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PHILIPS

DHAKA THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1996

The Baily Star,

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BANANI, DHAKA.

HOT & COLD WATER

DISPENSER

PM urges govt employees

Ease decision-making process to attract FDI

More areas flooded

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, professing a clean-slate administration, said ministers would lose their jobs if they indulge in corruption, reports

To that end, the Prime Minister said, soon after the formation of cabinet, she had directed the ministers to submit the accounts of their

peated this while talking to the leaders and members of Parishad who went to the PM's office to congratulate her on her assumption of the office of

government is to build a corruption — terrorism — poverty free society," she told the gov ernment employees.

Seeking cooperation of goving the shattered economy of the country.

the government employees to ease the decision making process. "Redtapism hinders the development activities," she said and requested the concerned not to waste time taking decision.

In this context, Prime Minister, Hasina also disclosed plans for reforming certain laws to expedite work.

The Prime Minister lauded the assurance given to her by government employees of doing hard work, which would help the government implement their pay commission without taxing the people.

Parishad leader Syed Mohiuddin, earlier, assured the Prime Minister of giving their allout cooperation to the de mocratic government in its development efforts and smooth running of the admin-

"If necessary, we will work after the office time to help you in organising and building the country's shattered economy ... you need not impose tax to implement the pay commission, we will ensure it with

Gutail Bazar in Islampur

thana and Sanandabari Bazar in

Dewangani thana have been

threatened with river erosion

due to onrush of hill waters.

Five kilometres of Dhanua-Ka-

malpur-Baxiganj road were

badly affected while 30 kms

washed away by the swirling

flood situation deteriorated

due to rise of water levels in

lages in Bahubal union in sadar

thana and Bhadershwar union

were inundated as water burst

the banks of Karangi river

Khoai and Karangi rivers.

went under water.

in Sadar thana yesterday.

nearby primary school.

trict slightly improved.

spell of flood.

muna Oil Depot.

UNB.

Three houses at Baparipara

village in Char Pakhimari

union went into the gorge of

Brahmaputra river. The home-

less people took shelter at a

in Nalitabari, Sribardi and

Jhenaigathi thanas of the dis-

Flood situation of 19 unions

The overall flood situation

in Sirajganj district further ag-

gravated. 30 more villages of

lages of Sadar, Kazipur, Belku-

chi, Chowhali and Shahjadpur

thanas of the district have

In Chandpur, Chandpur

been affected in the current

town-protection embankment

has been threatened as the

mighty Meghna submerged

some 400 feet of the embank-

ment near the abandoned Ja-

Tornado hits

Chandpur:

Schoolgirl

killed

schoolgirl was killed and 20

other people, including 12

students, were injured as tor-

nado lashed two villages in

Shahrosti thana today, reports

Amena Akhter, 8, a class-II

student of Chandipur Govern-

ment Primary School, died as a

concrete wall of the school

collapsed on the students at

Twelve other students of

Shahrosti Thana Nirbahi Of-

the class also received minor

injuries as the tornado

ficer Liagat Ali told UNB that

the roof of the semi-pucca

school building was blown off

by the twister which lasted

Chandipur and Raisree villages

Magistracy

From Page 1

retary of the SC Bar would co-

ordinate the committee as it's

convenor and member-secre-

visits to the SC Bar earlier,

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

and State Minister for Law.

Justice and Parliamentary Af-

fairs Abdul Matin Khasru had

said that the Bar and the

Bench would be consulted on

matters relating to law and ju-

During separate courtesy

At least 12 kutcha houses in

about 11:30 am.

pounded the school.

about seven minutes.

tary respectively.

CHANDPUR, July 3: A

With this, a total of 127 vil-

five thanas were inundated.

In Habiganj district, overall

Official sources said 20 vil-



BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia exchanging views with Jubo Dal leaders at the BNP's Kakrail office in the city yesterday.

