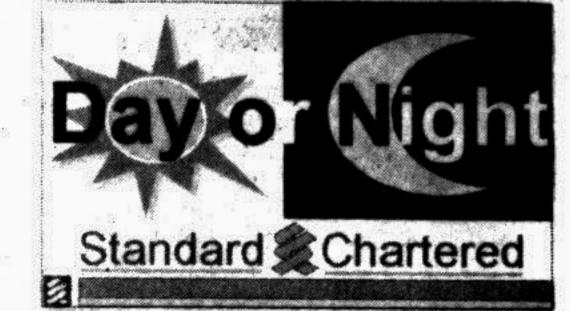


VOL. V NO. 189 REGD. NO. DA 781

TEL: 605957, 607363 SHOW ROOM: 861985



RABIUL AWAL 4, 1416 HIJRI



Article

Growth or Despair—Which Way?

Column: Window on Asia by Shahed Latif Page 4

Focus

Conservatism still thwarts family and the boon of child labour; and The up: Will it help them, anyway?

Page 5

International

Jaffna into graveyard for troops

tightened as Amarnath Yatra begins Page 8

Business

Foreign investments in

India, Malaysia likely to sign trade accords soon

STOCK MARKET

DSE price index 772.89 (-0.94%)

Market capital Tk

Dhaka Day by Day



Ghost in the System

BNP meets Aug 5

Road at 9:30 am on August 5. will preside over the meet

reopens

From Staff Correspondent

Dal on July 1.

30 hurt in clash

SAVAR, Aug 1: At least 30 people were injured in a clash between the passengers and the leasee of the Bangshi ferryghat over toll collection today. Witnesses said the clash erupted at the ghat after the leasee had demanded excess amount of tolls from the passengers at about 11 am, reports UNB.

Sarbahara Party member held

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Aug 1: A member of the outlawed Sarbahara Party (Zia group) was caught red-handed by the local people when he, along with of his accomplices were preparing to commit a robbery at Daktarerhat in Banaripara thana tonight.

BSF frees 3 Bangladeshis

JHENIDAH, Aug 1: The Indian Border Security Force (BSF) today freed the three Bangladeshi farmers held by them after a flag meeting at Jibannagor in Chuadanga district, reports UNB.

Inside Today | Ishtiaq elaborates formula

By Staff Correspondent

opposition parties should By-elections could be held agree and nominate some for all the vacant seats or "neutral non-partisan" peronly to fill a limited number sons to form a caretaker of seats equivalent to the government ahead of the agreed number of "neutral election. non-partisan persons" who are to form a workable care-

Referring to Ishtiaq's formula. Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali, while talking to The Daily Star on Monday, had said that the 'architect'

Parliament Sectt sends letters to 55 Opposition MPs

The Parliament Secretariat vesterday sent letters to the 55 Opposition MPs who signed attendance register during parliament boycott, asking to testify themselves whether they should be considered present in the Sec Page 12 Col 3

should come up with a complete formula.

in a statement yesterday. Ahmed observed that with the seats having fallen vacant. the provision of by-elections required to be held within 90 days provides an opportunity to nominate the agreed persons and get them elected uncontested to Parliament.

In the statement he said: "Considering that the essence of the demand of the opposition parties is to hold elections under a neutral non-partisan, government, and the essence of the stand of the Government in this regard is that the resolution of the present political crisis has to be within the framework of the Constitution, and further, in the backdrop of the declaration of the Prime

See Page 12 Col 1

latest formula

The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) is examining the latest formula for an interim government to conduct general election without amending the Constitution, well-placed sources in the party said yesterday.

The BNP policy planners are looking into the formula that calls for electing some consensus candidates in the by-elections to some of the vacant parliamentary seats to form the interim government, which suits the party policy to go by the Constitution as well, the sources added.

"It's a food for thought". BNP secretary general Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar acknowledged while talking Road residence last night.

formula is not a 'complete', and 'comprehensive' one. Speaker Shaikh Razzak

'Question bank' won't be restored

Interest groups are inciting students, says Sircar

By Staff Correspondent

Education Minister Barrister Jamir Uddin Sircar vesterday blamed a section of teachers and some 'interest groups' for 'instigating the innocent' school students to demonstrate and destroy public property for continuation of the 'question bank system' in the SSC examinations.

"The government will never restore the question bank system for the sake of standardisation of education. Stern action will be taken against the instigators and trouble mongers," the minister categorically said while briefing newsmen.

"Question bank system seriously hampers the standard of education and opportunity for higher education,' he said. But the students failed to realise this he observed and urged the teach-See Page 12 Col 7



Jamiruddin Sircar

Teachers back govt decision

12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 5.00

Leaders of different associations of teachers at a meeting yesterday reviewed the prevailing situation relating to Secondary School Certificate (SSC) Examinations system and were unanimous in their opinion for withdrawing the question bank for qualitative improvement of standard of education in the country, reports BSS.

Chaired by Education Secretary Ershadul Huq. the meeting, held at the Education Ministry, strongly supported the government decision to abolish the question bank system for the SSC examinations and to introduce system of securing pass marks for both objective and subjective parts.

The leaders of the teachers' association called upon the guardians, teachers and social leaders to come forward for implementing the government decision regarding the SSC examinations and guard against any design to frustrate the new system.

See Page 12 Col 8

Diarrhoea situation in city alarming

Diarrhoea is spreading in an 'epidemic' proportion in the flood-affected areas around the city with the recession of flood waters.

coming to the ICDDR,B, Mohakhali hospital daily. The number in nearly twice the last years', the ICDDR,B said, in a press release here yes-

Disease Research, Bangladesh) termed the situation "extremely grave".

The ICDDR,B warned that the capital Dhaka and its environs are "expected to enter into the regular post-monsoon epidemic diarrhoea."

ICDDR,B teams are now working closely with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Dhaka City Corporation and distribution bleaching powder, alum and

water purifying tablets to people in the affected areas. The Centre has advised

the people of the effected areas to use tubewell water, rain water or water purified by other means for drinking, cooking and washing utensils. It also asked people to

avoid rotten food and recook left-over food before eating and also to bury stool of a diarrhoea patient in a deep hole.

Oral rehydration solution must be given to a patient as soon as diarrhoea starts, the ICDDR,B emphasised.

Son kills father From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Aug 1: Abdul Hakim, 62, was chopped to death by his son, Abdur Rab. 35, at Amlakitala village under Sadar thana of Barguna

Rab also tried to kill his mother but failed when he was chased by the local peo-

Thorvald Stoltenberg would

prepared to allow arms

shipments for Bosnian

Muslims to be sent through

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali

Akbar Velayati as saving: the

Tehran radio quoted

iran said today Croatia was

chair the meeting.

paper offices. 3 burnt alive in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Aug 1: Three persons - two women and

a child - were burnt alive and ten others injured in a fire at a slum at Nimtala here this afternoon. Ten kutcha houses were

also gutted. The fire brigade personnel brought the blaze under control after one hour. The loss of property was

estimated at Taka 3 lakh. The cause of the fire could not be ascertained.

Mizan gets ad-interim bail

By SC Correspondent

Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, acting Chairman of the Jatiya Party, was granted adinterim bail yesterday by the High Court Division in the case filed against him by the Anti-Corruption Bureau.

The court also directed the government, upon hearing the petition for anticipatory bail filed by Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury on surrender, to show cause as to why the petitioner should not be granted anticipatory bail in Gulshan PS Case No. 83(7)95 under Section 5(1) of the Anti-Corruption Act,

See Page 12 Col 6

prayer for quashment of case By SC Correspondent

A High Court Division Bench yesterday rejected

the Dhaka CMM Court.

the government will be able to proceed on with the case. The Division Bench com-

prising Justice Mohammad Mazammel Hoque and Justice Mohammad Nurul Islam in its judgement, however, said that Taslima was not a fugi-

ment made on behalf of Taslima.

DREAM, DEMAND FULFILLED: People of Sylhet living in Dhaka brought out a jubilant procession in the city yesterday marking functioning of the Sylhet division.

Mostafiz tells confee of regional experts

TIME (MAN) CHEWIN

Equitable water sharing is best starting point for cooperation

By Staff Correspondent

make progress and watch

others march ahead." The 2-day conference on Converting Water into Wea-Ith: The case of the Eastern Himalayan Rivers', is being organised by the Bangladesh Unnavan Parishad (BUP), a local think-tank.

Some 26 former minis-

ters, legislators, bureaucrats and experts including those from two other research organisations — Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi and Institute for Integrated Development Studies (IIDS), Kathmandu are participating in the conference. This is the first of a series of six such conferences planned, one more in Bangladesh and two each in India and Nepal as part of the follow-up programme of studies conducted in collaborative framework by these organisations.

