'One injustice gives birth to many other injustices'

The Jatiya Sangsad resumed its sitting at 10-58 A M Saturday after a recess of two days following the presentation of national budget for the fiscal 1991-92, reports BSS.

Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali presided over the sitting. Question and answer session began after tilwat-e-Quran.

The members of Jatiya Party remained absent from the House for the second day Saturday.

After the question hour, the Deputy Speaker disposed of the notices submitted by the members on privilege and call attention in accordance with the rules of procedure.

While disposing of seven notices on members' privileges the chair referred to the relevant standing committee's examination of two notices on breach of privilege submitted by Jamaat-e-Islami members Moulana Abdus Sobhan and Kazi Shamsur Rahman upon a reported comment of a teacher of the Dhaka Univer-

The chair said the concerned university teacher was said to have made a comment like "many criminals" have been elected by votes.

Moulana Sobhan

Taking the floor Moulana Sobhan said the Parliament Standing Committee on Members' Privilege had not yet been formed. But the chair assured him that the committee would be set up in a couple of days where it would be referred automatically.

The Deputy Speaker referred to the notices on call attention and said he had accepted one such notice subraitted by Workers' Party leader Rashed Khan Menon on the construction of a fullfledged airport at Rahmatpur in Barisal district.

Shamsul Huq

Awami League member Shamsul Huq (Mymensingh) drew the attention of the chair and said the names of the members and the subject of the notices, even if not endorsed, should be publicised over radio and television for the people of their respective constituencies.

The House then picked up the day's order.

Salauddin

The House started general discussion on the supplementary budget of 1990-91 presented along with the National Budget 1991-92 by Finance Minister. Opening the discussion, Salahuddin (AL-Satkhira). said he did not understand the logic behind the requirement of over four thousand crore Taka to supplement the original 1990-91 budget.

Referring to the huge expenditure for the police department in addition to what was provided for in the last budget, he said "before giving our approval to it we have to be sure about whether the money was spent on public interests or not".

He said law and order situation in the country had not improved and hijacking and snatching were still continuing unabated. He said although there were some honest police officers yet corruption and bribery had crept into every level.

Salahuddin questioned the justification of additional expenditure on the Police department when the situation was deteriorating in the coun-

Mentioning the additional expenditures incurred by the Foreign Ministry, he said he saw no point in spending more than Taka 52 crore as extra since there was no recruitment in the sector during the last few years.

He said the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman were provided with jobs abroad instead of holding their trial. The killers must be tried, he demanded.

He said some killers were punished while others were given jobs, adding this discrimination could not be con-

He posed a question as to why a certain class of people should be given special preference at the cost of millions. He said no one should be provided with jobs somewhere else after retirement from certain ser-

He pleaded for the creation of new posts and establishment of more mills and factories for increasing the empleyment opportunities.

He said the trial of self-confessed killers of Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the killers of four national leaders should be held. Otherwise, he said, discipline could never be enforced in the country. He said ."one injustice

> fustices." Salahuddin said had the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu been held the killing of late President Ziaur Rahman might not have taken place.

gives birth to many other in-

Harunur Rashid

Harunur Rashid Khan (BNP-Manikganj) said although the present government was not responsible for the supplementary budget, it still had no scope for avoiding it.

He said corruption had eaten into the vitals of the society during the nine years of autocratic rule. He, however, expressed the hope that the country under the able guidance and leadership of Begum Khaleda Zia would bring an end to corruption.

He said there would be no scope for misuse of anything in future under the nationalist government of BNP.

Shawkat Ali

Taking the floor briefly, Col (Retd) Shawkat Ali (AL-Madaripur), said he found a trend in the speeches of the Treasury Bench members that they considered this government as the BNP government. This, he said, was not true because the government was of Acting President Justice, Shahabuddin Ahmed and there could not be two governments in the country.

The opposition member said the BNP had, at best, a cabinet but the government was essentially of the Acting President and the Treasury Bench members must remember this. Otherwise their comment would run contrary to the spirit of the constitu-

Dr Mizanul Huq

Speaking next on the supplementary budget, Dr Mizanul Huq (AL-Kishoreganj) paid tributes to the memory of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and said the nation owed to him the creation of this country. The opposition member

said prices of essential commodities always increased on two occasion -- before the announcement of the budget and

Dr Huq said after carefully assessing the budgets since the independence, he found that the budget presented by late Tajuddin Ahmed was politically-oriented, while Saifur Rahman had given a "chartered

Ramzan.

accountant's budget". He said he found a lot of similarities between the budgets presented by Saifur Rahman and Maj Gen (Retd) MA Munim during Ershad's

Dr Huq said the budgets often showed imposition of taxes on the affluent class of the society but the crunch was always felt by the less fortunate class of the society.

