

Inside Today

International



The US State Department endorsed a Pakistani proposal for South Asian nuclear-free zone
Page 5

Article

Algeria—a painful passage to democracy
Page 4

Parliament proceedings

Page 11

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



A Royal Touch To Diplomacy: An interview with Tunku Nazihah binte Mohammad Rus, High Commissioner of Malaysia to Bangladesh
Page 3

Supplement

Special supplement on Telecommunications in Bangladesh
Page 8, 9 & 10

Sport

Sri Lanka moved to the next round of zonal Davis Cup taking an unassailable lead over Bangladesh
Page 7

NEWS BRIEFS

Sikhs ambush

trains: 100 killed
CHANDIGARH, June 15: Sikh militants killed more than 100 passengers in ambushes on two trains in Punjab on Saturday. Police said militants stormed one train, stopped at Baddowal railway station near Ludhiana town, and opened fire indiscriminately, killing at least 75 passengers. Militants also shot dead at least 25 passengers in an attack at Kila Raipur station, reports Reuters.

Mizan brought to Dhaka

Jatiya Party leader and former Prime Minister Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury who is suffering from various diseases including kidney infections and diabetes has been brought to Dhaka from Jessore Jail Saturday night, family sources said. He will be sent to PG Hospital the morning, reports UNB.

Tornado hits Brahmanbaria

At least five people were injured and several homes destroyed during a tornado that swept over village Gogad under Sarail upazila midnight Friday, official and witnesses sources said.

Three killed by Shantibahini

From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, June 15: Three members of law enforcing agencies were killed and two others injured at Barkal in Rangamati when Shantibahini opened fire on a team patrolling the area Saturday morning.

'Administration plagued by corruption and bribery'

Tk 463 crore supplementary budget legacy of past regime

By Staff Correspondent

Opposition members of Parliament on Saturday strongly criticised the Government for presenting a Taka 463 crore supplementary budget seeking half of the fund for unexpected expenditure.

Refuting opposition charges, Finance Minister Saifur Rahman said the supplementary budget was a legacy of the past regime. But for the sake of continuity of budgetary provisions, it should be passed.

Discussion on the supplementary budget concluded Saturday with Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali in the chair in both the morning and the afternoon sittings.

Treasury Bench members said that during the rule of the autocratic government, money was misused to fulfill commitments of former President H. M. Ershad. The BNP government would refrain from wastefully spending public

money, they said. Treasury Bench members Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Col (retd) Akbar Hossain, Dr. Abdul Latif, Khandakar Abdul Malek, Major (retd) Akhtaruzzaman and Harunur Rashid Khan; Opposition members Salahuddin Yusuf, Sudhangsu Shekhar Haldar, Tofael Ahmed, A. S. M. Firoze, Dr. Mizanul Huq and Abdul Awal of Awami League; Suranjit Sengupta of Ganatantri Dal, and Rashed Khan Menon of Workers Party took part in the discussion on the supplementary budget.

Initiating the discussion Salahuddin Yusuf of AL questioned the justification of allocating money in excess of original budget estimates for running the administration which was plagued by corruption and bribery.

He said that as a member of Parliament he felt the obligation to ask if the money was

being spent for people's welfare. Corruption in the administration was no longer a secret thing, he said. Salahuddin Yusuf said cases of poor people were not investigated by police, where as rich people could even get false cases looked into. Such disparity should not be allowed to continue.

He demanded action against murderers and hijackers. The first step to punish criminals should be to hold trial of killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and four national leaders, he said.

Dr. Mizanul Huq of AL said that the budget did not have any political direction. It was just a statement of accounts—heads of income and expenditure done efficiently by an accountant, he said.

Ganatantri Party leader Suranjit Sengupta termed the supplementary budget as a

See Page 12 Col. 1



Children brought out a procession in the city to mark the 'National Immunisation Week' that began Saturday.
—Star photo

Bring down child mortality rate: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleida Zia Saturday stressed the need for bringing down child mortality rate to create a positive impact on population control, reports BSS.

Parents would show keenness to keep their family size small only when they could be ensured safety of the lives of their one or two children, she said.

Begum Zia was addressing the inaugural session of 'National Immunisation Week 1991' at the Ziaur Rahman Auditorium of Bangladesh Shishu Academy.

Presided over by Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Mirza Abbas, the function was also addressed by LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder, Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf, local representative of UNICEF Cole, P. Dodge, local representative of WHO A. M. Abeyundare and Director General of Health Directorate M. A. T Siddiqi.

The Prime Minister expressed her happiness that the Health Ministry had set a target to increase the rate of

child immunisation to at least 85 per cent under expanded programme for immunisation (EPI). She said the child mortality rate could be brought down by one third through EPI.

The Prime Minister said the EPI was a unique example of success of joint endeavour of national and international organisations.

She said the facilities for mental and physical development of the children and fulfilling their basic needs were hindered because of many social and economic reasons. 'We need national commitment to save the lives of the children and ensure their development, she said.