Presided over by Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad. chairman BUP, the inaugural session was also addressed by Muhammad Nazrul Islam. secretary, ministry of water resources. Prof Amirul Islam Chowdhury, vice chancellor of Jhangirnagar University and representatives of the Nepalese and Indian delega

Stressing on the need for regional cooperation as the geographical existence is linked, the minister said "We can all gain by cooperating with each other in these (water resources) and many other fields."

Endorsing the view expressed in the book, Converting Water into Wealth. See Page 12 Col 3

Story of unconsumable foods-I

Mustard oil from sweat-shop alchemy

By Morshed A Khan and Krishna P Roy

Sylhet Division begins

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET. Aug 1: The functioning of the Sylhet division began here today.

The sixth administrative division comprises four districts: Habigani. Moulvibazar Sunamgani and Sylhet.

To mark the occasion, up in all the districts.

initially, the offices of the Divisional Commissioner and the DIG started functioning. The other offices of the newly established divisional headquarters will start later. an official source said.

Habibur Rahman, Divi sional Commissioner had a meeting with the Deputy Commissioners of Sylhet.

See Page 12 Col 8

Functioning of

- Star photo

different organisations took up programmes like processions, railies, public meetings. Doa Mahfil, and distribution of sweets. Gates were erected and decorated in different places. The town wore a festive look. Separate programmes were also drawn

sised that a congenial atmoin the city's Mitford area, sphere should be created for encouraging mothers to breastleed their babies, re-

ports UNB.

the self-confidence of mother, decreases her dependency on physicians and empowers herself to take care of her child," he said at the inaugural function of the World Breastfeeding Day at the Osmany Memorial hall in the city.

The day was observed in the country yesterday as elsewhere in the globe with the theme Breastfeeding: Empowering Women, setting off a week-long campaign to promote breastleeding. State Minister for Cultural

Witjaksono Hardjotanogo were among those who addressed the function organ-

mother has to play the main Editorial on page 4

ised by the Health Ministry

Health Secretary Syed

The health minister said

role in breastfeeding her

Ahmed presided.

baby. He emphasised the need for creating atmosphere to breastfeed the babies at the working places. UNICEF Representative Dr

Rolf C Carrier said breastfeeding makes an incredible financial contribution to the national family planning programme. It would require Bangladesh to spend US dollar 527 million a year to replace breastfeeding, he said.

See Page 12 Col 2

DHAKA WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1995 BNP reviewing

SHRABON 18, 1402 BS,

By Nazmul Ashraf

to reporters at his Minto He. however, said the

See Page 12 Col 7

By Staff Correspondent

Up to 450 patients are

Dr Demisse Habte, Director of the ICDDR,B (International Centre for Diarrhoeal

"We are witnessing an epidemic and an emergency,

district this morning.

ple after he had killed his father. NATO to protect all

Bosnian 'safe areas' BRUSSELS. Aug To NATO government and rebel Serbs ambassadors agreed plans tohave agreed to meet in Geneva on Thursday for talks day to protect Bosnia's 'safe aimed at defusing the loomareas' in the event of attacks ing war. by Bosnian Serbs or their A brief UN statement is-Croatian Serb allies, an alsued today said UN envoy liance source said, reports

Reuter. The meeting has ended. There is a decision on all the safe areas, the source said.

NATO allies meet to discuss

Ambassadors from the 16

plans being finalised by their military commanders. Croatian Serbs today shelled the Gospic area in southern Croatia.

A general alert went up at around 7:00 am after 'Serb shelling in the region some 120 kilometers south of the Croatian capital Zagreb.

No more than a half of the Krajina Serb force which attacked Bihac has pulled out despite a pledge to withdraw, UN officials said today.

A Geneva report said, representatives of the Croatian

Croatian government ... will allow defensive aid to be sent to Bosnia." Bosnia today mostly

its territory.

needs heavy defensive weapons, added Velayati who was speaking at a news conference in Tehran after his one-day visit on Monday to Croatia and Bosnia, the radio

> Velayati and Bosnian See Page 12 Col 8

HC rejects Taslima's

Taslima Nasreen's prayer for quashment of the proceedings of the criminal case filed against her, now pending in By virtue of this verdict,

live as she was not absconding after any conviction. "No fresh sanction is necessary to go with the trial of the case," the court mentioned discarding the argu-

The petition was filed on June 26 last. The Court, upon hearing the petition, issued a

taker government to hold the general' election, said Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed planning practices in vesterday. Chittagong; the bane Elaborating on his earlier formula to resolve the present political crisis within the framework of the Consti-Doordarshan-CNN tie tution, he observed that an opportunity for the two sides to find a way out of the

impasse has come, now that

have fallen vacant.

some seats of parliament

National Press Club on Friday.

