

## Inside Today

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In the euphoria generated in the West at the demise of communism in the Soviet Union it has been overlooked that one fourth of the humanity still lives under socialist rule  
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### Supplement

Today's paper contains a three-page Special Supplement on the National Day of Germany on pages 8, 9 & 10. The regular Feature, National and one of the Sport pages are therefore dropped

### NEWS BRIEFS

**Edn Minister meets students today**  
 By DU Correspondent  
 Minister for Education Jamiruddin Sircar has convened a meeting with the leaders of various student organisations today (Thursday) at 11 am in order to try for a consensus on rooting out terrorism from the educational campuses.

### ALPP meet Oct 7

A joint meeting of the Awami League executive committee and the Awami League Parliamentary Party will be held on October 7 at 6 pm at the central office of the party. Awami League President Sheikh Hasina will preside over the meeting, a press release of Awami League said here Wednesday, reports BSS.

## Presidential election : Petition challenging Ordinance moved in single-member vacation Bench

# Writ referred to Chief Justice

By Staff Correspondent

The Writ petition challenging the Election of President Act 1991 and the Election of President (Amendment) Ordinance, moved in the single-member vacation bench on Wednesday was referred to the Chief Justice for order.

The single-member bench comprising Justice Habibur Rahman Khan was of the opinion that the prayer for a stay and also the issuance of a rule was not within the competency of his bench.

The Supreme Court Judge in a written comment said, "I am of the view the matter may be heard by a larger Bench for consideration and determination of the prayers..."

The Writ petition now lies

under discretionary powers of the Acting Chief Justice who may either order the constitution of a Division Bench on an emergency basis to hear the Writ petition, or rule that the petition may be taken up by a Division Bench after the current vacation of the Court expires on October 19.

A single-member bench can grant stay, but does not have the power to issue notice. A Division Bench has both the powers. In case a Division Bench is constituted and a stay granted, the presidential election cannot be held on October 8 as scheduled.

If, however, there is no stay order the presidential election will be held on time.

On Tuesday, the Acting Chief Justice expressed his inability in constituting a Division Bench to hear the Writ during the vacation.

Barrister Amirul Islam, Advocate A F M Mesbahuddin Zakir Ahmed and other lawyers who moved the petition before the single-member bench on Wednesday first saw the Acting Chief Justice M H Rahman.

They appeared on behalf of seven petitioners: Abdus Samad Azad, Tofael Ahmed, Mohammad Nasim, Motta Choudhury and Rahmat Ali of the Awami League, Suranjit Sengupta of the Ganatantri Party, and Prof Abdul Halif of the NAP.

The Election of President Act, 1991 provides for an open election. The Election of President (Amendment) Ordinance promulgated on September 28 provides that the election of President by Members of Parliament will be treated as proceedings of the House and the provision of Article 70 of the Constitution against floor-crossing will be applicable.

The Writ petition submits that "the Ordinance is a fraud upon the Constitution and the legislation is in negation of democracy. It is a device for terrorism. The voters, namely the Members of the Parliament, will be dictated by

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## Recessionary signals getting stronger

# Investment, production slow down

By Moazem Hossain

Recessionary signals, showing declines in output and investments and a sharp contraction in domestic demand, are getting stronger in the organised sectors of the economy.

The imports have slowed down primarily because of a stagnating economic situation. Exports have tended to fall. Export receipts in US dollar terms declined by about five per cent in July 1991 compared to that of July 1990.

The country's foreign exchange reserves are however

robustly strong at over 1004 million dollars. The reserves will get stronger within the next two weeks' time with the release of 110 million dollars, out of a total 195 million dollars in 1991-92, by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as its support for economic reforms in Bangladesh under Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (ESAF). The ESAF package was approved by the IMF Board of Directors for the second year of its operations in 1991-92 on

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## No scope for criticism of Acting President : BNP

Ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Wednesday sharply reacted to the criticism of Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed for promulgating the new ordinance on the Presidential Election Act, reports UNB.

BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukder in a statement said the Presidential Election (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991 was promulgated through the Law Ministry in accordance with the constitutional provision under the parliamentary system.