EC to propose formation of electoral reforms body

The Election Commission is going to propose to the government for formation of a commission on electoral reforms for bringing about further improvement in the exist ing laws and rules for the sake of ensuring fairer and more transparent elections. Chief Election Con.missioner Mo hammad Abu Hena said vester

In an interview with BSS the Chief Election Commis sioner (CEC) felt that there were some flaws, limitations and inadequacies in the existing laws and rules relating to elections, which should be ad dressed to strengthen the Election Commission and to ensure greater effectiveness of its work.

threatening Dhaka-Sylhet road The CEC said the proposed commission comprising communications. Some 1,000 feet of the road near Jagadish jurists, representatives of poand Boragram of the district litical parties, government and the Election Commission might examine the whole ga-Torrential rain and onrush of water from the hills aggramut of the issues involving vated the flood situation in Shelections. erpur, submerging 40 villages

The proposed commission may examine the related laws of the neighbouring countries and other advanced countries and study the recommendations and suggestions of various domestic and international bodies and groups who observed the just-concluded general elections.

Replying to a question re Hijacker beaten to death in Barisal

BARISAL, July 3: One hiacker was beaten to death at Kashemabad helipad under Gouranadi thana yesterday, police said, reports BSS.

One Panna Howlader, 25, along with his two accomplices, were caught red handed by the mob while they were trying to snatch money and other belongings from one Nurul Islam, a businessman. The mob beat up Panna who has later admitted to the Gouranadi thana health complex in a critical condition. Panna died there, police said.

A case was lodged with Gouranadi thana police in this

garding the complaints made by certain political parties and candidates about rigging in the elections, the CEC said such complaints could not be considered on the basis of mere allegations or generalities.

Abu Hena said the legal remedy available under the existing laws is the presentation of an election petition under Article 49 of the Representation of the People Order (RPO). The election petitions are to be heard by the election tribunals, he added.

The CEC observed that there may or may not be any merit in the 39 complaint pe-

Raj Kumar dead

MUMBAI, July 3: Raj Kumar, the actor par excellence who hypnotised cinegoers with his majestic dialogue delivery for four and a half decades died in his sleep early today at his Bworli sea face residence in central Mumbai. He was 68, reports PTI.

He passed away at 0110 hours, bringing to an end a glorious era in the Hindi film world when the magic of cinema held sway over a generation, in which he along with Dilip Kumar. Raj Kapoor and Dev Ananda reigned supreme

Kulbhushan Nath Pandit, as he was known earlier, joined the police force as a sub-inspector after graduation and his first posting was at the Mahim police station.

He left the police service after he gained a foothold in movies. 'Neeli' and 'Deewangi in which he starred opposite Krishna Kumari in 1950, were his initial films in an illustrious career in movies, enacting the main lead in about 60 films.

After portraying dynamic roles in Mother India 'Ujala' 'Paigham' and 'Dil Apna Preet Parai' he gained stupendous popularity in 'Waqt' in which became a rage among cinego-

titions received by the Elec tion Commission. The party wise break up of the com plaints against rigging and adoption of other malpractices were: 21 by BNP, 8 by Awami League, 6 by Jatiya Party, two by Jamaat-e-Islami, one by Workers Party and one by CPB

The CEC pointed out that on the polling days of June 12 and June 19, a good number of complaints received verbally or in writing were attended to promptly by the Election commission

The CEC said the election tribunals would hear the petitions made in a proper manner and presented with concrete evidence.

The Election Commission has constituted 61 election tribunals throughout the coun

Replying to another question regarding inordinate delay in disposing of the election petitions by the election tribunals, the CEC said for expeditious disposal of the petitions, the Commission has suggested to the government the establishment of permanent election tribunals to deal with the election petitions.

The CEC said if it was not possible to set up such tribunals in each district, the government could set up at least six exclusive tribunals in six divisions of the country. These steps could help immensely in the disposal of election petitions within a short time, he added.

Replying to another question regarding a candidate exceeding the stipulated expenditure of Taka 3 lakh, the CEC observed that the existing laws in this respect are not sufficiently effective. Under the existing laws, a candidate is required to submit a statement of his expenditures during the elections within 15 days of the gazette notification of the names of the returned candi-

The statement of expenditures submitted by the candidates to the returning officers remains open for inspection by any person for a period of one year, he said.

Body to probe irregularities in distribution of newspaper ads

A high-powered committee has been formed by the information Ministry to investigate the irregularities in the distribution of Newspaper advertisements, report agencies.

The committee will submit its report within the next 15-

Meanwhile, a 12-member delegation of the Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad (BSP) met the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office yesterday evening and discussed with her multifarious problems of the industry.

The Prime Minister told the leaders that advertisement would be distributed to newspapers on the basis of proper ad policy

She told them that a committee was being formed to probe anomalies in the distribution of newspaper adver tisements

The Prime Minister, in stantly directed State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed, present in a meeting with a delegation of the Parishad, to sit with the BSP leaders and discuss precisely the problems facing the newspaper industry

The BSP leaders resented the allocation of 70 per cent advertisements to two trust newspapers — The Bangladesh Times and Dainik Bangla.

They also demanded allocation of newsprint quota on the basis of audit system.

The Prime Minister assured the newspaper owners' association of looking into the problems, while State Minister Abu Sayeed agreed at the meeting to sit today with the BSP lead ers for an appraisal of the sit

Among the BSP leaders who attended the meeting were Ahmedul Kabir, Kazi Shahed Ahmed, Enayetullah Khan Mizanur Rahman Mizan and Syed Mesbauddin.

68 young girls held in city By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested 25 men and 68 young girls from different parts of the city yesterday allegedly for their anti-social ac-

Special teams of the Detective Branch and police from different thanas arrested them during raids on residential hotels, beauty and massage parlours.

Khaleda

From Page 1

tion at all tiers, she hoped The former prime minister reminded them of various steps undertaken by her government to help the youths become self-reliant by giving them loans without collateral and also late President Ziaur Rahman's initiatives in this re-

Alleging that repression was going on the activists of the pro-BNP youth and student activists across the country, Begum Zia said the youth community should take the lead in doing away with all sorts of injustice in the society. The BNP chief demanded

that 'oppression and harassment' of her party activists be stopped immediately. Otherwise, she warned, her party along with the people would resist any attempt to undo people's rights, democracy, independence and sovereignty of the country.

She cautioned the people against what she called moves to snatch people's rights by raising slogans for cheap popu-

"Our party believes in constructive politics and is committed to safeguarding democracy and democratic rights of the people", said Begum Zia.

Chaired by city Jubo Dal chief Abu Sayeed Khokon, the meeting was also addressed by. among others, Mirza Abbas, Giasuddin Choudhury Khokon, M Anwar Hossain, Nabi Solaiman, Nasiruddin Patwari, Anwar Hossain Lalu and Alamgir Hossain.

EU move

said it came from within and

by a European Union citizen originates in Bangladesh which last year exported nearly 200 million of the gar-

The spokesman said the new export forms were printed on special security paper with three-dimensional watermarks and a unique serial number.

countries with major exports to the EU.

Dacoity From Page 1

Later, following the confessions of the arrested persons, the police recovered the money and some of the gold ornaments including two

SRINAGAR, India, July 3: Eighteen people were killed overnight in Kashmir, including ten members of one family. as continuing violence gripped the strife-torn state, police said today, reports AFP

face punitive action

The government yesterday charted comprehensive measures for smooth and adequate supply of fertiliser to farmers.

The national coordination committee on distribution of fertiliser at a meeting adopted the measures and warned the dealers of punitive action in

The meeting, held at Indus-

Management and Relief Minis from February 1997.

The whole gamut of issues concerning demand, production, stock and overall supply of urea fertiliser was reviewed in the meeting. Effective courses of action were evolved to ensure availability of adequate quantity of fertiliser at the farmers level. In this perspective, all concerned were

