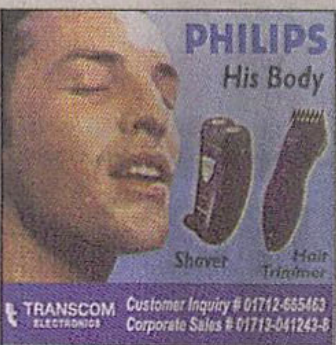


# The Daily Star

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TODAY'S ISSUE 28 PAGES



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## Opposition activists fight cops, ruling party men

150 wounded during 14-party's EC, election offices siege programme

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 150 people were injured in Dhaka and elsewhere in the country yesterday in clashes between police and opposition demonstrators trying to march towards the Election Commission (EC) Secretariat and district election offices.

The clashes left around 25 injured in the capital, including

Awami League (AL) lawmaker Tanjim Ahmed Sohel Taj, and 100 more in Bagerhat during the AL-led 14-party opposition combine's countrywide programme.

The 14-party alliance had declared to besiege the EC Secretariat in the capital and district election offices demanding electoral reforms and resignation of the chief election commissioner and two election commissioners.

The opposition declared to stage countrywide demonstrations tomorrow protesting yesterday's police attack and BNP lawmaker Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu's indecent remarks in parliament against opposition leader Sheikh Hasina.

AL Presidium Member Amir Hossain Amu announced the programme at an emergency press briefing at the AL central office on Bangabandhu Avenue after the EC-

siege programme.

Meanwhile, at least 20 AL activists were injured when police charged batons on them at Enayetpur Islamia High School ground in Chowdhury upazila in Sirajganj yesterday, reports our correspondent.

The upazila administration imposed section 144 in the area from 1:00pm to 6:00pm as both the

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FROM LEFT... Police chase the opposition activists by going over the barricade they had set up to prevent the opposition from marching through during the 14-party's Election Commission siege programme yesterday. Police and 14-party activists clash on Rokeya Sarani near ADB Bhaban in the capital.

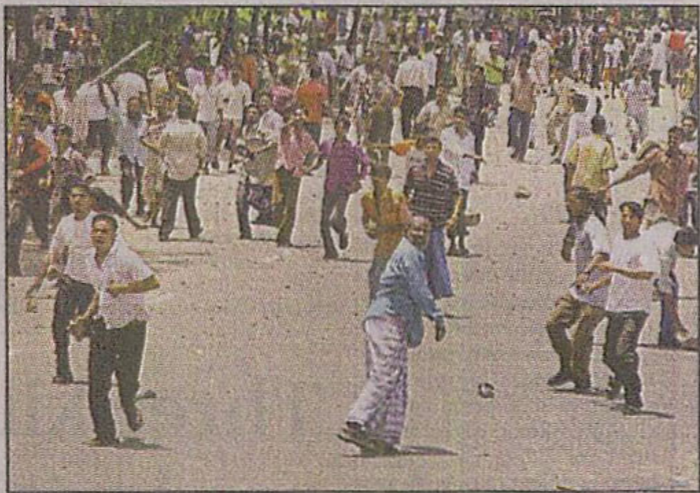


PHOTO: STAR

## UAE court commutes death by stoning of Bangladeshi

AFP, Dubai

A United Arab Emirates (UAE) appeal court has commuted to imprisonment a sentence of death by stoning handed down by a lower court against a Bangladeshi convicted of adultery, reports said Tuesday.

The court ordered Shaheen Abdel Rahman jailed for a year and then deported to his home country, the Khaleej Times newspaper said.

An Islamic court in the emirate of Fujairah, one of seven that make up the federation, earlier this month handed down the death penalty against Abdel Rahman and a one-year jail sentence and 100 lashes against his unnamed co-defendant who was working as a live-in maid.

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## Moudud doubts success of voter listing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed yesterday expressed doubts about the success of the Election Commission's (EC) move to prepare the voter list for the next polls without door-to-door visits.

"I think most people, even the literate, will not show interest in registering in this way," the law minister told the reporters at his office explaining the financial conditions of people and barriers to communications at district and upazila levels.

The EC on June 12 decided that its officials will not visit door-to-door to enrol the eligible voters, rather the people will have to come to the offices of the election commission at district and upazila levels to register their names. Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) MA Aziz on Monday confirmed the EC decision again.

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Swedish goalkeeper Andreas Isaksson (R) dives in vain as English midfielder Joe Cole (not in picture) scores during their match in Cologne yesterday.

## England avoid Germany

Sweden through to last 16

AFP, Cologne

England were held to a 2-2 draw by Sweden here Tuesday to avoid a dreaded World Cup showdown with Germany in a nerve-jangling match overshadowed by an injury to striker Michael Owen.

A scrambled 90th-minute header from Henrik Larsson

earned Sweden a share of the spoils but it was not enough to stop England from finishing top of Group A even if their 38-year winless streak against the Scandinavians continued.

The result ensured England will face Ecuador in Stuttgart on Sunday while Sweden will now face hosts Germany in Munich.

Substitute Steven Gerrard appeared to have headed England's winner five minutes from time after Sweden's Marcus Allback had cancelled out Joe Cole's stunning first-half strike from long range.

But Larsson steered home a long throw on 90 minutes to earn

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## Paraguay dash T&T hopes

AFP, Kaiserslautern

Trinidad and Tobago's dreams of survival into the second round of the World Cup came crashing to earth after a 2-0 defeat to already eliminated Paraguay here Tuesday.

Bayern Munich's Julio Dos Santos unlocked the door to goal for the South Americans in the 25th minute, his effort backheaded into Kelvin Jack's goal by T&T defender Brent Sancho.

Second half substitute Nelson Cuevas secured Paraguay's third place finish in Group G with his first goal of the tournament four

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TODAY'S MATCHES	TEAM	TIME	VENUE
	Portugal v Mexico	7:50 pm	Gelsenkirchen
	Iran v Angola	7:50 pm	Leipzig
	Netherlands v Argentina	12:50 am (Thursday)	Frankfurt
	Ivory Coast v Serbia & Mont	12:50 am (Thursday)	Munich

win exciting prizes!!  
see inside for details

## Commuters suffer for road blocks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The commuters experienced serious traffic jam on some major roads of the capital due to the Election Commission office siege programme of the 14-party opposition alliance yesterday.

The police put up barricades to resist the protesters at some major points including Mohakhali rail crossing, Agargaon, Bijoy Sarani Intersection and Dhanmondi Road 27 intersection that clogged the vehicular traffic for about two hours in the rush hour of the day.

"What is happening there?" an elderly man asked this correspondent at Mohakhali as police and opposition activists positioned themselves on either side of the barricade.

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## No DOOR-TO-DOOR VISITS EC decision on voter listing ignores SC verdict again, experts say

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The Election Commission's decision to revise the existing voter list without visiting from door to door has ignored the significant part of the Supreme Court (SC) verdict and electoral laws, legal experts said.

The SC in its May 23 judgment referred to the provisions of the electoral laws for revising the voter list by visiting door to door, but the Election Commission (EC) has

repeatedly claimed that the court did not give any directive in this regard.

According to the SC observation, the electoral rolls must be revised following the prescribed procedure in the Electoral Rolls Ordinance, 1982 and the Electoral Rolls Rules, 1982 that the enumerators will visit door to door to collect information about prospective voters. The supervisors will verify the information thus collected and

then the registration officers will check at least 10 per cent information before publishing a draft voter list inviting claims and objections.

The final voter list will be published at the end of this procedure, said legal experts.

However, the EC decided on June 12 that its officials will not visit door to door and asked people to register their names with the election offices at the district and

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## SSC, Dakhil exams results tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Results of the 2006 Secondary School Certificate (SSC), SSC (vocational) and Dakhil examinations will be published tomorrow concurrently at all examination centres.

The heads of the educational institutions are to collect result-sheets of their examinees from the secretary of the respective examination centres at 4:00pm.

The examinees will collect their results from their institutions/examination centres.

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## Appointment of 2 govt advisers challenged

HC rule on govt to explain in 3 weeks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday issued two separate rules on the government to explain in three weeks why the appointments of two advisers in the government should not be declared illegal and unconstitutional.

The advisers are Mahmudur Rahman, adviser to the Energy and Mineral Resources Division of the energy ministry, and Barkatullah Bulu, adviser to the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.

The HC also asked the government to explain under what authority Rahman and Bulu hold the office as adviser with the ranks and status of a deputy minister and state minister.

An HC division bench issued the rules following two separate writ petitions filed by three Supreme Court lawyers -- Ruhul Quddus, Nahid Sultana and Abdul Mannan Khan.

Respondents of the rule on the energy ministry are Bangladesh.

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## Iajuddin returns from S'pore

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed, who underwent bypass surgery at Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore on May 26, returned home yesterday.

A VVIP flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines, carrying the president from Singapore, landed at Zia International Airport at about 12:10pm.

The president walked down the stairs and exchanged greetings with Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar at the VVIP tarmac at 12:15pm.

Ministers, chiefs of the three services and high civil and military officials greeted him at the airport.

After the brief airport ceremony, the president was taken to the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) for medical check-up as per advice of the doctors of Mount Elizabeth Hospital.

The 75-year-old president was

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## Teachers strike enters day 5

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Government primary schools and community primary schools yesterday remained closed across the country for the fourth consecutive day as the teachers continue their indefinite strike despite the prime minister's request to resume work.

Under the banner Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association, the government primary school teachers went on an indefinite strike across the country from last Saturday demanding elimination of wage discrimination and introduction of school-based exam system.

However, teachers of community primary schools, under the

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## BB starts probing loans sanctioned by Oriental

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The Bangladesh Bank (BB) yesterday started a special investigation into the activities of all Oriental Bank branches to find out irregularities in sanctioning of loans after it had taken over the administration of the problem bank the day before.

Based on the findings of the probe the central bank will take punitive measures against the bank officials who sanctioned the irregular loans and the borrowers who received those, a BB source

said.

The takeover of full control of Oriental by the central bank and appointment of a new administrator for the bank had an instant positive effect on the share market. Oriental's share price rose 32 per cent yesterday. Over the last few months its share price had been consistently declining. Even on Monday, Oriental's share price dropped nine per cent as the central bank was undecided over what it would do about the problem bank.

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## JS sees heated debate over police brutality

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lawmakers of the ruling alliance and the opposition yesterday traded blames over police atrocities during the opposition's political programmes, forcing the House to witness an hour of unscheduled debate that touched issues ranging from the controversial Election Commission (EC) to indecent remarks.

Participating in the debate senior ministers and BNP lawmakers said opposition activists pelted police with brickbats, and damaged vehicles and public property prompting the law enforcers into action.

They also alleged that BNP

lawmakers and activists were badly treated by police during the previous Awami League (AL) regime.

AL lawmakers on the other hand said police attacked them without any provocation and they demanded formation of a parliamentary body to identify those who attacked opposition activists 'wearing police uniform'.

The AL lawmakers also staged a brief walk out from the House protesting at the police attack on the opposition's programme of laying siege to the EC yesterday. Acting Speaker Akhtar Hamid Siddiqui who allowed the lawmakers to participate in the unscheduled debate on point of orders.

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### SALT INDUSTRY FOR SALE

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