

Come to CHITTAGONG Come to  
**BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT**  
 The only place for ORIGINAL THAI FOOD & SEAFOOD  
 in CHITTAGONG (NO BRANCH). Please try us and you  
 will love BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT more than  
 ever before.  
 1403 ASIAN HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE Y.M.C.A. NASIRABAD,  
 CHITTAGONG. TEL: 226603. Fax: (880) 311-225238

# The Daily Star

The finest ice cream from Italy  
 Made with all  
 natural ingredients  
 and Italian  
 technology.  
**dolce vita gelato**  
 gelateria-ice cream parlour  
 54 Kemal Ataturk Ave.  
 Ground floor, Banani, Dhaka Ph: 807980

VOL. II NO. 151 REGD. NO. DA 781

ASHAR 10, 1399 BS,

DHAKA WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1992

ZILHAJ 22, 1412 HIJRI

12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 4.00

## Inside Today

### Article

Reminiscences of  
 Emergency in India

Column: Between the  
 Lines by Kuldip Nayar  
 Page 4

### International



Myanmar students stage  
 anti-junta rally  
 in Delhi

39 nations close to accord  
 on banning chemical arms  
 Page 5

### Business

Pak businessmen keen to  
 buy Bangladeshi goods

Page 7

### Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Getting Into Grips  
 With French  
 Page 3

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Bangalee Utsav concludes

The countrywide "Bangalee Sangskriti Utsav-1399" ended Monday. The festival began in Khulna on May 27 and came to a finale at the central Shaheed Minar here, reports BSS.

### Inter-city trains to ply on off-days

Bangladesh railway has started operation all its inter-city trains on their weekly off-days from Monday to meet heavy rush of passengers, a press release said. Inter-city trains will suspend its operation on weekly off-days as soon as the transport strike ends, reports BSS.

## Calcutta High Court rejects writ on Tinbigha

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

The High Court of Calcutta has rejected a writ application, challenging the legality of the acquisition of land by the government of West Bengal for the construction of the corridor at Tinbigha, according to newspaper reports in Calcutta yesterday.

The rejection of the petition, moved Friday last, removes the last legal barrier in the much-awaited leasing of the corridor, pending more than 18 years since Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and

India signed the land boundary agreement in 1974.

The tiny piece of land — 178 m X 85 m — is scheduled to be handed over to Bangladesh this Friday, to connect the two enclaves — Dahagram and Angarpota — sur-

rounded by India.

On March 26 last, Additional Foreign Secretary Ali Mahmood Ali of Bangladesh and Foreign Secretary JN Dixit initialled an agreement setting a date, June 26, for the trans-

See Page 12 Col 7

## Budget to cut prices of essentials: PM

MEHERPUR, June 23: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today said the opposition parliament members should take part in the budget discussion and help its smooth passage for the welfare of the people, reports BSS.

Addressing a huge public meeting at the government college maidan here, Begum Zia said that the opposition would remain accountable to the people if they failed to discharge their duties for which they had been elected.

She said the people had voted them to speak for them in the Jatiya Sangsad. "If they do not speak for them, the people will hold them responsible," she added.

Describing the budget as pro-people and welfare-oriented, Begum Zia said that the prices of essentials would be reduced after it was passed. She said the budget had been formulated for the benefit of the common people.

Begum Zia said the government and the opposition together have a great role to play for the advancement of the society in a democratic system. She said the opposition should lend total support in all the

development activities of the government.

