

Inside Today

Article

Govt Expenditures,
Real Exchange
Rate and Com-
petitiveness

by Abdul Bayes
Page 4

International

Alja Izetbegovic pro-
poses temporary truce
in Bosnia to settle
disputes



Mandela rules out ban
on Afrikaner Resis-
tance Movement
Page 5

Business

PLO, Israel reach agree-
ment on economic
relations

High price risks hindering crop diver-
sification
Page 7

Supplement

Special supplement on
the National Day of
the Netherlands
Pages 8, 9

Rising Stars

Those Creatures of the
Night; Sole Survivors
of a Plane Crash; The
Human Torches; An
Intricate and Complex
Character — Sherlock
Holmes; A Dark
New Year
Page 6

NEWS BRIEFS

Joshi leaves Dhaka

The Indian Chief of Army Staff, General Bipin Chandra Joshi left Dhaka yesterday after a six-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh. General Joshi, Mrs Joshi and other members of his delegation were seen off at the Zia International Airport by the Chief of Army Staff, Lt General Muhammad Noor Uddin Khan. Begum Sophia Khan and other senior army officials, reports UNB.

Hasina greets

Queen Beatrix

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina has congratulated Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands on her birthday. In a message on the occasion, Hasina warmly greeted the Queen of the Netherlands and wished her good health, happiness and long life. She also wished the people of the Netherlands continued peace, progress and prosperity, reports UNB.

Kenyan defence

team in city

A 24-member team from the Kenyan Defence Staff College (KDSC) arrived in Dhaka yesterday on a eight-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh. During the visit, the KDSC team, led by its Deputy Commandant Brigadier BM Nganda will call on high civil and military officials, reports UNB.

Section of teachers for continuing strike

By Staff Correspondent

The Central Teachers' Action Liaison Committee, a platform of six organisations of non-government school and college teachers yesterday decided to continue their strike although the government on Thursday had accepted some of their demands.

The government Thursday night had decided to allow from July 1 this year one time-scale to the teachers and employees of non-government educational institutions in the existing pay-scale and some other benefits. This will involve an additional expenditure of over a hundred crore Taka annually.

Meanwhile, the government was finalising the measures to hold the SSC examinations of the four education boards under special arrangements. Education Ministry officials said, adding that the teachers

of government schools and colleges and officials of the Education Department would be engaged in the conduct of the examinations. Besides, the teachers of non-government schools who called off their strike would also help in conducting the exams.

A control room has been opened at the Education Ministry to monitor the preparations for holding the SSC examinations in the districts. A spokesman of the control room told The Daily Star that arrangements had been finalised in 17 districts until Thursday.

The liaison committee

See Page 12 Col 4

See Page 12 Col 4

Opposition parties meet today

Leaders of opposition parties and groups in Parliament will meet today at 11:30 am at the Sangsab Bhaban chamber of Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Abdus Samad Azad.

The meeting will continue its deliberations on finalising the constitutional modality of a caretaker government for holding free and impartial elections for certain terms.

"We are now trying to reach a consensus on the details of the modality of a caretaker government," Salahuddin Yusuf, an Awami League MP, told UNB last night.

He said that a constitutional provision for a caretaker government could be made either by amending the relevant provisions or adding a new temporary provision to the constitution.

See Page 12 Col 4

See Page 12 Col 4

Litmus test for EC steps today

By Nurul Kabir

At the same time ensure active participation of the electorate in the polling process. The identity cards will also help maintain peace and order, he said.

The EC also felt that the larger number of polling centres opened here would increase the voter turnout.

According to EC sources, 27 voters' clubs, each comprising 15 members — 10 male and five female — are scheduled to conduct the elections.

The chief of each voter club would act as the presiding officer and his deputy as the assistant presiding officer at each centre.

Twenty-seven polling centres have also been set up in the 27 villages which comprise Dapuria union. Of these, one centre has been opened for only 184 voters.

All the 405 voters' clubs

members have been given training by EC officials on how to conduct the elections.

The EC had involved the club members in preparing the voter lists, collecting information for the ID cards and setting up the polling centres.

These have been done with a view to ensuring the people's participation in the electoral process," said EC Joint Secretary S M Zakaria.

Eleven candidates are contesting for the post of chairman while 40 are in the race for nine posts of UP members.

The EC has also distributed a brochure containing a 14-point code of conduct for the candidates.

The District Agriculture Officer of Mymensingh has been appointed to act as the Returning Officer.

