

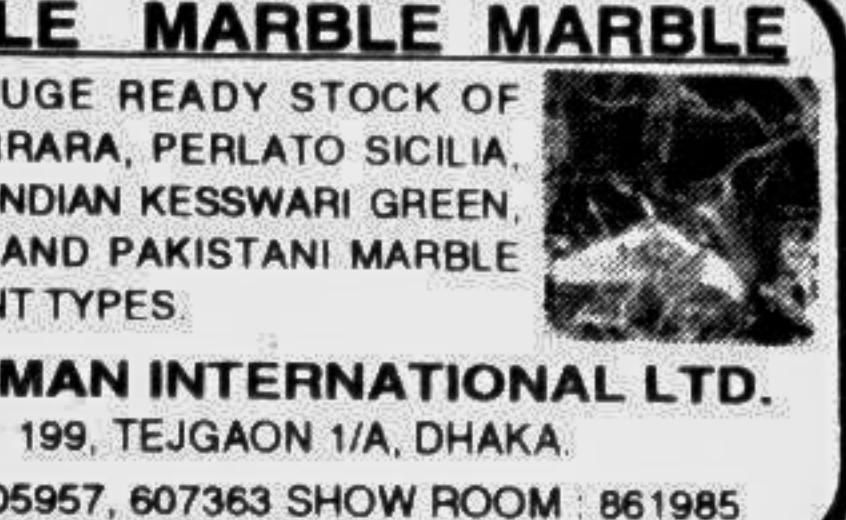


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SHRAVAN 17, 1403 BS.

DHAKA THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1996

RABIUL AWAL 15, 1417 HIJRI



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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 1156.17 (+0.75%)
Market capital Tk 7932.05 cr
Transactions in volume 700969
Transactions in value Tk 14.07 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 467.94 (+1.63%)
Market capital Tk 4263.99cr
Transactions in volume 54540
Transactions in value Tk 1.67 cr

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NEWS BRIEFS

PM starts southern dists tour today

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to start a two-day tour of the five southern districts of the country today. According to a party press release during her visit to Khulna, Bagerhat, Gopalganj, Madaripur and Sharabpur districts, the Prime Minister would also visit the flood affected areas of the region.

Minor boy killed

By DMC Correspondent A minor boy was killed when a pile of bricks fell on him at Mohammadpur in the city yesterday.

Shumon 3, was playing when the accident occurred at about 8 am. He died on the spot, sources said.

RU first yr honours class from Aug 3

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, July 31: The first year Honours classes (Session '95-'96) of Rajshahi University will begin on August 3, a varsity press release said.

Labourer killed in wall collapse

By DMCH Correspondent A labourer was killed when an under-construction brick wall collapsed on him near Sadarghat in the old part of the city in the morning.

The victim, Mohammad Zamal Hossain, 50, was fatally injured and died on the way to the DMCH hospital sources

The Daily Star

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12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 5.00

AL, BNP exchange accusations
Pandemonium in JS averted

By Staff Correspondent

The general discussion on the supplementary budget for 1995-96 fiscal in Jatiya Sangsads yesterday turned into a competition of political oratory between the Awami League and BNP legislators, who severely criticised each other's party for various past misdeeds — both political and economic.

Meanwhile, the Speaker had a meeting with Chief Whip of the Sangsads Abul Hasnat Abdullah and Chief Whip of the Opposition Khandaker Delwar Hossain at the former's chamber.

Before giving the floor to anyone after resumption of the session, the Speaker told the House that no member should make any statement in Parliament hurting the religious sentiment of any legislator.

He also asked the members to behave according to the dictates of the Constitution and the JS Rules of Procedure.

He also announced that he would expunge all the unpar-

liamentary words used so far by MPs of both sides.

The House reached the state of pandemonium when Shamsuzzaman Dudu of the BNP, referring to a statement made by ruling Awami League MP Dharendra Debnath Shambhu, said "Only a Hindu could compare Bangabandhu with the holy Quran."

With the utterance of the word "Hindu", the Speaker asked the member to stop immediately.

"Otherwise you would be ousted from the House," he said.

The Speaker further said that he would not allow anyone to make any derogatory remark on any reli-

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Tk 100cr agri subsidy a farce: BNP

By Staff Correspondent

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday termed the Tk 100 crore agriculture subsidy proposal in the budget a farce taking into account the ratio of the total amount and the number of farmers in the country.

