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Plotters shifted to prisons to live with criminals

Soviet parliament passes bill to stop future coups

MOSCOW, Aug 31 : The Soviet parliament overwhelmingly passed a bill Friday aimed at preventing future coup attempts while most of the coup-plotters were sent to prisons from their comfortable dachas to share cells with common criminals, reports AFP and AP.

The resolution, adopted on a vote of 325 to three, with eight abstentions, empowers the body "to take legislative measures and made constitutional changes concerning the transfer of the Soviet President's full power to the Vice President" and "delays in calling sessions of the Supreme Soviet" as parliament is known.

President Gennady Yanayev assumed President Mikhail Gorbachev's powers after the coup-plotters confined Gorbachev to his holiday dacha and announced he was "ill". Anatoly Lukyanov, Parliamentary Speaker at the time and now under arrest, has been criticised for failing to call parliament into session on August 19, the first day of the coup.

The resolution also proposed that the Congress of people's deputies — the enlarged legislature, due to meet from Monday — should hold a "re-election" for seats in the Supreme Soviet. Yuri Kalmykov, head of the Supreme Soviet's legislative committee, told journalists the

Uzbekistan, Kirgizia declare independence

MOSCOW, Aug 31 : Uzbekistan and Kirgizia declared independence on Saturday, raising to 10 the number of republics that have declared themselves to be no longer bound by Soviet authority, reports AP.

In Lithuania and Latvia, the hated Soviet "black beret" troops began withdrawing. Two weeks after the August 18-21 coup against Mikhail S Gorbachev began, the Soviet Union has seen an upheaval unmatched since the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917.

Mobilise public opinion in favour of referendum : Shahabuddin

Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed called upon all to participate in the forthcoming referendum on the form of government realising its significance in national life, reports BSS.

BNP founding anniversary today

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) will observe its founding anniversary with elaborate programmes today, reports BSS.



Rescuers frantically try to recover bodies from the ill-fated truck under water. At the same time they also pulled out goods of its passengers. Twelve of a family were killed in the mishap on the Dhaka-Narsingdi road. —Star photo

Govt examining irregularities : Saifur

Delay over KAFCO to hinder investment flows : Japanese team

The controversial Karnaphuli Fertiliser Project (KAFCO) deal under the fallen Ershad regime figured prominently in the discussions of the visiting economic mission from Japan with Finance and Planning Minister Saifur Rahman on Saturday.

Leader of the 48-member Japanese team Kikuo Ikeda wanted to know in categorical terms from the Finance and Planning Minister about the fate of KAFCO project while expressing his strong views over the delay in issuance of Letter of Guarantee (LG) by the government of Bangladesh.

The delay will adversely affect foreign investment flows to Bangladesh, Ikeda said during the talks held at the conference room of the National Economic Council (NEC). Also very emphatic was the Deputy Leader of the Japanese team, Masao Sawaki, who observed that the delay in processing the 'multinational joint venture was a major impediment to foreign investment promotion, particularly that from Japan, to Bangladesh. The Letter of Guarantee should be issued according to agreements signed earlier between the parties, he stressed.

Hasina accuses JP, BNP of bribing voters

MITHAPUKUR (Rangpur), Aug 31 : Awami League President Sheikh Hasina Saturday charged the Jatiya Party and the BNP with violation of election rules, accusing both of "bribing or intimidating" voters, reports UNB.

Both the JP and the BNP are pouring in huge black money to tempt voters to cast ballots in favour of their respective candidates in the coming bye-election, she alleged. "In some cases, minority voters are being intimidated."

The Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina was addressing two huge election rallies at Mithapukur College premises and Vendabari in Pirganj this afternoon. Party leaders Abdul Jalil, Qader Siddiqi and Awami

Press given full freedom: Khaleda

Democracy being institutionalised

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Saturday underlined the need for nurturing and strengthening democracy and sustaining freedom of the press which are complementary to each other, reports BSS.

The publication of the daily coincides with the founding anniversary of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) on September 1.

"Without democracy freedom of the press cannot be sustained and without press freedom, democracy becomes meaningless," she pointed out. The Prime Minister said, "We believe in the principle of letting hundred flowers blossom."

The Prime Minister said, "Democracy and unbridled indiscipline are not synonymous. Freedom of the press also does not mean irresponsible criticism. Media must remain objective and responsible, she added.

Begum Zia was addressing a function organised to mark the inauguration of the Dainik Dinkal which is to be published under a new management of Jatiyatabadi Prakashani House from today.

Presided over by Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali the function was addressed, among others, by Education Minister Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister and Secretary General of BNP Abdus Salam Talukdar, Foreign Minister A S M Mustafizur Rahman, See Page 12 Col. 7

12 of a family killed in road mishap

From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, Aug 31 : Twelve members of a family were killed and at least 20 others were injured when a truck skidded off the Dhaka-Narsingdi road and fell into a ditch near Bolta under Rugganj upazila early Saturday morning. The accident occurred near the Panchrukhi bazar when the driver lost control of the truck carrying about 25 people, witnesses said.

India may hand over Tin Bigha by year-end

The Tin Bigha corridor is expected to be handed over to Bangladesh by India by the end of the year, a Foreign Office spokesman said in Dhaka on Saturday, reports BSS.

The Foreign Minister, on his way to the Indian capital, had talks with West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu on the "Tin Bigha" issue.

Talking about the just-concluded three-day official visit to India by Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman, he said a concrete outcome of the visit is that all decks are being cleared for transfer of the corridor to Bangladesh.

Other subjects like the return of the Chakma refugees from India to their homes in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, balance of trade, and greater economic cooperation also came up for discussion.

The spokesman said all matters of mutual interest were discussed during Rahman's talks with Indian External Affairs Minister Mahavisingh Solanki including sharing of the waters of rivers

The Foreign Minister called Indian Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, who is well conversant with Indo-Bangladesh affairs because of his being the Indian external affairs minister in the past. See Page 12 Col. 8

Japan keen to promote investment, says Kaifu

The visiting high-level Japanese economic mission called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her residence in Dhaka on Saturday, reports BSS.

DU reopens Sept 17

The Dhaka University will reopen on September 17 after an unscheduled closure of more than one month and a half. The decision to reopen the university was taken at an emergency meeting of the University Syndicate on Saturday with Vice-Chancellor Professor M Maniruzzaman Miah in the chair, says a press release. The residential halls will

Osmani's birth anniversary today

The 73rd birth anniversary of "Bangabir" General MAG Osmani will be observed today in befitting manner, reports BSS. Different political and socio-cultural organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes on the occasion. Jatiya Janata Party will hoist the national and party flags at the party office at 7 am. A discussion will also be held at the same office at 3 pm on the occasion.

Home Ministry siege Sept 3

BCL protests JCD attack in BAU

The pro-Awami League Chhatra League on Saturday held a rally in front of the Secretariat gate and submitted a memorandum to the Ministry of Education protesting Friday's 'attack' in the Agricultural University allegedly by JCD workers.

Private rivercraft call off strike

Owners of private rivercraft called off their indefinite strike following an assurance by Prime Minister Khaleda Zia that fuel price might be lowered in future when the economic condition of the country improves. In its existing financial ability, the government is unable to reduce fuel prices, the Prime Minister told the representatives of six associations of the private water transporters who called on her at her 'Sugandha' office Saturday evening. The Prime Minister gave them a patient hearing and ordered the concerned author-

Agri Varsity closed as tension mounts

MYMENSINGH, Aug 31 : The Agricultural University was closed today until September 18. The closure came following a joint meeting of teachers, Deans, Provosts and the Proctor of the University. Halls of the University are to stay open but all classes and examinations have been suspended. The joint meeting presided over the Vice-Chancellor Muhammad Asadur Rahman took the decision following clashes between workers of the BCL and the JCD on Friday. The campus remained tense and police were posted

to avert any further incident. UNB adds: Authorities said halls were kept open in view of inter-district transport strike. Classes were held today with presence of only 15 to 20 per cent students. Most students left halls last night after the clash between Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and pro-Awami League Chhatra League (A-A) allegedly over an attempted eviction of a JCD supporter from a hall seat by the rivals. No Chhatra Leaguer was seen on the campus today. But they, in collaboration with the Chhatra League activists of the See Page 12 Col. 6

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সুবিধা ও গোলোঙ্কাসে ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত এলাকায়

রোপা আমন চাষের জন্য বিশেষ কৃষিক্ষেত্র প্রদানের সুবিধা

- বিস্তৃত সুবিধা ও গোলোঙ্কাসে ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত এলাকায় কৃষক ভবিতের রোপা আমন চাষের সুবিধার জন্য প্রত্যেক ব্যকে শাখার নির্ধারিত কর্মসূচী আওতায় বৃত্তি করা হয়েছে এ বাবদে ব্যকে সম্বন্ধে মোট কর্মসূচী ৬৯.৯৮ কোটি টাকা।
- শাখা পর্যায়ে বৃত্তি ও বিতরণের ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে।
- পাঁচ হাজার টাকা পর্যন্ত বৃত্তি ও মতস্বত্ব কৃষকদের এ ধর সুবিধা পাবে।
- রোপা আমন চাষভিত্তিক হর হ ইনসিটের নির্ধারিত ব্যকে শাখার কৃষিক্ষেত্র শাখায় সহ যোগাযোগ করতে পরামর্শ দেয়া যাবে।
- যাদের ওষু পাশবিক ঝট হয়ে গেছে বা হারিয়ে গেছে তাদের সুজন করে পাশবিক ঝটের ক্ষতি পরামর্শ দেয়া হবে।

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 রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড