



# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

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REGD. NO. DA 781

VOL. XVI NO. 173

DHAKA SUNDAY JULY 9, 2006

TO People's Right to Know

www.thedailystar.net

ASHAR 25, 1413 BS

JAMADIUS SANI 12, 1427 HIJRI

24 PAGES PRICE: TK 7.00

### Hasina to get priority if she wants to meet Iajuddin

UNB, Dhaka

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina will get priority if she wants to meet President Iajuddin Ahmed, said a Bangabhaban spokesman yesterday.

On Thursday, Hasina sent a letter to the Bangabhaban expressing her willingness to meet the president as confusion deepened over his actual health status and resumption of office after his treatment.

"We came to know about the opposition leader's desire through media reports... We've not yet received her letter because of weekly holidays; we might get it tomorrow," Mokhlesur Rahman Chowdhury, president's press secretary, told the news agency.

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### COAL POLICY MAY GET CABINET NOD TOMORROW

## Export to yield higher royalty

SHARIEF KHAN

The Cabinet is likely to approve a new coal policy tomorrow and make it applicable to the existing unsolicited contract with Asia Energy for its \$3 billion Phulbari mine operations though it might make the British company feel uncomfortable, highly placed sources said.

Under this policy, coalmine developers will pay the government royalty at the existing low rate of 6 percent if they sell coal in domestic market. If they export coal at a price of more than \$25 per

tonne, royalty rate will increase as per formula.

At the present global market price of coal, which is around \$50 per tonne, royalty will be 16 percent.

The new policy seeks export of 60 percent of the country's coal, leaving 40 percent for domestic consumption.

It will not allow any more unsolicited coal deals.

The government will give green signal to Asia Energy's scheme for development of the massive open-pit Phulbari coal mine having a proven reserve of 572 million

tonnes in the light of the new policy, the sources said.

The local Hosaf group, secretly and questionably given contract for Khalaspir coal mine (proven reserve 685 million tonnes) by the past BNP government, will also come under the purview of the new policy.

The country's recoverable coal reserves found in various fields now stand at more than 2,500 million metric tonnes, equivalent to more than 60 tcf gas (one pound coal is equivalent to 11 cubic feet of gas). Besides, there are untapped

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### CRICKET WC 2011 Bangladesh to hold opening ceremony

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will stage the opening ceremony of the 2011 Cricket World Cup while India will host the final, said Bangladesh Cricket Board president Ali Asghar on Saturday.

"We will hold the gala opening ceremony where more than 3,500 dignitaries are expected to attend. It's a great honour for us," Asghar told The Daily Star Sport over phone from London last night.

The decision to award Bangladesh the opening ceremony was made on Thursday in a joint conference of the four co-hosts on the sidelines of the International Cricket Council's (ICC) executive committee meeting earlier this week in the England capital.

Bangladesh along with India, SEE PAGE 15 COL 5



PHOTO: AFP

HERO OF THE NIGHT... German midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger (R) celebrates his first goal with teammate Sebastian Kehl against Portugal during the World Cup third place play-off match at Stuttgart last night. Germany won 3-1.

### Free, efficient EC must for fair polls

#### Regional dialogue in Ctg told

RAFIQ HASAN, SHAHIDUL ISLAM and ABDULLAH-AL MAHMUD, from Ctg

Speakers at the regional dialogue in Chittagong yesterday observed that an independent, impartial and efficient Election Commission (EC) has to be established first for holding a free and fair election.

They said everybody has to be more conscious while casting vote and compel the political parties to nominate only honest and eligible candidates.

A dialogue between the ruling and opposition parties is also needed to bring in the reforms in the EC, and sincerity and political tolerance is a must for this, they said.

The dialogue jointly organised by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), the daily Prothom Alo, Channel i, and The Daily Star also witnessed hot debate on the role of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in curbing crime.

Some speakers highly appreciated the crime-busting organisation's role while others strongly

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### Cops to go into action if attacked at political events

#### New IGP warns

UNB, Dhaka

New Inspector General of Police (IGP) Anwarul Iqbal yesterday forewarned that police would instantly go into action if any law enforcer came under attack during any political programme.

The IGP sounded the note of warning at a meeting with the officials of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) at Rajarbagh Police Lines.

He said the cops should investigate the cases on priority basis besides maintaining law and order.

With DMP Commissioner ASM Mizanur Rahman in the chair, SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

### Decision not to publish draft voter list to make entire process illegal

#### Experts say

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Former election commissioners and legal experts yesterday observed that the Election Commission (EC) is still not following the correct procedure in revising the voter list as it opts not to publish a draft list before the final list.

They also described the latest amendment to the electoral rules as unnecessary and blamed it for fresh controversy over the voter list for the next parliamentary election

scheduled for January 2007.

But the EC maintains that without amending the rules there was no scope to visit door to door for the revision task. It also claims that publication of a draft voter list is not possible in the ongoing procedure.

Former chief election commissioner Justice Abdur Rouf said a draft list will have to be published to invite claims and objections. "The electoral laws call for a draft

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### All roads lead to Berlin

REUTERS, Berlin

After more than two years of competition featuring 194 teams, 910 games and more than 2,600 goals, the World Cup will be decided today with either Italy crowned

champions for the fourth time or France for the second.

A billion people will turn their attention to Berlin's Olympiastadion where two teams drenched in World Cup history will do battle in the 18th final.

The match has left bookmakers divided but is littered with fascinating sub-plots that fans of each side can cling to in the desperate hope that they are fated to triumph.

For France it is the opportunity SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

### Hosts clinch third place

AFP, Stuttgart

Host nation Germany had the consolation of securing third place at the World Cup by defeating

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

TODAY'S MATCH

Italy v France

11:50 pm

Berlin

who will score the winning goal?

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Goal

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see inside for details

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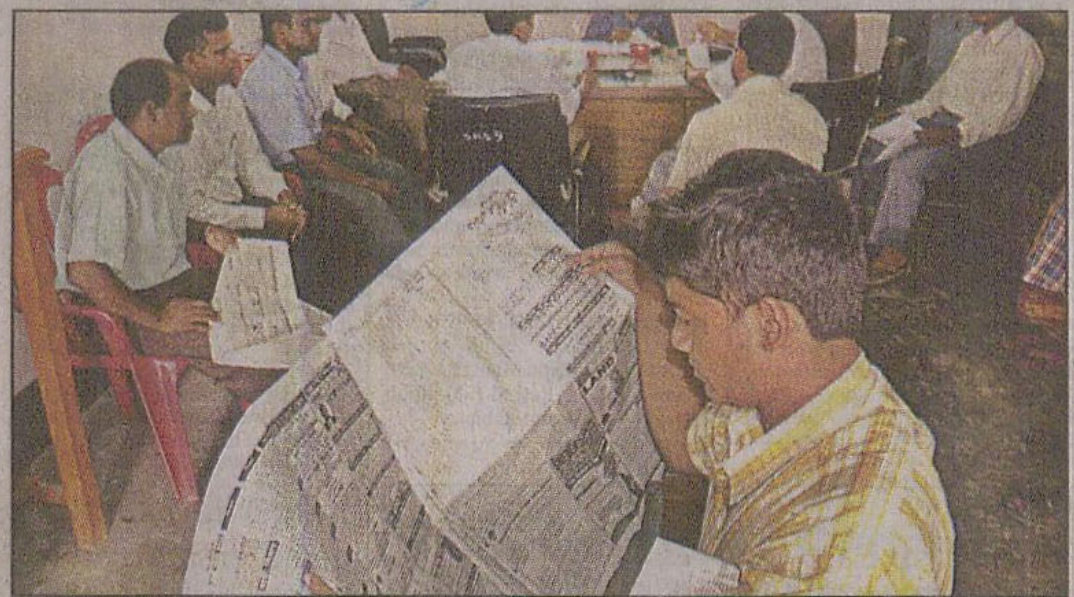


PHOTO: STAR

Striking teachers at a high school in Munshiganj yesterday sit in the headmaster's room as one of them scans a newspaper. Teachers and employees of non-government educational institutions across the country are on an indefinite strike.

## Education in disarray as teachers continue strike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Most of the non-government high schools, colleges and madrasas across the country remained closed yesterday as 26 organisations of teachers and employees

under three platforms are on indefinite strike demanding the payment of 100 per cent basic salary from the public exchequer.

Jatiya Shikhhak Karmachari Front, a platform of 11 Awami League (AL)-backed organisations

led by Prof Kazi Faruque Ahmed and Jatiya Shikhhak Karmachari Oikya Parishad, another platform of eight AL-backed organisations led by MA Awal Siddique started indefinite strike yesterday while

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

### Rejoinder, our reply

Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) sent a rejoinder regarding the news titled "BTRC messes up mobile licence for operator" published in The Daily Star on July 1, 2006.

Signed by BTRC Secretary Md Abdul Hakim, it said the BTRC granted the licence to the sixth cellular mobile telecom operator, Warid Telecom International LLC, in a "very open and transparent manner meeting all necessary conditions and formalities".

It said the frequencies within which the operator would operate were spelt out in the licence and the operator applied for specific frequencies within the frequency range given in the licence. "The Spectrum Management Committee (SMC) consisting of 14 members represented by Ministries and other related organisations and chaired by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission recommended the allocation of the frequency along with proposals of other organisations/bodies and this was subsequently approved by the Commission," it said.

The BTRC said the issuance of licence and allocation of frequency are the responsibility of the commission, not of any particular or single person.

The visit of the BTRC chairman to Abu Dhabi took place "at the invitation of the Honourable Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the United Arab Emirates, which was also approved by the competent

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### Mudslide kills mom, daughter

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A woman and her teen-aged daughter were buried alive yesterday when a mudslide destroyed their thatched house at Kanchana of Satkania upazila in Chittagong.

The victims were identified as Mabiya Khatun, 65, wife of Abdur Rahman, and her daughter Rawshan Ara Begum, 17.

Mabiya's six-year-old son Shakhawat Hossain was also seriously injured while Rahman was not at home during the incident.

Police quoting locals said the tragic incident occurred around 2:00am yesterday when a large part of the adjacent hill came crashing down on their home.

"The mudslide was caused by heavy downpour that night," said Officer-in-charge of Satkania Police Station Jahurul Islam Sabuj.

Wish a Grand Success to the participants competing in International Mathematical Olympiad-2006

Mathematics drives you for dreaming

Shouman Das	A.S.M. Sohiddol Islam
Sabrina Tabassum	Rafatul Faria

Our Pride Our Bank

The 47th International Mathematical Olympiad-2006 will be held at Ljubljani in Slovenia during 6-18 July 2006. Bangladesh for the Second time will participate in this event. We hope our tiny mathematicians will bring name and fame for the nation.

Dutch-Bangla Bank -Prothom Alo and Bangladesh Mathematical Olympiad Committee jointly organized the event.

DBBL feels proud of extending financial support for the event

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