



Warne fells 700 barrier

AFP, Melbourne
Shane Warne -- acclaimed by an Ashes record crowd -- created Test history by becoming the first
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All parties lob star candidates for city seats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parliamentary parties and alliances filed 235 nominations for the eight constituencies of Dhaka Metropolitan City (DMC) on the last day for nomination submissions yesterday.

The highest number of nominations for a single constituency in the capital so far was filed for Dhaka-6 including Motijheel and Sabujbagh.

Most of the high-profile aspirants to memberships of parliament

including former president HM Ershad, AL Chief's Political Secretary Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Barrister Rokanuddin Mahmud, Dhaka City Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, Liberal Democratic Party's (LDP) Secretary General Maj (retd) MA Mannan submitted their nomination papers for respective constituencies of DMC yesterday with much fanfare.

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LDP finally gets 31 seats from grand alliance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) yesterday secured nominations for two more seats to contest in addition to the 29 seats that were allotted to them in Monday night's deal to run in the elections under the banner of the grand alliance led by Awami League (AL).

All the 31 LDP candidates within the grand alliance and another 150 outside the alliance filed their nominations throughout the country yesterday.

LDP President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury and Executive President Col (retd) Oli
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FROM LEFT... Nobel laureates Prof Muhammad Yunus and Prof Amartya Sen, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) Chairman Prof Rehman Sobhan and philanthropist George Soros at a discussion titled "Towards an Inclusive Globalisation" at Brac Centre Inn in the capital yesterday.

Iraq appeals court upholds Saddam death sentence

AFP, Baghdad

A panel of Iraqi judges has upheld the death sentence passed against Saddam Hussein, a spokesman for the court said Tuesday, in a decision that could see the ousted dictator hanged within 30 days.

"The appeals court has ratified the sentence of the execution of Saddam," Judge Raed Jouhi told AFP.

Under Iraqi law a death sentence, once confirmed at appeal, should be carried out within a month. Jouhi would not confirm this would be the case, however, saying that this was a matter for "the executive".

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Sen, Yunus for utilising globalisation potentials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nobel laureates Prof Amartya Sen and Prof Muhammad Yunus urged world leaders yesterday to utilise the potentials of globalisation to eradicate poverty and lift countless have-nots.

Indian Nobel laureate economist Prof Sen said there is nothing to make wholesale criticism of globalisation and the critics of this phenomenon do not appreciate its opportunities.

Terming anti-globalisation a "slogan-only campaign", Sen said, "I am anti-anti-globalisation."

He was speaking at a dialogue styled "Towards an Inclusive Globalisation" organised by Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) at the Brac Centre Inn in the capital.

A galaxy of experts, civil society members, academicians and businessmen attended the dia-

logue conducted by CPD Chairman Prof Rehman Sobhan.

This year's Nobel Peace Prize winner Prof Yunus and an expert on globalisation, George Soros, spoke on globalisation while Prof Sen discussed the issue at the dialogue.

Sen told reporters at the end of the programme that he is neither in favour of globalisation, nor against it. "I am in favour of weighing up the pros and cons of globalisation," he said.

Referring to China, Sen said despite being a communist country China has accepted market economy to some extent. He said although he does not support the market economy strongly, it can be introduced depending on a country's necessity.

He, however, strongly spoke against the market fundamentalism in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

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500 killed in Lagos pipeline blast

REUTERS, AFP, Lagos

Up to 500 people were burned alive yesterday when fuel from a vandalized pipeline exploded in Nigeria's largest city, Lagos, emergency workers said.

Hundreds of residents of the Abule Egba district went to scoop fuel using plastic containers after thieves punctured the pipeline overnight.

"We are talking hundreds (dead). We are yet to confirm the death toll so we don't know if it is 300, 400 or 500," Red Cross secretary-general Abiodun Orebiyi said, adding that 60 people had been evacuated to hospital with serious burns.

A Reuters witness saw hundreds of bodies, most burned beyond

recognition, lying at the scene of the explosion as emergency workers tried to put out the fire.

A Red Cross volunteer at the scene said: "A lot of people have been roasted. They are littered on the ground."

Witnesses said that unidentified people had come early to tap the

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Prayer Timing

December 27

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-30	6-05
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-27	5-30
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation