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BUDGET '95-96
 Business leaders speak out
 Today: Anwar Hossain,
 Senior Vice-Chairman of
 Bangladesh Yarn Merchants
 Association.
 See details on page 6

ANNOUNCEMENT
 The Daily Star has launched
 the "Save Dhaka" campaign to
 raise public awareness about
 the problems faced by our
 favourite city.
 With a view to finding
 solutions to the existing
 problems The Daily Star is
 organising, in collaboration
 with the Post Graduate Centre,
 BUET.
**A Roundtable Conference
 on Save Dhaka**
 on June 8, 1995 between
 10 am and 1 pm at the
 BUET (Council Bhavan).
 All architects, town
 planners, engineers, social
 scientists, and citizens
 interested in working for the
 betterment of Dhaka city are
 invited to join the
 Roundtable as Observers.

Hasina for revised voter registration form

By Staff Correspondent
 Awami League President Sheikh Hasina has demanded fresh registration of voters through simplified forms with a view to preparing a flawless voter list before the next general elections.
 Addressing a crowded press conference at her party's Dhanmondi office in the city yesterday morning, Hasina termed the voter registration form currently being used as 'complicated, faulty, unrealistic and time-consuming'. She went on to produce an alternative version of the registration form which, she said, was much simpler and realistic.
 However, the AL chief said she had no objection to continuing the Election Commission's ongoing move to prepare a new electoral roll which could be used as a database for issuing identity cards.
 "But the database (for issuing ID cards) is a lengthy process and experts say it will take two to three years to complete. Since the general elections are round the corner, we demand immediate preparation of a fresh error-free voter list using the forms used earlier, along with the proposed amendments made by us," she told reporters.
 Responding to a question, Hasina asserted that it would be possible to list all eligible voters before the next elections if her suggestions were implemented. But if the government fails to accommodate the AL demand to amend the voter registration form, then the party would go for agitation to realise the demand, she added in response to another question.
 At the news conference, the AL chief also dealt with other political issues including repeating her charges of corruption against the government, the continuing political stalemate and the issue of caretaker government to conduct the next elections.
 On the lingering political standoff, she commented, "The only way out of the crisis is to dissolve Parliament and arrange fresh elections under a non-party caretaker administration."
 Hasina also blamed the government for wasting public funds by undertaking the

Maudud must've dreamt it up, says Hasina

By Staff Correspondent
 Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina yesterday denied ever having accompanied former president H M Ershad on a secret long drive.
 Responding to reporters' questions regarding a chapter in a recently published book by Jatiya Party leader Maudud Ahmed, Hasina asked, "Did he (Maudud) drive that car or did he get the story in his dreams?"
 During her press conference yesterday morning at the AL's Dhanmondi office in the city, Hasina dismissed the reference to her close contacts with the deposed ruler, which appears in a chapter of the book "Democracy and the Challenge of Development: A Study of Politics and Military Interventions" by Ershad's former vice-president Maudud Ahmed, published last week.
 See Page 12 Col 7

Joint regional steps needed to protect environment: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday urged the country's hardworking citizens to reinvigorate the environment-conservation movement with diligence, sincerity and dedication, reports BSS.
 "Let us all ensure a safe and secure future for ourselves, our families and our nation," she said while addressing the national function marking the World Environment Day at the Osmani Memorial auditorium in Dhaka yesterday afternoon. The function was organised by the Ministry of Environment and Forest.
 Referring to the theme of this year's World Environment Day "The Peoples: United for the Global Environment," the Prime Minister said, this slogan will motivate the inhabitants of our planet to face the environmental problems jointly as members of the same family.
 Begum Zia said due to withdrawal of water from the international rivers flowing through Bangladesh, our agricultural and industrial production are being hampered.
 "The rivers and canals, she said, are drying up, navigation is becoming difficult and desertification has started due to drought and rise in temperature.
 To solve these problems, the Prime Minister said, the countries of the region should undertake planned, coordinated and effective programmes jointly.
 Begum Zia regretted that we human beings were mainly responsible for environmental degradation worldwide. She said, environmental pollution is now a threat for the entire mankind.
 She said the industrialisation of the developed countries and their wasteful luxurious living system are main causes for this serious environmental threat.
 Begum Zia said depletion of the Ozone layer, Greenhouse Effect, climatic changes, desertification, water and air pollution and erosion of soil are endangering the very future of our planet.
 The Prime Minister said the developed world is mainly responsible for the environmental catastrophe and since the beginning of the industrial revolution, they have been damaging the environment indiscriminately.
 Begum Zia said the industrialised countries are constantly emitting harmful gases and chemicals into the atmosphere, rivers and seas.
 As a consequence of their See Page 12 Col 8