It is learnt that in response

See Page 12 Col 1

Upendra Lal tells newsmen

CHT peace precondition for Chakmas' return

From Staff Correspondent

KHAGRACHHARI, Apr 29: The return of the Chakma refugees from camps in India cannot be guaranteed until a peaceful settlement of the CHT issue could be reached through the ongoing peace talks between the government and the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS).

This was said here today by Upendra Lal Chakma, chairman of the Chakma Refugees' Welfare Association, who headed a 14-member refugee delegation which has been visiting the CHT for the past five days to see the rehabilitation of the refugees repatriated from India in February.

Talking to pressmen at Khagrachhari here prior to his departure for Tripura in India this afternoon, Upendra Chakma said some major problems still remain in the CHT despite the rehabilitation measures taken by the government.

He, however, did not elaborate on what he described as cases of insecurity felt by the returnees.

When asked about the possible time for starting the next phase of repatriation, he said "I can't say with any degree of exactitude at this moment because the decision lies with our association. After my return I will submit a report on my own observations during

"Besides, some of the re-

turnees and other tribals expressed to me their sense of insecurity and fear," Upendra Chakma said.

Moreover, we should not only consider the cases of 50,000 refugees, the plight of the six lakh tribals staying here should also be taken into consideration. Most of them are yet to regain their lost property," Upendra Chakma said.

If the problems of the Chittagong Hill Tracts were not solved politically, a permanent peace could not be established here and life and property of the tribal people could not be guaranteed," Upendra Chakma added.

Talking to pressmen at Khagrachhari here prior to his departure for Tripura in India this afternoon, Upendra Chakma said some major problems still remain in the CHT despite the rehabilitation measures taken by the government.

He pointed out that the landed property of many returnees and other tribals, in the possession of non-tribals, were yet to be returned.

When asked about the possible time for starting the next phase of repatriation, he said "I can't say with any degree of exactitude at this moment because the decision lies with our association. After my return I will submit a report on my own observations during

"Besides, some of the re-

Khaleda likely to perform Hajj

By A Special Correspondent
Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will leave for Jeddah next month to perform Hajj, according to official sources.

The Foreign Office has already been instructed to make preparations for the visit, which is likely to start in mid May. She is expected to spend about 10 days in Saudi Arabia.

It's not clear whether she will have any substantive contacts with Saudi leaders during the visit and use the occasion to transact any bilateral business.

See Page 12 Col 3

Hasina goes to Japan May 8

By Staff Correspondent
Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina will pay a five-day visit to Japan beginning May 8.

AL sources said that the itinerary of the visit was still to be fixed but it would mainly include attending the two-day meeting of the Socialist International Council.

Sheikh Hasina will address the meeting which will be held

See Page 12 Col 6

Depression in south Bay

By Staff Correspondent

A depression has formed over the south east Bay of Bengal and adjoining Andaman Sea.

It was lying some 1350 kilometres south south-west of the Chittagong Port at 9 am yesterday.

According to the Met office, the depression remains practically stationary but it might move initially in a north-westerly direction with greater intensity.

At 6pm yesterday, the Met office said, the maximum sustained wind within 48 kilometres of the depression centre was about 50kmph

See Page 12 Col 6

Iranian pilgrims to hold rallies during Hajj

NICOSIA, Apr 29: Iranian pilgrims will hold political rallies during the Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca next month despite a Saudi ban, Tehran Radio quoted Iran's top hajj official as saying today, reports Reuter.

Ayatollah Mohammad Mohammadi Reysahri advised Saudi Arabian leaders not to prevent Muslims from carrying out their duty to hold deliverance from infidels rituals, the radio said.

"We do not want to create disturbance for the Saudi gov-

See Page 12 Col 4

WELCOME

Mr Bhaskar Sen
Managing Director, Sika Qualcrete Pvt. Ltd
and

The Delegates of Bengal National
Chamber of Commerce &
Industries, Calcutta



TECHNODEV

122, Kakrail Road, Dhaka 1000
Phone: 409167, 246897, Fax 880-2-863957

Sole Agent
World Famous

Sika Construction Chemicals

Concrete Admixtures, Plasticisers, Water
Proofing Agents, Curing Compound, Surface
Retarder, Cementitious Grout, Epoxy
Adhesives & Mortar, Joint Sealant etc.



YOU CAN
BE THE

LUCKY STRIKER

YOU CAN STILL WIN REGULAR PRIZES WORTH TK. 1,82,600 PLUS BUMPER PRIZE WORTH TK. 1,50,000

& SEND AS MANY ENTRIES AS YOU LIKE.

See Page 11 for Details

All Prizes Courtesy:
Transcom Electronics Ltd.

Licensed manufacturer of Philips Lighting products, Radio and T.V. Sets.