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Dhaka Day by Day



Seven photographers banded together for the exhibition "After the Storm" at the Alliance Francaise. **Page 3**

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Health problems of Bangladesh rooted in the environment. **Page 6**

Sport



Steffi Graf beats Gabriela Sabatini to win her third Wimbledon singles title. **Page 7**

NEWS BRIEFS

Report on CU to be published

The government has decided to publish the report submitted by the enquiry committee on the incident of Chittagong University. The copy of the report will be available at the Press Information Department (PID), according to a handout Saturday, reports UNB.

Sharifpur Union Parishad dissolved

The government has dissolved the Sharifpur Union Parishad under Begumganj upazila of Noakhali district in the interest of the people and the administration, according to an official handout issued in Dhaka Saturday, reports BSS.

BAU budget approved

MYMENSINGH, July 6: The annual recurring budget of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) for the fiscal 1991-92 amounting of Taka 20.08 crore was approved by the syndicate of the university, a BAU press release said today, reports BSS.

Iraq destroys 28 warheads

BAGHDAD, July 6: The last of 28 ballistic warheads listed by Iraq was destroyed today in a desert region north of Baghdad, the head of a United Nations mission announced here, reports AFP.

Clients throng bank gates, worried over deposits: Order unjustified, says official

BCCI operations suspended

Bangladesh Bank suspended all transactions of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (overseas) Limited (BCCI) in Bangladesh from Saturday until further instructions.

The instructions followed steps taken by seven countries to seize assets and shut down operations of the Bank charged with alleged money laundering, fraud and drug trafficking.

BCCI was founded in the early 1970s by Pakistani banker Agha Hasan Abedi and grew over the years. Last year, the Bank was taken over by Sheikh Zayed-bin-Sultan Al-Nahyan, Emir of the United Arab Emirates. He and his family hold 77 per cent interest in BCCI.

UAE pumped one billion dollars into the Bank. But lat-

est reports said that the Bank was reeling under increasing bad debt and other problems. Foreign exchange dealership of the BCCI in Bangladesh was also cancelled in a separate order of the Bangladesh Bank.

When the banking hours started Saturday, clients were caught by surprise seeing Bank branches under lock and key.

"What the hell's wrong with the Bank? Why is there no notice of closure?" asked a customer at the head office branch of the BCCI.

He was visibly worried at newspaper reports that BCCI operations were suspended in seven countries.

There was a heavy rush of clients at the Bank gates. The number swelled with the passage of time. But Bank officials

kept them from entering saying that "the banking operations have been closed as ordered by the authorities concerned in the public interest."

The customers were not happy with the brief answer and many of them were found involved in heated debates with Bank employees.

Said the chairman of a business firm, "I have come to draw money to pay salary to my staff but without any notice, it has closed operations. I have the right to get a satisfactory answer. But unfortunately there is nobody to explain the whole thing."

Due to the closure of the banking operations, there were reports of heavy withdrawals from some foreign



What's this all about seems to be written large across the faces of clients who crowded the gates of the city's BCCI Bank, that shut its doors to them, its operations suspended.

— Star photo

PM's call to apply science for benefit of people

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Saturday underlined the importance of applying science and technology for improving the living standard of the people and rejuvenating the country's economy, reports UNB.

"National progress and development depend on the extent of utilising science in practical field," she said while inaugurating the 14th National Science and Technology Week at Agargaon Science Museum.

Organised by the Science and Technology Division of the Ministry of Education, the in-

augural function was chaired by its Secretary Abul Hashem.

The function was addressed by Education Minister Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury, State Minister for Education Principal Yunus Khan, Dr Mubarak Ali, Director, National Science and Technology Museum, and two young scientists Zahirul Islam and Ishrat Jahan Chowdhury.

The Week titled "Science and Technology in the Socio-Economic Development and Environmental Control" is aimed at creating interest among the younger generation

about scientific and technological inventions to help them groom their talents.

Young scientists from the country's 64 districts are participating in the week with their innovative displays in the exhibition.

Begum Zia said science and technology was the main driving force in the socio-economic development process and developed countries were utilising this force through its proper application.

She stressed on building infrastructure for advancement



Back on the Dhaka University campus with hopes for a violence-free academic career.

— Star photo

DU reopens amid rallies, processions

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University reopened Saturday amid rallies and processions on the campus by major student organisations.

The rallies and processions, held with Proctors' permission chanted anti-terrorism slogans blaming each other and demanded punishment for the killers of Dr Mahbul Alam Khan Milon and Mahbubur Rahman.

Most of the classes were held Saturday but attendance was thin. The 14 residential halls reopened Friday and residents were allowed entry after thorough checking by the authorities. Return of students to their respective halls was also less than usual.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the student front of the ruling BNP and the Bangladesh Chhatra League (A-A) backed by opposition Awami League held separate rallies at the Modhu's canteen premises demanding arms-free campus.

The activists of JSD-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (N-S) brought out a mourning procession wearing black badges from the campus to condole the June 20 death of their leader Mahbubur Rahman in a gun battle with BCL (A-A) activists. The procession marched up to the National Press Club where it terminated demanding arrest of the killers.

