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The Daily Star

শক্তি স্বপ্নে গড়া
 বাংলাদেশ শ্রমিক কল্যাণ কেন্দ্র
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More cases against Ershad, his associates established Commission's final report today

Star Report

The three-man Commission set up to investigate corruption and abuse of power by deposed President Ershad and his associates will submit the second and final report on its findings to the Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed today.

The first part of the report had been submitted earlier.

The tenure of the Commission, set up last December with Justice DM Ansaruddin as its head, ends today.

Shah Abdul Hannan of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and AKM Mahubul Haque, Additional Inspector General of Police, are two other members on the Commission.

Commission sources told The Daily Star that the 1000-page report (in two parts) on the findings of the Commission is based on valid documents.

The Commission has established 30 new cases against Ershad, Raushan Ershad and their associates. Of the cases, seven are new cases against Ershad.

According to sources, the Commission received 1400 allegations against Ershad, Raushan Ershad and their associates, of which 110 were found correct, backed by relevant documents. But the Commission could establish only 30 cases as tenable in the court.

According to sources, besides Ershad and Raushan Ershad the Commission has also reportedly got prima facie evidences of corruption by Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Mahubur Rahman, Col (Retd) Malek Mahmudul Hasan, Ruhul Amin Hawlader, Zafar Imam, Nurun Nabi Chan, Major (Retd) Iqbal Hossain Shah Moazzem and Kazi Firoz Rashid.

The Commission has also got some evidences against former Industries Secretary Mosharraf Hossain and Commodore (Retd) Mainul Islam.

Among the persons identified by the Commission as associates of Ershad involved in corruption, many are in jail

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BCCI clients affected by suspension of the bank's operations demonstrating in front of its local head office in the city Sunday. — Star photo

BCCI depositors hold rally

Star Economic Report

A rally of the BCCI depositors was held in front of the Bangladesh Bank head office in Dhaka on Sunday.

The rally demanded immediate settlement of their deposits with BCCI in Bangladesh.

Since the suspension of the BCCI operations in Bangladesh nine days ago, no depositors could withdraw their money from the Bank.

The speakers told the rally that the central bank had already taken some appropriate steps to protect the interests of the exporters and importers doing business through BCCI.

The speakers called upon the clients to be united and organise successful movement to realise their demand.

Earlier the depositors met the Bangladesh Bank Governor and held a meeting with him for half an hour.

The depositors told the Daily Star that they had been assured by the Bank Governor that decisions about the deposits would be taken soon after the completion of audit and inspection work now being carried out by the central bank.

They handed over a memorandum to the Bangladesh Bank Governor regarding their demands. The procession paraded the streets from BCCI head office to the Bangladesh Bank premises. An estimated 300 BCCI clients participated in the rally.

A BCCI client Mohammad Ismail Hossain who led the procession on Sunday told the Daily Star that they would form a committee to organise a movement if their demand was not full filled.

"I have my life's savings with BCCI and now I want to get back my money," said another client of the BCCI, Dr S M Hasan, Head of the Department of Islamic History and Cultural of Jagannath College. He said, "We need to communicate with all the clients of BCCI at first and then, if necessary, we shall go for a large scale movement."

BSS adds: Bangladesh Bank authorities have asked the auditors engaged in ascertaining the assets and liabilities of BCCI to submit the preliminary audit report within a week.

The Governor of Bangladesh See Page 10 Col. 8

Lakhs affected by floods

By Staff Correspondent

Five people were swept away in Kurigram while the flood waters from the swelling Brahmaputra, Padma and Dharalia aggravated the flood situation in Rangpur, Jamalpur and Sherpur districts Sunday.

The flood waters that marooned thousands and pushed as many to embankments, railway tracks and other safer places continued to rise due to onrush of water from the upper reaches in India.

In Kurigram, three people were washed away in Chilmari and two in Rowmari by the Brahmaputra and Dharalia waters which have, by now, inundated eight out of nine upazilas affecting about five lakh people. Their bodies could not be recovered. The district administration has started rescuing the marooned people from the far flung char areas but were greatly handicapped by few rescue boats.

The Brahmaputra and Dharalia was flowing ten to fifteen feet above danger mark at places.

In Jamalpur gushing waters from the Brahmaputra and the Jamuna have affected over five lakh people and made about one lakh of them homeless, sending them to embankments and railway tracks for safety.

The flood waters have entered Jamalpur pourashabha area and the Dewanganj town protection embankment has been threatened by the Brahmaputra.

The Brahmaputra was flowing 85 centimeters above the danger marks at Dewanganj and the Jamuna above 83 centimeters at Jamalpur, according to Water Development Board sources. Both the rivers rose between 25 to 28 cms during the last 12 hours.

Road communication between Jamalpur and Sherpur, Tangail, Madarganj and Bakshiganj have been snapped by the flood waters that have

See Page 10 Col. 5

Bush, Mitterrand warn Iraq of renewed military action

PARIS, July 14: US President George Bush and French President Francois Mitterrand warned Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein today that renewed allied military action was likely if he persisted in trying to develop nuclear weapons or persecuted the Kurds, reports Agencies.

"I think it is very important to the security of the region and the whole world... that he not to forward with a nuclear programme," Bush told a news conference after he and Mitterrand concluded an hour of talks at Rambouillet castle near Paris.

The French leader noted that the safety of the Kurds in northern Iraq was also of concern to allied forces.

Bush and Mitterrand, meeting on the eve of the London economic summit of the world's major industrial democracies, said Iraq's activities since the end of the Gulf war were at the top of their agenda.

Meanwhile, Iraq appealed to the United Nations and Arab League to stave off a possible US attack against its nuclear facilities and the League was today considering an emergency ministerial meeting on the matter.

Baghdad meanwhile submitted a new list of nuclear sites to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) after two previous lists were deemed incomplete by the United Nations, a source close to the Agency said in the Iraqi capital.

In Paris, Mitterrand said allied military intervention in Iraq would be justified to protect people threatened by the regime, or prevent the country from acquiring nuclear arms.

No decision had been made but France would be ready "if need be," Mitterrand said in a television interview after the traditional Bastille Day parade.

In a message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Iraqi Foreign Minister Ahmad Hussein Al-Khodair urged the Security Council to "prevent a new American aggression."

Iraqi representative to the Arab League Nabil Nejm told the press in Cairo that "the US threats indicate violent aggression toward every Arab nation" and affect "Arab national security."

He accused the United States of "leading an unfounded campaign against Baghdad for two weeks to cover up the advance of its aggression," adding that Iraq was complying with the UN Security Council resolutions which call for the destruction of its nuclear and chemical weapons capabilities.

UN and IAEA missions have been denied access to certain nuclear sites in Iraq and US President Bush has hinted that the allies may resort to force again to eliminate Iraq's nuclear sites.

An Arab League source said the Pan-Arab body would inform the 21 members of Iraq's request and convene the special session if the necessary two-thirds majority could be mustered.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak warned President Saddam that Iraq faced a "destructive attack" if UN officials were blocked from inspecting nuclear sites, the officials Egyptian news agency Mena reported Saturday.

Select Committee allowed 4 more days for scrutiny

By Staff Correspondent

Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzaque Ali Sunday allowed the Select Committee four more days to scrutinise the seven amendment bills introduced earlier in the House. The amendment bills were scheduled to be returned to the House for discussion Sunday.

Earlier, requesting the Speaker to extend the time, Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz told the House that the work on the amendment bills was in good progress, but it could not be completed within the stipulated time as the volume of work was enormous. He said four days' time should be given to complete the unfinished task of the committee.

Expressing identical views, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abudus Samad Azad told the House that all members of the Select Committee were working together to give a final shape to the amendment bills. At least four days are needed to complete the necessary scrutiny of the bills, he added.

Tofael Ahmed of Awami League pleaded for consideration of the amendment bill on the independence of the judiciary brought by Salahuddin Yusuf of Awami League. He said this bill should also be sent to the Select Committee.

The speaker ruled out Tofael's contention and said, since the bill had not yet been introduced in the House, the question of sending it to the Select Committee did not arise.

Of the seven bills, one for switching over to parliamentary system was introduced by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and another for facilitating return of the Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed to the office of Chief Justice was piloted by the Law Minister.

Another bill seeking to revert to parliamentary system was introduced by Abudus Samad Azad of Awami League which in early 1975 had introduced one-party presidential rule replacing the parliamentary form.

Rashed Khan Menon of Workers Party had piloted four other bills seeking to amend different provisions of the constitution.

All these bills were unanimously referred by the House to one Select Committee suspending the relevant rules of procedures.

Steps soon to check fake organisations

By Staff Correspondent

Tariqul Islam, State Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs said Sunday the Government would soon take effective steps to check fake organizations cheating people.

Replying to a call attention moved by Haji Rashed Mosharraf of Awami League at the Jatiya Sangsad (parliament) he said the Ministry of Home Affairs had recently put some people accused of such activities under detention. The court, however, freed them after heaving writ petitions filed on their behalf.

The State Minister said fake organizations were not registered with the Department of Social Service and thus were difficult to detect them at times. The ministries of Social Welfare and Home Affairs were examining what more actions could be taken against such elements.

In his call attention Haji Rashed Mosharraf said fake organizations were deceiving unemployed people including women by promising them attractive jobs.

Ershad's trial for amassing wealth Defence granted time to produce witnesses

By Staff Correspondent

The Special Judge Court trying deposed President Ershad on wealth amassing charges yesterday granted the Defence time to collect relevant documents and bring in its witnesses.

Defence lawyers emphasised that the money recovered had been kept with Ershad to pay for a house for the Jatiya Party.

The Defence sought time to collect relevant documents regarding the purchase of the house and to bring in Defence witnesses.

The Special Judge Court with Judge Mohammed Ali Khan in the chair was adjourned yesterday to resume on July 21 at 10 am.

Time was given after the Defence submitted an application seeking 15 days time.

The Court resumed yesterday with the cross-examination of Talim Hossain, Executive Engineer of Dhaka Garrison who was a member of the Inventory Committee.

During the cross-examination Defence Lawyer Sirajul Haque questioned the prosecution witness regarding the

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Hartal today: Ctg situation tense

From Our Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, July 14: The city situation became tense today when a procession, jointly brought out by APSU and CUCSU, turned violent, and attacked a shopping complex and the office of the city corporation.

The procession was organised in support of tomorrow's hartal they have called on the Chittagong University crisis.

Their rival group, pro-Shibir Sargam Chhatra Oikya, has also called hartal the same day.

Eyewitnesses said the processionists turned violent when they reached near Andurkilla jam-e-mosque. They damaged several shops which were believed to be owned by the supporters of Jamaat-e-Islami. The processionists later attacked the office of the city corporation where police resorted to lathi-charge and dispersed them.

Earlier, over 1000 supporters of APSU converged near the New Market and held a rally with Nazimuddin, vice-president, Chittagong University Central Students Union (CUCSU).

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Govt to build Navy as efficient force: Khaleda

CHITTAGONG, July 14: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said Sunday the government would like to build country's navy as an efficient force to strengthen country's defence base, reports UNB.

A maritime research institute would be set up and efforts made to enlarge the naval force to this end, she said addressing naval officers and personnel and civilian employees of the Chittagong Naval Area in BNS Issa Khan parade ground.

Begum Zia arrived here this morning to attend the graduation parade marking the commissioning of the 89 Alfa batch midshipmen.

She said the nation was aware of its future need for maintaining maritime balance in this region and asked the members of naval force to strengthen their self-confidence to perform any national obligation through the maximum utilisation of our limited resources.

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\$106m Saudi grant

Memorandum signed for utilisation

A Memorandum of Undertaking was signed here Sunday for utilisation of Saudi pledged grant of 400 million Saudi Rial equivalent to 106 million US Dollar for reconstruction of the infrastructure devastated by the cyclone on April 29, reports BSS.

Secretary of the Economic Relations Division Enam A Chowdhury and Deputy Managing Director of the Saudi Fund for Development Dr Abdul Aziz Mohammad Al-Turki signed the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of their respective

See Page 10 Col. 2

140 teachers overstaying abroad

Education Minister Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury told the Jatiya Sangsad Sunday that 140 teachers of different universities of the country were not returning home on conclusion of their scheduled higher studies and researches abroad, reports BSS.

In reply to a question from Shah Mohammad Rafiqul Bari Chowdhury (JP-Sherpur), the minister informed the House that the respective universities have either taken or were taking actions as per university rules against absconding teachers.

Answering a question from Mohammad Shamsuzzoha (CPB-Nilphamari), Dr Chowdhury informed the House

See Page 10 Col. 2

Sajeda blames JCD for Chandpur College incident

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League General Secretary Begum Sajeda Chowdhury Sunday demanded the release of Chhatra League and Juba League workers of Chandpur and punishment of the attackers.

In a statement the AL leader condemned the attack on the procession of Chhatra League by the workers of Jatiyabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on July 10. The procession was brought out in connection with the students union election of Chandpur Government College.

See Page 10 Col. 7

Comilla Board SSC exams from Aug 22

The postponed examinations of all papers of SSC examination under Comilla Board, excepting Bengali, will be held from August 22, an official announcement said Sunday, reports UNB.

The HSC examination of Comilla Board, which was earlier scheduled to begin from August 22, will now be held from September 12.

Detailed schedules of both the examinations will be announced by the Board soon, the announcement added.