

# Country to have fuel surplus by '95

By Shahrier Khan

Bangladesh is to have an annual surplus of over three and a half lakh barrels of petrol by the year 1995 if the rate of consumption remains the same.

The petrol produced by the diesel producing plants at the Eastern Refinery in Chittagong and the increased production of condensate (a liquid fuel mixed with gas) from the country's gas fields would result in the estimated surplus.

Of the total 70 to 80 lakh barrels of imported crude oil, Eastern Refinery processes 15 lakh barrels of diesel, about seven lakh barrels of petrol and various quantities of other by-product fuels. The petrol processed at the refinery is almost capable to meet the country's present demand.

According to official sources, this surplus petrol will be produced from the gas fields of Kailastila and Biani-bazar which have high contents of condensate. But this surplus was too little for exports, the sources said.

Apart from an annual import of different types of fuels worth about Taka 1000 crore, the various gas fields of the country produce about 85,000 barrels of petrol each year.

In this situation, the government is on principle following a policy to encourage petrol consuming vehicles and machinery to use up the surplus petrol which would otherwise be wasted, official sources said.

Planners advised the government to reduce taxation on petrol engine vehicles and machines for the next few years. They also advised the government to reduce the price of petrol by a small margin relative to the price of diesel.

Presently the demand for diesel is more than that for petrol. Other than the diesel processed at the refinery, about 45 lakh barrels are imported annually.

Encouragement of petrol consumption will not immediately aim to put pressure on the use of diesel in the light that 60 per cent of the country's present transports run on diesel. The agriculture sector consumes about 25 per cent and other sectors including the power sector consume the rest.

The sources said, ultimately measures to reduce dependency on diesel will be chalked out. Planners advised the government to raise tax on diesel engines by the year 1995. While diesel use may not become obsolete within the next 10 years, the planners are thinking of ways not to increase diesel dependence any further.

But the government is yet to take measures encouraging consumption of petrol.

# DU students

From Page 1 Col 4

Students' strike in the University for today (Sunday). The strike was announced at a rally held at the Aparajeya Bangla monument following a procession.

Speakers at the rally warned the university authorities and gave a three-day ultimatum to reconsider the decision.

"We will start an indefinite student strike and paralyse the University if the authorities stick to their decision", the angry students declared at the rally.

They also condemned the police baton charge on their silent protest procession after the rally.

The students also said that the decision was biased and unethical.

Besides, the students of the CPRS also announced a press conference for today at the Madhu's Canteen of the DU. They also called upon the general students to boycott classes tomorrow (Monday).

Letters of complaint from students who had been oppressed several times by the DU teachers would be received at the 'Shamim Bikolpa Photostat' at the Arts Building gate from today, according to a press release of the CPRS yesterday.

Some of the protestors talking to this Correspondent, said that the incident of ransacking was not committed by the general students or the protestors.

Meanwhile, the Awami League-backed Chhatra League (M-I) President Mainuddin Hasan Chowdhury and General Secretary Iqbalur Rahim in a joint statement said that the ransacking was done by a group of 'identified terrorists' backed by the government.

The BCL (M-I) also held a press conference at its central office yesterday afternoon.

The BCL leaders KHM Liza

# Hasina

From Page 1 Col 7

The Awami League chief criticised the government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for what she called breaching its promise to pass the Indemnity Ordinance Repeal Bill in parliament.

Referring to filing of cases against 24 sponsors of Gano Adalat, she said the government is harassing the pro-liberation forces while giving shelter to the anti-liberation elements.

Hasina urged the people to unitedly resist terrorism and foil the evil designs of the anti-liberation forces.

Later, she visited the residence of Azzul Islam Razu and consoled the members of the bereaved family.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Hasina Saturday offered fatha at the mazar of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Tungipara.

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Journalists brought out a silent procession in the city yesterday protesting police attack on them. — Star photo

# Opposition

From Page 1 Col 5

atrocities at the Jatiya Press Club on June 21, the meeting demanded punishment for the persons responsible.

It also resolved that the government accept the demands of the striking transport workers considering the sufferings to the commonman due to the strike and give up the techniques of applying force of the strikers.

All the prominent members of the alliance addressed the meeting.

Meanwhile, the Dhaka metropolitan unit of Ektattur Ghatak-Dalal Nirmul Committee will attend the programme, said a press release.

