

# IDB to double its capital

JIDDAH, July 4: Finance ministers of the Muslim states announced Saturday an agreement to double the subscribed capital of the Islamic Development Bank, the main credit agency for the Muslim world, reports AP.

The announcement said its subscribed capital will rise from 2 billion to 4 billion Islamic dinars, while its authorized capital will be tripled from 2 billion to 6 billion Islamic dinars.

An Islamic dinar is equivalent to the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Right, meaning that the bank's subscribed capital has been increased from 2.9 billion to 5.8 billion, while its authorized capital goes from 2.9 billion to 8.7 billion.

The bank was established in 1975 by 44 members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Jeddah-based umbrella for the world's estimated billion Muslims, to support economic and social development in Islamic countries and among Muslim communities living in non-member states, and to increase inter-Islamic trade.

It has so far provided member states with interest-free loans, technical assistance and grants to the tune of nearly 12 billion. Extensive assistance is going these months to the newly independent Muslim-populated republics of the defunct Soviet Union.

The decision to increase the bank's capital was taken at the OIC summit conference hosted in December by Senegal, but the size of the increase had still to be determined.

Bank officials said the largest contributor in the increase was Saudi Arabia, which was expected to double its share to 1.5 billion. Other leading subscribers are Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Libya, Iran and Turkey.

# Adamjee battle

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on duty police officials. They are also apprehending eruption of fresh trouble as the workers of AL and JP were reportedly getting themselves prepared to launch a joint attack against their BNP rivals.

Informed sources said the Sramik Party's Siddiq Sardar-led workers of the AJM attacked the Dhaka Baju Workers' Colony, a stronghold of AL's Rehman group of the mills workers, at 12 mid night. The attackers allegedly blasted crackers numbering about 500. Sporadic gunshots and blasts were heard during the violence.

A week ago, the colony was captured by the pro-BNP Sramik Dal supporters.

As the attack began, Rehanuddin along with his supporters were rescued from the colony by police.

He took refuge at the Siddiqiraj Thana where he is learnt to be staying.

Blasting of hand-made bombs continued till 2 am Friday without any intermission. Similar occurrences also took place at the AJM areas until 9 am Saturday with a break in the early morning.

In the second round of clash, that took place between the workers of BNP's Sramik Dal and AL's Sramik League from 6.30 am to 9 am, Selim suffered bullet wounds at 8 am at the Kadamtali Bridge area.

Abul Kashem led the Sramik Dal activists while Rehanuddin led the Sramik League workers, witnesses said.

# 75 MPs demand withdrawal of cases against 20 in Khulna

By Staff Correspondent

Seventy five Members of Parliament including the leader of the Opposition, Sheikh Hasina, Saturday issued a statement demanding the withdrawal of cases against 20 political leaders and student leaders of Khulna.

The statement termed the cases filed by the Jamaat-Shibir quarter as 'politically motivated' to harass them.

They demanded withdrawal of cases against BSD leader Advocate ABM Nurul Alam, CPB leader Firoz Ahmed, Khulna Muktiyoddha Sangsad commander Mujibur Rahman, BCL leaders Selim, Mintu, Lablu, Saiful, Jahangir, BCU leaders Bedwin, Mahendra, Jahangir, Mohammad and other student leaders Ismail, Dipankar, Abid, Shamim and Khasru.

Prominent among others signed the statement included Abul Razzak, Sajeda Chowdhury, Mohiuddin Ahmed, Tofail Ahmed, Rashed Khan Menop, Shamsuddoha, Suranjit Sengupta, Shahjahan Straj, Hafizuddin Ahmed and Nurul Islam Mont.

# Jamaat favours stronger defence budget

Jamaat-e-Islami has suggested higher allocation for defence in the new budget, saying that the sector deserves more allocation as defence is 'very important' for an independent country, reports UNB.

Jamaat Majlis-e-Shoora, on the second day of its meeting Saturday, expressed pessimism that the budget will fail to fulfil aspirations set forth by the Finance Minister and said 'it is contradictory in its measures and objectives.'

Referring to open import policy in the budget, the meeting viewed that it will expose the local industries to uneven competition with foreign goods. Liberal import will hurt local industries, it said.

# SAARC meet

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capital to attend the meetings of the Programming Committee of the senior officials and the Standing Committee of the Foreign Secretaries.

Senior officials already met yesterday and the Foreign Secretaries are due to begin a 3-day session today, according to a message received here from Colombo.

The Foreign Ministers will review the progress of implementation of the action programmes adopted in the last summit for poverty alleviation and protection of environmental disasters and checking drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

The meeting will examine criteria for according recognition to various apex organisations in South Asia in professional, academic, commercial, industrial, cultural and other fields.

The two-day session of the SAARC Council of Ministers will draft the agenda for the 7th summit.

The meeting will also examine actions taken so far in respect of economic cooperation among the SAARC countries. This will include South Asian preferential trade arrangement and establishing joint ventures and promoting technical exchanges.

It will consider funds for regional projects, further action in respect of pre-feasibility study for a South Asian Development Fund which could take up the question of securing funds from extra-regional sources to supplement resources available in the region.

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Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina and Saudi Charge d'Affaires Ali Ahmed Abdal Wahab discussing matters of mutual interest at later's official residence at Minto Road yesterday.

# Instant ransom

By Staff Correspondent

Muggers late Friday night, in an alarming new trend, snatched a baby from a mother's lap and demanded the belongings as instant ransom for the return of the child.

The victims, a Dhaka University teacher, his wife and two minor children, were mugged off of cash, wrist watches and gold ornaments worth about Taka 15,000.

Dr M Ershadul Bari, Dean of the Law Faculty, was riding a rickshaw along with his family near the YMCA office at New Eskaton Road at around 11 pm.

The muggers stopped them, snatch one of the babies and demanded the ransom.

They then forced the helpless couple to hand over their belongings in return for the child. The muggers took Taka 700 in cash, two wrist watches and two gold-rings and fled from the scene.

A case was lodged with the Ramna Police immediately after the incident. However, no arrests were made in this connection till the writing of this report Saturday night.

# Flash flood in Sunamganj

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, July 4: Flash flood hit four thanas of Sunamganj district following the onrush of flood water from hilly regions accompanied by excessive rainfall during the last three days.

The lowlying areas of Tahirpur, Jamalganj, Dharam-pasa and Doarabazar thanas went under water during the period.

Standings crops on several thousand acres of land were submerged by the flash flood. About two hundred dwelling houses were also damaged totally or partially.

# Jute workers

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blockade programme on July 28 and will go for a tougher action, sources said.

Earlier, the programme was scheduled for July 24.

Meanwhile, Jute Workers and Employees Action Council held a conference on Saturday at Taher auditorium to finalise the strategy to make 'Sangsad march' a success.

Convener of the council Abul Bashar presided over the conference which was addressed among others by Lutfar Rahman, Abul Mannan, Motaharuddin, Shah Alam, Anwara Begum, Sharifullah and Shahidullah Chowdhury.

Nearly 65 representatives from different jute mills attended the conference.

Abul Bashar warned the jute workers will start a greater movement if the government did not abandon its denationalisation programme.

He said that the government was following the prescription of the World Bank which 'aimed at destroying the jute sector.'

'The World Bank has asked India to increase production but has asked Bangladesh to reduce the same,' he added.

He said that jute sector earned a profit of Tk six crore from export of jute goods till September last. More than three crore people including 40 lakh farmers are engaged in this sector, he added.

Bashar alleged that some quarters were trying to create artificial crisis in this profitable sector and pointed out that the government gave permission for setting up of about 300 synthetic factories which are dangerous for environment.

He urged the government to implement the agreement signed with the jute and textile workers.

Bashar also condemned the incident at Adamjee in which one person was killed and many others injured on Saturday and held the ruling party responsible for the killing.

# 400 feared killed as blast rocks Kirkuk police HQ

NICOSIA, July 4: An Iraqi opposition group said on Friday 400 people were killed or wounded by a huge explosion that rocked the police headquarters in the northern oil city of Kirkuk on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

There has been no independent confirmation of the report and Iraqi officials were unavailable to comment.

The London-based Iraqi National Congress, in a statement sent to Reuter, said many Kurdish and Shi'ite political prisoners detained in the police building were victims of the explosion which targeted the police chief who was among the injured.

The opposition group said the explosion was a result of infighting among the security organs of President Saddam Hussein following Tuesday's dispute near the city's education department which left several people killed.

The group was formed in Vienna last month by more than 200 Iraqi opposition activists representing several opposition groups with the aim to coordinate efforts to topple Saddam.

A Tehran-based influential Iraqi Shi'ite opposition group, the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, did not take part in the Vienna meeting saying it lacked unity but promised to support any anti-Saddam action.

The Iraqi National Congress reported on Thursday that a Republican guard brigade stationed north of Baghdad moved towards the capital on Monday to topple the government but was foiled by forces loyal to Saddam.

A senior Iraqi foreign ministry official attending an Arab League meeting in Cairo denied the coup report on Friday.

# 48 killed in Kabul

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on the ground outside what appeared to be the garrison's officers' club.

Burning vehicles and grass fires spewed smoke over the scene as soldiers carried the injured to safety.

At least one rocket landed near the Communications Ministry in the centre of Kabul killing five people, according to Western journalist eyewitnesses.

Hekmatyar, a fiery Islamic fundamentalist, commands a powerful military and political force in Afghanistan.

His men played an important role in April's Afghan rebel victory after waging 14 years of civil war against successive Soviet backed communist government.

Dostum and his men fought for the government before changing sides in April, paving the way for Kabul's fall.

# Warrant of arrest against 3 Bhorer Kagaz newsmen

State Minister for Textile Abul Mannan yesterday filed a defamation suit against the Chief Editor, Editor and Chief Reporter of daily Bhorer Kagaz, reports UNB.

Mannan, a retired major who owns garments factories, in his application said the daily in its issues of June 15, 16 and 17, 1992 published reports which are false, baseless, malafide seriously defaming him personally, socially and politically.

Upon his application, the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate ordered issuance of the warrant of arrest against the accused.

# Jubo Command

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look shelter in the Baitul Mokarram Mosque and nearby lanes, police said.

The procession was brought out following a meeting at the Dainik Bangla square to protest the government decision of withdrawal of the case against the 24 sponsors of 'people's court' which tried the controversial Jamaat chief, Golam Azam, on March 26 and suggested that his 'crimes' during the Liberation War was punishable by death.

During the incident the shopkeepers hurriedly closed down their establishments and panic-stricken passers-by scurried for safety.

Witnesses said that several pedestrians were injured when they ran helter-skelter following the attack.

Meanwhile, a JC leader alleged the incident ensued when some unidentified people hurled cocktails from inside the CPB office but police said that no one was present at the office during the incident.

The JC Secretary claimed at least four of their workers were injured in police action. No arrest were made during the incident.

# Sharif's concern over Indian naval expansion

ISLAMABAD, July 4: Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif expressed alarm here today at a 'geometrical' increase in Indian naval spending, expansion, underlining the need for an adequate response from Islamabad, reports AFP.

'Whatever India's aims for a massive naval development programme, what concerns us is the reality that this entire force can be concentrated against Pakistan,' Sharif told a seminar on maritime power.

He said India's navy operated aircraft carriers, submarines and missile-equipped nuclear ships, and that its naval budget had increased in 'geometrical proportions'.

'Such is the magnitude and the challenge we face at the sea, we have a situation that raised alarm and spells disaster,' he said, noting that Pakistan wanted the Indian ocean to be a nuclear weapons-free zone of peace and did not want to enter into a race for superiority with its neighbours.

# Garments workers postpone strike

Leaders of garments workers yesterday announced postponement of their scheduled strike programme on July 7 and 8, reports BSS.

This decision was taken at a meeting of the leaders of Garments Workers Union and Owners Association with Labour and Manpower Minister Abul Mannan Bhuiyan here Saturday evening.

# SKOP strike

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problems of the workers through mutual discussions.

He said the objective of the government was not to create unemployment but solving the problems by setting up new mills and factories.

Mannan Bhuiyan called upon the labour leaders to help create a healthy atmosphere for investment through building up a proper trade union movement.

# DU students

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The CPRS also said in its statement: 'We did not demand withdrawal of the expulsion order against Ansar Ali but demanded the withdrawal of the cancellation of his Honours Degree which he (Ansar) has earned legally.'

# Press Club incident

Enquiry body invites witness

The one-man enquiry commission to investigate the police action on incident around the National Press Club on June 21 has invited eyewitnesses, injured journalists and photographers to appear before commission chairman Justice Kazi Shafiquddin to give their eye-witness account on July 10 from 10 am to 2.30 pm at its office at 67/1 Circuit House road, reports BSS.