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Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina addressing a press conference at the party's Dhanmondi office yesterday. Party general secretary Zillur Rahman (C) and presidium member Abdus Samad Azad are seen on her right. — Star photo

AL lodges complaint with EC

Alleged doles
AL lodges complaint with EC
 The Awami League yesterday lodged a complaint with the Election Commission (EC) against what it said, doles from the Prime Minister's discretionary fund to the ruling party MPs and leaders, reports UNB.
 A press release signed by Chief Election Commissioner Justice AKM Sadeque and Election Commissioner Justice Mohammad Abdul Jalil said the EC has set June 15 for hearing the petition. The hearing will begin at 11 am.
 Awami League leader Suranjit Sengupta submitted the petition, represented by KS Nabi and Rahmat Ali, the EC release said.
 In the complaint, the petitioners said they had reliable information that in the guise of discretionary fund the Prime Minister was distributing to each MP of the ruling BNP an See Page 12 Col 8



A rally in the city yesterday marking the World Environment Day. — Star photo

Ground water reserve depleting fast Surface water sources should be developed without delay

By Sharier Khan
 The Dhaka WASA should develop surface water sources immediately because the ground water reserve, until now the main source of water supply in the capital, is depleting fast and can no longer meet the rapidly growing demand, according to a regional report.
 It strongly recommended immediate implementation of the proposed Sayedabad surface water treatment project, utilising the waters of river Shitalakhya, but cautioned against pollution caused by industrial wastes in the river.
 The report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), released recently, was based on a workshop held earlier participated by local consultants of eight big cities including Bangkok, Beijing, Delhi, Jakarta, Karachi, Manila and Seoul, to develop strategies and actions for managing water resources in a sustainable manner.
 A local firm, Engineering and Planning Consultants Ltd, presenting its paper at the regional workshop on "Managing Water Resources to Meet Megacity Needs" stressed the importance of developing management of water resources immediately as "there may be a serious problem particularly due to over-extraction and increasing pollution."
 WASA records indicate that the ground water level in the city has declined at the rate of one metre per year since 1970 and in some places it has gone down to 28 metre below ground level.
 "Consequently in recently drilled deep tubewells, the pump house pipe is needed to be lowered down to 55-60m. Back in 1960, a pump depth of only 20 metres used to be sufficient," according to the proceedings of the work, which aimed at helping formulate appropriate strategies and actions for managing water resources in a sustainable way.
 The present sub-soil reserve can meet only 60 per cent of the water demand of the capital.
 WASA should embark on a plan to augment its facilities to alleviate critical water supply deficiency in Dhaka, set up a firm base for improvement geared to the ability of consumers and improve billing arrangements and bring system loss, which is around 50 per cent, within control, the report said.
 Highlighting the surface water development potential, the proceeding of the workshop contained in the ADB report said, "Both the Shitalakhya and the Buriganga rivers successfully meet the water quantity and quality requirements. However, increasing pollutant load is anticipated in See Page 12 Col 8

Writ against ex-CEC HC rejects prayer for larger bench

The High Court yesterday rejected a prayer for the constitution of a larger bench to hear the writ challenging Justice Abdur Rouf's simultaneous holding of the offices of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and a High Court Judge.
 The division bench comprising Justice Habibur Rahman and Justice MM Ruhul Amin rejected the prayer of the petitioner's lawyer Advocate Ml Farooqi and set June 8 for next date of hearing.
 Earlier, the court issued a rule nisi upon Justice Abdur Rouf to show cause under what authority, of law he had held the offices of the CEC and a judge of the High Court Division.
 The rule was obtained on July 11 last year by the petitioner, advocate Saleem Ullah.

