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The fired security employees of the Canadian High Commission in Dhaka staging a sit-in in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. —Star photo

Diarrhoea kills 7 more, 6000 attacked so far

By Staff Correspondent

Seven more persons died of diarrhoea in the cyclone-affected areas over the last 24 hours raising the death toll due to the disease to 30.

During the period, some 1,020 more people were attacked by the disease.

All seven deaths were reported from Noakhali district where a total of 739 people were attacked by the water borne disease during the 24-hour period. During the same period, 250 more people were attacked by diarrhoea in Chittagong while 31 more in Cox's Bazar.

Disclosing these figures to newsmen at the regular briefing last night, the Press Secretary to the Prime Minister, Jawadul Karim, however, said the situation was not epidemic.

Injured Jubo League worker dies in KMCH

By Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, May 26: A Jubo League activist of Ward No-31, Aijbar Rahman, 30, succumbed to stab injuries at the Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) last night.

Police said some of his associates attacked him near the Khulna shipyard and later sent him to KMCH where he died at about 11 pm.

The killers also belong to the same organisation, police said.

Rajshahi unit Shibir secy held

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, May 26: Police arrested the general secretary of the Islami Chhatra Shibir, Rajshahi city unit, Sarwar Jahan Prince, from the court premises today.

Sarwar went to the court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate for extension of his bail. Police in plain clothes arrested him in connection with another case.

President

From Page 1

Mohiuddin Chowdhury, MPs Mosharraf Hossain Engineer, Master Abul Kashem and Sarwar Jamal Nizam, who were present on the occasion, appealed to the President to take note of sufferings of the affected people annually, saying that a permanent solution should be worked out.

President Shahabuddin said that such a gigantic task would have to be materialised in phases because of resource constraint.

The President visited the cyclone-affected areas of Mosheshkhali and Anwara thanas. At Cox's Bazar, State Minister for Land Alhaj Rashed Mosharraf briefed the President about relief activities of the government and other NGOs.

At the Babupara union high school field in Anwara thana, President Shahabuddin told a spontaneous gathering that there should be no difference of opinion among the politicians of different parties in carrying out relief operations.

He called upon all to utilise the relief materials properly and work unitedly to mitigate the sufferings of the people.

Economic bloc

From Page 1

technology, human resource development, fisheries and agriculture, tourism and transport.

Experts say there is a considerable potential for further expanding trade, new joint ventures and human resource development through interaction among the four countries.

There is a substantial pool of professionals, skilled and unskilled manpower in the region which could be utilised for the improvement of quality of life, they observed.

BNP blames govt for making JS ineffective

DINAJPUR, May 26: BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan today accused the government of hatching conspiracy to make the Parliament ineffective, reports UNB.

He was addressing a joint conference of the party leaders from Dinaipur, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh districts at the local Lok Bhawan Hall with district BNP convenor Begum Khurshid Jahan Huq MP in the chair.

Bhuiyan said the BNP joined the Parliament to maintain the continuity of democratic process despite the fact that the Awami League had taken power after winning the June 12 election 'through rigging with the help of its foreign masters'.

But this government has been signing agreements one after another against the interest of the country without discussing in the Jatiya Sangsad.

he said reiterating the allegation that BNP was not being allowed to speak in the House.

He further alleged that the time allocated for BNP in the BTV telecast was inadequate and the speeches of opposition MPs were distorted. The parliamentary committees have not yet been formed even after lapse of one year," he said.

The BNP leader said the ruling party wanted to make the parliament ineffective so that the Opposition could not raise protest against the government's subservient policy, inefficiency, failures and autocratic activities.

He criticised the government for what he said giving 'corridor' to India, importing power from the country, Chittagong Hill Tracts issue, smuggling, law and order, and formation of sub-regional grouping.

The BNP secretary general called upon his party workers to strengthen the party at grass-roots level and prepare for a greater and united movement against the government under the leadership of Begum Khaleida Zia.

The meeting was also addressed by Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar, Ashraf Hossain, Goyeshwar Chandra Roy, Fazlur Rahman Patal MP, Alamgir Kabir MP, Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu, Zafurul Hasan, Habibur Rahman Habib, Mirza Alamgir and Habibunnabi Sohel.

Rehabilitation of cyclone-hit people in Cox's Bazar begins

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, May 26: Army personnel have begun distributing corrugated iron (CI) sheets among the affected people in the district.

On the first day today, they listed damaged houses and distributed CI sheets in Zilonga Union in Sadar thana and Rashidnagar, Duarinala, Chatmarkul, Fatehkharkul and Rajarkul unions in Ramu thana.

Each family is to get one bundle of CI sheet and Tk 500 in cash. Though CI sheets were distributed cash could not be distributed due to non-availability of the allocated fund, officials said.

Out of 1,100 bundles of CI sheet, allocated for Sadar thana, Army personnel distributed 200 bundles today and planned to distribute another 100 bundles tomorrow.

But the rehabilitation programme is being hampered due to heavy rainfall and strong winds over the last two days.

TNO of Sadar thana Kefayetullah told this correspondent that Cox's Bazar district administration had allocated 550 bundles of CI Sheet and Tk 2.4 lakh in cash while another Tk 2 lakh would be made available from PM's Relief Fund for the Sadar thana. The relief would be distributed as soon as listing of the damaged houses is completed, he said.

Navy personnel were continuing relief operation in Mosheshkhali thana. They said, 1,000 bundles of CI sheets would be made available for distribution by tomorrow.

The TNO of Mosheshkhali told The Daily Star that 300 polythene rolls were distributed in three unions while the district administration had sanctioned 225 bundles of CI sheet for the affected people. These will be distributed after listing the damaged houses, he said.

Editorship

From Page 1

ing his absence should not be declared to have been made without lawful authority and having no legal effect.

A Division Bench of the HC comprising Justice Mainur Reza Chowdhury and Justice M A Aziz, upon a writ petition filed by Barrister Mainul Hossain also ordered stay of the orders for eight weeks.

The High Court also directed Anwar Hossain Manju to show cause as to why publication of his name as the Printer and Publisher of the Daily Ittefaq should not be declared to have been made without lawful authority and having no legal effect.

The Additional District Magistrate (Publication Section), Dhaka in his order dated February 2 said that if Rahat Khan functions as the Acting Editor, in the absence of Anwar Hossain Manju, they would have no objection.

By another order dated April 3, the Additional District Magistrate declared Anwar Hossain Manju as the Printer and Publisher of the Ittefaq.

Barrister Akhtar Imam moved for Barrister Mainul Hossain.

Canadian HC sacks 52 local employees

By Staff Correspondent

The Canadian High Commission in the city yesterday sacked 52 of its local employees.

When contacted over telephone last night, the High Commissioner of Canada confirmed the termination of services of the employees but declined to give details about the matter.

A group of employees told The Daily Star that they had been working with the High Commissioner for a long time. The employees were demonstrating in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

The claimed they were not aware of the grounds of their dismissal from service.

Govt to set up playground in every union

The government has decided to set up a playground in each union on the government's khas land for promoting sports and games in the country, officials sources told BSS in Dhaka yesterday.

According to sources, the Ministry of Land has directed the deputy commissioners (DCs) to implement this decision.

The deputy commissioners will take necessary steps for its management and maintenance under the supervision of the concerned thana nirbahi officers (TNOs) and UP chairmen.

Bangladesh's recent unprecedented victory in the ICC trophy has inspired the government to take such a decision for making the boys and girls worthy in the fields of games and sports, the sources added.

Donors

From Page 1

contribution of agriculture to the national economy was 42 per cent, industry 19 per cent and services 39 per cent.

The strategy also suggested increasing regional revenue, reforming taxation on agricultural lands, withdrawing fertiliser subsidies and privatising sugar industries.

Experts say that Jamuna Bridge will increase the region's economic activities. The North-West's Gross Regional Product (GRP) has been growing steadily and was valued at Tk 122 billion in 1993-94.

The total GRP was estimated at Tk 102.8 billion in fiscal 1989-90, Tk 108.4 billion in 1990-91, Tk 110.8 billion in 1991-92, and Tk 121.7 billion in 1992-93.

