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The World on Time



People evicted from Nilkhet 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 ally 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 elections, normally scheduled for 2000.

"October is the month of prosperity after harvest and when the government is the most strong," Erbakan argued, according to the Radikal daily. The government buys most of the harvest at subsidised prices.

Erbakan wants the polls early, fearful of a pending case in the supreme court which could lead to his Welfare Party's closure.

Erbakan agreed to hand over the premiership to Ciller once Parliament approved the election date in an effort to subdue criticism from the secularist establishment, led by the military, for his attempts to put a greater Islamic stamp on Turkey.

Tensions between the military and the government further increased last weekend in a war of words on whether the government had provided funds for the three-week-old incursion into northern Iraq to strike at Kurdish rebels.

BDR seizes yarn worth Tk 6 lakh from Jessore

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, June 9: BDR recovered Chinese silk yarn worth about Tk 6 lakh and arrested one person in this connection here this morning.

Acting on a tip-off, a special patrol team of BDR raided a truck when the yarn was being unloaded near the SA Transport and seized a total of eight cartons containing 490 kg of Chinese silk yarn.

The BDR personnel also arrested one alleged smuggler Zahid Hossain from Gohata in the town. Seven others fled.

বাংলাদেশ তার ও টেলিফোন বোর্ড

শেরেবাংলা নগর, মিরপুর, গুলশান ও টঙ্গীর ডিজিটাল টেলিফোনের দাবীনাংমা জারী সংক্রান্ত বিশেষ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানান যাচ্ছে যে, শেরেবাংলা নগর এক্সচেঞ্জের আওতায় ৩১-৫-৯৭ তারিখ পর্যন্ত এবং মিরপুর এক্সচেঞ্জের আওতায় ৩১-১২-৯৬ পর্যন্ত এনাংশ ও ডিজিটাল টেলিফোনের জন্য যারা আবেদন করেছেন তাদেরকে আগামী ৩০-৬-৯৭ তারিখের মধ্যে ডিজিটাল টেলিফোনের জন্য দাবীনাংমা জারী করা হবে।

- এ ছাড়াও গুলশান ও টঙ্গী এক্সচেঞ্জের আওতায় এ পর্যন্ত সকল আবেদনকারী ডিজিটাল টেলিফোনের দাবীনাংমা সংগ্রহ করতে পারবেন।
- মূল আবেদনপত্রসহ আবেদনকারী ব্যক্তিগতভাবে কোন কারণে উপস্থিত না থাকতে পারলে আবেদনকারী নিজ স্বাক্ষরে এবং প্রেরিত প্রতিনিধির স্বাক্ষর সত্যায়িতপূর্বক একটি দরখাস্ত প্রেরণ করে দাবীনাংমা সংগ্রহ করতে পারবেন।
- দাবীনাংমার জন্য আবেদনকারীদেরকে সহকারী প্রধান কর্মাধ্যক্ষ (এসএস), ঢাকা, টেলিযোগাযোগ অঞ্চল (উত্তর), টেলিফোন ভবন, শেরেবাংলা নগর অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে যোগাযোগ করতে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।
- উল্লেখ্য যে, ইতিপূর্বে ডাকঘরো প্রেরিত দাবীনাংমা বেশীরভাগই ফেরত এসেছে এবং কিছু কিছু ক্ষেত্রে অন্য লোকের হস্তগত হয়েছে বিধায় এ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হলো।

গ্রাহক সেবাই আমাদের লক্ষ্য

বাংলাদেশ তার ও টেলিফোন বোর্ড

ডিগ্রী-১৪০০২-৮/৬

৯-১৬২২

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 Charfasion under Bhola district today.

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

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, Mozaffar 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 Muhi who were killed due to in fighting in JCD in 1994 and in 1995. Besides, he is wanted in 5 other cases.

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

BISTEC accord

From Page 1

modalities in this regard, he added.

Shervani 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.

Shervani 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 for 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.

ব্যাংক সেবাই আমাদের লক্ষ্য

বাংলাদেশ তার ও টেলিফোন বোর্ড

ডিগ্রী-১৪০০২-৮/৬

৯-১৬২২

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 linkages, 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 relation-

9 arrested child traffickers sent to jail

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, June 9: All 9 members of the child trafficker gang arrested by Jakiganj police were sent to the district jail here today.

The thana magistrate court also sent the four minor boys rescued from the traffickers, to the safe custody of police.

The boys, in their separate statements before the court said the traffickers had taken them from their poor parents on condition of sending them to Dubai for attractive jobs. The gang members also promised of giving financial benefits to their parents, they said.

