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2 MPs, 10 others deported from Heathrow

By Staff Correspondent

Two Opposition MPs and ten other Bangladesh nationals were deported from the Heathrow Airport in London yesterday.

According to Immigration Department officials at the Zia International Airport, the two MPs belonging to the BNP are: AKM Hafizur Rahman (Bogra-2) and Shanmasuzzoha Khan (Naogaon-2).

None will be allowed to do politics with flood: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said none will be allowed to do politics with flood in the country, reports UNB.

Presiding over a meeting of the National Disaster Management Council at Ganobhaban last night, the PM expressed satisfaction over the present food stock.

The foreign response to the government's appeal to support the post-flood rehabilitation is also satisfactory, she added.

Hasina said the government would give top priority to rehabilitation in agriculture sector.

BNP takes up spl drive for relief operations

By Staff Correspondent

BNP observed its 20th founding anniversary yesterday through taking up a special drive for relief operations in the flood affected areas of the country.

Unlike on previous occasions, the party avoided festivity to mark the day, a party press release said.

It took up simple programmes like placing wreaths.

Rubel murder Judicial probe body issues summons on 2 DB men

By Staff Correspondent

The one-man judicial commission yesterday issued summons on the two Detective Branch policemen who are missing since the murder of Rubel in DE custody on July 23, according to sources close to the commission.

The summons issued on SI Nurul Alam and SI Tarek were sent to the DB office in the city.

Bid to raise funds through IPO by giving false financial figures

Star Business Report

A real estate company, which defaulted in paying crores of taka in debts to Sonal Bank, tried to raise funds from the capital market through IPO but was found to have furnished the regulator with false and fabricated financial figures.

Sonal Bank has decided to

Inside Today Article

Russia Needs Bold Leadership

Column: Connecting the Dots

by A R Chowdhury

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Business

Mahanagari gets caught while playing tricks

FBCCI seeks ADB aid to boost private sector, strengthen export base

DSE index up by 3 points

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Roundtable

Four-page Daily Star Roundtable on "How to Make Our Ports Function Better"

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Draft resolution adopted: Summit opens today NAM's call to reinforce fight against terrorism

DURBAN, South Africa, Sept 1: The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit last night adopted a draft resolution condemning terrorism, but remained divided on key issues including the war-torn Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The resolution, tabled by Lebanon, called for reinforcement of the "international fight against terrorism" and "condemns any act, method or recourse to terrorism," according to a text obtained by AFP.

Experts from the member nations were to finalise the draft, which will be put to a vote of the heads of state and government tomorrow.

The two-day summit will discuss the proliferation of nuclear weapons, conflicts in the Gulf and Middle East and the Asian economic crisis.

The draft also supported "the principle of a definition of terrorism distinct from the legitimate struggle of people under colonial or foreign domination, or under foreign occupation."

Lebanon, 800 square kilometers of which is under Israeli occupation along a southern "security zone," had asked at last year's NAM summit in New Delhi for recognition that "people's struggle under foreign occupation should not constitute a recourse to terrorism."

The South African delegation avoided controversy by striking out a resolution demanded by Kinshasa condemning 'Rwandan and Ugandan aggression'. Both are NAM members.

DRC president Laurent Kabila has accused Uganda and Rwanda of backing a month-old rebellion by ethnic Tutsis. Zimbabwe, Namibia and Angola have sent troops to support Kabila.

In other business last night, South Africa's Deputy President Thabo Mbeki called on for a 'global offensive' against poverty, as member states discussed measures to strengthen developing economies.

Mbeki, addressing NAM foreign ministers in this port city, also called for a radical review of the way in which poorer countries deal with international financial institutions like the World Bank.

"We have to lead the global offensive according to which all humanity should take advantage of the fact of the emergence of the possibility to end poverty..." he told foreign ministers of the 113-member body grouping the world's poorest states.

Mbeki, expected to take over from President Nelson Mandela as South Africa's leader next June, said the challenge for the NAM would be to organise itself to bring about greater equality between the rich states of the North and the poverty-ridden South.

Mbeki said the Movement must "radically review" the manner in which it deals with the World Trade Organisation.



LENDING A HAND IN NEED: Drivers of rickshaw vans at the flooded Aricha ghat have made an arrangement by joining their vans in a row to help passengers get on ferries and launches. They charge only Tk one from each passenger for this unique service. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman

60,000 sq km flooded

Duration longest, crop damages worse than '88

By Reaz Ahmad and Mizan Ali

Duration of flood this year has crossed all previous records and damage of crops by this flood is feared to be at least three times more than that caused by the 1988 floods, one of the worst calamities in the recent past, experts in the Meteorological Department told The Daily Star yesterday.

The land area flooded this time is, however, less compared to the 1988 floods, the experts said. A total of 60,000 sq km area has been submerged by floods this year compared to 90,000 sq km in 1988.

This year, the flood water has been above the danger level for about a month and a half since July 10. In 1988, it was only for 15 days.

The three major rivers — Brahmaputra, Ganges and Meghna — have been flowing above their respective danger marks since July 10 this year. The three rivers crossed their red marks on September 1 in 1988, they added.

Though the flood water has started receding, the rate of recession is very slow and the process may take another 10 days to be faster. "By that time, peasants are going to miss the proper timing to cultivate the transplanted Aman."

An expert observed that crop loss may stand at 30 lakh MT this time compared to some 10 lakh MT in 1988. He said, about 60 per cent of the Aman crop has been affected by the flood.

"But there is a consolation that some major Aman producing districts — Dinajpur, Rangpur and Bogra — are least affected by floods this year," the expert said.

In 1988, except some low-lying areas, Aman crops withstood the flood water because of its late advent and short duration. "But this year the flood hit early and peasants in most of the areas even could not plant Aman seedlings. Seed beds have also been damaged."



