

# The Daily Star

**Nirman Tiles**

In Broken Marble Tiles Brighter Home At Lesser Price

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### NEWS BRIEFS

#### 10 Rohingyas hurt in clash

COX'S BAZAR, July 15: At least 10 Rohingyas refugees were injured in a clash between two rival groups at Daudomia camp in Teknaf today. The violence erupted over ration card distribution at around 11:00 am and continued until police and Ansar intervened, reports UNB.

#### BSc Fisheries exam results out

MYMENSINGH, July 15: The results of BSc Fisheries (Hons) final examinations of Bangladesh Agricultural University for the year 1990, have been announced. The examinations were held in April, this year. Among the successful examinees, 14 got first class and 36 2nd class, reports UNB.

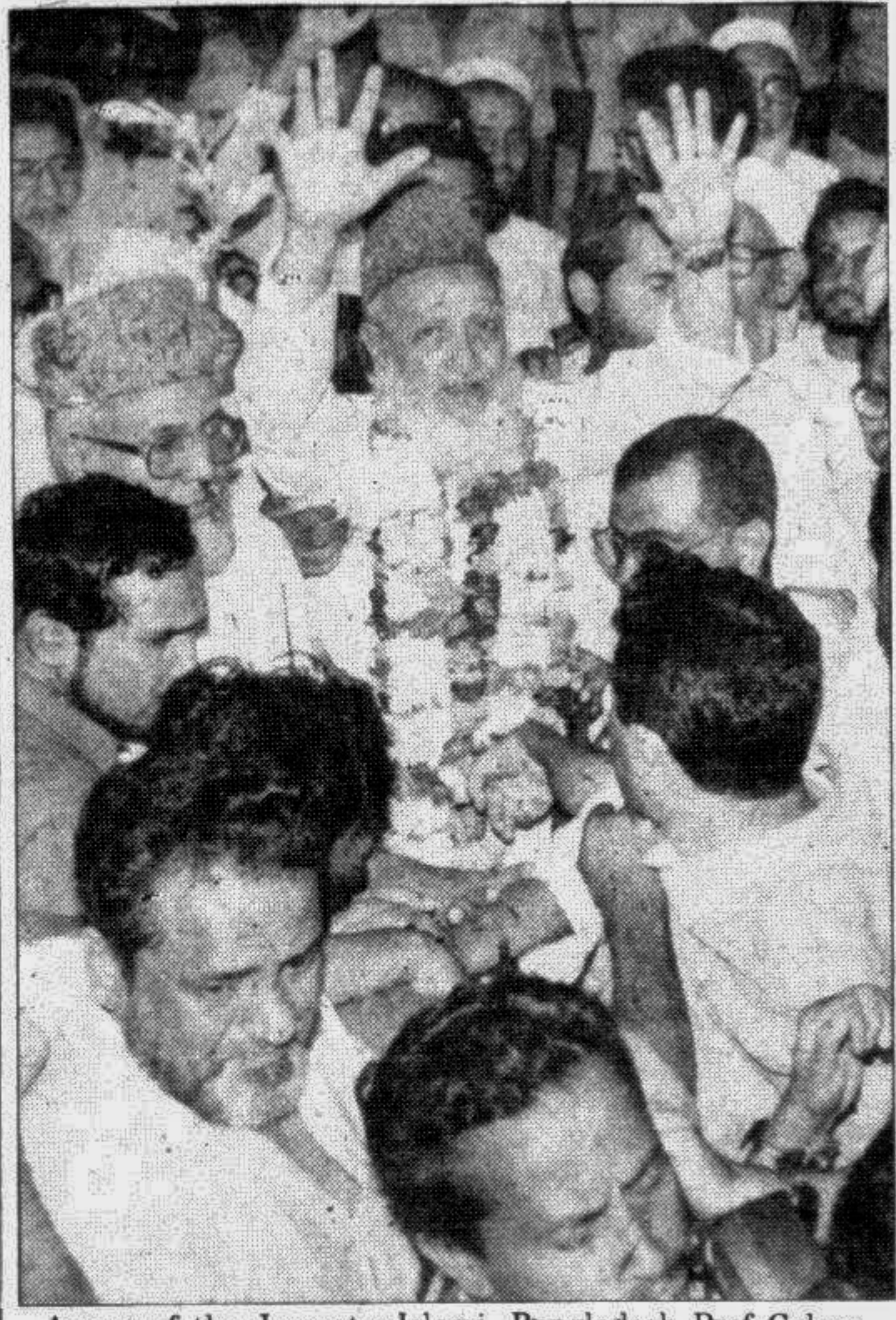
#### 3 commit suicide in Satkhira

SATKHIRA, July 15: Three people including two women allegedly committed suicide in separate incidents in Sadar thana on Wednesday. The dead were identified as Joarti Begum (28) daughter of Tarab Ali of Mosura village and Ganga Dast (29) wife of Taroknath Sarkar of Aruakhali village. They committed suicide by taking poison. Another Nazrul Haque (23) of Bhadra allegedly took his life by touching a live electric wire, reports UNB.

#### 6 missing as boat capsizes

SIRAJGANJ, July 15: Seven people were missing after a mechanised boat capsized in the Jamuna at Prabadigha in Kazipur thana today, reports UNB.

## Addresses rally in city this afternoon Golam Azam freed



Ameer of the Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh Prof Golam Azam waiving to partymen at the Dhaka Central Jail gate after being released from detention yesterday. — Star photo

By Staff Correspondent

Chief of Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, Professor Golam Azam was released from the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday, a day after the High Court set aside his detention order.

Several thousand cheering party supporters received him at the jail gate at around 6:40 pm when he was freed after nearly 16 months of confinement.

The Jamaat leader was driven straight to his Maghbar residence in a Pajero jeep under heavy police guard, witnesses said, adding that slogan-chanting supporters followed their leader up to his residence.

A High Court division bench, upon a writ, Wednesday declared the detention order of Golam Azam under the Foreigners' Act, 1946 illegal and asked the authorities to release him immediately if he was not wanted in any other case.

Golam Azam was arrested on March 24, 1992 in the face of mass protests led by the Nirmul Committee after he was elected Ameer (chief) of the party in December, 1991.

