

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.
1443 ASIAN HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE Y.M.C.A. NASIRABAD, CHITTAGONG. TEL: 226403, Fax: (880) 311-225258

VOL. II NO. 152 REGD. NO. DA 781

The Daily Star

ASHAR 11, 1399 BS,

DHAKA THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1992

ZILHAJ 23, 1412 HIJRI

12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 4.00

BAI
CALL: 232224, 237784
239148, 239217
239663, 252432
HAND CARRY
INDIA DAILY BY AIR
BANGLADESH AIR EXPRESS INT'L LTD
95, MOTUHEL CA, DHAKA FAX: (880-2) 863027

Inside Today

Article

Population Control Remains Top Priority for Bangladesh
Page 4

International



Rushdie makes a surprise appearance

Baker for tougher US action against Serbia
Page 5

Business

Tea prices move upward
Page 7

Feature

Science and Technology
Folk-culture in Transfer of Technology
Page 8

National

Across the Country
Birds Love the Centurion Durgasagar
Page 9

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Manners and the Dhakaite!
Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Bangladeshis in Karachi safe

The Bangladeshis living in Karachi are safe, according to a Foreign Office spokesman in Dhaka Wednesday. The Foreign Office is in touch with the Deputy High Commission in Karachi to ascertain the condition of the Bangladeshis living there following the recent outbreak of ethnic disturbances, the spokesman said, reports BSS.

Stop inflow of Indian potatoes

Bangladesh Cold Storage Association yesterday urged the government to take effective measures to stop the inflow of Indian potatoes which they said were coming into the country in a huge quantity. In a statement, Munshi Akhtaruzzaman, acting chairman of the association, said the smuggled potatoes from India had already flooded Bangladesh markets and were being sold at lower price than that of the local potatoes, reports BSS.

Anti-smuggling activities

The Director General of Bangladesh Rifles, Major General Mohammad Anwar Hossain, BP, PSC, yesterday called upon the members of BDR to strengthen anti-smuggling activities along with guarding the country's frontiers to help the government efforts attain economic development. He was addressing the officers and jawans of BDR during his visit to Khulna sector, reports BSS.

BNP MPs angry over Press Club incident, blame Home Minister

Move to get opposition back in Parliament

By Special Correspondent

The government has launched a new offensive to bring back the Opposition to Parliament.

Three senior leaders of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), including two senior ministers have been assigned to negotiate with the Opposition, according to authoritative sources.

The party, according to

sources, was finding it difficult to cope with what it termed the 'continuously shifting position of the Opposition on the four-point demand put earlier.'

The four-points include trial of Jamaat chief Golam Azam under International Crimes Act of 1973, dropping of charges against the 24 sponsors of 'Gana Adalat', ensuring due honour to the

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and extending democratic behaviour to the opposition political parties.

Earlier, according to sources, the government indicated that it was ready to drop charges against the sponsors of Gana Adalat and expressed its readiness to iron out differences on the issue of the attitude towards the Opposition.

On the basis of these understandings two meetings, one between Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and Jahanara Imam and the other between leaders of Treasury Bench and Opposition, were agreed for Sunday evening. But the police action against the journalists the same evening torpedoed the move.

See Page 12 Col 2



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia signing the form to enlist herself in the new voters' list yesterday. —PIID photo

Fresh enrollment of voters begins

Preparation of a new voter list began in 4 city corporations and 103 pourashavas across the country Wednesday, reports UNB.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina were among others enrolled in the fresh voter list being prepared by Bangladesh Election Commission.

Chief Election Commissioner Justice Abdur Rouf, Election Commissioner Justice Sayed Mesbahuddin Hossain, Secretary of Election Commission Secretariat AZM Shamsul Alam, Joint Secretary SM Zakaria, registration officers of the concerned areas and high official were present during the enrollment.

A workforce of about 17,105 workers have been engaged in the preparation of the new voter list. Among them, 86 are registration officers, 528 assistant registration officers.

See Page 12 Col 8



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina enrolling herself in the voters' list at her official residence at Minto Road yesterday. The Chief Election Commissioner Justice Abdur Rouf is also seen beside her. —Star photo

All set for Tinbigha transfer

LALMONIRHAT, June 24: The construction of a road over Tinbigha connecting Dohagram and Angarpota enclaves with Bangladesh mainland is complete, reports UNB.

With this the long-awaited leasing out of the corridor to Bangladesh by India takes place of Friday.

The wrap-up meeting between the concerned district officials of India and Bangladesh for finalising formalities for transfer of the Tinbigha corridor will be held here at Burimari tomorrow (Thursday).

Official sources said Lal-

monirhat Deputy Commissioner Khalilur Rahman and Coochbehar District Magistrate Gopal Krishna would lead their respective sides.

Besides, police and border security officials of both the countries will attend tomorrow's meeting to give final touches on details of the transfer.

All preparations had been completed with removal of the legal barrier through quashing a writ filed with the Calcutta High Court by opponents of the lease under the 1974 accord.

According to bilateral agreement, citizens of both the countries will have free access

through the corridor to their respective enclaves.

The DC of Lalmonirhat said that the temporary police camp set up beside the corridor would be turned into a permanent outpost for maintaining law and order in the area.

A long-standing irritant in the Indo-Bangla relations will be removed with the planned transfer of the Tinbigha corridor to Bangladesh scheduled for Friday.

On the mutually agreed date, India is expected to formally hand over an area of 178 meters by 85 meters to

See Page 12 Col 6



By Mahfuz Ullah

The Members of Parliament, irrespective of political opinion, have one thing in common. When it comes to their own privileges, whether good furniture or line for hostel or good food, they forget their differences and rivals join each other thumping the desks in welcome.

It happened again yesterday. When Maulana Abdus Sobhan of the Jamaat was given the floor to speak on his privilege notice, he started complaining about the delay in re-furnishing the MP hostel at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Maulana Sobhan talked about broken furniture, worn out linen, absence of a club and so on. He

See Page 12 Col 5

Create congenial atmosphere for joining session, opposition urges

By Staff Correspondent

The opposition parties in Parliament excluding the Jamaat jointly resolved yesterday that if the ruling party wanted to make the budget session of Parliament effective it would have to create a congenial atmosphere for the opposition's joining the session.

The government could pave the way for the opposition to join the session by meeting the four point Opposition demand, the resolution suggested.

The leaders of the opposition parties were briefing newsmen yesterday evening after a joint meeting held at

See Page 12 Col 8

Kamal Guha arrested

SILIGURI, June 24: Former West Bengal Minister and Forward Bloc MLA, Kamal Guha, spearheading the agitation against the leasing out of the Tinbigha Corridor, was arrested near Bagdogra, about three km from Tinbigha Wednesday, official sources said, reports PTI.

Guha, who was accompanied by the Forward Bloc MP from Coochbehar, Amar Roy Pradhan and party MLA, Parash Adhikari, was arrested when he tried to proceed to Mekhligunj to participate in a mass-squatting programme there.

Clashes mark third day of transport strike

By Staff Correspondent

The transport service improved slightly on Wednesday as more vehicles plied the roads in the capital and in some inter-district routes responding to the call of a faction of the Transport Workers Federation to end the strike.

Supporters and opponents of the strike clashed at Farm Gate, Fulbaria, Shantiniketan and Jurain rail gate for the third day of the strike injuring at least 10 more people and damaging four vehicles, federation and police sources said.

Meanwhile, prices of veg-

etables and other food items registered a rise in the city bazaars due to the strike. The commuters continued to face difficulty in reaching their respective destinations in the absence of regular bus, minibus and tempo services during the third day of the strike yesterday.

Supply in the fish, vegetable and chicken markets was badly hampered causing the price hike, market sources said but the city residents alleged that some dishonest businessmen

See Page 12 Col 7

JS boycott betrayal of confidence: PM

GAJIARA, Brahmanbaria, June 24: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said here Wednesday that the boycotting of parliament by some opposition members tantamounted to the betrayal of confidence reposed on them by the electorates, reports BSS.

Addressing a big public meeting Begum Zia said the members were curbing the right of franchise by not attending the parliament session. She said the people had voted for them to identify and solve their problems in Parliament but they had failed to realise the hopes and aspirations of the people.

The meeting, which was attended by hundreds of people from near and far flung areas, defying inclement weather, was also addressed by Works Minister Rafiqul Islam Mian, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain, State Minister for

Shipping Harun-ur-Rashid, Mia Abdullah Wazed MP, Asya Rahman MP, Advocate Abdus Sattar MP and local BNP leaders.

She said the opposition members wanted to draw people's attention by boycotting the parliament session as they became isolated from the people. This, she said, would not help them getting nearer to the people.

The Prime Minister said people were the integral part of a democratic government. She said, "We will be able to achieve the desired goal of development with the united efforts of all."

Detailing her government's development programmes the Prime Minister said, "We want to initiate rural based development."

Begum Zia underscored the need for rural industrialisation to emancipate the country

See Page 12 Col 3

JCD leader of Dhaka Polytechnic murdered

By Staff Correspondent

The General Secretary (GS) of Dhaka Polytechnic Institute Central Students' Union was shot dead early Wednesday.

The victim, Shakil Mahmud 21, was a second year student of the electrical department of the institute and Convenor of the Dhaka Polytechnic Institute unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD).

On an information over telephone, police rushed to the spot and recovered the bullet-ridden body of the GS at room no-309 at Latif Chhatrabas (west) of the Institute at around 6:30 am Wednesday.

Several students of the hostel said that they heard two or three gunshots at around 3 am

but did not pay any heed as what they said was a common phenomenon in the hostels.

The students also said that in the early morning they found their GS dead in the room and informed police, Hostel Super and their teachers immediately.

A police officer said, when he visited the spot he found the door of the room open and the bullet-ridden body on the bed at around 6:30 am.

The police officer thought that the 'killers' shot two bullets from a rifle within a short-range while Shakil was sleeping. The two bullets hit the back side of the victim's head,

See Page 12 Col 4

Opposition MPs to join trial body march to JS

Opposition MPs are planning to come out on the street June 30 to join the 'march to Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament)' sponsored by the Ghatik-Dalal Nirmul Committee to press for the trial of Jamaat Leader Golam Azam.

The opposition members of parliament, excepting those of Jamaat-e-Islami, have been boycotting the budget session since June 18 to press home their four-point demand.

The demands include trial of 'war-criminal' Golam Azam,

withdrawal of the sedition case against 24 organisers of the 'people's court' and practice of democratic norms in and outside the parliament.

Competent sources told UNB last night that the opposition MPs are likely to bring out procession from the parliament building on June 30 to express their solidarity with the movement of the National Coordination Body for the Ghatik-Dalal Nirmul Committee.

A meeting of the combined

See Page 12 Col 8

HSC exams begin today

A total of 2,47,669 candidates will appear in the Higher Secondary Certificate examinations, 1992 from the country's four education boards, beginning today (Thursday), reports UNB.

A total of 81,854 candidates will sit for the HSC examination in 175 centres under the Dhaka Board. Of them, 28,252 will appear from the Dhaka city.

A total of 65,131 candidates will appear in the examination under the Rajshahi Board in 158 centres, 55,252 from Comilla Board in 132 centres and 45,432 from Jessore Board in 129 centres.

Fifteen candidates under Dhaka Board will appear in five overseas centres in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

See Page 12 Col 1

Flash floods in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, June 24: Flash floods gripped Chittagong city and its surrounding areas today following an incessant downpour.

The torrential rains that began Monday evening paralysed normal life here.

The rainwater inundated most of the low-lying areas in Chittagong causing untold suffering to the residents and hindrance to traffic movement.

The worst affected areas include Agrabad Commercial Area, Moghottoli, Boxirhat, Chaktai, Katalgonj residential area, Bakalia, Muradpur and Bahaddarhat, residents said.

According to rough estimates, about ten lakh people out of total thirty lakhs have been affected by the flash flood.

Business activities at important trade centres including Khattugonj and Agrabad of this commercial city were hampered while the continuous

See Page 12 Col 6

DU student expelled for assaulting teacher

The Dhaka University authorities Wednesday stripped a student of Physics of his honours degree and expelled him for assaulting a teacher of the department, reports UNB.

Sheikh Ansar Ali assaulted Dr Badrul Alam, an Associate Professor of the Physics Department, on May 31.

Dr Arefin Siddique, a Syndicate member, said the authorities also declared him (Ali) "persona non grata" on the university campus. Ansar Ali has already been hiding.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Syndicate, the highest policy making body of the university, held Wednesday afternoon with VC Prof M

See Page 12 Col 4

Milk product prices up despite no fresh duty

Star Report

Retail prices of imported powdered milk and other milk products witnessed a sudden and sharp rise following the 1992-93 budget announcement on Thursday last.

The market price for a two kilogram tin-container of powdered milk jumped by more than Taka 20 in the city despite clarifications by the Finance Minister that the import duty on the item was not increased in the budget proposals.

See Page 12 Col 4

Housing takes 15,000 acres of agri-land a yr

By Staff Correspondent
About 15,000 acres of arable land in the country is fading into housing and settlement every year.

In response to a question Wednesday evening, Agriculture Minister Major General (ret'd) M Majidul Huq told Parliament that about 15,000 acres of agricultural land was being turned into human habitation in the country because of the booming population every year.

"High rate of population was the number one problem of the country," he said.