Birth centennial of Abul Mansur Ahmed tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

The birth centennial of renowned journalist, litterateur, politician and lawyer of the sub-continent Abul Mansur Ahmed will be observed in the country tomorrow.

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed will be present as chief guest at a discussion to be held in the city on this occasion.

In his long career as a journalist, Abul Mansur Ahmed

17 more die: 8 dists worst-hit Flood situation unchanged

The overall flood situation in the country remained virtually unchanged yesterday, reports agencies.

Officials said the road communications between Dhaka and Chittagong remained suspended as flood waters inundated 18 points between Mukti Sarani and Daudkandi on the Dhaka-Chittagong Highway.

Traffic movement on the Dhaka-Aricha and Dhaka-Tangal highways continued though certain portions of the highways remained under water.

Bangladesh Railway (BR) authorities said direct train communications between Bhairab Bazar and Mymensingh resumed through Shambhuganj yesterday. The train-link was snapped due to landslides in the adjoining areas of the main tracks.

The condition of Dhaka City Protection Embankment and DND embankment is 'within control' while some seepage developed in Narayanganj-Narsingdi Irrigation Embankment.

Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) said Brahmaputra registered fresh rise at all points while Jamuna fell in the downstream. Padma rose in the upstream and fell in the downstream.

Rivers in the Meghna and South-eastern Hill basins recorded fall at most places. However, the rivers in the four basins continued to flow above the red mark at 21 points.

FFWC officials said monsoon is fairly active in the country, but heavy rain continuing in the upstream of the rivers in India causing rise in water levels of Brahmaputra and Padma.

Significant rainfall was recorded at Jamalpur, Bogra, Naogaon, Dewanganj, Sheola and Kanaighat.

The FFWC said the flood situation in upper part of Meghna basin is likely to improve further while it may slightly improve from Bhairab Bazar to downstream up to Chandpur.

The situation in the central part of the country is likely to remain unchanged while in and around Dhaka city it may experience slight improvement.

Buriganga at Dhaka

Shazneen murder

Bail petitions of Hasan, Badal rejected

By Staff Correspondent

Bail petitions of Hasan and Badal, both accused in the Shazneen murder case, were rejected by the High Court on Thursday.

Hasan's bail prayer was rejected by a Division Bench comprising Justice Mozammel Hoque and Justice A B M Khairul Hoque. Badal's bail petition was rejected by a Division Bench comprising Justice Muhammad Abdul Mannan and Justice A K Badrul Hoque.

Both Hasan and Badal were engaged in renovation work at the Gulshan residence of Latifur Rahman, Shazneen's father.

A probe into smear campaign against Sarkar No legal bar on BB Governor in holding bank shares

Star Report

A powerful defaulter group has embarked on a smear campaign against the Bangladesh Bank Governor trying to make a point that the veteran banker, known for his honesty and integrity, is engaged in 'dishonest' activities regarding a bank of which he is a share holder.

But an investigation by The Daily Star revealed that the campaign by the big defaulter business group, against which the Bangladesh Bank (BB) has unearthed a series of fraudulent activities, is based on misinformation.

One of the allegations in the campaign is that Bangladesh Bank Governor Lutfur Rahman Sarkar, who was managing director of Prime Bank before joining the central bank, holds Tk 25 lakh worth of shares of the bank. This, as the campaign says, is unlawful and unethical and that the governor had concealed this fact. "The governor had favoured the bank because of his shareholding, the campaign alleges.

But according to the Bangladesh Bank Order 1972, there is no bar on a person becoming governor of the central bank and at the same time holding shares of a bank.

Section 9(9) of the order relating to the eligibility of a governor says the governor can not

DDA director's clarification

Md Abdul Malek, Director of the Directorate of Drug Administration (DDA), in a clarification to a news item published in The Daily Star on August 29 has said the report was not based on facts.

He said, according to the provisions of the Drug Act, 1940, drugs include:

1) All medicines for internal or external use of human beings or animals and all substances intended to be used for or in the

2) As a result, Sarkar could not transfer his shares, which experts point out, was not required by the laws to become a

Removal of kidney by mistake has put Asma's life in danger

By Naimul Haq

Asma is counting her days at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital because doctors have mistakenly removed the only functioning kidney she had.

But Prof Mahmudia Khatun at the Gynaecology Department of the hospital who was one of the doctors who performed the operation claimed that Asma's kidney was removed because it was diseased.

She told The Daily Star that originally, the decision for operation was to remove an ovarian tumour but after opening her abdomen (laparotomy), a 4-kg tumour was found on her kidney. The tumour had to be removed for Asma's safety, she said.

During the operation, her pregnancy was terminated, removing a five-month old fetus.

Prior to Asma's surgery on August 11, abdominal ultrasonography report said that a 'pelvic mass' had developed and gynaecologists confirmed that Asma had a tumour on her ovary. But doctors removed the "diseased" kidney.

Dr Nazma Nasrin who had performed laparotomy on Asma said, "When I noticed the huge tumour twisted in her intestine (a very complicated case), I asked for advice of Prof Mahmudia Khatun who rushed to the operation theatre for help. Both of us, assisted by others, removed the kidney."

Prof Mahmudia Khatun said, as per the post-operation ultrasonography report, Asma had "congenital absence of kidney tissue." Only then we realised that Asma had been living with only one kidney. "The other kidney was not fully developed since her birth and is not functioning," she said.

Asked about Asma, Prof Khatun said, "She will not survive unless a kidney is implanted."

When contacted, some experts said, it was apparent that the gynaecologists had made a "mistake" by not consulting nephrologists or urologists.

"Had Prof Mahmudia Khatun or her associates consulted a nephrologist at the time of the operation, Asma would perhaps

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