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The Baily Star.

DHAKA MONDAY, JULY 1, 1996

(Dhanmondi Lake faces) contamination again

city is facing high risk of contamination again as the outlet with the storm sewerage at Sukrabad point still remains uncapped, sources concerned have warned.

With the rainy season already causing floods in the surrounding areas, officials of the Fisheries Department warned that the sludge of the sewerage may be pushed back into the lake any time as it happened last year.

In July last year, highly toxic waste from the storm sewerage was pushed back into the lake contaminating the whole take water and the adjoining areas. The Fisheries Department, a leasee of the lake water, lost fishes worth thousands of taka. For days, the lake water also emitted poisonous gas posing health hazard in the area. The Fisheries Department

Steps to be taken for dev of garments sector

Prime Minister.

fire recently.

Prime Minister Sheikh

Talking to a delegation of the Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) at the

mandate of the people and it's main objective would be to work for the welfare of all irrespective of party and opinion.

"The overall national interest is our main consideration for development," said the PM. **BGMEA** President Redwan Ahmed led the seven-member delegation which included its Vice-Presidents Shahab Uddin Ahmed Chowdhury, Khalilur

fuzur Rahman. them a patient hearing and said her government was pledge-bound to create a favourable atmosphere for foreign investment through improving the law and order sit-

Rahman Chowdhury and Mah-

behalf of his organisation, congratulated Sheikh Hasina on

Attack on hawkers

Parishad press release said reports BSS.

Dhaka daily.

The leaders of the Oikya Parishad later in a statement condemned the attack and demanded arrest of the attackers. They also threatened to go for further movement if repression on the newspaper hawkers was not stopped.

only a few months ago, officials Following the contamina-

tion of the lake water last year the Fisheries Department and the Dhaka WASA which manages the sewerage had reached a conclusion that a sluice-gate at the outlet of the lake at Sukrabad point could solve the problem. But the sluice-gate was not installed

He also thanked the Prime

Prime Minister Sheikh

Minister for her visit to two

garments factories damaged in

Hasina's quick visit to these

two garments factories proved

said Redwan, a former BNP MP

sation the BGMEA President

said it is not a political organi-

sation. "We expect all coopera

tion from the government to-

Sylhet BNP files

case against 2

police officers

Bangladesh Nationalist Party

(BNP) has filed a case against

two police officials charging

them with 'illegal activities and

Secretary M Abdur Razzak filed

the case with the Sadar Magis-

trate court yesterday against

the Assistant Police Super of

Sylhet and Inspector Uttam

arrested two leaders of the

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD)

- Hasnain Chowdhury and

Saidur Rahman - on June 24

and physically to tortured

further alleged, the two JCD

leaders were produced before

the court on the following day

where the magistrate ordered

for further treatment of the ar-

rested, said a BNP press re-

Sylhet Osmany Medical College

Hospital as his condition dete-

riorated. His condition is still

critical, the complainant said.

Later. Hasnain was sent to

lease in the city last night.

After nominal treatment, he

The plaintiff said that police

repression, reports UNB.

Chakrabarti.

them overnight.

Sylhet district unit of the

BNP district unit Organising

Speaking about his organi-

her cordiality to this sector

who lost the last election.

wards this sector."

PM invites BNP to join govt

From Page 1

an economy, ravaged by the corrupt practices of the former government and said an enormous nation building task was lying ahead

meeting at Manik Mia Avenue in the city yesterday.

She sought cooperation from all quarters in her mission to deliver the fruits of the independence to the people. saying. "I don't like to confine myself within the power-cir-

"We will turn the Jatiya Sangsad the centre of all activities and make the peoples representatives accountable to the people, who are the supreme authority of the republic, through this House." The Prime Minister said

the administration will be decentralised and made dynamic and people-oriented. A reform committee will be formed soon to recommned measures to recast the administration, she added

In this context, she said, local government institutions will be strengthend and local bodies from upazila to union parishad will be run by elected representatives.

She told the rally that the home ministry has already been directed to take necessary actions to improve the law and order situation and ensure peace in the society. She made a fervent call to the possessors of illegal arms to surrender their arms and lead normal

"My government is now only seven-day old. I have already warned my colleagues in the cabinet and party MPs that people will not forgive them if they indulge in corrupt practices as their predecesors did. I am also contemplating submission before the people the statements of assets of their representatives through discussion in the parliament",

Hasina said. About autonomy to the state-run electronic media. her party's election-pledge. she said, "I have already directed the State Minister for

Information to form a commit tee to recommend measures to give autonomus to the Radio and Television". "The Bibi-Golam box (BTV) will not be turned into Bibi's box".

Prime Minister and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina addressing a mammoth public

The Prime Minister also reitterated that her government would soon form a pay commission for government employees and consider a pay hike in keeping with the mar Steps will be taken for re-

moval of illiteracy and job creation for women and for stricter laws against repression on women. She said and sought cooperation from students and teachers in building a movement against illiteracy. Turning to the agriculture

sector, Sheikh Hasina said, "If necessary, subsidy will be given to boost production" Peasents, who had to die for fertilizer, will now enjoy subsidy, if necessary,"

The prime minister said steps will be taken to reopen some 5,000 laid-off mills and factories. A committee would also be formed to plan for drawing more foreign investment and setting up of more industries in private sector. she added.

Turning to foreign policy. Sheikh Hasina said the government would follow a policy of freindship to all malice to none' and expressed her strong hope that Bangladesh's legitimate share of the Ganges water could be realised through bilateral talks. "We will resolve all bilateral problems through discussion. We want good relations with the neigh-

In an emotion choked voice the AL president recalled the supreme sacrifices of freedom fighters in liberating the country and took a fresh vow to make the country into Sonar Bangla' (Golden Bengal) as cherished by the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

But she said, "Conspiracy is on. Be ever vigil. Mind it always that consolidation of victory is a harder task than achieving it and to delivery of the fruits of victory is an even harder job"

- Star photo

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, LGRD and Cooperative Minister and AL general secretary Zillur Rahman Water Resources Minister Ab dur Razzak, Industries and Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed, Post and Telecom munication Minister Mohammad Nasim, Agriculture and Food Minister Begum Matiya Chowdhury and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury Kaiser also addressed the rally.

Awami League leaders Begum Sajeda Chowdhury, Abdul Mannan, MP, Suranjit Sen Gupta, Mozaffar Hussain Paltu, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Khandakar M Jahangir, MP. Rahmat Ali, MP, Shamshur Rahman Khan Shahjahan, Shudangshu Shekhar Halder, Abdul Mannan, Siddigur Rauf Khan, Sultan Mohammad Mansur Ahmed, MP, Nurul Fazal Bulbul, Akhtaruzzaman, MP, and Sramik League general secretary Ahsanullah Master. MP. Jubu League general secretary Kazi Iqbal and Awami Shechhashebak League convenor Alhaj Mokbul Hussain, MP, were, among others, who also addressed the mammoth

In his speech Tofael Ahmed said Awami League would establish rule of law in the country rising above party interest and taking the opposition parties into full confi-

Mohammad Nasim urged the party rank and file to be cautious so that no terrorist or extortionist could enter the

Abdur Razzak termed AL's victory in the last elections as a victory of freedom fighters and the spirit of the Liberation

Begum Matiya Chowdhury said. "our victory will come after we translate the dreams of Bangabandhu in the next five years.

Kidnapping: 2 get 10-yr RI each in Barisal

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL June 30: Md Ali Haider, judge, special tribunal Barisal awarded 10 years RI to each of two accused Dillip Kumar and Altaf Hossain today under section 4(B) of the Women Repression Act of 1983 and fined Tk 5000 each. in default to suffer one year R more. The other 3 accused were acquitted.

According to proceedings. the accused persons kidnapped and tried to marry Rina Begum at Babugani on April 24 last year. But on nextday, local people caught them and rescued Rina Begum.

Later, Rokea Begum mother of Rina lodged a case against five with Babugani thana of the district.

BNP accuses AL of unleashing terrorism

BNP leaders yesterday accused the ruling party of unleashing terrorism and attack ing BNP men throughout the , and urged the government to stop its politics of revenge immediately, reports Briefing newsmen in the

city they alleged that police were also harassing workers and supporters of the BNP and its front organisations through out the country alongside Awami League sponsored terrorism. The BNP leaders said the

party was ready to extend allout cooperation to the government in curbing terrorism in the country, but it would not tolerate harassment by the government on its political opponents in the name arrest of terrorists. BNP MP from Jhenaidah-4

Mohammad Shahiduzzaman Beltu narrated the terrorist activities in his constituency and alleged that terrorists patronised by the ruling party have continued attacks on BNP men since June 11. At the briefing, a group of

leaders and workers of the BNP, JCD and Juba Dal from Laxmipur district, said they had fled to Dhaka due to the continued attack on them by the Awami League activists and police harassment.

