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Acting President clears both the Constitution amendment bills

## BNPPP, ALPP meet separately tomorrow over course of action

Star Report

The parliamentary parties of both the BNP and the Awami League will meet separately tomorrow (Saturday) morning to finalise their respective course of action on the Constitution amendment bills likely to be moved in Parliament next week.

The proposed amendment bills of both the parties have got the clearance of the Acting President.

Awami League's bill submitted by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Abdus Samad Azad reached the Parliament Secretariat yesterday while the BNP bill is expected to reach by tomorrow.

According to a Parliament Secretariat source, the Awami League bill has the possibility of being placed before the House on July 4, the next private members' day. The Treasury Bench bill will be placed sometime before that.

The Parliament resumes its session tomorrow morning after a recess of eight days and the House will remain busy with matters related to the

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Israeli tourists are pictured at Palam Airport Thursday in the Indian capital upon their arrival from Srinagar where an Israeli tourist was killed in previous night in a firefight with Kashmiri Muslim militants. Authorities have ordered all foreign tourists to leave Srinagar. Story on Page 12

### Body to make recommendations on Pay Commission report formed

The government has formed a committee to make proper recommendations after examining the Pay Commission report for its implementation, reports BSS.

According to an official announcement, the committee has been directed to submit its recommendations to the Finance Division within August 31.

Headed by Secretary of the President's Secretariat Mir Mustafizur Rahman, other members of the committee are

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## Y'slav troops seize Slovenia's airport, seal off borders

LJUBLJANA (Yugoslavia), June 27: The Yugoslav army sent tanks thundering through Slovenia today and a soldier was killed in a gunbattle as the tiny alpine territory fought for its independence, reports Reuter.

Jets screamed overhead as tanks swept through Slovenia, encircled the main airport and took over about five checkpoints on the borders with Austria and Italy.

A soldier was killed in a gunbattle with Slovenian defence units in the southern

town of Ormoz Federal troops also exchanged fire with Slovenes at the Jezero border crossing with Austria, Slovenian officials said.

The Yugoslav government, which mobilised federal troops after branding Tuesday's independence proclamations by Slovenia and the neighbouring republic of Croatia as illegal, called for an end to fighting.

But Slovenia's information minister, Jelko Kacin, told reporters: "Not till the army has stopped and tanks are withdrawn."

In Croatia four people were killed and 14 hurt on Wednesday in two gunbattles involving Croatian police and Serbs. Croatia has Serbian minority of 600,000.

Slovenian President Milan Kucan said the army had occupied the whole region but his people would defend themselves with all means at their disposal.

He appealed to the other five Yugoslav republics for help. "The Slovene presidency calls on all citizens, officers

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## Reformist leads Vietnam's party

BANGKOK, June 27: Do Muoi, who as premier played a key role in Vietnam's 5-year-old economic reform programme, took over as chief of the Communist Party on Thursday and technocrats moved to its upper ranks, reports AP.

The official Voice of Vietnam radio said the seventh national party congress chose Do Muoi, 74, as party general secretary to succeed Nguyen Van Linh, who turns 76 on July 1. Diplomats said Linh wanted to retire because he was ailing. Linh is an economic pragmatist who became party chief at the 1986 congress and immediately began the reform programme in a watershed break with a decade of failed orthodox socialism.

As predicted, Linh and five other members of the 12-member party Politburo were dropped. Those dropped included President Vo Chi Cong, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Interior Minister Mai Chi Tho. They were expected to relinquish their government posts later.

Among those brought into the new 13-member Politburo was Pham Van Khai, the respected technocrat and pragmatist heading the State Planning Commission.

The changes were made at the close of the four-day congress in Hanoi.

Meanwhile, Reuter from Hanoi reports, Vietnam's urbane Foreign Minister Nguyen

Co Thach, who helped show the world a new, more liberal side to Hanoi's dour, old communists, announced his resignation today and his departure from the ruling politburo.

Thach, 68, told a news conference in Hanoi hours before the close of a Communist Party congress that he was retiring of his own free will. His resignation had been widely expected.

"I am withdrawing from the politburo out of my own personal wishes," he said. Thach admitted he had not wanted to be foreign minister when he was appointed in 1980.

Thach sharply criticised the United States and Japan for their policies that had kept Vietnam isolated and denied the country desperately needed development and aid.

That articulate northerner, fluent in French and English, has been criticised by politburo members for failing to normalise relations with former enemies, the United States and China.

Washington has maintained a trade embargo against Hanoi since it lost the Vietnam war in 1975. China and the United States have said Vietnam had to do more to end the conflict between the Phnom Penh government and a guerrilla coalition before they would normalise ties.

