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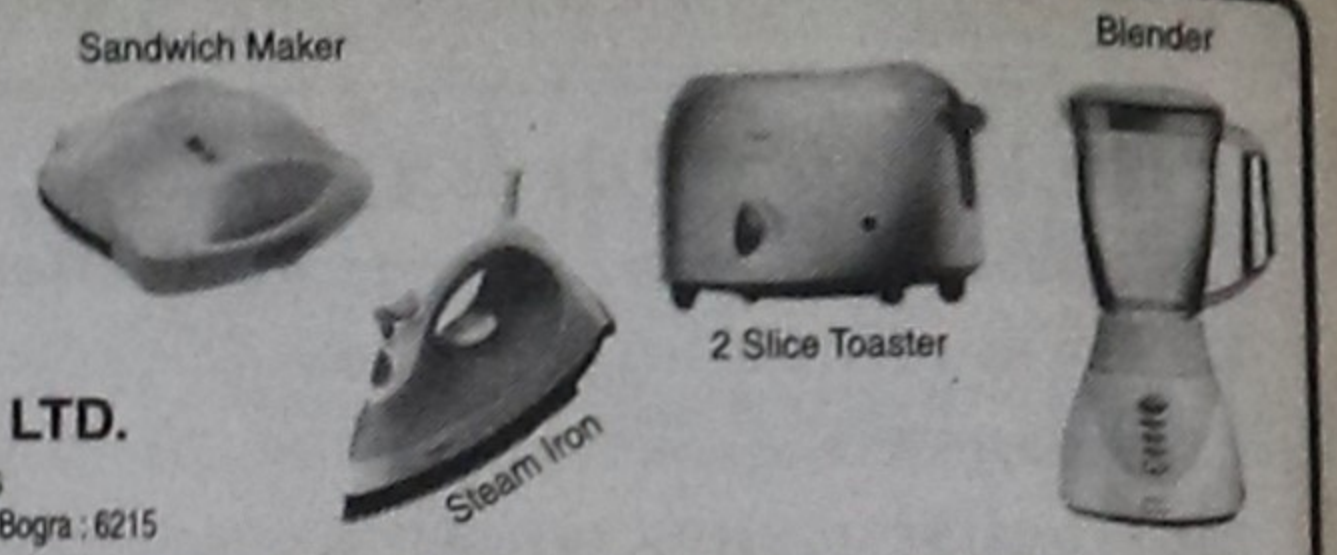
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Ruling party starts politicisation of admin to cling to power: Khaleda

By Staff Correspondent

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday said the ruling Awami League has become desperate to cling to power and started massive politicisation of administration with this end in view.

She said the AL government is now appointing "controversial and own partymen" in vital positions and offices, including the Election Commission as part of its conspiracy to return to power.

Addressing a group of professionals at her 29 Minto Road official residence, the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament said the government has completely failed to develop any sector. Rather, terrorism, repression and falsehood have been increased.

The Chittagong Unit of Professional Action Council led by its president Prof Mohammad Nur-un-Nabi and general secretary Shamsuddin Ahmed Mirza called on Khaleda Zia and informed her about the situation of the port city.

The BNP Chairperson said people of all professions, especially the businessmen are now scared of terrorism and extortion. Sons of Ministers and MPs are involved in murders and terrorism, but no action is being taken against them.

Lauding the role of the council, the opposition leader advised the leaders of the organisation to form such action council all over Bangladesh.

JS body for aggressive marketing policy with neighbouring states

By Staff Correspondent

The JS Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs has proposed adoption of an aggressive marketing policy with India and other neighbouring countries.

The marketing policy should be followed to reduce the gap in trading of agricultural and other commercial commodities and also to help develop human resources.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the JS Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs at Sangsad Bhavan on June 21. It was presided over by Dr Muhammad Selim.

The meeting was told that the present government wanted to improve the economic condition and living standard of the people and that foreign policy guidelines were accordingly prepared.

It was stressed that only by pursuing proper economic diplomacy and economic relations can we achieve our goal.

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Finance Minister S A M S Kibria speaking at a roundtable organised by the Prothom Alo on 'Budgetary Allocation for Education Sector' at BISS auditorium in the city yesterday. Renowned economist Prof Muzaffar Ahmed is on his left while Chairman of JS standing body on Education, Nurul Islam Nahid and BNP MP Barrister Ziaur Rahman are on his right.

'Increase budgetary allocation to improve quality of edn'

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a Roundtable yesterday stressed the need for increasing budgetary allocation for education sector with steps for stopping wastage and for more research to improve the standard of education.

Ministers, bureaucrats, politicians, educationists and representatives of donor agencies and NGOs took part in the Roundtable on education, held at the BISS auditorium here.

Editor of the Daily Prothom Alo, Mattiur Rahman, moderated the discussion. Prof Muzaffar Ahmed delivered the key-note speech.

