Flood situation in 21 dis-

tricts worsened Friday with

downflow of waters while signs

of slight recession were

marked in the five upper

catchment towns of Dinajpur,

Thakurgaon, Panchagarh.

Rangpur and Nilphamari. But

overall situation in the five dis-

tricts remained critical and

unchanged.

VOL. 1 NO. 232 REGD. NO. DA 781

BHADRA 29, 1398 BS, DHAKA SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 1991 RABIUL AWAL 4, 1412 HIJRI PRACTICE YOUR DEMOCRATIC RIGHT DO NOT FORGET TO CAST YOUR VOTE **VOTE FOR DEMOCRACY**

VOTE YES IN THE REFERENDUM

Dolce Vita (Italian Restaurant) Dolce Vita Gelato (Icecream parlour) 54 KAMAL ATATURK AVE. PH. 600589

BANANI, DHAKA

12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 3.00

Cast 'yes' vote

I first spoke

for democracy,

says Hasina

Awami League Chief and

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Friday said it was

she who first raised voice

against the military rule and

Sheikh Hasina urging the

people to cast "yes" vote in

the coming referendum in a

statement said "I believe the

democracy-loving people will

take part in the referendum in

a massive way to implement

the dreams of hundreds of

for democracy, reports UNB.

– Inside Today –

Article

Identifying land for low-income groups Page 4

International



Three Baltic states and 12 Soviet republics agree to maintain a collective defence Page 5

Feature

Environment

Natural Calamities and Their remedies Page 8

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Why are law enforcing agencies so concerned with disciplinary actions against little children when criminals run loose on the streets ? asks Ain O Shalish Kendra

Page 3 Business

Salvage of BCCI London begins Page 6 Rubber production will fall by 33 per cent Page 7

NEWS BRIEFS

Public holiday tomorrow

To facilitate more people to take part in the referendum, the government has declared September 15 as a public holiday an official handout said here last night. The holiday will not be applicable to the national newspapers, the handout said, reports BSS.

Ban on vehicular movement

Dhaka Metropolitan Police has banned the movement of all vehicles within 200 yards of each polling centre in the city area from 12 midnight today to 12 midnight on September 15 for smooth holding of the referendum, a DMP press release said here Friday. The ban will not be applicable for those ve-hicles which will be used for election purposes, the press release said, adding, it will not also be applicable for those vehieles with permits obtained carlier, reports BSS.

BAU reopens Sept 25

AGRI-VARSITY (My mensingh), Sept 13: All classes, examinations and halls of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) will remain closed till September 25 instead of September 15, as announced earlier, a notification by the registrar of the university, said today. The notification said that this order had come into effect following a decision taken at an emergency meeting of BAU Syndicate held today. All classes and halls of residence will reopen on September 26, 1991 as usual, reports BSS.

De Cuellar in Jeddah

JEDDAII, Sept 13: United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived here today and opened talks with Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al-Fatsal on Gulf security and Afghanistan, reports AFP.

Marooned people await rescue, need emergency relief

Floods turn worse in 21 dists

By Staff Correspondent

tracks were under water at some places and washed away by strong currents at others. Road links in the northern districts were also disrupted.

There was almost no rescue operation to remove the marooned people to safer places and relief was too inadequate. In some places, there was no relief measure at all.

Mahananda, the Punarbhaba. the Gorai, the Brahmaputra, the Teesta, the Meghna were flowing above danger level.

The Ganges rose further at all points Friday and at Pankha in Chapainawabganj it was 1.47 metre above the red

mark. Meghna at Bhairab Bazar registered rise of 3 cm and

The Brahmaputra at Aricha rose by 7 cm and remained 44

cm above the danger level. Flood information centre of Water Development Board said that the Ganges will rise further at Hardinge bridge and Bhagyakul but may fall a little at Rajshahi and Goalundo. The Brahmaputra is expected to fall at all points during next

Awami League has called a

dawn-to-noon countrywide

hartal today (Saturday) to

protest the alleged attempt on

the life of party chief Sheikh

Hasina, terrorism and vote-

rigging by the ruling party

during Wednesday's by-elec-

ing Dinajpur, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Panchagarh, Bogra,

Sirajganj, Nilphamari and

Chapainawabganj will however

not come under the preview of

the hartal call beginning from

followed by a public meeting

the Bangabandhu Avenue at 4

pm. Party central leaders will

Leaders of the Bangladesh

Nationalist Party (BNP) on

Friday said the hartal call given

by the Awami League is de-

signed to thwart Sunday's ref-

erendum and destroy the

fledgling democracy of the

of the Jatiya Press Club on

Friday afternoon, the BNP

leaders said the Awami League

call for hartal today (Saturday)

has blackened the nation's

cast "yes" vote in the referen-

They urged the people to

new democratic journey.

Addressing a rally in front

country, reports UNB.

address it.

The six-hour hartal will be

The flood-hit areas includ-

few days.

AL calls half-day

hartal today

By Staff Correspondent

AL hartal to thwart

referendum: BNP

The Buriganga at Dhaka may rise further Saturday which may deteriorate the flood situation in and around Dhaka and Narayanganj. The flood forecasting centre warned that the situation in the districts of Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi, Pabna, Kushtia and Faridpur may aggravate while the situa-See Page 12 Col. 3

The hartal programme, the

first of its kind since the fall of

Ershad's autocratic regime in

December last year, was an-

nounced at an AL rally in the

brought out a torch procession

Friday evening in the city to

mobilise support in favour of

its hartal call. The procession

brought out from the AL cen-

tral office at the Bangabandhu

Avenue marched through the

streets of the Old City. The

torch-bearing processionists

AL Joint Secretary Amir

Hossain Amu, Publicity

olence in the by-elections.

See Page 12 Col. 5

racy an institutional shape.

The rally was presided over

by Dhaka City Corporation

Mayor Mirza Abbas, MP and

addressed by BNP Secretary

General Abdus Salam Talukder,

Salauddin Ahmed, MP, DUCSU

VP Amanullah Aman, MP, Wing

Commander (Retd) Hamidullah

Khan, MP, Sramik Dal

President Iskander Ali, Jubo

Dal Secretary Gayeswar Roy,

DUCSU GS Khairul Kabir

Khokan, JCD leader Fazlul Huq

Milon, Syed Mattul Islam, Abu

Syed Khan Khokon, Abu

Mohammad Mainuddin and

Meanwhile, Awami League

city Thursday.

martyrs of democracy". The Awami League Chief said people's struggle for last 16 years for parliamentary democracy has won primary victory overcoming all odds

and obstacles. But unfortu-See Page 12 Col. 1 2 city candidates of AL allege

rigging, terrorism

in by-elections By Staff Correspondent

Awami League has demanded repolling in 45 out of 188 polling centres of two constituencies (Dhaka-5 and 9) of Dhaka where, it alleged, votes were rigged and terrorism was unleashed by the ruling party during Wednesday's by-elec-

chanted various slogans against Addressing a press conference the government and armed vi-See Page 12 Col. 6

No question of my carrying pistol: Shawkat

Dhaka City BNP President Mir Shawkat Ali MP Friday termed 'false, misleading and politically motivated the Awami League allegation that he had influenced voters in different polling centres by brandishing pistol, reports

"The question of my carrying any pistol does not arise at all," he said in a statement refuting the remarks of Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad at a public meeting Thursday.

Shawkat categorically said he is a responsible member of Parliament and added he along with a student visited various polling centres of Dhanmondi and Mohammadpur on the byelection day as the chief election coordinator of a BNP can-

Rajshahi, Chapainawabganj, was flowing 7 cm above danger region was at standstill as The Ganges, Political parties hold rallies, call for casting 'yes' vote

Referendum tomorrow



Kushtia, Kurigram, Gaibandha,

Lalmonirhat, Bogra, Pabna,

Sirajganj and Manikganj are

the worst affected among the

districts where the situation

Although the major rivers

Rail communication in five

continued to rise, the pace

sections of the north-western

aggravated.

slowed.





MOBILISING 'YES' VOTES: (Top) BNP rally in front of the National Press Club; (middle) Jamaat rally at the northern gate of Baitul Mukarram and (bottom) Five-party Alliance rally in front of the GPO held simultaneously Friday afternoon. -Star photo

Star Report

The Referendum on constitutional amendment for parliamentary form of government will be held tomorrow (Sunday) throughout the coun-

The first ever referendum on constitution amendment, will be the last stage to renunciate the existing presidential form of government, which is the legacy of the one party BKSAL rule, imposed in the year 1975.

