

## DOWN TO EARTH

### Dairy farming faces setbacks

By Khalilur Rahman

Unsound planning, mismanagement and non-availability of basic provisions have frustrated all efforts to develop dairy farms in the private sector over the years. The Savar Dairy and Cattle Breeding Farm set up with foreign assistance over a quarter of a century ago has also kept its activities mostly confined to producing a limited quantity of milk and few milk products. The main objective of this dairy farm in the public sector was to help put the dairies in the country on a sound footing. Lack of foresight as well as initiative on the part of our planners has resulted in such a poor state of our dairy sector.

ing grass grown in every vacant space in the metropolises and at times in the adjoining areas. The workers collect grass bit by bit throughout the day and often come home with a small quantity which the cattle share among themselves. Alam told the Star. This is not an appropriate means to procure grass for the animals but the owners are forced to do it, he admitted. Oil cakes are also very costly. The price of mustard oil cake varies from Taka 6 to Taka 8 per kilogram (kg). Rapeseed oil cake is hardly available.

High price of medicines and acute shortage of veterinarians are two of the major

discovered and healthy cattle are put on sale together without any precautionary measures. This is one of the main causes of the spread of communicable diseases among animals, he viewed.

When contacted, an official of the Livestock Department told The Daily Star that the veterinary service now available in the country is quite inadequate. He said that the loss of livestock resources due to diseases was worth Taka 1,400 crore annually. The loss could have been substantially reduced by properly developing the veterinary services in the country, he added.

The total number of veteri-



A private dairy farm in the city.

This was stated by Shah Alam, President of the Bangladesh Dairy Owners' Association (BDOA) in an interview with The Daily Star at his farm in the city.

While giving his reaction to several provisions made by the government in the new national budget for 1991-1992 for the development of livestock, Alam said that these were nothing but putting the cart before the horse. The measures to be taken in this sector, as announced by the government, are bound to fail unless immediate steps are taken for providing adequate veterinary service and regular fodder supply to the dairy farms at reasonable price, he added. These are two basic conditions to be fulfilled if the government really wants to raise a sound dairy and gradually reduce the dependence on imported milk powder at the cost of our hard-earned foreign exchange, he asserted.

As head of the 60-member BDOA Shah Alam said that the problems faced by the dairy owners in running their farms were almost identical. Listing some of the major problems in maintaining cattle he said that there was a shortage of quality grass, hay, barn, gram, and a variety of pulses and oil cakes. These are largely used as fodder. Workers employed in each farm generally go out early morning every day for collect-

causes which stand in the way of maintaining dairies. The owners suffer serious setbacks when cattle die of diseases without proper treatment. Essential drugs are mostly unavailable in the government-run veterinary hospitals and the owners buy those from the open market at higher prices. In order to maintain hygienic condition in the stables phenol or other disinfectants are urgently needed. But high prices of these items discourage the owners to use them thus exposing the animals to serious health hazards. Proper sanitation in cattle shelters can protect the animals from a variety of most common ailments, Alam said. He also pointed out that even an ordinary equipment like the hay-cutting tool is not available in the country. As such he had to procure one such tool from abroad at an exorbitant price. It is very simple to produce this sort of equipment locally, he added.

Another dairy owner said that the quality cow is in short supply. The insemination programme undertaken by the government for producing high bred cattle appears to have lapsed, he stated. In the Gabaati cattle market in the metropolises the traders bring the animals from all parts of the country and even from across the border in India. The

narians in the country is 1200. Of them about 150 qualified veterinarians have remained out of employment for the last two years. Whereas 395 veterinary dispensaries at upazila headquarters have no qualified veterinarians. The total number of upazilas in the country is 460. This means that only 65 upazila veterinary dispensaries have doctors.

A senior veterinarian now employed in government job admitted that drugs for animals were scarce and despite repeated appeals to the higher authorities a mobile medical unit could not be procured as yet for the treatment of animals on calls from cattle owners in different parts of the country. The mobile unit was due to have been procured long ago.

In order to encourage the development of the local dairy the government has planned to create a fund out of a portion of duty imposed on imported powdered milk. Part of the investment of Krishi Bank and Gramam Bank will also be made available to this fund. The government will ask for free powdered milk from EEC and other countries and the sales proceeds will go to the dairy fund. This fund will be spent for procuring quality milching cows for distribution among farmers on easy terms without interest.

Another dairy owner said that the quality cow is in short supply. The insemination programme undertaken by the government for producing high bred cattle appears to have lapsed, he stated. In the Gabaati cattle market in the metropolises the traders bring the animals from all parts of the country and even from across the border in India. The

## CPB hardliners

From Page 1 Col. 7

the commission the party central committee adopted the document to be placed in the next congress.

