

BNP govt firm to materialise canal digging programme

The 12 kilometre long Goalaundo-Ujanchar canal of Rajbari district has become a rivulet now after reexcavation, reports BSS.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Professor Jahan-ara Begum formally opened the water discharge ceremony at the canal Friday after completion of its reexcavation work. Begum Farida Hasan MP was present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion the State Minister said the local people would be benefitted from the increased water preservation, irrigation and drainage facility from the canal.

She informed that 2,70,000 cubic metres earth was dug in three and half months under

3 hurt in clash over land

By DMCH Correspondent

Three people were seriously injured when a mediation talk over a piece of land turned into a violent clash in the city Friday.

Dhaka Medical College Hospital sources said that Mahbub, 25, Jasimuddin Sagar, 32 and Mannan, 25, received serious wounds on their heads and throats at about 7-15 pm Friday as their rivals attacked them with machete and other sharp weapons during a peace talk over the land at 165, Kantol Bagan.

The injured alleged that a group of 30 armed people attacked them during the talks.



Motijheel Commercial Area during yesterday's hartal hours.

Star photo

Security forces kill two Shantibahini men

CHITTAGONG, June 18: Bangladesh security forces killed two tribal insurgents at Dulatali under Manikchhari upazila of Khagrachhari Hill District today, reports BSS.

According to an official source here tonight, the security forces on secret information were waiting at a place where four insurgents appeared suddenly. The security forces immediately opened fire on the insurgents and two of them were hit and killed and two others managed to flee.

Security forces later recovered one pistol, two rounds of bullets and Tk 862 (Bangladesh currency).

Wife kills husband

By DMCH Correspondent

A husband was allegedly killed by his wife at the village Bara Bilia, Araraj in Narayan-ganj Friday morning.

Following an altercation between the two over going to watch a movie, Reziya, hit her husband Sukkur Ali, 35, with a sharp chopper and he died, according to relatives.

The body of the victim was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy.

Tax increase on tobacco demanded

National Professor Nurul Islam and Khan Ataur Rahman of ADHUNIK, an anti-smoking organisation, Saturday urged the government to increase tax on tobacco to discourage people from smoking, the silent killer, reports BSS.

They said tax burden on daily necessities like chilli could be reduced by enhancing tax on tobacco. They pointed out that the poor people were the main consumers of tobacco. Tax increase on tobacco will compel them to give up smoking.

They said the Finance Minister is known for his courage and honesty. "We appeal to him as well as to Parliament Members to increase tax on tobacco and save all from its poisonous effect," they said.

Sayef Uddin made BEPZA Member

The government has appointed Md Sayef Uddin Member (investment promotion) of the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA).

Sayef Uddin, a Joint Secretary, is also a member of the BCS (administration) cadre. Before joining BEPZA, he was Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism. Prior to that, Sayef Uddin was Deputy Commissioner, Manik-ganj and Barisal.

Police, Rohingya refugees clash: 28 injured

COX'S BAZAR, June 19: A clash between police and Rohingya refugees left at least 28 people, including 8 policemen, wounded at Kutupalong camp here today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said police fired at least 15 shots in the air and used batons to contain several thousand demonstrating refugees who were protesting the arrest of one of their leaders at the Kutupalong camp.

The Rohingya refugee leader, whose name was not immediately known, was arrested by police earlier in the morning on charge of anti-repatriation campaigning and terrorist activities.

Police and hospital sources said 20 refugees, one with bullet wounds, had been admitted to local clinics while eight police and ansars taken to Ukhtia hospital.

Witnesses said more than 5,000 refugees had joined the protest after the news of the arrest reached Kutupalong and Gundum camps.

Police said the protesting refugees, armed with ramdags and lathis, attacked the police and ansars on duty at the camps and tried to snatch away their rifles.

Police forces were reinforced at the camps where, officials said, situation was under control.

Bangladesh receives \$24191.5m foreign aid since Dec '71

Bangladesh has received a total of 24191.5 million dollars as foreign aid since December 16, 1971, reports BSS.

Of the total amount received, 11855.6 million dollar is grant and 12335.9 million dollar loan, the Bangladesh Economic Survey of 1991-92 has revealed.

The survey said, the total aid received included 11286.3 million dollar project aid, 8020.4 million dollar non-project aid and 4884.8 million dollar food aid.

It said the country received 1731.4 million dollar foreign aid in 1991-92, 1732.5 million dollar in 1990-91 while 1809.6 million in 1989-90.

Most of the foreign aid and financial assistance came from the OECD (Overseas Economic Cooperation for Development) countries.

Japan, which provided Bangladesh a total of 3169.4 million dollar is the biggest donor. Of the total amount received from Japan, about 30 per cent was grant while the rest 70 per cent was loan.

Japan is followed by the United States which extended a total of 2652.6 million dollar of which 765.5 million dollar was loan while the rest 1887 million dollar was grant, the survey said.

Bangladesh received 1483 million dollar assistance from Canada while IDA (International Development Association) provided the country 3842 million dollar.

Canadian assistance was mostly grant while the entire IDA assistance is loan, the survey mentioned.



A common scene of hartal yesterday.

Star photo

'Budget to restore healthy financial discipline'

The national budget for fiscal 1992-93 would restore economic and financial discipline, eminent economist Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud said Friday.

Talking to BSS over telephone Prof. Mahmud of the Department of Economics of Dhaka University, said the revenue earnings had exceeded the budgetary target during the out-going fiscal 1991-92 while revenue expenditure was less than the budget estimate for the first time in the history of the country. Terming it as a sign of economic and budgetary discipline, he said its a healthy trend.

Lauding the income tax reduction proposals in the new budget, Prof. Mahmud said this tax rate reduction was a right step in the right direction and would encourage the tax payers to pay income tax and help reduce tax evasion. He however, said tax collection under this head would increase instead of a reduction in the budgetary projection.

He stressed the need for a higher development outlay to come out of the economic stagnation and said 21 per cent increase in the development budget for fiscal 1992-93 was not enough to boost the economy.

Prof Mahmud underlined the need for more domestic resource mobilisation to help build a self reliant Bangladesh and added 11 per cent increase in the revenue earnings in the new budget was not sufficient.

Supporting the measures taken to improve the tax administration and expansion of the tax base, he said efficiency of tax machinery was a must for the better collection.

Dr. Mahmud said the wholesale reductions in the rates of various luxury goods like cars, freeze and air conditioners under a liberal import policy was not necessary and partially offsetted the gains from other sectors.

He stressed the need for an accelerated investment for a sustained growth of the country.

Mixed reaction over budget

By Staff Correspondent

Reaction to the national budget for the fiscal year 1992-93 continued to pour in Saturday expressing both concern and optimism.

Various professional groups, business bodies and political parties were critical of the budget while some of those also appreciated a number of proposals of the budget.

President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Mahbubur Rahman at a special meeting on the proposed budget Friday said the new budget contained no provision for restructuring and rehabilitating the sick industries in the private sector.

While Taka 250 crore was allocated for the mismanaged and loss making public enterprises for restructuring and payment of compensation, he said, adding that if the sick industries in the private sector were not given due attention new investment would not be forthcoming.

He said that certain measures for tax reforms with a view to mobilising internal resources were proposed in the budget. But protection for local industries and encouragement for new investment and export incentives were not sufficient, he added.

While commenting on the direct tax, the FBCCI president pointed out that instead of implementing the provision of 1991-92 export policy envisaging 100 per cent exemption of income tax on export earnings the present proposal of payment of 50 per cent rebate on income tax and one per cent income tax deduction would not be encouraging step for promotion of export.

Total exemption on Taka 40 thousand on any individual income was a positive move but reduction of investment allowance from 30 per cent to 20 per cent was discouraging, Mahbubur Rahman observed.

The chamber leader considered 15 per cent Value Added Tax (VAT) rate as very high compared to other Asian countries like Thailand where the rate was 7.5 per cent only.

He also felt that the proposal for bringing the small industries with capital machinery of Taka three lakh and with yearly turn over of more than Taka 12 lakh under VAT would adversely affect the growth of small industries.

He said that instead of accepting FBCCI recommendation to allow import of capital machinery and its spare parts free of import duty, enhanced duty had been imposed on major industrial raw materials to make industrial production further in competitive against the imported finished goods.

The FBCCI president expressed his surprise at how an additional revenue income of Taka 383 crore could be achieved from import operations despite reduction of duties to the tune of Taka 243 crore.

The FBCCI president, however, suggested that the Finance Minister would take necessary measures to make the budget conducive to the investment and revitalisation of economy through meaningful dialogue with the private sector.

The standing committee of the Bangladesh Workers Party reacting to the proposed national budget said that it had made the market of the country open for foreign goods to such extent that even the World Bank did not demand.

The Finance Minister had not taken into consideration the socio-economic reality of the country while preparing the budget, the standing committee of the party felt.

It, however, strongly criticized the budget saying that the growth in both agriculture and industrial sector would be hampered due to the measures taken in the budget.

Bangladesh Sick Industries Association (BSIA) in a statement said the budget prescribed by the World Bank and IMF was against the interest of the local industries. No direction was made in the proposed budget to salvage the sick industries in the country.

It also termed the budget as 'import oriented' and said that it would make the country a market of the foreign countries.

There were no measures in the proposed budget which can generate employment opportunities in the country, the BSIA said.

Bangladesh Inspectors of Taxes Association in a statement termed the proposed budget as timely and people oriented and said the proposal of reforms to be brought in the income tax management would be a bold measure in the context of the present economic condition of the country.

Bangladesh Textile Mills Association congratulated Finance Minister for his initiative to expand the sources of income of the government from the internal resources without introducing new taxes.

It, however, said that there were no such measures to develop the textile sector though the Minister in his budget speech mentioned prospective side of the sector as well as the problems.

Bangladesh Nagarik Adhikar Parishad hailed the budget for not introducing new taxes that brought a little bit relief for the people.

Rupantarita Prakritik Gas Company Limited
(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)
102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
BSEC Bhawan (7th Floor)
Kawranbazar, Dhaka

Enlistment Notice

Tender No. RP-01/23 Dated: 01-06-92 18-02-98BS

Sealed applications are invited from experienced and established suppliers/importer firms (as and where applicable) for enlistment under the following departments of Rupantarita Prakritik Gas Company Limited for 1992-93 financial year.

- (1) Automobile Spares supply.
- (2) Electrical/Electronics goods supply
- (3) General Stores, Croceries/Cutlerys/Hardware/ Workshop tools supply.
- (4) Office Stationery supply.
- (5) Office Furniture supply.
- (6) Printing material supply.
- (7) Books and other documents binding.
- (8) Apparels supply.
- (9) Office equipment supply.
- (10) Office equipment repair.
- (11) Transports repair.

Tenders will be opened on 25-06-92 at 11-30 am. Tender schedule can be purchased at cash price of Tk 50/= (fifty) only (non-refundable) from the Accounts Department of the company during office hours. No tender schedule will be sold on the date of submitting tender.

DFP(G) 12664-16/6 G-773

Biman
BANGLADESH AIRLINES
Biman Bhawan, Motijheel, Dhaka. Phone: 240151-10, 240161-10, 240171-10, 240181-10 Lines, Cable: Airbangla

Re-Tender Notice

Sealed Tenders in two envelope system (Technical and financial) on TURN-KEY basis along with model are hereby invited from experienced firms for renovation/decoration and extension work of Biman Muslin Lounge at Zia International Airport, Dhaka.

The tender documents with detail terms and conditions may be purchased from the Cash & Banking Office, Biman Bhawan, Motijheel, Dhaka on cash payment of Tk 1,000/- (Taka one thousand) only per set (non-refundable) up to 27-7-92. The offers would be received up to 1200 hours on 28-7-92 in the office of Dy General Manager (Building & Works), 7th floor, Biman Bhawan, Motijheel, Dhaka and only the Technical offers would be opened at 1205 hours on the same day. Tenderers shall have to deposit earnest money 2% of the total quoted amount in favour of Bangladesh Biman Corporation in their financial offer. For purchasing tender documents parties will have to take permission from the Project Manager (B&W) enclosing the attested photocopies of the following documents (originals will have to produce on demand): a) Completion certificate and work order of similar nature of work amounting to minimum Taka 10 lac in a single work order in recent years, b) Enlistment Certificate, Current Income Tax Clearance Certificate and c) Current Bank Solvency Certificate amounting to minimum Taka 15 lac.

Biman Management reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DFP (BA) 5596-17/6 G-774 Dy General Manager (B&W)

Bangladesh Rural Development Board
Mechanised Cultivation Project
Palli Bhawan (4th Floor)
5, Kawran Bazar Commercial Area, Dhaka-1215

Tender Notice

Sealed Tenders are invited from the recognised Suppliers/Manufacturers for supplying of the following Vehicle for Mechanised Cultivation Project under Bangladesh Rural Development Board.

Sl. No.	Particulars of vehicles	Qty.	Time allowed after issuance of Work Order
1.	Supplying of 200-4000cc Jeep (As per schedule)	1 (one)	30 days

Terms and Conditions

1. Tenders can be purchased from the office of the undersigned up to 25-6-92 during office hours on all working days on submission of Bank Draft/Pay Order of Tk. 750/ (Seven hundred and fifty) only (Non-refundable) for each group from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Director General, BRDB, Dhaka.
2. Requisite Earnest Money at the rate of 2% (Two and half per cent) of quoted amount in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Director General, BRDB, Dhaka.
3. Tenders will be received in the office of the undersigned up to 11:30 AM on 27-6-92 and tenders will be opened at 12:00 Noon on the same day in presence of tenderers (if any).
4. BRDB reserves right to accept or reject all or part of tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Md Tozammel Haque
Project Manager
Mechanised Cultivation Project
BRDB, Dhaka.

BRDB/PRC-205/92/3976
DFP (G) 12588-15/6
G-771

HERE and THERE

Despremik Smriti Sangsad

The President of Shahid Biplobi-o-Despremik Smriti Sangsad Hamidul Huq and Secretary General Tamiuddin Ahmed in a joint statement yesterday decried the recent case filed against the killing of Shiraj Shikder terming it as a 'conspiracy'.

"Shiraj Shikder was killed by the reactionary state mechanism and its representatives looting class are not individuals and do not belong to any particular party," the statement said, adding "Judgement of the killing will not be possible under the present socio-economic condition."

The ruling and exploiting class has conspired against a great revolutionary leader like Shiraj Shikder before, they are doing it again and will also do it in the future, the statement noted.

Society for Professionals

A meeting of the presidium of the Society for Professionals was held yesterday at its Dikusha office with Professor Dr Mian Md Abdul Quddus in the chair. The meeting reviewed the national convention of engineers, agriculturists, physicians and the BCS officials and called for a movement to bring wide-ranging changes to the administrative structure.

Obituary

Arusha Khatun, wife of advocate Alhaj Rafiqul Islam Khan of Nawab street, Wari, died of brain haemorrhage at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday evening. She was 65, reports BSS.

She leaves behind her husband, five sons, four daughters and a host of relatives and admirers. Mahbubul Alam (Tara Mia), Whip of BNP Parliamentary Party, is one of her sons-in-law.

Qulkhwani held

The Qulkhwani and Milad Mahfil for Jamaluddin Chowdhury, was held yesterday at the Head Office of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation after Zohor prayer, says a press release.

It was attended by Abdul Mannan, State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism and the Officers and Employees of the Corporation.

Workshop on 'Transfer of Technology' begins June 23

A week-long national workshop on 'Transfer of Technology' begins June 23 in Dhaka under the auspices of Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council, reports UNB.

Agriculture and Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister M Majid-ul Haq will inaugurate it in the BARC auditorium at 12 noon.

The workshop is aimed at accelerating the process of technology transfer from different national research institutions to the farmers' level in the shortest possible time through the public and private extension services.

The seven-day workshop is expected to take some positive steps in this regard and make necessary recommendations.

About 200 midlevel agricultural scientists and extension specialists from different ministries, including ministries of Agriculture, Forest and Environment and Fisheries and Livestock, are to participate in the workshop.

Representatives from the private sector and NGOs will also take part in the workshop.

What's on today

Rotary Club of Dhanmondi meet

The 300th regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhanmondi will be held today (Sunday) at 6:30 pm instead of 5:30 pm at Sonargaon Hotel. Dgn Rtn L K Siddiqui will speak on rotary affairs.

Bangladesh 2000 meet

A meeting of the executive committee of Bangladesh 2000 will be held today (Sunday) at 22, Dhanmondi R/A, Road 3 at 7:30 pm.

. . . . and tomorrow

Seminar on weather

Bangladesh Meteorological Department will hold a seminar on 'the application of climatic data for effective planning and management of water for sustainable irrigated crop production' tomorrow (Monday) at 9 am in the conference room of meteorological headquarter office at Agargaon.

Agriculture Secretary K M Rabbani will attend as chief guest.

Sick Industry Parishad confce

Inter Association of Sick Industry Rehabilitation Parishad will hold a conference of the representatives tomorrow (Monday) at Jatiya Press Club at 11 am.