If the people votes for the parliamentary form of government which was earlier unanimously passed in the parliament through constitution 12th Amendment Bill on August 6 last, it would be automatically deemed as assented by the President.

The change of the form of government got its root in the November 19 joint declaration of the three political alliances which opted for a government accountable to the parliament to fulfil the destre of the peo-

Meanwhile, the President, Chief Election Commissioner ruling BNP and major opposition parties all together have put their all weights to make the referendum a success.

The workers of the BNP. Awami League, Five Party Alliance and Jamaat-e-Islami have already been given instruction from party high commands to make the referendum successful and mobilise people to cast 'Yes' vote in favour of the change of the form of government. On the other hand,

Freedom Party from the very beginning opposed the parliamentary form of government and started a concerted campaign for casting 'no' votes.

The Jatiya Party which had voted for the Constitution 12th. Amendment Bill in the Parliament now remained silent about the referendum. The JP Presidium met last

evening with Mijanur Rahman Chowdhury in the chair to decide whether it would vote for yes or no

According to party insiders its supporters in Ershad's See Page 12 Col. 7

Direct road link with Kathmandu

Bangladesh and Nepal have agreed in principle to establish direct road links to expand economic cooperation between the two neighbouring countries, reports UNB.

Finance and Planning Minister M. Saifur Rahman, returning from Kathmandu after attending the Bangla-Nepal Joint Economic Commission meeting, told reporters at the airport that Bangladesh put special stress on direct road link between the two countries to increase trade flows.

"Nepalese side asked for more import by Bangladesh but we suggested that bridging the gap in bilateral trade will not be possible unless a direct road link is established", said Rahman who led a threemember team at the 8th JEC

session. The issue of road link will also be taken up in the SAARC **Economic Committee meeting** to begin in Nepal on Sunday, said ERD Secretary Enam Ahmed Chowdhury who was also a member of the delega-

There is only 2Q miles of gap between Bangladesh and Nepal on land - Bangladesh in Dinajpur and Kakerbhita in Nepal. If the gap through India can be linked, a drive from Kathmandu to Dhaka will require only 24 hours.

An agreed minutes of the three-day session (September 10-12) was signed Friday morning with both countries agreeing to expand cooperation in areas like joint venture industries, tourism, and technical and educational coopera-

Finance Minister Mahesh Acharya led the Nepalese side which included Finance Secretary Dr. S. N. Shah.

"I told the Nepalese author-See Page 12 Col. 5

Lankan FM in city

The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister J E Harold Herat arrived in Dhaka Friday evening to deliver an invitation from President R Premadasa to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to attend the sixth SAARC summit in Colombo in early

November next, reports BSS. 'I am here to deliver the invitation and also discuss with the Bangladesh officials, the draft document of the summit* he told newsmen at the air-

He was received by Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur See Page 12 Col. 5

Discord high among Soviet reformers

MOSCOW, Sept 13: US Secretary of State James Baker has been told by the Mayor of Moscow that the biggest threat to the Soviet Union is the inability of reformers like himself to work together to solve their problems, report agencies.

Russia's Foreign Minister told him that excessive nationalism in the republics was also jeopardising the reform process.

But Baker said after two days of talks with a wide range of reformers had led him to conclude that 'with respect to values, principles and goals

there is as substantial degree of convergence of views. "One thing that I think that

all reformers that I have met agree upon.... is that it is time for action," Baker told a news conference on Thursday.

There are major economic problems facing the peoples of the Soviet Union and those have to be dealt with cooperatively in a spirit of goodwill if this economic revolution is going to succeed."

Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov had said earlier that reactionary forces like those behind the August 19 coup that briefly ousted Soviet President

Mikhail Gorbachev would remain a threat "as long as they maintain their position in the old structure."

But he added: "Now the biggest threat, however, is not the reactionary forces but he inability of us reformers to really come together and work out our problems."

