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VOL. V NO. 27 REGD. NO. DA 781

and 'not maintainable'.

Taufiq Hossain.

Abdul Wadud Khandaker filed

the affidavit-in-opposition on

behalf of the Speaker, who was

made one of the respondents

in the writ petition by one

General, Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan,

also filed a separate affidavit on

Ministry of Law and Justice.

The affidavit containing the

An inter-ministerial meet-

ing yesterday drew up a

"contingency plan" to face any

"untoward and illegal" activi-

ties during the strike and bar-

ricade programmes of jute and

"We have reviewed the

textile mills workers sched-

overall situation and decided

to take measures in accor-

dance with the existing law."

Jute Minister A S M Hannan

Shah told The Daily Star over

workers, both in the public

and private sectors, recently

announced a 96-hour strike at

the mills and rail-road barri-

cade programme (from 8 am

to 2 pm everyday) from Febru-

Chaired by the Home Minis-

terial meeting was attended by

the ministers for Jute. Textiles

the Trading Corporation of

Bangladesh (TCB) is responsi-

ble for inadequate supply and

high price of sait in the mar-

survey conducted recently by

the UNICEF, which has so far

installed 234 Salt Iodination

Plants (SIP) in Bangladesh un-

der its Control of lodine

programme with grants from

Mills Owners Association, whi

ch is on an indefinite strike

since February 5 is demanding

providing the mills with TCB-

imported salt. It is also

demanding of the government

to permit the mill owners to

import undrushed salt and

then refine and iodize those

In another development

salt mill owners in Narayangani

last month sent a legal notice

to the District Food Controller

CIDA

Deliciency Disorders (CIDD) *

Meanwhile; Bangladesh Salt

This was the finding of a

The Labour and Manpower

and Labour and Manpower.

ter the hour-long inter-minis-

The jute and textile mills

telephone.

ary 12 to 15.

uled to begin on February 12.

Govt firm to tackle jute,

textile sector strike

By Staff Correspondent

behalf of the Secretary.

who is also a respondent.

Another Additional Attorney

MAGH 28, 1401 BS,

DHAKA FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1995

RAMADAN 9, 1415 HIJRI

- Inside Today -

Article

The Sonia Factor: Importance and Rišk

Column: Between the Lines by Kuldip Nayar Page 4

International

Rabin-Arafat summit breaks down in disagreement

First phase of crucial state polls begins in Maharastra Page 5

Business

Sugar mills may achieve projected profit next vear

> Govt running 20 fisheries projects, Noman informs JS Page 6

STOCK MARKET

819.95 (-0.03%) Market capitalisation Tk Turnover in volume 22.37 million

Weekend Magazine

James P Grant : A Man Driven by a Dream; UN System's Moving Spirit; Bibhutibhushan and

the Prison House of

Colonialism: Reviving. Heavenly Legacy; Gift of Dilip Kumar; Viewing Video; Weekend Sports; Teens and Twenties; Rising Stars; Living

NEWS BRIEFS

Pages 9-16

Hasina shocked

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed concern at the rising trend of road accidents throughout the country and demanded immediate steps to check them. In a statement Hasina also expressed deep shock at the death of 12 people in three road accidents in Chittagong district on Wednesday and conveyed her sympathy to the injured and prayed for their early recovery. reports UNB.

M R Osmany leaves for Canada

M R Osmany left Dhaka for Ottawa vesterday to join his new office as Bangladesh High Commissioner to Canada. Bangladesh High Commissioner te India Faroog Sobhan who has been appointed the Foreign Secretary is expected to take up his new assignment early next month, reports

Editors' Council polls Mar 20

The general meeting and election of the Bangladesh Council of Editors will be held on March 20. A three-member election commission headed by M Haider Chowdhury Chairman of the National Life Insurance Co Ltd was formed to conduct the election. The other members of the commission are Anwarul Islam. Ed itor of the Daily Desh and Hasanuzzaman Khan. Managing Editor of BSS.

Villagers clash: 15 hurt in Sylhet

SYLHET Feb 9 At least 15 people were injured in a clash between two groups of villagers in Chandbhorang of Biswanath thana this afternoon. Of them four were admitted to the Sylhet M A G Osmany Medical College Hospital with critical injuries. The clash ensued over a land dispute of a mo-que.

