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## BDR-BSF firing again in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira  
Indian Border Security Force (BSF) and Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) again exchanged fire on Satkhira border early yesterday.  
BDR sources said the Indian border guards suddenly opened fire on the BDR men of a local camp patrolling the Haroddah frontier under Sadar upazila at 2:30am, forcing them to retaliate.  
BDR fired 27 bullets in response to 12 fired by its Indian counterpart, the sources added. However, there was no report of casualty.  
On Monday night, a shootout between the BDR and the BSF in the Ichhamoti river left a BSF member dead. After the incident, a tense situation is prevailing in the bordering area.  
The Indian border guards have reinforced its strength in the border outposts and increased patrols.

## KARNAPHULI RIVER DREDGING Chinese firm getting job at 345pc inflated cost

SHARIER KHAN  
The Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) has dramatically inflated the cost of a Karnaphuli river dredging project by a staggering 345 percent to Tk 255 crore, and is set to award contract for the project to Chinese company China Harbour, highly placed sources said.  
Aimed at facilitating the Karnaphuli bridge project, the dredging project was approved with an estimated cost of Tk 74 crore in May last year. But the CPA now seeks government approval for sharply inflating the cost on the pretext of increased prices of steel and fuel, devaluation of dollar, etc.  
In addition to dredging, the project includes riverbank protection and construction of a marine drive.  
Sources alleged that a section of officials of the shipping ministry and the CPA planned to award the contract to China Harbour by manipulating tender for the project and that these unscrupulous officials and some influential politicians will share a large amount of the project cost.  
The CPA, which is self-financing the project, however gives a host of arguments in favour of the cost escalation. A proposal in the revised budget for the current fiscal year is likely to be placed before the

## 14-party declares fresh agitation

EC siege June 20  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
The Awami League (AL)-led 14-party opposition combine yesterday announced fresh agitation programmes, including siege to the Election Commission (EC) Secretariat and road-rail-waterway blockades, to compel the government to accept its reform demands.  
AL President Hasina also threatened to declare more vigorous programmes to press home their demands for reforms in the caretaker government and the electoral systems.  
The announcement for the fresh anti-government programmes was made at an emergency meeting of the opposition combine at the AL Dhanmondi office with Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina in the chair.  
The declaration came after four



FRUSTRATION AND RELIEF: German striker Lukas Podolski (L) and Polish goalkeeper Artur Boruc look on as the ball eludes them during their World Cup clash at Dortmund's Westfalenstadion last night.

## LOAD-SHEDDING Angry football fans attack power supply offices

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna  
Angry football enthusiasts attacked Paikgachha and Batighata Palli Bidyut Samity offices in Khulna on Tuesday night, as they could not watch World Cup matches due to power outage.  
They hurled stones at both the offices and damaged the windows at about 10:45pm protesting the load-shedding. Security forces deployed at the centres, however, foiled their attempt to break in.  
Assistant general manager of Paikgachha Palli Bidyut Samity Zillur Rahman and other staff did not go to the office yesterday day fearing people's rage as the power outage continued.  
Meanwhile, college and school students of the upazila brought out a procession yesterday morning demanding uninterrupted power



## Two outlaws killed as their bombs go off

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jessore  
Two activists of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) were killed and another was critically wounded as bombs possessed by them exploded at Laxmipur Beel, Jhikra under Abhoyagar upazila in Jessore on Tuesday night.  
The dead were identified as Belal, 27, son of Shahidul Islam of Taltala village under Abhoyagar upazila and Sumon, 28, son of Tipu Master of Moshurhati village under the same upazila. The injured is Aminur, 26, son of Afjal Hossain of Moshurhati village.  
As the bombs handled by the outlaws blasted with a big bang, local people went to the spot and found injured Belal, Sumon and Aminur lying in a pool of blood.  
Informed, Abhoyagar police rushed to the spot at about 10:30pm and sent the three to

## Hosts clinch last minute win

BBC ONLINE  
Oliver Neuville put Germany within reach of the last 16 with a last-gasp goal to beat Poland in Dortmund on Wednesday night.  
The forward latched on to a low cross from fellow substitute David Odonkor to slide the ball past the despairing dive of Poland goalkeeper Artur Boruc.  
The victory, Germany's second