During the period of the abortive coup in the Soviet Union the party central office was totally packed with the anti-Perestroika forces.

They blamed the liberals of the party who wanted to recast the party manifesto in line with the initiatives of Gorbachev.

Some of them were found blaming the most liberal leader of the party Matur Rahman, Editor of the party paper 'Ekota', vocal about the recasting of the party document in line with Gorbachev's initiatives.

Hardliner secretariat member Manzurul Ahsan Khan resigned in early 1990 protesting the party's fully toeing of the Gorbachev line.

He had pressed for drawing a line of action on the basis of the prevailing political situation in the country.

At the same time at a central committee meeting liberal leader Matur Rahman was also asked to resign his position as secretariat member because of his rigid stand against the hardliners.

He criticised the hardliners in the weekly 'Ekota'.

The centrist forces of the party led by Ajoy Roy however held the rope of the party and tried to find out a device to accommodate both the lobbies in the party.

The main document of the party already circulated among the party cadres one year ago will be finally adopted in the congress with necessary modifications.

The congress preparatory committee of the CPB met in an emergency meeting Monday to assess the situation.

But the party leaders took a decision not to change the document on the basis of which the conferences of all district committees had already been completed by this time.

Party spokesman Nurul Islam told The Daily Star that the main document would not be changed and if there was any need to accommodate certain recommendations by any one in the document it would be done in the congress.

He said that the party document was adopted in the central committee not only on the basis of Gorbachev's new thinking, but the prevailing circumstances and economic condition of our country had also been taken into consideration.

Editor : S. M. Ali

Published by the Editor on behalf of Mediaword Ltd., 52 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at Offset Printing Dialogue Publications Ltd., 19 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215. Editorial, News & Commercial offices: 28/1, Toyne Circular Road, Dhaka-1000. Tel: Editorial & News: 863036. Commercial: 863035. PABX-246023-4. Fax No. 88-02-863035. GPO Box No. 3257 GRAM: DAILY STAR, DHAKA.

## Hardliners face purge

From Page 1 Col. 7

as head of state, was asked why the party had been silent for three days during the coup attempt.

He said this was one of the most important questions of the whole episode.

"I'll do everything in order to purge the Communist Party of reactionary forces," he said.

"We should do everything in order to undertake reform in the party, in order to give it a sort of kiss of life."

Gorbachev said he regretted that many members of the party still capable of contributing to its renewal were leaving. He referred to the recent departure from party ranks of Alexander Yakovlev, his senior advisor and a leading liberal.

"But I will make no concessions. I will fight to the end for the renewal of this party," he said.

Yakovlev, former foreign minister Eduard Shevardnadze and others have left the party in recent months saying they no longer saw it as a vehicle for reform. They have urged Gorbachev to do the same to safeguard his perestroika reforms from right-wing attack.

Tens of thousands of demonstrators welcoming the collapse of the coup marched through Moscow streets earlier on Thursday chanting "Down with the Communist Party".

Russian Federation President Yeltsin, who led resistance to the coup attempt, has issued a decree banning party cells from the workplace. Today he banned them from the armed forces on the territory of his vast republic.

In his six years as Soviet leader, Gorbachev has dismantled much of the party's power, ending its legal monopoly and turning authority over to government and elected parliament. A quarter of its members have left.

But with 15 million members, it is still by far the country's largest political force.

Gorbachev Thursday named officials to temporarily fill the posts of defense minister, KGB chairman and interior minister, replacing leaders of the failed coup, Tass reported.

Gorbachev named Gen Mikhail Moiseyev, who has been chief of the Soviet general staff, as acting defense minister. The 52-year-old general succeeds Dmitri Yazov, who is under arrest, report-

edly in a Moscow prison.

Leonid V Shebarshin was named acting chairman of the KGB security police, taking the place of Vladimir Kryuchkov, who also is under arrest. Shebarshin, 56 this year, had headed the KGB's First Chief Directorate, which is responsible for overseas operations.

Li Gen Vasily P Trushin was named acting interior minister, replacing Boris Pugo, who shot himself as he was about to be arrested at his home today. Trushin, 56, has been a first deputy minister of the Interior Ministry since 1984. The interior minister is in charge of the nation's police.

Moiseyev was regarded earlier this year as something of a hard-liner who was unhappy with Gorbachev's efforts to drastically reduce the size and budget of the military.

He also apparently was in conflict with Yazov during the crackdown early this year by Soviet troops on the Baltic republics. In early January, he promised Latvia's president that no additional troops would be sent to the Baltics and some might be withdrawn. Within a week, more troops were sent on Yazov's orders.

Shebarshin has in the past said he favoured subordinating the vast security apparatus to the state and doing "away with confrontational methods" it used during the Cold War.

The frameworks of the intelligence work are dictated by our approach to human rights and the moral principles of the Soviet state," Tass quoted him as saying in April 1990.

Gorbachev's first official act after arriving in Moscow was to fire Deputy Defence Minister Gen Vladimir L. Govorov.

The official news agency, Tass, said Govorov was being transferred to unspecified other work. In his place, Gorbachev assigned Col Gen Boris V Pyankov.

Relatively little was known about either man. Govorov, who had held the post of head of civil defence, had not been clearly associated with the coup attempt. Pyankov had been a military commander in Siberia, based in Novosibirsk.

Gorbachev's housecleaning is expected to continue, but he did not say what other posts would be filled.

Likely candidates for replacement include Anatoly Lukyanov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet legislature — a change that would legally re-

quire a vote of the legislature.

Yeltsin also said he would meet with Gorbachev Friday to discuss the formation of a new "government of national trust." He said they would discuss who to appoint to the permanent positions of KGB chief and defence minister.

Earlier today Gorbachev ordered the dismissal of all the ministers who conspired against him in an abortive coup and announced the start of criminal proceedings against them.

Gorbachev's decree, published by Tass news agency, cancelled all the decisions of the Emergency Committee formed by the conspirators and said proceedings against them would be carried out by Soviet and Russian federation authorities.

The hardline communists who plotted to overthrow Gorbachev were rounded up one by one today after the Soviet president returned to Moscow saying the coup leaders failed to break him in three days of isolation.

Interior Minister Boris Pugo, a member of the eight-man junta, committed suicide to evade arrest as police arrived to take him from his flat today, a Russian deputy told parliament.

Russian officials said six of the other seven putschists, who sent tanks into the streets, muzzled the press and tried to roll back Gorbachev's democratic reforms, had been arrested.

They included Vice-President Gennady Yenyayev, who briefly usurped Gorbachev's powers, KGB security police chief Vladimir Kryuchkov, flown back from the Crimea on the same plane as the President, and Defence Minister Marshal Dmitry Yazov.

Gorbachev, 60, filmed smiling in an open-necked shirt as he came off a plane from his Black Sea holiday home, told Soviet television the defeat of what he called this pitiful handful of plotters was a victory for perestroika, his policy of reform.

"What they attempted to do to the President and his family in these days, when for 72 hours they surrounded him with troops on sea and on land and wanted to break him — nothing came of it," he said at Moscow's Vnukovo airport.

Related stories on pages 5 & 6  
Editorial on page 4

## No pragmatic programme by BNP: Hasina

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Aug 22: Awami League President Sheikh Hasina today said the BNP government has failed to take any pragmatic programme to restore the country's economy.

The shattered economy, along with a price-hike of essentials during its rule, has multiplied people's sufferings, she said.

Addressing a number of public gatherings here she alleged that the administration has proved "inefficient and ignorant" about how to face the crisis.

Hasina further alleged that a 'silent famine' was prevailing in the remote areas of Gopalganj where villagers were taking uncatchable things for survival. She urged the government to take up food-for-works programme in those areas.

Hasina addressed meetings at Tarail Bazar, Pakulia High School ground, Singair High

## FM

From Page 1 Col. 5

The Foreign Minister will call on Prime Minister Narasimha Rao and hold talks with his Indian counterpart. He is also scheduled to meet Indian Irrigation Minister VC Shukla.

"It will be the first political level contact between the two countries in a move to resolve the bilateral issues since the newly elected governments of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Prime Minister Narasimha Rao assumed powers," the spokesman said.

During the visit, Bangladesh and India will sign two financial agreements on August 27. One agreement will be initiated for avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with particular reference to the income tax.

The other accord, a state credit agreement, will be concluded to provide 300 million Indian rupees for Bangladesh. The amount will be spent for import of capital goods, machinery and equipment for mutually agreed sectors.

"BNP is a party of the elite class, not of masses, as evident from its policy and programme," she said.

## West rethinking about help

From Page 1 Col. 7

President George Bush, who had frozen indirect US aid to the Soviet Union, including 900 million dollars in farm credit guarantees, said a day earlier he was weighing the possibility of direct aid to the Soviet Union.

Turning to the longer view, an EC official in Brussels said, "We must rethink our technical assistance and try to reorientate it towards the republics — give it the republic touch."

He noted the Baltic republics were unwilling to join in the current EC technical aid programmes because they were linked with Moscow central authority, and aid could be more efficient if it were directed directly to the republics.