BNP's conditions

From Page 1

'who would take their own initiative and intervene' should any disturbance develop; the District Judge should act as the Returning Officer instead of the District Commissioner; and the Assistant Returning Officer must come from the Judiciary.

Asked whether BNP would contest the June 30 Manikganj by-election, Hafizuddin simply reiterated the party's demand for resignation of the CEC, one of the conditions for its participation.

The Manikganj-3 Jatiya Sangsad seat, traditionally a BNP stronghold, fell vacant following the death of BNP parliamentarian Nizamuddin Khan on April 8.

The EC announced the by-poll schedule on Sunday.

Asked if the BNP was prepared to sacrifice such a stronghold in protest, Mannan replied, his party "first wants to be sure about the fairness of the polls." But, admitting that BNP was still uncertain about its participation, Mannan said, "We have made our position clear, it is now upto the EC to act and let us know as soon as possible."

The last date for submitting nomination papers for contesting the by-election is June 8. The last date for withdrawal is June 14.

Newspaper publishers can import newsprint without customs duty

President of Bangladesh Sangbadpatri Parishad (BSP) Kazi Shahed Ahmed yesterday urged all concerned to remain alert so that no quarters could misuse the recent order of the National Board of Revenue regarding the newsprint import, reports BSS.

According to the order of the NBR, the newspaper publishers should get the certificate of newsprint quota from the Ministry of Information and they could import newsprint without customs duty after taking no objection certificate from the Ministry of Industry.

Otherwise, the order said, 15 per cent duty would have to be paid. Other importers will also have to pay 15 per cent duty, it added.

The tariff value of the newsprint has been fixed at 470 US dollar.

Kazi Shahed Ahmed urged all concerned not to delay in giving certificate and no objection certificate.

Relief: PM to chair tomorrow's review meeting

By Staff Correspondent

A high-level meeting will be held in the city tomorrow to review the overall relief and rehabilitation situation in the cyclone-hit areas of the country.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will chair the review meeting to be held at 7 pm tomorrow at the International Conference Centre in the Prime Minister's Office, said Jawadul Karim, Press Secretary to the PM, yesterday.

Mother, son die as they fall into well

JAMALPUR, May 26: A young housewife and her minor son died as they fell into a well near their house at Ambaria village in Melandaha thana today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Mohon, a five-year-old boy, fell into the well while playing near the shaft at about 4:30 pm. His mother Rita, 22, and their neighbour Shamsul also slipped into the 40-feet well as they tried to rescue him.

On information, firebrigade personnel rushed to the spot and rescued the three and brought them to Melandaha Thana Health Complex where the attending doctors declared the mother and the son dead.

Shamsul was undergoing treatment at the thana health complex.

Transport strike

From Page 1

arrest of the attackers on driver Helal and exemplary punishment, security of life and property of the transport leaders and workers, an end to harassment by police and freeing the terminal from the grip of "Awami terrorists".

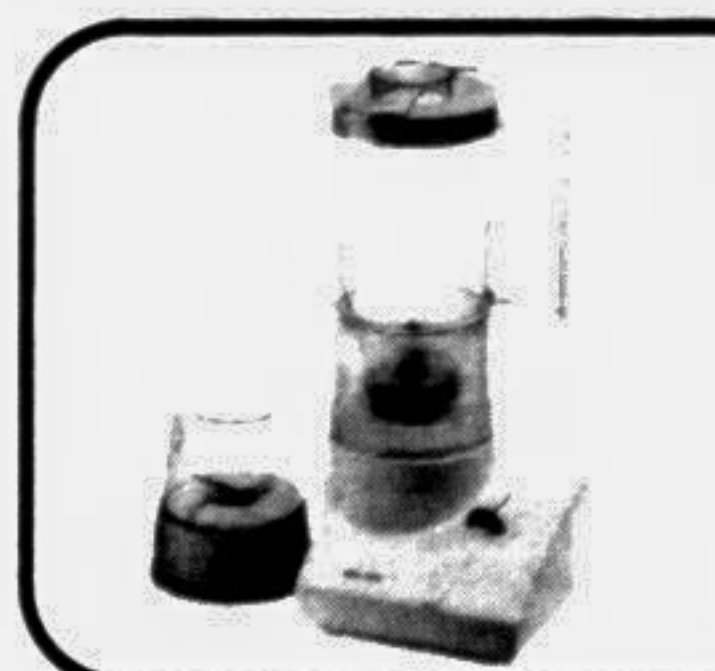
Due to the strike, transportation of fertiliser to its command area in 16 northern districts and of essential commodities remained disrupted.

