

## River erosion hits 1300 more families

At least 1300 more families have been rendered homeless in Sirajganj and Barisal districts due to erosion by the rivers Jamuna and the Sandhya, report agencies.

Some 4,000 people of 800 families in two thanas of Sirajganj district were rendered homeless due to erosion by the river Jamuna in last 24 hours till 6 pm yesterday.

Officials said three villages — Baghbhari, Khashdoel and Amanmehar — in Kazipara thana went into gorge of the river leaving 2,500 people of 500 families homeless during the period.

They said about 1,000 people of 200 families lost their shelters after 800 feet areas of the flood protection embankment in Bangla Bazar were eroded away by the river.

In Barisal about 500 families were rendered homeless



A musical soiree at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium in the city yesterday organised by the Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Sangstha on the occasion of the death anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. — Star photo

## Political uncertainty

From Page 1

Besides the problems of outdated structures, Fowler said, the thinking and orientation in the civil service created problems of delay, red-tape and corruption.

And, it also further helped deprive the country and people of the level of basic services which they need and which could be provided even given Bangladesh's levels of poverty and lack of resources, he observed.

The High Commissioner appreciated Bangladesh's export performance, reserve and domestic growth, sound macro-economic position in terms of low inflation, steady and increasingly convertible currency and revenue buoyancy.

"It is certainly starting to show results in trade and investment between Britain and Bangladesh," Fowler remarked.

He termed the Euromoney Conference and the visit of UK trade mission to Bangladesh last November as successful and informed that another trade seminar is being planned in November despite the uncertainties posed by the possibility of general elections.

"And we have an unprecedented level of interests amongst British Chambers of Commerce in mounting possible trade and investment missions to Bangladesh in 1996," the High Commissioner said.

He informed that the Commonwealth Development Corporation, already a significant investor in Bangladesh's private sector, will open an office in Dhaka shortly.

The Export Credit Guarantee Department has already resumed offering credit guarantees to British exporters to the market in Bangladesh, he added.

President of the Chittagong Chamber Sarwar Jamal Nizam requested the High Commissioner to take special interest in encouraging his compatriots to invest in Bangladesh.

He also urged the British High Commission to open a consular office in the port city and expand the activities of the British Council.

## US Congress

From Page 1

each chamber, the White House is hoping loyal Democrats will change their votes in a second round.

Clinton and his top foreign policy advisers met for an hour with house speaker Newt Gingrich and minority leader Richard Gephardt.

The passage of a resolution in the House demanding a unilateral lifting of the arms embargo was assured of passage but White House officials had said their efforts were aimed at sustaining a presidential veto.

## JB SSC merit list

By Staff Correspondent

Following is the combined merit list of the General Science group students in the Jessore Board SSC Examination of 1995, with the names of the students, their schools and total number: 1. Md Waliullah Khan Nomani, Barisal Cadet College, 900; 2. Abu Sayeed Muhammad Saifullah, Barisal Cadet College, 897; 3. Hasan Ahmed Sagor, Barisal Cadet College, 891; 4. Md Golam Murshed, Barisal Cadet College, 887; 5. AM Helali Murtuza Bhuiyan, Barisal Cadet College, 885; 6. MHM Mahmudul Hassan, Barisal Cadet College, 884; 7. Kazi Md Razib Hasan, Khulna Zilla School, 883 and Ramakrishna Das, Sagar Dari Michael Madhusudan Secondary School, 883; 8. Abdullah Al-Amin, Bagerhat Govt Secondary School, 882; Md Hafizur Rahman, Muslim Academy, 882 and Md Ziaur Rahman Talukder, Barisal Cadet College, 882; 9. Mainul Hossain, Barisal Cadet College, 880 and Hasan Shahriar Md Nuruzzaman, Barisal Cadet College, 880; 10. Md Shafiqul Alam, Jhenidah Cadet College, 878; 11. Selina Pervin Lipi, Police Line Secondary School, 877 and Mohammad Aziz Hasan, Jhenidah Cadet College, 877; 12. Md Aladuzzaman Munna,

## Fair share of waters

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held between the governments in the past decades for regional cooperation for harnessing and development of water resources. But nothing was achieved.

