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atmosphere of a LOVELY HOUSE.

Conversation

-Inside Today



The Daily Star talks to the Vice-Chancellor of **Dhaka University** about problems, ranging from campus violence to resource constraints, facing the country's premier seat of higher learning

Article

Page 5

The conflict over the future of the US military industrial complex explains the zigzagging decisions of the Bush administra-

tion on the arms control issue Page 4

International

Kurds and Iraqi officials agreed to end fighting in northern Iraq which caused hundreds of casualties

Business

Page 6



Full page reports on **BCCI** which include Bank's operations in Bangladesh, updates from wire services and compilations from international press Page 8

Sport

Pelita Jaya sail into the semifinals of 10th Asian Club Cup football championship Page 7

JS opposition leaders meet

A meeting of the leaders of all opposition parties and groups in parliament and of independent members will be held today at 10 am at Sangsad Bhaban conference room of the Leader of the Opposition , re-

Barisal Medical College closed

BARISAL, July 20: Sher-e-Bangla Medical College was today closed sine die as tension mounted on the campus after the death of a student from assault by rivals. Authorities also asked the male students to vacate hostels by this (Saturday) evening and the girls by 10 am tomorrow, reports UNB.

Chhatra Oikya ultimatum

RAJSHAHI, July 20: Chhatra Oikkya Parishad today threatened to paralyse the Rajshahi University and the town if order of arrest against 60 students of the varsity are not withdrawn, reports UNB.

UP chairmen's hartal call

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Upazila Parishad Chairmen Samity called a halfday hartal allover the country today to press home their 12 point demand. The hartal is called to resist the Government's move to abolish the post of upazila chairman.

'Legislation needed to prevent terrorist activities'

Gayoom, Khaleda talk socio-economic issues

Visiting Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Saturday discussed prospects of giving a businesslike touch and functional approach to the seven-nation fo-

rum, SAARC, reports UNB. A spokesman told reporters, after the meeting at the State Guest House Meghna lasting more than 90 minutes. that the two leaders agreed to furthering co-operation among the SAARC members to ensure peace, prosperity and socioeconomic development of the

Gayoom, the present Chairman of the SAARC, apprised Begum Zia of its activities and the actions of member countries to implement the decisions taken in the forum.

Pointing to the paucity of SAARC funds for meeting expenses of its activities, the Maldives President stressed the need for rationalising and redefining the role of SAARC technical committees.

Move towards regional plan of action for socio-economic development and raising the standard of living of common people in member states were highlighted at the talks between the President and the Prime Minister.

Status and question of implementation of SAARC contention on terrorism and narcotics also came up during the

Co-operation on Green House effect, environment and natural disaster management were emphasised by the lead-

The Maldives President and the Bangladesh Prime Minister underscored the need for associating NGOs and profes-See Page 10 Col. 7



Visiting Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia led their respective sides - PID photo in the formal talks at the state guest house, Meghna, Saturday.

Select body to seek more time as differences persist

Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz may today seek another four days for the parliamentary Select Committee to scrutinise the amendment bills referred to it for submission of its report to Parliament.

The Select Committee had two sittings on Saturday. The second meeting continued till late at night with Mirza Golam Hafiz in the chair but the differences between the BNP and the Awami League over the bills were yet to be resolved.

Reliable sources said that the meeting ended last night with both the sides agreeing to continue the discussion on the bills at the Select Committee

The Select Committee was constituted on July 9 and was asked to submit its report after scrutimising two government bills and five opposition bills by

July 14. As the Committee could not complete its work by July 14, the time limit was extended by

The future of the Bank of

Credit and Commerce Inter-

national (BCCI) in Bangladesh

is still uncertain even a

fortnight after suspension of

made public until Saturday, any

new initiative to untie the BCCI

positors with their total funds

of over Tk 610 crore (updated

figure) with four branches of

the Bank in Bangladesh have

take classes

The central bank had not

The sufferings of the de-

its operations.

By Mostafa Kamal Majumder another four days. Today's time extension, if granted, will be the second in a row.

The major points of difference are over the provisions seeking to further restrict floor-crossing, mode of election of the president under a parliamentary system and appointment of non-MP minis-

The provision against floorcrossing made in the 1972 Constitution says that a member casting his vote against the party which had nominated him as a candidate in the election would automatically vacate

This provision was further strengthened through the Fourth Amendment and a member absenting from a sitting ignoring instructions of his party was liable to vacate his seat.

The Constitution amendment bills introduced by the BNP seek to disqualify a member vacating his seats due to

No new initiatives by Bangladesh Bank

BCCI knot stays untied

By Moazzem Hossain and Shahiduzzaman Khan

tervene in the situation.

shares in the Bank.

appeal to the UAE Emir to in-

pended on July 6 by the

Bangladesh Bank on a request

from Abu Dhabt. The royal Abu

Dhabt family owns the majority

tions of the Bank are also

frozen elsewhere following the

Bank of England's decision to

close the Bank from July 5 in

lier announced some measures

to route foreign trade opera-

tions in the pipeline of the

BCCI through the Agrant Bank.

The Bangladesh Bank ear-

The multinational opera-

BCCI operations were sus-

above mentioned reasons, from contesting for five years.

The BNP bills also seek to ensure that an MP would lose his membership from Parliament if he is expelled from the party, and if he forms any group within the party in Parliament.

Awami League members in the Select Committee seek to stick to the existing provisions (made between 1972 and

The BNP bill proposes that election of the president under the amended constitution should be conducted by the Speaker.

Arguments put forward by BNP leaders include, since the president will be elected by Parliament there should be scope to check floor crossing.

The Awami League wants the election to be conducted by the Chief. Election Commissioner with MPs voting in a secret ballot.

See Page 10 Col. 2

Chamber body said that the so-

called diversion of the Letters

of Credits (LCs) to the Agrani

Bank was only a face-saving

facilities like credit for re-

tirement of LC documents and

loans against hypothetication

of goods, banking transactions

in foreign trade are meaning-

importer to retire import LCs

with full value of the same

without any credit facilities, he

dination between the desig-

There is evidently no coor

It is not possible for any

less, he commented.

Without banking support

BNP amendment bill contains controversial provisions: AL

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League has said that the Constitution amendment bill of the BNP contains controversial provisions which seek to curb fundamental rights and restore autocracy through different tactics.

Expressing concern over the BNP bill the AL Central Working Committee in a meeting Friday termed it as a distortion of the November 19 Joint Declaration of the three alliances and tantamount to a breach of the pledge.

The ALWC meeting. presided over by AL presidium member Abdus Samad Azad, said that the party would not accept any provision that could lead to autocracy and the curbing of fundamental rights. but would continue its efforts to establish a truly sovereign parliament and an unalloyed parliamentary democracy.

The ALWC meeting said that the Constitution amendment See Page 10 Col. 7

BNP MPs told govt firm to fulfil election pledges

The BNP Parliamentary Party held a meeting on Saturday where its members pleaded for fulfilling the party's pre-election commitments and measures to contain price spiral, reports UNB.

Sources said Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia assured the MPs the government would go ahead for materialising the pledges BNP had made to the people before the February 27 parliamentary

She, however, reminded the Treasury Bench members of shortage of funds and asked them to play an effective role in fulfilling the hopes and aspi-See Page 10 Col. 2

Ershads granted parole as Raushan's mother dies

By Staff Correspondent Former President H M Ershad and his wife were granted parole on Saturday night to pay their last respects to Begum Badrunnahar.

Begum Badrunnahar expired Saturday noon at the residence of her eldest daughter

The former President and his wife were taken to the Uttara residence of Mamata Wahab where the body of the deceased was kept. They were taken from their confinement at the Dhaka Central Jail and the Gulshan sub-jail separately under police escort at around 10.30 Saturday night. The two

It said state workers had to communists and have been acrespect the laws of the Russian Federation, which declared its sovereignty last year and has

> The Communist Party has some 17 million members and remains the country's most powerful political organisation but its ranks are split between conservatives and liberals.

The divisions are likely to come to a head at a plenary meeting of its central committee on Thursday

Related story on page 6

All major student bodies except JCD, Shibir boycott DUCSU polls

By Staff Correspondent

All the components of now defunct Central Students Acparty alliance. tion Committee (CSAC) Saturday boycotted the July 31 DUCSU and Hall Union polls by not putting candidatures.

Saturday was the last date for submission of nomination papers.

The decisions, announced at separate rallies, were made protesting DU authorities' cancellation of 'special admission' system for the irregular students, "unfavourable campus situation and free movement of mastans on the campus."

The components include: pro-Awami League Chhatra League (S-A), JSD (Inu)-backed Chhatra League (N-S), CPBsupported Chhatra Union, BKSAL-backed Jatiya Chhatra League, BSD (Mahbub)-backed Chhatra League (S-A), BSD (Khaleq)-backed Chhatra Front, Workers' Party-supported Chhatra Moitry, Chhatra Oikya Forum, and NAP (M) backed Chhatra Samity.

All these parent political

parties had formed the eight-The CSAC components ru-

nning away from the race left the pro-BNP Jattyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), Jamaat-backed Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS), Islamic Front-supported Islami Chhatra Sena who submitted separate panels of candidates for the election. Thus far unknown Chhatra Bangla Parishad and some independents also submitted nomination papers Saturday.

Following the cancellation of the "special admission" arrangements, most of the prospective candidates of various student organisations were dropped from the election

The decision also angered the JCD senior leaders, who also fatled to contest the polls. But, an order from the ruling BNP that only the regular students would be JCD candidates cooled them.

JCD submitted full panels for the elections to the DUCSU and all the 14 hall unions. The JCD workers along with the candidates for the DUCSU seats brought an enthusiastic procession on the campus soon after their nomination papers were submitted Saturday morning. The processionists rounded the Arts Faculty building area chanting slogans in favour of JCD's 'Jaglu-Anny' panel for the DUCSU.

The JCD panel for the DUCSU was prepared with Rafigul Islam Jaglu - Vice-President, Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anny - General Secretary. Ali Akkas Nadim and Habib-un-Nabi Sohel - Assistant General Secretary, Syeed Hassan Kanon - Sports Secretary, Shafiqul Islam - Literary Secretary, Manjur-i-Elahi - Auditorium Secretary, Shirin Sultana - Women's Commonroom Secretary. Enamul See Page 10 Col. 1

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড

মূল্য সংযোজন কর

বিশেষ বিজ্ঞপ্তি জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড লক্ষ্য করেছে যে, মূল্য সংযোজন কর প্রবর্তনের পর জনগণ ও বিভিন্ন মহলে যে ভুল বুঝাবুঝির সৃষ্টি হয়েছিল তার অধিকাংশই এখন দূর হয়ে পেছে। একথা সুস্পষ্ট হয়েছে যে, প্রাথমিক কৃষিজ্ঞাত পণ্য এবং নিত্য ব্যবহার্য খাদ্য যেমন- চাল, ডাল, আলু, আটা, ময়দা এবং নিত্য ব্যবহার্য কাপড়-চোপড়ের উপর মৃল্য সংযোজন কর আরোপ করা হয়নি। রঞ্চতানির উপর এ কর আরোপিত নয়। তদুপরি ইতিমধ্যে জনগণের মতামতের আলোকে ত্যাট ব্যবস্থার কিছু ক্ষতি হওয়া সত্তেও এবং রাজস্ব আয় বেশ কিছু পরিমাণ কমে যাওয়ার সম্ভাবনা থাকা

সম্ভেও অনেক ক্ষেত্রে (কুটির শিল্পসহ) মূল্য সংযোজন কর অব্যাহতি দেয়া হয়েছে। এর ফলে যে বিভ্রান্তি ও সংশয়ের সৃষ্টি হয়েছিল তা বহুলাংশে দুরীভূত হয়েছে। লক্ষ্যনিয় যে, ইতিমধ্যে প্রায় সকল পণ্য প্রস্তুতকারক এবং আমদানিকারক ত্যাটের আওতায় নিবন্ধিত হয়ে গেছেন এবং যথারীতি মূল্য সংযোজন কর প্রদান করছেন। ২। তবে মৃশ্য সংযোজন কর সম্পর্কে কোন কোন মহলের বিদ্রান্তি ও আপত্তি রয়েছে। এ সকলের প্রতি জাতীয় রাজস বোর্ডের দৃষ্টি আকৃষ্ট হয়েছে। বলা হয়েছে যে, মূল্য সংযোজন কর ব্যবস্থায় স্থানীয় কাঁচামালের প্রতি বৈষম্য করা হয়েছে। একথা সঠিক নয়। স্থানীয় কীচামাল দ্বারা হোক বা আমদানি করা কীচামাল দ্বারা হোক, উৎপাদিত পণ্যের উপর একই হারে মৃদ্য সংযোজন কর আরোপ করা হয়েছে। অন্যদিকে স্থানীয় কাঁচামালের স্বার্থ সংরক্ষণের জন্য