Laxmipur district BNP General Secretary Monwar Hossain, former General Secretary Kalu Munshi, VP of Laxmipur Government College Students Union Mazharul Islam Bhuiyan said BNP, JCD, Juba Dal and even common BNP supporters are not staying in their houses for a week following police harassment and Awami League sponsored violence.

They alleged that Awami League men in broad daylight resorted to looting belongings of BNP supporters from their houses and business establishments. In last few days, a good number of BNP men were injured in attacks by Awami League cadres.

Telephone piracy: T&T identifies 249 cases

A section of telephone subscribers are grabbing crores of taka from the exchequer taking advantage of delayed billing system for technical reasons. officials said, reports UNB.

To check the piracy, the T&T Board will change its digital phone billing software system within two months. However, any solution for analogue phones in this regard will not be possible at the moment, they added.

Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board sources said at present it takes at least two months to issue first bill against a subscriber after connecting his telephone line.

During the period, the Board said, a section of dishonest subscribers use their telephones commercially like a public call office and attract people by taking lesser than government-fixed revenue.

But they close their business before issuance of the first bill depriving the government of huge amount of revenue. The T&T officials, so far, have identified only 249 of such subscribers.

The board filed cases against the dishonest subscribers. Certificate cases were also filed against them to realise the outstanding revenue. Moreover, Anti-corruption department is conducting 15 cases.

Officials of the T&T recently found another such person in the city's Mahakhali area. The officials informed Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim

directly of the matter. The Minister asked the T&T officials to hand over the fake subscriber, Rafiqul Alam,

to police. Gulshan police filed a case against the alleged cheat. "But such isolated efforts are not enough to check the notorious piracy," said a T&T Board official, adding for this, the board is going to introduce

The Midnight Rile

Fresh rocket attack on Kabul: 3 killed, 9 hurt

KABUL. June 30: At least three people were killed and nine wounded in a barrage of rockets that hit various parts of the Afghan capital Kabul today, hospital sources said. They said about 15 rockets hit central Kabul and other parts of the city killing three people and wounding nine, reports Reuter.

EC seeks extension of ID card project

Star Report

The Election Commission (EC) has proposed the government to extend the term of the Tk 180-crore Voters Identity (ID) Card project upto June, 1997, project sources

The proposal for extension of the one-year project which expired yesterday, included a prayer for a further grant of Tk 120 crore for computerised database and checklist with photographs of the voters, they

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) in its next meeting would decide the fate of the ID card project, an offi-The project was taken up

last year to provide ID cards to

EC secy's letter for setting up tribunals

Star Report The Secretary of the Elec-

tion Commission (EC) Secretariat yesterday sent a letter to the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs requesting it to set up a permanent election tribunal at divisional headquarters, sources concerned said.

The letter was a follow-up of the EC's proposal sent to the same ministry on June 18. The EC in his letter had suggested to the government to set up permanent and exclusive election tribunals in 61 districts, they disclosed.

But the law ministry opposed the idea considering that the disputes would 'not be of such a great number' requiring setting up of 61 tribunals. sources said.

A source in the university said that the EC Secretary, in his letter to the Law Secretary, said that if it was not possible to earmark 61 Additional District and Session Judges exclusively, then the EC felt that at least six posts should be created in the six divisional headquarters for this purpose.

that until yesterday there was no report filing any case with the present election tribunal. The aggrieved candidates can file cases within 45 days of the gazette notification of the election results.