The rally was addressed by Nazmul Haq Pradhan and Shaif

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involve in Croatia. The citizens of Serbia should be ready for the defence of their country," Milosevic said in a statement broadcast on Belgrade radio and television.

Milosevic said Serbia should rely for its defence on the Yugoslav army and its own territorial defence units which he said were bigger, better armed and better trained than those of any other of Yugoslavia's six republics and two provinces.

Federal and Slovenian leaders ended initial negotiations

Saturday undecided on who controls the breakaway republic's borders.

Ethnic violence continued in Croatia, the other independence seeking republic. Leaders there warned of possible attack by federal forces in Croatia to separate feuding Serbs and Croats.

Slovenian officials said new talks were planned to try to compromise on federal demands that the republic give up control of its border posts by noon (1000 GMT), Sunday, but they did not say when the two sides would meet again.

Move to reduce BNP-AL differences

Star Report

Small political parties and alliances, having splintered groups in Parliament, have initiated parleys to narrow differences between the government and the opposition on the proposed amendment to the Constitution.

Reliable sources say, they want the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party to soften its stand against floor crossing by MPs, and to reduce the proportion of non-MPs in the cabinet proposed by it in the 12th amendment bill.

BNP has introduced two bills (11th and 12th) and AL

See Page 10 Col. 1

AL wants consensus on amendments

By Staff Correspondent

The Awami League working committee has welcomed the initiatives of the Parliament members irrespective of party affiliations to establish parliamentary democracy in the country.

The committee expressed the hope that the members would arrive at a decision acceptable to all to fulfil commitments of the three alliances for materialising people's aspirations.

The two-day committee meeting, that ended Saturday afternoon, reviewed the political situation and discussed the Constitution amendment bills

introduced in Parliament. The meeting was presided over by AL chief Sheikh Hasina.

In a resolution adopted at the meeting, the committee mentioned about the amendment bill submitted by AL leader Abdus Samad Azad on April 14 and said that the bill, aimed at upholding parliamentary democracy, especially emphasised the status and democratic rights of Parliament members.

The meeting deplored that the ruling party the BNP, tactfully delayed the introduction of the AL bill and introduced

See Page 10 Col. 7

5-party leaders call on Khaleda, extend support

The leaders of the five-party alliance, led by Rashed Khan Menon, MP, Saturday called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her Secretariat office, reports BSS.

They congratulated Begum Zia for introducing the 12th Amendment Bill which seeks re-introduction of parliamentary system of government in place of the presidential form and said they had total support to the substances of the Bill.

The leaders exchanged views with the Prime Minister on various aspects of the Bill. They also discussed other amendment bills placed by other members including

See Page 10 Col. 4

Meet Hasina

A delegation of the central Five-Party Alliance met the Leader of the Opposition and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina in Dhaka on Saturday and discussed the Constitution Amendment Bills introduced in the Jatiya Sangsad, reports BSS.

Five-Party leaders included Kazi Arif Ahmed, Hasanul Haq Inu, Khalequzzaman, Subhansu Chakrabarti, AFM Mahbul Haq, Matnuddin Ahmed Khan Badal, Nazrul Islam, Najem Jahangir, Rashed Khan Menon, Haider Akbar Khan Rano, and Nirmal Sen. Awami League leaders Abdus Samad Azad and Mohammad Nasim were present on the occasion.

The Five-Party leaders handed over a written recommendation of the Alliance on constitution amendment to Sheikh Hasina.

Syndicate team calls on Shahabuddin Meet of political parties on DU situation likely

The Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed said firm actions are necessary to stem violence in the campus but expressed doubts whether all quarters would extend whole-hearted support and cooperation to the police if extreme measures are taken, reports BSS.

The Acting President told an eight-member delegation of the Dhaka University Syndicate led by Vice Chancellor Prof Maniruzzaman Mia he would consider the suggestion of the delegation for calling a grand meeting of the political parties seeking their cooperation to free the campus of arms.

The delegation met the Acting President, who is also Chancellor of the universities, Saturday to apprise him of the situation facing the university due to continuous presence of arms and fierce rivalry between student fronts in the campus.

The members of the delegation said recurrence of violent activities by the rival student fronts had vitiated the academic atmosphere.

They met the Acting President at the President's Secretariat and urged the government to take immediate measures for freeing the

See Page 10 Col. 2

Traders using VAT to raise prices

Star Economic Report

Prices of yarn, powdered milk, sweetmeats, and various other items registered a steady rise in the city markets over the last one week.

The traders tried to justify the price-rise in the name of Value Added Tax (VAT). But, no VAT is operative at retail or wholesale levels. The VAT only replaces sales tax at import stage and excise duty on domestically produced goods and some services sectors.

Even some brands of locally manufactured cigarettes shot up, though cigarettes along-

with 10 other excisable items were spared of the VAT at the manufacturing stage. A packet of 20-stick 'Gold Leaf', a local brand of cigarettes, sold Saturday at the retailers' level at Taka 42, up by Taka two in last two or three days.

The retail prices of cigarettes provided an example as to how a section of traders was using the VAT for raising prices.

The VAT under its existing provisions should not affect business enterprises or organisations with annual business turnover below Taka two lakh. See Page 10 Col. 6

Sino-Bangla report on flood control presented to PM

The study report on flood control and river training project on the Brahmaputra was submitted to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her Sugandha office on Saturday evening, reports BSS.

Wang Shouqiang, the Chinese Vice-Minister for Water Resources and M A Malik, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control, presented the report to Begum Zia.

While presenting the report, Shouqiang gave an outline of the report, prepared by a joint team of Chinese and Bangladeshi experts with technical and financial assistance from China.

The three-day high-level meeting between China and Bangladesh had earlier approved and adopted the report following detailed discussions.

Begum Khaleda Zia appreciated the financial and technical support extended by China

See Page 10 Col. 1

Indian Army chief arrives

The Indian Chief of Army Staff General Santh Francis Rodrigues arrived in Dhaka on Saturday on a six-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh, an ISPR press release said, reports BSS.

He is accompanied by Mrs Rodrigues and a three-member Indian military goodwill delegation.

Chief of Army Staff Lt General Muhammad Noor Uddin Khan, Begum Sophia Khan and senior army officers received them at the Zia International Airport.

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Krishna Srinivasan and other High Commission officials were also present at the airport.

Photo on page 10

JUCSU elections peaceful

JU Correspondent

The eighth Jahangirnagar University Central Students Union (JUCSU) and hall union elections were held peacefully Saturday amid tight security.

A total of 1841 students out of 2188 cast votes for the 16-member JUCSU and the hall unions. The voter turnout was 84.15 per cent.

Balloting continued from 9 am to 3 pm without break at six different halls of the University.

Officials said about 80 booths were set up for the elections.

The highest number of votes (87.73 per cent) was cast in the Shahid Salam Barkat Hall while the lowest (83.19 per cent) was cast in the Fazilatunnesa Hall.

Some 282 candidates under three separate panels contested for 94 posts in the JUCSU and hall unions.

JU Students Action Committee (JUSAC), Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Shamajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) competed in the polls.

JUSAC, the alliance of five student organisations is comprised of Chhatra League (S-

See Page 10 Col. 5

JP undecided on amendments

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Party has yet to take a decision whether it will support the proposed Constitution amendment bill or not. The party in a meeting of its presidium held on Thursday discussed both the amendment bills, proposing switchover to parliamentary system, but failed to come to consensus.

When contacted, acting chairman of Jatiya Party Moudud Ahmed said the bills needed further scrutiny by the party. He said the party would take its decision after observing the moves by other opposition parties including Awami League.

He said another meeting of the Parliamentary Party of Jatiya Party would be held on Monday to decide — what would be their stand on the proposed bills.

Moudud Ahmed said Jatiya Party presidium members would sit again after the decision of the Parliamentary Party.

Related story on Page 5

Serbian President asks people to be ready for war

BELGRADE, July 6: Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic today told the people of Serbia, Yugoslavia's biggest republic, to be ready for war, reports agencies.

He also said Yugoslavia could progress better without "those who have decided to leave it" — and apparent reference to the breakaway republics of Slovenia and Croatia.

But he said the Yugoslav army should be posted on all territories whose inhabitants wished to stay in the Balkan federation, clearly referring to the 600,000 strong Serbian

involve in Croatia. The citizens of Serbia should be ready for the defence of their country,"

Milosevic said in a statement broadcast on Belgrade radio and television. Milosevic said Serbia should rely for its defence on the Yugoslav army and its own territorial defence units which he said were bigger, better armed and better trained than those of any other of Yugoslavia's six republics and two provinces.

Federal and Slovenian leaders ended initial negotiations

Saturday undecided on who controls the breakaway republic's borders.

Ethnic violence continued in Croatia, the other independence seeking republic. Leaders there warned of possible attack by federal forces in Croatia to separate feuding Serbs and Croats.

Slovenian officials said new talks were planned to try to compromise on federal demands that the republic give up control of its border posts by noon (1000 GMT), Sunday, but they did not say when the two sides would meet again.

Stipe Mesic, the chairman of Yugoslavia's collective presidency, stressed that the central leadership has no plans to use the army to enforce the deadline, but concerns remained that the army would act independently of the national politicians.

Mesic said talks with a European Community delegation due in Yugoslavia on Sunday "could provide the only lasting peaceful solutions to the crisis."

Slovenia has complied with other federal demands in an attempt to end the violence

that followed its declaration of independence. But it insists on control of its borders with Austria, Hungary and Italy.

Slovenia freed 2,316 federal troops taken prisoner in more than a week of fighting, announced it had lifted the blockades at federal army bases and began to demobilise most of its 25,000 member defense force.

Mesic told reporters that civilian authorities were in charge of the army and that there are no plans to use force if Slovenia does not comply

with the noon Sunday deadline for ceding control of the borders. "I believe reason will prevail in the army..." Mesic told reporters.

Slovenian officials said most of the demands of the presidency were "generally acceptable."

But Ciril Zlobec, a member of Slovenia's collective leadership, told reporters in Ljubljana that the border issue was a "highly complex question which cannot be solved quickly."