On Sunday night, police arrested four people including a prostitute in connection with the killing of Jagadish.

In Barisal, movement of passenger buses in 34 routes from the town came to a total halt as an indefinite strike began today at the call of the District Sarak Paribahan Samik Union.

The Union enforced the strike after the expiry on Sunday night of a 72-hour ultimatum to the district administration.

The ultimatum was given demanding arrest of an 'identified' terrorist group, led by Kala



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Newspapermen's action programme

The central coordination committee comprising three federations of newspaper industry and Dhaka Union of Journalists yesterday announced an action programme in support of their demand for Wage Board Award, reports BSS.

The announcement was made at a rally of the coordination committee held at the Jatiya Press Club premises.

The action programmes include three-hour work stoppage in newspapers and news agencies on May 27, 28 and 29 from 11 am and a 24-hour strike on May 31 from 6 am.

Fifth Wage Board Award at final stage: Sayeed

The fifth Wage Board Award for newspaper industry is at the final stage and will be announced soon, State Minister for Information Abu Sayeed said yesterday, reports UNB.

The minister said this while talking to some journalist leaders who met him at the Information Ministry.

To press for immediate announcement of the Wage Board Award, journalists and employees of the newspaper industry observed a four-hour token strike yesterday.

Sayed said the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is sincere to ensure the welfare of all journalists and workers and employees of the newspaper industry.

Bangabandhu murder

Hearing of Zobaida's revision petition on June 12

By SC Correspondent

The hearing of the criminal revisional petition filed by Zobaida Rashid challenging the framing of charge against her in the Bangabandhu Murder Case has been fixed to be held on June 12.

On May 4, a division bench of the High Court comprising Justice Mahmud Amin Chowdhury and Justice Shahabuddin Naim Maminur Rahman issued a rule and stayed all further proceedings of the case.

The rule will be heard by the division bench of the HC comprising Justice B I Chowdhury and Justice M A Matin.

Local Government

From Page 1

The administrative units will be run by elected representatives. The general members as well as women members in 30 per cent reserved seats of these LGs will be elected through direct voting by the people.

The proposed Village Panchayat will be constituted with 12 members including three women.

In Union Parishad, nine members — one each from nine Wards — will be directly elected. Three women members will also be directly elected to the reserved seats to represent three Wards each.

Thana or Upazila Parishad will be composed of one member from each union. And one-third of the total seats will be reserved for women.

Zilla Parishad will be constituted drawing two members from each Thana Parishad and one-third of the total seats will remain for the women representatives.

The Local Government Commission was constituted on September 1, 1996 with a view to devolving power to people's representatives as stipulated in the Constitution.

Two girls

From Page 1

aged about 15 was gang raped near the Uttar Bisil slum in Mirpur area in the city Sunday afternoon. A group of young men kidnapped the girl when she went out of her house to bring water from a near by place.

A gang of about four took the girl to a room and raped her. A case has been filed accusing four persons.

Yasmin murder

From Page 1

be examined in the court tomorrow.

Dr Matubar Rahman and Dr Kamrunnesa in their depositions said that they clearly and efficiently did the 2nd autopsy of Yasmin's body and detected injuries of rape and torture on her body which ultimately caused her spot death.

Of the total 54 PWs in the case, 40 were examined till today. The court will sit tomorrow.

Dhaka invites

From Page 1

ASEAN countries have gone for at least four sub-regional groupings, he said, adding Bangladesh will definitely benefit from such cooperation with India, Nepal and Bhutan.

