



The capital is witnessing an increasing growth of slums or *bustees* wherever there are empty open spaces. These *bustees* lack the minimum of facilities like water, sanitation and electricity. Pictured here is a sprawling *bustee* in Maniknagar area. — Star photo

SAVE DHAKA

Saifur: ODA to dry up

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relief. Rahman brushed aside private sector proposals for further tax exemptions in the next budget, saying that exemptions in Bangladesh are already 'far to high' and the personal income tax rate is one of the lowest in the region.

Organised by the Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) at a local hotel, the 16th annual day-long meeting of the NBR Consultative Committee reviewed the tax and duty proposals for the 1995-96 budget from various chambers and trade associations.

FBCCI President Salman F Rahman earlier noted that although the country's macro-economic success is the 'talk of the region', but success in the micro sector is not forthcoming. 'The next budget should consider getting better results,' he said.

SAARC

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such regions.

'These factors underscore the imperative for faster pace, if not urgency, in strengthening regional cooperation among SAARC member states.'

SAARC officials said a key objective of the group's meeting, that includes India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, was to kick-start a stalled trade pact.

An Indian delegate said the leaders would focus on making functional a South Asian Preferential Trade Arrangement (SAPTA) they signed at their last summit in 1993 in Dhaka.

It allows the member countries to import commodities from one another with tariffs that are 10 per cent lower than those imposed on merchandise imported from non-SAARC countries.

'As far as the SAPTA is concerned all the members are now on board and we are working out the list of commodities that will be available for preferential trade among member states,' the Indian official said.

Bangladesh's difficulties with India include the issue of India's unilateral diversion of water of the Ganges river at the Farakka barrage.

6 held

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Khaleque. 21. Kawser Faruk. 22. Firoz. 20. Humayun Kabir. 21 and Ramzan Ali. 20.

Meanwhile, a 'spontaneous' hartal was observed today at Shahbazar, Kalabagan, Nishchintapur, Noyamati and Delpara areas of Pagla where yesterday's clashes took place. Shops and other business establishments remained closed and normal life was disrupted since the panic-stricken villagers preferred to stay home.

Malaria

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Dr Zakir, however, said that they had already made arrangements for new effective insecticide which can kill the vectors, but is not harmful to public health. Malaria is not fatal if detected at a primary stage, he pointed out.

Dr A Mannan, assistant director of malaria and parasite disease control (M&PDC), said not only Bangladesh is facing the problem, some 40 per cent of the world population live in risk areas.

Over one million people are dying of malaria every year world-wide, he said, adding some 75 per cent people of South East Asia Region live in risk area.

In Bangladesh, 10 districts are considered high risk areas. These are Bandarban, Rangamati, Khagrachhari, Sunamganj, Kishoreganj, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Netrakona, Mymensingh and Narayanganj, he said.

Some 1.63.600 people were affected by malaria in the country last year and 94.04 per cent of the cases were reported from the 10 districts.

Dr Mannan said the problems in facing the disease include selection of insecticide, lack of trained manpower, financial constraint, drug resistance and lack of institution linkage.

N P Maheswari, an entomologist, suggested use of curtains washed with insecticides like delta methrin and permethrin. These insecticides are not harmful to health, he said.

Dr M Kaiser Uddin, deputy director of M&PDC, said they had taken some emergency steps in the malaria-hit areas of Sylhet region.

Rajuk asked to hand over Baridhara plots

The Petition Committee of the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday ordered the Rajuk to hand over the plots in Baridhara 'J' Block to the aggrieved allottees immediately, reports UNB.

A meeting of the committee, chaired by Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali, discussed the matters relating to the allotted plots and implementation of a decision reached earlier by the Petition Committee on Rajuk's failure to transfer those to their owners even after full payment of money.

After hearing Rajuk's opinion on implementation of the decision, the committee issued the order.

The second petition to the committee was on illegal forced retirement of a Superintendent Engineer of Rural Electrification Board. The meeting was informed that the engineer was reinstated as per instruction on the issue and decision of the

Hasina

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time state affairs.

'The Prime Minister's resignation 90 days ahead of the election will not affect the Constitution,' the Awami League President, said.

She demanded immediate dissolution of parliament for a fair general election under a caretaker government.

Presided over by the Chokoria thana AL President Kamal Hossain, the meeting was also addressed by Begum Sajeda Chowdhury, Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser and Syed Nazibul Bashar Majibhandari.