Severe congestion at 3 major ferry points

By Reaz Ahmad
 The number of vehicles stranded at Aricha, Nagarbari and Daulatdia ferry terminals is increasing each day because of tremendous rush of traffic, causing mounting sufferings to passengers and wastage of perishable goods.
 The situation worsened as two out of the 20 ferries in the Aricha-Nagarbari and Aricha-Daulatdia routes went out of order Saturday while the traffic rush was much too high for transportation of seasonal fruits, as usual at this time of the year.
 Sources in the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC), which operates the ferry service, confirmed that "Amanat Shah" and "Kasturi" had gone out of order and hoped these would again join the fleet soon after the necessary repair.
 According to BIWTC, which has a strength of 30 ferries plying in various inland water routes, on an average 2,500 vehicles including buses, trucks, micro-buses and cars cross the rivers Jamuna and Padma through Aricha-Nagarbari and Aricha-Daulatdia routes a day. Around 1000 more remain stranded at the three terminals making long queues along the parkyards and on adjacent roads.
 The ferry routes are the main lines connecting the southern and northern districts of the country with the capital.
 While visiting Aricha and Nagarbari, this correspondent found that hundreds of trucks carrying perishable goods including seasonal fruits, mainly mango and lichi, were halted for hours together.
 A terminal superintendent (TS) at Nagarbari said on May 30 alone a record number of over 750 trucks reached there from different northern districts, whereas the usual turn up of trucks is not more than 500 a day.
 Abul Hussain, a mango trader was seen sitting idly over the roof of a truck See Page 12 Col 7

Draft bill on JMB land acquisition act approved

The Cabinet yesterday approved the draft bill on Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge (land acquisition) Act 1995 aimed at preventing malpractices in land acquisition for the project, reports UNB.
 The approval was given at the regular weekly Cabinet meeting held at the Bangabhaban with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair.

Violence in N'ganj following AL activist's murder

From Our Correspondent
NARAYANGANJ, June 5: One Awami League worker was killed and two others were injured by some unidentified armed youths at Bangabandhu Road here today.
 Afzal Hussain, 22, a local AL activist, died on the spot when an armed gang of about 20 repeatedly hit him with machetes on BB Road at noon.
 The attackers also exploded two cocktails causing serious injuries to Murad, 21, and Ripon Saha, 17 — both friends. See Page 12 Col 7

Moscow opposed to RRF for Bosnia

MOSCOW, June 5: Foreign Minister Andrei Kozzyrev said today that Moscow was opposed to Western planes to set up a rapid reaction force (RRF) for Bosnia, saying it would signal the end of peace efforts by the "contact group," reports AFP.
 "The introduction of offensive tasks will mean a final end to all we have been discussing in the framework of the contact group" on Bosnia, said Kozzyrev, quoted by the Interfax news agency.
 The rapid reaction force in Bosnia will have a total capacity of 14,000 men.
 The formation of the RRF was announced in Paris Saturday. Three countries have so far pledged to provide troops in the first instance France and Britain will each send 1,500 men and the Netherlands 300. The figure will eventually amount to 4,000-5,000 men.

STOCK MARKET
 DSE price index 725.54185
 Market capital Tk 43.01 billion
 Transactions in volume 122090
 Transactions in value Tk 20.49 million

Feature

Environment
 World Environment Day and our efforts; IPM: The only way to save our crops and ourselves
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Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day
 City's Threatened Animal Species
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NEWS BRIEFS

BB services essential
 The government has extended the effectiveness of the essential services of all categories of the officers and employees of the Bangladesh Bank for six months more from June 14, which was declared on December 1994, said an official handout last night.

ADB sees 5.3 pc GDP growth in '96

Bangladesh, which expects to raise its economic growth to 5 per cent in 1995, can boast of success in maintaining macro-economic stability through sectoral reforms in recent years, Asian Development Bank (ADB) said in a report, says BSS.
 The annual reports of the bank titled, "Asian Development Outlook 1995 and 1996," made available in the city yesterday, said in its chapter on Bangladesh that the expected growth, however, depended on the foodgrain output not seriously affected by delays in the sowing of summer rice crop because of drought conditions in the country's northwestern region.
 The forecast for the country's GDP growth in 1996 is expected to be 5.3 per cent, the report added.
 "The economy of Bangladesh has undergone a slow, but significant structural change in recent years as excessive dependence on agriculture and traditional exports has been reduced, said the report which is the seventh in the series of yearly economic reports on the developing member countries (DMC) of the bank.
 The report said Bangladesh is fast approaching self-sufficiency in foodgrain in response to favourable weather and a conducive agricultural strategy. The country has also improved its social indicators in recent years as population growth and poverty incidence have fallen, while standards of health and nutrition have shown some improvement.
 Bangladesh's agricultural strategy, which contributed for fast approaching to food self-sufficiency, involved substantial liberalisation of trade, distribution and pricing of inputs, the report said.
 It further said tax reforms in recent years in Bangladesh have led to a steady growth in revenue, while containment of public consumption spending has released resources for financing the operation and maintenance of physical infrastructure as well as meeting the costs of labour rationalisation and the restructuring programme for public sector enterprises. The external current See Page 12 Col 5

