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PHILIPS

12 The Buily Star

Monsoonal rain & flooding

Accurate forecast can save life, property

A three-day SAARC seminar on 'Predictability of Monsoonal Rain and Flooding began in Dhaka yesterday stressing the need for accurate forecast to minimise loss of life and property, reports UNB.

Inaugurating the seminar at a local hotel. Defence Secretary M A Hakim said some SAARC member countries including Bangladesh are vulnerable to potential climate changes due to green house effect and sea level rise.

He said there is a continuous international concern about global warming due to increase in atmospheric level of the green house gases.

Referring to importance of monsoon rain in the SAARC region, Hakim said agricultural production is largely dependent on monsoon rain. The south-west monsoon blesses SAARC member countries with life saving rainfall amounting to more than 70 per cent of the annual rain of this region.

"If the rainfall pattern would have been the same every year, it would not have been at all problem for us. But reality is that, there is, at times excess rainfall causing floods, whereas in some years there is rain-deficit causing drought".

Such fluctuations in rainfall pattern have serious implications to available waters and agricultural production in the SAARC region, he said.

Dwelling on disaster in the SAARC region, the Defence Secretary said tropical cyclones, storm surges, tropical rains, local severe storm. tornados, droughts, floods and landslides are so frequent in the SAARC region that these now seem to have become a part of the harsh reality of our existence.

"It is certain that meteorology cannot do anything to prevent natural disasters, but we can reduce loss of life and material damage by using forecast and suitable warnings which enable timely, preventive action to be taken.

Additional Foreign Secretary Ahmed Tariq Karim and Director of Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) MF Qayyum also spoke at the inaugural function.

The BMD Director stressed the need for a joint research relevant to weather prediction and better understanding of the variability of southwest

He also emphasised greater cooperation and team work to seek means to minimise human sufferings and destructive impact due to cyclones, floods and other natural phenomenon

Thirty weather scientists and flood experts from India. Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and host Bangladesh are participating in the seminar.

Day-long visit to N'ganj-2

12 Ansars were deployed for security under a magistrate.

Besides, mobile teams of the security forces were also on duty during the voting hours from 8 am to 4 pm.

So far, none of the contesting parties complained about any irregularity in the voting process. However, a few voters lodged complaints with the visiting journalists that their votes were cast before they turned up in the polling cen-

In their bids to check false voting, the Presiding Officers of Bishnandi Government Primary School centre and the Gazipura Government Primary School centre handed over six persons to the security per-

sonnel. During a day-long visit to the repolling centres, this correspondent found enthusiastic and well-disciplined voters including women queuing to cast their voters.

"I've been in the queue for over an hour But my turn is vet to come". Onima Mukharjee, 42, of Brahmandi Bazar told The Daily Star Correspon dent at about 11 in the morn ing at the Maruadi Government Primary School centre. Onima hastened to add, "I must vote. No matter, how long it takes."

Talking to this correspondent, 68-year-old Khursheda Bibi of Natpara village said, "Never in my life, I witnessed

such a peaceful voting". Khurshida added that she was panicked by the presence of security personnel including the members of the army who were even found guarding the

Results

From page 1 (46.135 votes) won, nearest rival ABM Golam Mostafa of JP

(39.208)Comilla-6: Prof M Ali Ashraf of AL (37,089 votes) won, nearest rival Redwan Ahmed of BNP (36,724).

Comilla-7: Muhammad

Abdul Hakim of Al. (44,832 votes) won, nearest rival AKM Abu Taher of BNP (41,222). 18. Comilla-8: Lt Col (Rtd) Akbar Hossain of BNP (51,078

votes) won, nearest rival ATM Shamsul Haque of AL (38,542). Comilla-9: AHM Mostafa Kamal of AL (57,188 votes) won, nearest rival Monirul Haq Chowdhury of JP (47,568).