Khalequzzaman Bhuiyan, convenor of his faction of BSD in a statement yesterday called upon the people to make the June 30 march a success. He also urged his party workers to take all-out preparations aimed at making the programme a success and thus intensify the movement for demand of Golam Azam's trial.

# JS impasse

From Page 1 Col 7

The Opposition four point demands include trial of Golam Azam under International Crimes Act, 1973, dropping of charges against the 24 sponsors of Gano Adalat, ensuring due honour to the leader of the Opposition in parliament, and extending democratic behaviour to the opposition political parties.

The Opposition had informal meetings with leaders of the BNP in one of the Parliamentary Standing Committee meetings held yesterday.

A senior leader of BNP, preferring anonymity, told The Daily Star that a section of the party leaders was showing increasing intransigence in negotiating with the Opposition.

They, according to the leader, felt that they could outwit the Opposition once the budget was passed by June 30, in the absence of Opposition. But, the other section felt the party would be deprived of a political victory over the Opposition for 'formulating a positive budget' if it was passed without the Opposition in parliament.

An influential leader of the AL, also an MP, however, felt that three of the four demands could easily be met by the ruling party. About the trial of Golam Azam, he observed, the government could bail itself out of the crisis by asserting its own stand on the issue taken in parliament earlier. This would also allow the Opposition to extend the olive branch to the government, he observed.

The ruling party decision on Golam Azam said that the issue should be settled in a court of law.

# MQM quitting Sharif's coalition

KARACHI, June 27: A Pakistani ethnic party said today it was quitting Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's coalition and deputies were resigning their seats to protest at an army-led crime crackdown, reports Reuters.

Several deputies of the Mohajir National Movement (MQM) said authorities were using the 27-day-old crackdown to crush their party based in the provincial capital Karachi and some other urban centres.

The MQM central body has agreed on the resignations of all of 15 deputies in the National Assembly (Lower House of Parliament) and 28 deputies in the Sindh Provincial Assembly, a party leader said.

The resignations, over an army sweep against MQM strongholds in Karachi since June 19, were announced hours after Sharif left for a two-day official visit to the Central Asian republic of Uzbekistan.

Political sources said the loss of MQM seats would not pose an immediate danger to Sharif's 20-month-old government, which will still have a majority in the National Assembly with the backing of other groups and independents.

But they said the Sindh Provincial government of Chief Minister Muzaffar Hussain Shah could fall because the MQM was the largest group in his coalition.

A group of MQM dissidents has sought to win over MQM deputies and at least two federal and two provincial deputies of the party have said they will not resign their seats.

Political sources said the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, the largest single group in the Sindh Assembly, could try to form the next provincial government.

But Bhutto demands fresh elections in the whole country, saying the last elections held in October 1990 were rigged by authorities to defeat her.

Several MQM deputies told reporters that they had sent copies of their resignations to President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Sharif, their legislatures and election authorities.

Karachi Mayor Farooq Sattar, who is also a National Assembly member, said all MQM deputies would resign under the party decision taken on Friday.

Most MQM activists have gone into hiding after the army sweep on their strongholds that followed gunfights between them and the dissidents in which 10 people were killed and a curfew imposed on two-thirds of Karachi.

MQM leader Altaf Hussain has been in London for several months for medical treatment.

Authorities say they have found more than 20 torture chambers which MQM operated to punish political opponents. The MQM denies the charge and accuses the authorities of making pretexts to crush the party.

"The resignations are against the government's unconstitutional and undemocratic attitude which has been adopted to crush the MQM," the party's Sindh Provincial Housing Minister Ishratul Ebad Khan said.

Kanwar Naveed Jameel, an MQM deputy of the National Assembly from the Sindh town of Hyderabad, said he was resigning as the government had started crushing the MQM and its ministers and legislators had been threatened with kidnappings and deaths after their houses were set on fire.

"The resignations are in protest at threats of kidnappings and deaths," Mohammad Aslam, another National Assembly member, told reporters.

# PM : Shibganj

From Page 1 Col 7

Rahman, Minu, Prof Lutfunnesa Hossain, MP, local BNP leaders Sultanul Islam and Saifuddin Ahmed.

Mentioning various development programmes like canal digging, compulsory primary education and mass literacy, Begum Zia said village had been made the focal point of her administration as it wanted to develop every village.

In this context, she referred to the resumption of the integrated Barendra project at a cost of Tk 350 crore, saying it will help boost food production in the region by providing irrigation facilities.

Stressing the need for rapid industrialisation, she urged all to set up small and cottage industries, including dairy and poultry farms. Credit will be available, she assured.

Begum Zia also called upon the entrepreneurs for setting up mango processing units in the district, which yields about 70 per cent of the country's total mango production.

Responding to local demands, she said fund would be provided for improvement of the local stadium and Shibganj Girls' School be nationalised.

She also assured them of rural electrification and road communication facilities in the remote frontier areas.

Earlier, Begum Zia visited the re-excavated Pithaltala-Baguri canal here and released fish fry.

The 2.47-kilometre canal, completed on May 16, is expected to produce about 25,000 kg fish, worth Tk 10 lakh, besides providing irrigation facility to 300 acres of land which will produce an estimated 12,000 tons additional crops.

Begum Zia planted a sapling beside the canal, on both sides of which about 10,000 trees will be planted.

She also visited the mazar of a 16th century Muslim saint, Shah Niamat Ullah (RA), at Toha Khana and offered fatha.

She was given a prayer mat by the Khadem of the mazar. She also planted a sapling of Nageswari tree in the mazar premises.

On her way back from the mazar, Begum Zia visited the famous Sona Masjid, a 15th century Muslim architecture.

She offered prayer for salvation of the departed souls of Bir Shrestha Captain Mohiuddin Jahangir and Sector Commander Major Nazmul Huda, both buried in the historic mosque premises.

# Dr Kamal hails opening of corridor

Awami League leader Dr Kamal Hossain has welcomed the opening of the Tinbigha corridor to Bangladesh for movement of its citizens to and from Dahagram and Angapota enclaves, reports UNB.

The opening of the corridor is a welcome development," Dr Kamal, who is also convenor of the newly formed Democratic Forum, said.

The district wing of Jatiya Party and that of BNP today called separate rallies at the same spot, namely, Bat Tala in the Sadar, at the same time. The Jatiya Party was organising their rally to make their June 30 court arrest programme to set Ershad free, a success.

But the administration, feeling uneasy situation brewing up by noon between the two parties, imposed the Section 144.

This law, while being imposed, virtually prohibits outdoor politics.

A number of police have been stationed in and around the district town just after the imposition of 144.

But supporters of BNP were reportedly seen to hold a procession from Bat Tala to the local office after 2.30 pm despite deployment of heavy police.

# Section 144 in Gazipur

By Staff Correspondent

GAZIPUR, June 27: The district administration today imposed Section 144 from 2.30 pm at the district headquarters prohibiting assembly of five or more persons.

The administration took this course of action in apprehension of clashes between supporters of Jatiya Party and BNP.

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# Ship deal

From Page 1 Col 5

Meanwhile, diplomatic sources in Dhaka said that Pakistan would raise the subject with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia when she goes to Islamabad, possibly in early August.

Pakistan, they said, felt that the two countries could look into the allegations of irregularities instead of scrapping the deal.

Bangladesh Bureau of Anti-corruption which took up the subject in February last year has, however, made little progress in its investigation of irregularities excluding filing cases against former minister Sheikh Shahidul Islam and three officials of the Bangladesh Shipping Corporation involved in the negotiations on the deal.

Two of the officials are no more with the BSC while the third has been put under suspension.

# The Midnight File

## Municipal election in Chile today

SANTIAGO, June 27: Under heavy security, Chilean voters pick municipal officials Sunday for the first time in 21 years in an election widely seen as a crucial step in strengthening the country's young democracy. An estimated 7.8 million voters will pick 2,082 mayors and council members in 334 towns. Under the former military regime of Gen Augusto Pinochet, municipal authorities were appointed by the central government, reports AP.

## Serb tanks withdrawn from Sarajevo Airport

SARAJEVO, June 27: Serb tanks blocking Sarajevo Airport withdrew this afternoon, General Lewis Mackenzie, head of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in the Bosnian capital, said Saturday. He could not say whether the tanks had returned by Saturday, reports AFP.

# Transport Strike

From Page 1 Col 4

leaders and check continued terrorism.

Federation vice-president Abdur Rouf, treasurer Abdul Khaleque, organising secretary Abul Wadud Nayan and other leaders were present at the press conference.

On the other hand Wazuddin Khan president of the federation, at a press conference at Mahakhali Bus Terminal said that they were forced to go on strike as the government was 'unwilling to meet the demands.'

He said that Mujiburul Ahsan was in favour of the strike decision but later changed his decision.

He admitted that it is possible to resolve the crisis through dialogue.

He alleged repression on the transport workers and demanded immediate release of the arrested transport workers and leaders.

Secretary Abdur Rashid, vice-president Habbibur Rahman Khan, and other leaders including Shajahan Khan, MP, Roy Romesh Chandra and

Belayet Hossain were present at the press conference.

Meanwhile, the situation in Dhaka and Chittagong improved on Saturday as more vehicles started plying on the road in different district of the regions.

In the capital buses in route no 6 and Syedabad-Gazipur were almost normal and those were the main target of attack of the striking workers.

BSS adds: The leaders of Bangladesh Bus-Truck Owners Association yesterday appealed to the government, political leaders and persons concerned to take appropriate and bold steps for resolving the present situation arising out of the transport strike.

The association president S M Ziaul Huq and secretary general A Ghafur, in a joint statement said the present situation due to the transport strike was 'very dangerous' as it was having an adverse impact on the country's economy.

They said the general public and the bus truck owners have been facing unending sufferings and loss due to the strike for the last several days.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Truck Drivers Union and Gazipur Anto-Zila Sarak Paribahan Samik Parishad in separate statements, congratulated the transport owners and workers for what they said, continuation of transport strike throughout the country in a peaceful manner for the last three days.

## Compensation for damaged vehicles

The government will give full compensation to the affected transport owners whose buses, minibuses, trucks, tempos and autorickshaws have been damaged since June 22 due to 'acts of anarchy and terrorism', the Communications Ministry sources said Saturday in Dhaka, reports BSS.

## Tehran meet

From Page 1 Col 6

Its strengthening of capital markets and industrial financing and instituting cooperative measures for industrial and technological development in the LDCs and the island economies.

In addition to the strategy for industrial development, the conference is also expected to adopt a declaration — entitled The Tehran Declaration — which will consist of a set of actions that the countries of the region will collectively take to realise the goals of the aforementioned strategy.

গ্রাহক জরিপ সম্পর্কিত  
ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পানির অপচয় রোধ, সুস্বাদু বটন ও সরবরাহ ব্যবস্থার সার্বিক উন্নয়ন এবং সে সঙ্গে  
সুস্থ পরিগণিকাশন ও ডেনেজ ব্যবস্থার উন্নয়নের লক্ষ্যে দীর্ঘমেয়াদী প্রকল্প প্রণয়নের  
নিমিত্ত প্রয়োজনীয় সকল তথ্য ও উপাত্ত সংগ্রহের জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসা "গ্রাহক জরিপ"  
কর্মসূচী গ্রহণ করেছে।

উক্ত কর্মসূচী বাস্তবায়নের জন্য পানি/পয়ঃসংযোগ, বিলিং ও রাজস্ব আদায়সহ পানি  
সরবরাহ, পানি পরিগণিকাশন সম্পর্কিত গ্রাহক সেবা প্রসঙ্গে প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যাদি ও উপাত্ত  
সংগ্রহের জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসা নিয়োজিত জরিপ ফর্ম "একোয়া কনসালটেন্ট" এর  
মাঠকর্মীগণ মহানগরীর বিভিন্ন এলাকায় কর্মরত আছেন।

\* আপনার স্বার্থে বৈধ পরিচয়পত্র প্রদর্শন সাপেক্ষে সরেজমিনে কার্যরত উক্ত  
মাঠকর্মীকে পানি/পয়ঃসংযোগ, বিলিং, বিল পরিশোধ, পানি সরবরাহ, পানি ও  
পরিগণিকাশন সম্পর্কিত প্রয়োজনীয় সকল তথ্যাদি ও উপাত্ত সংগ্রহে সর্বাঙ্গিক সহযোগিতা  
দিন।

\* জনস্বার্থে মাঠকর্মীকে আপনার বাড়ীতে প্রবেশাধিকার দিন ও পানি/পয়ঃসংযোগ  
সম্পর্কিত কাগজপত্র, পরিশোধিত বিলের কপি এবং রাজস্ব অনুমোদিত আপনার বাড়ীর  
নকশা দেখান।

ঢাকা ওয়াসার গ্রাহক সেবার সার্বিক মান উন্নয়নে এ "গ্রাহক জরিপ" কর্মসূচী গৃহীত  
হয়েছে।

আপনার সহযোগিতা একান্ত কাম্য  
ঢাকা ওয়াসা

ওয়াসা-জঃ তঃ ২০০/৯২  
ডি-৩৪৬