a naval honour guard, swung his rifle in front of him during a visit to the island on July 30, 1987. Gandhi was hit on the back of the head and left shoulder.

A Sri Lankan Tamil woman

initially suspected by Indian investigating agencies to be involved in the assassination of Gandhi, is teaching in a Christian school here and went to the school as usual in the morning today.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), not finding any similarity between the photographs of the alleged woman assassin and the Sri Lankan Tamil student of the Madras Christian College, Tambaram, has 'dropped the matter', newspaper reports today said.

BCS Assoc letter

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convenor of the coordination committee, the meeting also observed that the services of the Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNOs) are regulated by the Establishment Ministry, but the letter regarding their transfer was written to the Cabinet Division and it was published in a section of the press.

The meeting said it was unacceptable and totally condemnable when the letter of the BCS (Administration) Association secretary appeared to be aimed at 'blackmailing the newly-elected government at the time of national disaster. When the entire nation and the world stood by the cyclone survivors, the BCS (Admin) Association secretary general made an unpardonable crime by threatening non-cooperation with the government, the meeting observed.

The meeting said the BCS (Admin) secretary general gave

this threat in the name of the cadre services to mislead the people that the whole civil administrator was going for non-cooperation with the Government. But in reality this cadre is a small fragment of the civil service and it is not essential for the country's administration as the cadre has no technological experts. The meeting felt that this particular cadre should be re-named as BCS (Land) and BCS (Magistracy).

The meeting observed that the Government did not take any decision on the memorandum submitted to the Prime Minister on April 14. The recommendations put forward in the memo should be implemented for eradicating existing anomalies. The meeting also called upon the Government to include technical experts in the Superior Selection Board to give it a complete shape.

BCS Assoc letter

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The Midnight File

Bush unveils plan to halt ME arms race

COLORADO SPRINGS (Colorado), May 29: President George Bush announced a plan today to try to halt the spread of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East and restrain conventional arms build-ups like Iraq used to destabilize the Gulf. In a scheduled address to graduates at the US Air Force Academy, Bush was to outline details of proposals intended to curb the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, reports Reuter.

Police-protesters clash in Albania

VIENNA, May 29: Anti-government protesters clashed with police in the capital of Albania on Wednesday after police used water cannons to disperse 50,000 demonstrators who gathered to support a hunger strike by miners. Several demonstrators and police were injured in the clash in Tirana's central Skanderbeg Square, said Tatjana Laxi, a journalist for the opposition newspaper Rilindja Demokratike, reports AP.

Poland asks West to help Moscow

WARSAW, May 29: Poland said today a collapse of the Soviet economy threatens east European stability and urged the west to help Moscow and its former allies quickly. Finance Minister Leszek Balcerowicz said a sharp drop in exports to the Soviet Union was causing a dramatic fall in production and economic activity in Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, reports Reuter.

Aid Club

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ployment for alleviating the level of poverty by setting up more industries and making the agricultural sector more diversified. He underlined the government's determination to augment investible domestic resources by cutting unnecessary expenditure and encouraging saving habits.

The Finance Minister said the next year's budget beginning July 1 would aim at 20 per cent growth on the receipt side and restrict growth of current expenditure to 10 per cent. He hoped that introduction of VAT, restructuring of the direct tax structure and rationalisation of the tariff structure would help augment the government's receipt from taxes.

He further said improvement of financial performance would reduce the burden of subsidy payment out of the budget. The government expected that the measures to reduce current expenditure would help finance and increasingly higher proportion of development outlay which in turn would lead to self-reliant economic growth, he added.

Saifur Rahman told the meeting that the immediate priority of his government was to maintain short-term economic stability. He said the size of the ADP would be Taka 75 billion for the next fiscal representing an increase of 10 per cent of the current fiscal. Besides, a special allocation of Taka three billion would be made for cyclone reconstruction work, he added.

He said the mid-term objective sought to establish a policy framework which would stimulate private investment and increase size and efficiency of public investment. The government is going ahead with implementation of the financial sector reform package. Drastic steps have been taken to improve recovery of outstanding debts. This, together with loan provisioning and recapitalisation mea-

BRCS volunteers

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(CPP) before the cyclone hits the area, Chairman of he Society Maj. Gen. (ret'd) A. F. M. Abdul Huq said in a press conference at National Press Club on Wednesday.

He said some 20,890 trained volunteers and 100 professional staff of the Society had evacuated about 3,50,000 people.

The CPP, jointly organised by the Society and the government, which operated in 2,089 wards of 207 unions in 24 upazilas under eight districts, proved effective.

He also said that 56 field wireless station under the project maintained round-the-clock contact during and after the cyclone. Society's communication link worked during the disaster and the rest failed, he claimed.

He said 400 new CPP units in the coastal areas were planned.

Ghorashal

From Page 1 Col. 3

Bandabastakari Samity' and Bus-Truck Drivers Association after a brawl over toll collection from the drivers.

ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

- ১৫ ই জুন '৯১ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে সকল বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ পানি ও পয়ঃ করের বিল এককালীন পরিশোধ করলে সারচার্জ ব্যতিরেকে বিলের টাকা গ্রহণ করা হবে।
- বকেয়া অনাদায়ের কারণে যেসব গ্রাহকের সংযোগ ইতিমধ্যে বিচ্ছিন্ন করা হয়েছে এককালীন সমুদয় বকেয়া পরিশোধ সাপেক্ষে তারাও সারচার্জ ব্যতিরেকে কর পরিশোধের এ বিশেষ সুবিধাসহ পুনঃসংযোগ গ্রহণ করতে পারেন।
- বকেয়া আদায়ের লক্ষ্যে ঢাকা ওয়াসা কর্তৃক পরিচালিত বিশেষ অভিযান আগামী ৩০শে জুন '৯১ইং পর্যন্ত অব্যাহত থাকবে।
- এ বিশেষ অভিযান চলাকালে প্রতিটি হোল্ডিং সরেজমিনে পরিদর্শন করে অবৈধ সংযোগ ও বকেয়া অনাদায়ের কারণে তাত্ক্ষণিকভাবে সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন করা হচ্ছে।
- ঢাকা ওয়াসা ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটের নেতৃত্বে অসামান্য আদালত পি, ডি, আর, এ্যাক্টের অধীনে খেলাপি গ্রাহকদের বিরুদ্ধে শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করছে।
- বকেয়ার কারণে সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নি জন্য এ বিজ্ঞপ্তিই চূড়ান্ত নোটিশ হিসেবে গণ্য হবে।
- সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নি ও পি,ডি,আর, এ্যাক্টের অধীনে শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা এড়াবার এবং সারচার্জ ছাড়াই বিল প্রদানের সুবিধা গ্রহণের জন্য আজই নির্দিষ্ট ব্যাংকের শাখায় বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ আপনার পানি ও পয়ঃ বিল পরিশোধ করুন।
- বিল সংক্রান্ত বিষয়ে যেকোন তথ্যের জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট রাজস্ব আঞ্চলিক অফিসের সাথে যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।

ওয়াসা ঢাকা ওয়াসা

ওয়াসা-জরুরী ২২৫/৯১।

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