Ram	Feb	Sahri	Iften
9	10	Deatt	S.S.A
10	10		5:54
10	11	5:14	5:55
11	12	5:14	5:55

Speaker opposes writ on ground of prematurity

Supreme Court Correspondent

Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali reply of the Speaker was in an affidavit filed before the placed before the special High Court yesterday debench of the High Court yesscribed the writ challenging terday at 3:15 pm when the the en masse resignations of hearing on the writ was about opposition MPs as 'premature' to end for the day. The copies of the Speaker's reply were Additional Attorney General also served to the parties con-

> cerned. The Speaker, in his reply, said that the petition was not maintainable because it was filed before he could examine the resignation letters and ar-

rive at a final decision. Narrating how he received the resignation letters, the Speaker in his affidavit said that on December 28 at about 9 pm. three folders containing resignation letters of the MPs

Minister also held separate

meetings with the CBA leaders

of the private sector jute and

takal Spanik Dal yesterday said

that it would not participate in

the planned barricade pro-

Employers' Association (BEA)

yesterday expressed deep con-

cade programme and urged

the government to take stern

of the Patkal Sramik Karma-

chari Sangram Parishad, told

The Daily Star that they would

go ahead with their agitation.

"We are not afraid of any threat

from the government." he

said adding we are mady to

join any dialogue with the gov-

salt in the local market at 50

the UNICEF survey the reasons

for not producing iodized salt

even after the enforcement of

law banning production of non-

iodized salt are - govern-

ment's policy, salt mill owners

reluctance, inadequate de

mand for iodized salt and

problems of salt marketing and

A semi-structured ques

tionnaire was used to record

the information for the UNI

CEF survey. Owners of the salt

factories were interviewed in

most of the cases and the

managers and relatives associ

ated with the factories were

interviewed where the owners

Another study by Bang

ladesh Small and Cottage

Industries Corporation (BSCIC)

conducted in December last

revealed that only 87 salt mills

See Page 8 Col 6

were not present.

According to the findings of

per cent profit

packaging.

ernment."

high price of salt'

By Reaz Ahmad

importing crude salt through from selling imported crude

The government's policy of asking him to prohibit TCB

Shah Alam, joint convenor

action to stop such agitation.

cern over the planned barri-

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Su-

Meanwhile, Bangladesh

textile mills yesterday.

were submitted to him. One of the folders was submitted by Leader of the Opposition and Awami League president Sheikh Hasina while two other folders were handed over to the Speaker by Jatiya Party leader Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury and Jamaat-e-Islami leader Matfur Rahman Nizami. The leaders, while submitting the folders, said that those contained resignation letters of almost all the members of Parliament of

their respective parties. Having received the folders. the Speaker announced that the letters said to be inside those folders required scrutiny and examination as per provision of Article 67 (2) of the Constitution and Rule 177 of the Rules of Procedure. The Speaker also requested the MPs to appear before him in his office for compliance with the constitutional and procedural requirements.

The affidavit further stated that the Speaker then started calling some Jamaat MPs by name but none was found. Only Salauddin Quader Chowdhury of the NDP, who was there, submitted his resignation letter in person.

After scruttiny, the Speaker said: he found that signatures. of two Awami League MPs. Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury and See Page 8 Col 5

New SEC guidelines for investors

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) yesterday announced a set of guidelines on initial public offering to the local investors to protect investors' interest in securities, reports BSS.

According to an official source, under the guidelines. the minimum lot in the initial public offering (IPO) shall be securities worth Taka 5,000.

Fifty per cent of the amount of the net IPO (IPO minus foreign placement minus quota for ICB unit/mutual funds and employees) shall be reserved for the applicants for minimum lot.

The balance 50 per cent of the amount of the net IPO shall be reserved for applicants for securities of the following ranges:

For all applicants up to Tk 50,000 - 10 percent; up to Tk 1,00,000 - 10 per cent; and

up to Tk 5,00,000 - 10 per

The rest 20 per cent of the net IPO well be reserved for financial institutions, insurance companies and financial and market intermediary companies with applications for a minimum lot of above Tk 5.00,000.

Applicants must apply for, securities worth Tk 5,000 or

multiples thereof. Quota for the ICB unit/mutual funds and employees in the IPO shall be 20 per centand five per cent respectively of the IPO available for local investors (IPO minus foreign investors). Employees shall include permanent employees of all associated companies.

Refund of over-subscription money shall be made by account payee cheque. For the purpose, the number of bank See Page 8 Col. 7

JS session may be prorogued Monday

By Staff Correspondent

The Business Advisory Committee of Parliament yesterday decided to prorogue the session on Monday following a resolution on the inaugural speech of the President, a

committee member said. The meeting chaired by Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali took the decision to prorogue as there was no business left to continue the 18th session, the source said.

Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni, Deputy Leader of the House Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury, LGRD Minister Abdus Salam Talukder, Works Minister Rafigul Islam Miah, Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar Hossain and M Majidul Hug were present at the 14-member committee meeting. Ma idul Hug represented the Prime Minister at the meeting.

