

Come to CHITAGONG Come to
BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT
 The House of Peace & Rest, The Place of High Class.
 We Cordially invite you to try our Beautifully prepared and Beautifully presented authentic THAI CUISINE and SEAFOOD in the cosy atmosphere of a LOVELY HOUSE.
 1443 ASIAN HIGHWAY ROAD, NASIRABAD, CHITAGONG. RSVP CALL TEL: 226803

The Daily Star

VOL. 1 NO. 185 REGD. NO. DA 781 SHRABAN 13, 1398 BS, DHAKA MONDAY JULY 29, 1991 MOHARRAM 16, 1412 HIJRI 10 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 3.00

শক্তি স্বপ্নে গড়ে
 বাংলাদেশ শান্তি কমিটি
 মহিলা কমিটি
 ১০০১ সিটি এলী জার, ঢাকা.

Inside Today

Article
 Privatisation is not itself a development strategy; it has to be fitted appropriately within the framework of development strategy
 Page 4

International
 Yugoslav warplanes bomb Croatian town of Ilok in reprisal for attack on aircraft
 Page 5

Business
 Potato price has doubled in city markets and elsewhere for confusion arising out of VAT and other reasons
 Page 8

Metropolitan
 Dhaka Day by Day

If a student gets admission to a good school on merit test alone, then the thanks must go to some supernatural forces working behind the success
 Page 3

Sport
 Esteghlal Club of Iran challenge defending champion Liaoning FC of China in today's final of 10th Asian Club soccer championship at Dhaka Stadium
 Page 7

Parliament proceedings
 Page 6

Select Committee submits report on Constitution amendment bills to Jatiya Sangsad

Nation poised for parliamentary form



Motor vehicles cramming one of the few filling stations that were open in the city yesterday. Others had to close for want of fuel due to transport strike. —Star photo

Transport strike called off

The transport strike was called off Sunday after the signing of a memorandum of understanding by the government and the leaders of the Transport Owners and Workers Action Committee, reports UNB.

The Action Committee called a 72-hour non-stop strike from Saturday protesting an untoward incident at Sayedabad bus terminal on Friday.

The signing of the agreement followed a meeting of the government and the Action Committee, led by the Communication Minister Col (Rtd) OI Ahmed in the chair.

The meeting decided to take legal action against those responsible for Friday's untoward incident at the Sayedabad bus terminal and necessary measures to stop recurrence of such incidents.

The Communication Minister also assured that administrative and legal steps will be taken against the responsible people after enquiring into similar incidents that occurred at other bus terminals in the country.

The minister said that necessary steps will also be taken to stop illegal activities by any individual or organisation at bus terminals and attempts to politicise road transport organisations.

The meeting was also attended by the Roads and Highway Division Secretary, the BRTA Chairman and high police officials.

The Action Committee was represented by Haji Zainul Abedin, Ashraf Khan, Abdul Kader, Alhaj Golam Mowla, Hasan Imam, Rafiqul Hossain and Khandaker Enayeturrahman Khan, MA Rashid, Shahjahan Khan and Habibur Rahman Khan of Bangladesh Paribahan Samik Federation.

An earlier report of our Staff Correspondent said: Normal life in the capital remained partially paralysed Sunday causing sufferings of the people as buses, minibuses and tempos stayed off the roads. Acute fuel crisis caused by short supply aggravated the situation as most of other motorised vehicles exempted from the strike, were also forced to stay off the roads.

The fuel scarcity was caused

The report of the Select Committee on the Constitution amendment bills providing for switchover to parliamentary democracy was submitted to the Jatiya Sangsad (parliament) by Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz Sunday.

The 11th and the 12th amendment bills, as amended by the committee, were also submitted along with the report. Discussions on the bills will start this afternoon. The two bills are expected to be passed by a two-third majority of the House within three to four days.

The bills as amended seek to amend a total of 31 articles, the Third and the Fourth Schedules. Amendment of the Fourth Schedule is to provide for a transitional clause to validate the appointment of Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed as Vice-President and all his actions as Acting President.

The packed House vibrated with jubilation as the Select Committee report was being submitted for changing the form of government in keeping with the spirit of the

By Staff Correspondent
 November 19, 1990 Joint Declaration of Eight, Seven, and Five-party Alliances, Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali was in the chair.