Begum Zia said that all quarters should realise this and give priority to the child development programmes in future development planning.

The Prime Minister said, since mother's health and child mortality rate were inter-related, the health and family planning directorates should work together with proper coordination.

Police under fire in JS

The police administration came under fire in Parliament when general discussion on the Tk 463 crore supplementary budget for 1990-91 began Saturday, reports UNB.

More than a dozen members from both sides of the House took part in the debate with Finance Minister Saifur Rahman intervening to dispel the notion among participants that he seeks approval for a more than Tk 4,000 crore supplementary budget.

Explaining, he said supplementary budget.

See Page 12 Col. 1

JS admits notice on DU teacher's violation of MPs' privileges

By Staff Correspondent

The Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament) on Saturday admitted a privilege notice which stated that a Dhaka University teacher had violated privileges of MPs and the parliament by saying that some criminals were elected as MPs.

See Page 12 Col. 3

Violence, low turnout mark third round of Indian polls

NEW DELHI, June 15: The third and final round of India's delayed national elections closed today in voting marked by lowest-ever voter turnout and violent incidents in which at least 20 died, election officials said, report agencies.

The counting of votes is to start nationwide at 8 am (0230 GMT) Sunday and continue uninterrupted through Monday, when the outcome is expected to be known.

Today's 10-hour voting period ended at 5 pm (1130 GMT) in one union territory and 13 states including Tamil Nadu, where former Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi was killed last month while on a campaign tour, the officials said. The fortunes of more than 2,500 candidates in 186 seats were decided on the day.

A total of more than 500 seats were up for grabs in elections staggered over three rounds. The first round was held May 20 but the final two, scheduled for May 23 and May 26, were postponed after Gandhi's May 21 murder.

Security was tight for the polls, especially in Tamil Nadu,

where emotions are running high after the assassination, and in Andhra Pradesh state, where two of the Saturday's poll-related deaths were reported.

Voting percentage fell by as much as 12 per cent according to provisional figures, as compared to the 1989 general elections to the ninth Lok Sabha in which 62 per cent of the electorate cast their franchise.

Following is a chart on the voting percentage in general elections held so far.

General election	Year	Male	Female	Total
First	1952	—	—	61.2
Second	1957	—	—	62.2
Third	1962	62.0	46.6	55.0
Fourth	1967	66.7	55.5	61.3
Fifth	1971	—	—	55.3
Sixth	1977	65.6	54.9	60.5
Seventh	1980	62.2	51.2	56.9
Eighth	1984	68.4	59.2	64.0
Ninth	1989	66.1	56.9	62.0
Tenth	1991	—	—	50.0 (prov)

Opinion polls have predicted a hung parliament, with the late Gandhi's Congress (I) Party expected to win the

most seats but not a majority.

The party's two main rivals are the Hindu-revivalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, Indian People's Party), whose popularity has surged over the past two years, and a centre-left alliance headed by the National Front.

At least seven persons were killed as violent incidents including bomb blasts, group clashes and booth capturing marred the polls.

The Chief Election Commissioner, TN Seshan, expressed serious concern at the large-scale incidents of booth capturing and poll-related violence in Uttar Pradesh and indicated repolling in some of the 43 parliamentary constituencies and assembly segments under them.

One person died when supporters of Gandhi's Congress (I) Party clashed with members of the Hindu revivalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, Indian People's Party) in Gujarat's Gandhinagar constituency.

A Marxist activists died in another clash in the politically

See Page 12 Col. 5

All DU halls will be vacated during Eid holiday

By Staff Correspondent

All 14 residential halls of the Dhaka University are to be completely vacated during the ensuing Eid-ul-Azha vacations.

Following the vacations residents will only be allowed to enter their respective halls after having their identity cards checked.

The first meeting of the DU Education Atmosphere Council, (DUEAC) since its revival last week, took the decision Saturday.

Vice-Chancellor and DUEAC head Prof M Moniruzzaman Miah chaired the meeting held

See Page 12 Col. 6

Hasina pledges upholding party commitments

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League Chief and Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Sheikh Hasina, pledged to uphold the commitments made by her party and urged the student community to play the same role as before to bring total emancipation of the people.

Addressing a gathering of Rajshahi University students, who joined the Chhatra league from the Jatiya Chhatra

See Page 12 Col. 5

Young man killed while preventing rape of a girl

By Staff Correspondent

A young man died trying to save a minor girl from being raped in the city Saturday.

According to police, Shah Alam, 22, an employee of a nearby Food Stall received multiple stab injuries in the chest and stomach in front of Shyamoli Cricma when he tried to prevent a minor girl from being raped.

The accused, identified as Azgar Ali, 25, also of Shyamoli, managed to escape. Shah Alam was taken to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to the injuries at around 7 am, police said.

A case was filed in this connection with Mohammadpur police station but no arrest was made. The minor girl identified as Moyna, is in police custody.

CU teachers hold classes off campus

From Our Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 15: A section of Chittagong University teachers has started conducting classes outside campus as an alternative arrangement from today.