An EC diplomat said: "The tendency is towards stepping up aid, but it must be targeted so as to be useful. We cannot pour money into a black hole. But the dust must settle before any decision can be expected. The determining factor will be decentralisation to the republics."

He added there is a risk that, now the coup is all over, that we forget about Eastern Europe. There are still important sources of instability in Europe, particularly possible dislocation in the Soviet Union. It remains in our inter-

ests that instability does not spread to them."

Germany, Gorbachev's biggest financial provider, seized the political climate of intense relief to lobby for Western assistance.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl will press his allies to back a three-point plan, his Chief of Staff, Rudolf Seiters, said in Bonn.

But it was also clear that Britain and the United States remained somewhat skeptical about promising massive volumes of aid at this point.

British Prime Minister John Major denied that the G-7 had failed Gorbachev when he had appealed for money.

What the Soviet Union most needs, he said, is "not just cash but assistance in how to do things, how to establish private enterprises, how to set up a stock exchange, how to operate a markets," he said.

Similarly, a senior official in the Bush administration said the 'current prevailing view' was that more economic aid depends on the pace of reforms in the Soviet Union.

"Now this crisis and its resolution may accelerate the pace of reform there, and that would cause us and the other members of the G-7 to respond," the official was quoted Thursday by the Washington Post as saying.

## Shahabuddin

From Page 1 Col. 5

Khaleda Zia yesterday said, "This no doubt has been possible as a result of the spontaneous and overwhelming support of your people and is a measure of the trust and confidence you enjoy among them."

"Equally it is a recognition of the far-reaching changes you have brought about internally and in the sphere of foreign relations," the Prime Minister said.

"We wish you good health and long life and continued success in promoting the objectives that you have set for yourself and your nation which enjoys universal acclaim," the message added.

AP adds: Earlier Russian Federation President Yeltsin told a crowd outside the Federation Parliament that the republic had decided to replace the red-and-blue communist era flag with pre-revolutionary white-red-and-blue banner.

AP adds: Earlier Russian Federation President Yeltsin told a crowd outside the Federation Parliament that the republic had decided to replace the red-and-blue communist era flag with pre-revolutionary white-red-and-blue banner.

## The Midnight File

### Gayoom in Lankan capital

COLOMBO, Aug 22: Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom arrived in Sri Lanka today for talks on a meeting of South Asian leaders to be held in Colombo later this year. The annual meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) will be held in the Sri Lankan Capital from November 7 to 9, reports Reuter.

### Peace continues to elude Y'slavia

BELGRADE, Aug 22: Intense fighting resumed Thursday in Croatia as a negotiated settlement of the Yugoslav crisis continued to elude federal and republic authorities. Up to eight people were reported killed. The Croatian Defense Ministry said four federal Air Force planes started Sarvas, a village 10 miles (16 kilometers) east of Osijek, a Croatian stronghold in the ethnically mixed Slavonia region of the republic, reports AP.

### China expels four foreigners

BEIJING, Aug 22: China today expelled four foreigners who came here last week to plead for better treatment for two jailed dissidents on hunger strike, diplomats and friends said. The authorities arrested the four women overnight from their Beijing hotel, reports AFP.

### Govt decision on office timing

The office timing in the government, semi-government, autonomous and semi-autonomous organisations in the division, district and upazila levels will be now from 10 am to 5 pm with a break from 1.30 pm to 2 pm from Saturday to Wednesday, an official handout said Thursday, reports BSS.

The office timing on Thursday will be from 10 am to 2 pm.

However, the office timing in all other offices has been fixed from 8 am to 2.30 pm without any break.

The new office timing will not be applicable to the establishment under the factory Act of 1965 and Shop and Establishment Act of 1965. They will maintain their own schedule.

Bangladesh Bank will fix up the office timing of the banks taking into consideration the timing of the government offices. The Supreme Court will prepare the office schedule of its own and all other subordinate courts in accordance with its own rule.

The new office timing will come into effect from August 24.

### Workers' rights

From Page 1 Col. 7

a wide variety of American trade regulations if they are to receive the special duty free on exports the United States accords to developing countries," the news agency reported quoting the announcement by the US Trade Representative's Office.

Meanwhile, the issue, linking the employment of child to GSP (Generalised System of Preferences), facilities in the US, was discussed in detail by the leaders of Bangladesh trade and industry with the Director, South Asian Affairs of the US Department of Commerce, Richard D. Harding, when the latter visited Bangladesh last month.

The leaders of the local chamber bodies in Dhaka apprised Richard Harding of the situation in Bangladesh relating to child labour and workers' rights.