Earlier, Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali had said they were planning to prolong the session till mid-March to avoid another session in April. According to the Constitutional provision Parliament should meet within 60 days of the previous session. The 18th session of the

fifth Parliament began on Jannary 23.

Time-scale for non-govt teachers

The government yesterday sanctioned time-scale for the teachers of the non-government secondary schools, colleges and madrassahas, reports

As per the time-scales, on completion of eight years' continuous service of a teacher, the existing scale of Tk 900-1530 will reach to the scale of Tk 975-1750, the scale of Tk 1200-2335 to the scale of Tk 1309 2615, the scale of Tk 1300-2615 to scale of Tk 1375-2870, the scale of Tk 1375-2870 to the scale of Tk 1475-3150, scale of Tk 1725-3725 to the scale of Tk 2300-4480, the scale of Tk 2300-4480 to the scale of Tk

2850-5155 The time-scale will be effective from July 1, 1994, an official handout said.

The government had earlier increased medical allowances of the non-government teach-

See Page 8 Col 8 Kumaratunga to. visit Bangladesh

COLOMBO, Feb 9: Sri Lankan President Chandrika Kumaratunga today announced that she was planning state visits to neighbouring India and Bangladesh followed by another to France in April, re-

in April.

ports AFP. Kumaratunga said she will travel to India towards the end of March and proceed to Bangladesh before she returns to New Delhi again in April for

a South Asian summit. She said she will also address Sri Lanka's donor countries at an annual World Bank meeting in Paris towards the

end of April. The seven-nation South Asian Association for Regional

Cooperation (SAARC) Summit will be held in New Delhi in mid-April.

US to provide 12 T-37B primary jet trainers

The United States will provide Bangladesh with a dozen T-37B primary jet trainers under an agreement signed in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

The delivery of the training aircraft to the Bangladesh Air Force will be made under the auspices of the US excess defence articles transfer programme, according to a USIS press release.

The T-37B is a twin seat trainer aircraft, a long-used proven design and has been still in use by the United States Air Force to train jet pilots. The aircraft is not designed for and cannot carry

armaments. The agreement for the transfer — signed here at the Bangladesh Air Force Headquarters - culminated more than a year-long efforts by US Embassy in Dhaka, US Department of the Air Force, US Department of Defence and US Department of State to identify

See Page 8 Col 4

deep concern over the workers' "gherao and aborodh" programme for implementation of the wage commission award in the private sector mills. "No one should be allowed

to indulge in trouble-making in the name of trade unionism. said a statement signed by BEA

It said the wage commission was set up to recommend wages of public sector mills and factories and there should be no confusion as the whether its recommendations are plicable in the private sec of The BEA feared that if the

Sources said the inter-min isterial meeting decided not to See Page 8 Col 8 See Page 8 Col 3 TCB responsible for

Take firm steps to stop strike. BEA urges govt

The Bangladesh Employers Association (BEA) yesterday urged the government to take firm measures to stop the planned strike and barricade programme of jute and textile mill workers, reports UNB.

The Association expressed

President Laila Rahman Kabir.

workers succeed in enforcing the wage commission award in jure and textile sectors then

Rao expands cabinet

Patel and Matang Singh as

these six into his three and a half years old ministry, the Rao, elevated to the cabinet rank ministers of state P A Sangma (Labour) and G Venkatswamy (Textiles), beginning the exercise to revamp the ministry and Congress I party after the drubbing in the recent assembly elections.

NEW DELHI, Feb 9: The 51 member union council of ministers was today expanded with Ajit Singh. Buta Singh and Madhav Rao Scindia sworn in as cabinet ministers and P Chidambaram, Urmila Ben

ministers of state, reports PTL Along with the induction of Prime Minister, P V Narasimha

The President, D.R. Shanker Daval Sharma, administered the oath of office and secrecy to the new entrants at a simple function at Rashtrapati Bhaban With the inductions, the strength of the ministry has gone up to 57. Besides the Prime Minister there are 17 ministers of cabinet rank. 13 ministers of state with independent charge 23 ministers of state and three deputy min-

3 new MPs

sworn in By Staff Correspondent

Memorial Hall in the city yesterday.

Three new MPs who won last month's by-elections yesterday attended the Jativa Sangsad session after taking

Deputy Leader of the House Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury introduced the new members in the House Deputy Speaker Humayun

Khan Panni chaired the sitting. The new members are: Kazi Golam Morshed(Natore-3). Principal Abdur Rashid Khan (Bakerganj-6) and Mahmudul Huq (Sherpur-3). They were elected on January 25.

Golam Morshed and Rashid Khan were BNP nominees while Mahmudul Hug is an independent Earlier. Speaker Shaikh

Razzak Ali administered the oaths to the newly-elected members of Parliament in a simple ceremony at his Parliament office. The Deputy Leader of the

House, the LGRD Minister Abdus Salam Talukder, Water Resources Minister M Majidul Hug. Home Minister Abdul Matin Chewdhury, Works See Page 8 Col 4

'Normalcy on campus must for better edn' Prime Minister Begum * pus problems and producing

Khaleda Zia yesterday emphasised that the critical problems, like session jam and campus viblence in the educational institutions should be resolved through united efforts, reports UNB. While giving emphasis on

I'rime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia gave away prizes to the best teachers, institutions and

students at the prize distribution ceremony of the National Education Week, 1995 at Osmany

increasing the number of educational institutions we should also try to improve the standard of education which is only possible in a normal academic atmosphere, she said. The Prime Minister was speaking at a prize distribution

ceremony at the Osmany

Memorial Hall in the morning on the occasion of the National Education Week that ended vesterday. As many as 25 schools, colleges and madrasas received awards as best educational

institutions. 35 teachers were awarded gold medals for their outstanding performance and 72 students for their extracurricular activities. Begum Zia sought coopera-

tion from all irrespective of their party affiliation and opinion in resolving the cam-

skilled and meritorious citizens both teachers and students should carry out their respective responsibilities in maintaining a congenial atmosphere on the campuses and supplementing the government endeavours to improve the standard of education, she added.

- PID photo

She also advised the students to maintain disciplined life and prepare themselves for leading the nation to prosper-Begum Zia said education is

the pre requisite for national development and prosperity and observed that country's development efforts were being hampered because of a vast number of illiterate people. The Prime Minister said her government has under-

taken massive programmes

with the objective to ensure education for all. She observed that enrollment in schools had increased and the drop-out rate decreased after the introduction

of compulsory primary educa-See Page 8 Col 3 EU for use of fresh water at

An anti-mosquito demonstration held in the city yesterday - Star photo

Moudud denies JP move to sue Shahabuddin

Jatiya Party leader Moudud Ahmed vesterday said his party has no connection with a reported move to file a case against former Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed reports

Mahabubur Rahman and some other JP leaders are reportedly behind the move to challenge the legality of the February 27 elections of 1991 conducted by the caretaker government of Justice Sha habuddin. He retired as Chief Justice on February 1, 1995. Moudud told reporters at

the Supreme Court premises vesterday afternoon that the JP had no decision in this regard. P presidium members Advocate Fazle Rabbi and Major General (Retd) M Shamsul Huq were present. Legally the matter is a

closed chapter," said Moudud who is now lighting a legal battle in a special High Court Division bench against a writ challenging the validity of resignation of opposition MPs. Filing a case against the former Chief Justice will now

See Page 8 Col 8

every stage of fish processing A European Umon vigilance prehensive improvement in team yesterday said Bangladesh should immediately ensure the use of fresh water at all stages of fish and shrimp

processing to attain EU standard, reports UNB. The team also insisted on hygienic transportation of exportable fish in every step. from catch to shipment. which, it said, requires urgent

attention.

The two-member team from the Union's health and sanitation unit gave their suggestions to the officials of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) vesterday at the end of a two-day mission here. The delegation from

Brussels came to Bangladesh inspect quality control standard in the country's frozenfood sector, specially in the shrimp area, as the EU has decided to strictly follow uniform regulations on import of food items. A government official said

there would be no immediate

restriction on frozen fish ex-

port to Europe, but the sector

would have to undergo a com-,

quality control. The EU regulations were

first introduced in July 1993. but the developing countries were given time till December 1994 to upgrade their processing facilities to the requisite standard.

A senior EPB official said

although the EU team had no major complaint at the overall hygiene standard in the fish sector, it insisted on strict wa ter control at different stages of processing to avoid contamination Also he said, the team

asked for immediate improvement in transportation of fish, right from the point of catch up to shipment, and maintenance of required temperature although. The EU officials reportedly told the Bangladesh authorities

export frozen fish items to European market who can ensure these improvements. At present, 61 factories, out of the country's total 115, are recommended by the Department of Fisheries to ex-

to allow only those factories to

port to Ell market. During the last two days, the EU team talked to fisheries officials on the government's legal issues and expertise regarding quality control, and visited processing plants and fish landing facilities in Chittagong. They, too, inspected fishing trawlers and vehicles for transportation of

According to official sources, the inspection team also asked for amendments to the existing legal framework regarding quality control for synchronisation with the EU standard rules. The team stressed the need

for using modern equipment in processing factories and further training of manpower in the sector. Frozen fish, shrimp in particular, is Bangladesh's major

export to Euro-market. About

40 per cent of the country's frozen foods go to Europe. Frozen fish fetched about 106 million US dollars in the first three months of the current fiscal year.

the aircraft and approve the delivery, the USIS release said.