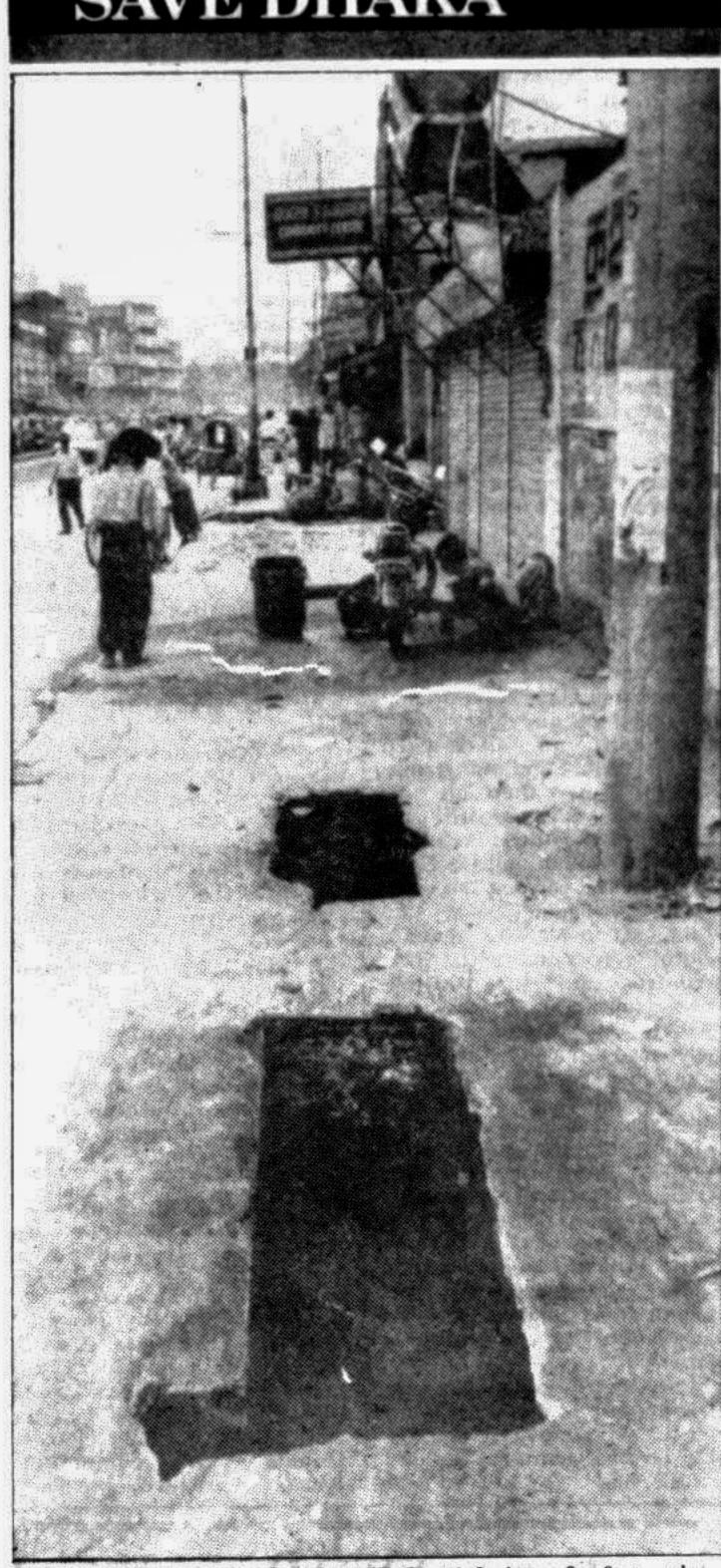
SAVE DHAKA



A THREAT TO PEDESTRIANS: Partial view of a footpath along a major city street in Maghbazar area. -Star photo

Watches seized

From Page 1

jad Hossain were put under

suspension by the Customs

authority for their alleged con-

dian sarees and cloth worth

about Taka 20 lakh were

seized from a truck by

Fatikehhari police this morn-

ing at Heyako Bazar point. Po-

lice also arrested five persons.

Khaleda

From Page

Barrister Rafigul Islam Miah.