20. Comilla-10. Muhammad Tajul Islam of AL (49,298 votes) won, nearest rival ATM Alamgir of BNP (46,479). 21. Comilla-12: Muhammad

Mujibul Haque of AL (49,767 votes) won, nearest rival Syed Abdullah Mohammad Taher of

JI (25,984). 22. Chandpur-1: Abu Nasr M Ehsanul Haq of BNP (34,239 votes) won, nearest rival Alhaj Mesbahuddin Khan of AL

(31,214).23. Chandpur-3: G M Fazlul

Haque of BNP (39,414 votes) won, nearest rival FI Lt (Rtd) AB Siddique of AL (32,417). 24. Feni-2: Jainal Abedin

Hajari of AL (68,511 votes)

won, nearest rival Ferdous Ahmed Koreshi of BNP (62,629).25. Chittagong-6: Giasuddin Kader Chowdhury of BNP (50,059 votes) won, ABM Fazle

Karim Chowdhury of AL (35,993).26. Chittagong-11: Gazi Muhammad Shajahan of BNP

(49,243 votes) won, nearest rival Moslem Uddin Ahmed of AL (42,766). 27. Chittagong-15: Jafrul Islam Chowdhury of BNP

(45,392 votes) won, nearest

rival Sultanul Kabir Chowdhury

of AL (34,072).

localities in addition to the polling centres. "But later I

helpful to me in casting vote

freely" Working in an NGO. Ataur Rahman, 50, suggested that voting be staggered over several days for the sake of peaceful holding of election. Talking to this correspondent at the Jalakandi Primary School centre at about 1 pm, he argued that voting in the Narayangani 2 constituency over two days ensured peace.

An army officer while talking to this correspondent quoted Ghazali Shafie, leader of the Commonwealth election observer team, as saying, "I'm satisfied at the security measures taken to ensure free, fair and peaceful repolling".

set to form

From page 1

MPs elected in the June 12 election. The parliament secretariat has informed the MPselect that their oath taking would take place on Friday and Sunday

Repolling was held vesterday amid tight security with a large number of law enforcing personnel deployed in all the 122 polling centres.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas is expected to invite Sheikh Hasina, the majority party leader in the Jativa Sangsad to form the next government once the oath-taking of the MPs-elect is over.

Candidates who have been elected from more than one constituency will have to give in writing which constituency they would like to retain in the parliament before taking their oath. Their other constituencies would have to be surrendered where by-elections will

A total of 16 seats would be vacated following the oath-taking. Those include six from BNP, five from Awami League and five from JP.

From BNP, Begum Khaleda Zia will have to vacate four of her five seats and Saifur Rahman and Oli Ahmed one each. From Awami League. Sheikh Hasina will have to vacate two of her three seats and Nasim, Tofael and Razzak one

From Jatiya Party, H M Ershad will have to vacate four of the five seats he won and Anwar Hussain Monju one of his two seats.

Saitur alleges

From page 1

workers forced out BNP's polling agents from the Companyganj centre and caste votes in favour of 'boat.' "Even the local police official and administration openly did everything to caste votes for AL."

Saifur said "We have already lodged complaints in this connection with the Election Commission and Chief Advi-

Saifur, who won in two other constituencies. Sylhet-4 and Moulvibazar-3, expressed his gratitude to the people of greater Sylhet.

In the Companygani pri-mary centre repolling today, Saifur polled-230 votes while AL nominee Humayun Rashid Chowdhury got 805 votes. In total 1,035 votes were caste there against a total of 1,266. polling officials said.

Humayun Rashid Chowdhury was unofficially declared elected from Sylhet-1 constituency securing 59710 votes against 58,990 polled by Saifur

The injured — Shukur, 60. Salam, 45, Samad, 60 and Hatem, 55 - were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital. found the security forces

Meanwhile, police arrested five persons in this connection, after a case was filed by Sheikh Shamsul Haq. joint secretary-general, MKC The arrested are: Golam

4 hurt as FFs

clash in city

By DMCH Correspondent

wounded during a clash be-

tween two rival groups at the

Muktijoddha Kendriyo Com-

mand (MKC) office at Eskaton

The clash between the Ahad

and Aminul groups took place

around 5 pm reportedly over

support to BNP and Awami

Road in the city yesterday.

At least four persons were

Mostafa, Quayum, Mokbul, Wahab and Harun. Dy Director of

Food Deptt dismissed

The government has dismissed Deputy Director of Food Department and former Manager of Tejgaon CSD Malik Nasim Ahmed on charge of misappropriation reports

He was dismissed from his service under the article 4 (3) (D) of the Government Employees (Discipline and Appeal) Rules 1985, said an official announcement last night.

After a departmental case it has been proved that Nasim misappropriated Tk 2.13.532 lakh when he was the Manager of Teigaon CSD, the announcement said.

110 mw Goalpara power plant out of operation

From Our Correspondent KHULNA. June 19: The 110 megawatt unit of the Goalpara power station is out of operation since Monday midnight due to major mechanical defects, officials said.