Referring to the finance minister's proposal to provide subsidy for purchase of agricultural equipment, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan asked: "How many farmers in Bangladesh use machinery? The marginal and middle poor class of farmers do not buy machines."

He further added, "The farmers expected that inputs like fertilisers, seeds and insecticide will be subsidised."

He criticised the Finance Minister saying that the budget speech tried in vain to undermine the economic achievement of the BNP government by presenting false information.

Mannan Bhuiyan noted that the finance minister in his speech said that the per capita income of the country in 1994 was 220 US dollars, whereas, as per the Bangladesh Economic Review 1996 of the finance ministry, the per capita

income was 190 US dollars.

The government had accepted the resignation letter of Nurullah. His resignation took effect from June 23, 1996.



KS Nabi new Attorney General

Senior lawyer of the Supreme Court Barrister Kazi Shahidul Nabi (KS Nabi) has been appointed Attorney General, an official announcement said yesterday.

The President gave the appointment until further order in exercise of the constitutional power bestowed upon him under Article 64, according to the announcement.

KS Nabi replaced M Nurullah, who had earlier tendered his resignation after the last general elections that brought the Awami League to power.

The government had accepted the resignation letter of Nurullah. His resignation took effect from June 23, 1996.



Water logging in a city road after yesterday's shower.

— Star photo

PM assures visiting delegation
All bottlenecks to be removed for Japanese investment

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said measures had been taken to create congenial atmosphere for foreign investment in the country and hoped Japan would make substantial investment in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

Japan stood by during the Liberation War of our country," she said and hoped that the friendly country, Japan, would come forward to make larger investment in Bangladesh.

"We give special emphasis on Japanese investment here. All existing bottlenecks will be removed," she told a Japanese economic mission which called on the Prime Minister at her office yesterday morning.

She informed the six-member delegation that certain steps had been taken in this regard. "Positive steps have been taken to attract foreign investment."

Welcoming the Japanese high powered team, led by Uzuhio Unwotoko, Chairman of the Japan-Bangladesh Committee for Commercial and Economic Cooperation and Toyo Engineering Corporation, Hasina recalled with gratitude

of the FCCCI.

He further said the delegation members observed that the new administration provided in the budget sufficient incentive on foreign investment and improvement of infrastructure.

During a meeting with Finance Minister SAMS Kibria at his office, Unwotoko praised the government for taking steps for attracting foreign investors.

"This will pave the way for economic development of Bangladesh," he said.

The Finance Minister apprised the Japanese mission of the present government's steps for creating congenial and favourable atmosphere for foreign investors.

Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed at a discussion yesterday told the delegation that the government will enact laws very soon to establish new Export Processing Zones (EPZs) under the private sector in Bangladesh so that investors,

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Airport Rd most accident-prone in Metropolis

By Staff Correspondent

The Airport Road in the city is most accident-prone road in the metropolis, according to a computerised data analysis made by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP).

The DMP introduced computerised data management system for monitoring road accidents in the city roads a year ago. DMP Commissioner Mohammad Salam said at a press briefing at the DMP headquarters here yesterday. The press briefing was also attended by senior officials of the DMP.

Presenting an overall picture of the city traffic situation, Salam hoped that the new

ALPP meets on budget discussion

By Staff Correspondent

The Awami League Parliamentary Party (ALPP) yesterday discussed in brief the ways and means to make the Seventh Jatiya Sangsads (JS) an effective one, sources in the party said.

In an hour-long meeting, held at the cabinet room of the Sangsads Bhaban, the ALPP also discussed the strategies regarding AL's participation in the discussion in the House on the proposed budget for fiscal 1996-97 and the supplementary budget for 1995-96 financial year.

Chaired by Prime Minister and ALPP leader Sheikh

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By-elections: AL interviews candidates Aug 3

By Staff Correspondent

The Awami League Parliamentary Board (ALPB) yesterday interviewed in brief the ways and means to make the Seventh Jatiya Sangsads (JS) an effective one, sources in the party said.

In his paper said that the rural non-farm activities were yet to be identified as discrete component of the economy — eligible for integrated policy inducement and strategic planning.

He said that there was concern regarding the substitution effect of trade liberalisation on the rural non-farm activities (RNA) as the average tariff in Bangladesh was lower than the countries of the region, particularly in India and Pakistan.