The Deputy Speaker then adjourned the House till 3pm. As the House reassembled at 3-26pm with the Deputy Speaker, Sheikh Razzak Ali, in the chair, the Deputy Leader of

the House and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition reached an understanding to complete the discussion on the supplementary budget during Saturday's sitting and to pass it today (Sunday).

Akhtaruzzaman

The House then resumed discussion on the supplementary budget. Participating in the debate Major (Retd) Mohammad Akhtaruzzaman (BNP-Kishoreganj), referred to frequent criticism about the retired army personnel by some opposition members when, he said, it was rather a pride to work in the country's defence forces. He said a particular quarter should not be criticised for the act of an individual.

Akhtaruzzaman thanked the members of the US Task Force for carrying out relief operation in the country's cyclone and tidal surge hit areas and said many senior officers of the Task Force had spent their nights in tents and even under open sky.

He said there had been misuse of money in the defence sector and pointed out that Taka 60 lakh had been spent on construction around a the Dhaka pond in Cantonment.

He, however, pleaded for the passage of the supplementary budget. The BNP member urged the government to build the Kishoreganj-Bhairab-Dhaka road on a priority basis.

Suranjit

Speaking next, Ganotantree Party leader Suranjit Sengupta strongly criticised the supplementary budget saying it was a bad practice.

He drew the attention of the chair to Article 91 of the Constitution which referred to supplementary budget and said the supplementary expenditures had to be justified.

Sengupta wanted to know how could the figure of a supplementary budget reach over Taka 4,000 crore. He said most of the amount

shown in the supplementary budget were spent on the unproductive sectors. The Ganotantree Party

leader described the supplementary budget as "a budget of corruption, wastage and plunderers economy." Sengupta urged all to take effective measures to stop the supplementary budget and

name of supplementary budget. He also pleaded for setting up a parliamentary committee to keep vigilance on the expenditures.

start afresh to avoid unautho-

rised expenditures in the

Abdul Malek

Kh Abdul Malek (BNP-Sylhet) said Suranjit Sengupta had quoted a wrong figure on the supplementary budget. In fact, the figure would be Taka 463 crore, he said.

He said the budget should be prepared in a manner that it was not distorted by a supplementary budget.

Reasat Ali

Speaking next, AM Reasat Ali (Jamaat-Sathkhira) said the government should think about the issue of supplementary budget before preparing the budget for a fiscal year.

He said the age-old British system had to be changed and a new process should start keeping in view the economic need of the people.

Ali referred to the situation the Dhaka and Chittagong university campuses and regretted the assault on Jamaat leader Moulana Motiur Rahman Nizami in the room of Vice-Chancellor.

He urged the government National

to start construction of Ashashuni Satkhira road on which Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had made a commitment during her election campaign.

Matin Chowdhury

Abdul Matin Chowdhury (BNP-Narayangani) said autocrat Ershad had ruined the economy of the country and we have to mend the fences. phase by phase, for building a better future.

Defending the supplementary budget, Chowdhury said an expenditure already made could not be taken back in the government account. Besides, additional fund was required due to the Gulf War, increase in the cost of oil and price hike of different items in the international markets.

Chowdhury said people had already accepted the new bud-

He said the Finance Minister played an efficient role in the recent Paris Aid Club meeting and succeeded in receiving a pledge for 2.3 billion dollars for the country from the members.

The BNP member said the additional money was used in the necessary areas of activities. Besides, he said cyclone, tidal surge and flood that played havoc in the country in the recent past inflated the supplementary budget.

Awal Mia

Criticising the supplementary budget, Mohammad Abdul Awal Mia (AL-Kushtia) said the VAT system introduced by the government for procuring additional fund could be avoided by taking some other financial measures.

He said oil price was increased during the Gulf War but it was not reduced when the price fell in the international markets.

The Awami League member said though additional allocation was sought for education sector which was universally accepted as the pre-requisite for development.

Awal was critical of the government for keeping a big amount of Taka 600 crore for unseen expenditures and said such allocations were retained during the autocratic rulers Ershad and Ayub Khan. He said the reduction of tax

holiday period for industries to

1995 from the year 2000 would hamper industrialisation of the country. He said the government could collect additional fund through financial measures instead of imposing new taxes.

