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The World on Time



People evicted from Nilkhel Babupura slum in the city staged a protest rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday demanding their rehabilitation. — Star photo

Turkish govt loses majority in parliament

ANKARA, June 9: Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan's Islamist-led government lost its majority in the Turkish parliament today as a key allied extreme right-wing party withdrew support for him, reports AFP.

"We no longer support the government as it has failed to meet our demands," Mehmet Ekici, deputy leader of the Grand Union Party, told reporters after a party meeting.

AP adds: Amid rising political tensions, Islamic Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan and his center-right coalition partner have agreed to hold early elections in October, reports said.

Erbakan convinced deputy prime minister Tansu Ciller on an election date of either October 19 or 26, major newspapers, including Sabah and Milliyet, reported.

Ciller had been favouring a date in March. She was not immediately available for comment. But her office said Ciller would meet with her party's executives later today and may make a statement afterwards.

A majority vote in Parliament is needed to call for early

JP candidate

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Abdul Wahab Khan of BNP, Moazzem Hossain Khan, Md. Jafirul Islam, Md. Murad (Rob), Md. Sadeque Ali Patowari of Bangladesh Krishok Sramik Mukti Andolon and Dr Kartik Chandra Saha (Independent).

The last date for withdrawal of nomination is June 14.

Manikganj-3 constituency comprises parts of Sadar and Saturia thanas. The seat fell vacant following the death of BNP MP Nizamuddin Khan on April 8.

10 injured as JCD, BCL clash in Bhola

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, June 9: At least 10 activists of the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) were injured in clashes at Charfangan under Bhola district today.

According to police and witnesses, BNP Charfangan thana unit called a meeting at Charfangan to protest the attack on Nazimuddin Alam MP's house there.

The BCL also called a meeting in the place. This led to clashes between the two student groups.

Police arrested 8 activists from both sides. One seriously injured Nurul Amin was admitted to hospital.

Sylhet JCD worker arrested on murder charges

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, June 9: Kotwali police arrested an activist of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Mofazzal Hossain Bulbul, here this morning for his alleged complicity in the killing of two JCD leaders.

Police said, Bulbul is an accused in the murder cases of Munna and Muhin who were killed due to fighting in JCD in 1994 and 1995. Besides, he is wanted in 5 other cases.

The JCD brought out a procession in the town today demanding his release.

BISTEC accord

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modesties in this regard, he added.

Sherwani said that the ministerial meeting approved the terms of reference for a study to be undertaken by an international regional organisations like ESCAP.

He said the study would identify specific projects which could be implemented among the member countries. The study will be completed by September 1997 and selection of projects undertaken by December this year, he added.

Sherwani said the initial areas identified for cooperation include multimodal transportation, joint ventures for processing and marketing of marine products, cooperation in horticulture and floriculture, science and technology cooperation in the field of research and development, and consultations regarding projects being implemented in areas like ESCAP and ADB such as Trans-Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway.

He said Myanmar attended the meeting as 'observer' and is expected to join the sub-regional grouping.

Proposal

From Page 1

trusted with the task of issuing licences. It sent its proposal to improvise upon the system to have a computer data base, to store personal details about a driver including photographs.

As the proposal was sent to the authorities for approval the drivers possessing the plastic licences were asked to retain them for another year.

But the new applicants are being issued the vintage driving licences on a paper book, which is helping the trade in fake licences. They are being traded around with prices ranging from Tk 200 to 600 depending on the quality of the fake licences.

Police said the number road accidents involving drivers with fake licences is showing an increasing trend. The proliferation of fake licences also thwarts BRTA's efforts to improve the system of issuing licences with strict tests.

But many applicants prefer to avoid the BRTA test by simply paying the cheats who hover around the BRTA office in Mirpur.

The results of the Congress polls were expected to be announced late on Thursday.

Kesri, who has had more than eight months to solidify his grip on the party, was tipped to win an easy majority among the more than 8,000 Congress

The Daily Star

Tofael tells Indian trade team Proposed growth quadrangle to foster economic ties

Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed said the proposed growth quadrangle comprising Bangladesh, India, Bhutan and Nepal would be launched to foster sub-regional economic cooperation, reports UNB.

"Mutual cooperation is the main theme for development in the globalisation process of trade," he said, adding "explore who has what and then share potentialities to each other for mutual benefit" is the effective tool to bolster trade and development in today's world.

Addressing a meeting with the visiting trade delegation of north-eastern region of India in Dhaka yesterday, Tofael said there are plenty of scopes for mutual economic cooperation between Bangladesh and India.

"There are lots of opportunities and possibilities where the two countries can work together for mutual benefits. Our present duty is to pinpoint the areas and implement projects," he said.

Led by the President of Federation of Industries of North Eastern Region (FINER), H S Kumbhat, the delegation includes high government officials, federation members and potential entrepreneurs of seven northeastern Indian states.

Terming the present visit of the 39-member Indian delegation "a very good beginning", Tofael said setting up of backward linkage, cement and agro-based industries and enterprises for other finished and semi-finished products in Bangladesh on joint or mixed ventures would be beneficial to both sides.

Expressing the sincerity of India in developing further trade and investment relations, Tofael said setting up of the 39-member Indian delegation "a very good beginning", Tofael said setting up of backward linkage, cement and agro-based industries and enterprises for other finished and semi-finished products in Bangladesh on joint or mixed ventures would be beneficial to both sides.

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