

Only ballot can change a govt, says Rafiq

Minister for Housing and Public Works Rafiqul Islam Mia yesterday said 'vote' and 'ballot' constituted the only means for changing a government under the democratic system, reports BSS.

"There is no other way except these two," he said and added: "A democratically elected government shall remain in power as long as the people's mandate remains in its favour. No threat can move it out of its position."

The minister was addressing as chief guest a seminar on the 'Transition to Democracy and the Present Context' organised by the 'Organisation for the 21st Century, Dhaka Southern Zone' at the National Sports Council auditorium in the city.

With Mohammad Akhtaruzzaman in the chair, the seminar was also addressed by Dr M Shamsur Ali, Ehsanul Kabir and Dr Borhanuddin.

Rafiqul Islam Mia referred to the Opposition's demand for a caretaker government and said in the event of dissolution of Parliament, the Constitution has no provision for an unelected government to run the country or administer polls.

He also said that the Awami League was now helping the Jatiya Party regain power and implement the Jamaat's caretaker government bill, which would bring no positive result for the people.

"This manifests the Awami League's threat to the BNP that they won't allow the BNP to remain in power when in power," he said, adding that the Awami League ought to have helped the BNP through a constructive role for the overall betterment of the country. The minister also said his party still recognises the Awami League's role in the restoration of democracy ex-

CU BCL enforces indefinite strike

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 25: Classes were not held at the Chittagong University as the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) enforced an indefinite strike there from today protesting Thursday's attack on its activists by Shibir supporters.

The BCL activists put up barricades at the approach road to the university to prevent vehicles either carrying students or teachers from entering the campus.

A tense situation prevailed inside the campus.

At least ten persons were injured in clash between BCL and Shibir supporters on Thursday.

UNB quotes witnesses as saying, Mozammel Haq, a teacher of the Department of Philosophy, was assaulted at the main gate of the university. He was given first aid at the university medical centre.

Satellite to be used for BTV 2nd channel

An inter-ministerial meeting yesterday decided to telecast BTV programmes on a second channel through satellite to reduce project cost and make its functions easily accessible to lakhs of expatriate Bangladeshis, reports UNB.

Chaired by Information Minister Nazmul Huda, the meeting discussed progress of the project and the technical knowhow necessary for speedy opening of a second channel. A committee to plan programmes for the channel will also be constituted.

Local and foreign viewers will be able to enjoy the second channel programmes simultaneously.

Attended by Information Secretary Dr Ekram Hossain, senior officials of the Information Ministry, representatives of the Post and Telecommunication Ministry and senior

officials of Bangladesh Television, the meeting was apprised that neighbouring countries are already televising programmes through satellite. The decision to telecast Bangladesh TV programmes by satellite is a timely step in keeping with the emerging new technologies in TV transmission in the modern world, the meeting, held at the Information Ministry, viewed.

Decision was also taken to buy package programmes and to upgrade programme standards by giving preference to competent and talented artists in programme making to make BTV telecasts livelier.

The meeting also decided to take immediate measures to produce quality programmes catering to the tastes of BTV viewers so as to free them from the aggression of world-wide satellite TV programmes.

Resist hartal: City AL

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Tary Mufazzal Hussain Chowdhury Maya, party publicity secretary Muzaffar Hussain Patu and the new entrant to Awami League Nurul Islam Nahid.

Abdur Razzaque, MP said that the proposed hartal of June 30, called by the fundamentalists, was "a conspiracy" of the anti-liberation forces. He said the workers of his party would resist them in the streets during the day.

Razzaque, who criticised "rehabilitation of the anti-Bangladesh forces", said that the restoration of the citizen-

Tin Bigha handover ceremony today

From Our Correspondent
RANGPUR, June 25: The second anniversary of the handing over of Tin Bigha corridor will be observed tomorrow in Dahagram and Angorpota enclaves under the auspices of Tin Bigha Sangram Parishad and various socio-cultural organisations.



The city Awami League brought out a procession yesterday demanding a constitutional amendment providing for a caretaker government to conduct general elections and the trial of all 'war criminals'.

Saudis win

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But they could not turn pressure into goals and were stunned by Amin's strike. The Saudi midfielder celebrated his second goal of the finals by kissing the turf.

Saudi goalkeeper Mohamad al-Deayea performed heroics in the second half to preserve the historic win, which gives his team a fair chance of reaching the last 16.

Saudi Arabia, with three points from two games, end their Group F campaign against Belgium on Wednesday while the Moroccans, still without a point, play the Netherlands the same day.

Belgians beat Dutch

Defender Philippe Albert, who missed Belgium's opening 1-0 win over Morocco in the sweltering Orlando Citrus Bowl last Sunday, pounced in the 66th minute to give his side a six-point tally from two games in Group F.

Marc Degryse, scorer of the winner against Morocco, took a corner on the left which was headed on for Albert to hook home from inside the penalty area.

The match could have gone either way, with goal chances galore and no quarter given — far from the stalemate some had feared for a result damaging neither side's further ambitions.

The Dutch, who survived the scare of going a goal down before beating Saudi Arabia in Washington last Monday, meet Morocco next to determine their fate.

Belgium might have had a goal inside 40 seconds when Croatian-born striker Josip Weber planted a header from a pinpoint Enzo Scifo cross just over the bar.

That set the tone for a dramatic 'Derby of the Low Countries,' packed with action in both goal mouths.

Bogra by-election

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The opposition boycott of the Bogra polls is also in keeping with its stand not to contest any elections under the present government and its demand for a caretaker government to conduct future polls.

This correspondent, during a visit to the Election Commission office at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city yesterday, also failed to notice any urgency among the officials regarding the election, due on July 7.

The by-election is being contested by Dr. Ziaul Haq Mollah of the BNP and independent candidates Azimushshan and Rafiqul Islam Pinku.

The seat fell vacant following the death of Azizul Haq Mollah of the BNP. His son was nominated to contest the seat by the ruling party.

Until yesterday, no central leader of the ruling party had visited the constituency to campaign for its candidate, party sources said. Also, there is no plan yet for either the Prime Minister or her cabinet colleagues to visit the area.

The Election Commission is not very optimistic about the turnout of voters either. In the 1991 general elections, 70.23 per cent votes were cast in the constituency.

There are 1,72,934 enrolled voters in the constituency.

In 1991, Azizul Haq Mollah was elected with 43,247 votes while his nearest rival Abdur Rahman Fakir of the Jamaat-e-Islami secured 34,372 votes. He was followed by Shahidul Alam of the Awami League with 31,192 votes.

Hasina addresses Tongi rally today

Leader of the Opposition and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina will address a workers' rally in Tongi at 3 pm today. Meanwhile, an emergency meeting of the Awami League Presidium and Advisory Council will be held at 29 Minto road at 10 am today. Hasina will preside over the meeting, reports UNB.



Morocco's Smahi Triki (R) goes high above Saudi Arabia's Saeed Owairan at East Rutherford's Giants Stadium during last night's World Cup Group F clash. The Saudis won 2-1.

Steps recommended for streamlining brothels

The Social Services Department has drawn up a 30-point set of recommendations to resolve the problems of country's different brothels and their inmates, reports UNB.

The recommendations came following a seven-month survey last year by the Dhaka office of the department in three red-light areas in and around the capital.

A ten-member team worked informally in Kandupatti of Dhaka and Tan Bazar and Tanti Bazar areas of Narayanganj and identified as many as 21 serious problems forcing the inmates to live in sub-human conditions.

Pointing to the average income of Tk 300 and a saving of only Tk 75 daily, a member of the team, talking to UNB, said the government should introduce a savings scheme for the prostitutes to enable them to lead a better life in future.

3 hurt as rival groups clash near Press Club

By DU Correspondent

At least three persons were injured when some unidentified youths attacked members of the Young Muslim Society when they were preparing to hold a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

The clash allegedly started when a procession of the Sampradikata Birodhi Chhatra Samaj was passing by the Press Club.

The Chhatra Samaj, an alliance of pro-Liberation student bodies, brought out its procession from the Dhaka University campus in support of its dawn to dusk strike on June 30.