According to PDB sources. it will take at least 72 hours to repair the 'kit pump' of the unit which plays a key role in power generation.

Four out of six units of the plant are presently out of order. The remaining two units produce 35 megawatt power only everyday. But Khulma zone needs 300 megawatt everyday, said the PDB

Jubo Dal activist found dead

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET, June 19: Balagani police recovered the body of a Jubo Dal activist from Kalachhara haor yesterday. According to police the victim, Boshir Miah, 25, of Goalabazar was called out off his house by some youngmen Monday night he was found dead in the Kalachhara haor next day. Police sent the body to the Osmani Medical College hospi-

tal for autopsy. Two persons

From page 1 Bina Juri Nabin High School centre under Chittagong-6. During the visit, the Chief Election Commissioner found that repolling in all, the centres were progressing peacefully, smoothly and in orderly manner.

He talked to the voters. polling agents and officials in every centre and wanted to know about the arrangements of the repolling and whether if they had faced any difficulties and disturbances.

The voters and polling agents told the Chief Election Commissioner about the excellent arrangements for repolling and said that they had not faced any disturbances or difficulties to come to their respective polling centres to cast

Compartive polls results: '91 & '96

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina with lawyers at the Supreme Court Bar Association hall yesterday - Star photo

By Staff Correspondent

						ers of seats 1991 and 19				
	SECULIE S		'96	'91	'96	91	96	91	'96	91
Division	Seats	Results	won	won	won	won	won	Won	won	WOR
Raj	72	72	32	27	18	20	21	16	1	7
Oh-	60	1 60	17	20	33	28	6	1	2	- 8
Ctg*	78	77	36	37	36	23	3	13	- 4	2

I IOJ candidate from Khl I Ind candidate from Khl

* Result of one constituency in Chittagong division pending.

Rao threatens to withdraw support to UF govt

the party would be forced to

United Front are well aware of

the Congress policies and its

background," Rao said. "They

are expected to function

within the limits, though the

Congress is aware of the reser-

will not like to compromise.

Rao said but added. "We want

the United Front government

to be a stable one and not want

Finance Minister Palaniappan

Chidambaram backtracked on

a proposed austerity drive

which would entail massive

layoffs following trenchant

criticism by the communist

4 miscreants held

in Daydkandi:

Arms recovered

armed miscreants were in-

jured in an exchange of fire

with members of the armed

forces near a polling centre in

Daudkandi thana this morning

the injured terrorists — Alam

Alauddin, Rokon and Masum -

from the spot. They also seized

two country-made guns from

Masum. Rokon and Alau

ddin were admitted to Comilla

Medical College Hospital while

Alam was rushed to Dhaka in

critical condition under police

Solarz's remarks

tional process. The June 12

poll was the outcome of that

foreign observers with the

hope that their observation

would help strengthen the

democratic process in the

country and the leaders of dif-

ferent observer groups, includ-

ing the leader of NDI, had also

said that they had come to ob-

serve the "polls and not to su-

pervise." But the post-poll re-

marks of the NDI leader were

not consistent with his pre-

major political parties had

complained of massive election

disturbances all over the

country while NDI found the

problems in only 123 centres

and termed them as

vation of NDI that the minori-

ties in Chittagong 6 and 7

constituencies were harassed

and intimidated and that it was

a national trend was not true:

He said the comments of NDI

on the minorities in Chit-

tagong and other areas of the

country were detrimental to

He said the foreign ob-

servers could visit only some

hundred polling centres out of

25,000 centres all over the

country besides, they visited

only those centres where

there were no disturbances.

Zahid said and added that on

the basis of that NDI could not

make any general comment on

the poling situation in the

whole country.

"national integrity, communal

harmony and social peace."

Anwar Zahid said the obser-

"localised."

The BNP leader said all the

poll comments. Zahid said.

From page 1

He said the BNP had invited

Police said they arrested

reports UNB.

their possession.

process, he added.

custody.

COMILLA, June 19: Four

allies of the United Front.

Rao's comments came after

"We are firm on them and

vations of leftist parties.

it to fall.

"The parties comprising the

withdraw backing.

NEW DELHI, June 19 Former Indian Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao today said his Congress (I) Party would withdraw its crucial support to the 19-day United Front coalition government if it commit "grave errors," reports

Rao, president of the 111year-old Congress Party, told supporters in the coastal state of Orissa, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported. We will be forced recon-

"It is not a blind support."

sider or support if the new government commits grave errors detrimental to the interests of the country," he said adding that his party would point out slips and rectify

them through discussions. The 13-party alliance headed by Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda could collapse without the backing of 140 Congress MPs in the badly fractured 545-seat lower house

of parliament. The 74-year-old Rao warned that if the new gov ernment committed serious mistakes which went against the principles of the Congress.

