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The Baily Star

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Inside Today —

atmosphere of a LOVELY HOUSE.



Foreigners in Zaire jammed planes and boats as European soldiers led evacuation Page 5

Article

PLO should join the peace conference. It should be aware of its position in the Arab world. After Gulf war negotiation appears as only option Page 5

Feature

Development

candidates - Abdur Rahman Economic Advance-Biswas, Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury and Al-Haj Moqbul ment of Rural wo-Hossain — were submitted to men in Asia the Chief Election Commi-Page 8 ssioner Justice MA Rouf on Wednesday for election to the

Nomination papers of three

The Standing Committee of

the Bangladesh Nationalist

Party (BNP) in a meeting at

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's

secretariat office earlier in the

morning formalised the nomi-

nation of Abdur Rahman

held the post of Speaker of the

Jatiya Sangsad till Wednesday

morning had submitted his

resignation as Speaker before

the submission of his nomina-

tion paper. Acting President

Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed

The floods in the northern

region of the country will en-

tail a total loss of about eight

lakh tons of food production in

current fiscal year, according

to a preliminary official

adverse budgetary impact, ne-

cessitating more than targeted

food imports for 1991-92. The

import target was earlier set at

19 lakh tons - 17.50 lakh tons

under food aid and 1.5 lakh

tons from cash resources - for

will be reassessed now follow-

ing the finalisation of the de-

tailed estimates about foodcrop

loss and production perfor-

The import requirements

the current fiscal year.

The loss is likely to have an

assessment.

Abdur Rahman Biswas who

post of President.

Biswas.

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Jamal Ahmed is all out to please the viewer with no ambition of trying to instruct or guide Page 3

Business

The USA has continued to be the main export market of Bangladesh while Singapore has emerged as the major import source Page 7

NEWS BRIEFS

World Maritime Day today

World Maritime Day will be observed in Bangladesh today (Thursday) like other maritime countries of the world. State Minister for Shipping Harunal-Rashid will inaugurate a function at Dhaka hotel. The theme of the year is, "Passenger and crew safety on board ship." The day will also be observed in the port cities of Chittagong and Khulna, reports BSS.

Four electrocuted in Mymensingh

From BAU Correspondent MYMENSINGH, Sept 25 Four persons were electrocuted at Fulpur Sadar upazila last night. Moinuddin was electrocuted (15) when he came in touch of a torn electric wire near the local power development office late Tuesday night. His mother Nurjahan (40) and neighbours Samad Ali (40) and his wife Hawa Bibi (30) were electrocuted when they were trying to rescue Moinuddin.

Mann back in Britain

LYNEHAM, Sept 25: Freed British hostage Jack Mann arrived back in Britain today aboard a Royal Air Force VC-10. The return of the former Battle of Britain Pilot, 77, was triumphantly saluted by a World War II Spitfire, almost identical to one once flown by Mann himself, reports AFP.

Tito's remains.

BELGADE, Sept 25 : The remains of President Josip Broz Tito, the founder of Yugoslavia's Communist state, will be transferred from a Belgrade hilltop memorial to a public cemetery, a Serbian official said Wednesday, reports

Presidential poll: BNP fields Biswas, Awami League Badrul Haider Choudhury, Mokbul Hossain

ASHWIN 10, 1398 BS, DHAKA THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 1991 RABIUL AWAL 16, 1412 HIJRI



(Left) LGRD Minister and BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukder submitting nomination papers for Abdur Rahman Biswas and (right) Awami League leader Abdus Samad Azad submitting that for Badrul Haider Chowdhury to the Chief Election Commissioner at the Election Commission office Wednesday. Star photo

AL joins race at last moment

By Staff Correspondent

the last by- election in a Dhaka

Abdur Rahman Biswas:

indicated that about 10 per

cent of the targeted transplant

aman production in the region

had been damaged. Besides

aman which is the principal

rice crop in the country, other

crops and vegetables in the

flood-hit areas also suffered ex-

showed that the aman crop

production in 9.49 lakh acres

of lands was fully or partly

damaged. Out of this area,

standing crops on 2.21 lakh

acres were fully damaged while

crops on 7.28 lakh acres were

party destroyed. Cropped area

target for transplant aman in

the country was 1.16 crore

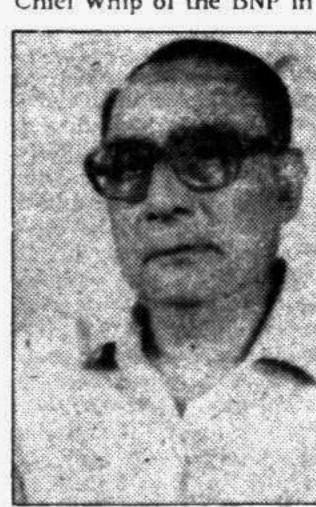
See Page 12 Col. 8

The preliminary assessment

tensive damages.

have been nominated by

Khandakar Delwar Hossain, Chief Whip of the BNP in par-



Badrul Haider Choudhury Presidency should not be politicised

Biswas thanks

BNP leaders

and workers

By Staff Correspondent

date Abdur Rahman Biswas

said on Wednesday he was

thankful to all leaders and

members of the party for nom-

inating him to the highest

tion, the 62-year old politician

said "this should be limited to

the fact that I have only been

nominated by BNP." He re-

ferred to the fact that there

were other contenders and the

Soft-spoken Abdur Rahman

Biswas was BNP's law and par-

liamentary affairs secretary

before he was elected speaker

Movement, Abdur Rahman

Biswas was elected a member

A veteran of the Language

of the fifth parliament.

election was yet to be held.

In response to a congratula

BNP's presidential candi-

liament and member of the party's standing committee told newsmen that their decision to nominate Abdur Rahman Biswas was unani-

Two senior standing committee members Mirza Golam Hafiz and Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury were not present at Wednesday's meeting of the standing committee.

BNP sources said that the two leaders had told the party leadership that they would abide by decision of the standing committee and Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury was subsequently made a proposer in one of the five nomination papers submitted in favour of Abdur Rahman Biswas.

The BNP nominee is certain to win the election since the

jority (170 seats out of 330) in the Parliament.

Strengths of other parties in the Parliament are: Awami League 92, Jatiya Party 35, Jamaat 20, Communist Party of Bangladesh 5, JSD (Siraj), NAP, NDP, Workers Party, Gonotantri Party and Islami Oikya Jote one each and two independents.

Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury is the proposer and Works Minister Rafiqul Islam Mia the seconder of the first nomination paper of Abdur Rahman

His second nomination paper was proposed and seconded by Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali and Works Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar.

Agriculture Minister Gen

party now has an absolute ma-See Page 12 Col. 1 I'm an independent candidate: Badrul

By Moinuddin Naser

Former Chief Justice Badrul llaider Chowdhury has asserted that he is an independent candidate for the post of president of the republic.

"I am not an Awami League candidate but rather an independent one and I am contesting the election to uphold national unity." He said this vesterday while talking over phone with this correspon-

Badrul Haider Chowdhury said that the post of the president of this republic should not be politicized for the sake of democracy, which should be nurtured to put it on firm foot-

Justice Chowdhury, once tipped to contest the parlia-

ticket, and who had met Khaleda Zia on this issue prior to the parliament elections yesterday said that he waited till the last moment of the submission of his nomination papers expecting that some one form the BNP would contact him to be the presidential candidate.

ment election on the BNP

He said, "It is unfortunate for me adding a national consensus has emerged by the establishing of democracy and in a democracy the post of President should be a symbol of unity and democracy should be placed on a firm footing by not politicizing the unity".

He said that the BNP has

See Page 12 Col. 6

Badrul's nomination surprises others

By Reazuddin Ahmed

BNP presidential nominee Abdur Rahman Biswas is un-

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) nominated Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas as presidential candidate with a clear

House of 330 members. Abdur Rahman Biswas requires 166 votes to win the elections. Authoritative sources in Jamaat-e-Islami, which has 20 seats in the Parliament, hinted that the party would back Abdur Rahman Biswas. Although his nomination

paper was proposed and seconded by Awami League MPs Abdus Samad Azad and Tofael Ahmed respectively, Justice Choudhury claimed that he was not an Awami League candidate. "I am an independent

See Page 12 Col. 3

to attend C'wealth summit

Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is expected to lead a 16-member Bangladesh delegation to the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting scheduled for October 16 in Harare, reports UNB.

