

Use **Touch** Facial tissue
Table Napkin
Memory Plate
Paper Clip

143/A, NEW BAILY ROAD, DHAKA, TEL: 417424

The Daily Star

PRACTICE YOUR DEMOCRATIC RIGHT
DO NOT FORGET TO CAST YOUR VOTE
VOTE FOR DEMOCRACY
VOTE YES IN THE REFERENDUM

Dolce Vita (Italian Restaurant)
Dolce Vita Gelato (Icecream parlour)

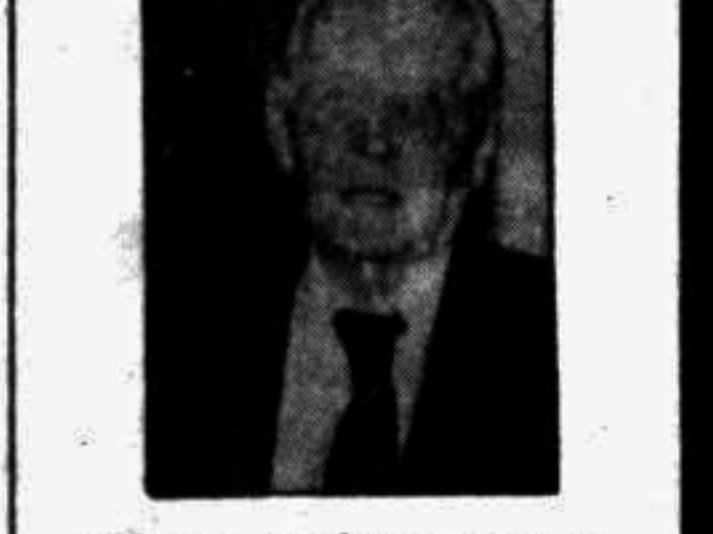
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NEWS BRIEFS

Public holiday tomorrow

To facilitate more people to take part in the referendum, the government has declared September 15 as a public holiday an official handout said here last night. The holiday will not be applicable to the national newspapers, the handout said, reports BSS.

Ban on vehicular movement

Dhaka Metropolitan Police has banned the movement of all vehicles within 200 yards of each polling centre in the city area from 12 midnight today to 12 midnight on September 15 for smooth holding of the referendum, a DMP press release said here Friday. The ban will not be applicable for those vehicles which will be used for election purposes, the press release said, adding, it will not also be applicable for those vehicles with permits obtained earlier, reports BSS.

BAU reopens Sept 25

AGRI-VARSITY (My-mensingh), Sept 13: All classes, examinations and halls of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) will remain closed till September 25 instead of September 15, as announced earlier, a notification by the registrar of the university, said today. The notification said that this order had come into effect following a decision taken at an emergency meeting of BAU Syndicate held today. All classes and halls of residence will reopen on September 26, 1991 as usual, reports BSS.

De Cuellar in Jeddah

JEDDAH, Sept 13: United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived here today and opened talks with Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al-Faisal on Gulf security and Afghanistan, reports AFP.

Marooned people await rescue, need emergency relief

Floods turn worse in 21 dists

By Staff Correspondent

Flood situation in 21 districts worsened Friday with downflow of waters while signs of slight recession were marked in the five upper catchment towns of Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchagarh, Rangpur and Nilphamari. But overall situation in the five districts remained critical and unchanged.

Rajshahi, Chapainawabganj, Kustia, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat, Bogra, Pabna, Sirajganj and Manikganj are the worst affected among the districts where the situation aggravated.

Although the major rivers continued to rise, the pace slowed. Rail communication in five sections of the north-western region was at standstill as tracks were under water at some places and washed away by strong currents at others. Road links in the northern districts were also disrupted.

There was almost no rescue operation to remove the marooned people to safer places and relief was too inadequate. In some places, there was no relief measure at all. The Ganges, the Mahananda, the Punarbhaba, the Goral, the Brahmaputra, the Teesta, the Meghna were flowing above danger level.

The Ganges rose further at all points Friday and at Pankha in Chapainawabganj it was 1.47 metre above the red mark. Meghna at Bhairab Bazar registered rise of 3 cm and was flowing 7 cm above danger mark.

The Brahmaputra at Aricha rose by 7 cm and remained 44 cm above the danger level. Flood information centre of Water Development Board said that the Ganges will rise further at Hardinge bridge and Bhagyakul but may fall a little at Rajshahi and Goalundo. The Brahmaputra is expected to fall at all points during next few days.

Political parties hold rallies, call for casting 'yes' vote

Referendum tomorrow

Star Report



The Referendum on constitutional amendment for parliamentary form of government will be held tomorrow (Sunday) throughout the country.



The first ever referendum on constitution amendment, will be the last stage to renounce the existing presidential form of government, which is the legacy of the one party BKSAL rule, imposed in the year 1975.



If the people votes for the parliamentary form of government which was earlier unanimously passed in the parliament through constitution 12th Amendment Bill on August 6 last, it would be automatically deemed as assented by the President.

MOBILISING 'YES' VOTES: (Top) BNP rally in front of the National Press Club; (middle) Jamaat rally at the northern gate of Baitul Mukarram and (bottom) Five-party Alliance rally in front of the GPO held simultaneously Friday afternoon. —Star photo

AL calls half-day hartal today

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League has called a dawn-to-noon countrywide hartal today (Saturday) to protest the alleged attempt on the life of party chief Sheikh Hasina, terrorism and vote-rigging by the ruling party during Wednesday's by-elections.

The hartal programme, the first of its kind since the fall of Ershad's autocratic regime in December last year, was announced at an AL rally in the city Thursday.

The flood-hit areas including Dinajpur, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Panchagarh, Bogra, Sirajganj, Nilphamari and Chapainawabganj will however not come under the preview of the hartal call beginning from 6 am.

Meanwhile, Awami League brought out a torch procession Friday evening in the city to mobilise support in favour of its hartal call. The procession brought out from the AL central office at the Bangabandhu Avenue marched through the streets of the Old City. The torch-bearing processionists chanted various slogans against the government and armed violence in the by-elections.

AL hartal to thwart referendum: BNP

Leaders of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Friday said the hartal call given by the Awami League is designed to thwart Sunday's referendum and destroy the fledgling democracy of the country, reports UNB.

The speakers alleged that the rally was presided over by Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Mirza Abbas, MP and addressed by BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukder, Salauddin Ahmed, MP, DUCSU VP Amanullah Aman, MP, Wing Commander (Retd) Hamidullah Khan, MP, Srantik Dal President Iskander Ali, Jubo Dal Secretary Gayeswar Roy, DUCSU GS Khairul Kabir Khokan, JCD leader Fazlul Huq Milon, Syed Matul Islam, Abu Syed Khan Khokon, Abu Mohammad Mainuddin and Safuddin Alam.

Addressing a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club on Friday afternoon, the BNP leaders said the Awami League call for hartal today (Saturday) has blackened the nation's new democratic journey.

They urged the people to cast 'yes' vote in the referendum for completing the transition to parliamentary democracy and giving democracy an institutional shape.

Direct road link with Kathmandu

Bangladesh and Nepal have agreed in principle to establish direct road links to expand economic cooperation between the two neighbouring countries, reports UNB.

Finance and Planning Minister M. Saifur Rahman, returning from Kathmandu after attending the Bangladesh-Nepal Joint Economic Commission meeting, told reporters at the airport that Bangladesh put special stress on direct road link between the two countries to increase trade flows.

Nepal. If the gap through India can be linked, a drive from Kathmandu to Dhaka will require only 24 hours. An agreed minutes of the three-day session (September 10-12) was signed Friday morning with both countries agreeing to expand cooperation in areas like joint venture industries, tourism, and technical and educational cooperation.

Discord high among Soviet reformers

MOSCOW, Sept 13: US Secretary of State James Baker has been told by the Mayor of Moscow that the biggest threat to the Soviet Union is the inability of reformers like himself to work together to solve their problems, report agencies.

There is only 20 miles of gap between Bangladesh and Nepal on land — Bangladesh in Dinajpur and Kakerbhitia in

we suggested that bridging the gap in bilateral trade will not be possible unless a direct road link is established, said Rahman who led a three-member team at the 8th JEC session.

Finance Minister Mahesh Acharya led the Nepalese side which included Finance Secretary Dr. S. N. Shah. "I told the Nepalese author- See Page 12 Col. 5

Lankan FM in city

The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister J E Harold Herat arrived in Dhaka Friday evening to deliver an invitation from President R Premadasa to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to attend the sixth SAARC summit in Colombo in early November next, reports BSS.

State that he saw "a danger of excessive nationalism" during the delicate transition period from a strong communist central government to one in which republics would have more power and ethnic groups would assert themselves.

Green Delta never looked back

Green Delta started its business in 1986 as a private sector insurance company, with a pledge to serve the national economy providing personalized service to each individual need. There are Green Delta never looked back. Through relentless efforts and uncompromising care for perfection it has become the model insurance house with a short span of time.

Green Delta marches with time

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