Water crisis: Delhi CM threatens hunger strike

NEW DELHI, June 5: The Chief Minister of Delhi today threatened to go on an indefinite fast if neighbouring regions did not bail the capital out of a severe water crisis, reports Reuter.
 Madan Lal Khurana said he would start a hunger strike on Wednesday if the neighbouring states of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh did not release water to the city, facing one of its driest summers in recent times.
 Delhi is facing a water shortage because Haryana has refused to release its promised share from the Yamuna river that criss-crosses most of the north Indian plains, Delhi government officials said.
 Delhi is landlocked with Haryana bordering it on three sides and Uttar Pradesh on the other side.
 A senior official in Khurana's office told Reuters that there was water to last for just four days, as increased consumption during the past month has seen the main reservoir dry up, dropping to almost below the critical level.

Youngman murdered in city

By DMCH Correspondent
 A youngman was murdered in the city yesterday afternoon.
 Ratan, 25, who was found unconscious near Malibagh bazar, succumbed to his injuries on the way to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.
 Ratan reportedly went out of his house with two other youngmen at about 2 pm yesterday.
 There were mark of injuries by sharp weapon over Ratan's body.
 Ratan, son of Abdul Karim, was murdered allegedly after a dispute over the share of the toll money collected from a nearby slum.
Confce on capital market tomorrow
 A national conference on Capital Market Development and Privatisation will be held in the city tomorrow to discuss ways to revamp stock market and remove bottlenecks in privatisation, says UNB.
 Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman will inaugurate the day-long conference, arranged by the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI).
 M Morshed Khan, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister, will be the guest of honour at the inaugural session, to be See Page 12 Col 7

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা
আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন
আপনার শিককে ঠিকা দিন

হোল্ডিং কর সম্পর্কে পুনঃ জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের সম্মানিত করদাতা আপনি জানেন কি সিটি করপোরেশন খেলাপী করদাতাদের বিরুদ্ধে সিটি করপোরেশন অধ্যাদেশের বিধান মতে ইতিমধ্যে বেশ কিছু সংখ্যক মামলা দায়ের করিয়াছে এবং আরও মামলা দায়েরের প্রকৃতি চলছে?

- ২। অতএব, মামলায় জড়ানোর মতো হয়বানিমূলক ব্যবস্থা এড়ানোর জন্য সারচার্জসহ সমুদয় পাতনা কর অবিলম্বে পরিশোধ করুন।
- ৩। সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের কর পরিশোধের সুবিধার্থে এখন হইতে আগামী ৩০শে জুন পর্যন্ত ১০ টি কর অফলের আঞ্চলিক অফিসসমূহ প্রতিটি কার্যদিবসে সকাল ৮টা হইতে বিকাল ৪টা পর্যন্ত খোলা থাকবে এবং শুক্রবার সকাল ৮টা হইতে বেলা ১২টা পর্যন্ত ৪(চার) ঘন্টার জন্য খোলা থাকবে। ৩০শে জুন ১৯৯৫ এর মধ্যে যে সকল করদাতা সারচার্জসহ সমুদয় পাতনা কর পরিশোধ করবেন না, তাদের বিরুদ্ধে আদালতে মামলা দায়েরসহ অস্থায়ী মামলামাল কোর্ট করার ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।
- ৪। এই বিজ্ঞপ্তি সরকারী, আধা-সরকারী ও স্বায়ত্তশাসিত হোল্ডিংসমূহের ক্ষেত্রেও প্রযোজ্য।

সোলায়মান মল্লিক
 প্রধান রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তা
 ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা।

ডিসি/পিআরডি/৫৯০/৯৪-৯৫
 ডি-৫৬২