Education Minister Barrister

Jamiruddin Sircar, Forest and

Environment Minister Akbar

Hossain, former minister

Maidul Islam and Matiur Rah-

poultry and cattle among the

building of Shaheed Abul

Kashem College, constructed

meeting venue, Begum Zia

halted at a number of places

and talked to the villagers line

up on both sides of the road.

dropped in the house of a

farmer. Haider Ali Mandal, at

village Nawdababash. The

farmer, however, was not pre-

UN forces

From Page 1

Herzegovina, including some

to broaden the mandate of the

UN peacekeeping forces. The

UN mandate should not be in-

terpreted in a narrow sense

since a limited interpretation

would be unproductive to the

"We must now seriously

UN Forces stationed there.

look into the reality of the UN

forces playing a role not only

as peacekeepers but also as

peacemakers in a bid to re-

not believe that peacekeeping

and use of force is incompati-

ble since one side, the Serbs,

have arms while the Bosnians

support for a rapid deployment

force for tackling any eventual-

ities. Besides, it was willing to

commit more troops in

Bosnian under the UNPROFOR,

UN forces now stationed in

Bosnia should be redeployed so

that they are less vulnerable.

the spokesman said, adding

Bangladesh troops serving

there are so far reported to be

unaffected by the recent ac-

the spokesman said, "Bangla-

desh is willing to support the

involvement of multilateral

forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Responding to a question,

tivities of the Serbs.

should it be necessary."

the Foreign Ministry said.

Dhaka would also extend

face an arms embargo.

Explaining he said, "We do

the spokesman said.

solve the conflict.

"We believe there is scope

1300 from Bangladesh.

sent at that time.

at a cost of Tk 65 lakh.

Later Begum Zia distributed

She also inaugurated the

While returning from the

The Prime Minister also

Meanwhile, smuggled In-

nivance with importers.

4.28 cr enrolled as electorate

Data on 4,28,40,448 eligible electorates for registration and preparation of voters list have been collected from across the country except four districts till May 31, says the Election Commission (EC).

Talking to BSS, an EC source said last night that the monitoring cell of the commission had not yet received data from Dhaka, Munshigani, Jamalpur and Faridpur dis-

On the basis of population growth rate of 2.17 per cent as per 1991 population census. the possible population would be five crore seventy lakh at or above the age of 18 in January

It was estimated that data statements of more than 75 per cent of eligible voters have been collected till May 31.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission urged the eligible voters to register their names with the data collectors and identifiers who are visiting house to house for registration and preparation of voters' list.

Navy, Air chiefs From Page 1

Smart contingents of the Bangladesh Navy and the Bangladesh Air Force presented arms while BN and BAF buglers were in tune. Later, Rear Admiral Islam

and Air Vice-Marshal Ahmed paid courtesy calls on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at the Prime Minister's office.

They were ceremonially adorned with the badges of rank of Rear Admiral and Air Vice-Marshal on the occasion.

IDA credit From Page 1

activities. community-based nutrition and development of an inter-sectoral nutrition programme.

A World Bank statement on the project said: "This particular nutrition programme will be the first time a major effort has been initiated in Bangladesh to tackle the problems of malnutrition and will break down the notion that until poverty is eradicated nothing can be done about malnu-

The programme, it added, would be sustainable because primary focus would be on changing peoples' behaviours rather than simply handing out

The statement pointed out that an important facet to the project would be the participation of non-governmental organisations, who would extend 'major' support to the government in implementing

the programme. "Efforts to improve the nutritional status of the population, enhances not only productivity but learning capabilities and health status and is vital to be overall economic and social development of Bangladesh," it noted.

Environment Day today

The World Environment Day will be observed today in the country as elsewhere across the world, reports UNB.

"We the Peoples: United for the Global Environment" is the theme for this year, chosen by the United Nations Environment Programme.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia have given separate messages on the eve of the day.

Different organisations have drawn up programmes to observe the day. The programmes include discussion. seminar, procession and chil dren's rally.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will attend a function organised by the Environment Directorate at 5:30 pm today at the Osmani

Memorial Hall in the city. The directorate will also bring out a juvenile rally from the Shishu Park which will march towards the Shishu Academy in the morning.

Bangladesh National UNESCO Club Association has arranged a seminar on "Environment and Education" at Banbaise Bhaban near Plassey Market at 4 pm.

Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar will attend the seminar as the chief guest while Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed will be the special

In observance of the day, the United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) will hold a symposium today at the Scout Bhaban at 5:30.

UNAB President Prof M Innas Ali will preside over the function while eminent scientist Abdullah Al Muti Sarfuddin will be the key speaker.

Bangladesh 2000, a voluntary organisation, will hold a seminar on afforestation at the Asiatic Society auditorium at 12:30 pm.

EC refutes

From Page 1

enumerators to inform the assistant registration officers (AROs) of the number of voters registered till June 6.

The AROs have been asked to inform the registration officers (ROs) of the voters' number on June 7 and the ROs are to send the information to the EC immediately, sources concerned said.