Technical differences can be resolved. But the problems are political, he said.

He also gave a brief account of the socio-economic condition and environmental threat posed to Bangladesh due to unilateral withdrawal of water at Farakka.

Quoting from the book 'Converting Water into Wealth', the Bangladesh foreign secretary said, "Let us not talk of sharing only our agonies. Let us share our prosperity and bliss too."

## Dr Kamal's formula

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of conduct for political parties would make the next election meaningful and protect the interest of democracy.

"Without missing the last chance and pushing the country towards unconstitutional path, we should proceed to parliamentary elections on the basis of an acceptable election framework for free and fair polls," Dr Kamal told newsmen.

The press conference was attended by Gano Forum leaders Ziaul Huq, Nurjahan Morshed, Pankaj Bhattacharya, Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, Shamsuddoha MP, Zahurul Islam, Mofizul Islam Kamal, Mostafa Mohsin Mantu and Kamal Haider.

## Top three

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is his hobby. He wants to be an army officer.

Abu Syed Md Saifullah (of science group) from the same college stood 2nd in the combined merit list securing 897 marks. He also got 7 letters.

His father Abdul Jabbar Mallick is high school headmaster at Baherchar. His hobby is travelling. He wants to be an army officer.

Hasan Ahmed Sagor also of the Barisal Cadet College stood third in the combined merit list securing 891 marks. He also got 7 letters.

His father AM Nasir Uddin is now working as Deputy Production Manager in Oposonin Pharmaceutical Industry Ltd of Barisal.

Hasan is the youngest son of his parents. His hobby is reading. He also wants to be an army officer.

## JB results

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cured seventh position getting 883 marks. Abdullah Al-Amin of Bagerhat Government Secondary School, Md Halizur Rahman of Muslim Academy and Md Ziaur Rahman Talukder of Barisal Cadet College jointly stood eighth with 882 marks. Mainul Hossain and Hasan Shahriar Md Nuruzzaman of Barisal Cadet College jointly stood ninth with 880 marks and Md Shafiqul Alam of Jhenidah Cadet College stood tenth with 878 marks.

In the merit list (female only) Selina Pervin Lipi of Police Line Secondary School stood first with 887 marks and six letters. She was followed by Farzana Rashid of Chuadanga Government Girls High School who got 867 marks and seven letters.

Meher Afroze of Magura Government Girls High School secured first position with 859 marks in Government the combined merit list (Male and Female) for Social Science group. Mahfuza Malik of Government Coronation Secondary School secured the second position with 957 marks.

The percentage of pass for boys and girls were 72.03 and 68.69 respectively. The number of regular candidates — male and female was 79,715 and 49,975 respectively. The number of male and female private candidates was 7815 and 4862 respectively.

Of the regular candidates obtaining first division, 31,322 are boys and 16,332 girls while 27,423 boys and 18,512 girls got second division and 670 boys and 595 girls secured third division.

## Diarrhoea spreading

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lying on specially made beds in make-shift canopies outside the main building.

Dr Abdus Salam, Chief Physician at the ICDDR,B, told The Daily Star, "the highest number of diarrhoeal patients we treated on a single day was 724 in 1993. After that, this week, we are facing an influx of patients."

He said the flow of admission of patients to the hospital had just doubled in the post-flood period resulting in great stress on the hospital's staff, supplies and systems.

There were 433 diarrhoea patients in the hospital on Tuesday night. Of them, 187 stayed for more than 12 hours while 246 left the hospital within 12 hours of getting admitted, he added.

An attending nurse, who was seen maintaining a register, told this correspondent that 229 patients were admitted from Tuesday midnight to Wednesday noon.

A total of 10,311 diarrhoea patients were treated at the hospital in July.

## 6 get life term for killing AL leader in Faridpur

From Page 1

Faridpur, Aug 2: Six people have been awarded life term for killing a local leader of the Awami League in 1992, court sources said, reports UNB.

