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The Daily Star

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Computer Special
 (8-page Tabloid)
 Computer Education at the IBA, Bangladesh must have an Electronic Super-highway. Computer should be introduced in every sector in Bangladesh. Software that can save lives, PowerPC.

NEWS BRIEFS

Hasina condoles death of Nixon
 Leader of the Opposition and Awami League president Sheikh Hasina yesterday condoled the death of former US President Richard Nixon. In a message, Sheikh Hasina expressed her sympathy for the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul, reports UNB.

US envoy meets Shahabuddin
 David N Merrill, Ambassador of the United States of America, called on Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed at his office yesterday. They exchanged views on subjects of mutual interest, reports BSS.

Hartal observed in Barguna
 From Staff Correspondent
 BARISAL, Apr 24: A dawn-to-dusk hartal was observed in Barguna town today. The Barguna Chamber of Commerce had called for the hartal protesting the assault on two businessmen by two miscreants a few days ago.

Govt-Opposition talks after Apr 26 likely

By Staff Correspondent
 General had taken an informal initiative for a dialogue between the treasury and the Opposition benches. The Opposition leaders, requesting anonymity, told The Daily Star that the ruling party's move was only designed to ensure the Opposition's return to the House during the next session. But the Opposition wants to discuss all the issues, including the demand for holding the next general elections under a caretaker government ensuring the independence of the judiciary and the government's accountability to Parliament.
 The agenda of the next Opposition meeting, scheduled for today, includes the government's proposal for negotiations ahead of the next Parliament session, due to begin May 4.
 Meanwhile, the BNP Secretary General's statement, published in the national dailies Saturday, criticising the Opposition for its frequent calls for strikes and 'terrorist activities' had created dissatisfaction in Opposition circles.
 A top AL leader told The Daily Star that the BNP leader's move for a negotiation on the one hand and the

We are forced to go for hartals: Hasina

Awami League president Sheikh Hasina yesterday called for observing countrywide hartal tomorrow to end the corrupt rule of the BNP and set up an accountable government to boost economy and ensure 'real' development of the people, reports UNB.
 "We are forced to go for hartals to ensure corruption-free and responsible government through a free and fair election under a caretaker authority," she said.
 Addressing a special extended meeting of Dhaka city unit of the Awami League at the party office, Hasina said her party had extended all-out cooperation to the BNP government in the last three years but it failed to resolve any

'Gas charge raised to cover system loss'

By Sohel Manzur
 Despite the government's assurance of not issuing any SRO during the last budget session of Parliament, the gas charge was increased from March 1 to cover the huge system loss in the sector, according to officials in the Energy Ministry.
 The exact figure of the system loss, which is caused mainly due to the lack of awareness of the consumers was, however, not available due to the lack of appropriate mechanism. The system loss caused by the technical flaws was estimated at 5.12 per cent.
 According to a recent study conducted by the ministry in three areas of Dhaka city, average gas consumption through a single burner, including wastage due to the lack of awareness among the consumers, is about 90 cubic metres a day.
 But, under the newly introduced billing system, the government has been charging for only 56 cubic metres for a single burner, the officials informed.
 The gas consumers were, however, very critical about the government decision to raise the gas bill, saying that the government cannot justify the decision on the ground of the lack of awareness among a section of people.
 The government's policy of increasing the gas charge was not at all acceptable to the

BCCI: Verdicts on June 14

ABU DHABI, Apr 24: The verdicts and sentences for 13 banking executives on trial in the failure of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International will be announced June 14, a court announced Sunday, reports AP.
 Defense lawyers entered pleas during two weekend hearings, the 11th session of a trial that began in October.
 The charges include forgery, breach of trust, approving fictitious loans and falsifying accounts at BCCI, whose collapse in 1991 which wreaked havoc in the bank's primary markets in developing nations.
 Bank founder Agha Hasan Abedi is reported to be bedridden in his home in Lahore, Pakistan, and has failed to answer several summonses from the Abu Dhabi court.

Yangon-based co to float shares thru' DSE

By Inam Ahmed
 A foreign company has, for the first time, shown interest in getting itself enlisted in the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) for its shares to be traded, according to sources.
 The company, Myanmar Investment Trust Ltd, based in Yangon has recently asked the DSE about possible floating of its shares in Dhaka.
 The DSE has sent the enquiry to the Bangladesh Bank for a decision about the enlistment of foreign companies in the share market.
 Talking to The Daily Star, Chairman of the DSE, Khurshid Alam said, "This is a good sign in the globalisation of our securities market. But before allowing overseas com-



Non-government school and college teachers brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding implementation of their 15-point demands. — Star photo

No move yet to end teachers' strike

By Staff Correspondent
 More and more teachers have threatened to join the non-government teachers' strike that has already created serious concern among the students and the guardians.
 Smooth holding of the SSC examinations under the four education boards, scheduled to begin on May 2, has also become uncertain since there had been no moves until yesterday to end the strike. The government school teachers, too, have now decided to join the strike before the SSC examinations begin.
 Currently, two groups of non-government school and college teachers — the Central

Hartals can't deter our development plan: PM

UZIRPUR (Barisal), Apr 24: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today said her government would brush aside obstacles like hartals and vandalism and go ahead with its people's welfare-oriented programmes, reports UNB.
 "No hartal or destructive activity can impede our forward march, she told a huge public meeting at the BN Khan College ground here this noon.
 The Prime Minister said this two days ahead of a countywide hartal, called by the opposition Awami League and the Jatiya Party. Their April 26 hartal is planned mainly to press for a caretaker government for holding general elections.
 They are out to push the

5 killed, 40 injured in Pabna road mishap

PABNA, Apr 24: Five people were killed and 40 injured when a Nagarbari-bound overloaded bus from Pabna fell into a 10-foot ditch at Madhupur village, 12 kilometre east of the town, reports UNB.
 The accident occurred at 10:30 am while the bus was crossing another coming from opposite direction on the Pabna-Nagarbari highway.
 Four of the dead were identified as Tamizuddin Malitha, 35, son of Ahmed Malitha of Char Gobindapur village, and Bacchu, 30, of Khayersuti village in Sadar thana and Hasem, 12, and Moru Mia, 30.
 Tamizuddin and another unidentified young man died on the spot while the rest three succumbed to their injuries on way to hospital, according to police.
 Of the injured, 26 were admitted to Pabna Sadar Hospital where the condition of 12 was said to be critical. Four of them — Lulu, 45, Rabiul, 24, Banitunnessa, 60, and Salma, 28 — were shifted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

India deploys troops along Burimari border

LALMONIRHAT, Apr 24: Tension was mounting along the country's northern frontiers following amassing troops by India at Burimari border, officials said, reports UNB.
 Reports from across the border said, India deployed a large number of troops equipped with armoured vehicles, in addition to BSF, on the other side of Burimari.
 The Indians also dug bunkers and placed their guns on the No Man's Land, violating the 1975 border accord.
 Officials said Indian Border Security Force (BSF) had been obstructing a loop cutting project undertaken by the Water Development Board (WDB)
 See Page 12 Col 7

Road, rail blockade in Sylhet

From Our Correspondent
SYLHET, Apr 24: The people of Sylhet enforced a day-long road and rail blockade in four districts of greater Sylhet, demanding immediate declaration of Sylhet as an administrative division.
 As a result, links with the districts with rest of Bangladesh remained cut off for most of the day.
 During the programme thousands of people put barricades on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway near Madhabpur thana headquarters and at Baraikandi in Sylhet sadar.
 They also halted trains at the Sylhet and Shayestaganj stations.
 No inter-district bus or rail
 See Page 12 Col 8

Biman's 2nd flight to NY from July 4

By Staff Correspondent
 Biman Bangladesh Airlines will begin operating a second weekly flight to New York from July 4.
 The Biman flights will leave Dhaka on Saturdays and Mondays. Presently, the weekly flight operates on Saturdays only.
 Biman, which inaugurated its New York flight last December 17, will fly on the
 See Page 12 Col 8



Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Mohammad Hanif presenting a 21-inch Powervision colour television to Rubayat Mahmud, winner of the top prize of the first quiz at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium yesterday. Azimur Rahman (extreme left), Chairman of Mediaworld Ltd., and A S Mahmud (for right), Chairman of Transcom Electronics Ltd., are also seen. — Star photo

Draw for Star World Cup Quiz No 2 held

By Staff Correspondent
 The draw for The Daily Star World Cup Quiz Competition No.2 was held at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium yesterday.
 Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Md. Hanif graced the occasion as chief guest and also gave away the prizes to the winners of the first quiz, the draw for which was held on April 17.
 In the draw for Quiz No. 2, Rezwán Mahmud of Siddeshwari Lane won a 21-inch Philips Powervision TV set — the first prize.
 Mahmud, a Masters degree student of the Jagannath University College, was delighted when informed over telephone last night.
 He said that one of his friends had inspired him to participate in the quiz. He had not entered the first quiz.
 Son of a school-teacher.
 See Page 12 Col 3

Tax lawyers boycott offices

By Staff Correspondent
 Tax lawyers of the country yesterday boycotted all tax appellate tribunals and tax offices to press home their demands. The Bangladesh Tax Lawyers' Association gave the call for the boycott.
 The demands include withdrawal of Tk 1500 minimum income tax circular removal of irregularities in advance tax collection; putting an end to administrative harassment in explaining investment, repealing laws related to personal loans, repealing Article 84-A and other points.
 The tax lawyers also staged demonstrations in different tax offices and handed over a memorandum to the National Board of Revenue (NBR) in Dhaka.
 Due to the boycott, the hearing of all cases in the four benches of the Tax Appeal Court in the city remained
 See Page 12 Col 6

LUCKY WINNERS of The Daily Star WORLD CUP QUIZ

Following are the lucky winners of The Daily Star World Cup Quiz No.2, the draw for which was held at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium yesterday:

- | | |
|---|--|
| First Prize (One)
Md. Rezwán Mahmud
11/6 Siddeshwari Lane
Dhaka | Fourth Prize (Five)
1. Abdullah Khaled Muhammad
195, Ulan, Rampura, Dhaka
2. Sharful Alam
3890/H, Madhubag
Dhaka
3. Mushfiq M. Hassan
House-41, Road-6
Banani, Dhaka
4. Md. Abdur Razzak
275 Zahur Huj Hall
Dhaka University, Dhaka
5. Mamataz Khanam
C/o, Nobuilla
Azampur (Modhyapara)
Uttara, Dhaka |
| Second Prize (One)
Hasan Ali
1/3, Rupnagar
Section-5
Mirpur, Dhaka | |
| Third Prize (One)
Habib Sadat
House-11, Road-14
Gulshan, Dhaka-1212 | |

The prizes will be handed over to the winners during the lucky draw for Quiz No.3, to be held at the Jatiya Press Club on May 4th, 1994.
 The winners of Quiz No.2, named above, are requested to contact The Daily Star office to claim their prizes.
 (See the correct answers to Quiz No.2 on Page 11)

WIN
 See Page 11
 POWERVISION

The Daily Star
 WIN
 a trip to the World Cup Final at Los Angeles
WorldCupUSA94 Quiz Competition

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