Washington said in 1988 it would normalise relations if Hanoi withdrew from

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Tiny tots taking a swing in a sweltering afternoon but not without their elders lagging far behind in the Children's Corner of Ramna Green in the city terribly short of recreational facilities. —Star photo

Khaleda assures Ctg local bodies' leaders

## All efforts to quicken uplift pace in hill areas

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on Thursday assured local leaders that her government would provide all-out support in accelerating the pace of development in country's hill districts, reports UNB.

She gave the assurance when chairmen of three local government councils of

### Dhaka Electric Supply Authority likely to be launched next week

The Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) will be launched sometime next week with the task of distributing electricity to areas of greater Dhaka district, reports UNB.

The objective of DESA, an offshoot of the Power Development Board (PDB), is to streamline the administration and reduce the system loss that rose to world's highest of 41 per cent resulting financial loss of around Tk 800 crore every year.

Under the new arrangement, PDB will supply the required quantum of electricity to DESA for distribution and collection of bills from the consumers.

DESA will be responsible for the system loss beyond the tolerable level of 8-10 per cent which is unavoidable due to technical reasons.

DESA was formed in March 1990 on recommendation from the World Bank which funded expansion of PDB, but its launching was delayed by resistance from the employees. Union leaders blamed "corrupt officers" for the high system loss.

Launching of DESA is a conspiracy and they will not accept it unless their demands are fulfilled, a union leader told UNB Thursday.

The demands include postponement of launching DESA by one year during which the workers pledge to reduce the system loss.

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## Syndicate discusses campus situation DU reopening date deferred to July 6

By Staff Correspondent

Classes at the Dhaka University will resume on July 6 instead of the earlier scheduled July 1.

A meeting of the University Syndicate Thursday also shifted the date for reopening of the residential halls from June 29 to July 5.

The University went on a 11-day Eid vacation and resident students vacated the halls on June 20.

Students will be allowed to enter the halls after having their identity cards checked from 6 am July 5.

Chaired by the Vice-Chancellor Prof M Moniruzzaman Miah, the Syndicate meeting took the above decisions as it felt that separate meetings between the VC, student leaders, Syndicate members, Provisors and House Tutors of the halls must be held prior to reopening the University to discuss the campus situation.

A JSD (NU) backed Chhatra League (N-S) leader Mahubur Rahman was shot dead in a gunfight between the activists of BCL (N-S) and the BCL (S-A) on the campus on June 20.

### Clash at Mirpur

By Staff Correspondent

Several persons were wounded when two rival groups of slum dwellers clashed at Bowta in Mirpur in the city Wednesday evening.

Chittagong Hill Tracts met her at Sugandha Thursday night.

They are Gautam Dewan, Samiran Dewan and Sha Ching Prue, chairmen of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban Local Government Councils respectively.

The Prime Minister said the government believes in equitable development of all areas, but it would give priority to the less developed parts of the country.

Begum Zia mentioned in the new budget, an amount of Tk 20 crore had been allocated for the development of the Hill Tracts in addition to the normal development programmes.

She urged the chairmen of the local government councils to properly utilise the money for achieving progress in the hill districts.

The tribal leaders told the Prime Minister that introduction of the local government councils had ensured massive participation of different tribesmen in the uplift of hill districts and created scope for solving local problems in a democratic way.

Installation of a democratic government through a free and fair election has developed a sense of confidence among the hill people, who are now participating in the development of their respective areas by formulating proper plans, they said.

They observed the attitude of the new democratic government had generated a feeling among the people of hill districts that they are assimilated in the mainstream of the population.

They also recalled that the Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board and the Cultural Institution installed at the initiative of late President Ziaur Rahman.

LGRD and Cooperative Minister Abdus Salam Talukder was also present on the occasion.

## Baluch minister, 7 others held prior to by-poll in Jacobabad

KARACHI, June 27: Police detained at least eight Pakistani politicians, including a provincial minister, ahead of a by-election in southern Pakistan, reports Reuter.

Police said on Thursday the politicians were detained on Wednesday night for defying a ban on the assembly of more than four people in Jacobabad where a by-election for a Sindh Provincial Assembly seat is scheduled for Saturday.

A provincial minister from neighbouring Baluchistan, Sanaullah Zehri, was detained after guns and two kg (4.4 pounds) of heroin were found at his Karachi home, a spokesman said.

Jacobabad was tense on Thursday ahead of a public meeting due to be addressed by Opposition Leader Benazir Bhutto.

She is supporting the head of the Pakistan National Party.

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## Embassy women in Riyadh raise Tk 24 lakh for cyclone victims

RIYADH, June 27: Fair and charity shows held in Saudi capital Riyadh have collected about 24 lakh Taka for Bangladesh cyclone victims, reports BSS.

A two-day international food and handicraft fair in aid of Bangladesh cyclone victims held in Riyadh collected an amount of Taka 5 lakh 50 thousand through sale of tickets and food and handicraft items.

The fair was organized by the ladies of diplomatic missions at the initiative of Begum Kohinor Dastgir, wife of Bangladesh Ambassador, in the Bangladesh Embassy School premises.

About 30 countries, including Bangladesh, and international organizations took part in the fair which drew a large number of people representing

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## 2 more villages go under water in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, June 27: Two villages went down the Jamuna while parts of 17 others were also eroded yesterday leaving more 500 families homeless in the district, reports UNB.

Sohagpur village in Belkuchi upazila and the last portion of Futia village in Shahzadpur upazila collapsed into the river amid unabated erosion, local officials and villagers said.

About 200 families of the two villages were rendered homeless.

Six villages in Belkuchi upazila have been affected, where nearly 100 families have lost homes and hearth during the period, UZ Chairman Abdul Latif Biswas told UNB.

A sluice gate over the Water Development Board embankment near Monokosha in Shahzadpur has been threatened with collapse. UZ Chairman Hossain Shahid Mahmud said.

Three other villages in Shahzadpur were hit partially by the erosion. The villages in Shahzadpur were hit partially by the erosion. The villages are Tathulapara, Gopalpur and Makra.

Fresh areas in four villages — Paikpara, Ghorapara, Hattatal and Motarpur — were eroded in the Sadar upazila, according to Upazila Chairman Advocate Abdul Latif.

In Kasipur, four more villages have been affected by the erosion. These are Rehaisurbari, Goragacha, Uttartekani and Jorgacha villages.

With the new victims, erosion by the Jamuna has so far made about 2,000 families homeless in the district.

## Clarification on vehicles' tax

The government has issued clarification regarding realisation of registration fees and road taxes on vehicles in view of confusion among the people on the issue.

A handout issued here Thursday said, some confusions were created on the new system of realisation of vehicles' tax and fees in cash instead of existing stamp-system, particularly regarding the road tax of those vehicles whose tax-token validity would expire on June 30.

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# Top Soviet generals harden attitude to West

BRUSSELS, June 27: The Soviet Union's top generals, angry at Moscow's loss of power in Eastern Europe, are starting to cut back new contacts with the West, worrying NATO with tough language and some radical ideas for their armed forces, reports Reuter.

NATO sources said many members of the Soviet general staff had taken a noticeably more hardline and resentful attitude recently and that they could try to apply further pressure on Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and those

who support reform. "They're less open with us than they were a year ago," said one source, who asked not to be identified.

"The general staff is not being open, they're not coming to meetings (with Western officials) and they've closed themselves off to a certain extent from the rest of Soviet society."

This retrenchment is of vital concern to NATO, which wants to include the Soviet Union in new security arrangements for Europe and

the cold war is over.

But the sources pointed to a recent article in the Soviet general staff's official journal, written by General Vladimir Lobov, which contained aggressive language and detailed radical plans to win back some military power.

Lobov was effectively number two in the Warsaw Pact chain of command before its military structure was scrapped this year. He is one of four Deputy Chiefs of the Armed Forces and a member of the Congress of People's

Deputies, the top Soviet legislature.

Several NATO sources familiar with Soviet affairs said it was not yet clear how much influence the general staff would have on the turbulent political scene.

"It's a matter of concern to us that they seem to be going back to more traditional ways of thinking and cutting back on contacts," said one NATO diplomat.

"They see their defeats as victories for NATO, whatever we say. All we can do is keep

the channels of communication open, redouble our efforts, explain that we are not posing a threat."

Lobov's article, circulated in summary at NATO headquarters in recent weeks, blasted the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty, signed in April by the 22 nations of NATO and the Warsaw Pact last November, as blatantly unfair to the Soviet Union.

Lobov wrote that the Soviet armed forces should take care to remain not only on equal terms with "the enemy" but to

gain superiority and move beyond "defensive sufficiency."

To this end, he suggested that the mobilisation system be improved, that a large and aggressive navy be maintained and that the Soviet Union should have a "rapid reaction" force base east of the Ural mountains.

Combat training should be improved and the army must not be distracted by tasks like helping to gather the harvest.

The armed forces should move from conscription to a more professional system.

**Heidelberg dead**

NEW YORK, June 27: Michael Heidelberg, a biochemist who was credited with discovering that antibodies are proteins, has died at age 103. Heidelberg died of a stroke Tuesday at New York University Medical Centre, said Dan Perkes, an NYU spokesman, reports AP.

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