



DCC decision on rent not yet final

The government has not yet approved the Dhaka City Corporation's decision to realise rent for holding public meetings at certain places in the capital, reports UNB.

The decision of the City Corporation is under consideration of the government, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Salam Talukdar told Parliament yesterday.

Replying to a question from Mirza Azam of the Awami League, the minister said that Dhaka City Corporation had decided to impose rent on parties for holding public meetings at Manik Mia Avenue, Shapla Chatra and Pantha Path "on trial basis" to discourage disorderly gatherings which obstruct movement of pedestrians and vehicles.

The City Corporation sought permission from the Local Government Ministry to implement its decision and the ministry is examining the proposal, he said.

Replying to a supplementary question from Azam, the minister said the City Corporation Act empowers the mayor to impose any levy or taxes but government approval is needed.

The decision about rents for meetings not final, the minister said, adding "The corporation's decision will die in a dustbin if there is no approval from the government."

The LGRD Minister assured the House that the government is trying to select suitable venues for public meetings so that they do not inconvenience the people by causing traffic jams. But the problem is that many parties do not like to hold meetings in Mirpur, Kamalapur or Syedabad.

He, however, said the government would soon come out with a decision on the matter.

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1549 to contest Pak elections Jatoi, three sons barred for defaulting on loans

ISLAMABAD, Sept 15: Pakistan finalised today a list of 1,549 candidates for October 6 elections to choose a 217 member National Assembly, reportedly disqualifying a former premier for defaulting on loans, reports AFP.

Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, who was caretaker prime minister at the time of last elections in October 1990, was barred for failure to repay bank debts, the official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) said.

His three sons, including former communications minister Ghulam Murtaza Jatoi, were also barred from the race under a recent law which made repayment of bank loans a condition for participation in the electoral process.

Elder Jatoi, a powerful Sindh landlord, was to contest for the lower house, while his

sons were vying for seats in the provincial assembly in Sindh.

Reports said in all 18 candidates for national and provincial seats were hit by the loan law, among them a former Baluchistan province Chief Minister, Taj Mohammad Jamal.

More than 800 candidates pulled out voluntarily from the National Assembly elections and a list for October 9 polls for four provincial legislatures is to be made public by Thursday.

The country's Election Commission announced the final list of parliamentary candidates as a deadline for clearing loans set by caretaker Prime Minister Moen Qureshi expired Tuesday.

Punjab, the most populous and politically strategic province, leads with 681 candidates followed by Sindh from

where 498 are in the race. The rest are from North West Frontier Province and Baluchistan.

In addition, there are 62 candidates for 10 seats reserved for non-Muslim minorities in the lower house.

The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) led by former premier Benazir Bhutto got two nominees elected unopposed from Sindh as all rivals withdrew in their constituencies.

Bhutto's arch foe, former premier Nawaz Sharif, is contesting from his hometown of Lahore as well as from a constituency in the North West Frontier.

The PPP leader, who served as Pakistan's first woman premier from 1988 to 1990, is seeking re-election from her Larkana home constituency in Sindh.



Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (L) and his Foreign Minister Shimon Peres (2nd L) are greeted by King Hassan II of Morocco upon their arrival in Rabat Tuesday. — AFP photo

Villagers help arrest Sarbahara man in Barisal

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Sept 15: Police arrested an alleged Sarbahara activist this evening from Batna village under Charbaria Union in connection with the murder in Bihangal last month.

Police sources said, villagers of Batna this afternoon identified Mizan Sharif, 35, an accused of the Shahed murder case in Bihangal, who was hiding at the residence of one Hossain Ali Hawlader and started beating him.

A group of armed Sarbahara activists attacked Muslim devotees in a mosque of Bihangal on August 29 and killed Shahed. Police till yesterday had arrested 6 other Sarbahara men in this connection.

Police sources said, the villagers of Batna had gouged out one of Mizan's eyes while beating him.

Police from nearby Lakotia police camp rushed to the spot and rescued the Sarbahara activist from the angry villagers.

Mizan was taken to the Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical Hospital under police escort.

2 die in city road mishaps

By DMCH Correspondent

Two persons were killed in separate road accidents in the city's Lalbagh and Mirpur yesterday. A 50-year-old man, Abdul Khaled, died after being run over by a car at Sipahibagh, Lalbagh in the morning.

Abdur Rahim, 35, a pedestrian, died on the spot when he was run over by a minibus at Mirpur, Section-10, under the newly-opened Pallabi Police Station in the morning.

Pallabi police seized the minibus (Dhaka-Ja-3381), but its driver escaped.

Saifur faults WB prescription

From Page 1 Col 5

to finance in the industrial sector, he said, while describing the nation that the banks are unwilling to fund private sector investment as "erroneous".

On financial sector reforms, the Minister noted: "I am not well disposed to free market reforms in this sector because the whole attitude of the people in the sector are not conducive to it."

He complained that the bankers, borrowers and the market are not responding to the reforms.

Expressing his reluctance to approve any of the 20 or so pending applications to open private sector banks, he said: "I shudder in horror at how private sector banks operate." He

A new cause for Dhaka

From Page 1 Col 4

part of an overall plan of paying these Bangladeshis from a fund that we can set up under our initiative, in collaboration with such affluent pro-Palestinian Asian countries as Malaysia, the Sultanate of Brunei, Indonesia, not to mention South Asian countries as India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

With Bangladesh providing the seed money, perhaps only a modest sum of one million US dollars for the proposed fund, other participants in the plan should have no difficulty in raising even a couple of billions.

The Sultan of Brunei, said to be the richest man in the world today, can top the list with a massive contribution.

Much depends on how the plan is presented — and by whom. When it comes to a new initiative presented by an "outsider", an initiative that turns Bangladesh into a primemover, the Foreign Ministry can find all kinds of reasons why it cannot work.

In my modest plan, it is Prime Minister Khaleda Zia who should present the proposal to heads of government of selected countries, in a personal letter despatched as quickly as possible through our own missions and simultaneously through the envoys of these countries based in Dhaka.

Here, next to Bangladesh, Malaysia can play a major role in support of the plan.

It should be possible for Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and Dr Mahathir Mohammad to serve as Co-chairpersons of the Fund.

I am certain that a personal letter from the Bangladesh leader to people like Mahathir, President Suharto, The Sultan of Brunei and Narasimha Rao will evoke positive responses.

Begum Zia can discuss the matter further when she meets some of these leaders during

the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York. On her way back, she can stop in Tunis to brief Arafat on the Dhaka plan.

For long regarded only as a beneficiary of massive international assistance, Bangladesh thus has a chance of mounting an offensive whose success may well change the country's image, with long-term political dividends.

The move by Dhaka will certainly boost the morale of the PLO leader, Yasser Arafat. The latest reports from Washington and other capitals suggest that commitments of financial support have come mainly from Japan, some members of the European Community (EC) and the Nordic countries. The United Nations, now virtually bankrupt, has offered to "do whatever it can," as Boutros Ghali recently put it to Arafat.

There is no firm specific commitment. It may also be a long time before the new Palestinian state qualifies for any help from the World Bank and the IMF.

Saudi Arabia appears a bit more forthcoming — but, again, there is as yet no clear-cut financial commitment.

At this moment, an evasive position is taken by President Bill Clinton. During an interview on Sunday aboard Air Force One, the US leader said quite clearly that his country's contribution would be "modest". How modest will it be, one wonders. Will it be as "modest" as two billion dollars Washington has been pumping into Israel every year, much of it going into meeting Tel Aviv's budget deficit and the purchase of arms?

There is little doubt that Arafat faces a hard time in making the Palestinian state stand on its own feet. We should see our plan in that context.

'Sharif gave huge amounts from Islamic fund to a selected few'

ISLAMABAD, Sept 15: A Pakistani superior court judge has sharply criticised the handling of a state welfare fund by former Premier Nawaz Sharif during his rule, a report said today, reports AFP.

Justice Abdul Majeed Tiwana of the Lahore High Court made the criticism while winding up an investigation into allotments of plots of land by successive governments since 1985.

He observed that Sharif "dissipated huge amounts" from Bait-ul-Mal, an Islamic Welfare Fund, to "selected so-called poor and needy" people, the official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) reported.

Sharif resigned in July along with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan after 30 months in office in a shakeup mediated by the army, ending a political crisis caused by a power struggle between the two leaders.

The judge's remarks were seen as an embarrassment to Sharif, who is currently campaigning for national elections scheduled for October 6-9.

Disposing of the proceedings in the plots scandal, Tiwana also admonished former chief ministers of Punjab, Ghulam Haider Wyne and Manzoor Ahmad Watto, for "frittering away big chunk of money" from welfare funds, APP said.

Protocol on water transit with India to be renewed

NEW DELHI, Sept 15: Bangladesh and India have agreed to renew the protocol on inland water transit and trade for the years 1993-95, it was learnt here officially, reports BSS.

An agreed minutes was signed in this connection by Bangladesh Shipping Secretary Waitul Islam and Indian Secretary of Surface Transport S P Bagla on the conclusion of two days of talks here yesterday.

Apart from agreeing on improving the existing facilities offered by the two countries under the protocol, the Indian side consented to the Bangladesh proposal of enhancing the charges payable to Bangladesh by India for the maintenance of routes primarily used by transiting Indian vessels.

The Bangladesh side agreed to extend landing facilities to Indian vessels at Sirajganj and Fatulla in addition to existing points at Narayanganj and Khulna. The Indian side agreed to extend the same facilities at Haldia and Gopalpara in addition to the existing points at Calcutta and Dhubri.

AL demands

From Page 1 Col 5

Referring to the Zila Parishad (district council) Bill placed in a resolution said local government bodies are determined in different democratic countries on the basis of consensus and understanding so that they can function within their jurisdictions, independent of political changes.

The emergency meeting of the ALCWC noted with concern that the Zila Parishad Bill was identical of Ayub Khan's Basic Democracy (BD).

In another resolution, the meeting expressed its deep concern over the illness of party President Sheikh Hasina and prayed for her early recovery.

The meeting called upon the people to make country-wide demonstration on September 18 a success to press the demand for scrapping the Indemnity Ordinance, removal of corrupt ministers, trial of Golam Azam and repeal of the Anti-Terrorism Act.

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The Midnight File

Hijacked Russian plane lands in Norway

OSLO, Sept 15: A Russian passenger jet believed hijacked by three Iranian men linked to a radical Islamic group landed in Norway on Wednesday with 52 people reported to be aboard, Norwegian news media reported. The Tupolev-134 jet, en route from Azerbaijan, was hijacked over southern Russia and landed at Borispol airport near Kiev, Ukraine, to take on fuel and an English-speaking Ukrainian navigator. It then flew 3 1/2 hours to Norway. The plane landed in drizzly weather at Gardermoen, a small charter airport about 40 kilometres (25 miles) north of Oslo, reports AP.

30 Croats massacred

SARAJEVO, Sept 15: At least 30 Bosnian Croats, including women and children, were massacred in a central Bosnian village, allegedly by Muslim-led Bosnia forces, a UN official said today. The massacre in the village of Uzdol, off the main road leading from Bugojno to Jablanica, reportedly took place in the early hours of Tuesday morning, the official at British Battalion Headquarters in Vitez said, reports AFP.

US forces kill 2 Somalis

MOGADISHU, Sept 15: Gunmen firing mortars wounded 11 people inside the UN peacekeeping headquarters Wednesday and helicopter-borne American forces killed two Somali militiamen in a separate encounter. A Somali child also was killed and 17 other Somalis wounded in two other incidents of violence, both blamed by UN peacekeepers on mortars fired by Somali militiamen, reports AP.

UNCTAD on global debt

From page 1 col 7

The TDR says the recession continued in OECD countries as the group grew by a mere 1.4 per cent last year and is expected to grow at only 0.8 per cent in 1993.

The modest recovery in the United States of America compensated for the deceleration of economic activity in Europe and Japan.

However, unemployment continued to increase, reaching 7.4 per cent in the USA and 10.1 per cent in the European Community last year, the TDR says.

The TDR criticises the present policy regime and urges a reorientation of macro-economic policies, saying, "the leading industrialised countries, as well as the leading international institutions are seeking solution to the legacies of the 1980s in the motto of that decade: Leave it to the markets!"

Referring to the prospects of the global economy, the report warns that many countries appear to be banking on export growth to lower unemployment, but recovery in one country is not likely to go far in the absence of corresponding recovery in others.

"Every country can increase productivity, but all cannot increase competitiveness, and if they all try to do so rather than to increase global demand collectively, the result will inevitably be more recession and unemployment all around," says the TDR, 1993.

The report alleges that the current policy stances go the wrong way and most industrialised countries are doing exactly the opposite of what is needed.

"The fiscal package proposed by the new US Administration has been shorn of the planned short-term stimulus to demand, leaving only the longer-term adjustment of the deficit. However, the debt-to-income ratio will only come down if income growth speeds up considerably," the report points out.

Because of the cumulative impact of high interest rates and recession, a serious attempt to meet the debt and deficit targets agreed at Maastricht for proceeding towards monetary union "would imply a coordinated fiscal contraction and would drag Western Europe into depression," cautions the TDR.

The report asks governments to increase their own expenditure on goods and services leading to stimulated growth, while achieving the necessary reduction in their interest payments by reducing debt through privatisation and tax-

tion of private sector assets.

However, the TDR acknowledges that there are practical difficulties in taxing private wealth.

In an analysis of the recent projection records, the TDR finds that most forecasts, including those of the OECD, the IMF and UNCTAD itself, have been largely off the mark.

"There has been a persistent overprediction of growth in 1992 and 1993," the TDR argues. "These forecasting failures contributed to governments being tone deaf to the risks of a major recession as the credit bubble of the 1980s burst."

The TDR was critical of the model-builders for failing to understand the changes in relationship between wealth and spending as well as in the way monetary policy affected economic activity, and also for misreading the implications of the resulting debt accumulation.

Private banks

From Page 1 Col 6

"If the recapitalisation process does not stop then there is unlikely to be any reform of the way the NCBs go about their work: in effect recapitalisation rewards bad performance," the paper pointed out.


Stressing the need for developing the private banking system, they said the NCBs should be allowed to compete fairly without continuing recapitalisation, but the question of privatisation can be deferred.

"The competitive approach of starting more private banks and supervising these closely to ensure that there is compliance with the various regulations governing the banking system seems to be the best way to expand the private banks," Alamgir and Cookson observed.

"The repeated recapitalisation of the NCBs, apparently part of the reform programme conditionalities creates a dangerous precedent as it relieves pressure on the NCBs to improve their operations," they said.

They suggested that the foreign banks should be encouraged to start up business, since they felt these would also help increase foreign investment.

Managing Director of Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangstha (BSRS) Mamunur Rashid and Deputy Governor of Bangladesh Bank Kamaluddin Ahmed took part in the discussion on the paper while Director General of BIDS SLA Reza chaired the session.



ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন, ঢাকা

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিচ্ছন্ন রাখুন।
আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন।

কুকুরের লাইসেন্স সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নগরবাসীদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, মিউনিসিপ্যাল প্রশাসন অধ্যাদেশ ১৯৬০-র অধীনে প্রণীত পশুপালন সংক্রান্ত প্রবিধির ৮ নং ধারা বলে কুকুরের লাইসেন্স গ্রহণ করা বাধ্যতামূলক। সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে করপোরেশন থেকে এ জন্য লাইসেন্স সংগ্রহ করা এবং লাইসেন্সকৃত পোষা কুকুর চেনিয়ে নিজে গৃহে বেঁধে রাখার অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে। অন্যথায় এ বিষয়ে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।

জলাতক গ্রোপ (রাবিস) একটি মারাত্মক সংক্রামক ব্যাধি। কুকুর এই রোগের প্রধান বাহন। সিটি করপোরেশন বেত্তরাশি কুকুরসহ লাইসেন্স বিহীন কুকুর নিধনের প্রয়োজনীয় পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করছে। এই বিষয়ে সকলের সহযোগিতা কামনা করা হচ্ছে।

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প্রধান স্বাস্থ্য কর্মকর্তা,
ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা।

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