Meanwhile, it was learnt

Kashmir From Page 1

dian Prime Minister took office in early June, he and Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto exchanged latter's calling for a new round of talks. But Pakistan, which says

Kashmir is a disputed region, insists that its longstanding claim over the Himalayan province be discussed in any talks. AFP adds: India will soon

hold elections in Kashmir to

elect a local government and then announce autonomy for the troubled state, the country's new home minister said today. Indrajit Gupta said elections to the Kashmir legisla-

ture, the first since 1987, "would be held as soon as possible with the consultation of the election commission," the United News of India (UNI) reported. There is no intention to

postpone elections in Kashmir," he said. Gupta, a communist who

was named the home minister on Saturday, said the government of Deve Gowda was keen to give autonomy to Kashmir to end a dragging Muslim separatist campaign there.

all eligible voters, update and set up a computerised database of the voters' list and to establish a checklist with voters' photographs, he said. In the beginning it was a

Tk 300-crore project. In November, 1995 the project was revised and the computerised database and checklist components of the project were dropped. The budget was trimmed by Tk 120 crore, said the project official.

After a year and an expenditure of about Tk 100 crore the ID Card project failed to accomplish even 30 per cent of its job, sources at the pro-The vendors who were

given the job let the EC down by default. They simply could not meet the deadline with the pretext that an unfavourable political situation was prevailing in the country," said a project official requesting anonymity. Now the EC is extending their time-limit upto December this year to do the job, he added.

It was further learnt that the District Commissioners and the District Election Officers across the country who were given Tk 60 crore to make the field-level payments to the vendors were yet to send any progress report on the matter to the EC until yesterday.

Khaleda From Page 1

Addressing the meeting BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhulyan urged the party leaders and workers to reach the message of BNP to the doorstep of people through mass contact programmes. public meetings, processions and rallies.

Ward commissioners Liaquat Ali, MA Majid, Abul Khair Bablu, Ramzan Ali, Shah Anwar Shahin, Makbul Ahsan, Ehsanul Haq Setu and M Tarikullah also addressed the function

Moudud quits

From Page 1

But he made it clear that he won't float any new party. "There are enough parties in the country, I don't want to add another.

Asked if he retires from politics, Moudud said he would be very much in politics. In reply to a question,

Moudud claimed majority of the JP leaders and workers were unhappy over the party chairman's decision on the question of supporting Awami "About 80 to 90 per cent of

them (leaders and workers) are not at all happy, many of them talked to me and expressed their resentment," he said. Moudud was not, however, accompanied by any top JP leader at the press confer-

Moudud, a founder member of the BNP and a minister of the Ziaur Rahman government, had deserted the party in 1986 and joined Jatiya Party government of HM Ershad. He rose to the front row in JP government and became Prime Minister and subsequently Vice-President.

Until his resignation yesterday Moudud was the member of the JP presidium.

When asked whether he would contest the byelection with BNP ticket, Moudud said he was yet to decide on it. On his defeat in the June 12 election, Moudud said: "I accepted

manding the release of Ershad.

He said he was still de-

ORITHARY

On the night of 30th June (Sunday), at around 4.15 a.m, Begum Sufia Khatun (aged 84 years) wife of Late Magistrate Abdul Quader and, the mother of Gp. Capt. A.T.M.A Ouddus (Retd), the Managing Director of Securex (pvt) Ltd. breathed her last due to old age complicacies at BIRDEM (Innalillahe.....Rejeoon). She left behing five sons, four daughters, a number of grand children, many a relative and well-wisher to mourn her demise.

The deceased has been laid to rest at bolia (Hajigong) at Shaheb Bari family graveyard. We all pray to almighty Allah for her eternal peace.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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By Morshed Ali Khan

had to pump in "a lot of The Dhanmondi lake in the money" and make special ef forts to decontaminate the water. Fish fries worth thousands of taka was released in the lake

A drain connects the lake with the storm sewerage that flows under the Panthopath up to Begunbaria Canal, which is the only outlet for flood water of the lake. But the drain becomes deadly for the lake when low-lying areas of the city get flooded in the rainy



her assumption of the office of

Hasina yesterday said her government would take due measures for coordinated development of the garments sector attaching due importance to the textile sector, reports UNB.