Meanwhile, Jakiganj police said, they had started investigation into the activities of the child traffickers in the border areas.

Police arrested the 9 child traffickers and rescued the 4 minor boys while they were enroute to Dubai.

Ershad

From Page 1

domestic industry."

Ershad said, "Economy is at stake during the rule of the present regime."

He also blamed the past BNP administration for ruining the country's economy, describing his nine-year rule as the "era of development" while the BNP's five years "of destruction."

About his taking over power in 1982, the former military ruler said he had assumed power with reluctance.

"I did not come to power through any coup ... The then President Justice Sattar asked me to take over," he claimed.

Ershad said he wanted to give election in 1984, "but the BNP and Awami League were unwilling to take part and that's why I was forced to promulgate martial law."

Presided over by city JP convenor and central joint secretary general S M A Rab, the meeting was also addressed by Syeda Razia Fayez, Nazim Rahman Manju, Shahadat Hossain, Hasan Uddin Sarker, Sheikh Abul Hossain and Saifur Rahman.

Kesri : Cong leadership

From Page 1

Today's internal vote for Congress Party president is only the third in 50 years and fifth in the party's 112-year history. In the past, the party leader was simply appointed by the most popular — and therefore most powerful — Congress members.

But this year the federal Election Commission ordered all parties to hold organisational elections by the middle of the month as part of efforts to reform the political system.

The parties that make up India's governing coalition, which is supported by but does not include Congress, also will hold internal elections this month.

The Commission's ruling has brought squabbling within Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral's Janata Dal Party to a head as the group struggles to hold organisational polls by June 18.

Janata Dal's president, Lal Prasad Yadav, has been linked to a fodder scandal, and the election has deepened a split within the party between his supporters and critics.

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

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Let's make things better

PHILIPS

RUTA faction extends strike

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, June 9: A faction of the Rajshahi University Teachers Association has decided to extend their strike on the campus till June 19.

The Islamic Chhatra Shibir, RU unit has also extended their hartal programme up to June 30.

Both groups have been observing a strike on the campus since April 26, demanding, inter alia, cancellation of the new admission system and release of all ICS activists.

Reopening of the University on June 11 has become uncertain following the fresh strike call given by the rival RUTA and Shibir activists.

Meanwhile, last night's Syndicate meeting chaired by the Vice Chancellor Professor M A Khaleque, sacked A K M Iqbal, a lecturer of Population and Human Resource Development Department, for his irregular appointment.

The meeting also decided to withdraw from June 11 police and para-military forces from the Shaheed Shamsuzzoha Hall.

ALPP meets today

A meeting of the Awami League Parliamentary Party (ALPP) will be held at 3 pm today at the Treasury Bench conference room in the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, reports UNB.

Party President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will chair the meeting, said a press release yesterday.

JPPP meets today

A meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) will be held at 2 pm today at Sangsad Bhaban, reports UNB.

Party Chairman HM Ershad will preside over the meeting.

Bangabandhu

From Page 1

framed against her by the District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka on April 7.

In his observation on May 6, the District Judge said, "the business of the court will be decided as per the orders of the High Court," while ordering stay of the proceedings of the case till 10:30 am June 10.

Meanwhile, the High Court has again refixed June 12 for the hearing of the criminal revisional petition challenging the charge framed against Zobaidda Rashid.

The trial of the Bangabandhu murder case began formally at the court of District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka on April 8 with the indictment against 20 people accused for the killing. The charge framing of the case was spread over two days, on April 7 and April 8.

Following the framing of charges, the court also fixed April 21 for the examination of prosecution witnesses. The date was deferred till April 29 following a defence petition expressing apprehension of fair trial in the court.

On April 29, the court postponed the proceedings of the trial till May 6, on grounds that one writ petition had already been filed before the High Court, the hearing of which was also fixed on the same day.

Cement plants

From Page 1

trade and business with Bangladesh as well as with other South-Asian countries, he added.

The Indian trade delegation members said they do not merely want to export raw materials, but to share value addition which would benefit both Bangladesh and the Indian north-eastern region, physically closed to Bangladesh.

Kumbhat said increase in volume of trade between Bangladesh and the seven Indian states would reduce the trade gap between the two countries.

The chief of the FINER said that there can be propositions from both sides, particularly in mineral, forest, agriculture, horticulture and pisciculture-based products.

He felt that Bangladesh's proposal for free access and Indian proposal for transit facilities through Bangladesh and use of Chittagong Port would make the region a formidable centre for economic activity by the turn of the century.