আমদানি পর্যায়ে আমদানিকৃত কাঁচামালের উপর আমদানি তদ্ধ আরোপ করা আছে যা স্থানীয় কাঁচামালের উপর নেই

এ অবস্থায় স্থানীয় কাঁচামালের স্বার্থ সম্পূর্ণভাবে রক্ষিত আছে। ৩। এ কথা সঠিক নয় যে, মৃদ্য সংযোজন কর সম্পর্কে করদাভাদের অবহিত করা হয়নি। ১৯৯০-৯১ সালের वात्करों रचायना कता रहादिन रह, ১৯৯১ সালের ১मा बानुसादी रूफ यूना मध्यावन कत हानू कता रूख। जा ना करत বরং আরো সময় নিয়ে ১লা জুলাই ১৯৯১ সাল হতে এ ব্যবস্থা চালু করা হয়েছে। তদুপরি গত ১৮ মাস যাবং (১৯৯০ সালের শুরু থেকে। প্রত্যেক চেম্বার ও প্রধান মেনুফ্যাকচারার্স এসোসিয়েশনের সঙ্গে মূল্য সংযোজন কর আরোপের नीकिमाना, दिनिष्ठा ७ वर्ष निता जालाहना कता হয়েছে। এ वावज्ञात याता कत सन वर्षाए पण शब्ककातक ७ । আমদানিকারকণণ পূর্বেই এ ব্যবস্থা সম্পর্কে অবহিত হয়েছেন। ১লা জুলাই-এর পূর্বেই তাদেরকে প্রয়োজনীয় পুন্তিকা ও ফর্ম পৌছিয়ে দেয়া হয়েছে। অধিকাংশকেই হাতে-কলমে বিষয়টি বুঝিয়ে দেয়া হয়েছে। সুতরাং এ কথা বলা যায় না যে মুল্য সংযোজন কর সম্পর্কে কাউকে অবহিত না করে এই নতুন কর পদ্ধতি হঠাৎ করে চালু করা হয়েছে। এখালে একথা উল্লেখ্য যে, বাংলাদেশে ন্যুনতম পর্যায়ে ভ্যাট চালু করা হয়েছে। আমদানি ও উৎপাদন পর্যায়ের চেয়ে

কম পর্যায়ে পৃথিবীর কোখাও ভ্যাট চালু করা হয়নি। ভ্যাট চালু করতে হলে এরকম পর্যায়ে ভা চালু করা যায় না। এ

क्या गर्रक नम्रे या प्रमाना म्हान्त कुमनाम वाल्माम्हल वालक छाउँ हामू कता इरसरह । ৪। জাতীয় রাজ্য বোর্ড পূর্বেই জনগণকে অবহিত করেছে যে, অধিকাংশ পণ্যের উপর মূল্য সংযোজন করের 'আপাতন পূর্বের বিক্রম কর ও আবণারী ভব্ধ থেকে কম হবে। অবশ্য কিছু ক্ষেত্রে ডা পূর্বের চেয়ে বেশী হবে। অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ আহরণের প্রয়োজনে নৃতন কিছু শিল্প ও সার্ভিসকে এ ব্যবস্থার আওতায় আনতে হয়েছে। ভ্যাট ব্যবস্থা চালু করা না হলেও এ সকল অনেক শিল্প ও সার্ভিসের ক্ষেত্রে হয়ত অত্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ আহরণ বৃদ্ধির প্রয়োজনে আবণারী 😘 আরোপ করতে হতো। কর ভিত্তির এই প্রসারণকে সামগ্রিকভাবে গ্রহণ করতে হবে। কেননা মুল্য সংযোজন কর ব্যবস্থায় ফ্রেডিটের (কর ফেরতের) সুবিধা থাকায় কর ভিত্তির প্রসারণ অপরিহার্য হয়ে গেছে যাতে সামধিকভাবে কর আদায় হাস না পায়। ভ্যাটের মত ব্যাপক কর সংকার কার্যক্রমের এটা জংশ মারা। উল্লেখ্য যে, জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড কর্তক প্রকাশিত সাধারণ তথ্য পুস্তিকায় সৃস্পষ্ট করা হয়েছিল যে, করযোগ্য গণ্য বলতে বুঝাবে মুল্য সংযোজন কর সংক্রান্ত আইনের প্রথম তঞ্চসিলে উল্লিখিত পণ্য ছাড়া সকল পণ্য। প্রথম তঞ্চসিলের মাধ্যমে অপ্রক্রিয়ান্ধাত প্রাথমিক পশ্যকে এ কর ব্যবস্থা থেকে অব্যাহতি দেয়া হয়েছে। প্রচলিত কর ব্যবস্থার উপর নির্ভর করে দেশকে স্বনির্ভর করা সম্ভব নয়। দেশে রাজাঘাট, ভুল-কলেজ ইত্যাদি নির্মাণসহ দেশের উন্নয়নের গতি তুরান্তিত করতে হলে কর ব্যবস্থার সংকার অপরিহার্য। স্বনির্ভর অর্থনীতি গড়ার সংকল্প এবং কর প্রদানের অনীহা পরস্পর– বিরোধী। উল্লেখ্য, গত কংসর দেশের উন্নয়নে আমাদের নিজক সম্পদের অবদান প্রায় শুনোর কোঠায় ছিল। এ অবছা

