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Inside Today

Article
Compromise is an essential ingredient of that broth called democracy, which always means balancing conflicting views in a pluralistic society
Page 4

International

Former First Lady Imelda Marcos plans to ship home from Hawaii the body of ousted President Ferdinand Marcos
Page 5

Business

Executive's tips by Shahabuddin Mahtab
BCIC urea sale procedures contradict trading rules
Page 7

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day
Earlier, acting chairman of Jatiya Party Moudud Ahmed wrote to the Home Ministry to allow Ershad, Kazi Zafar, Anwar Hossain and Sardar Amjad Hossain — all Jatiya Party MPs — to attend the Parliament session on parole.
Moudud Ahmed also sought permission for a meeting of the Jatiya Party MPs with Ershad in the jail to discuss the Constitution amendment bills and finalise the party stand.
Secretary of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party Monirul Haque told The Daily Star that they had already communicated to the ruling BNP that they would vote in favour of the

Sport

"I won't play soccer professionally again," says Diego Maradona
Page 10

President of International Olympic Committee wants a revolution to sweep away sports which have no real following outside Olympic Games
Page 11

Feature

Banking and Finance
Thailand's gems industry has grown from backyard business to an internationally recognised operation
Page 8

NEWS BRIEFS

18 killed in UP road accident
NEW DELHI, Aug 2: At least 18 passengers were killed and 22 injured when a transport bus plummeted into Alaknanda river in the northern India state of Uttar Pradesh today, reports AP.

Atlantis lifts off
CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), Aug 2: The shuttle Atlantis lifted off today after 10 days of delays, carrying five astronauts who will launch a 120 million dollar satellite and then experiment with miniature wasps and brine shrimp on a nine-day space flight, reports Reuters.

Rally

A joint rally of BPUJ, BNEF, BNWF and DUJ will be held today at 11 am in front of the Ittefaq Bhabani. A two-hour work suspension will also be observed from 11 am in all newspapers and news agencies, reports BSS.

PM apprises Acting President of latest developments in an urgent meeting

Shahabuddin will quit if amendment bills not passed

The Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed last night assured the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia of using his good offices for removing the obstacles to the transition to the parliamentary form of government. He categorically told the Prime Minister that if his efforts to get the Constitution amendment bills passed smoothly in parliament failed, he would relinquish his office straightaway.

The Prime Minister sought the good offices of the Acting President for smooth passage of the two bills which are intended for switching over to the parliamentary form of government.

Among those present on the occasion included Education Minister Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury, Finance Minister Saifur Rahman, Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali, LGRD Minister Abdus Salam Talukder and Commerce Minister M K Anwar.

Hasina terms bill provisions anti-people
AL will resist move to pass BNP's form of govt bill

Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina Friday said her party would resist any move to pass the present Constitution Amendment Bill in Parliament for changing the form of government as it contained provisions detrimental to people's rights, a BSS report said last night.

Sheikh Hasina demanded repeal of Indemnity Ordinance of 1975 saying, "all obstacles against rule of law should be removed." She said that her party submitted Indemnity (repeal) Bill aimed for the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu and it could be passed with a simple majority in the Parliament. She deplored that the bill was not yet introduced in the Parliament.

She mentioned about the procedure of president's election, induction of non-MPs in the cabinet, strict measures against floor crossing by MPs, provision for referendum on the BNP's bill and said that these have created doubt about the sincerity of the ruling party.

BNP considers demand of JP as alternative

The ruling BNP is actively considering the demand of Jatiya Party to allow deposed President Ershad and three other MPs to participate in the voting on the Constitution amendment bills.

BNP from the very beginning gave cold shoulder to the demand of Jatiya Party. But in the changed situation, a section of BNP leaders suggested the Prime Minister that it would be better to consider the demand of Jatiya Party.

Under the Constitution election of a new President is to be held before the expiry of the present term of the Vice President in October.

Relevant constitutional provision

Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed of Friday said he would relinquish his office if the Parliament failed to pass the Constitution amendment bills.

The Acting President was talking to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia who called on him to apprise him of the latest situation in respect of the Constitution amendment bills, in case, Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed expresses his inability to continue in the office.

Under the Constitution election of a new President is to be held before the expiry of the present term of the Vice President in October.

Sheikh Hasina addressing a reception accorded to her by a cultural organisation at the WAPDA auditorium on Friday.

Campus violence political: DU VC

Prof Moniruzzaman Mia, Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University, Friday said the university was closed since die to avoid "possible dangerous consequences" although this closure would not rout terrorism from the campus.

There could be loss of life on the campus if the university was not closed July 30 and students directed to leave halls, he said in a statement.

The statement was issued to clarify the position of the DU authorities in the face of varying statements and comments from different quarters about the university's closure, the VC said.

Kuwaitis remember Iraqi invasion

KUWAIT, Aug 2: Kuwaitis marked the first anniversary of the Iraqi invasion today by firing rounds of ammunition into the air and shouting "Allahu Akbar" from rooftops and minarets, report agencies.

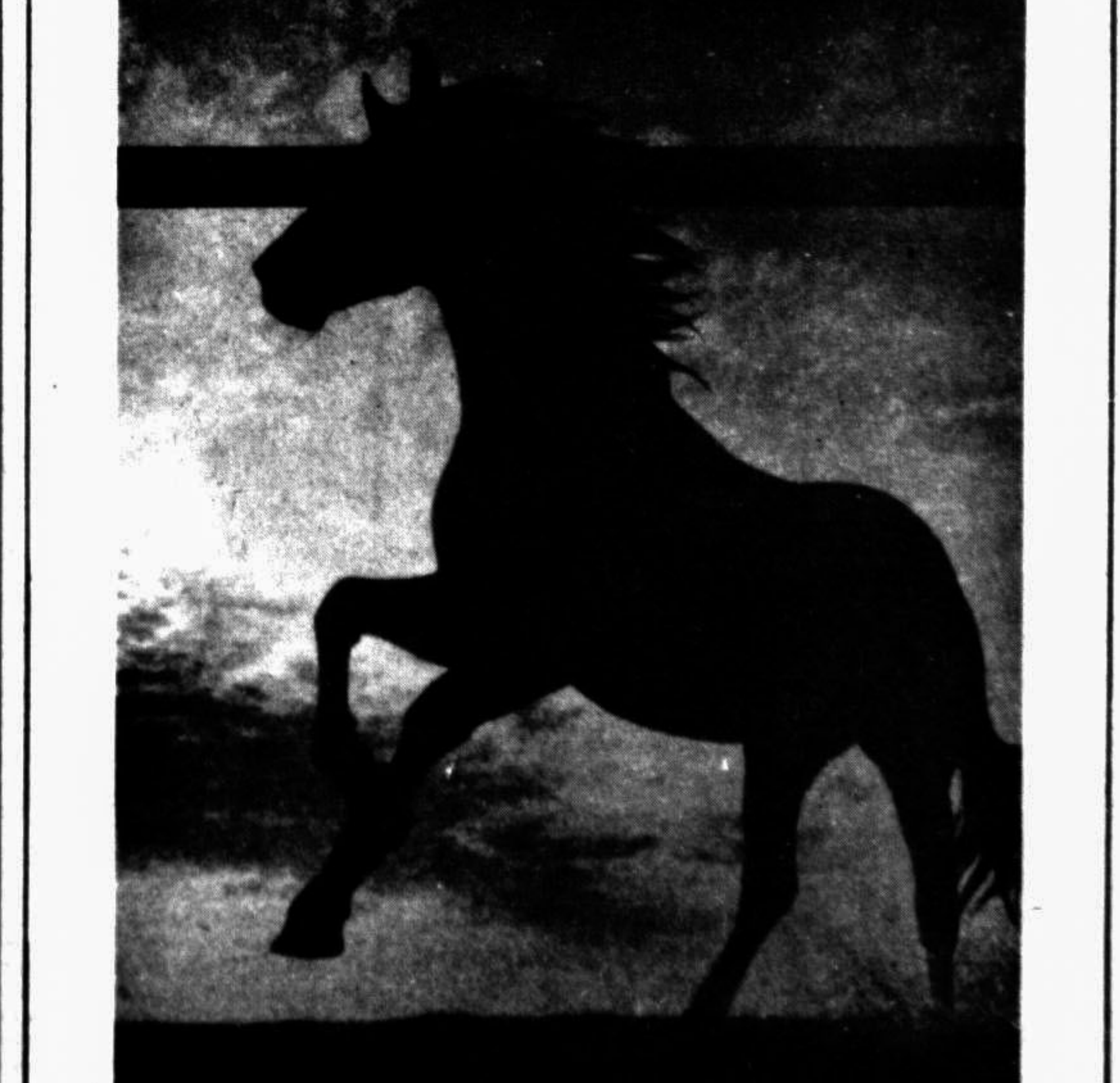
The streets were all but empty after sunrise, when the temperature starts its quick climb to well above 40 degrees Celsius (105 Fahrenheit), apart from mainly Asian foreign guest workers heading to menial jobs.

Mizzan Chowdhury ... out of jail yesterday. —Star photo

Mizzan released

Former Prime Minister and Jatiya Party leader Mizanur Rahman Choudhury was released on bail Friday after over 100 days of detention.

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PLO welcomes peace conference

The Palestine Liberation Organisation officially expressed its accord Friday on the principle of a peace conference, but set conditions and asked for guarantees to ensure its success, reports AFP.

Participation in the conference is the "sole province of the PLO, which will designate its representatives without external interference."

Middle East peace conference but weighed down their acceptance with conditions after talks here with US Secretary of State James Baker, report agencies.

Amman is willing to accept US proposals for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to a planned October conference if the Palestinians agree.