

Inside Today

Article

Human Rights Education and Lawyers: Partners in Pursuit of Universal Values
by Hanicus Gajetaan
Page 4

International



Suu Kyi begins her sixth year of detention today

Rwandan rebels win war
Page 5

Business

Growers worried at continued decline in tea prices

Indian bond scam; Finance Ministry will submit report to Parliament soon
Pages 6, 7

Feature

Education

Local initiative in organising mass literacy campaign; Cross and crescent move into the lecture hall; and Ensuring secondary school girls' education through scholarship project
Page 8

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Home for the Homeless
Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Dhaka mourns Kim's death today

The national flag of Bangladesh will fly half-mast at all government and semi-government offices today to condole the death of North Korean President Kim Il Sung. The instruction came from the government yesterday. All Bangladesh missions abroad will also lower the flag half-mast. reports UNB.

PM greets Brazilian President

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday felicitated President Itamar Franco of Brazil on the occasion of his country's victory in the World Cup Football final 1994. "We share your joy and celebration on a very well deserved victory of Brazil at the World Cup Football final 1994," Begum Zia said in a message to the Brazilian President. reports UNB.

Khaleda to attend ICPD in Cairo

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will attend the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) to be held in Cairo from September 5 to 13, according to informed sources. The Prime Minister's entourage would include a number of representatives from NGOs.

SPGRC body meets Pak envoy

A six-member delegation of the Stranded Pakistanis General Repatriation Committee (SPGRC) called on Pakistan High Commissioner in Bangladesh Anwar Kamal at his office in Dhaka yesterday.

WB unhappy with slow jute sector reform

By S Y Bakht

The World Bank may withhold releasing the 70 million US dollar second tranche of the Jute Sector Adjustment Credit unless the initial target of capacity reduction and privatisation of the jute sector is met within the current year, according to official sources.

The government is now preparing to close down five public sector jute mills, earlier scheduled to have been completed by June last, and privatise another nine by the end of this year.

A World Bank (WB) mission from Washington is presently

in the city to review progress of the jute sector restructuring programme (JSRP) with government officials.

The WB is learnt to have been critical of the delay in implementing the initial target of closing down and privatising public sector jute mills.

However, it noted the progress made in restructuring the outstanding debt of the jute sector.

Earlier, in February last, the WB agreed to provide 175 million US dollar special drawing rights (SDR of 245 million dollars) as jute sector adjustment credit

See Page 12 Col 1



Leaders of the Bangladesh Textile Mills Federation called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

— PID photo

Govt to give fresh impetus to textile sector: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday said steps will be taken to give a fresh impetus to the country's textile sector, reports UNB.

Necessary action will be taken to remove bottlenecks in the flourishing of the textile industry, she told a delegation of the Bangladesh Textile Industries Federation at her office in the afternoon.

The 14-member delegation led by convenor of the federation Lt Col (Retd) Kazi Selim Uddin submitted a 10-point recommendation to the PM, calling for urgent measures to ensure development of the protective sector.

More than 35 lakh people are employed in the country's textile sector having 514,000 handlooms, 36,000 power looms, about 500 knitting and hosiery industries and 276 dying-finishing factories. Besides, there are 10,000 local garment factories and 1,848

export-oriented garments manufacturing companies.

Commerce Minister M Shamsul Islam, Post and Telecommunication Minister Tariqul Islam, State Minister for Textiles Maj (Retd) Abdul Mannan and Principle Secretary to the Prime Minister were present during the meeting.

The delegation called for withdrawal of taxes and VAT on import of nylon chips, synthetic fibre and on manufacturing of hosiery and local garments.

The delegation demanded fixation of import duty on all sort of yarn at 5 per cent and on chemicals used in textile manufacturing at 15 per cent for reducing the production cost to be able to compete with the international market.

The Federation also pointed at the zero per cent duty on import of machinery for

garments factories and 1,848

Under a 14 million US dollar funding from Japan, the

See Page 12 Col 4

KAFCO to get gas meter today

By Sharier Khan

Regular supply of almost half of the Karnaphuli Fertiliser Company's (KAFCO) total gas requirement will be ensured following the commissioning today of a customer's metering system.

Two pipelines of the Bakharrab Gas Systems Ltd (BGSL) will now supply KAFCO upto 30 million cubic feet (mcf) per day, official sources said.

The government is committed to supply KAFCO with 61.5 mcf gas from December 1 next. The other half will be supplied mostly from the Feni gas field.

KAFCO will require some 62 mcf gas supply per day when it goes into full trial production from October 1, KAFCO sources said.

Under a 14 million US dollar funding from Japan, the

See Page 12 Col 4

8th fragment of comet hits Jupiter

Explosion outshines planet's two nearest moons

African astronomer Dave Laney told Reuters.

He said it was too early to analyse the black spot but added: "When you get an impact like this, it could cause chemical changes in the Jovian atmosphere."

Japanese astronomer Kaz Sekiguchi watched the explosion from the South African observatory at Sutherland and told the agency: "This is by far the brightest of the three impacts we have observed."

Astronomers were surprised to see a huge black spot at the approximate site of the previous and biggest impact 12 hours earlier.

"There is a huge black spot in the south, probably at the site of impact," South

Laney said the blast was

See Page 12 Col 8

blasted deep into Jupiter's atmosphere, pushing back an exploding plume that reached hundreds of miles above the planet.

Fragment H is the latest in a chain of 21 pieces of the Shoemaker-Levy comet expected to hit the giant planet by Friday.

Sekiguchi said the eighth blast lasted about 20 minutes before fading from his screen.

"It takes sometime to develop. What happens is that the fragment penetrates and a huge hot gas bubble bursts out of the atmosphere," he said.

"If I compare this with the brightness of the moons, it is by far the brightest impact we have seen."

Laney said the blast was

See Page 12 Col 8

Public hearing of crimes against women planned at Cairo Confce

By Masud Hasan Khan

Ten women's groups from Asia, Europe and America are planning to hold an international public hearing on crimes against women.

Women victims from different regions will appear at the public hearing in the Egyptian capital Cairo on September 7 to testify against "crimes" suffered by them when they were using reproductive technologies including birth control materials, according to information received in Dhaka.

The one day public hearing will coincide with the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) to be held in Cairo from September 5 to September 13.

There will be two sessions, the first on women's experi-

ences with reproductive technologies used under population policies and the second on racism, fundamentalism, international migration, eugenics and genetic engineering, according to an announcement by the sponsors.

Each session will be heard by an international jury of prominent feminists and health activists which would analyse the testimonies in the light of population programmes and help formulate recommendations for the future, addressing women's real needs, it said.

The international population conference will bring together decision makers and political leaders from all coun-

See Page 12 Col 7

Big welcome for Brazil's heroes

RECIFE, Brazil, July 19: Brazil's victorious soccer team, winners of an unprecedented fourth World Cup title, arrived home today to a red-carpet official welcome and a rapturous reception from millions of ecstatic fans, reports Reuter.

In a marathon day of celebrations, the coastal city of Recife in northeast Pernambuco state was first to greet the returning heroes after their 3-2 penalties win in the final.

Recife, last August, was where Brazil thrashed Bolivia 6-0 in a morale-boosting classification round win that

See Page 12 Col 4



Thousands of people line the streets of Pyongyang to watch Kim Il-Sung's funeral procession yesterday. — AFP photo

EU offers to help Taslima

BONN, Germany, July 19: European Union ambassadors in Dhaka, Bangladesh have been instructed to offer protection to hounded feminist author Taslima Nasreen, Germany's foreign minister said Tuesday, reports AP.

Klaus Kinkel said the EU foreign ministers also agreed at a meeting Monday to appeal to the Bangladesh government to protect Nasreen 32 and give her the chance to leave the country.

In May, Muslim fundamentalists issued death threats against Ms. Nasreen after she called, in an interview, for changes in Islamic law to give women more rights.

Ms Nasreen went into hiding June 4 after a court had ordered her arrest based on the newspaper interview. Police are searching nationwide for the author.

"She is naturally welcome in Germany but also in any other European Union country," Kinkel said. His comment came in a published response to a letter from novelist Martin Walser seeking German protection for Ms Nasreen.

Two pipelines of the Bakharrab Gas Systems Ltd (BGSL) will now supply KAFCO upto 30 million cubic feet (mcf) per day, official sources said.

The government is committed to supply KAFCO with 61.5 mcf gas from December 1 next. The other half will be supplied mostly from the Feni gas field.

KAFCO will require some 62 mcf gas supply per day when it goes into full trial production from October 1, KAFCO sources said.

Under a 14 million US dollar funding from Japan, the

See Page 12 Col 4

Gear up agitation for caretaker govt: Hasina

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina yesterday called for gearing up agitation for election under a neutral caretaker government to secure democracy and economic development, reports UNB.

Questioning the BNP's sincerity in making parliamentary democracy effective, Hasina said the present government was ignoring parliamentary norms and practices and trying to rule the country by presidential ordinances.

No matter how strong the Election Commission might be, a free and impartial election is not possible until the head of the government becomes neutral and non-partisan," she said, apparently disapproving the government move to strengthen the EC.

The Awami League President made the remarks while addressing a gathering of political workers, union parishad chairmen and social workers from Noakhali and Shariatpur who joined the Awami League at 29 Minto Road in the afternoon.

She said the demand for neutral caretaker government statement said.

Kamal Siddiqui sues Abu Hena

Dr Kamal Uddin Siddiqui, Secretary to the Prime Minister yesterday filed a defamation case of Taka one crore against Abu Hena, Mina, Secretary General of Prokrishi, with the First Sub-Judge's Court, Dhaka, reports BSS.

A summons was issued against Hena, Khandaker Mahbub Hossain, Hena's lawyer, said.

Dr Siddiqui alleged that at a press conference held on June 11 Hena had made some false and concocted statements to defame him by questioning his patriotism, honesty, reputation and responsibility as a high government official.

Subsequently, a legal notice was served on Hena on June 29 to withdraw his statements published in the newspapers and to apologise within seven days. The case was filed yesterday after Hena failed to reply to the notice in time, Hossain said.

Audt employees' strike declared illegal

By Staff Correspondent

The government expressed its concern yesterday at the "illegal" activities of some of the officials and employees of the audit department, a press release issued by Finance Ministry said.

The government noted that despite repeated requests, the officials and employees had abstained from work on June 19, 28 and 29 to press home some "illegal" demands.

On June 25, the government issued a press release asking the agitating officials to refrain from such activities as their services are essential under the 1958 "Essential

Ministers and other officials to the issue.

Standard Chartered Bank, Janata Bank, Banque Indosuez

ANZ Grindlays Bank PLC, IFIC Bank Ltd, Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd

Investment Corporation of Bangladesh

and Manager to the Issue and Trustee to the Debentures

Pragati Insurance Ltd

BEXIMCO

Committed to the Economic Development of the Nation

Corporate Headquarters : 17 Dhanmondi R/A, Road No. 2, Dhaka-1205, Bangladesh

Emotional farewell for Kim

SEOUL, July 19: North Korea publicly vented its grief today over the death of Kim Il-Sung, as millions of frenzied citizens bid an emotional farewell to the only ruler they have ever known, reports Reuter.