PM's office, she said there was no coordinated development in the forex-earning clothing sector in the past Sheikh Hasina told the BG-MEA leaders that her government was formed with the

The Prime Minister gave

uation in the country. Earlier, Redwan Ahmed on

procession in Ctg CHITTAGONG, June 30: At least ten newspaper hawkers were injured when rivals allegedly attacked a procession of Chittagong Newspaper Hawkers' Oikya Parishad near New Market here today, a

The Oikya Parishad brought out the procession in protest against what it said continuous repression of the hawkers by the terrorists of a rival group The rivalry among the port city hawkers stemmed from a dispute over the distribution of a

Euro '96 final

From Page 1 on a solo run deep into the

German half. However, Nedved failed to spot the unmaked Poborsky to

his right and the opportunity went begging. Andreas Koepke was finally forced into a vital save late in

the half, Kuka's shot rebounding to safety off his legs.

From Page 1

will always be above partisan considerations." Giving his views about trade liberalisation, rationalisation of

tariff and removal of other

anomalies in the industrial

sector, the minister said that

adequate attention would be given to rationalise the policies after a thorough study. Speaking about the gap between imports and exports, he said, "We will try our best to attain a balance between exports and imports.'

The minister said his mes-

sage to the foreign investors

would be "an assurance for giving the fullest possible cooperation with all possible facili-Tofael Ahmed said, "Industrial growth cannot take place in isolation. It is related with other sectors. The co-operation of other sectors like finance, power and energy are

vital. Our goal will be to co-or-

dinate with one another and

try to create a rational and an

enabling environment." Asked about emphasis on any particular sector, the minister said that industry in Bangladesh could be categorised broadly into three areas - public, private and cooperative. "But we will be more liberal. Stress will be on more

Tofael: Bottlenecks liberalisation. We will give more emphasis on private sec-

given to local industries by providing necessary inputs but attention would be given to make those more competitive

the case of some public enterprises like fertilizer factories and newsprint mills, the government was already giving subsidy. But actually there is no loss in those units. The higher cost of production in those units now can be lowered by taking 'rationalisation measures' and ensuring a fair and proper distribution system, he

Tofael Ahmed, a firebrand orator and a seasoned politician said humbly, "I have come here not with full experience. shall learn also. I am sure my colleagues who are more knowledgeable and capable as well as those in the administration will help me in my role."

He said it was unfortunate that the previous government did not pay any heed to the suggestions given by his party while in the Opposition. "But we can say categori-

cally that any suggestions given

by the Opposition in the House

will be given due importance."

He said protection would be

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia addressing the BNP ward commissioners of DCC at and efficient. party's central official at Kakrail in the city yesterday. The minister noted that in 1500 HSC examinees expelled

> toward incident occurred on the first day of the examination, the sources added. According to Chittagong Education Board sources, a total of 136 HSC examinees were expelled from different centres under the board. Of them, 18 were expelled

from various centres in the port city while 118 from centres elsewhere in the district. Under Jessore Board, the number of expelled examinees on the first day of the HSC examinations was 313.

According to board officials,

the district-wise break-up of

the expelled examinees is Pat-

uakhali 12, Barguna 7, Barisal

From Page 1

from Comilla, 15 from

Laxmipur, 20 from Habiganj,

63 from Noakhali, 19 from

Brahmanbaria and 56 from

Moulvibazar districts. No un-

6, Bhola 4, Pirojpur 14, Jhalakhati 7, Meherpur 36. Jhenidah 38, Jessore 44. Magura 10 and Narail 6. The examinees under five education boards of the country are appearing at the exam-

Warrant of arrest against Inqilab Editor, publisher Warrant of arrest was issued yesterday against Daily Inqilab Editor ANM Bahauddin and

publisher ASM Baqibillah in a defamation suit, reports UNB. Mahbubur Rahman, former minister of the Ershad government and newly elected MP of the BNP from Chatkhil. filed the case against the Bengali daily with the CMM court. Dhaka, on May 18.

questions this year. Our Chuadanga Correspondent adds: Police fired four rounds of blank shots to disperse a mob at Alamdanga Col-

lege centre in Chuadanga yes-

terday, the first day of the HSC

examinations.

inations with similar sets of

— Star photo

According to police, an HSC candidate, Azad Hossain, after being expelled for adopting unfairmeans in the examination, attacked the college cen tre along with some miscreants at around 12.45 pm.

Later the police rushed there and fired four rounds of shots to disperse the mob and arrested Azad Hossain. Eighteen candidates were

expelled from five centres in Chuadanga.

furniture of the college.

The miscreants smashed window panes and damaged

automatic billing system. It has already called tender for this purpose

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things better

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