Earlier, another High Court judgement last March declared him to be a citizen of Bangladesh by birth. The government's appeal against that decision is now pending before the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, the Appellate Division yesterday rejected an appeal of the government

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## JS session prorogued

The budget session of Jatiya Sangsad (JS) was prorogued yesterday.

Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali read out the prorogation order of President Abdur Rahman Biswas in the House at 10:53 last night.

The budget session began on June 5.

The Speaker, in his valedictory speech, said that despite misunderstandings between the Treasury bench, the Opposition and the Chair at times, the session had resolved some very important problems confronting the nation.

He also observed that the present Parliament would be able to play a more effective role in the development of national life by its members' united efforts in the coming days.

Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury, Deputy Leader of the House, in his concluding speech, said that the session played a very important role to effectively establish Parliament's sovereignty by constituting a special probe body to investigate into Opposition allegations of corruption against a ministry.

The Deputy Leader also

highly appreciated Agriculture Minister Majid-ul-Huq for moving the proposal for the committee himself to ensure the government's accountability to Jatiya Sangsad.

Abdus Samad Azad, acting leader of the Opposition, and Mattur Rahman Nizam, leader of the Jamaat's parliamentary wing, also addressed the House on the occasion.

All the leaders thanked Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali and Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni for their patience and the trouble they took to successfully conduct the proceedings during the session.

Meanwhile, the yesterday's sitting of Parliament witnessed a walkout by the Jatiya Party MPs in protest against the Chair's refusal to give floor for a second time to JP law maker Barrister Moudud Ahmed on an alleged police attack on the party's procession in the city yesterday.

The House also witnessed a hot debate between the Opposition MPs and Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar over the legislators' repeated demand for including them as chairpersons in the

thana-level education development committees.

MPs of both benches had raised the demand during the previous session of Parliament in May.

In the face of the Education Minister's firm 'no' to the proposal, Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury sought time to discuss the issue with the Prime Minister.