Principal Secretary of the State Government of Meghalaya Ranjan Dutta, Commissioner and Secretary of Industries Department of Meghalaya D P Srivastava and R N Kalita, a senior officer of the Indian Ministry of Railway, also spoke at the press conference.

Ranjan Dutta said Meghalaya needs investment of Bangladesh in capital intensive project of hydro-power plant where there is potential of producing about 30,000 MW of electricity.

Joint efforts in harnessing the resources of India's north-eastern region and Bangladesh would help this region to prosper, Dutta added.

Police continue search for Sayeed Iskander

Uniformed and plainclothes police continued their search for Major (ret'd) Sayeed Iskander in connection with assaulting two army intelligence personnel, reports UNB.

Iskander, younger brother of Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia, and 24 others have been charged with assaulting the DFI personnel near his office at Kawranbazar on June 4.

Police arrested Imdadul Anwar and Zulfikar Ali, the employees of Iskander's business firm, from the spot and brought them on remand.

Official sources said the chargesheet of the case would be submitted within a couple of weeks. OC of Tejgaon thana, Mohsinuzzaman is investigating the case.

Partial disruption in NWD exchange

Telecommunications of the city with other districts were partially being disrupted since yesterday noon due to technical fault in one of the two NWD exchange, reports UNB.

According to a T&T press release, the analogue telephones and the digital numbers beginning with '8' digit were being hampered due to the fault.

It said the officials concerned were working hard to remove the fault. The T&T Board regretted the temporary inconvenience caused to the subscribers.

CU campus

From Page 1

campus following the internal conflict of a particular student front that made the campus volatile.

The authorities order is a deep-rooted conspiracy to prevent other student bodies from carrying out their political activities on the campus, they said.

Enhanced benefits

From Page 1

The workers will have to inform the Textiles Ministry by July 31 this year about the ownership of the mills which they want to take over. No application will be accepted after this date.

The ministry will call tenders for the mills the workers and employees do not want to take over.

Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed, State Minister for Jute and Textiles A K Faizul Haq, MPs A B M A Kashem, Shahjahan Khan and Shamsul Haq, and secretaries concerned attended the meeting.

Convenor of Patkal Samik Karmachari Sangram Parishad Abul Bashir, President of Bangladesh Suta and Bastarak Samik Karmachari Federation Badrul Alam Khan Lavlu, President of Bangladesh Bastra Shilpa Samik League Z M Kamrul Anam and other workers' leaders were present.

Indian cabinet reshuffled

NEW DELHI, June 9: Five days after the induction of four women ministers of state, Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral today reshuffled his cabinet making two ministers of state for external affairs to assist him, reports BSS.

The two ministers of state for external affairs are Saleem Iqbal Shervani, who was minister of state for health, and newly inducted Kamla Sinham, according to an official announcement.

Prime Minister Gujral will, however, continue to hold the charge of the external affairs, Jammu and Kashmir affairs, ocean development and space, atomic energy, personnel, public grievances and pensions as well as other ministries and departments not allocated to any other minister or minister of state (independent charge).

Minister of state for chemicals and fertilizer Sheers Ram Ola has been made the minister of state (independent charge) for water resources while Janeshwar Mishra has been assigned to the office of the minister for petroleum.

Yoginder K Alag has been shifted from the planning ministry to the high profile ministry of power as minister of state (independent charge).

DCCI chief

From Page 1

There are two types of loan defaulters — one who took loans and became defaulters due to government's policy changes and another who became loan defaulters intentionally. Quasem said, "We don't have any sympathy for those who became loan defaulters intentionally but those who are victims of the situation should get help," he added.

For proper development of capital market, the DCCI chief wants the government to ensure separation of the management and the trading groups. He also called for an end to 'insider trading'.

As the foreign investors get quota facilities in primary shares, there should be some restrictions on the sale of those shares, he noted.

Quasem said for overall economic growth, there should be a consensus among the major political parties on issues like withdrawal of 'political patronage' of labour force, curbing terrorism and 'alternatives to hartal' for realising political demands.

He also said hartal still remains a big hindrance to local and foreign investment.

The DCCI president stressed the need for infrastructure development and poverty alleviation for attracting foreign investment. In this regard he mentioned power deficit of about 200 megawatt and inadequate facilities in the country. Port facilities were not keeping pace with the growing pressure of export-import activities, he pointed out.

Regarding law and order he said most of the entrepreneurs preferred trade to industry only because of the deteriorating law and order in the country.

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