Ahmed suggested a formula

under which the ruling and

At a seminar at the

LTTE vows to turn

Security in Kashmir

CEPZ increase by 27pc

Pages 6, 7

Metropolitan

Page 3 **NEWS BRIEFS**

A meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) will be held at 30 Hare chairperson Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia

ing, reports BSS. Shahjalal Varsity

SYLHET, Aug 1: The Shahjalal University of Science and Technology reopened today. It was closed following clashes between the activists of the Islami Chhatra Shibir and the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra

Many small factories have been growing in different city parts where artificial edible oils are being produced with the help of certain chemicals

> experts. These adulterated cooking oils are being marketed without hindrance from government agencies charged with ensuring good food standards. These oils are being consumed by the common people across the country.

which are termed as danger-

ous to public health by the

Foreign Minister ASM

Mostafizur Rahman yesterday

called for a more equitable

sharing of the water re-

sources through cooperation

among the regional countries

to alleviate the sufferings of

derstand one another's needs

and aspirations and cooper-

ite on that basis in a trans-

parent and mutually respect

ful manner." Rahman said

while inaugurating a regional

conference on water re-

"There is clearly an ur-

gency that the regional

countries cooperate with one

another to bring about a

change. We have immense

possibilities based on our

tertile land and abundant

water." he added. "Otherwise.

we may only talk, but fail to

sources at a local hotel.

What is needed is to un-

millions of people.

in a makeshift shack at the extreme western part of Rayer Bazar of the city. makes mustard oil for public consumption.

The label on the containtle into the container. A puners reads '100 per cent

One such factory, situated

factory two dirtily dressed teenaged boys toil with fear. The owner, a bearded man in his late forties, sit in the corner and occasionally shouts insults at the kids who tend to slow down on their A few drums, full of cheap

Mustard Oil". In the small

palm oil, are kept in the corner of the room. Nowhere in the room a grain of mustard can be seen. Neither is there a machine to grind The kids pour the palm oil into a large container and then asks the "Ustad" to come forward. The "Ustad"

comes ahead with a tiny bot-

tle in his hand, pours a few

drops of liquid from the bot-

gent smell like mustard's fills-

the room. The kids stir the container with all their force. Tears start to pour out of all present in the room. Now the oil is poured into the containers and the "100

per cent pure mustard oil" is

ready for marketing and con-

sumption, a litre costing about Tk 60. The city of Dhaka houses an unknown number of these factories in its congested and winding lanes, bylanes and slums. This adulterated product is then partly marketed in the city but the bulk

finds its way to the villages

by the "ustad" is nothing but

a highly concentrated im-

ported chemical popularly

known as 'mustard scent'

scientifically termed as

The 'magic liquid' poured

across the country.

opposite the Sir Salimullah

Allylisiothiocyanate.

Medical College Hospital, rows of shops sell a wide range of chemicals used for adulteration. Under the country's free economic policy the traders find no problem to import these items from abroad. The oil used in this case is a cheap quality palm oil. In

imported from Malaysia in its crude form. According to a scientist in the BCSIR (Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research), two types of palm oil are imported. One is Palm Olein which is edible after refinery processing. And the other. Palm Steering is used See Page 12 Col 1

the country most of this oil is

more intelligent Strajul Hug. UNICEF Health and Family Welfare Representative Rolf C Carrier Minister Chowdhury Kamal and WHO Representative Dr Ibne Yusuf yesterday empha-

Breastfed babies are

"Breastfeeding enhances

Affairs Prof Jahanara Begum. Deputy Health Minister

See Page 12 Col 7

Jessore Board SSC results today

The results of the SSC

Examinations of 1995 under

the Jessore Board will be an-

nounced today, an official

handout said in Dhaka yes-

nounced from all the exami-

nation centres at 10 am si-

of schools may collect the re-

sults of their respective

schools from the secretary of

the centre after the an-

vised the examinees to col-

lect their results from their

respective centres or

schools. No results would be

education board, the Edu-

cation Ministry or the news-

The authorities have ad-

The results will be an-

Headmasters or teachers

terđay, reports BS8.

multaneously.

nouncement.