

MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE
 WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF
 ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA,
 BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESWARI GREEN,
 MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE
 OF DIFFERENT TYPES.
NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.
 199, TEJGAON 1/A, DHAKA.
 TEL: 605957, 607363 SHOW ROOM: 861985



Moneylink
ATM's
 Standard Chartered

12 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 5.00

Inside Today
Article
 Anniversary of the birth of the UN
'We the Peoples' Try to Make Their Voice Heard
 Tony Samphier writes from London
 Page 4

International
 Govt to show MPs 'evidence' of MQM's anti-state acts
 RRF mired in confusion controversy in Bosnia
 Page 5

Business
 USAID to provide Tk 16.08 cr for maize cultivation
 Congestion surcharge issue: Shipping lines ignore Ctg Port Authority's request
 Page 6

STOCK MARKET
 DSE price index 761.13 (40.10%)
 Market capital Tk 45.31 billion
 Transactions in volume 138814
 Transactions in value Tk 21.25 million

Prospectus
 A 3-page prospectus on Lexco Limited
 Pages 7, 8 & 9

Metropolitan
 Dhaka Day by Day

 Close Encounters with Crawlies
 Page 3



A portion of the 5 km rail track in Chhatak badly damaged by the flood. The Sylhet-Chhatak rail link remained snapped since June 15. — Star photo by Iqbal Siddique

Thousands wait for relief

Crisis of drinking water, medicine

By Staff Correspondent

Acute crisis of pure drinking water, medicine and lack of relief materials have added to the sufferings of the people in the flood-affected areas where diarrhoea has broken out, according to reports received in Dhaka last night.

Diarrhoea has so far attacked 1000 people in Gaibandha, 800 in Sirajganj and 60 in Sylhet.

A minor boy, Dunuj Ali of Bachamara village in Manikganj and Abdul Khalique, 45, of Kazirgaon village in Sylhet drowned in flood waters while Haicra, 35, of flood-hit Shahpur village in Sylhet died of snake bite yesterday.

PM's directive to gear up relief work

SYLHET, June 25: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today directed all concerned officials to gear up relief and rehabilitation activities in the flood-hit areas of Sylhet, Sunamganj, Maulvibazar and Habiganj districts, reports BSS.

The directives came after her day-long visit to the flood-affected Gowainghat, Jointapur, Companiganj, Sylhet Sadar, Biswanath, Kaniaghat, Sunamganj Sadar, Chhatak, Doarabazar, Bishambharpur, Jamalganj, Taherpur, Dharmapasha, Dhirai, Jagannathpur, Shalla, Kulaura, Kamalganj Moulvibazar Sadar, Baniachang and Ajmeriganj areas.

After the visit the Prime Minister had talks with district level officials at Sylhet and Moulavibazar Circuit House.

Begum Zia said all possible government help should be provided to the affected people to face the post-flood situation.

She asked authorities to immediately repair the damaged tubewells in the affected areas and provide new tubewells and adequate water purifying tablets for people in the affected areas.

Begum Zia said steps would be taken to give easy term credit facilities, seeds and other agricultural inputs to the affected farmers.

Credit facilities would also be extended to the flood victims for the repair and reconstruction of their damage houses, she said.

The Prime Minister asked the concerned authorities to reconstruct the damaged roads and embankments and take all steps to check the outbreak of diarrhoea and other disease after the recession of flood waters.

The Prime Minister said multipurpose shelters would be constructed in the areas and from now on all schools would be built with special designs to give shelter to the

Talks on water sharing concludes

Accord to convene JRC meet, set up jt monitoring system

By Diplomatic Correspondent

Foreign secretaries of Bangladesh and India yesterday said that they had reached an understanding to convene a meeting of the Joint Rivers Commission and establish a joint monitoring system in a bid to find a 'permanent solution' to the vexed water sharing issue that has bedeviled relations between the two neighbours since the commissioning of the Farakka Barrage 20 years ago.

The announcement was made at two press briefings after what seemed to be the third and last round of secretary-level talks, initiated at the behest of the prime ministers of the two countries during the SAARC summit in Delhi last month.

The Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) was set up soon after independence but its meetings had been discontinued for some time now. Similarly, a monitoring system was also in vogue, but it was now said that monitoring would take place at four points as against two places previously.

While Indian Foreign Secretary Salman Haider did not specify the date of the JRC meeting, Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan said it is likely to be held within the next two months.

Salman Haider briefed the press at state guest house Padma at 9 in the morning while Farooq Sobhan met the press at 2 pm at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Bangladesh foreign secretary was present at the press briefing of his Indian counterpart but chose not to answer questions.

Both the foreign secretaries at their meetings with the press, however, stated that the water issue was not related to any other issue including that of transit.

Salman Haider said, "We are giving high priority to the water issue. We are sensitive to Bangladesh's views and we are strongly committed to a mutually acceptable arrangement."

Asked what was delaying the solution to the water sharing issue for such a long time and if he was aware of the environmental and ecological damage being caused to Bangladesh, Salman said "These are issues which I suppose have to be looked at by the JRC. I am not in a position to comment on environmental and economic problems."

When told by a newsmen that Bangladesh had received



Indian Foreign Secretary Salman Haider (L) speaking at a press briefing in the city yesterday. On his left are Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan and High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India Shafi Sami. — Star photo

Huda withdraws writ against Speaker

By Staff Correspondent

Former minister Barrister Nazmul Huda yesterday did not press a petition he had intended to file before a High Court writ bench challenging the legality of the Speaker's rejection of a leave application on behalf of the absenting Opposition MPs.

Appearing before a division bench comprising Justice A M Mahmudur Rahman and Justice M Mahfuzur Rahman, Huda, sacked by Begum Zia last November for speaking out of turn and embarrassing the ruling party, took back his petition after the bench questioned his locus standi regarding the cause of action.

Huda, whose application June 19 seeking leave of absence for more than 140 boycotting Opposition Jatiya Sangsad members was Thursday rejected by the Speaker, wanted to take Shaikh Razzak Ali to court for alleged violation of the rules of procedure.

House to take up Akhtaruzzaman's application today

By Staff Correspondent

The Jatiya Sangsad will take up today the application of Awami League MP Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury Babu seeking leave of absence from the House.

Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali deferred discussion on the matter for today although it was included in the order of the day yesterday. Discussion and the passage of the Supplementary budget for outgoing 1994-95 was the only business of the yesterday.

Akhtaruzzaman AL MP from Chittagong-12, in a letter to the Speaker, dated February 4, 1994, said "Due to some personal problems I could not attend the last two sessions of the Jatiya Sangsad and for some reasons I will also not be able to attend the current session."

NEWS BRIEFS

Hasina visits ailing leaders
 Awami League president Sheikh Hasina visited some ailing leaders of her party, including Mozaffar Hossain Paltu, yesterday. Hasina visited the residence of Awami League Publicity Secretary Paltu, who had returned home after an open heart bypass surgery in Singapore. She also visited the injured leader Obidul Kader at his residence and Abdul Mannan at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, reports UNB.

BCL, Shibir clash in Sylhet: 22 hurt

From Staff Correspondent
 SYLHET, June 25: At least 22 people were injured during a gun battle between the activists of the Bangladesh Chhatra League and the Islami Chhatra Shibir at the Beani Bazar Government Degree College this morning. The college authorities have suspended the admission tests.

350 gm of heroin recovered

JESSORE, June 25: A squad of BDR personnel today recovered 350 grams of heroin and 195 ampoules of Tdjcik injections from a house in the town. The squad, acting on a tip-off, raided a house in Khairtola area of the town and recovered the heroin worth about Taka 35 lakh and the contraband injections smuggled in from India. One Rahima Begum was arrested in this connection, reports BSS.

800 bio-gas plants in country

A total of 800 bio-gas plants have so far been established in the country, Minister of State for Science and Technology Prof M A Mannan informed the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

I acted on DUTA advice, says VC

By DU Correspondent

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Emauddin Ahmed yesterday said the president, the general secretary and some other leaders of the Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) had advised him to allow 20 students to be admitted under an administrative order on 'humanitarian' ground.

"Accordingly I discussed the matter with the departmental chairmen and sent them letters on June 20 in this regard," the Vice Chancellor told a press conference.

Prof Emauddin convened the press conference to explain his position following criticism of his order to admit the 20 students who did not appear at the admission test as they attended a function arranged by the Education Ministry on the same day.

The VC said the Education Secretary had contacted him two days before the function to know whether the admission test could be shifted. The VC expressed his inability to do so and conveyed the matter to the Dean of the Commerce Faculty.

He said the issue was placed at a meeting of the admission committee on April 24 after those students had applied for admission under



Prof Emauddin Ahmed

Tk 3837cr suppl budget for '94-95 passed

By Staff Correspondent

A Tk 3836.93 crore supplementary budget for the outgoing fiscal 1994-95 was passed by Parliament yesterday after a brief discussion.

State Minister for Finance Mojbibur Rahman placed the Appropriation (Supplementary) Bill 1995 for passage after two days of discussion in which nine treasury bench members participated.

The discussion on supplementary budget began on June 20.

Following the speech of the State Minister for Finance winding up the discussion, the House approved the additional sum of Tk 3836 crore 93 lakh and 40 thousand from the consolidated fund to meet the additional expenses in the current fiscal ending June 30.