The Awami League member, said the government was not getting any tax from the cattlehead coming from across the border but some people in the government, in different tyres, were acquiring money out of it. He called for arresting this trend and taking action in this regard.

Akbar Hossain

Akbar Hossain (BNP-Comilla) criticised the fourth five-year plan saying it lacked direction for easing the unemployment problem.

He said the plan was entirely dependent on foreign aid and pleaded for taking steps for mobilising capital to reduce dependence on foreign loans.

Akbar suggested recasting the forth five-year plan on the basis of democratic aspirations of the people.

Refuting the opposition criticism of the Finance Minister, Akbar said the Finance Minister was not only a politician but also an economist and accountant of repute.

He said, a budget has four parts in which a politician is the architect, an economist is the planner, bureaucrat is the executioner and the accountant is discipline keeper.

Akbar said BNP government is democratically elected with political commitments to the people.

The BNP member urged the government to take steps for improving the lot of the five crore farmers of the country through developing water resources.

Criticising the rule of autocrat Ershad, Akbar Said he (Ershad) had taken plans at an exorbitant cost for his personal gains. He alleged that Ershad had earned Taka 600 crore from the urea fertilisers plant alone. He wanted to know whe-

ther the medical college supposed to be set up in Comilla was incorporated in the fourth five-year plan. Saifur Rahman

When the house resumed

its sitting after Asr Prayer with

Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak

was also constrained to say that the discussion on the supplementary budget by both treasury bench and opposition members was not being done on its main basis.

Ali in the chair, Finance Minis-

ter M. Saifur Rahman ex-

plained what supplementary

budget aimed at. He said he

The Finance Minister pointed out that allocation in the supplementary budget did not mean additional expenditure but allocation and readjustment of the original estimate to the Sangsad would be needed if the government spent money of one head on

another. He referred to the critical condition of the banking sector and stressed the need for strengthening it for creating confidence among the foreign lenders and suppliers.

Awami League leader Tofael Ahmed criticised the tendency of spending money in different sectors by passing the Sangsad. In this connection, he pointed out that the US President could not spend a single cent without the prior approval of the Congress. He suggested that the parliamentary committee for each ministry of the government should investigate and scrutinise the expenditure thoroughly to justify the spending of money.

Tofael Ahmed

Tofael Ahmed said the Leader of the House and the Finance Minister should remain present in the House during the discussions. The presence of the Finance Minister was all the more necessary during discussions on the budget, he added.

He said the purchasing power of the people had decreased, prices of agricultural goods had declined and the rate of inflation had gone up due to recession in the country's economy. He blamed these on the lack of political stability in the country. Such a state was disastrous for national economy, he said adding the government indecision in implementing the outline of the join declaration of the three alliances contributed to the economic slump.

(Incomplete)

Upazila roundup

MYMENSINGH

Students union polls today

From Our BAU Correspondent

June 15: The election to the Ananda Mohan University college Student's Union will be held on June 16. In all 122 candidates are contesting for 16 posts including the posts of Vice-President and General Secretary. Ten student organisations including Chhatra League (S-A), Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Chhatra League (Na-Sj, Chhatra Union are partici-

pating in the election. A total of 7,157 voters will choose their representatives. Principal of the college M. Rezaul Karim in a press conference recently called upon all to cooperate in holding the election peacefully, and fairly, He said all preparations for holding the election have been mpleted. He said adequate nucasures for maintaining law and order have been taken. Besides the principal, the press conference was addressed by Prof Abdur Rafiq. Election Commissioner of the College, Vice-Principal Mohammad Jahangir Hassan and

Prof Muniruzzaman. RANGAMATI

Red Crescent society executives

June 15: Mahbubur Rahman, Chairman, Rangamati Municipality and Rubayat Akhtar Ahmed, member, District Local Government Parishad were elected unopposed as vice-president and general secretary respectively of the local unit of Red Crescent Society, reports UNB.

The election was held at the annual general meeting of the district Red Crescent Society with Gautam Dewan, Chairman, District Local Govcrament Parishad in the chair recently.

Gautam Dewan is the ex-officto president of the society. Five members were also elected unopposed in the meeting. They are: Mukhlesur Rahman, Editor, the weekly Rangamati, Aung Thoai, Cheng Chowdhury, member, District Local Government Parishad, Prof Tasaddaque Kabir, Keral Ehskoon and Raneswar Barua.

Three other members of the Society will be nominated by the president later.

Brahmanbaria

Tajul Islam charged for another murder

June 15: Tajul Islam, sentenced to death in the sensational Birojabala murder case, has been charged for another murder, reports UNB.

Police submitted chargesheet on June 3 against the main accused Tajul Islam and five others for killing the husband of Birojabala on October 16, 1987, about three years before committing the Birojabala murder.

Tajul along with his brother-in-law Habibur Rahman, son-in-law lnu Miah and younger brother Najrul Islam, Abdul Aziz of Panchagaon and Abdul Aziz of Niznagar in Madhabpur upazila killed Shasanka Debnath to grab his property.

They dumped the body in a dereliet pond in a village of Tripura State in India, across the border, according to the charges placed before the court of the Additional District and Sessions Judge here.

Tajul and his eight other accomplices were sentenced to death and other 27 were awarded life term in the sensational Birojabala murder case. Inu and Abdul Aziz of Niznagar are still absconding.

BARISAL

Over 1000 acres afforestation damaged

June 15: Afforestation in thousands of acres of land have been damaged badly in the recent cyclone and tidal bore battered areas along the vast coastal belt of Bhola, reports

According to the forest department, more than 1000 acres of afforestation have been damaged mainly in the char areas like Char Kukri Mukri, Char Patiala, Char Nijam, Dhalchar, Char Zahiruddin, Char Pear, Pacha Kuralia, Sakuchira, Baduarchar, Sonar Char, Char Hasan and Char Babbar. More than 97 tinsheds of forest department were also

Forest department in its primary survey estimated the total loss at Taka 5 erore.

According to official sources, thousands of various plants including "Babla" and "Keora" have been destroyed.

1500 ponds lying unutilised in Madaripur, Shariatpur

From Our Correspondent

MADARIPUR, June 15 About 1500 ponds in 10 upazilas of Madaripur and Shariatpur districts have been lying uncultivated mainly due to dispute among their owners.

A source said that if these

ponds were re-excavated and

brought under pisciculture in a proper way, fish worth about Tk three crore might be produced per annum in the two districts. About 50 per cent ponds under share ownership have been silted and dried up due

not be undertaken in these ponds unless comprehensive schemes are taken for proper utilisation of the same.

According to a cooperative

motivation and approach of cooperative farming to the shareholders of the derelict ponds, so that they could realise their loss and get inspira-

Meanwhile catching of fish fry is going on unabated at over 10 upazilas of Madaripur and Shariatpur districts shattering the prospect of fish production. Mainly current nets are used for this purpose and nets are selling openly in the two district towns and upazilas hats and bazars at a cheap rate

' Huge quantities of these fish fry are marketed every day. These fry are not more than four inches in length. During this correspondent's visit to some areas of the two districts, huge quantities of fish fry were seen selling.

According to experts, fish scarcity will intensify again in

near future due to rampant catching of fry. The law enforcing agency is yet to take posi tive measures against illegal catching of fish fry.

It may be mentioned that the government has strictly prohibited catching of fish fry below nine inches in size.

Incessant rains

damage crops Incessant rain over the last 12 days caused colossal damage to the harvested IRRI-Boro crops of Madaripur, Kalkini,

Rajior and Shibchar upazilas. Besides, the low-lying areas under the aforesaid upazilas are being engulfed with onrush of water threatening the standing IRRI-Boro crops which are yet to be harvested.

On the other hand, the prices of rice have recorded a sharp rise in different markets of the rain affected areas.

Diarrhoea claims 7 lives

MAULVIBAZAR, June 15 Diarrhoca has broken out in an alarming proportion at Rajghat Tea Garden under Sreemongal upazila of the district. The disease claimed seven lives in the tea garden so far. All the de-

The Deputy Commissioner of Moulvibazar visited the garden along with the Civil Surgeon.

After visiting, the Civil Surgeon said, due to drinking of contaminated water the diarrhoca has broken out. He said, measures have already been taken to arrest the situation.

June 5. The growers alleged Crimes galore in Pabna

PABNA, June 15: Pabna police recovered the body of a young woman from a paddy field last week. The victim Anwara (24) was

the daughter of Asar Pramanik of Char Sadirajpur under Pabna Şadar upazila.

A minor girl died in a surprising incident at the village Kaliani under Faridpur upazila Pabna recently. Pabria police arrested three

persons for anti-social activi-

lage Kulunia under Sujanagar upazila, Jamai (20), son of Jafar and Shartful son of Abdus Satter of Krishnapur under Pabna Sadar upazila. A case was filed with Pabna Ishurdi Railway Police ar-

rested four persons and recov-

ered smuggled Indian sarees

worth about Taka 2.5 lakh.

ties recently. The arrested Ishurdi express train which persons are Shima (18), was full of Indian sarces worth daughter of Akbar Ali of the vilabout Taka one lakh 80 thousand. Four smugglers including three female were arrested. In another incident police

seized Indian sarees worth about Taka 80 thousand from Rajshahi-Ishurdi "Mahananda" express train. In this incident, police exchanged six rounds of gun fire with the smugglers. None was arrested. A snake charmer's basket



KISHOREGANJ: Bajitpur police arrested an undertrial prisoner who escaped from police custody jumping down from a running train near Halimpur railway station

-Star photo recently. Unlicenced rickshaws cause traffic jam

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, June 15 A huge number of rickshaws on Kishoreganj roads and in discriminate parking of vehicles at busy areas and occupation of footpaths by small traders create traffic jams endangering the safety of the pedestrians and hampering the traffic movement.

shaws which have valid li cences but the number of rickshaws plying on the roads of the town without licences is about six thousands. A large number of rickshaws having licences from the

According to Pourashava

sources, there are 1500 rick-

the roads of the town making the situation more difficult. Besides, lack of traffic knowledge of the rickshawpullers multiplied the prob-

Indiscriminate parking of rickshaws in the busy commercial areas of the town contributed to traffic jams. The places for rickshaw parking should be fixed and implementation of the traffic laws may improve the situation.

The foot paths occupied by the traders in the busy com mercial areas of the town hinder the movement of pedestrians and endanger their safety on roads. Road side shopkeepers encroach in to the foot paths narrowing the space

The roads of Kishoregani town are hazardous. There are number of road side motor repairing workshops that hinder the easy movement of vehicular traffic. For the last few years buses coming for repair are parked on the road sides occupying half of the roads within the two speed breakers created for the safety of the

school going children. School beset with problems

PATUAKHALI, June 15: The lone government college in the district is groaning under various problems affecting both students and teachers, reports

Notes from Faridpur

FARIDPUR, June 15: Patrol Police arrested a man and recovered a revolver and three coctail bombs from his possession on the Faridpur-

Kamarkhali road, reports UNB. Police on suspicion challenged Habibur Rahman and recovered the unauthorised arms on the night of June 3. He was coming from Maijkandi

in the rickshaw. Habibur Rahman hails from Kashiani upazila of Gopalganj

.A case has been filed with the Modhukhali police in this connection. BSS adds: Prize distribution function of Faridpur Sadar

upazila level competition of

national children's literary

competition organised by Is-

lamic Foundation, Faridpur was

district.

guest.

the winners.

held recently at local Islamic Foundation auditorium. Additional district magistrate of Faridpur A M M Farhad attended the function as chief

Presided over by Professor Md. Shahjahan, the function was addressed by Abdullah Khan Alam, Deputy Director of Islamic Foundation, Faridpur.

About 30 successful children and juvenile competitors representing different schools and organisations received prizes for recitations, Hamd, Nath, Azaans and other socioreligious activities. The chief guest distributed prizes among

Expanded Programme for Immunization (EPI) week will be observed in the district from June 15.

In this connection a preparatory meeting was held at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner. The meeting presided over by S M Shahjahan, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Gen) of Faridpur was attended by Health Department officials, heads of educational institutions, social workers and journalists. The programme of the week includes marchpast and rally, exhibition, seminars, meetings and mass publicity to create awareness among the people.

A health department source said 86 per cent eligible children of the district were brought under the EPI programme.

despite government ban. to lack of maintenance. On the other hand, a large number of ponds are covered with water hyacinth. Fish cultivation can-

Slow progress in

procurement drive

farmer concerned authorities should come forward with a

From Our Correspondent GAIBANDHA, June 15: Government's procurement drive of Irri and Boro paddy has marked a slow progress in the district. As a result, price of paddy has declined sharply in different markets which is now being sold at Taka 180 to Taka 210 per maund against government rate of Taka 240

This season local food de-

partment fixed procurement

target at 24,000 metric tons in

Gaibandha district. But the au-

thority meanwhile, procured

only 4,500 tons of paddy till

per maund.

that when they carry paddy to nearby government godown for selling. Concerned authority discouraged them raising various objection on the quality of paddy. The growers go back disappointed with their prod-

District Food Controller told the Daily Star that they could not procure enough paddy due to presence of high degree moisture in the recent harvested paddy. The growers are now facing great trouble and are deprived of fair price of their crops.

From Our Correspondent

ceased were the garden labourer

was seized from Parbatipuradjacent unions within about 15 miles of radius also ply on