The alliance demanded trial of Jamaat chief Golam Azam and urged the people to resist the activities of the 'fatwabaz and razakars.'

A section of the processionists allegedly assaulted the organisers of the anti-Taslima rally and damaged loudspeakers and some chairs.

Of the injured, one was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Later the Chhatra Samaj held its own rally in front of the Press Club. It was addressed by Iqbalur Rahim, Abdullahi Quyyum, Moshrefa Mishu and Ahad Ahmed.

They called upon the people and students to join the Sammilita Sangskritik Jote rally at the Central Shaheed Minar today and the Jatiya Samannaya Committee rally at Bangabandhu Avenue on June 28.

Ishurdi BNP calls off strike

PABNA, June 25: The Ishurdi unit of Bangladesh Nationalist Party BNP today called off an indefinite shutdown on the thana headquarters following a fruitful discussion with high officials regarding release of its leaders, reports UNB.

The ruling party activists enforced the hartal on June 21 demanding release of their colleagues and transfer and punishment of the ASP and the OC of Ishurdi thana for their alleged atrocities on local BNP men.

Fresh demarcation of constituencies SOON

By Staff Correspondent

The Election Commission (EC) will soon adopt measures for fresh demarcation of 300 constituencies of the Jatiya Sangsad keeping in view the 1991 census, according to a press release.

Redemarcation of the JS constituencies is a legal obligation after every population census.

EC sources said the constituencies would be delimited afresh in proportion with their population. The area of any constituency might be enlarged or reduced to bring it in conformity with the growth or reduction of population since the 1981 population census.

The EC would directly supervise the task to begin shortly.

Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse today

By Staff Correspondent

The International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking will be observed today in the country as elsewhere in the world.

Various non-government organisations have drawn up programmes in Dhaka to mark the day. The day's programmes include seminar, symposium, and rallies highlighting the day's theme.

The United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) will hold a symposium at its office at 5 pm which will be chaired by eminent historian Prof Salahuddin Ahmed.

A number of drug experts will attend the symposium.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, in separate messages, have urged all concerned to help rid the society of drugs.

Tree fair

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The programme will help minimise the intensity of natural calamities like cyclone and draught, the Prime Minister pointed out and called upon all to take part in the tree planting movement.

She was happy knowing that awareness for planting trees and demand for saplings have grown significantly since the movement was launched nearly three years ago.

The Prime Minister assured training and financial assistance for nursery to be set up by unemployed people to ensure maximum possible plantation in minimum possible time.

Begum Zia inaugurated the 'Brikha Mela '94' at the Bijoy Sarani by planting a 'Royal Palm'. On her arrival at the venue, she was received by Forest and Environment Minister Col (Rtd) Akbar Hossain, Jute Minister Brig (Rtd) Hannan Shah and senior government officials.

A number of MPs and representatives of different donor agencies were present at the fair, arranged to create public awareness for conservation of tree resource and preservation of environment.

A total of 40 stalls have been set up by government, private and non-government organisations which are selling 18 varieties of fruit and 24 species of timber saplings at a very reasonable price.

Begum Zia herself bought saplings of berry, neem and mahogany for her residence.

Sangskritik Jote

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sored by the ruling party, have begun to attack the progressive people and their institutions.

Democratic practice was absent in the national life despite the government's promise to establish democracy, they said.

The Jote leaders demanded scrapping of the Performing Arts Control Act, the Endorsement Act on Jatrappala, the Film Society Act, etc.

They also demanded radio and television be turned into independent and autonomous bodies.

The Midnight File

Greece blames Britain for EU summit failure

CORFU, Greece, June 25: Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu blamed Britain today for the failure of the EU summit held here to find an agreed candidate for the European Commission president. "The United Kingdom refused to accept the position supported by the other 11 members," Papandreu told a press conference here, reports AFP.

N Yemen announces ceasefire

SANAA, June 25: Northern Yemen announced a new civil war ceasefire with the breakaway South starting at midnight (2100 GMT) Sanaa Television said tonight, reports Reuter.

Hata cabinet resigns

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mass resignation, saying, "Our urgent task is to create a new, stable government. I will leave it to the will of Parliament."

Following Hata's resignation, the LDP proposed talks on a new coalition government with the SDP. But there was no immediate agreement.

SDP Chairman Tomiichi Murayama told a news conference that his party welcomes the resignation and was ready to form a new cabinet with other groups. But he did not specify its possible partners.

"A stable government must be formed as soon as possible," the Socialist leader said.

The SDP has repeatedly criticised the Hata government for what it calls its 'high-handed and undemocratic' ways, and the behind-the-scenes role played by Ichiro Ozawa, who is co-leader of Hata's Renewal Party.

Analysts speculated that the SDP could align itself with the LDP and the new party Sakigake, a small of the previous coalition which opted to stay out of the current cabinet.

LDP president Yohsei Kono said today that his party would make further efforts to regain power.

"We will call on parties to end the political confusion promptly," he was quoted as telling a party meeting.

The LDP lost its four-decade grip on power in general elections in July last year following the passage of a no-confidence motion against Kiichi Miyazawa, supported by mass defections from the ruling party.

Audit officials warned of punitive actions

The government warned the non-cadre gazetted officers and non-gazetted employees of the Audit Department of punitive action if they go on a planned three-day strike June 28-30, reports UNB.

A handout yesterday said the non-cadre officials and employees under the jurisdiction of Auditor and Comptroller General observed a strike on June 19.

"Such activities are in no way acceptable to the government and are punishable offence. So, all the officers and employees of the Audit Department are asked to refrain from such illegal activities," the handout said.

Lalbagh shooting

From Page 1 Col 2
kh Hasina visited the residence of Yunus yesterday.

Hasina said the killing exposed the anti-people terrorist character of BNP. She expressed deep sympathy to the bereaved family and prayed for the departed soul.

General Secretary of city AL Mofazzel Hossain Chowdhury Maya and acting city Mayor Kamal Chowdhury accompanied the Awami League chief.

বাংলাদেশ তার ও টেলিফোন বোর্ড
একটি বিশেষ ঘোষণা

আগামী ১লা জুলাই '৯৪ থেকে নারায়ণগঞ্জ শহরকে ঢাকা মাল্টি এক্সচেঞ্জের আওতায় আনা হচ্ছে। ফলে নারায়ণগঞ্জ ও ঢাকার সকল এক্সচেঞ্জের মধ্যে টেলিফোন কল স্থানীয় কল হিসেবে বিবেচিত হবে। এই ব্যবস্থায় ঢাকার গ্রাহকগণ নারায়ণগঞ্জকে পেতে হলে প্রথমে ২ ডায়াল করে নারায়ণগঞ্জের ফোন নম্বর ডায়াল করবেন এবং নারায়ণগঞ্জের গ্রাহকগণ ঢাকার যে কোন এক্সচেঞ্জের গ্রাহককে পেতে হলে প্রথমে ৭৭ ডায়াল করে ঢাকার গ্রাহকের ফোন নম্বর ডায়াল করবেন। উল্লেখ্য যে, নারায়ণগঞ্জ থেকে ঢাকার বাহিরে সারা বাংলাদেশের জন্য এন, ডব্লিউ, ডি ব্যবস্থা যথারীতি চালু থাকবে।

২৬-৬-৯৪ ইং তারিখ থেকে এই কারিগরী পরিবর্তনের কাজ চালু থাকার প্রেক্ষিতে গ্রাহকগণের ঢাকা এবং নারায়ণগঞ্জের মধ্যে কল পেতে সাময়িক অসুবিধার কারণে টিএন্ডটি বোর্ড দুঃখ প্রকাশ করছে।

গ্রাহক সেবাই আমাদের লক্ষ্য
বাংলাদেশ তার ও টেলিফোন বোর্ড।

DFPI(BA) 5394-25/6 G-1082



Police resorted to baton charge to disperse a group of Chhatra Samaj activists from disrupting a rally organised by the Muslim Young Society in front of the National Press Club yesterday.