The Opposition members agreed to allow more time but requested the Education Minister to suspend the activities of the thana-level education committees until a decision on the issue.

But the minister, terming the demand 'unconstitutional', said that Parliament could not dictate the activities of a ministry.

This nearly provoked a pandemonium. The Opposition, claiming the statement to be unconstitutional, demanded that the minister either withdraw his remarks or the Speaker order them expunged.

Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali pacified the Opposition members by assuring that the issue would be solved once for all in

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## US won't put Pakistan on 'terrorist' list

WASHINGTON, July 15: Pakistan will not be placed on the US list of countries sponsoring international terrorism, despite reports of official Pakistani support for militants in Kashmir, the State Department said on Wednesday, reports Reuters.

"After a full review of the facts and of the law, Secretary of State Warren Christopher has determined that the available information on this matter does not warrant a finding for now that Pakistan has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism," department spokesman Mike McCurry said.

Christopher's decision was based largely on Pakistan's response to US concerns about reports of government support for Kashmiri militants "and other militants who commit terrorist acts," McCurry said.

A US official who declined to be identified said the decision was affected by personnel changes in Pakistan's government and military and by Pakistan's help in trying to track Mir Amal Kanshi, a Pakistani immigrant who is the prime suspect in two fatal shootings at Central Intelligence Agency headquarters near Washington earlier this year.

Pakistan had been one of two countries, along with Sudan, that the United States had been monitoring for possible sponsorship of terrorism, and McCurry said monitoring would continue in both cases.

The countries currently identified by the United States as sponsors of international terrorism are Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea and Syria.

## Polls date likely today

# Benazir calls off march as Sharif bows to demands

ISLAMABAD, July 15: Opposition leader Benazir Bhutto today called off a threatened march by tens of thousands of supporters on Islamabad aimed at toppling Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, saying her demands had been met, party officials said, report Reuter, AFP.

Opposition sources said the march has been called off after a 'deal on elections,' Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif was expected to announce an election date Friday, they said.

However, no official confirmation was immediately available.

"She has postponed the 'long march'," opposition spokesman Salman Taseer said by telephone from the Punjab provincial capital of Lahore.



Nawaz Sharif



Benazir Bhutto

## Convertibility of the Taka

# Foreign banks ready to reap benefits

By Inam Ahmed

The foreign banks in the country are preparing to swoop on the money market as soon as the Taka becomes convertible, according to banking circle sources.

They have already taken up programmes to train their employees dealing with foreign exchange.

Earlier, Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman had announced in his budget speech last month that the Taka would be made convertible on trade accounts from this year.

This would allow exporters to sell all of their foreign exchange earnings to authorised dealers who can then sell these to the importers at a daily rate basis.

Following this announcement, indications were available that the change is likely to take place in September this year.

Banking sources said that since 60 per cent business of the overseas banks are related to foreign exchange, they would become the prime beneficiary of the system.

At present, there are six foreign banks operating in the country—American Express, Grindlays ANZ, Standard Chartered Bank, Bank Indosuez, Habib Bank and State Bank of India. In addition, the City Corp of US and Bank of Tokyo have their representative offices in Dhaka.

These banks, having higher efficient global interchange system of products, will be able to realise the Bangladeshi exporters' money from foreign importers and then sell the foreign exchange in the open market.

These banks will maintain a good hold over their foreign exchange reserves and then finance the importers, sources said. Their less bureaucratic style of business will also give them an advantage over Bangladeshi banks in attracting the local exporters as well as importers, banking sources observe.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh

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## Hartal observed in Cox's Bazar

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, July 15: A half-day hartal was observed here today in protest against the death of a pourashava commissioner last Tuesday.

Meanwhile, doctors and staff at the Sadar Hospital announced a two-day work stoppage programme beginning today in protest of an attack on the hospital by some young men during the hartal hours.

A group of youths entered and ransacked the hospital at around noon, witnesses said. Doctors and staff members later brought out a procession and held a meeting protesting the attack. A work abstention programme till Saturday was also announced at the meeting.

However, emergency operations of the hospital will continue, speakers at the meeting assured.

All shops and businesses remained closed during the 6 am to 12 pm hartal while most transports also remained off the roads.

Called by the supporters of Reaz Md Iqbal, a former pouira commissioner who was stabbed to death Tuesday, the hartal paralysed normal life in the town.

A number of rallies were brought out during the hartal hours demanding the arrest of those involved in the murder.

## Special Kuwaiti envoy in city

A special envoy of first Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed of Kuwait arrived in Dhaka yesterday on a 3-day visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

Director General (West Asia) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Fazlur Rahman received him at the airport.

The special envoy, Kuwait Ambassador in New Delhi Dharar A Rajooqui, is carrying a message from Sabah Al Ahmed, who is also the in-charge of the country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman.

## Ex-DFI chief refused bail

A district court yesterday rejected the bail petition of former DFI chief Brig (Retd) Nasiruddin, held in connection with a wristwatch smuggling case, and the subsequent murder of a ZIA customs official in 1983, reports UNB.

The case is very old and under investigation, and for the interest of fair justice, the prayer for bail is rejected, observed Dhaka District and Sessions Judge Nasiruddin Ahmed.

The case was revived after 9 years when Nilufar Rouf, the widow of victim Abdur Rouf, approached Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for justice.

Nasiruddin and Lt Commander (Retd) H M Mahmud were arrested on March 17 for their alleged involvement in the smuggling and murder.

## Jute workers call off July 19-20 strike

# Fresh Govt-SKOP talks today

The government today will re-open talks with the agitating SKOP in a bid to avert the planned 48-hour country-wide labour shutdown and rail-road barricade from July 19, official sources said yesterday.

Sources in the Ministry of Labour and Manpower informed The Daily Star that the fresh government-SKOP negotiations are due to commence at the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training at Kakrail in the capital at 10 this morning.

Labour and Manpower Minister Abdur Mannan Bhuiyan on Wednesday night invited top leaders of the SKOP (Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad), who called for the agitational

programme in conjunction with the alliance of four other sectoral trade union federations, for bilateral discussions today.

The minister's offer was communicated to the SKOP coordinator Dr Wajedul Islam Khan in a letter. When contacted, Dr Wajed confirmed the invitation and its acceptance.

The July 19-20 shutdown was simultaneously called by the SKOP, a platform of 18 trade union federations, and the alliance, in their attempt to force the implementation of two separate accords on the workers' demands signed by the government.

However, the alliance of the jute-textile-sugar-steel mills trade unions had not received any invitation from the government till last night.

Jute Minister Brig (Retd) A S M Hannan Shah, meanwhile, has been holding dialogues with the labour leaders belonging to the pro-government Jatyatabadi Sramik Dal.

In yesterday's meeting, the labour leaders decided to call off the 48-hour strike and welcomed the government decision to pay the workers Tk 1000 from their accumulated arrears pay along with the current month's wages.

However, the strike-callers

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## JP processionists go on rampage in Gazipur

From Our Correspondent

GAZIPUR, July 15: At least 20 passengers were wounded and 12 vehicles damaged when a procession of the Jatiya Party here turned violent on the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway.

Witnesses said five of the injured were admitted to the Tongi General Hospital while Arifur Rahman, a student of Bangladesh Agricultural University, was rushed to Dhaka with severe head injury.

They said that the procession, which came out after a meeting at the Jatiya Party's local Nutan Bazar office at about 4:30 pm, went on a rampage damaging four buses, four trucks, two private cars and two autorickshaws.

Azeglio Ciampi warned today that Italy could pull its troops out of Somalia.

He told parliamentarians that clarification about the aims of the UN mission was "essential for our presence in Somalia."

Ciampi's statement followed an announcement on Wednesday by the United Nations in New York that the Commander of Italy's 2,600 troops in the UN force in Somalia, General Bruno Loi, should be sent home as soon as possible.

## Armedmen ransack 14 offices in Bombay

From Our Correspondent

BOMBAY, July 15: Men armed with swords and guns raided offices in Bombay's business district after tying up guards, Indian police said today, reports Reuter.

A police spokesman said officers were searching the commerce building near the Bombay Stock Exchange after the attack on Wednesday night, which shook businessmen in Indian's commercial capital.

A witness said at least 20 men carrying swords and guns walked up each floor of the six-storey building, systematically ransacking 14 offices occupied mainly by builders.

Cleaners on Thursday morning found 25 people tied up by the raiders and raised the alarm, police commissioner Amarjeet Singh Samra said.

He said robbery may have been the motive for the raid.

## Anura suspended from Lankan Freedom Party

COLOMBO, July 15: Sri Lanka's main opposition party of former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike suspended her son Anura from his post as legislator today, plunging the party, rife with factional divides, into further crisis, political sources here said, reports AFP.

## Aideedmen attack UN positions in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU, July 15: Supporters of fugitive Somali warlord Mohamed Farah Aideed launched attacks on several United Nations positions in the Somali capital late Wednesday, reports AFP.

Heavy fighting lasting 20 minutes broke out at 1825 GMT near the airport and shots fired near the UN Headquarters in the former US Embassy could be heard on the roof of the Kilometre Four Hotel.

Flares rose into the sky and helicopter gunships took off

from Mogadishu Airport to fly over the area. They were still over the former embassy compound at 1935 GMT.

Shooting near the hotel probably involved Somali militia and members of the UN's Pakistani contingent.

Ambulances went to the Swedish and American hospitals but no toll was immediately available.

Leaflets distributed in the Somali capital earlier Wednesday warned of attacks against American military positions, in apparent reprisal for Monday's US raid against supporters of the fugitive warlord.

Issued by a previously unknown body calling itself the Muslim voice, the leaflets in English and Somali urged the other countries of the multinational force here, "to stay far from the American sites in Mogadishu. We are going to launch an attack (on) the American compounds in Mogadishu."

Reuters reports from Rome: Italian Prime Minister Carlo

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড  
ঢাকা

বিষয়: সেবা গ্রহণকারী ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক সেবা গ্রহণের পর প্রদত্ত রাজস্ব যথাযথভাবে জমা দেয়ার উদ্দেশ্যে ক্যাশমেমো বা ভ্যাট চালানপত্র গ্রহণ সম্পর্কীয়।

ইদানীং গভীর উদ্বেগের সাথে লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, মূল্য সংযোজন কর আইন ১৯৯১-এর আওতায় কিছু কিছু সেবা প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান/ব্যক্তি যেমন, স্বর্ণকার, হোস্টেল-রেস্তোরাঁ, কমিউনিটি সেন্টার, বিটিটি পার্কার ও রিক্স ফটো নির্মাতা ইত্যাদি কর্তৃক সেবা প্রদানের বিনিময়ে মূল্য সংযোজন কর গ্রহণ করা সত্ত্বেও আইনানুযায়ী চালানপত্র/ক্যাশমেমো সেবা গ্রহণকারীদের প্রদান করছেন না। ফলে, সেবা গ্রহণকারী কর্তৃক মূল্য সংযোজন কর প্রদান করা সত্ত্বেও অনেক ক্ষেত্রে সরকারী কোষাগারে তা জমা হচ্ছে না। এতে সরকার যথাযথ রাজস্ব প্রাপ্তি থেকে বঞ্চিত হচ্ছেন।

এমতাবস্থায় সকল সেবা গ্রহণকারী ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে উপরোক্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ থেকে সেবা গ্রহণের সময় যথাযথ চালানপত্র/ক্যাশমেমো গ্রহণ করার জন্য সহযোগিতা কামনা করছি।

মূল্য সংযোজন কর নিবন্ধিত সকল সেবা প্রদানকারী ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে নিজ নিজ ক্রমিক নম্বরযুক্ত চালানপত্রের যথাযথ কর্তৃক কর্তৃক প্রত্যাখিত করে, প্রতিমাসেই মূল্য সংযোজন কর সরকারী কোষাগারে যথাযথ বাতে জমা দেয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ জানাবো যাচ্ছে।

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জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড