

Inside Today

Article

The Economics of
Political Behaviour
by Abdul Bayes
Page 4

International

Serb leader threatens to boycott peace talks
Zhirinovsky predicts bleak future for Czech
Republie
Page 5

Business

Germany promises continued assistance for Bangladesh's development
US, Japan still far apart on critical trade disputes
Pages 6, 7

Weekend Magazine

The moment, the music, the movement; Patiently speaking; Rhapsody and rigmorale of a spring afternoon; Weekend Musings; Palestinian professor probes empires of the mind; The British Council Language Matters
Pages 9, 10 & 11

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



A Cherished Tradition
Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Bank timings during Ramadan

The office hour of the Bangladesh Bank and all other schedule banks during the month of holy Ramadan will be from 9 am to 3.30 pm with a 15 minutes break from 1.15 pm for Zohr prayers while on Thursday the timing will be 9 am to 1.00 pm. The transaction hours will be from 9 am to 2 pm from Saturday to Wednesday while transaction hours on Thursday will be from 9 am to 12 pm. Though there will be a break from 1.15 to 1.30 for Zohr prayers the transaction will continue by internal arrangements, reports BSS.

25 diplomats visit Sreemangal today

Some 25 heads of foreign missions in Dhaka will visit Sreemangal in Moulvibazar today to see some tea estates. Foreign Office sources said Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman, Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman and Commerce Minister Shamsul Islam will accompany the envoys, reports BSS.

Audit reports submitted

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday received 10 annual reports on accounts of the government for different years and eight appendices of audit reports. Comptroller and Auditor-General K M Hussain submitted the reports to the President at Bangabhaban. He also submitted two special audit reports on national book centre for the period from 1980-81 to 1991-92 and on Hotel Sheraton, Dhaka from 1984 to 1991, reports BSS.

Gunbattle leaves 5 dead in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Feb 10: A senior administration official and his three close relatives were among five people killed in a gunbattle between rival tribes in south-western Baluchistan province Thursday. AFP

10% Discount to PayLess PrivilegeCard Members

1443 ASIAN HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE Y.M.C.A. NASIRABAD
CHITTAGONG, TEL: 226803, FAX: (880) (31) 225258

VOL. IV NO. 28 REGD. NO. DA 781

President advises Haq to meet PM
Attorney-Gen resigns

Attorney General Advocate Aminul Haq tendered his resignation to President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday, re-ports NFS.

Sources close to the AG said President Biswas did not accept the resignation and advised Advocate Haq to inform the Prime Minister of his problems. However, the AG declined to withdraw his letter.

The resignation of Advocate Haq comes in the wake of confusions created over the post of AG since January 22.

Commenting on his resignation, Aminul Haq told NFS yesterday: "I never hankered after the office of Attorney General. It is not possible for me to carry out my responsibilities

under the prevailing adverse situation. That's why I've resigned."

Advocate Haq also stopped using his official car since submission of his resignation.

Earlier in the day he went to the High Court and, accompanied by the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association Kazi Golam Mahbub, met the Chief Justice. They informed Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed of the association's resolution not to formally welcome the newly-appointed judges of the High Court.

Haq then moved a case on behalf of the government as the AG.

Latter in the day, Advocate Haq drew the attention of the higher government authorities

about the Additional Attorney General's reported comments about him, published in a section of the press.

Failing to get satisfactory explanations from them regarding the AG's remarks, Haq decided to resign.

Haq was learnt to have submitted his resignation to the President after 2 pm yesterday, competent sources in the Supreme Court Bar told UNB last night on condition of anonymity.

The sources said that in the final analysis, however, acceptance of Haq's resignation would largely depend on the Prime Minister.

Aminul Haq could not be reached by telephone till late

See Page 12 Col 7

Haq was learnt to have submitted his resignation to the President after 2 pm yesterday, competent sources in the Supreme Court Bar told UNB last night on condition of anonymity.

The sources said that in the final analysis, however, acceptance of Haq's resignation would largely depend on the Prime Minister.

Aminul Haq could not be reached by telephone till late

See Page 12 Col 7



Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed administering the oath of office to a newly appointed Additional Judge of the High Court at his Supreme Court chamber yesterday. — Star photo

Steps taken to restore lost glory of jute: PM

KAPASIA (Gazipur), Feb 10: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today reaffirmed her government's firm commitment to reviving the lost glory of the golden fibre by increasing the production of high quality jute, reports NFS.

The present government has taken pragmatic steps to develop the moribund jute sector along with other economic sectors, she told a huge jute growers' rally here this afternoon.

Referring to the important role of jute in the national economy, the Prime Minister said, "We have to increase its export to earn foreign exchange and also enhance its domestic use."

Worldwide movement has started against synthetics and polythene which have been banned in many countries. Thus jute has started to regain its position. We should produce high quality jute, diversifying jute and jute goods to revive its lost glory," she said.

Begum Zia also mentioned the stiff competition faced by jute in the international market and stressed the need for production of high yielding and high quality variety to meet the challenges.

More than 2,000 jute cultivators from all jute growing districts of the country, at-

tended the rally at the Kapasia Pilot High School ground here, 63 kilometers from the capital.

The rally was organised by the European Commission which has undertaken an 'Integrated Jute Research and Marketing Project' to educate the jute growers about modern and developed cultivation of the golden fibre.

About 8,000 jute growers in 80 thanas of 50 districts have been trained in two phases to grow increased amount of high quality jute by applying modern equipment and fertilisers.

The EC project aims at 20 per cent increase in growth of high quality jute through massive campaign, training and free supply of improved variety seeds, fertilisers, other inputs, insecticides and spray machines.

Referring to the government steps for diversified use of jute, the Prime Minister said project for producing paper, paper bags and rayons from pulp of low grade jute has been successful and commercial production is expected to begin this season.

Besides bags, curtains, bed-sheets, wall coverings, nursery pots and garbage bags are being made from cloths of jute fibre processed by the Development of Decorative

See Page 12 Col 8

GF urges MPs to adopt resolution against terrorism

The central leaders of the Gono Forum yesterday called upon the members of the Jatiya Sangsads to adopt an unanimous resolution against terrorism and ask the law enforcing agencies to make the educational institutions free from armed hoodlums within a stipulated period, reports NFS.

Addressing a rally at the Institution of Engineers here, they also asked the concerned parliamentary standing committee to play their effective role in this regard.

Presided over by the Forum President Dr. Kamal Hossain, the rally was addressed by Nurjahan Murshid, A M A Muhi, Advocate Zahurul Islam, Pankaj Bhattacharya, Safiuddin Ahmad Manik, Advocate Mabub-e-Alam, Mustafa Mohsin Montu, Dr M A Majed of Bangladesh Medical Association, Ayesha Khanam of Mahila Parishad, Moulana Ahmedur Rahman Azmi, Kamal Haider, Justice K M Subhan, Shamshuddha MP and Ziaul Huq.

Dr. Kamal Hossain asked the government and opposition parties not to give shelter to any terrorists.

After the rally, a procession marched up to the Bangla Motor crossing from where a delegation, led by Dr. Kamal, went to Parliament and submitted to the Speaker a six-point memorandum.

See Page 12 Col 8

9 HC judges sworn in

Mohammad Asaduzzaman, Mohammad Nurul Islam, Kazi A T Monwar Uddin, Mohammad Fazlul Huq, Mohammad Hamidul Huq, M Bazlur Rahman Talukder, Syed Amirul Islam, M M Ruhul Amin and Mohammad Tofazzal Islam yesterday took oath as Additional Judges of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court, reports NFS.

Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed administered the oaths at a simple ceremony in his office yesterday morning.

Mohammad Asaduzzaman, Bar-At-Law, Kazi A T Monwar Uddin, Bar-At-Law, Mohammad Fazlul Huq, Bar-At-Law, Syed Amirul Islam, Bar-At-Law, Mohammad Tofazzal Islam, Bar-At-Law and M Bazlur Rahman Talukder, Advocate were practising Advocates of the Supreme Court Bar.

See Page 12 Col 7

SC Bar declines to felicitate new judges

By Staff Correspondent

The Supreme Court Bar Association, in a resolution yesterday, observed that 'effective consultation with the Chief Justice did not take place during the finalisation of revised list of appointments of High Court judges and also decided not to formally congratulate the new judges.'

The strongly-worded resolution was adopted at a general meeting of the association at the south hall of its Supreme Court premises office.

Expressing its satisfaction over the cancellation of the original order appointing nine judges issued on February 3, the association, however, said that 'effective consultation with the Chief Justice did not take place on the revised list of appointees announced Wednesday which, it said, contained a number of controversial nominees.'

The resolution demanded

See Page 12 Col 7

100 private securitymen for ZIA

The government has tightened security at Zia International Airport by deploying additional security men from private companies, Parliament was told yesterday, reports NFS.

"One hundred private security personnel have been recruited to strengthen security at the airport. Fifty have already been deployed," said State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan while replying to a supplementary from Shahjahan Chowdhury of Jarnaat.

To a question from Mirza Azam of Awami League, the minister said that two intruders had so far been detained from the airport. The intruders, Ujjal Kumar Roy and Montaz Ali Mandal, were arrested last month.

Ujjal, who was arrested on January 1, had illegally boarded a parked aircraft at ZIA. An enquiry commission is investigating the matter to find out whether he was an agent.

The incident delayed the flight by nearly three and a half hours.

In reply to Mohammad Abu Bakar (Jamaat), the minister said that the government had a plan to construct STOL ports at Mongla, Bogra and Feni.

See Page 12 Col 8

JCD, BCL clash in Sirajganj: 70 injured

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 10: At least

70 people were injured in a series of clashes between supporters of two student groups in the town today over enjoying video films, reports NFS.

Police said the clash erupted as a sequel to a Wednesday night's incident in which a JCD worker was beaten up by some BCL activists over watching video films near the Eliot bridge.

Witnesses said supporters of the JCD from the Dhanbandhi area of the town attacked activists of the BCL (M-I) at Dattabari and Eliot bridge areas this morning. The clash later spread in other parts of the town.

The feuding groups set

ablaze a cinema hall and ransacked a commercial college.

Of the injured, 10 were admitted to a sadar hospital.

See Page 12 Col 4

Donors for pushing thru' reforms

voters' disenchantment towards the BNP.

"The government has taken appropriate programme for poverty alleviation and increased employment opportunities," officials quoted a World Bank report, placed in the meeting, to have said.

The recommendation came in a meeting held in Dhaka yesterday with Finance Minister Saifur Rahman in the chair for exchange of views with the representatives of the donors.

Yesterday's meeting was held in the wake of severe criticism of the donor-sponsored economic reform programmes as well as of the Finance Minister, specially after the debacle of the ruling BNP in the recent city corporation elections. The critics held both responsible for the

See Page 12 Col 1

Khagrachhari tense

Tribal students clash with police : 100 hurt

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Feb 10: At least 100 persons, including 40 policemen, were injured in sporadic clashes at Khagrachhari between the supporters of the Pahari Chhatri Parishad (PCP) and against some of their leaders.

The activists attacked the police with lethal weapons and pelted brick-bats at them when they tried to remove the barricades.

The police resorted to lathicharge to disperse the PCP activists and a pitched battle, followed by chase and counter-chase, took place. The clashes continued for about three hours.

According to sources, the trouble began in the morning when the police started removing the barricades put up by the supporters of the Pahari Chhatri Parishad on the roads at Khagrachhari leading to Panchbari, Guimara and

See Page 12 Col 8

Amnesty for CHT rebels extended

The government has extended the last date for general amnesty up to June 30, '94 for facilitating the return of Bangladeshi tribal refugees staying at Indian state of Tripura, an official press release said in Dhaka last night, reports BSS.

Earlier, the last date for the amnesty was fixed at December 31, '93.

The amnesty will also be applicable to all the cases relating