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International



A photographer who also died in the blast clicked 10 frames of Rajiv Gandhi's assassination sequences
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Environment

Second in a series of three articles, Prof. M. Aminul Islam writes on Cyclone Hazard: A Plea for Danger Reduction Programme
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Article

After more than 15 years of misrule Mengistu Haile Mariam deserted his tragic country, leaving his army defeated and his people plunged in chaos. After tyrannising his nation and forcing his people to bend to his will, he has bequeathed a bloody and uncertain future.
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Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



A rigid code of artistic rules governs the paintings on film hoardings with distressing result of a dancer combining the beauty of Sridevi with 'thunder thighs' of Rambo
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Business

Producers of wet-blue leather and those of crust and finished leather are now locked in confrontation over the question of leather export policy
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NEWS BRIEFS

ALPP meet tomorrow

Awami League Parliamentary Party ALPP meeting will be held tomorrow (Sunday) at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban Conference Room at 10 am., says a press release.

Adamjee clash probe body

The Jute Ministry has constituted an enquiry committee to probe into the labour clash occurred on June 6 in the Adamjee Jute Mills premises.

Four die in wall collapse

From Our BAU Correspondent

MYMENSINGH: Four persons were killed when wall of a mosque collapsed Friday afternoon, at Baluakandha village under Gafargaon upazila of the district. The victims were: Enamul Huq (35), Fakhar Uddin (13), Abul Kashem (35) and Alauddin (31). They died on the spot when the wall they were repairing after the juma prayer collapsed.

Tk 9900 cr target for '91-92: 70 more items may be decontrolled

Import policy may be liberalised further

By Shahiduzzaman Khan

The Ministry of Commerce has finalised a plan to import commodities worth Tk 9900 crore during the 1991-92 fiscal year. The plan for 1992-93 is also being discussed at the highest level, according to Commerce Ministry sources.

The government is likely to liberalise the import policy further.

The biennial import policy, to be announced soon, is expected to withdraw 60 to 70 more commodities from the control list. Two hundred and fifty commodities are now on the restriction list, the sources said.

The items to be decontrolled will include agricultural goods, industrial raw materials, yarn and some other finished goods.

The World Bank and a number of donor agencies are

putting pressure on Bangladesh to further liberalise the import policy to bring about competition among the local products and the imported goods.

The World Bank has advised the government to remove 125 more items from the control list by September, 1991 as a condition to release the Industrial Sector Credit-2. It also suggested removal of most remaining restrictions specified by the users, during the same time.

For the protection of local industries, the bank suggested a more active exchange management as the main means of ensuring competitiveness, protecting domestic production generally and saving reserves.

The bank also suggested that restrictions on 'sensitive items,' liable to smuggling to

India, should not exist beyond 1992. No new restrictions should be imposed except for reasons of public health, safety etc, suggested.

Back in 1990, 70 items were removed from the control list as per recommendation of the World Bank. The bank had suggested to decontrol items like fabric, clothing, yarn, electric meters, aluminium articles, machinery, pumps, pipe, steel products, salt and sugar.

The suggestions also included introduction of value added tax and supplementary excise duty to replace sales tax and domestic excise.

The bank also prescribed replacement of development surcharge and licence fee by a corresponding Taka devaluation by September, 1991.

See Page 10 Col. 2

More killings in Delhi, Punjab

Blast sends minister's car bouncing off the road

NEW DELHI, June 7: Sikh militants tried to blow up an Indian minister's car in the troubled northern state of Punjab on Friday, but their intended victim escaped unhurt, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

The impact of the explosion sent Subodh Kanti Sahay's bullet-proof car skidding off the road, injuring the driver

and a bodyguard, PTI said.

Gunmen believed to be Sikh militants followed up the bomb blast, triggered by remote control with burst of gunfire on the motorcade, but no one was hurt.

Sahay, the federal Minister of State for Home Affairs and the caretaker government's chief troubleshooter on Punjab, was driving from the village of

Gill to the industrial city of Ludhiana a five-kilometre (three mile) distance, when the attack was staged.

The minister who turns 40 on Monday was in Gill to campaign for his candidature for the Ludhiana seat in the federal parliament.

Elections are set for June 22 to Punjab's 13 seats in See Page 10 Col. 2



Abahani manager Chunnun and captain Rupu (C) receiving the BTC Club Cup from Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia who witnessed the 120-minute final between the two traditional rivals at Dhaka Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Abahani's cup of joy

Afzal H. Khan

In a match that failed to live up to the expectations of a capacity holiday crowd Abahani Krira Chakra beat their arch-rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club by a solitary extra-time goal to lift the BTC Club Cup charity soccer trophy at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday evening.

The scheduled ninety minutes of the final failed to produce either goal nor positive football, it then fell upon the energetic Abahani youngster Ghaus to nod home the decider in the 19th minute of

the 30-minute extra time play from one of those long throws from their strong-armed midfielder Alamgir.

A record sum of Taka 10 lakh 41 thousand 480 was taken from the gates for this final encounter of the six-team meet which began last May 31.

taking the total receipts to Taka 23,97,670, just below the Taka 26 lakhs the organisers had initially hoped for. Given the appalling weather that prevailed for much of the week-long tourney's duration, and especially during the two semifinals, the final takings must be considered excellent indeed. Add to that another eight lakh taka from sponsors Bangladesh Tobacco Company and the Taka 4.5 lakh royalties from television for live coverage, the organisers Bangladesh Football Federation and the Dhaka Metropolitan Football Clubs Association should be able to make a healthy donation in the region of Taka 20 lakh to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, the purpose behind the meet. The expenses have been calculated at around Taka 16 lakh.

Nearly 40 thousand fans.

starved for football because of the non-holding of the Senior Division league the past couple of seasons, packed the stadium on a bright sunbathed afternoon. But unfortunately the fare dished out by the two Titans of Bangladesh football Abahani and Mohammedan left a lot to be desired. Not even the ardent Abahani fan, despite the cause for celebration, can honestly claim that he got his money's worth.

Mohammedans began the game in customary fashion, there young midfielders bringing a lot of pressure to bear on the rival defence from the word go. Romy, Mamoon, Tito, along with Shabbir, Zakir and Nakib up front made fast forays into the Abahani zone to give the defenders a busy time. However, the Abahani defence was well marshalled once again by Munna Sr. who proved effective without looking too elegant. Young BKSP student Masud Rana took the place of Ranjit as the right wing back and gave a cool, composed performance. It was in midfield that Abahani failed to match the speed of their rivals.

See Page 10 Col. 7

Shahabuddin, Khaleda hold talks

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia met the Acting President, Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, at his official residence of Friday evening, reports BSS.

The Prime Minister, during the meeting, discussed important administrative matters with the Acting President.

Among others, Education Minister Dr. A.Q.M. Badruddoza Chowdhury, Agriculture Minister Majedul Haq, Foreign Minister A.S.M. Mostafizur Rahman, Finance and Planning Minister Saifur Rahman, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukdar and Shipping Minister M.K. Anwar were present during the meeting.

Saudi Fund team arrives

A 7-member high-powered Saudi delegation arrived here Friday to discuss with Bangladesh officials their participation in long-term post-cyclone rehabilitation programmes, reports UNB.

The delegation led by the See Page 10 Col. 4

Historic June 7 observed

By Staff Correspondent

The historic June 7 marking the 26th anniversary of a general strike in 1966 in support of the Six-point Demand for autonomy was observed throughout the country on Friday.

Various organisations held discussion meetings and other programmes to mark the occasion. Awami League hoisted national and party flags at the party central office early in the morning.

Floral wreaths were placed at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the Bangabandhu Bhaban by Awami League, city Awami League, Chhatra League, Awami Jubo League and Mahila Awami League. Awami League central leaders, including Abdus See Page 10 Col. 2



Awami League leaders, including Abdus Samad Azad, Begum Sajeda Choudhury and Tofael Ahmed, garlanding the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the Bangabandhu Bhaban on Friday. — Star photo

All budgets have failed to achieve goals

Increase in revenue expenditure, reliance on foreign aid and dependence on import had featured significantly in all national budgets since independence.

This was observed by Dr. Shaifuzzaman, a prominent economist, speaking at a seminar at the TSC Thursday, reports UNB.

In a paper, titled 'The 1991-92 Budget in Light of Bankruptcy and Foreign Dependence of National Economy: Search for an Alternative', he said that no new budget had differed from the previous ones in fulfilling the budget objectives.

The objectives in all the budgets dovetailed economic emancipation, alleviating poverty, increasing food production, reducing dependence on foreign aid and increasing employment opportunities.

But, Dr. Shaifuzzaman observed that all the post-liberation budgets failed to materialise the objectives.

Current revenue expenditure of budget for fiscal 1972-73 was 213.33 crore Taka while it stood at 7,300 crore in 1990-91 budget, the paper said.

A report of World Bank said the revenue earning during the previous government rose at

the rate of 11 to 14 percent while revenue expenditure rose at the rate of 19 per cent.

Every year governments wanted to show that revenue earning was more than the expenditure but every year it had to be used for preparing supplementary budget following the increase in the revenue expenditure, the paper observed.

He observed that increase in expenditure was due to increased allocation for the defence sector. The allocation for defence was 274 crore Taka in 1982 while it stood at 1500 crore Taka the last budget. See Page 10 Col. 1

China agrees to take part in consultations

India rejects Pak call to make South Asia N-free

NEW DELHI, June 7: India rejected today Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's proposal for a five-nation meeting on nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia, calling it a propaganda ploy by Islamabad, reports AFP.

'We find nothing new in these suggestions,' an External Affairs Ministry spokesman told reporters here. 'They are a rehash of the well-worn Pakistani posture adopted by

them for the past several years,' he said.

Sharif Thursday suggested the United States, the Soviet Union and China consult and meet with India and Pakistan to arrive at an agreement for keeping the South Asian region free of nuclear weapons.

The Pakistan Prime Minister said his government was ready for a 'mutual and balanced reduction of forces' with India. He said there were indications

that Washington, Moscow and Beijing would be ready to support a regional approach to the issue.

China, responding to the new initiative from Pakistan, agreed today to participate in negotiations to stem nuclear weapons proliferation in South Asia.

'China agrees to take part in the five-nation consultations on the issue of nuclear non- See Page 10 Col. 8

Hasina's condition improves

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina is now under treatment at Singapore Modern Hospital, reports UNB.

Her condition has started improving, according to a message received here last night.

The doctors at the Hospital are continuing examination of the Awami League leader. The final check-up is scheduled on Sunday.

Hasina who was suffering from 'ulcerative colitis' and low blood pressure left Dhaka for Singapore last Monday.

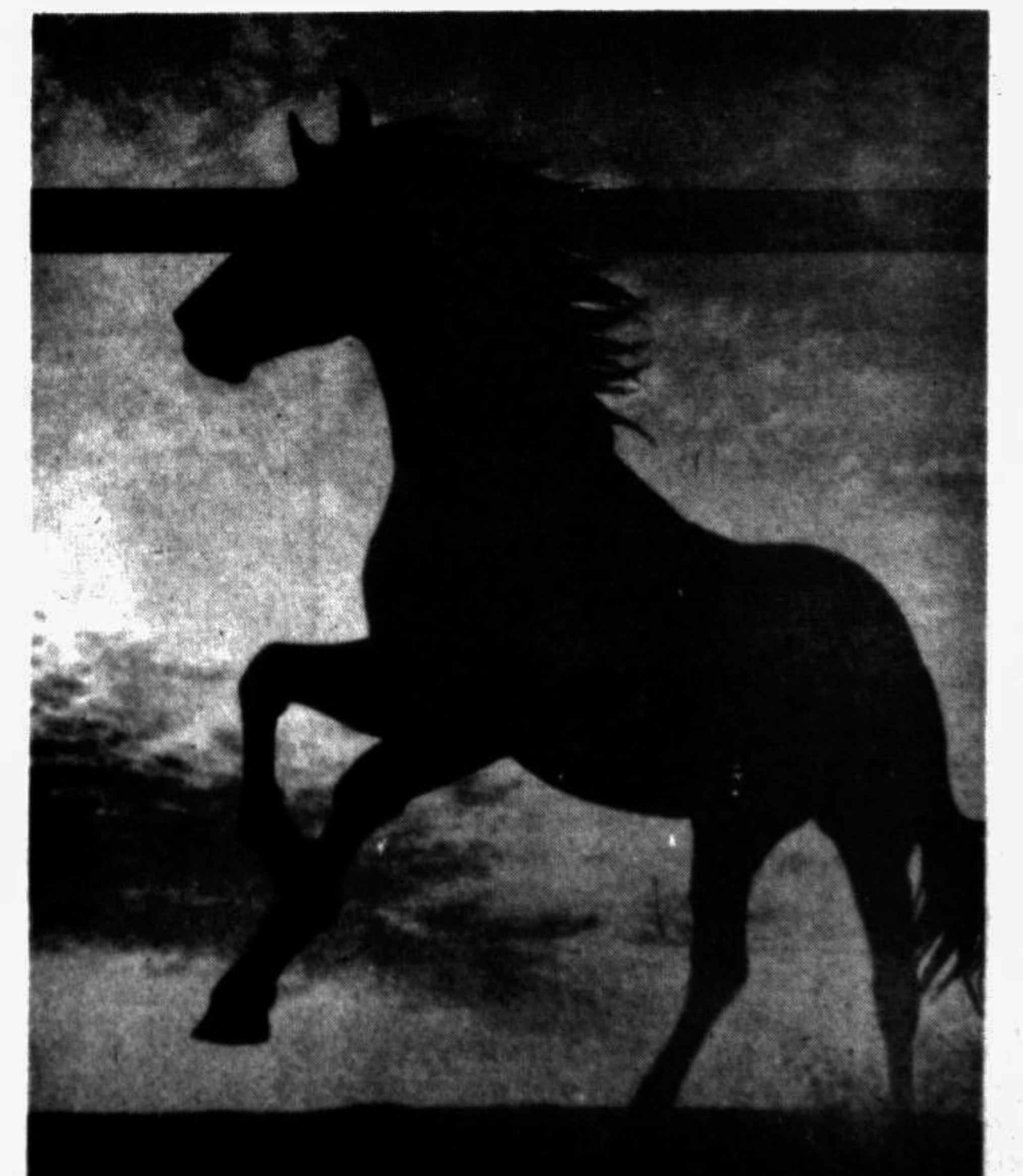
One more victim of Adamjee clash dies

Rehan expelled from union

By Staff Correspondent

Rehanuddin, Rehan, the President of Adamjee Patkal Sramik Karmachari Union, the Collective Bargaining Agent (CBA) of the Adamjee Jute Mills, has been expelled from Jatiya Sramik Federation. See Page 10 Col. 5

Green Delta Never Looked Back



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