He said that synergic benefits need to be derived through institutional arrangements based on partnership among

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Bubka pulls out of Games



UNIQUE UNION: Russian gold medalist Alexei Nemov shares a light moment with tiny American star Dominique Moceanu during a gymnastic gala at the Georgia Dome on July 30.

— AFP/UNB photo



ATLANTA, July 31: The Olympic pole vault was hit by a double sensation here today as world champion Sergei Bubka withdrew from the competition while arch-rival Okkert Brits crashed out after no-heighting, reports AFP.

The South African had just failed his third attempt at 5.60m and was still holding his head in his hands in despair when it was announced that Bubka, who won his fifth world title in a row in Gothenburg last year, had quit the qualifying round without taking a vault.

Meanwhile, tearful Sonia O'Sullivan, billed before the Olympics as a sure bet for two golds, crashed out of the Games empty-handed here today, trailing home a distant 10 in her opening 1500m heat.

The Irish world 5,000m champion, who had failed to finish the final of that race on Sunday after struggling with a stomach problem, fell right off the pace in the final lap of the second heat.

The lawmakers enjoyed some lighter moments when the Speaker said laughingly that he would consider employing a "handwriting expert" and keeping record of "specimen signatures of the MPs" provided all endorsed his "noble" idea.

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Slip of tongue

By Reaz Ahmad

Slip of the tongue by some lawmakers created some lighter moments in the Jatiya Sangsads during the busy business hours yesterday.

While replying to a call attention notices from woman MP Prof Panna Kaiser, Finance Minister SAMS Kibria mistakenly pronounced her name as Kaina Paiser. He, however, corrected the name instantly but this evoked laughter in the House during the afternoon session.

Taking part in the discussion on the supplementary budget a BNP deputy, Shah Md Abul Hussain, did another mistake that earned him a "table thumping" appreciation from AL lawmakers. He wanted to mention the "famine" of 1973-74 but, mistakenly mentioned the period as 1993-94. Hussain, however, corrected himself.

Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury very wittily asked BNP lawmaker MK Anwar to "match" the time of his wrist watch with that of the Speaker whenever he enters the House. A humorous Chowdhury told this to Anwar when the latter drew his attention to the allocation of time for MPs, whose call attention notices (CANs) cannot be entertained by the Chair. Anwar had claimed that the Speaker allocated three minutes less than the stipulated 30-minute time.

The lawmakers enjoyed some lighter moments when the Speaker said laughingly that he would consider employing a "handwriting expert" and keeping record of "specimen signatures of the MPs" provided all endorsed his "noble" idea.

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Export of rural non-farm items

By Staff Correspondent

Former Finance and Planning Adviser Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud suggested that import duty compensation at a flat rate would boost export of non-farm products from rural areas.

By providing this compensation, the environment can be stimulated through non-farm activities," he said while making the wrap up presentation at a day-long national workshop on "Stimulating Growth through Rural Non-farm Activities in Bangladesh: Review of the Experience and Search for a Policy Agenda," at city hotel yesterday.

Economic Relation Division Secretary A K M Mashirul Rahman chaired the final session titled "Search for a Policy Agenda for Rural Non-farm Development." Shahidul Yusuf and Shahidur R Khanakader of the World Bank and Debapriya Bhattacharya of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) presented three papers. Mamatz Uddin Ahmed of Dhaka University and Faruk Akhter Chowdhury of USAID were the lead discussants.

Dr Mashirul Rahman said that the size and limit of the targeted credit could not be sustainable for the borrower and especially to those who wanted to graduate to a higher level.

Debapriya Bhattacharya in his paper said that the rural non-farm activities were yet to be identified as discrete component of the economy — eligible for integrated policy inducement and strategic planning.

He said that there was concern regarding the substitution effect of trade liberalisation on the rural non-farm activities (RNA) as the average tariff in Bangladesh was lower than the countries of the region, particularly in India and Pakistan.

He said that synergic benefits need to be derived through institutional arrangements based on partnership among

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Sarah Balabagan freed

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, July 31: A housewife and her minor son were murdered at village Dublagari under Palashbari thana yesterday.

According to police Lila Begum 20, wife of Amirul Islam, a rickshaw puller, and their three year old son Sahajatan, were found dead inside their house in the afternoon.

Witnesses said the neighbours broke open the house and found the blood stained bodies of the mother and her son.

Her husband, Amirul reportedly left the house with his van early in the morning.

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CTBT: No change