Popov, a leading advocate of change to Western style democracy and free market economie reform, spoke briefly to reporters at the start of his talks with Baker. Russian Foreign Minister

Andrei Kozyrev said after his

talks with the US Secretary of

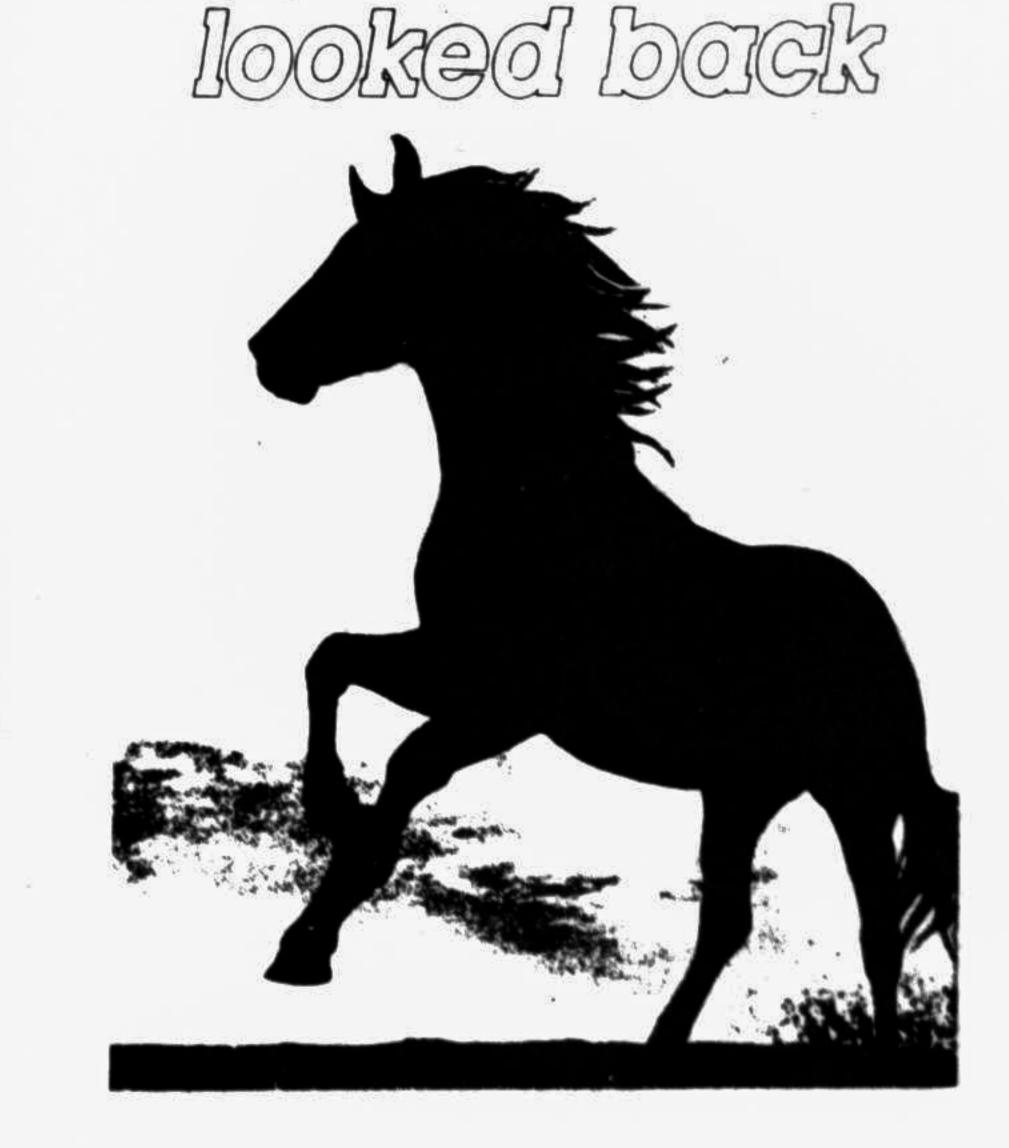
of excessive nationalism" during the delicate transition period from a strong communist central government to one in which republics would have more power and ethnic groups would assert themselves. Eduard Shevar-

State that he saw 'a danger

dnadze, who also met Baker, told reporters another coup attempt was possible.

Soviet Defence Minister Evgeny Shaposhnikov ordered the replacement Thursday of the commanders of the country's Baltic and Black seas navy fleets, the independent Interfax News Agency reported.

Saifuddin Alam. dum for completing the transition to parliamentary The speakers alleged that didate. democracy and giving democ-See Page 12 Col. 6 Green Delie mever



private sector insurance company ,with a piedge to se,ve the national economy providing personalise rvice to suit individual seed. There on Green Delta sever looked tack. Through relentiess efforts and uncompromising strive for perfections it has become the model insurance house with in a short opun of time

Green Delta marches with time Green Delta Insurance