## A dramatic all-Arab draw

REUTERS, Munich  
A stoppage time header from Radhi Jaide earned Tunisia a 2-2 draw with Saudi Arabia after a thrilling finish to their World Cup Group H opener on Wednesday.  
Saudi substitute Sami Al Jaber scored in the 84th minute to put his team 2-1 ahead and seemingly on their way to a comeback win in the all-Arab clash.  
Al Jaber, who has played for the Saudis in three previous World Cups, tucked the ball home just two

Table of World Cup matches: Equador v Costa Rica (6:50 pm, Hamburg), England v Trinidad & Tobago (9:50 pm, Nuremberg), Sweden v Paraguay (12:50 am (Friday), Berlin). Includes an advertisement for gGal mobile phones with the slogan 'win exciting prizes!!'.



## Minister Khurshid Zahan Haque passes away

UNB, Dhaka  
Women and Children Affairs Minister Khurshid Zahan Haque died at the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) in the city at 10:50am yesterday. She was 67.  
Receiving the death news of her elder sister, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia rushed to the CMH at about 12:30pm. Acting President Jamiruddin Sirar also went to the

## Cops go marauding as 36-hr hartal ends 3 opposition lawmakers assaulted; 150 hurt in clashes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
capital on charge of violent picketing during the shutdown.  
Pro-hartal pickets set fire to more than 10 vehicles and damaged at least 15 more in the city since Tuesday midnight.  
The opposition combine called the hartal to press home its demands for electoral reforms, resignation of the chief election commissioner (CEC) and two 'politically appointed' election commissioners, and to protest 'police atrocities' on opposition leaders and workers during the Dhaka siege on Sunday.  
The countrywide shutdown disrupted normal life, affecting communications and economic and other activities.  
Educational institutions, business establishments, markets, shops and many private offices

## EC now says it won't use information of fresh voter list But sticks to no door-to-door visit

SHAKHAWAT LITON  
The Election Commission (EC) yesterday cancelled its decision to use information of the controversial fresh voter list for updating the existing electoral rolls but stuck to the other decision not to visit door to door for the task.  
The acting secretary of EC Secretariat told reporters after an EC meeting with the chief election commissioner that no information collected during the preparation of the fresh voter list will be used for the present task "to avoid controversy and confusion".  
An EC Secretariat press release said the decision to use the information collected during the preparation of a fresh voter list is not applicable. "The Election Commission has taken steps

## 3 bombs hurled at CEC's house

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Unidentified miscreants yesterday hurled three cocktails at Chief Election Commissioner MA Aziz's house in Ramna in the capital where he used to live five months ago.  
No-one, however, was injured in the blasts as the bombs did not have splinters.  
The attackers threw the bombs targeting the second floor of the four-storey building at 3:45pm.

## EC's move may make next polls uncertain

M M Munsef Ali  
STAR REPORT  
Former election commissioner M M Munsef Ali has said the procedure adopted by the Election Commission (EC) to revise the voter list is impracticable and impossible to implement. He suggested that the commission



Opposition activists throw back teargas shells lobbed by police during hartal hours yesterday. The photo was taken at Kamrangirchar in the capital.

## Workers demonstrate at DEPZ for security, factory GM's removal Production remains stopped in 4 units

JU CORRESPONDENT  
Hundreds of workers of Redpoint Jackets Ltd (RIL) in Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ) yesterday demonstrated in front of the factory demanding removal of its general manager (GM) and security of the workers.  
The factory was closed on Tuesday following workers' unrest. The production at Paddock Jeans Ltd, Hoplun (BD) and Youngone could not be resumed yesterday while Dada (BD) Ltd, Teesta High Fashions Ltd and Rankon Sweaters Ltd remained off due to hartal.  
Demonstrating workers of RIL alleged that Peterson, GM of the factory, with the help of Mukhlesur Rahman, owner of P & M Fashion and also tiffin supplier of the fac-

Advertisement for 'Study in the USA' featuring the large text 'USA' and details about attending walk-in interviews at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel on Thursday & Friday, June 15 & 16. It lists various fields of study and offers financial aid information.