Earlier, addressing two separate rallies in Kutubdia and Maheskhal, Hasina accused the ruling party of creating fertilizer and food crises to make money.

The Awami League chief demanded construction of cross dams to protect salt fields there.

She was also critical of the government for not completing the rehabilitation works in the cyclone-hit areas till now.

Trade wing

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the Export Promotion Bureau, the Board of Investment, the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA), and the foreign missions based in Bangladesh, on matters of trade and investment to facilitate rapid action.

Stronger focus on economic line will be the objective of the wing in keeping with the economic diplomacy of the government, the spokesman said.

Syed Noor Hossain, a career diplomat, has been appointed the Director General of the TIP wing, the spokesman said.

DU dean office ransacked

A group of master's degree examinees of the Dhaka University Science Faculty yesterday ransacked the faculty's dean office demanding shifting of their examinations scheduled for May 21, reports UNB.

Campus sources said the students went rampage at about 2 pm as they came to know that the authorities was determined not to shift their examinations.

Manzur murder case :Hearing on May 2

From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Apr 30: The court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Chittagong, will hear Gen Manzur murder case on May 2.

The three arrested retired army officers including Gen Abdul Latif, Col Shamsur Rahman and Major Emdad are to be produced in the court on that date since production warrants were issued against them, court sources said.

Gen Latif is now detained in Dhaka Central Jail, Col Shamsur Rahman in Tangail jail and Major Emdad in Comilla jail respectively.

BNP confce

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tensify its activities for facing the national elections.

A total of 72 union, thana district and central level leaders addressed the day-long meet which was inaugurated by the Prime Minister and the BNP Chairperson, Begum Khaleda Zia.

The meeting criticised the 'destructive politics of the Opposition parties' but urged them to play a positive and constructive role for the greater interest of the nation and the country.

It expressed deep concern over the construction of dams by neighbouring India as well as its unilateral withdrawal of water from the Ganges at Farakka which is causing immense socio-economic sufferings to the people in lower riparian Bangladesh.

The conference, by another resolution, condemned racism, colonialism and riots in different countries of the world, particularly oppression on Muslims in Bosnia and Chechnya.

In another resolution, the conference expressed its firm determination to maintain the victory of nationalistic democratic politics through strengthening organisational activities at the grassroots level.

The conference lauded the government step forming the judicial inquiry committee to probe the recent fertilizer scandal and demanded stern action against those responsible for it.

Azad narrates Natore incident to newsmen

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Awami League leader Abdus Samad Azad yesterday said there is no alternative to a neutral caretaker government to conduct next general elections, reports UNB.

'This government does not understand the language of logic... They want to drive the country towards chaos,' he told a press briefing at the Dharmadip office of the Awami League in the afternoon.

The briefing was organised to apprise newsmen of the recent incidents at Lalpur in Natore district which Azad visited Saturday to see how the ruling party workers had allegedly tortured people and damaged their property there.

Replying to a question, Azad said the government could have created a pre-dialogue atmosphere by appointing the new Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) in consultation with the Opposition. But they once again ignored the Opposition suggestion.

The Midnight File

Bullet-proof cars for election candidates in Kashmir

JAMMU, Apr 30: The Indian government has sent 250 bullet-proof cars to the troubled Jammu and Kashmir state to protect election candidates, officials said today. Jammu and Kashmir has been under direct federal rule since a Muslim rebellion broke out against New Delhi in 1990, reports Reuter.

Lankan ruling coalition scraps May Day march

COLOMBO, Apr 30: Sri Lanka's governing People's Alliance (PA) today decided to scrap its international workers' day demonstrations in view of the deteriorating security situation, official sources here said. President Chandrika Kumaratunga's PA will not hold its street march tomorrow but will stage a public meeting to mark the May Day, officials said adding that the decision was taken following fears of Tamil rebel attacks, reports AFP.

New CJ to take oath

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Justice, acted as the President of Bangladesh. During his long period in his high office he had endeared himself to the members of the Bar by his amiable disposition.

Justice Rahman was elevated as a judge of the High Court Division on May 8, 1976 and to the Appellate Division on December 26, 1985. He acted as the chief justice from December 6 1990 to October 1991. He assumed the office of Chief Justice on February 1 this year upon the retirement of Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed.

Khaleda

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the region, the Prime Minister said her government was continuing discussion with the neighbouring country for solving the water issue. 'It is not raining due to the adverse effect of Farakka,' she said about the spell of drought.

Addressing the meeting, local leaders put forward various demands, including construction of roads, nationalisation of schools and colleges and modernisation of telecommunications.

The Prime Minister assured the people of looking into their problems and announced that a fire station would be set up at Mirpur, rural electrification network be expanded, telecom system modernised, thana health complex upgraded from 31 to 50-bed one, additional financial allocation given for educational and religious institutions and more roads be constructed.

May Day

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while demonstrating for an eight-hour working day that violent confrontation between the protesters and the authorities later came to symbolise labours struggle for recognition of designated working hours across the globe. Since then, the day is observed internationally.

On this occasion, President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia have issued separate messages paying respect to those workers who sacrificed their lives in Chicago, 109 years ago. They also urged the working community to be imbued with the spirit of this international day. Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina issued a similar statement.

Biswas

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October 1991. He, however, visited Saudi Arabia as a state guest to perform Hajj in 1993.

President Biswas will attend the Victory in Europe (VE) ceremonies on May 6 and 7.

The President will also attend a luncheon to be hosted by the Queen for the heads of state and government participating in the celebration. It is learnt that 50 countries have been invited to participate.

During his stay in London, the President will take the opportunity of exchanging views with the leaders attending the celebrations.

President Biswas will also be attending several other programmes during his visit that will end on May 14.

He is expected to meet the Bangladeshi community in London and Birmingham.

CFC

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strengthening of the Election Commission, reforms in the electoral laws and rules, control of the election expenses and barring the bank defaulters from contesting polls.

During the meeting, Justice Sadeque also discussed with the politicians the fresh delimitation of parliament constituencies, voters' registration and preparation of their identity cards and a code of conduct for the participating parties. He assured the delegates of considering their suggestions with due importance.

The LDF team comprised Rashed Khan Menon, Hasanul Haq Inu, Nirmal Sen, Khalequzzaman, Mujahidul Islam Selim, A F M Mahbul Haq and Noyeem Jahangir while Siddiqueur Rahman represented the People's Party. The CEC was assisted by Election Commissioner Justice Azad Jallil, the EC secretary A Z M Shamsul Alam and additional secretary S M Zakaria.

Hartals losing public support

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The respondents were selected from 48 areas of the capital and the key findings appeared convincing in terms of a broad representation of urban society.

Political parties were increasingly becoming alienated from the people, the survey pointed out, because of their failure to uphold popular socio-economic demands.

The survey also revealed the people's belief that the party in power today would call hartals when they sit in the opposition.

Forty-one per cent of the respondents identified hartals as hindering economic emancipation. 32 per cent dubbed the method destructive while three per cent said it affected the earnings of the working class and the poor.

Only four per cent wanted to see hartals as a built-in part of political campaigns.

When asked why people observed hartals when they did not support it, 56 per cent identified intimidation and fear of violence as the main reasons.

As alternatives to hartal, the respondents came up with suggestions like more dialogue between the government and the opposition, and strengthening of the parliamentary system.

Besides, they recommended that referenda on nationally important issues, increased public awareness and token protests could be other effective options.

Discussing the key findings of the survey report yesterday, speakers at a seminar at the Dhaka University suggested creating a 'citizen's space' to gain adequate room between the feuding political forces.

They observed that the effectiveness of hartals — the last resort in peaceful political struggle — have eroded because of indiscriminate use.

The International Relations Student Seminar Forum organised the seminar, chaired by Mahfuz Anam, Editor of The Daily Star.

'It seems, we have begun to enjoy hartals lately, staying home and passing off the day, while the real objectives of a hartal, that is, registering protest, goes in vain,' commented Dr Ahmed Kamal, a history teacher of the Dhaka University.

Speaking on whether the political parties were aware of the people's growing dislike of hartals, Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman said such surveys helped contain potentially violent boiling situations.

Rahman, a research fellow of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), observed that passive warnings of the silent majority have surely reached the leaders, who have been forced to make changes in the styles of their hartals.

Abdur Rauf Khan of the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) said that people have begun to live with

hartals.

Many industries, schools, NGOs and other institutions were now working, even on the week-ends, to cover the losses caused by hartals on the weekdays, he pointed out.

Dr Intiaz Ahmed, a teacher of DU's International Relations Department, recommended that the universities must adopt hour-centric activities so that academic schedules continue on time, off-setting the impact of hartals.

A BISS research fellow, Zakir Ahmed, believed that access to state-owned electronic media could have had a cathartic effect on the Opposition, decreasing the prospects of hartals.

Many speakers at the seminar believed that the ruling party had a share in the Opposition-called hartals by long ignoring the rightful demands of the Opposition.

DU Senate polls held at 12 centres

By Staff Correspondent
The election of the 25 representatives of registered graduates to the Dhaka University Senate was held yesterday at 12 centres outside Dhaka.

Elections will also be held at the Teacher-Student Centre of the Dhaka University on Wednesday and results will be announced on May 6.

Do You Know?
(Health Message)

Common chronic causes of bleeding per rectum (blood in stool) in children is due to rectal or colonic polyp & in adult due to piles or tumour. Be sure about the cause by doing COLONOSCOPY.

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Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangstha

Head Office
141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area
BIWTA Bhaban (5th & 6th Floor), Dhaka
Law Department

Refixation of Date of opening of Tender for sale of mortgaged assets and properties of M/s HOWLADER PVC PIPE INDUSTRIES LIMITED, DHAMRAI, DHAKA.

This is for information of all concerned that the tender notice for sale of mortgaged assets and properties of the above mentioned company were published in the 'Dainik Itifac' and in the 'Daily Star' on 12-04-1995 and 13-04-1995 respectively fixing the date for submission and opening of tender on the 3rd May, 1995 (Wednesday). Due to an unavailable circumstances the date is now refixed on the 23rd May, 1995 (Tuesday).

02. The time of submission and opening of tender and other terms and conditions of the sale notice will, however, remain unchanged.

Assistant General Manager
Law Department
Phone : 252006, 252016-7

ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি
(পানি ব্যবহারে মিতব্যয়ী হোন ।। বাড়িতে নির্দিষ্ট মাপের জলাধার নির্মাণ করুন।)

- ঢাকা ওয়াসার খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের প্রতিটি হিসাবের হালনাগাদ বিলে বকেয়ার অংক উল্লেখপূর্বক পরিশোধের তাগিদপত্র ও পৃথক নোটিশ প্রদানসহ বকেয়া পরিশোধের নির্মিত জাতীয় পত্র-পত্রিকা, বালাদেশ টেলিভিশন এবং রেডিও বাংলাদেশের মাধ্যমে অনুরোধ জানানো সত্ত্বেও বকেয়া পরিশোধে ব্যর্থ গ্রাহকদের সংযোগ তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে বিচ্ছিন্নকরণের জন্য বিশেষ অভিযানের কার্যক্রম জোরদার করা হয়েছে।
- বিশেষ অভিযানকালে ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটের হাট্টী ও ভ্রাম্যমান আদালতের মাধ্যমে প্রচলিত আইনের আওতায় বকেয়া আদায় এবং অন্যান্য অবৈধ কার্যকলাপের বিরুদ্ধে শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হচ্ছে।
- উল্লেখ্য যে, ৩১শে মে, ৯৫ইং পর্যন্ত হালনাগাদ বকেয়া পরিশোধকারীকে সারচার্জ ব্যতীত বকেয়া পরিশোধের সুবিধা দেয়া হচ্ছে।
- বকেয়া আদায়ের কারণে সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন এবং শিডিয়ার এ্যাটের অধীনে মামলার বিড়ঘনা এড়ানোর নিমিত্তে আজই বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ পানি ও পরঃ অতিক্রম পরিশোধের জন্য সম্মিলিত গ্রাহকস্বক্কে সর্বশেষ অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে।
- ইতিমধ্যে মার্চ-এপ্রিল ৯৫ইং মাসের বিলও জারি করা হচ্ছে। সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন এড়ানোর জন্য বিল পরিশোধের নিমিত্ত প্রয়োজনে ঢাকা ওয়াসার সংশ্লিষ্ট রাজস্ব আঞ্চলিক অফিস বা প্রধান রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তা (ফোন : ৩২৫২৪০) বা বাণিজ্যিক ব্যবস্থাপক (ফোন : ৩২৯২৪৫) অথবা সদস্য (অর্থ) (ফোন : ৮১৩৭৯৯)-এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।

ওয়াসা আপনাদের সেবায় নিয়োজিত
ঢাকা ওয়াসা

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