Nominations

From Page 1 Rouf Asha (Nilphamari, Lal manirhat and Rangpur). Mrs Shahanaz Sardar (Kurigram and Gaibandha), Mrs Quamrunnahar Putul (Jaipurhat and Bogra), Prof Jannatul Ferdous (Sirajganj and Pabna), Prof Zinatun Nesa Talukder (Nawabgani and Rajshahi), Shahin Monwara Huq (Naogaon and Natore), Anjuman Ara Jamil (Kushtia, Meherpur and Chuadanga), Mrs Rehana Akhtar Hira (Jhenidah-Narai and Magura), Aleya Afroz (Jessore and Satkhira), Begum Mannujan Sufian (Bagerhat and Khulna), Nargis Ara Huq (Patuakhali, Borguna and Bhola), Mrs Mahmuda Sawgat (Barisal, Jhalakathi and Pirojpur). Chitra Bhattacharya (Tangail), Tahura Ali (Jamalpur and Sherpur), Jahanara Khan (Mymensingh), Sabita Begum (Netrokona and Kishoreganj) Marium Begum (Manikganj and parts of Dhaka district), Barrister Rabeya Bhuiyan (Dhaka). Mehar Afroz (Gazipur and

Narsingdi), Sagufta Yesmeen (Narayanganj and Munshiganj) Syeda Sajaeda Chowdhury (Rajbari and Faridpur), Prof Khaleda Khanom, (Gopalgan) Madaripur and Shariatpur) Syeda Zebunnesa Huq (Sunainganj and Sylhet), Husne Ara Waheed (Moulvibazar and Hobiganj), Dilara Harun (Brahmanbaria and parts of Comilla). Prof Panna Kaiser (Parts of Comilla and Chandpur). Razia Matin Chowdhury

Noakhali and Lakkhipur), Mrs Zeenat Hussain (Chittagong) and Prof A Thin (Rakhain) (Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban).

Hasina: Poverty From Page 1

She informed that her gov-

ernment had already formed an administrative reforms committee and was planning to set up a law reforms commissicn. The Prime Minister said

her government would give special attention to decentralisation and restructuring, and reinforcing the local govern-Hasina said law and order

situation is receiving top priority of her government and for this purpose the government would give special attention to strengthen the law enforcing agencies.

The Prime Minister thanked the heads of UN agencies for their continued support to the development efforts of Bangladesh and requested for increased assistance for the country's economic develop-

She also urged the donors to appreciate the situation under which this government came to power and called for giving a breathing time before imposing hard conditions in their aided projects.

The UN mission chiefs assured their full support and cooperation to the new gov-

Principal Secretary to the

18 killed overnight in Kashmir

directed to initiate allout mea-

reports UNB.

case of lapses.

It decided to take measures, including cancellation of dealership, against the dealers who will fail to lift and supply urea as per contractual terms.

tries Ministry with Industries and Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed in the chair, noted that adequate measures had already been taken for meeting the fertiliser requirement of the country upto September 1996. Agriculture, Food, Disaster

ter Begum Motia Chowdhury was present at the meeting which worked out specific plans to ensure availability of fertiliser to the farmers at fair price to meet the demand of the remaining period of the current year, particularly pick demand-period commencing

seats of parliament. Sangsad.

Later. Hasina selected Abu Hasnat Abdullah, MP, as Chief

dent vesterday, a minister said. "we will discuss our choices for the posts of

The minister, who talked on condition of anonymity, declined to say whether or not Awami League was willing to offer the post of Deputy Speaker to Jatiya Party, which is a partner in the AL-led gov-

Sources in the AL said that the leader of the ALPP was keeping the options and choices guarded secret till those come up for discussion

From Page 1

lenge for any government." Pierre Landell-Mills, chief of the World Bank's resident mission in Dhaka, taking the floor, supported the views of Prof Yunus and said there must have a long term vision in de-

However, he said there can be remarkable improvement in education, health or other sectors without any change of technology just by simple policy change, improvement of

to prices. He said agricultural production dropped in the 1990s because of price col-

He also expressed concern over the transfer of poverty from the rural areas to the urban areas and said the efficiency of family planning programme must be improved for long term sustainability. Others present in the dis-

cussion were Abu Abdullah, Embassy.

DG. BIDS, and KK Nielsen, Charge d'Affaires, Royal Danish

nomic growth, he said steps bias to export trades. chains, eight rings, two pairs also addressed the meeting. ernment. will also be taken for enhanc-MCCI President Samson H attended by representatives of of ear rings. Chowdhury said the manufacing productivity, linking it to Prime Minister Syed Ahmed different chambers and trade Ramna police were interrothe wage to reach the benefit turing sector has been badly and ERD Secretary Lutfullahil associations and senior officials gating the arrested persons till affected by the pre-election of increased productivity to of finance ministry and NBR. Majid attended the meeting. last night.

dates. his famous dialogue delivery "Jaani, jin ke ghar sheeshe ke hua karte hain, woh dusron par patthar nahi phekan kartain,

procedures to create a tax realisation system where the tax-payers would feel comfortable in paying tax.

(NBR) has already taken various steps to simplify the return-form for the self-assessment tax payees. He also reaffirmed that no private financial, commercial and industrial establishment

would be nationalised, and the private sector will be the driving force behind the economic growth of the country. Kibria also assured that measures would be taken to maintain balance in interna-

balance in imports and ex-Referring to the interim budget announced by the caretaker government, he said the new government might bring some change in the bud-

stagnation. If necessary, we won't hesitate to take any step for the sake of industry and trade," he said. The finance minister said

the government would take steps to ensure macro-economic stability and growth in gross domestic product (GDP) needed for the country's existence and alleviating poverty. Citing low productivity as a hindrance to accelerating eco-

He said the government would ensure proper use of water resources, electricity and mineral resources and take necessary measures for the development of power sector, including increased use

Addressing the meeting. NBR Chairman Dr Saadat Hussain said the country could not enjoy the trade facilities of next century if the prevailing trend of under-invoicing and

misdeclaration continued. Referring to the present taxation system, Dr Hussain said: "Our present taxation system repulses the tax-payers. Our tax payment system is complex, harassing, and seene

cases are discriminate." He said the Board has already taken steps to identify the problems in the taxation system.

omy, FBCCI President Salman F Rahman said the reform measures should come in a package and its sequencing is also important to get desired results. He said the last government bad initiated reforms, but they

were not placed in a package.

national economy, he said. Rahman urged the new government to present short, mid and long term visions for the economy, prioritising high growth based on massive industrialisation with a positive

the growth path in order to bring dynamism in the econ-To do so, he said, the next budget should lower Customs Duties on raw materials, and components and reduce Cus-

ital machinery and spares to a maximum of 5 per cent. side bottlenecks continue.

toms Duties on all types of cap-

Pointing at the growing budget deficit, he particularly expressed concern over the government announcement that a Pay Commission will be set up to review the emoluments of government and pubolic employees.

per cent from the current rate of 15 per cent as the rate is not more than 10 per cent in many advanced countries in Foreign Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) President Mahbub

Jamil called for amendment of

the Foreign Investment Protection Act, enacted in 1980 but already became out-of-date. M A Momin, Jessore Chamber President Abdur Razzak Khan and Rajshahi Chamber President Mohammad Ali Sarkar

From Page 1

outside Bangladesh. Every second T-shirt worn

> If successful, the scheme will be expanded to other

Fertiliser situation reviewed

Defaulting dealers to

sures from now. The meeting was informed that six urea fertiliser factories had a stock of 2,35,000 MT on July I and it has been pro-

jected that the factories will

have stock of 2,32,000 MT on

August 1 taking into considera-

tion the production and the

supply of urea as planned for the month of July. The meeting stressed building up buffer stocks at different places for meeting fertiliser requirement.

Necessary measures have been taken by now for building buffer stock of 1.50,000 MT at various places of the country. A total of 36,000 MT urea has already been transferred to various buffer-stock godowns located in the northern region and this process is being further geared up.

BČIC has been advised to schedule necessary maintenance works of the fertiliser factories keeping in view the need for supplying urea. Writ challenging

election to women's seats By SC Correspondent A writ petition challenging

election to the 30 reserved

seats for women in the Jatiya

Sangsad before the bye-election to 16 seats has been filed in the High Court Division. The 16 seats were vacated by those elected from more

than one constituency. In the petition, filed by Abu Bakar Siddique, an advocate of the Supreme Court, it has also been prayed that an injunction be issued on holding election to the reserved seats before completion of the election to all the 300 directly elected

The petition may be moved

From Page 1 The ALPP meeting will be held at the Sangsad Bhaban cabinet room at 7:15 pm.

Earlier, the first meeting of the ALPP on June 20 empowered Hasina to choose the Deputy Leader of the ALPP as well as the Chief Whip and whips of the party in the

Whip. She, however, did not name the Deputy Leader of the ALPP and three whips till yes-Talking to this correspon-

Speaker and Deputy Speaker in the coming ALPP meeting."

ernment.

at the ALPP meeting. Check wastage

Mahmud talking about his short three months' experience. "Crores of taka are allocated on the basis of region. political or bureaucratic bias checking of which is a chal-

velopment.

governance efficiency and decentralisation. Landell-Mills contradicted with the study's finding that low and stable prices for staple grains have positive effect on poverty alleviation saying that farmers are highly responsive

wealth and property. The Prime Minister re Sarkari Karmachari Sanghati

Prime Minister "The main objective of my

ernment officials and employees in fulfilling the commit ments of her government, the Prime Minister called upon them to work hard for rebuild

To attract foreign investment (FDI). Hasina called upon

the government to send immediate relief to the flood vic-The overall flood situation in all eight thanas of the district further deteriorated due to heavy rain and onrush of

Five thousand families of 15

villages in four worst-affected

water from hills.

authorities.

thanas of Sadar, Dighinala Panchari and Malchari were rendered homeless. About 2,000 flood victims have taken shelter at Khagrachhari Shishu Primary School, Mahajon Para Primary School and Khabong Puria Primary School. Cooked foods are being distributed among

Road communications between Khagrachhari, and Rangamati districts headquarters remained snapped as parts of the road were washed away. Six medical teams have been sent to the affected areas

the district civil surgeon said.

has added to the sufferings of

the people in the flood-af-

Scarcity of drinking water

the victims by the Paurasava

In Jamalpur, overall flood situation in 15 unions remained static while two more unions, Langalpur and Furpur in Melandah thana were inundated vesterday.

Official sources said more

than 1,000 people had been

marooned in South Fulbaria

Shekervita, Dattapara and

Nayapara areas of Jamalpur Pourasava. President, PM

felicitate Clinton

President Abdur Rahman

Biswas and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday felicitated the President of the United States of America William J Clinton on the occa sion of the 220th Independence Day of USA, reports 'On the auspicious occasion

of the 220th Independence

Day of the United States of

America, I, on behalf of the

people of Bangladesh and on

my own behalf, extend to you excellency and through you to the people of USA our heartfelt greetings and cordial felicitations," President Biswas said. In her message, Hasina expressed the hope that the existing bonds of friendship, cooperation and understanding between the two friendly countries will be further

ahead to the mutual benefit of the people of Bangladesh and Lightning kills schoolgirl

strengthened in the years

BARISAL, July 3: A teenaged schoolgril was killed and her mother injured by lightning at Chakhar village in Banoari thana today, reports UNB. Witnesses said Parvin Akand, 16, died on the spot when the thunderbolt struck

them while they were going to

a nearby pond during heavy

Another report adds: A snatcher was beaten to death by the angry villagers in Gouranadi thana this afternoon. Witnesses said the villagers caught Panna Howlader, 25, red-handed as he tried to

snatch valuables from

hospital.

Grameen Bank employee at

Kasemabad village and beat

him up mercilessly. He suc-

cumbed to injuries on way to

Editor: Mahfuz Anam Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on

behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA.

connection, the source added. Govt to gear up reforms political movement and the

In this regard, he said, the National Board of Revenue of solar energy.

tional trade by pursuing liberal trade policy and removing im-

get as an elected government, but it preferred stability in economic affairs. "But stability does not mean

Welcoming the announcement of reform in the econ-

They also did not have any clear sense of direction for the next budget has a very vital task of putting the sector in

Chowdhury also cautioned that the inflationary pressure will further aggravate in August-October period this year if the prevailing trend of supply-

DCCI President Ali Hossain laid emphasis on lowering value added tax (VAT) to 10

Sylhet Chamber President