Economists for increasing price of urea

Finance Minister Shah A M

S Kibria favoured continued subsidy for the agriculture sector while some leading economists suggested a raise in urea fertiliser price in the next budget, reports UNB.

At a pre-budget consultation yesterday, the economists also called for addressing the problems of the banking sector in the budget with proper importance and effective measures to realise loans from the defaulters.

Annual development programme (ADP) was the other area which dominated the discussion, part of an exercise to formulate the national budget for the 1997-98 fiscal year accommodating opinion from different professional groups.

The economists termed the ADP a "black hole" which gobbles up a huge amount every year without delivering anything substantial and called for proper monitoring of the spendings under the development plan.

The meeting in the NEC conference room lasted two and a half hours where the economists heard from the finance minister about the performance of the economy and the achievements of the budget for 1996-97 fiscal year.

Kibria gave them various statistics about the performance of the economy and highlighted government's development priorities during the next 1997-98 fiscal year, the budget for which is likely to be placed on June 12.

The minister said current year's GDP growth rate would exceed the target of 5.5 per cent and is expected to reach almost 6 per cent. "And in two years, we'll achieve a 7 per cent growth," he hoped.

Most of the economists were of the view that government policy providing subsidy to agriculture paid back with a good harvest this year and said agriculture is the most deserving sector for subsidy.

But they suggested that the government increase the price of urea. "At least the government should start the process of raising the urea price right from the next budget," said Dr Abu Abdullah, Director General of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS).

3 arrested, arms recovered

By Staff Correspondent

Three persons were arrested and some arms and ammunition were recovered from their possession by a team of detective police in the city last night.

The recovered arms include two foreign-made revolvers and three rounds of bullet, according to a police press release.

Two persons were arrested from Shantipur and Tarabagh areas under Sabujbagh thana and another person from Kona para under Demra thana. The arms were recovered from them.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

পরিবেশ অধিদপ্তর

পরিবেশ ভবন, প্লট ১-ই-১৬, আগারগাঁও

শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭

‘বিশ্ব পরিবেশ দিবস’ ৫ই জুন, ১৯৯৭ইং ও

‘জাতিসংঘ পরিবেশ কর্মসূচীর ২৫তম প্রতিষ্ঠা বার্ষিকী’

উপলক্ষে শিশু চিত্রাংকন প্রতিযোগিতা

বিষয় : ‘সুস্থ পরিবেশ-সুন্দর জীবন’।

স্থান : বাংলাদেশ শিশু একাডেমী প্রাঙ্গণ, পুরানা হাইকোর্ট এলাকা, ঢাকা।

প্রতিযোগিতার বয়স : ০৭-১২ বছর।

পুরস্কার : তিনটি (১ম স্থান, ২য় স্থান ও ৩য় স্থান)।

তারিখ ও সময় : আগামী ৪ঠা জুন, ১৯৯৭ইং (বুধবার), বিকাল ৩টা।

পরিবেশ ও বন মন্ত্রণালয় এবং পরিবেশ অধিদপ্তরের উদ্যোগে আসুন

‘বিশ্ব পরিবেশ দিবস’ ৫ই জুন, ১৯৯৭ইং ও জাতিসংঘ পরিবেশ কর্মসূচী

(ইউনেপ)-এর ২৫তম প্রতিষ্ঠা বার্ষিকী উদযাপন উপলক্ষে এ প্রতিযোগিতার

আয়োজন করা হয়েছে। আগামী প্রতিযোগীদের আগামী ৪ঠা জুন,

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তুলি ইত্যাদি সঙ্গে নিয়ে শিশু একাডেমী প্রাঙ্গণে উপস্থিত হয়ে প্রতিযোগিতায়

অংশগ্রহণের আহ্বান জানানো যাচ্ছে। উল্লেখ্য, অংকন কার্য সম্পাদনের

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প্রতিপাদ্য নির্ধারণ করা হয়েছে ‘জীবনের জন্য ধরিত্রী’ (For Life On

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ডিজিফি-১২৫২৯-২৫/৫

জি-১৫০৮

আবদুল হামিদ

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