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### NEWS BRIEFS

**FBUTA condemns police action**

By DU Correspondent  
The Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers Associations (FBUTA) Thursday condemned the police assault on the journalists on 21 June in the National Press Club. The meeting held at the Dhaka University Club demanded immediate punishment of the persons involved. The meeting was presided over by FBUTA President Professor SMA Fazl.

**Jubo League leader held**

JAMALPUR, June 26: Police today arrested Awami Jubo League Secretary of the town, Md Sheikh Farid, from his residence at Station Road. The reason of his arrest could not be known. Farid is also a member of Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee. Local Jubo League brought out a procession demanding his immediate release, reports our correspondent.

**Body recovered**

By Staff Correspondent  
Dhanmondi Police Friday recovered the body of a housemaid from a house at Tallabag, Monshwar road in the capital. Police said they recovered the body of Peroza Begum (13) with marks of injury on her body. They said that the housemaid might have been killed late Thursday night. Police arrested the owner of the house for interrogation.

**US rail shutdown ends**

NEW YORK, June 26: Circus lions and commuters boarded US trains again Friday after Congress ended a two-day rail shutdown, with freight service surging back toward normal levels and commuters returning to the stations, reports AP.

## Enclave people celebrate ceremony in tears

# Tinbigha corridor opens

By Toufique Imrose Khalid

DAHAGRAM (Lalmoinhat), June 26: A tearful, cheerful crowd welcomed the officials of Lalmonirhat district administration who stepped into this segregated part of Bangladesh walking through the corridor this morning.

Hundreds of joyous residents, who described the occasion as freedom, embraced each others, rushed to the mainland crossing the corridor, knelt down and kissed the dear motherland.

Lalmoinhat Deputy Commissioner accompanied by other district officials and the local BDR commanders arrived at the gate of the corridor at 11 am sharp as scheduled to a warm welcome from the officials of Coochbehar district and the border security force. The Indian officials received them with bouquets.

"It is a historic occasion," said DC Khalilur Rahman giving immediate reaction to Bangladesh and Indian jour-

nalists as he had just stepped into the corridor.

Scores of Indian journalists, perhaps outnumbering the Indian officials, threw a volley of questions to the Bangladesh civil servant on issues like corridor facility for road communication between Coochbehar and Calcutta through Bangladesh territory.

Coochbehar District Magistrate Gopal Krishna echoed the sentiments of his See Page 12 Col 5

## Indian police open fire on protesters: 2 killed

TIN BIGHA, June 26: Paramilitary troops fired tear gas and bullets Friday to repel demonstrators protesting against the leasing of a land corridor to Bangladesh. Witnesses said two people were killed.

After police fended off demonstrators since dawn, Indian and Bangladesh officials went through with the mid morning ceremony transferring the Tin Bigha corridor to Bangladesh under a 999-year lease.

Police fired about 100 tear gas canisters into crowds of nationalist protesters who claimed that yielding the corridor compromised India's sovereignty and opened the way for greater illegal immigration from Bangladesh.

Police opened fire to stop a mob trying to storm the passageway, which is fenced off with barbed wire, Jiten Roy, a 24-year-old farm labourer who

residents said had come only to watch, was killed.

Reporters at another part of the corridor said they saw a bloodied body on the street after police used night sticks, tear gas and live ammunition to beat back a crowd of about 500 people.

They said it was not immediately clear if the demonstrator died in the stampede or was shot.

Police used force in at least 15 other places where groups of 50 to 500 people demonstrated chanting, "We won't give up Tin Bigha" and "we will save our motherland."

Police Superintendent AK Malwal, the area's top police official, said 800 people were arrested Friday, raising to 3,000 the number of people who have been detained during the last three days. Most were expected to be released without charges.

## Dhaka pleased, Delhi sees new era of ties

Bangladesh is pleased at the implementation of the agreement on leasing of the Tinbigha corridor which has enabled her to exercise sovereignty over Dahagram and Angarpota enclaves, a spokesman on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement issued here last night, reports BSS.

Bangladesh expressed the hope that implementation of the agreement would usher in a new era of good neighbourly cooperation between Bangladesh and India. It would also enable resolution of the remaining outstanding issues through peaceful dialogues to the mutual benefit of the peoples of the two countries, the spokesman said.

PTI from Delhi adds: India yesterday said that relations with Bangladesh had entered a new phase with the leasing of See Page 12 Col 3

## Opposition set to defy ban on procession around JS

By Masud Hasan Khan

Opposition MPs will lead the planned "march towards the Jatiya Sangsad" on June 30 and, appear bent on defying the ban on procession around the Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament).

Highly placed sources in the opposition told The Daily Star that the opposition members of Parliament would "use all means" to make the planned march a success.

"We will do everything to make it a success and be ready even to defy Section 144 around Parliament," a source said.

