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Inside Today
Article

The Sangsad, the budget, et cetera

Column: Passing Clouds by Zillur Rahman Siddiqui Page 4

International



Sen Edward Kennedy and his bride attend a reception

Eight killed in Peshawar gunfight Page 5

Business

Dhaka will export 75,000 tonnes of jute and jute goods to Moscow Page 7

Supplement

A two-page supplement on Bastille Day Pages 8, 9

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



A Swede leaves behind an essential work on non-formal education Page 3

Tomorrow

Conversation with Pakistan Opposition leader, Benazir Bhutto conducted by The Daily Star Executive Editor, Mahfuz Anam DO NOT MISS IT.

NEWS BRIEFS

Ashari Purnima today

Ashari Purnima, one of the important religious festivals of the Buddhists will be celebrated by the Buddhist community throughout the country today. The purnima commemorates renunciation of Prince Siddhartha from royal palace in quest of salvation of mankind and preaching his first gospel after becoming the Buddha. Buddhist monks observe three-month seclusion at the monasteries from this day. reports BSS.

Four held, arms recovered in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, July 13: District police here arrested four persons and recovered one revolver, one gun and some ammunition in the past two days. According to a police press release Monday, Nasiruddin, leader of the "Nasir Bahini" and his accomplice Oltullah (alias Babul), were arrested, reports BSS.

BNP PP meet today

The adjourned meeting of BNP Parliamentary Party, scheduled for Monday, will now be held today at 8 pm. Chief Whip Khandker Delwar Hossain said the meeting would discuss the prevailing political situation and matters relating to the on-going budget session, reports UNB.

Rabin invites Arabs, Palestinians to Jerusalem for talks

JERUSALEM, July 13: Prime Minister-designate Yitzhak Rabin invited Palestinian and Arab leaders on Monday to talk peace in Jerusalem and urged Israelis to stop thinking that "the whole world is against us," reports AP.

Seeking parliamentary approval of his new government, one of Israel's most moderate, the prime minister-designate appealed to Palestinians to hold informal talks with him and urged the Arab world to open a new page in history books.

In a sweeping, passionate speech that quoted the Bible and Israel's greatest poets, Rabin urged Israelis to embrace the new world order in the aftermath of the Cold War.

Rabin's coalition, consisting of 62 seats in the 120-member Parliament, was to face a vote of confidence later Monday. He was then to be sworn in, formally marking the end of 15 years of right-wing rule and the return of his Labor Party to power.

Addressing the packed Parliament, the 70-year-old ex-general said that "to illustrate our sincerity and good will," he would invite the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation at the US-sponsored peace talks to visit him in Jerusalem for "an informal talk."

The purpose would be to "hear their views, make ours heard, and create an appropriate atmosphere for a good partnership," Rabin said.

The outgoing government of Yitzhak Shamir, determined to do nothing to recognise the Palestinians as a separate entity, insisted that they negotiate in tandem with the Jordanians.

Rabin said he will stick with that formula. But his offer marked a departure. Shamir's government was never known to meet with the Palestinian

See Page 12 Col 7

Rabin is another Shamir cloaked in velvet: Arafat

CAIRO, July 13: PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, apparently withdrawing his blessing for the Israeli Labour Party's election victory, has slammed its Prime Minister-designate, Yitzhak Rabin, as "another Shamir cloaked in velvet," reports AFP.

"I am not among those who harbour illusions about the results of the Israeli legislative elections," said Arafat, speaking here Saturday at the 15th session of the Palestinian higher council of education, culture and science.

Arafat had previously welcomed Labour's victory over the Likud Party led by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir as a chance to give flagging Middle East peace talks a shot in the arm. Explaining his change of heart, Arafat said, without elaborating that Rabin had changed his statements on a peace agreement with the

Furore in JS over 'national flag tearing'

By Staff Correspondent

The House witnessed a noisy scene yesterday over the alleged tearing of the national flag by a police Sub-Inspector in Kushtia.

Rising on a point of order, Abdur Razzak of the Awami League (AL) said that people responsible for the incident in Kushtia should be punished as they had violated the accord between the government and the opposition to honour and uphold democratic values.

Razzak was referring to the incident in Kushtia July 10

where the Nirmul Committee sponsors failed to address a meeting. The district administration imposed Section 144 to avoid clashes between Nirmul Committee and Jubo Command that convened a meeting at the same venue.

Following imposition of Section 144 a clash broke out, cocktails were blasted and reports said that a police official took away the national flag from one of the supporters of the Nirmul Committee and

Work on Jamuna Bridge to begin in Jan '94

The Communications Minister stood firm to his answer in parliament yesterday that tenders for construction of Jamuna Bridge will be floated in September despite certain objections of the financiers including the World Bank, reports UNB.

"I said tenders will be floated in September," repeated Oli Ahmed when Syed Abul Hossain (AL) pointed to a recent press report that World Bank had categorically told the Energy Minister it will not allow floating tenders until electricity systems loss is reduced.

The World Bank which raised 550 million dollars Jamuna Multi-Purpose bridge, had withheld disbursement of 500 million dollars and another 750 million dollars in the pipeline for the power sector.



On stage at Dhaka Sheraton last night the performers of American Look-alike Concert '92 with Ms Johnny Ray (middle) mimicking superstar Madonna. — Star photo

PM goes to Pakistan Aug 9

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will be in Pakistan on a three-day official visit August 9 to 11.

The trip, talked about for months, was finalised after talks between visiting Bangladesh Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman and senior Pakistan officials in Islamabad Sunday.

Rahman who returned in the early hours today ending a four-day visit to Pakistan met Prime Minister Nawza Sharif yesterday and delivered a message from Begum Zia.

The Foreign Minister had discussions Saturday with Siddique Hossain Kanju, Pakistan's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, on the forthcoming trip of the Prime Minister. The Foreign Minister flew from Colombo to the Pakistan capital Friday after attending the two-day SAARC FMs' meet.

Officials in Dhaka said that the issues to dominate the Bangladesh-Pakistan summit were sharing of assets and liabilities, repatriation of more than 250,000 stranded Pakistanis and expansion of trade and economic cooperation.

Business groups decry tariff raise

By Staff Correspondent

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has identified about 23 items whose tariffs, the business community alleges, have been increased 'unjustifiably.'

"We are examining the basis of fixation of those values to see if it is reasonable and compatible with the invoice and price bulletin," said Dr Mashur Rahman, Chairman of the NBR, in a press briefing at the Board conference room Monday.

The list includes industrial raw materials and consumer items.

The Revenue Board has also requested the Chambers to provide any relevant information along with a copy of the invoice and published price list of a particular item.

Referring to Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman's recent statement that any 'incompatibility in the tariff value will be removed,' the NBR chief assured that the 'unjustified tariff values, if any, would be readjusted' in consultation with the representatives of the trade bodies.

"If any tariff values needs to be adjusted we would like to learn of it and correct it," he added.

Earlier, Dr Rahman brushed aside notions that the tariff values set in the budget may have been manipulated. "It was not arbitrarily done or manipulated," he declared, adding "the tariff values were set on the basis of invoices provided by the importers and collected from other dependable sources."

The NBR Chairman noted that a study was also conducted last year on the existing tariff values in India, Pakistan, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Saying that the tariff value is the reflection of the actual international price of an item, Dr Rahman said "We tried to adjust the tariff value so that the scope for over and under-invoicing lessens and the revenue is protected."

The tariff value fixed along with the budget was assessed in dollars to "automatically capture the effect of currency depreciation and to stop revenue slippage," he said.

Normally adjusted twice a year, the tariff value was fixed in January this year was in Taka.

Rahman pointed out that the list of items on which tariff

BNP fails to consolidate democracy: Hasina

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina has said Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia's government reneged on its pre-election promises and failed to build national consensus on establishing democracy as an institution and a strong economy, reports UNB.

"Begum Zia's 17 months in power have frustrated the people who dislodged Ershad in a mass upsurge with a hope for a genuine democracy and uplift in their economic condition," Hasina told a reception hosted by the expatriate Bangladeshes at Manhattan in New York on Saturday.

According to a message received here yesterday, Hasina was earlier accorded a warm reception by hundreds of Bangladeshi nationals at JFK Kennedy Airport. The expatriates, including women and schoolchildren, greeted her with showers of petals and shouting welcome slogans.

Hasina said government-backed terrorism and politicisation of the administration hampered the rule of law and true functioning of democracy in the country.

She also pointed out the ruling party's indifference to

5 to die for killing 6 in Mymensingh

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, July 13: Mymensingh District and Sessions Judge Monday sentenced five people to death for murdering six of their rivals over a land dispute.

Judge Md Abdus Salam sentenced seven others to life terms for abating the crime. Four of the accused were acquitted.

Witnesses said additional police forces were called in to control several thousand people as the judge read out the judgement.

Amanullah, Raisuddin, Mursheed, Shamam and Momin were awarded death sentence and fined Taka 5,000 each in default two years of imprisonment.

Among the convicts Momin remained absconding.

Those who were awarded life terms are: Mokbul, Manik, Mawla, Shahid, Ramizuddin, Islam and Mofizuddin. They were also fined Taka 5,000 each; in default another three years imprisonment.

15 hurt as transport workers clash at Gulistan

By Staff Correspondent

At least 15 people were injured as two groups of armed men clashed in the Gulistan Bus Terminal area Monday evening.

A source said, two groups of transport workers clashed to take over control of Dhaka-Narsingdi bus terminal at Gulistan for about an hour from 7 pm yesterday.

During the chase and counter-chase, the clashing groups opened fire and exploded crackers.

Police rushed to the spot and resorted to baton charge and lobbed tear-gas shells to

Rohingya camps to be fenced off

By Farid Hossain Back from Cox's Bazar

Work on fencing off the Rohingya refugee camps will start soon to maintain discipline and prevent refugees' fleeing their makeshift shelters in the teak forests along Cox's Bazar-Teknaf region, official sources said Monday.

The sources in Cox's Bazar said that barbed-wire fences would be erected around four of the 23 camps set up for more than 2 lakh 64 thousand refugees, who have fled to Bangladesh to escape a military crackdown in Myanmar (Burma). The four currently housing more than 40,000 refugees are at Dechuapalong, Marichapalong, Haludapalong and Rangkhilang.

The sources said that work order for the fences had already been approved and that construction was expected to begin next week. The cost is estimated at nearly 40 lakh taka.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is opposed to fencing the camps on the plea that it will curtail the refugees' freedom of movement.

A UNHCR official said that it would not allow its money to be spent on the proposed fences. He also described the move as unrealistic.

"Fences simply did not work for refugees in other parts of the world. The refugees are most likely to uproot the fences and may sometimes use the iron rods as weapons," the UNHCR official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

But a senior Bangladesh relief official defended the project, saying "The fences are mainly to maintain discipline in the camps and keep the refugees isolated from the local people."

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
 জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড
 ঢাকা
 প্রশিক্ষণ সম্পর্কিত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

মূল্য সংযোজন কর ব্যবস্থায় নিবন্ধন, হিসাব সংরক্ষণ, মাসিক দাখিলপত্র প্রস্তুতকরণ, রোয়ট প্রদর্শন, গ্রহণ ইত্যাদি বিষয়ে সম্যক ধারণা প্রদানের লক্ষ্যে দেশের নিম্নবর্ণিত অঞ্চলসমূহের উদ্বৃত্ত তারিখ ও স্থানে ব্যাপক প্রশিক্ষণের কর্মসূচী গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে।

তারিখ	প্রশিক্ষণের সময়	যে এলাকার জন্য প্রশিক্ষণ	প্রশিক্ষণের স্থান
১৪-০৭-৯২	১০-০০ মিঃ	রাঙ্গামাটি, খাগড়াছড়ি, বান্দরবন	কক্সবাস্ এন্ডাইজ ও ট্যাট
১৫-০৭-৯২	ঐ	কক্সবাজার ও বর্তমান চট্টগ্রাম জেলা	অডিট দপ্তর আগাবাদ
১৬-০৭-৯২	১০-৩০ মিঃ	বৃহত্তর যশোর জেলা	যশোর চেম্বার অডিটরিয়ায়
১৬-০৭-৯২	ঐ	বৃহত্তর কুষ্টিয়া জেলা	কুষ্টিয়া চেম্বার অডিটরিয়ায়
১৮-০৭-৯২	১০-০০ মিঃ	বৃহত্তর নোয়াখালী জেলা	জহির রায়হান মিলনায়তন
১৯-০৭-৯২	১০-৩০ মিঃ	বৃহত্তর খুলনা জেলা	খুলনা চেম্বার অডিটরিয়ায়
১৯-০৭-৯২	১০-০০ মিঃ	বৃহত্তর কুমিল্লা জেলা	মূল্য সংযোজন কর সার্কেল অফিস, কুমিল্লা
২০-০৭-৯২	১০-৩০ মিঃ	বৃহত্তর রংপুর ও দিনাজপুর জেলা	রংপুর চেম্বার অডিটরিয়ায়
২১-০৭-৯২	ঐ	বৃহত্তর বগুড়া ও পাবনা জেলা	বগুড়া চেম্বার অডিটরিয়ায়
২২-০৭-৯২	ঐ	বৃহত্তর রাজশাহী জেলা	রাজশাহী চেম্বার অডিটরিয়ায়
২৩-০৭-৯২	ঐ	বৃহত্তর বরিশাল জেলা	বরিশাল মূল্য সংযোজন কর বিভাগীয় দপ্তর।
২৫-০৭-৯২	১০-০০ মিঃ	বৃহত্তর সিলেট জেলা	কক্সবাস্, সিলেট
২৬-০৭-৯২	১০-৩০ মিঃ	বৃহত্তর ময়মনসিংহ জেলা	ময়মনসিংহ মূল্য সংযোজন কর বিভাগীয় দপ্তর
০৩-০৮-৯২	১০-৩০ মিঃ	গাজীপুর, মানিকগঞ্জ, টাঙ্গাইল, মুন্সিগঞ্জ, নারায়ণগঞ্জ ও বর্তমান ঢাকা জেলা	ঢাকা চেম্বার অব কমার্শ এন্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ-এর অডিটরিয়ায়।

চলতি বাজেট নতুনভাবে অন্তর্ভুক্ত সকল পণ্য উৎপাদনকারী ও সেবাপ্রদানকারীসহ গত বছরের প্রশিক্ষণপ্রাপ্ত সকল উৎপাদনকারী ও সেবাপ্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে উপরোক্ত প্রশিক্ষণ কর্মসূচীতে অংশ গ্রহণের মাধ্যমে মূল্য সংযোজন কর আইনের বিভিন্ন আনুষ্ঠানিকতা ও করণীয় বিষয়ে অধিকতর জ্ঞান আহরণের সুযোগ গ্রহণের অনুরোধ জানানো হচ্ছে। বিস্তারিত তথ্যের জন্য টেলিফোন ৪০৮৬০৪ (ঢাকা), ৫০০৯৫৮ (চট্টগ্রাম) ও ৬২৪২৮ (খুলনা)-এ যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।
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