The speakers included Education Minister ASHK Sadek, Finance Minister SAMS Kibria, Chairman of Parliamentarian Standing Committee on Education Nurul Islam Nahid, Ziaur Rahman Khan MP, former vice-chancellor of BUET Dr. Iqbal Mahmud, Education Secretary Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmed, former education secretary AFM Yusuf, Kamrunnessa of the Institute of Education and Research (IER) of Dhaka University, Sadaat Hossain and Dr. Aysha Khatun Secretary and DG respectively of Primary and Mass Education

Department, Saleh Matin, Prof S. K. and Dr. Mushtak Chowdhury, Zahid Hossain of World Bank, Shamin Ahmed of Unicef, Faisal Hossain of Action Aid, Khandakar Zahurul Alam and Monowarul Islam of NORAD.

Prof Muzaffar Ahmed said the country is lagging behind in science education due to lack of trained teachers, quality textbooks, rich libraries and laboratories, all of which need more finance.

The big gap between the cost for education in private and public sector was also pointed out.

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Three-day hartal at Jakiganj begins today

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, June 24: All Party Forum called a three-day hartal at Jakiganj thana beginning tomorrow demanding direct coach service in Jakiganj-Dhaka route and protesting harassment of bus passengers on the Sylhet-Jakiganj road.

The Sylhet-Jakiganj Motor Owners Association is against the Jakiganj-Dhaka direct coach service, it is learnt. Jakiganj-Dhaka coach service was suspended immediately after its introduction in 1998.

Different organisation supported hartal and called upon the people to make the programme a success.

Shipment deadline expires June 30 Frozen shrimps lying at port for over 2 weeks

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, June 24: Over 120 containers of frozen shrimps worth Tk 150 crore have been lying at Mongla port for over two weeks, shrimp exporters said.

The deadline for shipment of the shrimps will expire on June 30. Buyers will cancel their contracts if these shrimps are not shipped within the deadline.

The cancellation of contracts will hit hard the exporters of Khulna zone because most of them are heavily burdened with bank loans.

Besides, they are yet to complete payment to the growers from whom shrimps were purchased at rates higher than the previous year.

Despite repeated reminders, steps are yet to be taken to send two feeder vessels from Chittagong for shipment of the shrimps at Mongla port.

Two feeder vessels — MV Dafa (voyage no 143) and MV Eagle Sky (voyage no 232) — were scheduled to carry the shrimps. But they failed as they were not allowed to enter the port.

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PM's cheque for FFs to set up nurseries

By Special Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today hands over cheque for Tk 4,000 each to a select group of Freedom Fighters (FFs) to set up nurseries under a project to help rehabilitate unemployed FFs in the rural areas and protect the environment through regeneration of forests.

The handover ceremony takes place at the International Conference Centre in the city. About 150 FFs would get the cheques today.

The Rehabilitation of Unemployed Freedom Fighters through Forest Nursery Regeneration Project has been taken up by the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MOEF) to help an estimated 10,000 FFs to set up similar number of nurseries. Of them, 5000 would get the cheques today.

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N'ganj clash: 89 sued under PSA

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, June 24: Two more followers of Charmonal peer were arrested here today, raising the total number of those arrested in connection with Friday's incident in the town to 78.

The arrested were sent to jail today and a case under PSA was lodged against them for blocking roads and damaging public property.

Police also filed another case today accusing more than 4000 people of attacking police during the incident.

At least 100 people including 25 policemen were injured in a clash between the followers of Charmonal peer and police at DIT Avenue in Narayanganj town yesterday.

Meanwhile, Charmonal peer Syed Fazlul Karim left Deobhog Madrasah for Dhaka at midnight on Friday.

Actor Shawkat Akbar dead

Eminent film actor Shawkat Akbar died of a heart attack on Thursday night at a London hospital, thus bringing an end to a long career in the Dhaka film industry that spanned about 36 years, reports BSS.

At the age of 62, the widely respected gentleman and handsome actor of the silver screen breathed his last leaving an unaccounted number of colleagues and fans to mourn his death.

Shawkat Akbar, who had been residing in London since 1996, left behind his wife, a son and a daughter. His namaz-e-janaza was held at East London Mosque on Friday and he was laid to rest at Waltham Muslim Graveyard, a message received yesterday.

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Help govt reach healthcare facilities to all, PM asks physicians

Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina has asked the physicians to work with service-oriented mentality, ensure best possible treatment and help the government reach healthcare facilities to all, reports UNB.

"It's not possible for the government alone... the private sector should come forward to ensure medical services for all," she said inaugurating a Community Welfare and Health Care Centre at Dhanmondi in the afternoon yesterday.

The centre, a public-private joint venture, is an organ of Bangladesh Medical Studies and Research Institute.

The government provided Tk 8.18 crore for the project which was completed at a cost of Tk 22 crore. The centre is maintaining a 230-bed hospital and providing most modern treatment to the patients, organisers said. They said, poor patients are getting free treatment in the hospital, where 30 beds have been kept reserved for the poor patients.

So far, 1,174 students in 14 batches were admitted to Bangladesh Medical College, the study section of the institute, and 298 of them got the MBBS degree.

The Prime Minister said attention should be given so that the poor people can get the modern treatment and elaborated government's steps for reaching medical services to the doorsteps of the people.

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NOTICE

This is to inform all concerned that the scheduled properties are mortgaged with Arab Bangladesh Bank Limited, Karwan Bazar Branch, Dhaka as collateral security against credit facilities extended to Mr. Sarqum Ali favouring its proprietorship concern - M/S. United Travels, 63, Purana Paltan, Dhaka. Recently the Bank has obtained decree against the aforesaid Mr. Sarqum Ali in the Title Suit No. 84 of 1994 from Artha Rin Adalat No. 3, Dhaka. At present Title Execution Case No. 36/2000 dated 14.05.2000 is pending in the Third Artha Rin Adalat, Dhaka to execute the said decree for recovering of Bank's dues of Tk. 12,67,93,412.78 (Taka Twelve crore sixty seven lac ninety three thousand four hundred twelve and paise seventy eight) only as on 30/04/2000 including upto-date interest by selling the following properties through auction. Next date has been fixed on 29/06/2000 for service return. In this situation, we request and give notice to all concerns not to enter into any agreement for purchase of the following mortgaged properties in any manner whatsoever, if anybody gets involved in such dealing, he or she shall be doing so at his/her own risk and responsibility.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTIES

SCHEDULE - A

All that pieces and parcel of land measuring about 19 (nineteen) Kathas 15 (fifteen) Chatak situated in the Gulshan Model Town of Dhaka Improvement Trust (at present RAJUK) in the Sub-Registration District Dhaka, Mouza - Bhola Shamari, P.S. Gulshan, Plot No. 17, Block - NW (K), Road No. 50 with a building and other structures with rights, interests and easement attached to or appertaining to the land (the property belongs to Mrs. Badrunnessa Khanam).

SCHEDULE - B

All that pieces and parcel of land measuring about 6 (six) Kathas 14 (fourteen) Chatak situated in the Banani Model Town of Dhaka Improvement Trust (at present RAJUK), P.S. Gulshan, Mouza - Lalasharai, Plot No. 39, Block - C, alongwith a building and other structures with rights, interests and easement attached to or appertaining to the land (the property belongs to Mr. Sarqum Ali).

SCHEDULE - C

All that pieces and parcel of land measuring about 0.1155 Acres or 7 (seven) Kathas situated in the Dist. - Dhaka, P.S. formerly Ramna at present Motijheel, Municipality holding No. 63, Purana Paltan, Mouza - Shahar, Dhaka, Sheet No. 22, Khatian No. 6947 (JHA), Plot No. 100, 101 & 110 at present Khatian No. 362, Hal Plot No. 1979, 1980 & 1981 with a building and further civil construction to be added there to in future (the property belongs to Mrs. Badrunnessa Khanam, Mohammad Shuman, Mohammad Abdul Mannan, Mohammad Abdus Salam & Mohammad Abul Kalam).

 Ishtiaque Ahmed Chowdhury
 Vice President

Flash floods in Assam: Over 1 lakh marooned

GUWAHATI, India, June 24: Flash floods triggered by heavy monsoon rains have marooned more than 100,000 people in the Indian state of Assam and severed the north-eastern region's road links with the rest of the country, officials said today, reports AFP.

The Assam government had announced a red alert with the Brahmaputra river, flowing at least two metres (6.6 feet) above the danger level.

Officials said more than 30 people have died in Assam and in adjoining Arunachal Pradesh state in the floods, which began two weeks ago.

"Road links between the northeastern region and the rest of India remained snapped since Friday with floods waters washing away two bridges on the national highway", John Ingti Kathar, the district magistrate of Assam's Kokrajhar district told AFP.

"If incessant rains continue, maybe rail links connecting the northeast with the rest of the country might be affected."

Assam's capital Guwahati has turned into a virtual lake with heavy showers since Thursday flooding almost the

entire city. "Six districts of Assam are reeling under flood waters with the Brahmaputra rising menacing affecting more than 100,000 people. The situation is indeed grim and alarming," a flood control officials said.

He said flood victims were taking shelter in relief camps or schools and colleges located on higher ground.

The world's largest river is land of Majuli in eastern Assam was inundated and locals were marooned.

Hunger strike

From page 1

city. He further said that no feasibility study was conducted before taking the move for allowing SSA to install a private container port at Patenga.

The rally was also addressed by Afsarul Amin, Mahmudul Islam, Convenor of CBUF, Salimullah, president of C&F Agents Association, Helal Uddin Chowdhury, senior reporter of The Daily Azadi, Mahfuzur Rahman Khan and others.



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The regions of Lama and Alikodum in the Chittagong Hill Districts are much greener today, thanks to the contributions we have been able to make through our afforestation programme. This has supplemented the government's efforts in arresting deforestation in the region. In recognition of our efforts we have been honoured with the Prime Minister's National Award on Tree Plantation, 1999. We take this opportunity to thank all our farmers, valued business partners, employees and well wishers for their support and encouragement. In this monsoon let every one of us plant one sapling for a greener Bangladesh.


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