Prior to the passage of the bill, the House approved 75 sector-wise demands for grant by voice vote. The highest demand of Tk 673.89 crore came from the Communication Ministry followed by Tk

'Talks on 25-yr treaty when time comes'

By Staff Correspondent

The issue of the 25-year treaty between Bangladesh and India which expires in early 1997 was raised at the press conference of Indian Foreign Secretary Salman Haider in the city yesterday.

When asked if there was any discussion about renewal of the treaty, Salman said there had been no talks concerning it during his current trip. He added that as far as he knew there had not been any discussion about the treaty in the last four years.

"It is (expiry) still away. We will talk about this when the time comes," he said.

T&T will open one-point service centre in city

Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board is soon going to open a one-point service centre at Gulistan in Dhaka for resolving customer's problems without harassment, reports UNB.

Prokrichi ultimatum

By Staff Correspondent

Prokrichi-BCS Central Action Council will go for a 'continuous movement' from September 17 unless the government takes effective steps for administrative reforms by September 5, Chairman of the council Dr M A Majed said here yesterday.

The council will take up action programmes if the government approves mass-promotion of the members of the BCS (admn) Cadre, he said at a press conference at the BMA Bhawan.

Majed lamented about what he called the wishy-washy government.

Military aircraft hit by arms fire

Violence paralyses Karachi

KARACHI, June 25: A Pakistani military C-130 transport plane was hit by small arms fire over this strife-torn port city as the death toll in three days of violence climbed to 42, officials and police said today, reports AFP.

At least five people were shot dead and several injured Sunday as armed men went on a shooting spree and torched vehicles in the troubled Sindh province capital, police and hospital sources said.

The death toll rose to 42 since Friday amid protests by the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) over the alleged rape of a sister of a party activist on Tuesday and the murder of a former MQM leader on Friday.

The MQM is the political party representing Urdu-speaking settlers who migrated here from India after the partition of the sub-continent in 1947.

Police said they found the bullet-riddled corpses of two people today in the city's central district and outlying Korangi industrial zone. A third died in shooting in Malir, a locality in the eastern suburbs.

Two others were killed by snipers in the central district, police said.

More than 200 people have been killed in Karachi this month, with the toll for the past six months exceeding 750.

Hearing of writ against Rouf

PO can't take place of law, court told

A presidential order cannot take the place of a law and hence the appointment of Justice M A Rouf to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court is violative of the Constitution, the High Court was told yesterday, reports UNB.

Resuming submission in the writ petition challenging the appointment of Justice Muhammad Abdur Rouf, the petitioner's lawyer Barrister Amirul Islam told the court that even if there was a law, that law could only prescribe the condition of service of the Chief Election Commissioner.

The writ, filed on June 11 by convener of the Lawyers' Coordination Council Advocate Shamsul Huq Chowdhury, in being heard by a division bench of the High Court comprising Justice Habibur Rahman Khan and Justice M M Ruhul Amin.

Any attempt to prescribe anything beyond the condition of service of the CEC is violative and beyond the scope of Article 118 (5) of the Constitution, the lawyer argued.

Barrister Islam further submitted that the order permitting Justice Rouf to come back to his previous office was not an order made under any law.

The law, he said, cannot go beyond and prescribe what he (Rouf) could do after relinquishing his office; the law can only authorise and regulate the order pertaining to the terms and conditions of service of the CEC.

Islam argued that the return of the then Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed to the bench had been justified by the 11th Amendment to the Constitution which, however, did not say anything about the return of

Medicine traders' strike today

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Chemists and Druggists Samity (BCDS), a body of medicine traders, will observe a half-day country-wide strike today to protest a government order postponing the association's biennial election due in September.

However, a court yesterday ordered an ad-interim injunction on the strike called earlier by the BCDS.

On a petition filed by Gollam Mohiuddin, proprietor of the Sumpa Medical Hall at Jatrahari in the city, the Third Assistant Judge's Court, Dhaka, asked the defendant to show cause within seven days as to why the strike would not be restricted for an

Int'l Day against Drug Abuse today

By Staff Correspondent

The International Day Against Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking will be observed in the country, as elsewhere in the world, today.

Various socio-cultural organisations have drawn up programmes to mark the day. The programmes include discussion meetings, seminars, walkathon and essay contest.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia have given messages urging the people to work unitedly for freeing the society from the menace of drug abuse.

In another statement, Awami League president Sheikh Hasina called upon the people to wage a social movement to create awareness against drug abuse in the society.

Meherpur SP withdrawn

MEHERPUR, June 25: The district units of all political parties, including the ruling BNP, appreciated government decision to withdraw the SP of Meherpur, reports UNB.

The government on Saturday ordered replacement of Kazi Mujibur Rahman, blamed for deteriorating law and order situation in the district.

The leaders of the All-Party Alliance in a statement today demanded immediate implementation of the order.