The instructions were issued so that the EC could do an instant assessment of the number of registered voters since there were allegations that many voters would be excluded from the registration process, the sources pointed

The voter registration programme, which began on May 25. would continue till May 7 with the enumerators making house-to-house visits.

The EC yesterday again advised those who were yet to be registered to collect forms from the enumerators and fill up those immediately. One would have to be a voter in the area where one intends to cast

The EC also asked the voters to contact the AROs, if necessary. One ARO is working for a union in rural areas and a ward in urban areas.

Meanwhile, a delegation of the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) led by ASM Abdur Rab. met Chief Election Commissioner Justice AKM Sadeque yesterday and discussed different issues relating to the registration programme.

Degree results

From Page 1 successfully, including 234 in

second class and 1096 third class. The pass percentage is 56.07.

In B Sc (pass) Home Economics examinations, 147 out of 150 came out successful, including 95 in first class, 51 second class and on third class. The percentage of pass

Two hundred eighty-five out of 419 examinees of BA and BSS subsidiary examinations came out successful. A total 1182 students appeared in the B Sc subsidiary examinations. Of them, 843 passed successfully while in the B Com subsidiary 386 out of 705 candidates became successful.

Hasina

From Page 1

restate her demands for reconstitution of the Election Commission and holding the next parliamentary elections under a non-party, caretaker administration to maintain neutrality in the polls, sources said, adding that she might also announce fresh agitation programmes to realise the

Regarding the new programmes, they said, if not today the programmes might be declared at the party's June 7 public rally in the city. But in any case, they added, the fresh agitation would not affect public life and would be enforced during the coming budget session of Parliament, scheduled to begin June 15.

demands.

Fertiliser crisis: Probe report July 10 likely

By Staff Correspondent

The Judicial Enquiry Commission to probe into the recent fertiliser crisis has examined a cross section of people and hopes to submit its report by July 10.

"The enquiry is taking so long because fertiliser crisis gripped the whole country and our investigation covers a vast area. But we shall do our best to meet the deadline of July 10," a commission source said.

The one-member commission headed by Justice BI Chowdhury was formed on April 11 last

Initially the commission was granted a month's time for submitting its report. But, according to the source, twenty days had gone by before it could start work. The government then set the current deadline of July 10.

The commission has so far made one field trip to Kishoregani and an official of the commission said that further trips would follow soon.

It has examined a cross section of people including the former chairman of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC), farmers, traders, government officials and members of the Bangladesh Fertiliser Association (BFA). the official said.

Lower caste

Hindu woman

new CM of UP

NEW DELHI June 4: An

outspoken woman today began

the first day as Chief Minister

of India's most populous state

after a three-day political

drama which led to the sack-

ing of the previous govern-

Mayawati, 38, was sworn in

as Chief Minister of Uttar

Pradesh late Saturday, three

days after her Bahujan Samaj

Party (BSP) pulled out of a

coalition which had ruled the

was the first woman member

of the Hindu lower castes to

assume the reins of power in

Uttar Pradesh, a state of some

140 million people bordering

Uttar Pradesh capital Lucknow

soon after Governor Motila

Vora sacked Chief Minister

Mulayam Singh Yadav following

his refusal to quit after losing

majority support in the legisla-

the BSP (majority society

party) were partners in the

Uttar Pradesh government

The BSP sparked the political

crisis by withdrawing from the

Literacy rate

increases by 10pc

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda

Zia said the literacy rate in the

countrey had increased about

10 per cent during the last

priority over education for

human development, reports

government is to develop the

economic condition of the

poor people and turn them

into human resource," she told

a huge mass education rally

Begum Zia, however, ob-

served it is yet a long way to go

to build a fully literate nation

as two-thirds of the total popu-

clarion call for all — the edu-

cated and the affluent in par-

ticular - to come forward for

the people of the country

within a short period to meet

the challenge of educating the

the Lalmonirhat Mass Educa-

tion Association at the Collec-

torate ground on the occasion

of the inauguration of the last

phase of Lamonirhat District

The rally was organised by

"It's a must to educated all

The Prime Minister made a

lation are still illiterate.

eradicating illiteracy.

vast multitude."

here today.

"The prime objective of the

LALMONIRHAT. June 4:

coalition on Thursday.

Yadav's Socialist Party and

Mayawati took office in the

The former school teacher

state since November 1993.

ment, reports AFP.

Nepal.

Maudud dismisses speculation about joining BNP

Another source in the

commission office at the old

High Court building said that

former minister for industries

Zahiruddin Khan would be ex-

amined by the commission in

commission will be kept a top

secret and it will be handed

over to the government," the

would be made public, he said

it is a matter of government

ple are increasingly becoming

skeptic about commission re-

ports since, in the past, many

such reports were suppressed

tion of the press that higher

officials not cooperating with

the commission, the source

noted that under Section 4 of

the Commissions of Enquiry

Act 1956, the commission can

take severe punitive action

against anyone disobeying its

sion will carry out its task at

the Tangail circuit house on

June 6 and 7. It has appealed

to people of the area to submit

their statements in writing or

Meanwhile, the commis-

Regarding reports in a sec

by successive governments."

source said.

decision

verbally.

"As usual, the report of the

Asked whether the report

He, however, added, "Peo-

the final phase of the enquiry.

Jativa Party leader Maudud Ahmed, Bar-at-Law, whose new book stirred controversy for its dig at the JP rule, dismissed speculation about his joining the BNP.

"It is out of question." he told UNB vesterday. "It should not arouse any kind of speculation in anybody's mind. I will be working of the party as I was doing before.

In the book — Democracy and Challenge of Development Maudud discussed some of the weaknesses of the Ershad regime under which he had served as Prime Minister and Vice President

When contacted for his comment, acting Chairman of the Jatiya Party Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury said "Let me first read the book, and then will give my reaction to it."

When Maudud's attention was drawn to an apparent adverse reaction in his own party for making certain comments against former President Ershad in the book, he said, " have written the book as an individual, not as a Jatiya Party leader."

"If one reads the whole book, why one should feel upset," he said. "I have written the book for the posterity."

Maudud said in the book he highlighted the achievements of the Ershad government. have rated him (Ershad) as the best administrator this country ever had He is a builder and reformer, best in the subconfour years due to government's tinent. It will improve the credibility of Ershad as a modern reformer."

Jute production

From Page 1 to 929,5000 tons in the current year from 782,300 tons in 1993-94. Total availability of jute in the country in 1994-95 is expected to be about 6.145 thousand bales as against 5.712 thousand bales last year.

Output in India and Thailand also increased, while in China and Nepal stagnated.

Quoting government sources, the IJO review report said production in Bangladesh during the coming year (1995-96) would remain at the current year's level.

Increased production also affected the internal prices in most producing countries.

In Bangladesh, the average internal price of raw jute during the first eight months of the current fiscal year came down to Tk 702.7 per quintal against Tk 816.6 during the same period of last year.

Mass Education Programme. Tk 1000 cr to be spent

From Page 1 tors," he said.

Saifur lamented that the government even had to pay for the salary of the employees of jute and textile sectors from the national budget. The government is consid-

ering a number of multifaceted poverty alleviation programmes in the next budget. Apart from poverty alleviation, more allocation would be given to the education, energy, rural development and other social sectors.

Saifur said three lakh metric tons of foodgrains would be required for the ongoing Food for Education Programme when all the backward unions would be brought under the programme. The government would also

have to continue and expand

the girls' stipend programme

during the next year.

Saifur expressed his confidence that for its achievements the government would be able to muster people's support in next election.

"We have to continue and accelerate the ongoing reform programmes to draw an increased bilateral and multilateral foreign aid," said Saifur.

Agriculture Minister Majidul-Haq, Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman, Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Communications Minister Oli Ahmed, Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf. Energy Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, State Minister for Planning Dr A Moyeen Khan and State Minister for Industries Lutfar Rahman took part in discussion.

The ministers pleaded more allocation for agriculture, energy, railway, river dredging and water resources sectors.

NGO rules: HC issues showcause on govt

By Staff Correspondent

The High Court yesterday issued a showcause notice on the government as to why the law regulating NGOs, which was amended to include the church, should not be held unconstitutional, discriminatory and violative of the fundamental right to freedom of reli-

The rule was issued by a division bench comprising Justice Islmailuddin Sarkar and Justice Abu Saveed, on a writ petition filed by Joseph Costa, a member of the Christian Church and president of the Savar branch of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), says a press release.

The respondents named in the petition are the Secretary Ministry of Law: the Secretary Ministry of Religious Affairs, and the Director General of the NGO Affairs Bureau.

Counsel for the petitioner Dr Kamal Hossain argued that Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Ordinance 1978 is discriminatory and in violation of the guarantee of equality contained in Article 28 of the Constitution, sine it singles out the church among all religious institutions for regulation.

He further argued that cer tain provisions of the Ordinance were in violation of the fundamental right to freedom of religion.

The Ordinance provides for the regulation of all foreign donations received by persons or organisations in Bangladesh for voluntary activities.

It requires all such persons or organisations to register with the appropriate government authorities, obtain governmental approval for carrying out voluntary activities and for receiving foreign donations. The Ordinance was

amended in 1982 to bring within its ambit"the church and other missionary activities

HC issues rule

From Page 1

hury. Additional Sessions Judge. Dhaka. in Sessions Case No 137 of 1994

The Sessions Judge's action prejudiced a fair trial also was prejudicing defence plea. Babu's wife said in her prayer. Amirul Islam, Bar-at-Law

yesterday moved the application on behalf of the petitioner Awami League MP Akhta ruzzaman Babu is one of the accused of the murder o

Humayun Zahir, a leading busi nessman. Babu has been in hiding after jumping bail, The Additional Sessions

Judge, Dhaka indicted Akhtaruzzaman Babu and the other accused. The case is now pending before the same court

The Midnight Eile

Close associate of 'Carlos the Jackal' extradited to Germany

SANAA, Yemen, June 4: A close associate of the international terrorist "Carlos the Jackal' was extradited Sunday to Germany to face murder and terrorism charges, security sources said. Johannes Weinrich, Germany's most-wanted fugitive, was flown out of the capital, Sanaa, escorted by German justice officials and intelligence agents, the sources said. speaking on condition of anonymity, reports AP.

Khaleda, Hasina kept hostage by black money: Dr Kamal publication of that report.

Mafia is controlling the country's politics and both the Prime Minister and the leader of the Opposition are kept hostage by black money, said Gano Forum leader Dr.) Kamal Hossain in the city yesterday. reports UNB.

He was addressing a semi nar on Institutional shape of Democracy in Bangladesh, organised by the Jatiyatabadi Sangskritik Jote at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday evening. Dr. Kamal said arms and

black money were the real enemy of democracy. These two would not only ruin democracy but also society, he added. We all are drawing benefit of black money", he told the

seminar. The political leadership should take a decision to free themselves from mafias. otherwise it would be useless to talk about democracy, he The Gano Forum chief said

there was no freedom of press in the country and the newspaper industry was also been made captive of black money.

Referring to a report of commission, appointed by Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed's government, which identified 1200 persons for holding black money. He demanded

Import orders From Page 1

dollars and 2.70 lakh tonnes of BP Sheet worth 93.93 million dollars were also opened with it during the same period.

Import payments bill for cereals was 29.54 million dollars in fiscal 1993-94 and 52.91 million dollars in 1992-93, the Bank estimate said.

Agri loans

From Page 1 desh Krishi Bank provided Tk

598.55 crores, the Rajshahi Krishi Bank Tk 143.79 crore and different commercial banks 345.26 crores. The Bangladesh Palli Unnayan Board and Bangladesh Samabaya Bank disbursed Tk 12.03 and Tk 1.16 crores respectively.

Of the total credits Tk 884.71 crores were shortterm loans and Tk 216.08 crores long terms. In the previous fiscal — 1992-93 — these figures stood at 710.90 crores and 85.18 crores respectively.

Dr Kamal said terrorism

and democracy can not go side by side. He criticised the political leaderships which patronised armed cadres in their Referring to joining of JP

MPs in the BNP, Dr. Kamal criticised the ruling party for taking those 'autocrats' in their

He called upon the people to boycott those parties and leaders who nurtured armed terrorists and kept relationship with the black money

Dr Kamal asserted people are united on the issue, but problem is with the upper class of our society. He called upon the people to socially boycott those parties and indi

Rezaul Karim Talukder presented a paper in the seminar. Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Emajuddin Ahmed. Chief Editor of the The Financial Express Reazuddin Ahmed. Sohel Amitabh and Rafigul Islam took part in the discussion. Chakma King Barrister Debashish Roy presided

Prof Emajuddin Ahmed said only a socio-economic revolution can eliminate the curse of black money and terrorism from the society.

UNDP

From Page 1 Gradual degradation of land,

erosion of top soil, creeping salinity, rapid extraction of ground water, declining soil fertility, waterlogging, increasing sediment load on riverbeds and destruction of forestry resources are all combining to devastate the landscape of Bangladesh.

Proper management of resources and maintenance of ecological balance are seen as crucial to ensuring sustainable development of the country. said the report.

The government needs to provide and enabling setting for tackling the country's pressing environmental problems by providing necessary policy and legislative framework, by moving forward on policy implementation and by enforcing environmental laws, the UNDP suggested.

Like the tree that cleanses the air. absorbs heat of the atmosphere, protects soil from erosion, gives perches to birds and bees, maintains balance of the ecosystem, offers succour and shade to the humankind Bank is also your Shade and Shelter Sonali Bank, like a huge banyan tree, covers you in sun and shade, in all your honest endeavours with business, industry and agriculture. Sonali Bank

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