AL majority

From page 1

polls held in 1988, JP bagged 251 seats. Both the BNP and the AL boycotted the elections. In the fifth parliamentary

polls held under the non-party government of Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed in 1991 the BNP secured a majority in Parliament with 140 seats while AL got 88 and JP se cured 35 seats.

In the sixth parliamentary polls held in 1995, the BNP secured absolute majority in the Jatiya Sangsad securing 211 seats out of 213 declared. The AL. JP and other parties boycotted the elections.

Long queues

From page 1

Shahida Chowdhury, 40, told The Daily Star team at Champaknagar Government Primary School centre in Comilla-8 (Sadar thana) that although polling at the centre was marred on June 12, she along with three other female voters of her family could confidently come to the centre only because of tight security measures. Many others expressed similar views

Such enthusiasm and respect for law were also seen at two other centres under Comilla-8 - Kaliajuri Government Primary School and Muradpur Government Primary School centres. A K Fazlul Haq, a magistrate

on duty at Kaliajuri centre, said 25 policemen, five BDR personnel and 12 Ansars, besides a 12-member army mobile team, were on constant vigilance to help ensure fair and peaceful voting. During the visit, these cor-

respondents came across one of the candidates from Comilla-8. He made some allegations of intimidation. But the allegations seemed to be unfounded when The Daily Star team visited the centres and talked to polling agents of different candidates. In a few cases, some voters reached their centres only to

find that somebody else had al-

ready cast his or her vote.

From page 1

Hasina

power and the government should be run on the mandate of the people who are the owners of the Republic

"Everyone should respect the people's mandate," she asserted

Hasina said that many foul games had been played with the voting right of the people over the last 20 years. "We shall ensure voting right of the people by holding all future elections under neutral, nonparty caretaker governments. she added.

The AL Chief said that they would run the country on the basis of national consensus, not on mere party angle. The fundamental decisions

will be made taken through na-

tional consensus," she declared She asserted, "All decisions on governing the country will come from the House and not

from any individual. She also expressed her de termination to root out terror ism from the society.

Barrister Shaukat Ali Khan, President of Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association, stressed the need for protecting democracy and the democratic norms and values. in his welcome address Nazrul Islam Chowdhury, general Secretary of the association, urged the AL Chief to keep her commitments for separation of the judiciary from the executive, repeal of black laws and establishment

of rule of law. Among those present at the meeting were. Senior Advocate Shamsul Huq Chowdhury Sirajul Huq. Barrister Amir-ul Islam. Dr Md Zahir, Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, KS Nabi, Senior Advocate Zakir Ahmed were

present. Sheikh Hasina was accompanied by her party colleagues Abdus Samad Azad, Abdul Mannan, Zillur Rahman, Amir Hossain Amu, Suranjit Sen Gupta. Sudhangshu Shekhar Halder and others.

3 foreign envoys meet Hasina

The ambassadors of China Nepal and Palestine called on Awami League president Sheikh Hasina in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Zhang Xujiang. Nepalese Ambassador Lok Bahadur Shrestha and Palestinian Ambassador Mohammad Shahta Zarab met Hasina at her Dhanmondi residence and greeted her for her party's victory in the June 12 election. During the meetings, the foreign diplomats and the Awami League chief discussed international issues and matters of mutual interest of their respective countries, said a

party press release. Awami League presidium member Abdus Samad Azad. General Secretary Zillur Rahman and Political Adviser of Sheikh Hasina SAMS Kibria were, present.

Oath taking

From page 1

Earlier on Tuesday, the Election Commission sent the official list of 273 MPs, notified through an official gazette on June 16, to the Parliament Secretariat to take necessary action in this regard. Later, senior officials of the

Parliament Secretariat also started contacting leaders of different political parties having members elected in the elections to consult them about the possible dates for The Secretary of the

Parliament Secretariat and some other officials yesterday met Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina, who emerged as the majority-party leader and the most likely contender for premiership.

Sources at the Election Commission said the gazette notification for the rest 27 MPs would be done as soon as the election process is com-

Delhi to extend federal rule in Kashmir

NEW DELHI. June 19: The Indian government today said it would extend direct federal rule in the troubled state of Kashmir by six more months to December 17, officials here said. "There is no option but to extend the President's rule in the northern state. Home secretary K Padmanabhaiah said. reports AFP.

ADB loans increase by 185 per cent

MANILA, June 19: The Asian Development Bank said today its loans rose 185 per cent from a year earlier to 1.02 billion US dollars in the three months to March, reports AFP

A Bank statement said 93 per cent of the loans approved in the first quarter of 1996 were sourced from its interest-bearing ordinary capital re-

The balance came from its zero interest facility, the Asian Development Fund, which is lent to Asia's poorest countries with only a one-per cent annual service charge and repayment terms of up to 40 years, it said

Twelve loans were government guaranteed and two were direct loans to the private sector," the Manila-based Bank said Technical assistance grants

totalled 23.9 million dollars, it Pakistan received the largest single loan amounting to 300 million dollars for a hydro-electric project, but In-

donesia had the lion's share

with five loans totalling 422

million dollars, the develop-

ment bank said. The Bank said that it was Exchange enclaves with Bangladesh: Jyoti urges Delhi

NEW DELHI, Jan 19: West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu has pleaded for immediate exchange of enclaves between India and Bangladesh that span across the north Bengal border, reports BSS.

Basu has conveyed the request to the central United Front government of Indian Prime Minister, H D Deve Gowda. Basu's party (CPI-M) is an important constituent of the UF, a loose alliance of 14 parties, including communists and socialists.

There are about 130 Indian enclaves within the Bangladesh territory while more than 90 Bangladesh enclaves are in the Indian territory, said a report in the Hindustan Times today. Basu made the demand

winding up a debate on West

Bengal governor's speech in

the state assembly on Monday

night, the report said. Meanwhile, in a significant development of political polarisation, CPI (M) has called for Congress support to resist the pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in West Bengal. CPI (M) leader Anil Biswas stressed the need for thwarting the rise of the BJP describing it as "a threat to the country," the unity call between the rival parties has come as a surprise to the political circles in West Bengal, Earlier, BJP leader Atal Behari Vajpayee had reportedly addressed a

able to mobilise 1.141 billion dollars for six loan projects and three technical assistance grants under co-financing during the quarter. Under the scheme, the de-

velopment bank arranges for the co-financing of a particular project from sources outside the borrowing country, a side from its own loans. The Asian Development Bank, comprising of 56 mem-

ber countries and economies. has played a crucial role in Asia's economic development since its creation in 1966. 2 businessmen

mugged, shot By DMCH Correspondent Two businessmen and a by-

stander received gunshot wounds during a mugging incident in the Islampur area of the old part of the city yester-

The businessmen, Shihabuddin Khan, 32 and Abu Taleb, 40, who are cousins and partners in Taleb Enterprise of Nava Paltan, were returning on a motor-bike after withdrawing Tk 2 lakh from the Islampur branch of the United Commercial Bank Ltd (UCBL). They were suddenly attacked by a group of armed muggers at an

at around 3:30 pm. The gang of four to five muggers fired on them and a bystander. Miazuddin. 40. a rickshaw-puller was also hit. They then snatched from Taleb a bag containing the

alley near the Lion Cinema Hall

money and fled the scene. The victims were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Miazuddin was later shifted to the Pongu

Hospital.

BNP emerges From page

elections in 1978 and 1981. BNP had boycotted two consecutive parmamentar elections in 1986 and 1988 and the presidential election in 1986 held under the autocratic regime of now-jailed former President H M Ershad. The party also won the controversial February 15 parliamentary election which was boycotted by the them major op-

Founded by a military ruler, Ziaur Rahman, the BNP ruled the country for nearly nine years in three terms. The party was in power for two years and nine months under the leadership of Ziaur Rahman, 10 months under Justice Abdus Sattar and for more than five years and one month under Begum Khaleda Zia.

position parties.

The nation is eagerly waiting to see BNP's role as the largest ever opposition party in the parliament.



huge rally in Calcutta.

Bangladesh Telegraph & Telephone Board

Payment of Telephone Bill It is for information of the valued telephone subscribers of Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet areas that the bills for digital Telephone for the month of May '96 have already been issued on 10-6-96 and bills for analog Telephone of Dhaka and Chittagong regions are being issued and the

An Urgent Notice for

30-6-96 respectively. In case of non-receipt of bills the valued subscribers are requested to collect duplicate bills from concerned Telephone Revenue Offices and make payment immediately.

bills will have to be paid by 25-6-96 and

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