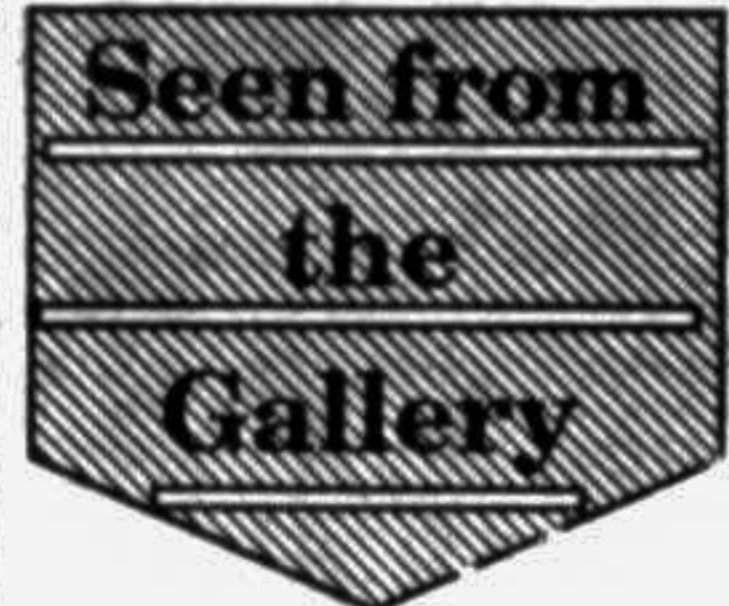
Presided over by Advocate Mohammad Saidduzzaman, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Minister Tariqueul Islam, State Minister for Education Principal Yunus Khan, Awami League member of parliament Prof Abdul Mannan, Abdul Ghani MP, Begum Selina Shahid MP and local BNP leaders Islam Ali and Ahmed Ali.

Referring to the canal digging programme, the Prime Minister said that the opposition MPs should be inducted in this task. She urged them to cooperate with the government in this programme saying, "is this the sole responsibility of the government to work for the betterment of the people?"

Hundreds of people from different walks of life stood on both sides of the road to greet Begum Zia, who came here for the first time after assuming office nine months ago.

Begum Zia described the country's economic situation to the audience saying, "The country's economy was raised."

See Page 12 Col 5



By Mahfuz Ullah

The current session of the Jatiya Sangsad was to have been lively discussing money and its allocation and utilization. But as the political events changed course with the opposition decision to go ahead with its abstention programme, the deliberations in the House have lost much of their charm.

The session opened on June 18 with Opposition benches empty barring those occupied by the Jamaat-e-Islami. The opening day drew enough visitors to hear the Finance Minister presenting the national budget but the Opposition did not attach importance to the show.

Politics was more important to them than to hear the Minister.

The session hit another snag as we decided to observe strike and stop publications of newspapers for a day to protest police actions. This

See Page 12 Col 6

## Attack on DUJ man

### Journalists protest police raid

By Staff Correspondent

Journalists Monday observed a day-long nationwide strike in protest against police atrocities against them and attack on the National Press Club Sunday last.

No newspapers were published Tuesday.

The strike was jointly called by the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ).

More than 50 journalists were injured during Sunday's police attacks while the National Press Club was damaged. At least 20 of the injured were hospitalised.

A protest meeting of the journalists was held in the Press Club premises Monday.

Presided over by BFUJ President Reazuddin Ahmed, the meeting was addressed by DUJ President Shahjahan Miha, General Secretary Altaf Mahmud, BFUJ General Secretary Amanullah Kabir, DUJ Organising Secretary Saiful Islam Talukder, member of the Bangladesh Photo Journalists

See Page 12 Col 3

## Transport workers divided over strike

By Staff Correspondent

The second day of the countrywide indefinite transport strike passed Tuesday amid sporadic clashes as a few vehicles started operating in different routes following a split in the workers federation.

At least 50 people including transport workers and passengers were injured during the clashes in Dhaka and on the Dhaka-Aricha highway, federation and hospital sources said.

See Page 12 Col 1



Office goes travelling on BRTC buses in the city yesterday risking their lives, as public transports were off the road due to transport strike. —Star photo

## Compilation of voters' list begins today

Chief Election Commissioner Justice Mohammad Abdur Rouf has urged the countrymen to extend all cooperation to the drive of compilation of a new voters' list beginning today, reports BSS.

In an address over the radio and television, he underlined the need for the new list and expressed the hope that the effort would be made a success.

The Chief Election Commissioner referred to the flourishing of new democratic consciousness in the nation in recent times and said it was necessary to make the essence of democracy more meaningful through elections.

Free, fair and impartial election is the only way to further strengthen the democratic values, he said adding that an essential element to

See Page 12 Col 3

## Opposition reiterates JS boycott

By Staff Correspondent

The opposition parties in parliament excluding the Jamaat reiterated their position on boycotting the budget session of Parliament until the government offered an honourable solution to the four-point opposition demand.

The opposition leaders held a joint meeting yesterday afternoon at the Parliament chamber of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to evaluate the situation arising out of the boycott and the course of action.

See Page 12 Col 7

## AL council session rescheduled

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League (AL) has rescheduled its biennial Council Session for September 17 and 18 this year.

Earlier the Council Session was scheduled to be held on June 27 and 28.

An emergency meeting of the party's Central Working Committee held yesterday with party chief Sheikh Hasina in the chair rescheduled the date of the Council Session.

UNB adds: A resolution of the meeting said the council date has been shifted by the central committee after reviewing the country's latest political development.

The meeting, in another resolution, extended total support to the June 30 "march" towards parliament, and

See Page 12 Col 2

## Hasina visits Press Club Repression on press has surpassed all records

Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina expressed fears about the fate of parliamentary democracy in the country, saying "each and every step of the government is undemocratic and anti-people", reports UNB.

"I am really scared about the future of hard-won parliamentary system... I smell something wrong in government's behaviour and action which cross the limit of tolerance", she told newsmen during a visit to the National Press Club on Monday.

Hasina said Sunday's police atrocities on journalists demonstrated "savagery mentality of the pseudo-democratic" government. "I've no words to

condemn the brutality. It surpassed all previous records of repression on the press."

She recalled the contributions made by the journalist community and the National Press Club in different democratic movements. The opposition leader also recalled the frequent visits she and other political leaders had made to the Press Club during nine years of anti-autocracy movement.

She sympathised with the just demands of the journalist community and assured all cooperation from Awami League in ensuring rights of journalists and the free press.

Hasina was critical of the BNP government for appoint-

See Page 12 Col 4

## Khaleda visits injured journalists

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia visited Dhaka Medical College Hospital and Holy Family Hospital Monday to see the journalists who were injured in an untoward incident in and around the National Press Club on Sunday evening, reports BSS.

She enquired about the condition of the injured journalists from the doctors. Begum Zia spent some time at the bedsides of the injured journalists and talked to them expressing her deep sympathy.

The Prime Minister directed the physicians to provide best possible treatment to the injured.

Information Minister Nazmul Huda, Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Works Minister Rafiqul Islam Mian were present.



Indian police carrying Bangladeshi children Monday in New Delhi after unearthing a racket involving selling of children in Dubai for illegal use in desert camel race, there. In the race, the children's cries are said to spur the beasts to run faster. —AFP photo

## Karmal, Dostum killed in plane crash?

ISLAMABAD, June 23: Former Afghan President Babrak Karmal and key militia commander General Rasheed Dostum were killed in an air crash near the capital Kabul on Sunday, Pakistan's official APP news agency reported Monday, says Reuter.

APP quoted a Pakistani Member of Parliament, Samiul Haq, as saying that the information about the crash was given to him by Afghanistan's interim Justice Minister Jalaluddin Haqqani while both were in the Saudi city of Jeddah.

No confirmation from any other source was immediately available.

Haq, a member of the Senate (upper house), said Karmal's opponents, APP Haqqani told him the plane

KABUL, June 23: Uzbek militia leader Abdul Rashid Dostam talked with reporters here Monday. "I am alive and if you do not believe me come and see me," the Uzbek General said from a secret militia communications centre here, reports AFP.

crash on a plot hatched by unspecified opponents of Karmal. The pilot bailed out safely but was later shot dead by Karmal's opponents, APP quoted Haq as saying on return

from Saudi Arabia after the Hajj. Karmal, 63, was installed as President when Soviet troops intervened in Afghanistan in December 1979 and was re-

placed in 1986 by President Najibullah, who was himself toppled by his own government colleagues last April.