Some 100 teachers held classes at the MES College in the city attended by about 1000 students.

The CU teachers said that they had adopted the alternative because of what they termed the seizure of the campus by the Chhatra Shibir and its allied groups.

The teachers who claimed themselves non-partisan said they had no other means but to go for holding classes outside campus and this instance was the first in the history of the Chittagong University.

The alternative classes were held in two shifts—one in the morning and the other in the afternoon.

Teachers' sources said, a new routine was also prepared

today for holding four classes of each of the CU departments under a single shift a day (between 9 am to 1 pm).

Meanwhile, another section for the CU teachers, identified as 'democratic group' in a statement termed the alternative arrangements for holding classes as 'farceful' and 'misleading'.

This forum of teachers led by Prof. Hayat Hossain, said such a move would not only deepen the prevailing crisis in the campus but also create a prolonged bitterness between the teachers and students.

The forum felt that a decision of the CU Syndicate or the Academic Council was needed for such a move.

The forum demanded resignation of the CU Vice-Chancellor Alamgir Mohammad Sirajuddin as well as punishment to the culprits responsible for the present

See Page 12 Col. 3

ADB concerned over PDB, Railway losses

Star Economic Report

The Manila-based Asian Development Bank (ADB) has expressed its grave concern over the deteriorating financial performance of public sector enterprises (PSEs) in Bangladesh, particularly Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) and Bangladesh Railway (BR).

The visiting Director of the Bank, N Morita, apprised Finance and Planning Minister Saifur Rahman of ADB's stand on future lending operations in power and railway sectors in Bangladesh at a meeting Saturday at the latter's office.

He discussed matters relating to the Bank's on-going operations and future assistance programmes with the Planning and Finance Minister.

The ADB has financed several major development projects of PDB and Bangladesh Railway. Its cumulative lendings to the electric power sector and railway stand at over 300 million US dollars and

125 million US dollars respectively in Bangladesh. For Bangladesh Railway, the Bank is the lead financier.

Morita who is the Director, Programmes Department (West) of the Bank in Manila, arrived Dhaka on Friday on a three-day visit. Besides the Finance and Planning Minister, he held meetings with Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan and senior government officials. The discussions covered both on-going Bank aided programmes and also future operations in line with the priorities of the government in different sectors of the economy.

In his meeting with Finance and Planning Minister Saifur Rahman, the visiting ADB Director emphasised the need for improving the financial performance of public sector enterprises (PSEs) in Bangladesh. He said that existing financial losses, incurred

See Page 12 Col. 3

Volcano may blow Mt Pinatubo apart

MANILA, June 15: Officials on Saturday ordered tens of thousands of people in three cities to evacuate after scientists warned that so much pressure was building in Mount Pinatubo that the volcano could blow apart, reports AP.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, chairman of the National Disaster Coordinating Council, said the evacuations would begin Sunday morning.

Subic Bay, home to the largest US naval base in the Philippines, was on the edge of the danger zone but officials said there was no immediate plan to evacuate.

But the last 1,500 US troops patrolling Clark Air

Base, 10 miles (16 kilometers) from the volcano, were evacuated. The US Embassy said families of troops who were stationed at Clark would be sent back to the United States.

Mount Pinatubo has been erupting for a week, and each day the explosions have become more severe. The eruptions have been blamed for at least six deaths.

The volcano triggered earthquakes in the capital Saturday, and a huge fissure opened on one of its slopes. Ash fell as far as Manila, 60 miles (100 kilometers) to the south, and the capital and southwestern Luzon were shaken by repeated earth tremors.

Scientists predicted a catastrophic eruption and warned residents within 25 miles (40 kilometers) to flee.

Manila's international and domestic airports were closed until further notice because of volcanic ash in the atmosphere. Airplane engines suck in the ash and the debris can cause the engines to stall.

'We are picturing a worst-case scenario,' said Ronaldo Arboleda of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology. 'The situation is really dangerous.'

'We do not want to cause panic but it is better to move out now than later,' he said in a radio broadcast. 'We are not gods, but based on our studies

something not good is about to happen.'

He said a new fissure about 1.8 miles long had appeared on the southern side of the volcano and that the institute was extending the danger zone from 18 miles to 25 miles (30 to 40 kilometers).

Seen by satellite, the fissure extends between two craters and has raised the possibility that the top of the volcano might blow off, institute officials said.

Fortunato De Hora, administrator of the Office of Civil Defense, said orders to evacuate the cities of San Fernando, Angeles and Olongapo were issued this evening after daylong

See Page 12 Col. 5

MILO Feeds back lost energy

An exciting game or a hard day's work takes out a lot of energy from your body. Leaving you tired and exhausted. What you need then is an energy food that puts back all the energy you've lost. That's why people all over the world specially sportsmen take MILO to replenish depleted energy. MILO is a chocolate flavoured, fortified tonic food drink that provides vitamins, calcium, minerals and other energy giving ingredients so essential for the body. Above all you will love its delicious chocolate taste.