Officials said today Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman, on return from New York where he is attending the UN General Assembly session, would accompany her.

Prime Minister's entourage to the 11th CHOGM at the Zimbabwean capital will also include new Foreign Secretary Reaz Rahman and Director General (IO) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ruhul Ameen.

This will be Begum Zia's first trip abroad as head of the government of the country under the recently-introduced parliamentary system.

Hasina, Imray talk Indemnity Bill, CHT matters

British and German envoys Wednesday called on Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina and discussed various sociopolitical, economic and a parliamentary affairs, reports

British High Commissioner Colin Imray met with her at her Sangsad Bhaban office at

Various aspects of the referendum on the form of government and Indemnity Ordinance (repeal) Bill now under consideration of parliament were discussed during the meeting.

Matters of the Chittagong Hill Tracts also came up for discussion, her office sources

- The Awamt League President told the envoy of Britain her party would initiate work in different sectors under six cells it has set up for economic emancipation of the

German Ambassador Dr. Scholtyssek called on the Leader of the Opposition at the same venue at noon.

Five-Party call to root out terrorism By Staff Correspondent

The Five-Party alliance at a rally Wednesday reiterated its call for a concerted move by the government and the political parties to root out terrorism from the society, especially from the campuses.

"If terrorism continues unchecked, the nation will suffer irreparable loss and the government would have to bear all the responsibility" alliance convener Bimal Biswas, said while addressing a rally in front of the GPO.

Biswas, while reading out the declaration at the rally said a sincere effort by all concerned was a must to let the new-born parliamentary democracy stand on farm footing, establish democratic norms and spirit in the society and give democracy an institutional

Biswas felt that speeches by leaders of political parties taking stand against the menacc, expulsion from parties of those found involved in terrorism, recovery of unauthorised

Japan assures continued

See Page 12 Col. 2

cooperation

NEW YORK, Sept 25: Dhaka received an assurance of continued cooperation from Tokyo when Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman had bilateral talks here Tuesday with his Japanese counterpart Taro Nakayama, reports UNB.

Mostafiz, now leading Bangladesh delegation to the UN General Assembly session, had also discussions with his counterparts from Jordan Indonesia and other dignitaries on matters of mutual interest.

The Foreign Minister thanked Japan for its generous assistance in the industrialisation process of Bangladesh had its economic growth.

Jordanian Foreign Minister

Dr. Abdullah Nsour praised the new government of Bangladesh for bringing about democratic reforms after he was briefed by Mostafiz about the recent political developments.

DESA starts functioning Oct 1

accepted his resignation.

The nominations of Justice

Badrul Haider Chowdhury and

Moqbul Hossain were engi-

neered by the Awami League.

AL sources say they have called

a meeting of Opposition par-

ties represented in Parliament

this morning to put Justice

The scrutiny of nomination

Chowdhury as the consensus

papers will be held at the

Election Commission today

(Thursday) at 10am, according

be AL's alternative candidate in

case the move to make Justice

Badrul Haider Chowdhury a

that this was not true. AL nom-

inee Mogbul Hossain lost to

Food loss due to N. region

flood stands at 8 lakh tons

Star Economic Report

mance in the wake of the

agencies will be ready with a

clearer picture about foodcrop

preparing a separate report on

overall food supply situation,

requirements for public food

distribution system (PFDS) and

import needs for the current

fiscal year. The report will be

considered at the meeting of

inter-ministerial Resources

Committee, due for early

preliminary reports from the

flood-stricken areas in the

northern parts of the country

Concerned sources said, the

losses by the floods.

October.

The concerned government

The Food Ministry is also

BNP's Zamiruddin Sircar in

However, AL leaders said

consensus candidate fails.

Moqbul Hossain appeared to

to an earlier announcement.

candidate of the Opposition.

The Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) will start functioning on commercial basis on October 1, reports

An agreement to this effect was signed last night after a "satisfactory" discussion between the government and the union leaders of the Power Development Board, an official handout said.

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr. Khandker Mosharraf Hossain signed the agreement on behalf of the government.

President of Bangladesh Jatiya Bidyut Sramik-Karma chari Union Kazi Mosharraf Hossain and General Secretary Zafrul Hasan, Bangladesh Bidyut Sramtk Union President Rashid Ahmed Chowdhury and General Secretary Abdus Salam Khan, Bangladesh Bidyut Board Sramik-Karmachari Union President Golam Rahman and General Secretary Saidur Rahman, Bangladesh Bidyut Unnayan Board Jatiya Sramik-Karmachari Union Acting President Shafi Ahmed Khan and General Secretary Jahir Ahmed and Jatiya Sramik

League President Enamul Haq

and Acting General Secretary

Abdus Samad Dewan signed

the agreement on behalf of the In the agreement, some specific demands of workers and employees of the Power Development Board were accepted in principle and some others were assured active

consideration. Secretary to the Ministry of **Energy and Mineral Resources** Azimuddin Ahmed, Chairman

of Power Development Board AZDM Shamsur Rahman, DESA Chairman Syed Qamrul Alam and other concerned officials were present.

DESA launching was deferred several times in the face of stiff opposition from the PDB trade union bodies.

Notice

Consequent upon the decision of the Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad (BSP) the price of The Daily Star is fixed at Tk 4.00 only from today (Thursday).

- Managing Editor

of then East Pakistan provinassembly in 1962 and Makbul may

Awami League MP Shajahan

withdraw, says his proposer

Khan, proposer of Alhai Chief Justice Badrul Haider Shajahan Khan proposed

Makbul Hossain's name as a candidate for the post of President and filed nomination papers for him with the Election Commission yester-

Makbul Hossain, has said if necessary, his proposed candidate would withdraw candidature abiding by party decision in support of former Chowdhury contesting the October 8 presidential election, reports UNB.

Hasina leaves for London today

majority of 170 members in a

likely to be elected unopposed as the former Chief Justice Badrul Haider Choudhury is determined to contest the election. He told The Daily Star that he was least concerned about victory or defeat in the polls as he was giving a principled fight to record protest against partisan polity which is not desirable at this nascent stage of democracy.

He said Kay, one of the most forceful UN inspectors, was an agent for the US Central Intelligence Agency and the documents would end up in the hands of the Israeli secret service Mossad. Washington said the accusation was ludicrous.

sovereignty and excessive UN during Tuesday

Iraq continues to hold inspectors defying UN order protect the country from any destroy all iraq's weapons of of the United Nations and if NICOSIA, Sept 25: Iraq desaid on Tuesday Iraq must let mass destruction - nuclear, Iraqi Scud missiles that might they continue to do this they the team leave immediately

fied orders from the UN Security Council today by continuing to hold UN inspectors in a Baghdad compound until they had back documents on Irag's nuclear weapons programme, reports Reuter.

The 44-member nuclear weapons team, now in their second day of detention, spent the night on a UN bus and in other vehicles parked in the compound. UN sources said. The United Nations, locked

in a row with Baghdad over ac-

cess for its inspection teams,

with documents they had collected from a Baghdad build-No one is threatening

force..... if they don't comply, we are not just going to go away and do nothing, but that's the next stage," no Western envoy on the Security Council

The United States, in what could be the first step towards military action against Iraq. sent two battalions of Patriot missiles to Saudi Arabia to

have eluded destruction. But the Defence Department in Washington gave no

hint that an attack on Iraq was imminent. In Australia Prime Minister

Bob Hawke joined other Western leaders in saying Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was pushing his luck and risked reprisals if he did not let the inspectors go. "For the iraqi authorities to

detain them is in clear breach

of the decisions and authority

will obviously invoke the appropriate retaliatory action," he said. David Kay, the American

leader of the UN team, has said the documents in dispute contain the complete administrative structure of Iraq's nuclear weapons programme and showed that Baghdad was trying to procure nuclear materi-

The United Nations, under Gulf war ceasefire resolutions, has a mandate to seek out and

Iraq has cooperated with most of the inspection teams but appears to have lost patience with what it sees as repeated violations of its

chemical, biological and ballis-

Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz said on Tuesday the documents at the Baghdad compound were personnel records and completely irrelevant to the team's mission.

The UN sources said Kay's team arranged a sleeping roster overnight to keep guard over the documents. They also have videotapes they made the inspection on

Related story on page 5