They pointed out that Bangladesh ratified relevant ILO convention on the matter.

They told him that laws had been framed to protect child labour and promote workers' rights in the country.

They pointed out that employment of child labour in garment factories should be considered within the context of widespread unemployment and low level of economic development in Bangladesh.

The issue about employment of adolescent girls in garments factories also figured in the discussions.

The leaders of Bangladesh trade and industry stated that the employment of adolescent girls was better accepted by their parents than leaving them in slums and subjected to social vices.

They further pointed out that the trade unions in Bangladesh were better organised than those in many other countries to safeguard their rights.

### Russia

From Page 1 Col. 8

AP adds: Earlier Russian Federation President Yeltsin told a crowd outside the Federation Parliament that the republic had decided to replace the red-and-blue communist era flag with pre-revolutionary white-red-and-blue banner.

AP adds: Earlier Russian Federation President Yeltsin told a crowd outside the Federation Parliament that the republic had decided to replace the red-and-blue communist era flag with pre-revolutionary white-red-and-blue banner.

AP adds: Earlier Russian Federation President Yeltsin told a crowd outside the Federation Parliament that the republic had decided to replace the red-and-blue communist era flag with pre-revolutionary white-red-and-blue banner.

AP adds: Earlier Russian Federation President Yeltsin told a crowd outside the Federation Parliament that the republic had decided to replace the red-and-blue communist era flag with pre-revolutionary white-red-and-blue banner.

AP adds: Earlier Russian Federation President Yeltsin told a crowd outside the Federation Parliament that the republic had decided to replace the red-and-blue communist era flag with pre-revolutionary white-red-and-blue banner.

AP adds: Earlier Russian Federation President Yeltsin told a crowd outside the Federation Parliament that the republic had decided to replace the red-and-blue communist era flag with pre-revolutionary white-red-and-blue banner.

AP adds: Earlier Russian Federation President Yeltsin told a crowd outside the Federation Parliament that the republic had decided to replace the red-and-blue communist era flag with pre-revolutionary white-red-and-blue banner.

### BNP workers block Dhaka-Ctg road for 4 hours

From Our Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 22: Several thousand BNP workers and supporters blocked the Dhaka-Chittagong road today suspending movement of traffic for four hours.

### Workers' rights

From Page 1 Col. 7

a wide variety of American trade regulations if they are to receive the special duty free on exports the United States accords to developing countries," the news agency reported quoting the announcement by the US Trade Representative's Office.

Meanwhile, the issue, linking the employment of child to GSP (Generalised System of Preferences), facilities in the US, was discussed in detail by the leaders of Bangladesh trade and industry with the Director, South Asian Affairs of the US Department of Commerce, Richard D. Harding, when the latter visited Bangladesh last month.

The leaders of the local chamber bodies in Dhaka apprised Richard Harding of the situation in Bangladesh relating to child labour and workers' rights.

They pointed out that Bangladesh ratified relevant ILO convention on the matter.

They told him that laws had been framed to protect child labour and promote workers' rights in the country.

They pointed out that employment of child labour in garment factories should be considered within the context of widespread unemployment and low level of economic development in Bangladesh.

The issue about employment of adolescent girls in garments factories also figured in the discussions.

The leaders of Bangladesh trade and industry stated that the employment of adolescent girls was better accepted by their parents than leaving them in slums and subjected to social vices.

They further pointed out that the trade unions in Bangladesh were better organised than those in many other countries to safeguard their rights.

## Resource constraints

From Page 1 Col. 4

Pay Commission Report Implementation and Office Time Changing Action Committee staged a rally Thursday morning in front of the National Press Club where fresh programmes of movement were announced by Asaduzzaman Murad.

The leaders of the action committee Mir Humayun Kabir, Tojazzal Hussain, Mosharrufuddin Ahmed, Saleuddin Selim, Md. Shahabuddin and others addressed the rally.

A big procession was also brought out. It paraded different roads in the city.

Government Employees Solidarity Council also held a rally in the secretariat premises which was addressed by Syed Mohiuddin, Rafiqullah, Mujibul Haque and others.

Future programmes of movement were finalised at another meeting of the council held in the afternoon.

An Employees rally was also held at the Relief Directorate office at Purana Paltan. Council's central leader Azizur Rahim addressed the rally.

The leaders of Shramik Karamachari Otkka Parishad (SKOP) demanded refixation of minimum salary in the newly announced pay scale for the government employees.

In a statement SKOP leaders said that the minimum pay provided in the new pay scale is inconsistent with cost of living.

The SKOP also demanded formation of a wage commission for the workers and fixation of wage at Taka 1400.

Related story on page 6