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The Daily Star

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Inside Today

Article



**Earth Summit :
 Need for global,
 regional and national
 actions.**
 Page-4

International



**Bush-Yeltsin summit
 June 16**

**Khmer Rouge refuses
 to disarm its
 fighters**
 Page 5

Business



**Run-up to
 the budget**

**The economy that
 was in 1991-92**
 Page 7

Metropolitan



Dhaka Day by Day

Holiday Notice

The Offices of *The Daily Star* will remain closed on June 11, 12 and 13, 1992, on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha. Therefore, there will be no issue of the newspaper on June 12, 13 and 14, 1992. — Management

Supplement

Today's newspaper includes a 2-page Supplement on the National Day of the Philippines. Actual date of the National Day of the Philippines is 12 June, 1992. Since there is no issue of the newspaper on that date (due to Eid-ul-Azha holidays) the Supplement is published a day earlier. — Editor

NEWS BRIEFS

Tamaddun Majlish team meets PM

A four-member delegation of Tamaddun Majlish, led by Principal Dewan Mohammed Azfar, called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her Sugandha office yesterday evening, reports UNB.

Lunar eclipse June 15

A partial lunar eclipse will take place on June 15, an ISPR press release said yesterday. The moon will enter penumbra at 0809.1 am and will leave penumbra at 1344.9 pm on June 15, reports BSS.

Over two million perform Hajj

MOUNT ARAFAT (Saudi Arabia), June 10 : More than two million Muslim pilgrims chanted prayers and verses of the Holy Quran on the desert slopes of this holy mountain near Makkah from daybreak today at the climax of the annual hajj, reports Reuter. Dressed simply in white, scantless robes, pilgrims from around the world said their main concern was the heat, forecast at 45 degrees Celsius (113 F). Only a few managed to climb the small hillock known as Jabal ar-Rahman (mount of forgiveness) where Prophet Mohammad (SM) delivered his last sermon 14 centuries ago. Official said 1,012,140 pilgrims had come from abroad this year to join more than one million from within Saudi Arabia at rites considerably eased by expanded and improved facilities under a five billion US dollars Saudi government scheme. The annual gathering of Muslim multitudes has inevitably seen many dramas in the past. Some 1,400 pilgrims died in a tunnel stampede two years ago. More than 400 mainly Iranian pilgrims died in clashes with security forces in 1987. But the only reported incident this year was a small fire, that caused minor damage and no injuries at a camp for southeast Asian pilgrims on Tuesday. Charges by Iraq that 10 of its pilgrims were left to die have been branded as lies by officials here who have also ridiculed Libyan complaints that Saudi Arabia would not break a UN embargo to allow Libyan pilgrims to fly in. Most of the pilgrims were completely absorbed in their religious rites and seemed oblivious to the fuss abroad. Muslims are required to perform the hajj at least once in a lifetime and the ceremonies at Mount Arafat are the

high point of the pilgrimage. Following the footsteps of the Prophet (SM) they started the pilgrimage with the tawaf ceremony of circling the Kaaba at the heart of the Grand Mosque in Makkah, which Muslims face wherever they are to perform their five daily prayers. As sunset approaches today, the pilgrims will head towards Mina, about six km (four miles) west and halfway to Makkah to celebrate Islam's holiest feast, the Eid-ul-Azha on Thursday. Hundreds of thousands of sheep, goats, cows and camels will be sacrificed at Mina over the three-day Eid when the pilgrims will also perform the ritual of stoning the devil (Satan). Pilgrims are entitled to the title of Hajj only when they complete the rites with a final tawaf around Kaaba in Makkah. Some will visit the Holy Prophet's tomb in the holy city of Medina before heading home.

Eid-ul-Azha marks the sacrifice and selfless services of Hazrat Ibrahim (RA) to Almighty Allah inspiring the Muslims to the ideals of conviction and determination to remain on the path of truth. The day is celebrated with offering of Eid prayers, sacrifice of animals, feeding and distributing meat to the poor and destitute. The government has announced a three-day public holiday, beginning today, on the occasion of the Eid-ul-Azha. National flags will fly atop all government buildings on the day. National newspapers will bring out special supplements today highlighting the significance of the holy occasion. Radio Bangladesh and Bangladesh Television will put on air special programmes on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha. A press release of the Postal Department said that all post Sec Page 12 Col 4



Police firing tear-gas shells to disperse the rival groups locked in clash over lease of Fulbaria Cattle-Market yesterday. —Star photo

Eid-ul-Azha tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent
 Holy Eid-ul-Azha, one of the two major festivals of the Muslim community, will be celebrated tomorrow (Friday) all over the country with due solemnity. Eid-ul-Azha marks the sacrifice and selfless services of Hazrat Ibrahim (RA) to Almighty Allah inspiring the Muslims to the ideals of conviction and determination to remain on the path of truth. The day is celebrated with offering of Eid prayers, sacrifice of animals, feeding and distributing meat to the poor and destitute. The government has announced a three-day public holiday, beginning today, on the occasion of the Eid-ul-Azha. National flags will fly atop all government buildings on the day. National newspapers will bring out special supplements today highlighting the significance of the holy occasion. Radio Bangladesh and Bangladesh Television will put on air special programmes on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha. A press release of the Postal Department said that all post Sec Page 12 Col 4

Forces deployed in Tinbigha, Sec 144 imposed

LALMONIRHAT, June 10: The Indian authorities have imposed Section 144 on and around Tinbigha corridor and deployed huge contingents of police and paramilitary forces to thwart the campaign against leasing of the corridor to Bangladesh, reports UNB. The Tinbigha Resistance Committee, backed by Bharatiya Janata Party and several other extremist groups, have been agitating against the Indian government's decision to lease the corridor as per agreement signed by Bangladesh and India in 1974. Reports trickling in here from across the border said the West Bengal police arrested 12 leaders of the Resistance Committee after they led a demonstration before the residence of the Meckliganj Magistrate on June 8 protesting the lease of the Tinbigha corridor. The Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police

(CRP) and West Bengal Police (WBP) have been posted in the corridor to execute Section 144 imposed Tuesday to foil the activities of the Resistance Committee. Residents in Dahagram and Angorota enclaves have been passing their days in panic and anxiety following the huge deployment of Indian police and paramilitary forces in the Tinbigha corridor. Panicky residents, particularly young women, have started fleeing the enclaves to take shelter in Patgram inside Bangladesh, reports from the area said. PTI from Calcutta adds: The West Bengal Chief Minister, Jyoti Basu, Tuesday night urged the Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, to see to it that the Congress (I) joined the all-party delegation's proposed visit to Tinbigha. During a telephonic talk with the Prime Minister, Basu held the leader of the opposition Sec Page 12 Col 6

No reason to fear about deposits, says BB

The Bangladesh Bank is determined to maintain discipline in the banking sector and protect interest of the depositors, said an official spokesman Wednesday. "Government stands fully behind the depositors to protect their interest, they have no reason to fear about their deposits", said the spokesman of the Bangladesh Bank allaying apprehension of the people about operation of private banks. The apprehension stemmed from closure of Abu Dhabi based Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), Bangladesh Commerce and Investment (BCI) for illegal banking transactions and action this week against Chairman of United Commercial Bank Limited (UCBL) for irregularities. Action against any individual director of a private bank for his irregularities is certainly not directed against the bank itself but to safeguard the interest of the depositors and the institution by enforcing discipline, emphasised the spokesman. Talking to UNB and BSS, the spokesman claimed that the banking system in Bangladesh "is very sound". There had been no adverse impact on the overall banking operation following closer of BCCI and BCI. He admitted certain lacuna in the law giving chances of taking advantages by directors of the private banks. But following amendments last year in the existing law "we have

irregularities. Action against any individual director of a private bank for his irregularities is certainly not directed against the bank itself but to safeguard the interest of the depositors and the institution by enforcing discipline, emphasised the spokesman. Talking to UNB and BSS, the spokesman claimed that the banking system in Bangladesh "is very sound". There had been no adverse impact on the overall banking operation following closer of BCCI and BCI. He admitted certain lacuna in the law giving chances of taking advantages by directors of the private banks. But following amendments last year in the existing law "we have

US threatens to boycott Rio Declaration

WASHINGTON, June 10: The United States, which has refused to sign the biodiversity treaty, is now threatening to boycott the Rio Declaration unless its wording is drastically changed, reports PTI. The reason given by Michael Young, Deputy Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, for trying to block the Rio Declaration as it stands is that the US objects to language in the declaration that gives poor nations "the right to development". Young told correspondents here that the US also does not like the language that "appears to suggest that the responsibility for environmental damage rests entirely with the developed countries." According to Young the US objected also to the section that takes note of "people under occupied territories." Young said "we will consider a package... if the language that the US delegation does not like is removed from the other documents, then the US would be able to accept the Rio Declaration." Reuter adds: Senior administration officials on Tuesday defended the US position at the Earth Summit and accused some allies, including Germany

and Japan, of embracing ideas in order to be 'politically correct'. US President George Bush departs on Thursday for Brazil and the final days of a UN sponsored summit of world leaders on dealing with the environment. Two senior administration officials involved in the lengthy talks leading up to the summit spoke with reporters at the White House and vented frustration with the mounting criticism being levelled at the president. With President Bush's visit to Rio less than three days away, European nations handed the United States a double snub on Tuesday, further isolating an already embattled US delegation. Constantly bombarded with criticism of White House policy, US officials took the first punch from the 12-nation European Community, which moved to strengthen a global warming treaty Washington had spent months trying to weaken. EC officials said the community had agreed to interpret the treaty as requiring stabilisation of greenhouse gases at 1990 levels by 2000 and it would urge other industrialised nations to join in. AP adds: A European banker appealed to nations Wednesday to spend money on "green" instead of guns as debate resumed at the Earth Summit on unresolved issues ranging from forests to financing. Delegates were working to wrap up Earth Summit documents that would commit their nations to environmental goals. See Page 12 Col 7

UN assures aid to protect ecosystem
 RIO DE JANEIRO, June 10: Bangladesh will receive all possible assistance from UN body to develop her indigenous technology, expertise and skill for improved environment management and protection of the ecosystem, reports BSS. Maurice Strong, Secretary General, United Nations conference on environment and development here today during a meeting with Bangladesh Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman, and Environment and Forest Minister Abdullah Al- See Page 12 Col 7

Clash at city cattle-market

By Staff Correspondent
 Two groups of musclemen clashed at Fulbaria Cattle-Market in the city yesterday afternoon. The clash reportedly ensued at around 5 pm when a group of people, who earlier failed to take lease of the market, stormed it exploding crackers. Police rushed to the spot and resorted to baton charge and lobbed tear gas shells to disperse the clashing groups. Police also arrested four persons, Mintu, Liakot, Ismail and Shaif from the spot. They were taken under police custody.

Rain on Eid day likely

By Staff Correspondent
 Rainfall is expected on the Eid day Friday as the monsoon has set over the country Wednesday and as Meteorological office forecast rain and shower during the next two days. A Met office bulletin said Wednesday that southwest monsoon set over Dhaka and Chittagong divisions and would sweep over the rest of the country within next 48 hours. Meanwhile, residents in the capital experienced light rain and drizzle on the first day of the monsoon. Five millimeters of rain was recorded on the day.

Fall in water level of Kaptai Lake Loadshedding situation worsens in S-districts

By Staff Correspondent
 The loadshedding situation has slightly improved throughout the country except in the southern zone. Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharrar Hossain said yesterday. Speaking at a press conference at the Bangladesh Secretariat, the minister pointed out that an unusual fall in the water level of Kaptai Lake has worsened the loadshedding situation in the southern zone which includes the greater Chittagong, Feni, Noakhali and Comilla regions. However, he said that the overall loadshedding situation in the country improved from a shortage of between 200 mw to a maximum of 550 mw in April to 30-380 mw during the month of May. Loadshedding in the greater Chittagong region on June 7 stood at 38.3 per cent while it was only 2.3 per cent in the area under the Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA). The minister assured that the situation would further improve by September this year when 281mw of power generation would be reactivated after necessary repair work at some existing units. Another 130mw will be added

by that time with the rise in the water level of the Kaptai Lake. He urged the subscribers to ensure economic use of power to help avert the present crisis. He suggested that industrial units which operate only one shift or two shifts should avoid the peak hour (6-10 pm) period. He said the demand and supply position could be improved by avoiding unnecessary illuminations and closing markets and shopping centres early. The minister said that the power supply in the Chittagong region now is only 155mw while the requirement is between 260-280mw. The water level in the Kaptai Lake currently stands at 66.15 rule curve ft and the power generation will come to a halt if it goes below 66 ft, he added. The Kaptai plant is now producing only 50mw during the evening hours as against the normal generation of 180mw. "There is not much we can do right now to improve the situation until the water level in Kaptai rises," he added. The southern zone is being Sec Page 12 Col 6

**ঈদ মোবারক
 Eid Mubarak**
 The Daily Star wishes its readers, patrons and well-wishers a happy Eid-ul-Azha. — Editor

Build up nation with spirit of dedication: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said the essence of Eid-ul-Azha was to attain nearness and satisfaction of Allah through self-sacrifice and dedication, reports BSS. In a message on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha, the Prime Minister called upon all to involve themselves in building up the country with the same spirit of dedication that they would practise on this day of Eid-ul-Azha for the satisfaction of the Almighty Allah. She said the affluent people should come forward with open heart for the welfare of the less fortunate in the society. The inner message of the Eid-ul-Azha has to be realised through bringing smiles on the faces of all, she said. Begum Zia called upon the people to establish a happy and prosperous democratic Bangladesh sinking all differences, jealousy and hatred. She extended her Eid Mubarak to the countrymen and world Muslim community and prayed for the continued peace, happiness prosperity and welfare of the countrymen and Islamic ummah. Fight to ensure people's basic rights: Hasina Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina has conveyed her greetings to countrymen and the world Muslims on the occasion of holy Eid-ul-Azha, reports UNB. In a message yesterday, Hasina who is now in Saudi Arabia for performing Hajj also wished continued peace and progress of the world humanity. The opposition leader said Eid-ul-Azha, one of the greatest religious festivals of Muslim ummah, is not only confined to Sec Page 12 Col 8

People have total confidence in BNP: Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday said the people of the country had total confidence in the Bangladesh Nationalist Party as it could safeguard national independence and sovereignty and lead the nation towards peace, progress and prosperity, reports BSS. She was addressing a function, marking the joining of nearly one thousand people belonging to Awami League, Juba League and Chhatra League of Mirpur area under the leadership of local Awami League leader Sardar Keramat Ali. See Page 12 Col 1

AL unsure on how to put market economy to people

By Nurul Kabir
 Drafting of the 'revised' manifesto of the Awami League (AL) has almost been completed. The Party draft economic policy stresses the need for proper coordination between the public and private sectors on the one hand while it keeps 'socialism' intact in the prelude of the manifesto on the other. This revised manifesto will be placed for approval in the AL's forthcoming council session scheduled for 27 and 28 this month. The AL Working Committee earlier felt the need to revise the Party manifesto in the backdrop of the collapse of socialism in the East European countries including the now defunct Soviet Union and appointed a party sub-committee to prepare a draft of the manifesto in the light of the free market economy of the Western world. The sub-committee placed its draft manifesto at the party Working Committee meeting held in the first week of this month which sent back the draft to the sub-committee Sec Page 12 Col 3

Somboon dropped, Anand named new Thai Prime Minister

BANGKOK, June 10: Anand Panyarachun, a highly respected former diplomat and businessman, was named prime minister of Thailand on Wednesday, reports AP. Television stations said Anand, was named to the country's highest political post by King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the constitutional monarch. Political leader Somboon Rahong, held partly responsible for the army's bloody suppression of pro-democracy protests last month, earlier told reporters he had been confirmed as

prime minister. He said the Royal Household had twice confirmed he would be the next leader and told him to prepare his formal attire, then a third call shortly before Anand was named said his nomination was off. The appointment of Somboon as prime minister might have sparked protests, political instability and continued the decline in Thailand's once-booming economy. Anand apparently was chosen instead to defuse mounting tensions. But he could serve

only an interim role, because Parliament voted Wednesday to amend the constitution to require that prime ministers be elected legislators. Anand did not run for a Parliament seat in elections in March. There is normally a time gap between approval by Parliament and the final enactment of a law, which requires the king's signature. A statement to the king by Parliament Speaker Arthit Urairat said his efforts to persuade political parties to cooperate in naming a prime minister had failed. Arthit said he presented Anand's name to the king because he had performed ably during his prime ministership in 1991 and early 1992. Anand was appointed interim prime minister by military leaders who ousted a democratically elected government in February 1991. His tenure ended following the election in March. The British-educated Anand was given high marks for his performance, with some analysts saying his government was the ablest and most honest

in modern Thai history. Anand repeatedly said he had no intention of continuing in politics and seemed relieved when he left office. "Given the choice, it is a pleasant surprise for a lot of people. But Anand has many problems ahead of him," said Surin Pittsuwan, an MP from the opposition Democrat Party. Surin said Anand's appointment would not be the real, long-term solution to Thailand's chaotic quest for democracy and an end to military domination.

After his earlier tenure as prime minister, he was replaced by one of the coup leaders former army chief Suchinda Kraprayoon, who had appointed him. Widespread criticism of Suchinda's appointment swelled to mass demonstrations that were brutally suppressed by soldiers and police May 17-20. At least 40 people were killed by official count. Hundreds of people are missing. Suchinda resigned May 24 under mounting pressure, and political leaders began maneuvering to find a replacement.