Besides the 11th and the 12th amendment bills introduced by the Government, another bill introduced by AL leader Abdus Samad Azad and four bills by Workers Party leader Rashed Khan Menon were scrutinised by the Select Committee.

The Select Committee incorporates in the 11th and the 12th amendment bills of the Government certain provisions of the private member's bills of Abdus Samad Azad and Rashed Khan Menon, besides adding a few new provisions.

The differences over floor crossing were resolved by proposing to insert two new clauses in Article 70. One clause says questions over leadership of the parliamentary party of a political party shall be resolved by the Speaker and anybody failing to comply with the direction of the leadership so decided shall vacate his seat. Another clause

proposes that any independent member joining a party shall be deemed to have been elected as a nominee of that party and the restriction in respect of floor crossing will be applicable for him.

The clause proposed in the BNP bill for disqualifying MPs, vacating seats on the charge of floor crossing for five years has been dropped. Similarly, the proposal that any MP expelled from his party shall also vacate his seat, has also been deleted.

It has been resolved that the Chief Election Commissioner shall conduct election of the President as proposed in the Awami League bill. BNP's stand has been conceded to through an understanding that the bill will remain silent as to whether the election would be held in a secret or an open ballot. An ordinary law on the election would determine this.

The opposition has conceded the government proposal that there should be a scope for appointing ministers

News analysis

Let democracy take its roots

by Reazuddin Ahmed
 It was a momentous occasion for the nation on Sunday when all in the Jatiya Sangsad (parliament) stood united to back the Constitution amendment bill for switching over to parliamentary form of government. The unprecedented unity and sobriety demonstrated by the members of both treasury and opposition in the House raised the expectation about more such consensus on major political and economic issues in future to lead the nation to prosperity.

The above statements by Mirza Golam Hafiz, Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury and

Independence of judiciary not ensured: Jamaat

By Staff Correspondent
 The central Majlis-e-Shura of Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh on Sunday expressed its opinion that the obstacles to implement parliamentary democracy has been removed following the unanimous decision to accept the proposed Constitution amendment bill by the Select Committee.

Presided over by the Acting Amcer Abbas Ali Khan, the meeting observed that holding elections under a care-taker

JP opposes return of Shahabuddin to the bench

By Staff Correspondent
 Acting Chairman of the Jatiya Party Moudud Ahmed said on Sunday that his party would oppose return of Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed to the Supreme Court bench.

He explained the reasons of his note of dissent as a member of the Parliamentary Select Committee on 11th and 12th Constitutional Amendment

Seen from the Gallery

by Mahfuz Anam
YESTERDAY it was a pleasure to watch the proceedings of Parliament from the "gallery". For what we saw was a rare treat. Every member of the House for were there: some exceptions that missed our eyes clapped and thumped the table in unison as the venerable Law Minister, Mirza Golam Hafiz presented the consensus 11th and 12th amendment bills to the parliament.

Tk 7,744 cr export planned this year

Star Economic Report
 Commerce Minister M Keramat Ali Sunday announced the bi-annual export policy targeting earnings at Tk 7,744 crore for 1991-92 and Tk 10,000 crore for 1992-93 fiscal years.

The projected earning for fiscal 1991-92 would be 28 per cent higher than the previous year while that of fiscal 92-93 would be 29 per cent higher than that of 1991-92.

The Minister, announcing the policy over radio and television, said exports earnings in 1990-91 stood at Tk 6000 crore, achieving the near target despite Gulf war, unprecedented cyclone and tidal surge of April 29. The earnings were 19 per cent higher than the previous year, he said.

The main objectives of the export policy, the Minister said, included bridging the wide gap between exports and imports through achieving the export target during 1991-93, development of quality export products and expansion of value added products, expansion of the existing and exploration of new markets, diversification of traditional exports for getting higher prices and creation of

Govt will always encourage genuine bank credits to private sector

Star Economic Report
 The genuine bank credits to the private sector will continue to be actively encouraged by the government, Finance and Planning Minister Saifur Rahman told The Daily Star Sunday.

The minister said, "there is essentially nothing wrong with bank borrowings and the government appreciates it fully that the needs for bank credits, irrespective of any limits, depend on specific needs and circumstances."

Forces of chaos jealous at BNP success: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Sunday said the patriotic people of this country would continue to rally round the nationalist force as it would safeguard and protect their interests, reports BSS.

She said the people would always stand by BNP as its programmes were aimed at improving their lot.

Begum Khaleda Zia was addressing a function marking the joining of more than five thousand leaders and workers of different political parties of Singair upazila of Manikganj district at the Sugandha office.

BNP Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukdar, Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan, BNP Joint Secretary General Abdul Matin Chowdhury, MP, Harunur Rashid Khan, MP and Niamatullah Sabu, MP, among others, spoke on the occasion.

Begum Zia said the some quarters, which wanted to plunder the national economy through chaos and confusion, were jealous at the success of BNP.

UGC officials, VCs meet Shahabuddin

Chairman and members of the University Grants Commission and Vice Chancellors of the universities, excepting the universities of Rajshahi and Chittagang, met the Acting President, Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, at his official residence here Sunday afternoon, reports BSS.

They discussed various problems faced by the universities.

The Acting President, who

Ataur Rahman hospitalised

By Staff Correspondent
 Former prime minister Ataur Rahman Khan, 86, has been admitted to Coronary Care Unit (CCU) of Suhrawardy Hospital Sunday following a heart attack.

His condition is stated to be critical.

He is now under the supervision of Dr Abu Zafar and Prof Amanullah. A three-member medical board has also been formed for his treatment.

Contradictory signals from Moscow as Gorbachev prepares for summit

MOSCOW, July 28: President Mikhail Gorbachev is giving out contradictory signals as he prepares for two days of talks with President George Bush in Moscow this week, reports agencies.

He has appealed with passion for Western help for his market reforms, pulled troops out of East European countries, and helped end the decades of superpower antagonism known as the Cold War.

On the other hand he has kept in office a prime minister openly sceptical about Western aid, an intelligence chief who thinks the CIA is trying to break up Soviet society and senior generals who way he is enslaved to foreign patrons.

Politically, Gorbachev is still very much in charge, as he showed last week by persuading the Communist Party to all but disown its long-treasured Marxism-Leninism and the main Soviet republics to accept a new treaty of federal union.

But there are clearly limits to how far he can go to meet US positions during his two days of talks with Bush in the Kremlin on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The START Treaty to be signed on Wednesday will for the first time reduce the number of long-range nuclear missiles and bombers each side

can have and end an era of arms negotiations.

But a reminder that there is plenty of work to do to end military rivalry between the two superpowers came on Saturday with a warning from the deputy head of the Soviet Navy.

Admiral Konstantin Maskaev told a headline newspaper that the threat to Soviet security had increased with the "massive deployment" of US sea-based Cruise missiles.

US General Colin Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, reminded the Soviet brass in Moscow on Wednesday, "Even with the START treaty, you'll have the capacity to destroy us in 30 minutes."

His Soviet counterpart, General Mikhail Moiseyev, said the two armed forces were as close as when their soldiers met as allies on the river Elbe in Germany in World War II.

DU atmosphere council meets today

By Staff Correspondent
 The Dhaka University Education Atmosphere Council (DUEAC) meets today (Monday).

Vice-Chancellor Prof M Moniruzzaman Miah who is also President of the DUEAC has convened the meeting.

SAARC

WELCOME TO DELEGATES OF SAARC SEMINAR ON ENFORCEMENT, PROSECUTION AND TRIAL OF DRUG RELATED OFFENCES
 29-31 JULY, 1991

DEPARTMENT OF NARCOTICS CONTROL
 PRESIDENT'S SECRETARIAT
 1, SEGUNBAGICHA, DHAKA

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড
 ঢাকা
মূল্য সংযোজন কর (ভ্যাট)
সম্পর্কে
বিশেষ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

(১) আগের বিক্ষয় কর ও আবগারী কর ব্যবহার পরিবর্তে ১লা জুলাই, ১৯৯১ থেকে মূল্য সংযোজন কর (ভ্যাট) ব্যবস্থা চালু হয়েছে।

(২) এ কর নিত্য-ব্যবহার্য খাদ্যদ্রব্য যেমন চাল, গম, ডাল, অমটা, ময়দা, পেঁয়াজ, মরিচ, আদা, বেগুন, হলুদ, মাছ, মাংস, আলু ও অন্যান্য তরিতরকারী, শাক-সব্জীর উপর আরোপ করা হয়নি। তেমনিভাবে শাক্কা, লুসিলাহ দেশে তৈরী সকল প্রকার কাপড়চোপড়ের উপর ভ্যাট নাই। তদুপরি বহু কুটিরশিল্পকে ভ্যাটের আওতার বাইরে রাখা হয়েছে। ফলে নিম্ন ও মধ্যবিত্তের ব্যবহার্য আরো শত শত পণ্যের ক্ষেত্রে ভ্যাট নাই। পাইকারী ও খুচরা ব্যবসায়ের উপরও কোন প্রকার ভ্যাট আরোপ করা হয়নি। অতএব ভ্যাট প্রবর্তনের ফলে বাজারে পণ্য মূল্য বেড়ে যাওয়ার প্রবৃত্তি উঠে না।