Dostum, as head of the powerful Uzbek militia, precipitated Najibullah's fall after he switched sides and made an alliance with legendary guerrilla commander Ahmad Shah Masood, now Defence Minister of the Mujahideen guerrilla government in Kabul.

Mujahideen sources in Pakistan said Karmal enjoyed influence in the present Kabul administration because of his close contacts with Dostum.

## Proceedings against trial body Rule issued on govt

A division bench of the High Court Tuesday issued a rule asking the state to show cause by June 30 why the proceedings initiated against Begum Jahanara Imam and 23 others should not be quashed, reports BSS.

The two-member bench comprised Justice Md Mofazzal Haq and Justice Mofizur Rahman. The case has been specially fixed for hearing on July 6. All further proceedings in this case have been stayed till disposal of the rule, the court ordered.

The order was issued after the court heard arguments of both sides for about an hour.

As the court took up the matter following the lunch break, Dr Kamal Hossain speaking on behalf of Jahanara Imam and others — the protagonists of Ganoadalat — challenged the very legality of instituting the case against his clients. He said that the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) did not conform to the requirements of the law as mandated under Section 202 A of Cr P C. He said the CMM

See Page 12 Col 1

## Badrunessa College girls clash, hurl crackers

Two groups of students of Begum Badrunessa Government Girls College locked in clashes and counter-charges exploding crackers and pelting bricksbats, in post college election violence Monday night and Tuesday morning.

The candidates of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) swept the college students' union elections Monday. It bagged the VP and the GS seats. Only one seat was won by a candidate of the Awami League backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL). A total of 29 candidates from two panels

competed for the 15 seats of the students' union.

Of the JCD candidates, Newaz Halima Arly, a third year student of BA (Hons) of Bangla and Shahana Akter Shantu, a second year student of BSS (Hons) of economics were elected VP and GS in the elections held after 10 years.

Following the untoward incidents, the college authorities in a notice asked the residential students, excluding those who would appear in the HSC examinations on June 25, to vacate the hostels immediately.

See Page 12 Col 8

## Urgent Special Notice

- ★ This is for kind information of the valued Telephone/Telex subscribers of Dhaka Telecommunication Region that with the ending of current financial year, 30th June has been decided to be the last date of payment of Telephone/Telex bills for the month of May '92.
- ★ Bills for the month of May have already been sent to you in the meantime. If you have not received the bills, please contact concerned Telephone revenue offices and collect the duplicate bill for making payment including all arrears.
- ★ Because disconnection drive is on for non-payment of bills.
- ★ So, make payment immediately to avoid disconnection of Telephone/Telex lines and use the same without any interruption.

We are at your service  
**Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board**

DFP(BA) 5629-18/6 G-775

## Special Notice by Titas Gas Company Special opportunity to pay Gas Bills without interest/surcharge

For convenience of its respectable customers, the Company has decided that no interest or surcharge will have to be paid if all the bills up to May, 1992 (including arrears) are paid at a time by 30-06-92. This opportunity is applicable to industrial, commercial and domestic customers whether operative, disconnected or litigated.

It may be mentioned that bills have, as usual, been sent to the customers concerned. Those who might not have received the bills, may arrange to pay after collecting duplicate bills from the concerned office of the Company.

The banks engaged in collecting gas bills of the Company are also hereby requested to make necessary arrangement according to this notice.

We hope, our respectable customers will make best use of this opportunity offered by the Company.

It may please be noted that the special programme of DISCONNECTING gas lines with a view to realising the arrears of defaulting customers is CONTINUING.



**Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution Co. Ltd.**  
 (A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)

DFP(BA)5629-18/6

G-775