

Use **Touch** Facial tissue  
Table Napkin  
Memory Plate  
Paper Clip

143/A, NEW BAILY ROAD, DHAKA, TEL: 417424

The finest ice cream from Italy  
Made with all natural ingredients and Italian technology.

**dolce vita gelato**  
gelateria... ice cream parlour

54 Kamal Ataturk Ave.  
Ground floor, Barani, Dhaka Ph: 807980

**Inside Today**

**International**



A spate of killings and violent ethnic clashes have cast shadow over peace in Yugoslavia  
Page 5

**Article**

The parliament is an assembly of people's representatives and not a gathering of various political parties and, therefore, it is the solemn duty of the parliament to show total respect to the wishes of the people and work selflessly, if necessary, rising above party politics...  
Page 4

**Metropolitan**

**Dhaka Day by Day**



"I got along very well here with everybody", says departing Thai ambassador Chaiya Chindawongse  
Page 3

**Feature**

**Education**

Literacy teaching in mother tongue has a head start  
Page 6

## Political leaders adopt declaration, identify main problems of educational arena Consensus on solving campus problems



EFFORTS FOR A SOLUTION BY CONSENSUS: Leaders of all political parties met at the International Conference Centre Friday with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair in search of a violence-free campus.  
—Star photo

By Staff Correspondent

Leaders of 40 political parties Friday agreed to make united efforts to solve all problems facing the educational arena.

The consensus was reached at a meeting convened by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at the International Conference Centre.

Briefing newsmen on the outcome of the six-hour meeting, BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukdar, who is also LORD Minister said the political leaders identified terrorism, leakage of question papers, session-jam, copying and unemployment as the problems violating the campus atmosphere.

A declaration unanimously adopted at the meeting was read out by Salam Talukdar at the news briefing. It said the political leaders would meet again soon to take decisions on solution of the problems.

Through the declaration the political leaders called upon all political and student organizations to help hold the scheduled July 31 election of the

See Page 10 Col. 7

## Biggest dollar haul

In the biggest currency seizure, customs officials at the Zia International Airport today recovered US dollar 2,25,000 (equivalent to nearly Taka one crore) from a Pakistani national who was leaving for Bangkok by a Thai Airlines flight, customs sources said, reports BSS.

On suspicion, the Customs personnel at the departure lounge searched the hand bag of Mohammad Zobair, a resident of Karachi, and found the dollars there.

A few cash memos on buying and selling of gold were also recovered from the bag which, the customs sources said, indicated that the person (Zobair) might be involved in gold smuggling.

He was handed over to the Cantonment police and a case has been registered in this connection.

## Dhaka, Moscow agree to improve cooperation

MOSCOW, July 12: Bangladesh and the Soviet Union reaffirmed their willingness to continue to develop and improve cooperation between the two countries in the interests of the people of both the countries and building a safe and a peaceful world, reports BSS.

The Soviet-Bangladesh joint statement, issued following Bangladesh Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman's official visit to Soviet Union from July 9 to July 12, said talks were held between the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, Alexander Bassmertnykh, and the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh on a

See Page 10 Col. 1

## Rajiv killing: Dhaka-bound couple's ordeal

CALCUTTA, July 12: Utter confusion prevailed at the Calcutta airport for over five hours today when intelligence officials detained a Dhaka-bound woman passenger on the suspicion that she was 'Subha', the main accomplice of 'Sivrasan', the key suspect of the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, reports PTL.

See Page 10 Col. 2

## 11th, 12th bills to be moved at a time

By Chapal Bashar

The Select Committee of the Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament), formed to scrutinise the Constitution amendment bills, has agreed to move the 11th and 12th amendment bills simultaneously.

BNP's 11th amendment bill provides for return of Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed to the bench and the 12th bill seeks to go back to parliamentary democracy.

Earlier, Awami League pressed for placing an integrated bill providing for transfer of power and switching over to parliamentary form of government. BNP's stand was to pass the 11th bill first and then to go for the other. Since AL expressed doubt about the passage of the 12th bill for changing the form of government after transfer of power, BNP softened its stand and proposed for moving the two bills simultaneously, which Awami League and others accepted.

The understanding on the issue was arrived at the fourth meeting of the Select Committee held Friday morning at the Sangsad Bhaban.

The 15-member committee started functioning Wednesday and met three times till Thursday night. In the three meetings, the committee examined all the seven amendment bills introduced by Begum Khaleda Zia, Mirza Golam Hafiz, Abdus Samad Azad and Rashed Khan Menon.

Discussion on the bills started Friday and during the three-hour meeting, deliberations were centered mainly on the procedure of moving the bills.

"The committee discussed the issue in a very congenial atmosphere and all the members participated with a spirit of reaching a consensus", said a meeting source.

The committee meets again this morning to continue discussion on the bills. The committee is supposed to complete the task by tomorrow (Sunday). However, some committee members are skeptical whether it would be possible to complete the task within the stipulated time and might take one or two days more. After adjustment and changes, the bills will be sent to the House for consideration of the members.

According to Awami League sources, the party is ready to welcome adjustments for reaching a consensus on the amendment bills. But there are certain points, on which it would be difficult for AL to compromise. One such major point is disqualifying an MP to contest parliament elections for five years as a punitive measure for floor crossing. AL has been strongly opposing this proposal of BNP. There is possibility that BNP would soften its stand on the issue.

Awami League is also against BNP's proposal to conduct the election of the President by the Speaker. AL wants Election Commission to conduct this election. BNP's proposal for maintaining 20 per cent quota for technocrats in the cabinet is also being opposed by AL. It is likely that BNP would reduce the percentage to make it acceptable to AL and others.

## Hasina urges unity of opposition forces

By Staff Correspondent

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman are uniting under the banner of Awami League," she said this Friday at Bangabandhu Bhaban while addressing a group of 41 members of the Barisal District Bar Association and 28 members of various political parties of Mehandigonj upazila who joined her party.

"If this process continues our movement for institutionalising democracy will be strengthened," she added.

Noting the long struggle of her party for giving democracy an institutional shape, Sheikh Hasina pointed out that Awami League was the first to submit a bill to this effect.

Afterwards, the Treasury Bench was compelled to submit a similar bill, she said, adding that it was a victory of the people.

She said her party had also submitted a bill to end the politics of coup, killing and bloodshed and pave the way for holding the trial of the Killers of Bangabandhu.

He said the way the former

See Page 10 Col. 6

## Moazzem concerned at Mizan's health

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Party Secretary General Shah Moazzem Hossain Friday expressed deep concern at the deteriorating health condition of former prime minister Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury and demanded his immediate release from jail.

He said the way the former

See Page 10 Col. 6

## Commission on local govt soon

By Mostafa Kamal Majumder

The government will soon appoint a local government commission to make recommendations on how the local government institutions could be made more effective and self-supporting.

Reliable sources said Thursday the commission will comprise experts on functioning of local government institutions in different countries, persons who had contributed to development of such institutions in Bangladesh and representatives of the Ministry of Local Government.

The commission will examine the functioning of the existing local government institutions and suggest ways of reorganising those, if need be.

It will also look into the sources of finance of local government bodies, and suggest

See Page 10 Col. 8

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Lightning kills 7 in Pakistan**

PESHAWAR, July 12: Seven members of a family were killed when their house was hit by lightning in the northern region of Swat in Pakistan today, police said. Two other people, including a woman, were seriously injured as the house collapsed on the family, reports AFP.

**Allied troops start leaving north Iraq**

WASHINGTON, July 12: US-led coalition forces began moving out of northern Iraq to Turkey Friday but the western leaders pledged their troops would continue to ensure the safety of Iraq's Kurdish minority, reports AFP.

**37 killed in Tamil Nadu blast**

NEW DELHI, July 12: At least 37 people were killed and 70 injured in an explosion at a fireworks factory in the southern state of Tamil Nadu today, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said.

**Li in Syria**

DAMASCUS, July 12: Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad met visiting Chinese Premier Li Peng on Friday but no details emerged from the talks. Li, whose country is reported to be selling missiles to Syria, arrived from Saudi Arabia, reports Ruter.

**Quake rocks Romania**

BELGRADE, July 12: A strong earthquake rocked parts of western Romania and eastern Yugoslavia on Friday, the Belgrade Seismological Institute said, Romania's Rompres news agency said the quake injured three people, but gave no details, reports AP.

## 3 lakh affected by flood in Sirajganj, Jamalpur

By Staff Correspondent

Jamuna, flowing 22 cm above danger mark washed away 200 feet of the Brahmaputra flood control embankment at Ohoramara, seven miles north of Sirajganj town.

At least one lakh people have been affected and two lakh acres crops damaged in 25 unions of Kazipur Sadar, Balkuchi, Chowhall and Shahjadpur upazilas by the flood water that has also threatened Sirajganj-Kazipur road.

Kazipur police station, health complex and union parishad offices were under knee-deep water and prisoners have been shifted to Pabna jail. Marooned people have taken shelter in embankments and other safer places.

In Jamalpur, the Jamuna and Brahmaputra swelled by 62 and 82 centimetres respectively during the last 12 hours. The Jamuna was flowing 82 centimeters above danger mark at Bahadurabad Ghat.

The flood waters, that affected over two lakh people and rendered about fifty thousand of them homeless, have also inundated about two lakh acres with standing crops.

Eight unions of Madanganj, Dewanganj, Islampur, Melandah, Sarishabari and Jamalpur Sadar upazila have been affected.

At least fifty thousand families were made homeless in Dewanganj, Islampur and Madanganj upazilas where thousands have taken refuge in embankments, railway station, and other safer places.

Bahadurabad railway ferry ghat is threatened with Ja-

See Page 10 Col. 6

## Never to be in next 150 years

HONOLULU, Hawaii, July 12: The islands of Hawaii, where sunshine is king, plunged into darkness on Thursday in the longest total eclipse of the sun for the next 150 years — a four-minute sky spectacular that excited scientists, reports Reuter.

The effect on the big island of Hawaii and the smaller is-

See Page 10 Col. 5

## 25 teachers term report on CU as biased

By Staff Correspondent

A section of Chittagong University teachers Friday termed as 'biased' the recently published judicial probe body report on the university situation and demanded its immediate cancellation.

Twenty-five teachers who

See Page 10 Col. 1

## Saddam says Iran stabbed him in back

BAGHDAD, July 12: President Saddam Hussein said he had been "stabbed in the back" by Iran while fighting the United States during the Gulf war, the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported, reports agencies.

"Who would have thought that Iran would stab us in the back at a time when it was so strongly condemning the Great Satan (US) that we were fighting," Hussein said Thursday in an address to residents of the southern port city of Basra.

"I tried to forget everything that happened in the eight years and believed what Iran was saying in hopes that its positive efforts could redress past grievances," he said.

The Iraqi leader accused Iran of supplying arms to rebel Shiite forces in southern Iraq, where the army put down an insurgency in late March.

Hussein called Basra the most sensitive point along the border, adding that "all attempts to overrun the country will be launched from there."

**Double standard**

Iraq on Thursday branded US President George Bush a "malicious, wicked liar" for leading a campaign against what it called its peaceful nuclear programme.

"In diplomatic language, Bush's behaviour would be called double standards but in the language of ethics... he is a liar, a malicious and wicked person," information Minister Hamid Yousef Hammadi was quoted by the Iraqi news agency as saying.

He said Bush "ignored Israel's possession of nuclear arms which it obtained through American finance and know-how."

Commenting on Bush's decision to lift sanctions against South Africa, Hammadi said: "He knows well that South Africa and Israel are working jointly on a broad programme to produce nuclear weapons, but he and the American media purposely ignore these facts to mislead the American people and would public opinion."

Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz also attacked Bush, who on Wednesday had accused President Saddam Hussein of cheating and lying about Iraq's nuclear facilities.

"When Bush deals with international issues, he speaks quietly and uses ordinary political language. However, when he moves to issues related to Iraq, he becomes nervous, uses vulgar language and departs from logic," the agency quoted Aziz as saying.

Hammadi said the United States was leading a "premeditated misleading campaign against Iraq's peaceful nuclear programme" to justify continuing UN sanctions against the Iraqi people.

**Talabani**

Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani conferred with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Thursday in an apparent bid to revive deadlocked negotiations on autonomy for the rebellious Kurds in northern Iraq.

শেয়ার বাজার উন্নয়নে আইএফআইসি ব্যাংক

অর্থায়নের বিকল্প উৎস শেয়ার বাজার উজ্জীবিত করণে আইএফআইসি ব্যাংকের নতুন পন্থা : ইনভেস্টমেন্ট স্কীম। এই প্রকল্পের মাধ্যমে বিনিয়োগকারীদেরকে অর্ধ এক লাখ টাকা ঋণ দেয়া হয়। যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা : আইএফআইসি ব্যাংক ফেডারেশন শাখা, ৬০ মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা।

ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ফিন্যান্স ইনভেস্টমেন্ট এন্ড কমার্শিয়াল লিমিটেড (৪০ ভাগ সরকারী মালিকানাধীন একমাত্র বেসরকারী ব্যাংক) আইএফআইসি ব্যাংক : উৎকর্ষ সেবায় নিবেদিত