(৩) ভ্যাট চালু হওয়ার ফলে শতকরা ১০ তাগ পণ্য যেমন আমদানিকৃত সয়াবিন তেল, মসলা, পুরাতন কাপড়, সুপারি, ছাপার কাগি এবং দেশে উৎপাদিত অধিকাংশ পণ্যের উপর করের মোট পরিমাণ আগের বিক্ষয় কর ও আবগারী করের তুলনায় কমে গেছে। ফলে এসব পণ্যের মূল্য বরং কমা উচিত।

(৪) তবুও মুগ্ধের সাথে লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, ভ্যাটে মোহাই দিয়ে বেশ কিছু পণ্যের ক্ষেত্রে মূল্য বাড়াবার অপপ্রয়াস চলছে। কতিপয় স্বার্থাঙ্কেই মন্থনের সুযোগ গ্রহণই এর প্রধান কারণ। ভ্যাট ব্যবহার কর ফাঁকির সুযোগ অনেক কম থাকার এর বিক্ষয়ত্বে কোন কোন মহল অপচরার চালাচ্ছেন।

(৫) বাংলাদেশ একটি উন্নয়নশীল দেশ। দেশকে উন্নত করার জন্য রাস্তা-ঘাট, পুল, কুল, কলেজ, মাদ্রাসা, হাসপাতাল, টিউবওয়েল, বিদ্যুৎ, কৃষি সরঞ্জামের সরবরাহ, সেচ সুবিধা প্রদান ও টেলিযোগাযোগ, বন্যা নিয়ন্ত্রণ, কলকারখানা ইত্যাদি স্থাপন ও নির্মাণ করতে হবে।

(৬) সুদৃ পণ্যতন্ত্র, আইনের শাসন ও মানবাধিকার প্রতিষ্ঠা করা বর্তমান সরকারের অঙ্গীকার। পণ্যতন্ত্র ও আইনের শাসনের পূর্বশর্ত হল অর্থনৈতিক উন্নয়ন, যার জন্য প্রচুর অর্থের প্রয়োজন। উপরন্তু দেশের সার্বভৌমত্ব অক্ষুণ্ন রাখার জন্য আমাদের পরনির্ভরশীলতা কমাতে হবে। কেননা কোন আত্মমর্যাদা সম্পন্ন জাতির পক্ষে চিরকাল পরনির্ভরশীল থাকার বাস্তবায়ন নয়। এ জন্যই পুরানো কর ব্যবস্থার পরিবর্তে ভ্যাটের মত একটি আধুনিক ও গতিশীল কর ব্যবস্থা চালু করা হয়েছে।

(৭) পশ্চিম ইউরোপের উন্নত দেশসমূহের গ্রায় সকল উন্নত দেশে এই প্রণতিপাল কর ব্যবস্থা চালু রয়েছে। আমাদের পাশ্চাত্য ভারত, পাকিস্তান, ইন্দোনেশিয়া, ফিলিপাইন, থাইল্যান্ডসহ গ্রায় ৬০ টি উন্নয়নশীল দেশেও এই ব্যবস্থা চালু আছে। এ ব্যবস্থা কোনক্রমেই গণস্বার্থের বিরোধী হতে পারে না। যদি তা হত, তাহলে পণ্যতন্ত্রিক দেশসমূহে এই ব্যবস্থা চালু করা সম্ভব হত না।

(৮) সুভারঙ্গ জনগণের ভাগ্যোন্নয়নে এবং জাতির সার্বিক উন্নয়নের স্বার্থে সরকার এই প্রণতিপাল কর ব্যবস্থার সকল বাস্তবায়নে আপনাদের আন্তরিক সহযোগিতা কামনা করছে।

ডিএফপি(জি)-১৬০৭-২৮/৭
 জি-৩৫৮
জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড