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ANNOUNCEMENT
 Starting today, and in keeping with our tradition of serving our readers better, The Daily Star is pleased to announce the launching of yet another new feature page titled "TRAVEL & TOURISM". We trust this page, to be published once a week, will help promote tourism and air travel to and from Bangladesh and also help to inform visitors and air travellers. The Daily Star... we choose to lead

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NEWS BRIEFS
Ferry services disrupted
 MANIKGANJ, Dec 3: Ferry services in Aricha-Nagarbari and Aricha-Daulatdia routes were disrupted for more than five hours early today as dense fog blanketed the waterways.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
National Board of Revenue
 Dhaka

NOTICE

The date for advance income tax payment for the 2nd quarter of the current financial year is December 15, 1994.

The advance income tax payable by the concerned taxpayer is to be paid through I. T. Form No. I. T. 31 (B) (amended) challan.

The taxpayers should pay the advance tax filling in the said challan form as usual by replacing the figure "74 (1)" with the figure "64" in as many places as it occurs in the form.

It may be mentioned that the financial limit of total income for payment of advance income tax for all classes of assessee is now Taka 1,00,000/=.

All assessee concerned are requested to pay their advance income tax for the 2nd quarter of the current financial year relevant to the assessment year 1995-96 under this system by December 15, 1994. Simple interest @ 10% per annum will be leviable if the advance income tax is not paid or paid at a lesser amount than due.

DFP-11826-30/11
 C-1907

National Board of Revenue

Child marriage still common in Bangladesh, says Nafis Sadik

20000 mothers die in labour every yr: PM

The Prime Minister yesterday asked all, particularly health and family planning workers, to work with dedication to make the safe motherhood movement a success preventing childbirth casualties, reports UNB.

"Let our pledge for today be 'No more unwanted deaths for motherhood,'" Begum Khaleda Zia said expressing concern at the high rate of maternal mortality rate in the country and in the world at large.

In Bangladesh, she said, while inaugurating a two-day national conference on 'Safe Motherhood', nearly 20,000 mothers die each year while giving birth and many others escape death but suffer from serious and permanent ailments.

The Prime Minister stressed preventive measures alongside curative ones for ensuring safe motherhood.

"We can achieve success in this regard only through combined private and public sector initiatives and united efforts of the health and social welfare

workers," she said, adding: Her government has placed utmost emphasis on women's education for ensuring overall development of women community.

To reduce the maternal mortality rate, she told the function at the International Conference Centre, her government has taken numerous steps, including removal of social discrimination against women, targeted programmes for mother and child health and strengthening family planning programmes.

She said for implementation of these measures, some 28,000 female workers at the grassroots level were taking family welfare services to the doorsteps of mothers.

Begum Zia said maternal mortality rate showed less in those developing countries where female education is more widespread. Educated mothers are more concerned about their own health and health of their children, she added.

Referring to the first inter-

national conference on the issue, held in Nairobi in 1987, Begum Zia said this conference raised awareness about maternal mortality worldwide.

"To ensure safe motherhood, we all have many responsibilities, including withholding girls' marriage before attainment of the age of 18, supply of adequate food and nutrition to teenage girls, ensuring their easy access to healthcare facilities and delivering health and family planning services up to the grassroots level," she said and informed the function that her government had already taken measures in line with those imperatives.

The Prime Minister lauded the role of the NGOs working for the success of this drive for safe motherhood side by side with government.

Addressing the function, the visiting Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, Dr Nafis Sadik, said programmes undertaken by the Bangladesh government on

See Page 12 Col 1

Help the disabled, urges Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday said united efforts can transform the country's disabled population into self-reliant and productive citizens, reports UNB.

"The government alone cannot cater to this huge disabled population," she said calling upon the voluntary organisations, donor agencies and affluent people to come forward and work side by side with the government for greater welfare of the disabled.

Citing World Health Organisation (WHO) findings, the Prime Minister said nearly 10

See Page 12 Col 4

UNFPA chief for SAARC meet on family planning

By Staff Correspondent

Executive Director of the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) Dr Nafis Sadik has said the SAARC countries should hold a conference to achieve the global goals set for family planning and other social sectors in the region.

Dr Nafis, who is now in the city on a three-day official visit, told a press conference she would propose to Chairperson

See Page 12 Col 4

BNP objected to change in format for talks: Islam

Star Report

The ruling BNP turned down the offer to participate in the FBCCI-proposed meeting because the federation had abruptly changed the original format from that of an appraisal meeting to one for tripartite talks, a senior cabinet minister said yesterday.

The FBCCI changed the format, as detailed in its initial letter, from an 'appraisal' meeting to a tripartite discussion in a subsequent letter.

Commerce Minister Shamsul Islam told The Daily Star when contacted over telephone last night.

The ruling party took exception to the alteration in the format of the meeting because it changed the entire spirit and purpose of the proposed meeting.

See Page 12 Col 8



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia looking at a work done by a disabled boy at the handicraft exhibition held at Osmani Memorial Hall in the city on the occasion of the International Day of the Disabled yesterday. —PID photo

BDR deployed around Ansars Academy

Paramilitary BDR moved to Shafipur and took position around the besieged Ansars Academy yesterday in a bid to tame the revolting Ansar sepoys, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at a meeting with the Home Secretary, Army Chief, IGP, DGs of BDR and Ansar at her office last night took stock of the latest situation.

The meeting discussed possible steps to bring an end to the Ansars agitation.

Official sources said concerned authorities had earlier tried in vain to contain the three days of uprising of the auxiliary law enforcing agency personnel demanding enhancement of their meagre salary.

According to official sources, the latest move came

as authorities efforts so far failed to end the three days of uprising of the auxiliary law enforcing agency personnel who are demanding a raise in their pay and facilities.

Home Secretary Azimuddin Ahmed and Chief of General Staff (CGS) of Army and former Director General of Ansars Major General Mahbubuzzaman had been to the Shafipur Academy twice yesterday with government's proposal for the protesters to give up their agitation.

See Page 12 Col 3

CMM dismisses petition against Prime Minister

The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) yesterday dismissed a petition accusing Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia of making 'provocative remarks' (that might lead to riot and endanger lives of opposition leaders and workers, reports UNB).

Advocate Qamrul Islam, Joint Secretary of the Awami League, Dhaka City committee, filed the complaint with the CMM's court yesterday.

KS Nabi, Bar at Law, Ramzan Ali and MA Mannan

See Page 12 Col 6

Opposition MPs meet tomorrow to finalise date for resignation

By Staff Correspondent

The leaders of the parliamentary opposition will meet tomorrow evening to finalise a date for submitting resignation from the Jatiya Sangsad (JS).

The date is likely to be announced simultaneously from separate rallies of the Awami League (AL), Jatiya Party (JP) and Jamaat-e-Islami in the city on December 6, chief Whip of

See Page 12 Col 3

Lankan FM due today

Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar arrives in Dhaka today on a three-day official visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

It will be the first tour by a Sri Lankan minister to Bangladesh following the installation of the new government in Colombo.

During his stay here, Kadirgamar will call on President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

He will also meet leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina.

See Page 12 Col 7

FBCCI chief blames govt for scuttling proposed meeting

By Staff Correspondent

The proposed tripartite meeting among the Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), the ruling party and the Opposition, has been called off following the government's decision not to attend, said Salman F Rahman, President of the federation, yesterday.

"This morning the hon'ble Commerce Minister informed me that the government had now decided not to participate in the proposed meeting," Salman announced at a hurriedly called press conference at the Federation Bhaban.

"He (the commerce minister) explained that the government was not willing to enter into any form of dialogue with the Opposition as a lot of

dialogues had already taken place."

The FBCCI initiative for holding a meeting with the

government and the opposition political parties has been 'frustrated', he said, since a section of the national leadership has declined to participate in the proposed meeting.

"We regret we could not apprise the national political leadership of the consequences of the polarised politics on the national economy," Salman lamented.

The objective of the proposed meeting was to seek relief for the national economy from the present political crisis. It is unfortunate that the efforts of the FBCCI were undone at the altar of partisan politics."

Responding to a question, he said he holds the ruling party responsible for the fail-

See Page 12 Col 7

MIGA to promote foreign investment in Bangladesh

By S Y Bakht

The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), an affiliate of the World Bank, will make special efforts to promote the flow of foreign direct investment (FDI) into South Asia, including Bangladesh, said a visiting official of the agency yesterday.

"In Bangladesh, clearly we would like to be involved in increasing the flow of FDI," said Zia Yusuf, the visiting guaran-

tee officer from the Washington headquarters of MIGA, which provides political risk insurance to private companies investing in developing countries.

Bangladesh has been a founding member of MIGA since 1988 and the agency is also involved in the KAFCO project, where it has insured the investments of two Japanese companies, Marubeni and Chiyoda, to the tune of \$2 million US dollars, he said.

"We would like to do more business here."

In an interview with The Daily Star, Yusuf also talked about MIGA's objective and the procedures that the agency follows to provide non-commercial risk coverage for private investments in a member country.

"The sole purpose of MIGA, the newest member of the World Bank group, is to increase the flow of FDI into de-

veloping countries, by providing political risk insurance to the investing private companies," he said.

Foreign investors may have concern for high non-commercial risks in developing countries, he explained, and that is where MIGA comes in to allay the fears of the investors by covering that risk factor. MIGA was set up to fill in the void in the non-commercial risk insurance sector. The is covered only by large international insurance companies like AIG of the US and Lloyds of London and national investment insurance agencies like MITI of Japan and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation of the US, he said.

With 126 members, 19 from the industrial countries and 107 from the developing ones, the MIGA can provide insurance coverage — against any actions of the governments

See Page 12 Col 4

Exporters seek exemption from hartals

By Staff Correspondent

The Exporters Association of Bangladesh yesterday urged the political parties to exempt the export-oriented industrial units from the purview of hartals.

The request came ahead of the Opposition called 48-hour hartal across the country on December 7 and 8.

Expressing concern over frequent hartals and the existing political instability, the association said in a statement production in the export-oriented industries had declined sharply causing huge losses.

Termining November and December most crucial months for the exporters, the statement said, the exporters would have to send goods by air at their own expenses if the shipment schedule failed. Otherwise, goods worth crores of taka would be stockpiled. Frequent hartals and sieges were not only hampering shipments of goods but were also discouraging the foreign buyers and investors in the country, said the association.

Many countries in this part of the world lost the export market due to political instability. This helped Bangladesh enter the export market, the statement said adding the country itself was now going to have the same fate because of hartals.

The political parties should come forward to resolve the crisis of the export-oriented industries, said the association.

The exporters said political stability is essential to help the growth of the export-oriented industries.

Opposition wins mayor polls in Taiwan

TAIPEI, Dec 3: Taiwan's Nationalist Party suffered a serious setback to its 45-year rule today, as the opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) handily won the first multi-party election of Taipei mayor, reports AFP.

বাণিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয়
কয়লা পরিদপ্তর (বিলুপ্ত) বিলুপ্তিকরণ সেল
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 নং কনি/কয়লা বিক্রয়/৭৪৮/৭৮-৩/৯৪/৫৫০ তারিখ: ৩/১২/১৯৯৪ ইং
 ১৯/৮/১৪০১ বা

কয়লা বিক্রয়ের সংক্ষিপ্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আগামী (ন্যায়ালয়) এ অবস্থিত আগামী ২ নম্বর সরকারী কয়লা ডিপোতে মজদুত কয়লা সীত টোকারে মায়ে বিক্রয়ের জন্য অত্রী ক্রেতাদের নিকট হইতে সীল মোহরকৃত বামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে। উক্ত ডিপোতে মজদু কয়লার পরিমাণ সহ বিস্তারিত তথ্যকালী দরপত্র তফসিলে উল্লেখিত আছে। নিম্নলিখিতকরকারী দরপত্র, ন্যায়ালয় জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়ে এবং সরকার অনুমোদিত নিলামকারী মেসার্স এলপো ট্রেডার্স, ১২, জহুরা মার্কেট, বাংলা মটর, ঢাকা হইতে নগদ ২০০/- (দুইশত) টাকা (অক্ষয়-থযোগ্য) প্রদান করিয়া আঙ্ক ৪-১২-৯৪ ইং হইতে ১০-১২-৯৪ ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে দরপত্র তফসিল সমূহ করা যাইবে।

২। দরপত্র তফসিলের সহিত সেল প্রধান, কয়লা পরিদপ্তর (বিলুপ্ত) বিলুপ্তিকরণ সেল এর অনুকূলে প্রত্যাখিত মুদ্রার উপর ২১% (আড়াই শতাংশ) হারে আনুমানিক যে কোন তফসিলভুক্ত ব্যাকে কর্তৃক ইস্যুকৃত পে-অর্ডার এর মাধ্যমে দাখিল করিতে হইবে।

৩। আগামী ১০-১২-৯৪ ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময় ডিপোর কয়লা পরিদপ্তর করা যাইবে।

৪। নিম্নলিখিতকরকারী দরপত্র এবং ন্যায়ালয় জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়ে প্রস্তুত টোকার বামে আগামী ১১-১২-৯৪ ইং তারিখে সকাল ১০.০০ ঘটিকা হইতে দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত দরপত্র দাখিল করা যাইবে। উক্ত দিন বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকার দরপত্র দাখিলের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) টোকার বাম বোলা হইবে।

৫। একজন দরপত্রদাতা ডিপোর সার্ব স্বত্বের জন্য বা সর্বস্ব ১,০০০ যে কোনো জন্য দরপত্র দাখিল করিতে পারিবেন। সার্ব স্বত্বের জন্য সত্যোক্তক দর প্রত্যয় পাওয়া গেলে তাহা প্রদান পাইবে।

৬। প্রাপ্ত দরপত্র সপক্ষে কর্তৃকদের সিদ্ধান্ত অতি জরুরী ভিত্তিতে প্রদান করা হইবে।

৭। কোন কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই কর্তৃক যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

এম, পহিদিউল্লাহ
 সেল প্রধান ও আহবায়ক, টোকার কমিটি।
 ফোন-২৩৩১১০।

Russia vetoes SC resolution

UNITED NATIONS, Dec 3: Russia vetoed a Security Council resolution late Friday aimed at stopping Yugoslav fuel supplies reportedly powering a Serb offensive in northern Bosnia, reports AP.

It was the first council veto in a year and a half — and the first on the Bosnian war. The vote was 13-1-1, with Russia vetoing the resolution and China abstaining.

The resolution was sponsored by Islamic and non-aligned states to show sympathy for the Bosnian Muslims.

Russia, a traditional Serb ally, said it vetoed the resolution because it would tighten sanctions against Serbia.

"We had no other choice than to vote against this draft," said Russian Ambassador Sergey Lavrov. "We hope that ultimately there will be a sound and balanced approach" toward a political process.

Lavrov said "a more untimely moment of this resolu-

tion is impossible," adding that Yugoslavia had closed its border with Bosnia and was cooperating with peace negotiators.

Hours before the veto, diplomats from Russia, the United States, France, Britain and Germany demonstrated their unity by endorsing a confederation of Bosnian Serbs and neighbouring Serbia.

The last veto was in May 1993, when Russia blocked its first resolution in nine years, killing a proposal to make all UN members pay for the small UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus.

Friday night's veto was also an opportunity for Russia to show its muscle in the council.

Lavrov has repeatedly accused the United Nations of a "double standard," saying that the council has imposed sanctions against Serbia, but has ignored Muslim acts against Serbs.

The resolution would re-

quire UN border monitors to severely limit shipments of fuel and other supplies crossing the border between Serbia, the dominant member of Yugoslavia, and Croatia.

The aim of the resolution is "to totally shackle the Serb war-making capability," said Djibouti's ambassador Roble Ohaye.

UN resolutions already ban all but humanitarian supplies from crossing the border between Yugoslavia and Bosnia, but monitors have been permitting shipments to cross Bosnia if they are destined for Croatia.

Meanwhile AFP adds: Separatist Serb forces from Croatia's Krajina region have agreed to pullout from the besieged UN-declared safe area of Bihać in northwestern Bosnia, UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in Geneva today.

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