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The Daily Star

FOR HOARDING & NEONSIGNS
MODART
 PUBLICITY
 17/6-8, Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000.
 Tel: 238935, 405898
 12 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 3.00

VOL. 1 NO. 189 REGD. NO. DA 781

SHRABAN 17, 1398 BS, DHAKA FRIDAY AUGUST 2, 1991 MOHARRAM 20, 1412 HIJRI

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Judaisation of Islam's third holy place cannot be accepted, says PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat
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Despite all positive signs one cannot be sure whether the peace conference would at all be held. In the entire exercise Palestinian problem does not seem to have received adequate attention....
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GATT finalises arrangements for global textile trade while India and Pakistan express disappointment over the quota system
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Metropolitan Chamber demands withdrawal of blanket restrictions on credit flows to operational industrial units. Sick industries apply to the FBCCI for redress of their problems
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NEWS BRIEFS

Friendship Bridge construction

The construction work of Japan-Bangladesh Second Friendship Bridge (Meghna-Gumti Bridge) will start within next six months at Daudkandi on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway on completion of necessary formalities between the two countries, reports BSS.

Israel to attend peace talks

JERUSALEM, Aug 1 : Israel will participate in a Middle East peace conference scheduled for October, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir announced today, report agencies.

DMC, hostels closed

The Dhaka Medical College and its hostels will remain closed until August 8. The extended meeting of the Academic Council of Dhaka Medical College Wednesday took the decision in view of the overall post election situation and law and order on the campus, reports BSS.

Saifur Rahman tells chamber representatives
All public holdings to be disinvested in phases

A new phase of disinvestment of public sector enterprises will begin within the next one and a half months' time.

This will be done to redeem the electoral pledges of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) to deregulate and decontrol the economy and to reduce the size of the administrative setup.

Stating this on Thursday at a meeting with the representatives of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) at the conference room of the chamber, Finance and Planning Minister Saifur Rahman said that the forthcoming disinvestment operation would be programmed for strengthening the capital market through mutual funds, unit certificates and shares and other securities.

Star Economic Report

pointing out the limited operational flexibility for the aid recipients. This is the reality, irrespective of who is in power or in government, he added.

Earlier, MCCI President Syed Manzur Elahi in his address of welcome to the Finance Minister called for effective moves by the government to restore confidence in business circles. He suggested that various pending issues affecting the growth of the private sector should be resolved in a pragmatic way, not through any theoretical approach.

the free-market economy, he added.

Saifur Rahman stated that the government would also consider the provisions of Bangladesh Bank circular under which credit facilities were being denied or restricted to some running enterprises as were pointed out by the MCCI chief in his address of welcome. He admitted the need for drawing a line of difference between capable and incapable bank borrowers to repay their loans.

He said, the government will look into the difficulties of sick industrial sectors and explore ways and means to provide additional support for their modernisation and rehabilitation.

AL wants BNP assurance for passage of indemnity bill

The government on Thursday came under heavy pressure from the Awami League and its allies in Parliament for an assurance on the introduction and passage of an indemnity Bill, notice for which had been given by Mohammad Nasim, Chief Whip of the Opposition.

Awami League leaders argued that the establishment of democracy would be incomplete without deleting the indemnity Act of September 26, 1975 which prohibits trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

By Staff Correspondent

Discussion on the proposed Indemnity (repeal) Bill was initiated by Mohammad Nasim immediately after the Asr prayer, and continued till adjournment of the House at 9 pm disrupting all business of the private members' day.

Declaration of three alliances on the basis of which the present Parliament was formed stood for ending the politics of killing, coups and conspiracies keeping with the spirit of the movement the two largest political parties had narrowed down their differences, despite the fact that their ideologies were not identical, to establish parliamentary democracy.

Pass the bills to avoid crisis, BNP tells AL

The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has told the opposition in Parliament that fate of 11th and 12th Constitution Amendment Bills would have to be decided by next week to avoid constitutional crisis.

By Mostafa Kamal Majumder

Amendment Bills were passed. The Acting President might take seven days to refer the 12th Amendment Bill to referendum.

AL extended meet today

By Staff Correspondent

An extended meeting of Awami League begins today at 10 am to review the latest political situation in the country. The meeting will be held at 29 Minto Road, the official residence for the Leader of the Opposition in the Parliament Sheikh Hasina.



A huge quantity of arms and ammunition was recovered from an abandoned house at Shakhari Bazar following an armed attack on JCD rally in the Jagannath College premises Thursday.

**Attack on JCD rally in Jagannath College
 Arms recovered : 19 arrested**

By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested 19 persons and recovered a large quantity of unauthorised arms in connection with an attack on a students' rally at the Government Jagannath College in the city Thursday morning.

By Staff Correspondent

protest against the attack on the JCD rally.

The two student groups at the Dr. Milton Hall of the College on June 15.

The rally was held in observance of JCD's JN College leader Muniruzzaman Munir's chelum.

Reopening of DU a political problem : VC

By DU Correspondent

Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. Muniruzzaman Miah Thursday said reopening of the university "is now a political problem and it must be solved politically."

between the violent political activists and the general students.

Bush urges Soviet republics to stay together

KIEV, Aug 1 : US President George Bush on Thursday warned the Soviet Union's restive republics against "the suicidal course of isolation" and urged that they embrace Mikhail Gorbachev's blueprint for holding his beleaguered country together, report agencies.

the Soviet President, Bush called Gorbachev a leader who "inspires great confidence."

holds forth the hope that republics will combine greater autonomy with greater voluntary interaction — political, social, cultural and economic.

ishing things, and his policies of glasnost, perestroika and democratisation point toward the goals of freedom, democracy and economic liberty."

the Kremlin, Gorbachev said the pact, which for the first time reduces long-range strategic arms, has strengthened the world's confidence....

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