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Inside Today

International



Japanese weekly Shukan Bunshun said it had obtained a copy of a 20-page document written by Jiang Qing before she hanged herself
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Article

UNESCO has just held a meeting of editors and publishers to work out how to expand the independent press in Africa. A similar exercise may be carried out later to discuss diversifying radio and TV, now state-owned everywhere
Page 4

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Most of the works of the annual exhibition of the Institute of Arts and Crafts were unimaginative and without inner message
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Feature

Health

UCI campaign a success story in Bangladesh
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Stricter conditions for coalition partners to be opposed Opposition may back BNP's constitution amendment bill



PILGRIMAGE TO MAKKAH: Millions of Muslims from throughout the world, who have converged at Arafat are offering prayer during the Hajj Friday. — TV photo

By Chapal Bashar

The Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad (parliament) is expected to back the Constitution amendment bill to be moved by the Treasury Bench to switch over to parliamentary form of government. But the Opposition is unlikely to accept any stricter condition for partners of a coalition government.

Opposition leaders told The Daily Star that a consensus on the basic principles of the bill would expedite the transition to a democratic order. BNP is likely to move the proposed amendment bill after the Eid vacation for changing the form of government. Another amendment bill initiated by Awami League, which was submitted on April 14, will also come before the House for disposal.

Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz told the House Thursday that both the bills were similar in nature and had many common points. The minister called for mutual cooperation
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Khaleda returns home

North-South disparity discussed in Beijing

By Staff Correspondent

Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman termed Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia's official goodwill visit to China as highly successful and said the visit was another milestone in the fraternal relations between the two countries.

Briefing newsmen after the return of Begum Zia Friday afternoon, the Foreign Minister said the Prime Minister had fruitful talks with her Chinese counterpart Li Peng, which would contribute to strengthen the existing friendly ties between Bangladesh and China.

Mustafizur Rahman accompanied Begum Zia during her three-day visit. The 19-member entourage also included Dr Khondoker Mosharrar Hossain, Minister of State for Energy and Mineral Resources, three members of parliament and other officials.

During their official talks in Beijing, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and China exchanged views on matters of bilateral and common interest as well as on the international situation. Li assured Begum

Zia that China, within its limited capacity, would extend all material and other assistance to Bangladesh from time to time.

The Foreign Minister told newsmen that the existing disparity between the North and the South also came up for discussion during the official talks of two leaders. Premier Li Peng said the rich countries of the North were becoming

Investment figures in talks with Thai PM

BANGKOK, June 21: The visiting Bangladesh Prime Minister, Begum Khaleda Zia, Friday made a courtesy call on the Prime Minister of Thailand, Anand Panyarachun, at his office here, reports BSS. Begum Zia expressed her thanks to the King, the government and the people of Thailand for the help they had
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Hasina demands unconditional release of all political prisoners

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, Sheikh Hasina, has called for unconditional release of all political prisoners before the ensuing Eid-ul-Azha.

In a statement on Friday, she demanded unconditional release of valiant freedom fighter Kader Siddiky, student leader Mohiuddin Ahmed, Moazzam Hossain and Md. Sarwar. She said it was hoped that after the removal of the autocratic government, political workers and those who fought the liberation war would be able to work for national development in a free democratic atmosphere.

But it is regrettable that those who fought to oust autocracy were being harassed in various ways, she added.

Sheikh Hasina hoped that all political prisoners would be immediately released and the warrants of arrest issued against others would be withdrawn in order to give democracy an institutional shape.

These steps are required urgently to protect democracy and human rights in the country, she added.

Sirajganj flood takes worse turn

SIRAJGANJ, June 21: Overall flood situation of the district has deteriorated further as more areas were inundated Friday submerging standing crops on some 20,000 acres, reports UNB.

According to official sources, about 2,500 families of five upazilas of the district have been rendered homeless due to unabated erosion of river Jumuna and onrush of flood waters from the upper regions.

The worst affected upazilas are Kazipur, Belkuchi, Shahzadpur, Chouhali and Sadar.

Water Development Board (WDB) sources said the Jamuna at Sirajganj now flowing 15 cm below red mark might cross the danger level by tonight.
See Page 10 Col. 5

England 110 for 5 at day's close

LONDON, June 21: England, replaying to West Indies' first innings total of 419, were 110 for five at the close of the second day of the second cricket Test at Lord's today.
Earlier story on page 7

Pawar to join federal cabinet

Rao sworn in as India's 9th PM

NEW DELHI, June 21: PV Narasimha Rao, a Gandhi family loyalist, was sworn-in Friday as India's ninth Prime Minister and named a top economist to his Cabinet to confront the country's looming debt crisis, report AP.

Manmohan Singh, who has headed India's federal bank and was negotiating a loan from the World Bank to tide over a 63-billion-dollar debt, was among 54 Cabinet ministers sworn-in along with Rao. President Ramaswamy Venkatarman administered the oath of office and secrecy to the officials in the ornate Ashoka Hall of the presidential palace.

The nomination of Singh, a senior bureaucrat, to a political post was the only unusual appointment in the list of government ministers. Rao named about one-quarter of the Congress Party Members in Parliament to the Cabinet, maintaining the religious and ethnic diversity of this vast na-

tion in his team. The ministers included five Muslims, at least two Christians and a Sikh, the economist Singh.

Six women were also named. One was Sheila Kaul, the 76-year-old aunt of the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Portfolios of the ministers will be announced Saturday, the government said.

Two appointees, who were absent, are expected to be sworn-in later this week along with Sharad Pawar, who had challenged Rao for the Prime Minister's post.

Pawar, a Bombay-based politician, withdrew from the race to allow Rao to be unanimously selected. He will resign as the chief minister, or top elected official, of western Maharashtra state before joining the federal government, Press Trust of India reported.

Rao, 69, is the first Prime Minister from southern India. His Cabinet also mirrored the shifting of the Congress Party's
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Special security cover for Indian premier

NEW DELHI, June 21: The Special Protection Group (SPG) personnel today took over the security of the Prime Minister, PV Narasimha Rao, reports PTI.

The SPG, meant to provide security cover to the Prime Minister and his immediate family, had sent one detachment at the residence of Rao yesterday to finalise security arrangements.

The 9, Motilal Nehru Road residence of the newly sworn-in Prime Minister was buzzing with activity as personnel of Central Public Works Department (CPWD) and telephone department were busy giving finishing touches to arrangements there.
See Page 10 Col. 1

Two millions perform Hajj

MECCA, June 21: About 2 million pilgrims assembled Friday on Mount Arafat overlooking Mecca in the world's largest single religious congregation, watched over by a record number of security guards, reports AP.

Labbaik Allahuma Labbaik, La Shareek Allah, "Arabic for I have responded to your call O Lord, there is only you," resounded from throats of the pilgrims to mark the end of the Hajj, or pilgrimage to Islam's holiest shrine.

In keeping with tradition, commentators from various Muslim countries took turns speaking on a single broadcast from Mount Arafat beamed live via satellite to Muslim countries.

Significantly, Iraq's broadcaster was a sharp critic of the Baghdad regime, which is widely condemned in the Muslim world for the occupation.
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DU Syndicate forms probe body

Legal action against terrorists demanded

By Staff Correspondent

The DU syndicate at a meeting Friday constituted a five-member committee to prepare an administrative report on Thursday's terrorism on the campus in which Mahbubur Rahman a student leader was killed.

Syndicate member Wajid Islam will act as convener of the committee while the Proctor, Provosts of Jagannath Hall, Jahurul Haq Hall and Mohsin Hall are the members of the committee.

Chaired by the Vice-Chancellor Prof. M. Moniruzzaman Miah, the meeting in a resolution said the prevailing crisis on the campus could only be resolved through consensus among the political parties. It hoped the national leaders would carry out their respective responsibilities in this regard.

Another resolution adopted
See Page 10 Col. 7

in the meeting expressed profound shock at the killing of Mahbub, condemned the act and demanded of the government legal action against the persons responsible.

The meeting also expressed sympathy with the members of the bereaved family.

Earlier, the Vice-Chancellor informed the syndicate members of Thursday's incidents.

The VC said that he urged the police and BDR, deployed on the campus, to remain alert as he feared deterioration of law and order in the view of armed incidents in past few days.

It may be noted, Thursday's armed clashes occurred in presence of the police and BDR personnel on the campus.

Meanwhile the blistering university campus sometimes rocked with gunshots and ex-

Gorbachev blocks move to increase premier's power

MOSCOW, June 21: President Mikhail Gorbachev deftly blocked an attempt by hard-liners Friday to give broad emergency powers to Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov, reports AP.

Gorbachev told the Supreme Soviet legislature Pavlov's request had "not been thought through," but denied there was any rift with his prime minister. He created a buzz in the parliament by accusing two hard-line lawmakers of trying to drive a wedge between them.

His assurances prompted parliament chairman Anatoly Lukyanov to strike the proposal from the agenda. Lawmakers voted 262 to 24 with 21 abstentions to remove Pavlov's request from consideration.

Gorbachev's swift and easy victory ended a week of behind-the-scenes maneuvering that some legislators called an "attempted constitutional

putsch."

On Monday, Pavlov asked the legislature for authority to issue emergency decrees without consulting Gorbachev or the legislature, saying Gorbachev was too busy to handle day-to-day government affairs.

Pavlov's unexpected show of disloyalty to the man who nominated him six months ago had prompted criticism by the government newspaper Izvestia. It said Pavlov's request was an attempt "to go behind the president's back and acquire part of the presidential powers."

Friday Pavlov backed down. Some legislators said Pavlov had come under pressure by Gorbachev the past few days to recant.

Why does the mass media say the Cabinet asked for extraordinary powers? That issue was not put forward," Pavlov told the legislature without explaining the apparent contradiction of his earlier position.

Pavlov's recantation means he's been knocked out, and he'll almost certainly be replaced," lawmaker Nikolai Engver told the Associated Press during a break in the session. Other lawmakers said, however, that Pavlov had strong allies and might keep his post.

Soviet media had said the proposal to strengthen the prime minister's powers was endorsed in a closed session Tuesday by KGB chairman Vladimir Kryuchkov, Defense Minister Dmitri Yazov and Interior Minister Boris Pugo. They sat together throughout Friday's tumultuous debate, but did not speak.

Gorbachev said Friday the cabinet of Ministers, headed by Pavlov, has his "full support... There is no crisis in relations with Pavlov."

He singled out two hard-liners by name for "trying to destabilize the cooperation"

Bangladesh-Burma flag meeting

From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, June 21: A flag meeting between the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and its Burmese counterpart 'Luthin' was held Thursday morning at Teknaf upazila of Cox's Bazar district.

The meeting discussed influx of Rohingya Muslims into Bangladesh territory and illegal trading along the border area.

Over 10 thousand Rohingya Muslims have entered Bangladesh following repression on them by the Burmese Military government.

JU budget for rats

By JU Correspondent
Rats of the Jahangirnagar University Life Science Department laboratory have been sanctioned Taka 17,000 for their ration for the fiscal year 1991-92. The allocation was made by the annual Senate meeting on Friday.

Challenging the decision, Prof Mustafizur Rahman of the Economics Department
See Page 10 Col. 6

Global warming warning a conspiracy?

By Moinuddin Naser

The National Centre for Policy Analysis (NCPA) of US says the global environmental movement has "too long been dominated by reactionaries, who are anti-human, anti-growth, anti-technology and anti-free enterprise."

The NCPA, a non-governmental organisation, commissioned a task force with Mr Richard Stroup, an environmental economist with the Political Economy Research Centre as its chairman to make an environmental study. The 78-member task force recently released the report, which has reached The Daily Star re-

cently. The report in a case study on global warming questioned the extreme alarmist's warning that a significant increase in average temperatures would cause ecological disaster.

The task force report and also studies by some environmentalists in the US have said that the warning of global warming and rising sea level was "some sort of a conspiracy" against developing countries. Bangladeshi environmental experts also corroborated their views about these issues.

The case study a dispelled the warnings that due to global

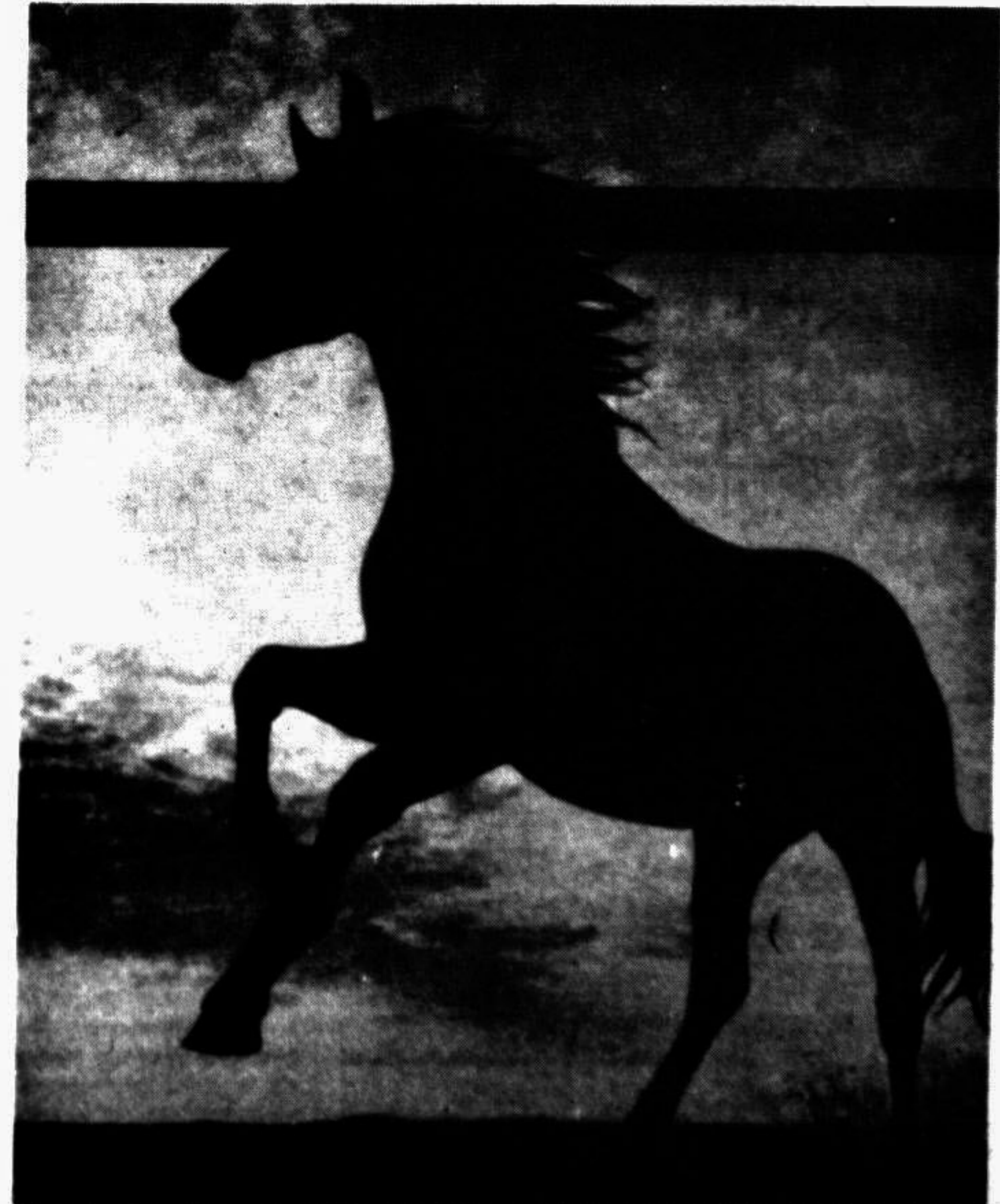
warming, and sea level rise palm trees would grow in Canada, tropical rain forests would become deserts, the ice caps would melt, coastal regions would be flooded, major crop growing regions of the world would experience recurrent droughts, and hurricanes would become more frequent and destructive.

The task force report pointed out that the forecasters who made dire predictions about global warming several years ago have substantially changed their tunes.

This correspondent during his recent visit to the US on a

study tour from the Forum of Environmental Journalists, Bangladesh, also came across many experts who did not agree with the concept of global warming. The research works done by many experts in National Council of Atmospheric Research (NCAR) of Colorado, US and experts of Lehigh University and Colorado University and National Science Academy of Washington gave different ideas, about the global warming. Most of the experts in these institutions did not agree with the extreme alarmists about global
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