The planned march has been called by the National

Coordinating Council for Realisation of the Spirits of the Liberation War and Resistance to the Killers and Collaborators of 1971 to press for carrying out the 'People's court verdict' on Jamaat chief Golam Azam. The People's court has sentenced that Golam Azam be punished by death.

Barring the Jamaat-e-Islami MPs all the opposition members in Parliament have already lent their support to the programme and announced to join the march.

The opposition MPs, excepting the Jamaat's, have been boycotting the budget session of Parliament since

June 18 to press home their four-point demand.

The demands are trial of Golam Azam for his 1971 war crimes, withdrawal of the "false cases" against 24 organisers of the March 26 public trial of the Jamaat chief at the Suhrawardy Uddyan in Dhaka, and "democratic practices" in and outside Parliament.

Competent sources said that the members of the combined opposition have been holding regular meeting to work-out their role in the planned march.

They said that the march would start for the House See Page 12 Col 2

## PM making Sangsad inoperative: ALWC

Main opposition Awami League has accused Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia of making parliament inoperative through her "indifference, ignorance and irresponsible utterances," reports UNB.

A resolution of the party's central working committee meeting held Thursday with Sheikh Hasina in the chair termed the Prime Minister's recent speeches against the opposition boycott of budget session "provocative, fabricated and ill-motivated."

The resolution said the Prime Minister has perhaps forgotten that in parliamentary democracy it is the responsibility of the Leader of the House to take initiatives for resolving any problems through

discussion with the opposition and make the parliament effective.

Indeed the precondition of democracy, it said, is to show respect to other's viewpoints and create conditions conducive to all problems through discussion by shunning "provocative and tense" situation.

The meeting recalled that after the fall of the autocratic government of Ershad, the present ruling party had tried to continue the presidential system but ultimately was forced to accept the parliamentary system of government in the face of organised pressure from the opposition and the people.

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## Jamaat urges opposition to end boycott

PAUNA, June 26: Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Maulana Mattur Rahman Nizami today urged the opposition political parties to join the budget session, ending their boycott of parliament, for healthy practice of parliamentary democracy, reports UNB.

All the opposition parties should play a constructive role in parliament, he said, to help end its five-year term successfully for giving democracy an institutional shape.

Talking to local journalists this afternoon, Nizami expressed the view that a main opposition party of a democratic country cannot boycott the budget session as it has to play an alternate role to the government.

# Rabin favours autonomy talks but warns militants

JERUSALEM, June 26: Labour's Yitzhak Rabin, trying to forge a government that will push forward Arab-Israeli peace talks, vowed to use an "iron fist" against Palestinian militants who killed Jews.

"If someone is mistaken, and thinks we won't use an iron fist against the murderers and all the leaders of acts of hatred, he will learn the hardest of lessons from us," Rabin told Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper in an interview

published today.

Rabin was responding to the worst Arab-Israeli violence in the occupied territories for months. Palestinians stabbed to death two Israelis in the Gaza Strip on Thursday. An Israeli soldier and three Palestinians were killed in a gunfight in the West Bank.

When the Palestinian uprising against Israeli's occupation of lands it captured in the 1967 Middle East war erupted four-and-a-half years ago, Rabin

as Defence Minister in a unity government with Likud instituted a policy of might, power and beatings. Arabs dubbed him 'the bone-breaker.'

As the uprising ground on — more than 1,400 Palestinians and 92 Israelis have been killed to date — Rabin said he was convinced only tough security measures coupled with an Arab-Israeli peace process could end the bloodshed.

He sounded the same theme today — the principal



An anti-drug procession in the city in observance of the International Day Against Drug Abuse yesterday. — Star photo

## DU teachers take classes from today

Dhaka University teachers will return to their classes today (Saturday) ending a 20-day strike after their demands were met by the authorities, reports UNB.

The decision to call off the strike was taken on June 25 at a meeting of the Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA).

DU teachers went on indefinite strike from June 6 demanding punishment of a physics final year student who had assaulted a teacher of the department.

As per DUTA demand, the Academic Council and the Disciplinary Board of the university found the student, Sheikh Ansar Ali, guilty of gross misconduct.

On June 24, the Syndicate, according to recommendations of the two bodies, expelled Sheikh Ansar Ali from the university and stripped him of the honours degree.

Another report says: Several hundred students of the Dhaka University brought out a protest procession in the campus yesterday (Friday) demanding withdrawal of the expulsion order on a Physics Department student.

General students also formed a "Committee for Protecting Rights of Students (CPRS)" today launching the movement to resist what organisers said the arbitrary and one-sided action against students.

The processionists chanted slogans like "Burn DUTA", "Return Ansar's Honours Degree", and "We will not tolerate whims of teachers."

Later addressing a rally at the TSC road island, Golam Mostafa, an organiser of CPRS, warned that the general students will also go for indefinite strike like the teachers.

Rabin accused Shamir during the election campaign of treading water in peace talks launched in Madrid last October in favour of housing Jews among 1.75 million Palestinians in the occupied lands.

AP adds: Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was quoted Friday as saying he feared his defeat will pave the way for a Palestinian state since it will end the drive to move thousands of Jewish settlers to the occupied lands.

Rabin accused Shamir during

## Drug abuse threatening security: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said here yesterday that all social forces would have to play a pioneering and effective role in checking drug abuse, reports BSS.

Begum Zia called upon all political parties and social organisations to build a strong movement and resistance against drug addiction on the basis of national consensus.

The Prime Minister was addressing a discussion, organised on the occasion of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The Department of Narcotics Control organised the discussion at the Osmany Memorial Hall.

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Home Secretary Lutfullah-Hil Majid and Director General of the Department AMM Nasrullah Khan also spoke.

Begum Zia underlined the need for complete flourishment and practice of traditional and religious values which, she said, would work as tools in the social movement against erosion of values including drug addiction.

Begum Zia called upon the mass media especially radio and television to make their valuable contribution to create mass awareness against the drug addiction. She said the women had to be involved in the drive against drug abuse to build up massive resistance at the grass roots level.

The Prime Minister said drug abuse was a curse for the See Page 12 Col 3

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The Prime Minister said drug abuse was a curse for the See Page 12 Col 3

## Transport strike enters 6th day Rivals hurl bombs on more vehicles: 10 hurt

By Staff Correspondent

Stray incidents of cracker blasts around the capital marked the fifth day of the indefinite transport strike on Friday injuring at least 10 people.

About a dozen of vehicles were either set ablaze or damaged yesterday by the striking workers as their opponents came out with their vehicles in different city routes ignoring the strike.

Three injured persons were hospitalised with serious cracker injuries, our DMCH Correspondent reported. Bangladesh Road Transport Workers Federation called for

the strike to realise its 11-point demands including amending of Industrial Relations Ordinance and putting the workers under bailable section after road accident.

The federation, however, split over the decision a day after the strike call was given and a section of workers started operating their vehicles in the capital and in most of the districts in southeastern part of the country including Chittagong.

Earlier, the Communication Minister in a statement in See Page 12 Col 4

## Rohingya repatriation

### High-level meet today

By Farid Hossain

A high-level official meeting is scheduled to be held in Dhaka on Saturday to discuss repatriation of Rohingya refugees which has been stalled by their protests, informed sources said.

They said the meeting will review the latest situation prevailing in the refugee camps and preparations for their repatriation. The repatriation, due to start from May 15, could not take off as the refugees refused to return home until the persecution they have fled in Myanmar (Burma) ends.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh and Myanmar officials will meet for their sixth round of repatriation talks second week of next month.

Relief officials reached by telephone in Cox's Bazar feel that the repatriation should start immediately as monsoon See Page 12 Col 4

## Price of wood for newsprint mills raised

Inam Ahmed

The government has raised the price of the wood used in the Khulna Newsprint Mills (KNM) to Taka 10 per cubic foot from the previous price of 63 paise only.

The new price will be effective from the coming fiscal 1992-93.

The hike in the wood price will cause an additional loss of Taka 2.8 crore annually to the KNM, according to concerned sources.

At present, the KNM is running at an average loss of about Taka 20 crore annually.

Initially, the Forest Department had decided to raise the price of wood to Taka 15 a cubic foot. However, after discussions with the Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC), the price was fixed at a lower band in view of the loss-making situation of the KNM.

Concerned sources said that the price of wood used to be further increased in the fiscal 1993-94 and ultimately raised to Taka 15 per cubic foot in fiscal 1994-95.

Meanwhile, KNM sources said that the hike in the wood price would make it necessary to increase the price of its newsprint. BCIC had already proposed raising the newsprint price to Taka 26000 per ton. At present, the price is Taka 18000 per ton while the production cost is Taka 25040 per ton.

See Page 12 Col 2

## Lakhs of people marooned in Ctg flood

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 26: Most of the low-lying areas of Chittagong and Cox's Bazar districts have been inundated by flood water caused due to incessant rainfall for fifth consecutive day yesterday.

The flood water left lakhs of people marooned and thousands of dwelling houses badly damaged sources said.

The road communication between Chittagong and Cox's Bazar remained snapped as the Arakan Road connecting the two districts had gone under water, administration sources said.

Besides, an unconfirmed delayed reports said, the flood water claimed the life of a madrasa student Naemuddin, 12, who was reportedly washed away in the Shango river at Chandanaish Upazila 40, miles off the city on Wednesday night.

His body is still missing, local sources said. When contacted the Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong however, could not confirm the death of Naem.

According to reports available here, the flood waters also affected the roads, culverts and embankments at the coastal areas of Chittagong and Cox's Bazar districts. All the local rivers including Shanga, Matamuhuri, Isamati, Delu and Hata are flowing in full spate, sources said.

The worst affected upazilas are Shatkania, Chandanaish, Lohagara, Anwara, Banskhali, Hathagari, Fatikchhari and Raazan of Chittagong district and Mohekhali and Chakarria of Cox's Bazar district.

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