কিছতেই কাম্য হতে পারে না। কেবলমাত্র একটি পতিশীল কর ব্যবস্থাই আমাদেরকে এ অবস্থা থেকে পরিত্রাণ করতে

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জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড

meanwhile mounted. "We are hostages to an extremely unpredictable situation", said a group of BCCI de-**NEWS BRIEFS** positors. They have sent an CU teachers to

from today CHITTAGONG, July 20: Teachers of the Chittagong University are to resume classes tomorrow after 208 days following a decision of their association to postpone its ports UNB. non-cooperation movement.

reports UNB. In a statement tonight, Chittagong University Teachers Association (CUTA) President Prof Yusuf Sharif Ahmed Khan said they have postponed their programme on the assurance from Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed to resolve the problems within 15 days of resuming classes.

The university was reopened July 16 but no classes See Page 10 Col. 3

The Soviet Communist

"President Boris Yeltsin has

Party maintains political cells

in virtually all major state en-

terprises and in the Armed

signed a decree putting an end

to the activities of organised

structures of political parties

and mass social movements in

Reuter.

See Page 10 Col. 3 The chief of a leading Withdraw VAT by Aug 20, **AL** ultimatum to Govt

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League has given an ultimatum to the government to withdraw the Value Added Tax (VAT) and threatened a countrywide movement for non-compliance.

"This government of Begum Khaleda Zia will have to meet the same fate of its predecessor if our demand is not met by August 20," Sajeda Chowdhury, MP, the party General Secretary, told a rally Saturday at Bangabandhu

The rally was organised by the City AL and was addressed. among others, by central leaders Amir Hossain Amu. Mohammad Nasim MP, Matia Chowdhury MP, Advocate

Rahmat Ali MP and its city unit leader Mamtaz Hossain, Mofazzel Hossain Chowdhury Maya, M A Aziz and M A Kashem. City AL President Mozaffar Hossain Paltu chaired the rally.

oriented party. So we are here on the streets once again to realise people's demands. It is too early after a bloody movement, but this 'new autocrat has forced us to agitate again, she told the well-attended

that this government followed the path of ousted autocrat Ershad and imposed taxes See Page 10 Col. 4

"Awami League is a people-

Sajeda Chowdhury alleged

mother of Raushan Ershad. Mamata Wahab at Uttara.

See Page 10 Col. 3

Yeltsin bans politics in state sector

state organs, institutions and MOSCOW, July 20: Russian organisations in the Russian President Boris Yeltsin chal-Federation," the Russian lenged Communist Party Information Agency (RIA) said. power today by banning organised political activity in the RIA said the decree would state sector of his republic, the come into effect 14 days after its publication. Soviet Union's biggest, reports

Yeltsin, who left the Communist Party last year and was sworn in this month as Russia's first executive President, said in his decree political activity would no longer be permitted in state organs on Russian territory.

The decree extended to local government councils. which are often dominated by

cused in the past of blocking radical reform legislation approved by republican authori-It said workers could take part in political activity only in non-working hours and outside

their workplace.

The decree is one of the first issued by Yeltsin since his Kremlin inauguration ceremony on July 10 and follows pledges he made during his election campaign to rid factories and local government offices of Communist Party

been fighting for greater economic and political power.