"Our attention has been drawn to some unnecessary statements published in a section of the press about the Acting President regarding the recently promulgated Ordinance," he said adding "there is no scope for any adverse comment about the Acting President".

### News commentary

## Let Ministers not outsmart colleagues

By Amanullah Kabir

None expects that everything will go smooth, particularly in a problem-ridden country like ours and that every action of the BNP government will go unchallenged. What is expected is wisdom behind every action. And the BNP government failed to show that wisdom when it promulgated an ordinance amending the Election of President Act 1991.

The Ordinance has not only triggered off an adverse reaction in the Opposition but also inside the BNP. The Opposition was thus given a chance to find an issue and it has filed a Writ petition to fight a legal battle in the court, if not on the streets.

In public statements, it has branded the Ordinance as "undemocratic and unconstitutional" and questioned the motive behind it saying that the Ordinance is aimed to infringe on the rights of the Members of Parliament.

But what matters more than the Opposition reaction is the reported resentment among the MPs of the ruling party itself. By promulgating the controversial Ordinance, the BNP government has exposed its own weakness to the public only ten days after assuming full state power under the parliamentary form of government and a lack of mutual trust

among themselves. If the BNP high command suffers from a lack of confidence in its Members of Parliament, there were other ways to handle the situation more confidently and effectively. Maybe, there are some unhappy Members of Parliament in the BNP, but does it amount to the extent of rebelliousness? Hopefully, the inner-party situation of the BNP is not like that as available reports say and also the present political context does not permit such developments in the ruling party, the leadership of which supposedly still enjoys the confidence of the people who gave them the mandate to run the country only eight months back. Such a folly on the part of the BNP will only shatter the people's confidence.

There are different interpretations of the Ordinance by different quarters, but the ultimate and only objective is to plug floor-crossing. In other words, the BNP wants to ensure its party votes in the presidential election instead of winning support of other parliamentary groups or parties.

It is learnt that the BNP leadership has not even sought the votes of the Jamaat Parliamentary Party which lent unconditional support to the BNP in forming a government

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Unconcerned about the danger of the accident prone Dhaka streets, these underprivileged boys are out on a pleasure hunt.

— Star photo

## We want to see BAF stronger : Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Wednesday called upon the members of Bangladesh Air Force to play their due role in leading the nation to the path of cherished development, reports BSS.

Addressing the officers, airmen and civilian employees of the BAF at the Kurmitola maintenance hangar Begum Zia said "as an integral part of the people, the Air Force personnel have to work with them in nation-building besides protecting the country's independence and sovereignty."

Underscoring the prime importance of making the country's Air Force stronger and efficient Begum Zia said, "We want to continue the efforts to strengthen our Air Force."

The Prime Minister said the country's Air Force had achieved a laudable progress through contributions of its staff at all levels. "We want the force to be more efficient and stronger."

Begum Zia said shaheed president Ziaur Rahman wanted to see a stronger, modern and self-dependent Air Force, suited to the needs of the hour. The present government would work to make true the dreams of shaheed president Zia, she said.

Outlining the development programmes of her government, the Prime Minister said, "We want to achieve a self-reliant economy lessening our dependence on foreign aid."

"It is very difficult for the government alone to achieve that without the help of all quarters as it had inherited a ruined economy out of nine years of autocratic rule," she added.

She said the socio-political changes across the world proved that democracy was imperative for development.

Begum Zia said the present democratic government of Bangladesh had already achieved confidence of the world community.

Begum Khaleda Zia said the Air Force personnel had always stood by the suffering people during the time of natural calamities to give succour to them.

Recalling the remarkable role played by the Air Force personnel during the last April cyclone Begum Zia said it would have been very difficult to reach relief to the affected people in remote areas without sincere and untiring efforts of the Air Force immediately after the cyclone.

The Prime Minister also recalled with deep respect the contributions of Air Force in the War of Liberation.

Earlier on her arrival at the Air Force headquarters the Prime Minister was received by the Chief of Air Staff Air-Vice Marshall Altaf Hossain.

Begum Zia was presented with a guard of honour by a smartly turned out contingent of the Air Force. She took salute and inspected the guard. She was also introduced to PSOs and senior officers of the BAF at the air headquarters. The Prime Minister stayed with the Air Chief for some time. Before departing air headquarters she signed the visitors book.

## Transport workers announce fresh programme today

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Road Transport Workers Federation (BRTWF) will announce its fresh course of action today instead of tomorrow (Friday) in protest against Wednesday's incident at Naogaon.

Earlier, two rounds of talks between the workers' leaders and the Communications Minister failed to resolve the crisis.

The district administration of Naogaon reportedly tried to operate the transports forcibly with the help of BDR and police. Manjurul Ahsan Khan, BRTWF Executive President said at a press conference in the Jatiya Press Club Wednesday.

"The authorities gave up the peaceful way of resolving the issue," he said adding that

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## US voluntary medical team arrives today

By Staff Correspondent

Members of the American Voluntary Medical Team (AVMT) will arrive in Dhaka today to provide medical relief to victims of floods in the Rajshahi and Rangpur areas. The Ministry of Health is coordinating their visit.

The group, led by Cindy H McCain, President and Founder of AVMT and wife of US Senator John McCain, includes 20 general medicine physicians and nursing staff, according to a USIS press release issued last night.

The team will provide treatment for tropical diseases, malnutrition, dysentery.

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## If needed I will go to court: Badrul

Justice Badrul Haider Choudhury, a candidate for October 8 presidential election, Wednesday said he would go to the Court, if necessary, to file a writ challenging the new Ordinance on the Presidential Election Act.

"This is a Damocles's sword, a fraud in a Draconian fashion which is bereft of all legislative norms," he told UNB commenting on the Ordinance which made the presidential election a part of parliamentary proceedings.

"It (the Ordinance) is unconstitutional, undemocratic and shameful interference in the process of democracy. It tantamounts to interference in the constitutional authority of the Election Commission."

Justice Choudhury, a former Chief Justice, said he might consider filing a writ petition because "I am an aggrieved person inasmuch as some honourable MPs who intend to

vote for me are now giving second thought because of the Ordinance."

In this context, he mentioned the initiatives by some members of parliament in filing writs in the High Court and trying to get a bench for hearing.

The former Chief Justice indicated that if the MPs failed to get a bench for any reason whatsoever, he might go to the Court on October 5 or 6 at the latest.

He said the Acting President promulgated the Ordinance under Article 93 of the Constitution without mentioning in the preamble of the Ordinance as to the necessity for promulgating such an ordinance.

According to the Constitution, if the President is satisfied that the existing circumstances require promulgation of such law, then

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## Credit freeze will go, hopes Minister

After DESA new World Bank terms for loan likely

Star Economic Report

Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Dr Khandaker Mosharrar Hossain Wednesday expressed his confidence that the Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) would reduce the system loss in power sector substantially through better management and would also served the consumers better.

Talking to The Daily Star, the Energy Minister explained the reasons for establishing DESA and dwelt on its operational procedure. DESA's operation started October 1.

When asked about donors' reaction after launching of DESA, the Minister said that it would be "naturally positive". He expressed the hope that the temporary suspension of IDA credit in power sector which was imposed on September 4, would be withdrawn soon.

The International Development Association (IDA) suspended credits due to non-fulfilment of donor's conditions including launching of

of emergency.

In the Caucasus, prospects dimmed for settlement of the vicious conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, a mostly Armenian territory lying within predominantly Azerbaijan.

Armenia's Interior Ministry accused Azerbaijan of violating a Russian-sponsored agreement reached last month with Armenia to negotiate a ceasefire to settle the conflict, the news agency Interfax said.

The Interior Ministry claimed Azerbaijani militants

stepped up actions in the territory and other predominantly Armenian areas since the accord was reached Sept 22. It also repeated charges that Soviet troops were taking sides in the conflict instead of policing it.

After the talks on economic union, Ivan Shtayev, head of an interim committee overseeing the national economy, said, "The results were beyond expectations."

Related story on Business page

## Economic union in USSR but unrest rages

MOSCOW, Oct 2 : The Soviet Union's 12 remaining republics are strengthening economic ties even as political and ethnic problems rage in the Caucasus Mountains and Central Asia, reports AP.

The republics agreed Tuesday in a one-year economic cooperation pact to coordinate everything from communications to defence after talks in the capital of Kazakhstan, Almaty.

"The process of total disintegration... can be stopped if

we give top priority not to political passions, but to the needs and interests of the populace," Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev told the republican leaders, according to Soviet news agencies.

Passions ran high Tuesday in the streets of Tadjikistan after the republic's Communist-dominated parliament failed to meet opposition demands to replace the newly installed Communist president, the news agency Tass

said.

Ten of 129 hunger strikers camped in front of Tadjikistan's parliament building were in serious condition, including popular poet Oulrukhor, Tass said.

The parliament, which had rebelled against Mikhail Gorbachev's attacks on the party in the coup's aftermath, adjourned after refusing to disband its Communist Party and replace Rakhman Nabyev, even though it had agreed Monday to lift a week-old state

of emergency.

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**জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড**  
**১৯৯১-৯২ কর বৎসরের জন্য**  
**আয়কর রিটার্ন দাখিল**

কোম্পানী বাতীত সমুদয় করদাতাদের জন্য ১৯৯১-৯২ কর বৎসরের রিটার্ন/বিনির্দেশী পত্রটিতে রিটার্ন দাখিলের সময়সীমা ১৫ই সেপ্টেম্বর, ১৯৯১ হইতে ১৫ই অক্টোবর ১৯৯১ ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করা হয়েছে। বিদ্যমান আর করদাতাদের হাফাও বন্ডের মোট আয় বিপদ আর বৎসরে ৫০ হাজার টাকার অধিক ছিল তাদের উক্ত সময়ের মধ্যে রিটার্ন দাখিল এবং রিটার্ন অনুযায়ী দেয় কর পরিশোধ করতে হবে।

আয়কর রিটার্ন কর্তৃক সকল কোম্পানী প্রধান ডাকঘর থেকে সংগ্রহ করা হবে। বিনির্দেশী পত্রটির আওতাভুক্ত করদাতাদের প্রস্তুত আয়কর রিটার্ন করবে 'বিনির্দেশী' পত্রটি লিখে ব্যবহার করতে পারবেন। বিনির্দেশী পত্রটির আওতায় প্রস্তুত আয়করদাতাদের কেবলে আয়ের উর্ধ্বসীমা ১০ লাখ টাকা এবং নতুন করদাতাদের কেবলে বিনির্দেশী পত্রটির আওতায় আয়ের উর্ধ্বসীমা ১ লাখ ২৫ হাজার টাকা। এই পত্রটিতে ব্যবসায় নিয়োজিত নতুন করদাতাদের জন্য কোন গ্রুপ না করে ২ লাখ টাকা পর্যন্ত প্রারম্ভিক সুদান গ্রহণ করার ব্যবস্থা আছে। তবে এই গ্রুপ করদাতাদের যদি প্রারম্ভিক সুদান ক্রয় অথবা সুটের শিল্পে বিনিয়োগ করেন সেক্ষেত্রে ৩ লাখ টাকা পর্যন্ত সুদান কোন গ্রুপ না করে গ্রহণ করা হবে।

পেশাবী/বিশেষের মধ্যে যারা হিসাবের বাতাসার রাখেন এই গ্রুপ করদাতাদের কেবলে বিনির্দেশী পত্রটির সুবিধা কলম্ব আছে।

১৯৯১-৯২ কর বৎসরে কর হার ব্যক্তি কোম্পানী করদাতাদের কোম্পানী আয়ের ৫০ হাজার টাকার উর্ধে অবধি আয়ের এক ব্যক্তির আয়ের বেশী হবে না।

সরকারী আশা করলে যে, আয়করদাতাদের তাদের সঠিক আয় ঘোষণা করে ফলাফলে আয়কর রিটার্ন দাখিল করবেন।

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**জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড**