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Defending champions Liaoning FC of China moved into the final of the 10th Asian Club Football Championship beating North Korea's April 25 3-0 in the first semifinal at Dhaka Stadium  
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## NEWS BRIEFS

### ALPP meet today

A meeting of the Awami League Parliamentary Party will be held at the conference room on the 8th floor of the Sangad Bhaban today at 11 am, reports BSS.

### New chief of RAW

NEW DELHI, July 26: Veteran intelligence officer N Narasimhan has been named as new chief of India's external intelligence agency, the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), newspapers said Friday, reports AFP.

### Sikhs kill 3 policemen

NEW DELHI, July 26: Sikh militants Friday shot dead three policemen in a raid in the northern state of Haryana, while 18 people died in separatist violence in adjacent Punjab state, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said, reports AFP.

### Afghan copter shot down

ISLAMABAD, July 26: Afghan guerrillas shot down a government helicopter carrying a troupe of dancing girls and singers who had been entertaining soldiers in a provincial city, a Pakistani newspaper reported today, says Rostler.

## 125 hall rooms set ablaze : 75 injured

# RU closed sine die as gunbattle rocks campus

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, July 26: Rajshahi University was closed sine die Friday following night-long fierce gunbattle between activists of JCD and Chhatra Oikya Parishad that left at least 75 students injured, 21 with bullets.

A total of 125 rooms were also ransacked and set ablaze during the clashes that spread to seven residential halls during which the activists traded at least 500 rounds of fire and

cocktails.

Deafening sounds of blasts were also heard that rocked the university campus and panicked the people of surrounding areas.

The 21 persons with bullet injuries were taken to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. Seriously injured students were Mamun, Alauddin, Ali Ashraf Peer, Hashib, Kashem, Shaheen, Plas, Goni, Shanti, Uzzal and Ratan.

At around 6 am, the Vice-Chancellor Prof Amanullah Ahmed called an emergency meeting of the Syndicate which closed the university sine die, asked students to vacate the halls by 12 noon and deferred subsidiary examinations. Students vacated the halls as directed.

Provosts of different halls told The Daily Star that police did not come to the aid of the authorities during the clash.

Police came at 5-30 am and dispersed the clashing students by firing shots and tear-gas shells.

Tension mounted on the campus and clashes became almost certain when a move for peace and rapprochement between the leaders of BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and newly formed Chhatra Oikya Parishad, a forum of seven left-leaning stu-

## Toyo Engineering to take responsibility

# Tk 250 cr loss in Ghorasal plant blast : Proble body

By Staff Correspondent

The total loss due to the June 19 explosion at the Ghorasal Urea Fertilizer Factory will be Taka 250 crore.

The Toyo Engineering Corporation of Japan is to take the responsibility for the accident since it took place when Toyo was putting the factory under a trial operation.

Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan said Friday.

The Minister told a news conference that the Ghorasal Urea Fertilizer Factory (GFF) had been turned into a losing concern by subjecting it to an

upgradation project opposed by the Planning Commission and the National Economic Council.

Making public a report of a high-powered three-member inquiry committee on the accident at a news conference, he said that those who had done this by disregarding administrative procedures deserved exemplary punishment.

The explosion took place when production in the factory was about to be resumed following the completion of the Taka 350 crore revamping

project which, experts claim, was not needed at least before 1995.

The accident occurred as a 'carbon dioxide stripper' gave in to gas pressure, leaving 11 dead and 27 others injured. Loss in terms of equipment, production, and compensation for the deaths was estimated at Taka 25 crore.

A new production process called 'Advanced Cost and Energy Saving' (ACES) which was to be installed under the project has been postponed for



IN SEARCH OF A ROSY FUTURE: A rural family rides a rickshaw in the bustling streets of the capital in search of a new home, most likely in a slum, to begin the struggle for survival anew. — Star photo

## Rallies banned on DU campus from today

A meeting of the Dhaka University Educational Atmosphere Council (DUEAC) will be held on Monday to discuss the campus situation.

Vice-Chancellor Prof M. Maniruzzaman Mia convened the meeting on Friday. He also announced a ban on processions and rallies on the campus from today until the meeting ends.

A top university official told UNB over telephone on Friday night the meeting was con-

vened to discuss the volatile situation and find ways to restore normalcy in the campus.

Meanwhile, the general students and hall residents expressed apprehension of further bloodshed as violent activities continued on the campus.

At least five rounds of gunshots were heard from the Surjasen Hall area around 2 pm.

Armed activists, including outsiders, were seen moving freely on the campus concern-

trating mostly at different hall gates despite heavy deployment of BDR and police.

Hall residents said most of the gunmen were guarding the gates of Zahurul Huq, Mohsin, Saitmullah, Jagannath and Jashimuddin halls.

Two rival groups of students — pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Awami League-backed Chhatra League (A-A) — are trying to establish their supremacy in the halls through strength of arms.

## Clash leads to disruption of bus services

By Staff Correspondent

Passenger bus services to and from the Saidabad bus terminal was disrupted on Friday following clashes between rival groups of transport workers.

All inter-city bus services remained suspended throughout the day following clashes which began early in the morning.

Several buses were damaged and a few rounds of gunshots were heard during the clashes.

## Hasina tells rally of workers

# AL will support bill for true parliamentary system

Sheikh Hasina Friday said Awami League will support the Constitution amendment bill which will ensure a parliamentary system in true sense of the term reflecting democratic aspiration of the deprived masses, reports UNB.

"We stand for unalloyed parliamentary democracy for economic emancipation of the toiling masses... We won't accept autocracy in the name of parliamentary democracy," the Awami League president and opposition leader in parliament said.

Hasina's remarks on the Constitution amendment bills

on-form-of-government came while addressing a big rally of the Adamjee Jute Mills workers in front of the Bangabandhu Bhaban yesterday afternoon.

She said Awami League introduced a clear constitutional amendment bill in the House for switchover to a genuine parliamentary system in conformity with the spirit of the November 19 joint declaration of the three alliances.

But ruling BNP's bill, she said, contained many anomalies and lapses that might lead to parliamentary autocracy.

## AL calls hartal in Chittagong today

CHITTAGONG, July 26: Chittagong city Awami League has called for a dawn-to-dusk hartal tomorrow to press home its 32-point demand for development of the port city as well as the greater Chittagong, reports BSS.

City Awami League adopted the 32-point demand at a public meeting held yesterday at Lalighi Maidan with its President MA Mannan in the chair. It was also addressed by party leaders Prof Polin Dey, Mosharraf Hussein, Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser and ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury.

The 32-point demand includes declaring Chittagong a disaster area, exemption from all arrears taxes, power and gas bills, con-

## Moscow unwilling to renew barter protocol

By Moinuddin Naser

The Soviet Union has expressed its unwillingness to extend or renew the barter trade protocol with Bangladesh which will expire next September, according to a Foreign Ministry source.

During the recent visit of the Foreign Minister Mustafizur Rahman to the Soviet Union the issue was included in the agenda along with the subject of the signing of a consular convention.

The barter protocol which facilitated Bangladesh in going for commodity exchange trade with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries may not be operational in future because of the changed eco-

nomic policy of the USSR.

The Foreign Ministry source said that the main objective of the visit of the Bangladesh Foreign Minister to the USSR was to explore the feasibility of barter trade with the USSR.

But the USSR which is much in need of hard currency to boost its economy is not so interested in signing any new barter protocol for commodity exchange.

The recent Soviet economic policy which has been redirected to market economy requires a huge amount of hard currency for investment.

Recently in a frantic move

## Axe to be used to evict Devi

NEW DELHI, July 26: An Indian Minister today promised "to use the axe" if necessary to oust former MP's from the plush official bungalows here they have refused to vacate since losing elections last month, reports AFP.

"I must use the axe" if it was the unanimous view of the house, Urban Development Minister Sheila Kaul told Parliament, adding that police requests had so far got her nowhere as many of the tenants had won court stay orders.

MP Vivan Shah urged Ms. Kaul to throw out the overstayers, the most prominent of whom is former Deputy Premier Devi Lal, bag and baggage by force.

Devi Lal, a self-professed farmers champion, has ignored requests from Indian President to vacate his bungalow.

## Attack on newspapermen in Khabar

By Staff Correspondent

Leaders of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists, the Dhaka Union of Journalists, the Bangladesh Newspaper Press Workers Federation and the Bangladesh Newspaper Employees Federation strongly condemned and protested the attack on journalists and workers of the Dainik Khabar on Friday.

In a joint statement the leaders said five journalists and press workers were injured when a group of armed miscreants hired by DGM of Khabar Sardar Mosharraf Hossain and his brother Sardar Keramat Ali suddenly attacked

## Communists back Gorbachev's plan to jettison Marxist legacy

MOSCOW, July 26: Top Soviet communists today backed President Mikhail Gorbachev's radical new programme which jettisons much of the party's Marxist legacy, but conservatives said the party could still split later this year, reports agencies.

Delegates to a plenary session of the party Central Committee said the meeting passed a resolution considering the draft programme "an acceptable basis for further work."

They said only a few dozen members of the 412 member

body voted against the resolution turning the document over to a commission and calling for it to be considered at a party congress later in the year.

President Gorbachev vowed Friday to do what is necessary to reverse Russian President Boris Yeltsin's edict abolishing the Communists Party's means of control in Russian factories, schools and offices.

Gorbachev, speaking on the second day of a Central Committee meeting in the Kremlin, said he would issue a presidential decree if needed

to annul Yeltsin's order dismantling Communist Party cells throughout the Russian Federation, the largest of the 15 Soviet republics.

He said the Central Committee plenum had been deluged with mail protesting the abolishment of party cells, the mechanism that has allowed the ruling Communists to keep tight control on workers, teachers and government officials.

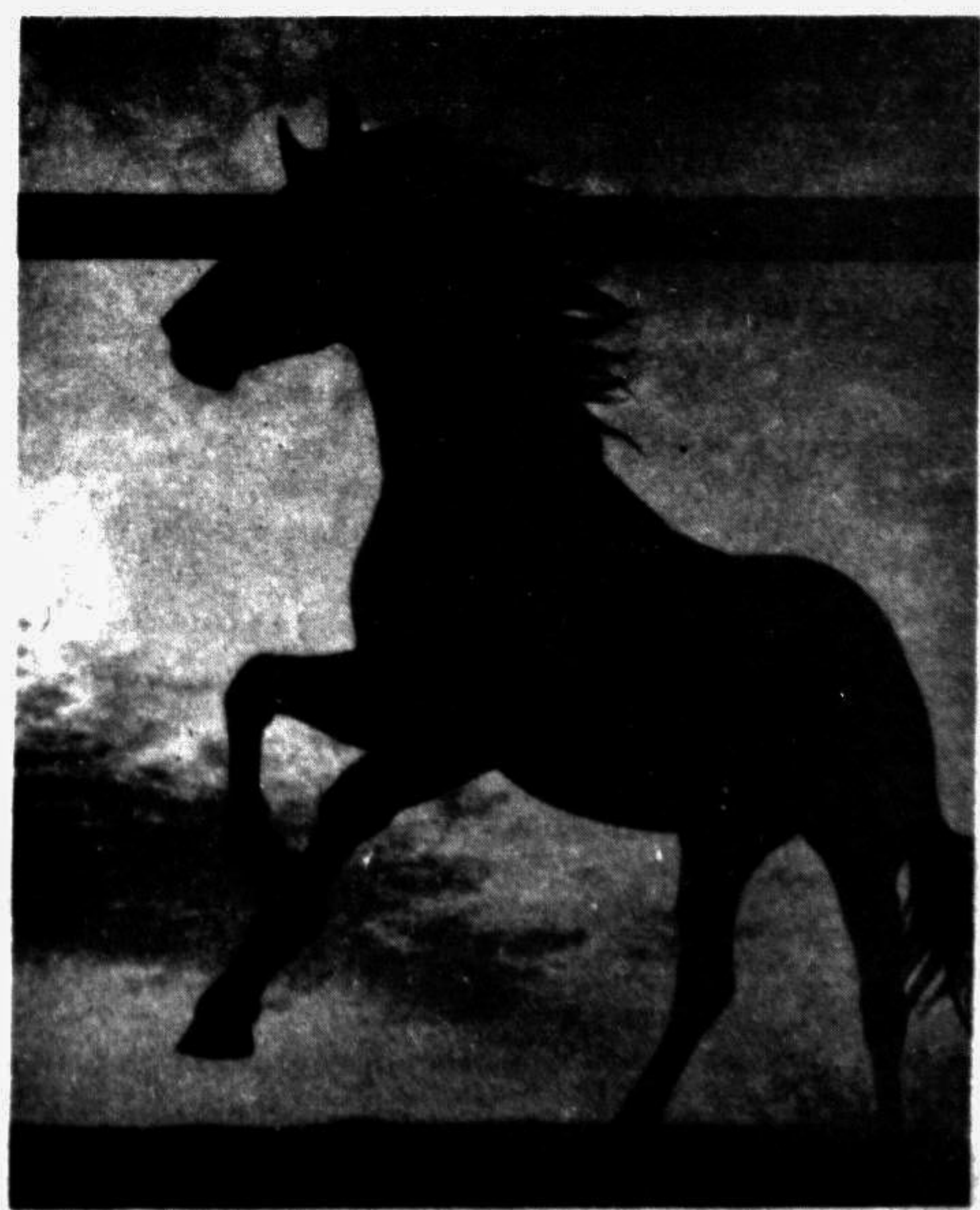
The 410-member Central Committee formed a commission to draft a resolution condemning Yeltsin's decree.

Gorbachev told the meeting he would take steps "up to a decree of the President of the country" to reverse it, the independent Interfax news agency reported.

Yeltsin's July 20 decree ordered the dismantling of the cells in factories, schools, government offices and other workplaces across the huge Russian Federation.

The decree struck at the heart of the party's power. It was roundly attacked at Thursday's session, which also weighed Gorbachev's plan to

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