District and Sessions Judge Golam Rasul, who delivered the judgement on Monday, also fined each of them Tk 5,000, in default to suffer rigorous imprisonment for one year more.

Raju, 30, Publicity Secretary of the district Awami League, was killed at his residence in the town on the night of Eid-ul-Azha in 1992.

## PM: Formula

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To cover up the lapses in the formula, it was suggested that by-polls to all the vacant seats could be held at the same, with 11 or so consensus candidates. It was felt that the consensus candidates, after getting elected, would form an interim government following the prime minister's resignation 30 days ahead of the general elections and the President then would dissolve Parliament, the sources said.

Some of BNP leaders, however, noted that the latest formula was nothing new and said similar ideas were also floated earlier.

The meeting also discussed the current political developments and the questions of by-elections or fresh elections.

The meeting, chaired by Begum Zia, decided to hear the members of the party's National Executive Committee on the issue on August 5 and finalise the party position at a standing committee meeting soon afterwards.

## Housewife dies at DMCH after blood transfusion

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By DMCH Correspondent

A housewife died at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday after severe convulsions allegedly caused by blood transfusion.

Husband of the deceased, Razia Begum, filed a GD with Ramna thana.

Razia, admitted to the DMCH on July 22, had undergone an operation on July 31 for removal of a tumor in the uterus, sources at the DMCH said. The operation was successful.

The patient started severe convulsion and complained about neck and chest pain when blood bought from the DMCH blood bank was being transfused.

The doctor stopped the transfusion immediately, said Mamun, son of the deceased. Razia died at about 2:30 pm.

## The Midnight File

**US to send full team to Beijing women's confce**

WASHINGTON, Aug 2: The United States will send a full delegation to Beijing next month for a UN women's conference despite problems in relations with China, UN Ambassador Madeline Albright said today, reports AP.

## Eliadah seeks clemency

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and at one stage he took her ticket and passport, and that she was later compiled to carry those packets.

She further added that had it been known to her that the goods contained in those packets were contraband, she would have never carried them on his behalf.

"In my life I never had any acquaintance with any heroin and drugs smuggling anywhere," she said.

Blankson also gave her hope that he would help her in pursuing her education and on that assurance she agreed to carry the items, Eliadah said.

She added that the fictitious name of Robert Blankson is Tony and it is not his real name and that she did not know the address and profession of Tony.

At the relevant time I did not know any law regarding intoxicating matter in Bangladesh and, as such, I did not know about the consequence of carrying of such goods according to the relevant laws of Bangladesh," Eliadah told the Court.

Eliadah was arrested from Zia International Airport on February 25, 1992 with 3.27 kilogram of heroin contained in packets and attached with her body with tape. The Dhaka District and Session Judge Court found her guilty of trafficking contraband drugs and sentenced her to life imprisonment.

Eliadah's statements were recorded at 10.30 am and the hearing of the rule started at 3.00 pm yesterday.

M Shamsul Alam, Deputy Attorney General, submitted in the hearing that as according to the statements made by her, Eliadah is above 18 years and, as such, the rule has become inapplicable.

Now she is not in detention under the Special Powers Act, but she has been convicted to suffer imprisonment, the government

## Nutrition

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ernment is determined to eliminate malnutrition of mothers and children from this country and launch the BINP as a step towards fulfilment of this commitment.

Begum Zia observed that malnutrition is a major obstacle to social and economic development, especially the development of human resources. She said mothers and children are generally the first victims of malnutrition.

The Prime Minister said this day would remain a milestone in the march towards elimination of malnutrition in Bangladesh and thanked the World Bank and UNICEF for their assistance and support.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Deputy Health Minister Sirajul Huq, acting Mission Chief of the World Bank in Dhaka Syed A Rana, UNICEF Representative in Bangladesh Rold C. Carrier and Health Secretary Syed Ahmed also spoke on the occasion.

Ministers, MPs, diplomats, high officials, UN and UNICEF representatives and

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