# The Midnight File

**New govt of Italy wins confidence vote**

ROME, July 4: The new government of Premier Giuliano Amato won a parliamentary confidence vote on Saturday, taking full power just two days before the summit of the Group of Seven richest industrial countries. The lower house of Parliament, as expected, gave its approval to the four-party coalition, in a 330-280 vote. The Senate vote was Thursday, reports AP.

**Russia ready to forgo \$24b western aid**

MOSCOW, July 4: Russia is willing to forgo 24 billion dollar of western aid if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) maintains its demands that Russia free energy prices. President Boris Yeltsin said today. He said Russia could not free its energy prices, which would lead to a tenfold price rise in other goods, particularly bread and other basic foods, which the population would not put up with, reports AFP.

# PM: Cooperatives

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areas. Their skill would be enhanced if they were involved in the cooperative in an increasing number.

Begum Zia called upon co-operators to plant one tree each to make the on-going tree plantation programme a success and save our existence.

Barrister Salam Talukdar described the cooperative movement as an important vehicle for achieving socio-economic emancipation.

Listing the achievements in the cooperative sector, the minister said it had helped providing a vast number of people particularly the distressed and rootless women, with job opportunities.

The minister, however, pleaded for stern action to wipe out middlemen and touts from the cooperative sector.

Dwelling on various problems and demands of co-operators, Talukdar said their genuine demands were under active consideration of the government.

**Water talks**

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the two countries are to meet in New Delhi next month to talk trade imbalances, heavily tilted against Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, India has requested to 'expedite' the formation of the 'political level committee' on the Chakma refugees, as agreed by the Prime Ministers, in order to ensure 'early return' of some 50,000 'refugees', now 'refugee' mainly in the state of Tripura.

Informed sources said, the 'formation of the committee, comprising most likely by MPs of both countries, had been delayed by Dhaka's troubled political scenario marked by Opposition boycott of Parliament.

'Now that the parliamentary deadlock is over, we expect to do it soon', said a senior government leader.

In another development, Hashim Abdul Halim, the Speaker of West Bengal Assembly, will be transiting through Dhaka on July 6 (Wednesday) and July 13 on his way to and from UK, Indian High Commission sources said.

Hashim, a close associate of Chief Minister Joyti Basu, will stay the Wednesday night in Dhaka and is plans to call on the Speaker and other senior government and opposition leaders before departure on Thursday.

Hashim, who presided over the House when WB passed resolution in favour of the corridor opening, is expected to receive warm welcome in Dhaka.

## ঢাকা ওয়াসা বিজ্ঞপ্তি

লক্ষ্য করা গেছে মহানগরীর বিভিন্ন এলাকায় ওয়াসার সরবরাহ লাইনের সাথে হস্তচালিত/যন্ত্রচালিত পাম্প সংযোজন করে পানি সংগ্রহ করা হচ্ছে। এ ধরনের কাজ সম্পূর্ণভাবে অবৈধ এবং শাস্তিযোগ্য অপরাধ। এহেন কার্যকলাপের দরুন সর্বাঙ্গীণ এলাকার বহু সম্মানিত গ্রাহক প্রয়োজনীয় পরিমাণ পানিপ্ৰাপ্তি হতে বঞ্চিত হন। শুধু তাই নয় অবৈধ ভাবে অদক্ষ মিস্ত্রি দ্বারা ত্রুটিপূর্ণ উপায়ে ওয়াসার পানির লাইনের সাথে সরাসরি এসব পাম্প সংযোজনকালে সংযোগ স্থলে ফাঁক বা ছিদ্র হয়ে যায়। এসব ছিদ্রপথে বাহিরের আবর্জনা, দূষিত পদার্থ বা ময়লা পানি ওয়াসার সিস্টেমে অনুপ্রবেশ করে সরবরাহকৃত পানি দূষিত করছে।

কাজেই জনস্বাস্থ্যের স্বার্থে এবং পানির অপচয় ও দূষণ রোধে এ ধরনের কার্যকলাপ তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে বন্ধ করার জন্য সর্বসাধারণের প্রতি অনুরোধ রইল।

ওয়াসার সিস্টেমের সাথে সংযুক্ত আপনার পাম্পটি আজই খুলে নিন এবং এ ধরনের কাজ করা থেকে অন্যকেও বিরত করুন।

আপনাদের সহযোগিতা আমাদের একান্ত কাম্য

ওয়াসা-জঃঃঃ ২০৭/৯২।  
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