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Inside Today

Article

The US Presidential Elections and the Perot Factor
Page 4

Sport

Steffi Graf retains Wimbledon women's singles title

Agassi, Ivanisevic in men's final
Page 11

International

Ghali warns Y'slavia of action similar to one slapped on Iraq

A refugee woman from Northern Bosnia, eats her meal while resting on floor of a sports hall after arriving in Split, Croatia, Friday.
Page 5

Business

Bonn cautious on Bush's idea of G8

Ctg Sea Customs earns Tk 3100 cr
Pages 6, 7

Feature

Health

Making Old Age Meaningful
By Dr M D Hossain

Tobacco is Not All Cigarettes
Page 8

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day

Looking Inwards Into Your Culture
Page 3

One killed, 50 hurt in Adamjee gunbattle

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, July 4: A schoolboy was shot dead and over 50 others injured this morning in a triangular gunfight among the activists of ruling BNP, opposition Awami League and Jatiya Party at the Adamjee Jute Mills and its surrounding areas.

According to police and witnesses, the trouble originated at the Dhaka Baju Workers' Colony of the AJM at around mid-night Friday for control over the colony which later spread over the areas surrounding the mills.

Selim, a class ten student of Adamjee High School, received bullet in his chest while passing over the Kadamtali Bridge at 8 this morning.

Selim expired on way to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Unconfirmed sources claimed that he was a worker of the AL-backed Chhatra League.

The trouble was triggered by a group of workers in their bid to usurp the leadership of Siddiq Sarder, a Jatiya Party-supported Jatiya Sramik Party leader, witnesses said.

The attackers reportedly belong to the ruling party-backed Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal.

According to AJM sources, the first round of the clash took place between the supporters of BNP and Jatiya Party at about 12 mid night while the second round of clash occurred between the activists of BNP and AL in the morning.

The clashes that erupted in and around the AJM continued till 9 this morning leaving at least 50 people of the clashing parties injured. They were treated at different hospitals and clinics at Adamjee and Narayanganj as well as at the AJM Medical Centre.

Police reportedly did not take action against the troublemakers nor did they arrest anybody in connection with the incidents.

Armed police were deployed at the trouble spots. The situation prevailing there was termed as explosive by the

See Page 12 Col 1

Jubo Command attacks CPB office

By Staff Correspondent

Police teargassed a Jubo Command procession when they hurled cocktails at the Communist Party (CPB) office, and created panic in the Purana Paltan area yesterday evening.

Police and eye-witnesses said that a Jubo Command (JC) procession attacked the CPB office 'unprovoked'. At least a dozen home-made bombs were hurled during the incident causing damages to nearby shops and business establishments, they said.

A number of cocktails were also aimed at the police contingent deployed at the CPB office, an on-duty policeman said.

Police lobbed at least five teargas shells to disperse the unruly JC activists who later

See Page 12 Col 5

48 killed as fresh battle grips Kabul

KABUL, July 4: At least 48 persons were killed in Kabul this afternoon as a guerilla faction south of the city traded rocket and artillery fire with government troops garrisoned inside the capital, reports Reuter.

Today's fighting was between the Hezb-i-Islami forces of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar massed to the south of Kabul, and 53rd division forces led by General Rashed Dostum, based at the ancient fortress of Bala Hissar.

Each side blamed the other for shooting first.

Hezb rockets landed near the bus station adjacent to the Ariana Hotel, killing 32 persons and injuring at least 50 others according to eyewitnesses.

Government troops said ten men were killed and three injured when six Hezb rockets fell on the Kabul garrison.

Reporters saw six bodies, three of them in civilian clothes, lying in pools of blood

See Page 12 Col 7

Chinese Embassy incident: 19 on police remand

By Staff Correspondent

The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate in Dhaka Saturday granted a two-day remand of the 19 people arrested in connection with the June 30 mob attack on the Chinese Embassy complex at Baridhara in the capital.

However, interrogation of the arrested could not start Saturday, according to Gulshan police.

They said that no fresh arrest was made till Saturday following the attack on the embassy Thursday last.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Patriotic Democratic Front (PDF) Saturday called on the Chinese Ambassador in Dhaka at his office at Gulshan.

PDF leaders Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, Pankaj Bhatta-

See Page 12 Col 4

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a grand conference of Bangladesh National Cooperative Union at Bijoy Swarani in the city yesterday. —PID photo

Water talks with Delhi this month

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

Basking in the success symbolised by the opening of the Tinbigha corridor last week, Dhaka and New Delhi are warming up to work on the other outstanding issues including water sharing.

Indian Irrigation Minister Vidyacharan Shukla will be in Dhaka later this month to discuss the lean season flow of waters to Bangladesh, an issue that has been a festering sore in the relations between the two neighbours, officials said.

The trip takes place as a follow-up to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia's May 26-28 visit to India during which she reached accord, with her counterpart Narasimha Rao, on ways to deal with the troubled spots.

The two Prime Ministers agreed that an interim arrangement would be worked out till a permanent solution to the problem could be reached.

During the planned visit, yet to be announced officially, the Indian minister would propose for water sharing according to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that expired in 1988, recent Indian newspaper reports quoting, Shukla said.

Officials said a Secretary-level meeting would precede the talks between the ministers.

In a related development, the Commerce Ministers of

See Page 12 Col 8

DU students threaten movement

By DU Correspondent

The Committee for Protecting Students Right (CPRS) yesterday threatened to go for a greater movement if their 11-point demands are not met within July 7.

The CPRS convenor Golam Mustafa and joint convenors Quzi Sohel and Harun-ur-Rashid in a joint statement yesterday (Saturday) said that their ongoing movement was not against the teachers in general but against a few 'corrupt' teachers who have humiliated the teachers community before the nation.

The CPRS leaders also mentioned that Ansar Ali, the Physics Department student of Dhaka University must face punishment for assaulting his teacher Badrul Alam but that the decision should be taken

See Page 12 Col 5

Coop farmers to get loan exemption: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said cooperative farmers would be brought under the government decision on exempting agricultural loan including interest upto Tk 5000 for the welfare of small farmers, reports BSS.

She was addressing a grand conference, organised by Bangladesh National Cooperative Union in observance of the 70th international Cooperative Day yesterday.

She said at present the government was providing agricultural loan in an enhanced amount. Tk 1416 crore has been proposed for the allocation in the agricultural and water resources sector in the current Annual Development Programme, she added.

LGRD and Cooperative Minister Abdus Salam Talukdar, Deputy Minister for LGRD and Cooperative Abdul Hai, Secretary Rural Development and Cooperative Division A H M Abdul Hai, Cooperative Register M Azizul Huq Bhuiyan and General Secretary of BNCU M Shahidullah also spoke on the occasion. BNCU President Salauddin Ahmed MP presided over the conference.

About one lakh cooperators from different parts of the country took part in the con-

See Page 12 Col 7

SAARC FMs meet in Colombo Wednesday

The SAARC Council of Ministers will hold a session in Colombo on July 8-9 to finalise the agenda of the 7th SAARC summit, reports UNB.

The summit will be held in Dhaka from December 12-14, a press release of the Sri Lankan High Commission in Dhaka said yesterday.

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman leaves Dhaka on Monday to attend the meeting to be inaugurated by Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa.

Foreign Secretary Reaz Rahman is now in the Lankan

See Page 12 Col 1

SKOP calls 48-hour strike from Tuesday

By Staff Correspondent

The 48-hour strike called by the Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad across the country begins Tuesday (July 7).

The strike was called by SKOP to press home their five-point demands which included stopping of denationalisation of the public-sector mills and factories and stopping retrenchment of workers at the state-owned industries.

Meanwhile, Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan Saturday held a meeting with the leaders of SKOP to review different problems of the workers.

According to an official handout in Dhaka last night, the meeting, stressed the need for resolving the problems of the workers through mutual discussion.

Social Welfare and Woman Affairs Minister Tariqul Islam also attended it.

The meeting will be resumed at 3 pm today.

Speaking on the occasion, the Labour and Manpower Minister said the present democratic government led by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was eager to solve all the

See Page 12 Col 6

Jute, textile workers' march to JS today

By Staff Correspondent

Jute and textile workers will march towards the Jatiya Sangsad and stage a sit-in demonstration today (Sunday) to press home their demands including halt to denationalisation and retrenchment process of the government.

The march will start from the National Press Club at around 4 pm and the leaders will hand over memoranda to the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and the Speaker, Jute and Textile Workers Action Council sources said.

If their demands are not met by July 27, the workers will organise a rail and road

See Page 12 Col 3

200 Tigers killed in Jaffna

COLOMBO, July 4: Government troops backed by air cover have overrun a key territory held by Tamil guerillas in northern Sri Lanka following a fresh military drive that left some 200 rebels dead, officials here said today, reports AFP.

Hundreds of troops captured Periyapatchipallai hours after resuming an advance Friday from a beachhead at Vettilaikerni in northern Jaffna peninsula, a senior military official said.

"Our men have taken Periyapatchaipallai northwest of Vettilaikerni the going was good for us yesterday. We lost one and had four wounded. Ground troops estimate at least 200 Tigers were killed," the official said.

Military officials said troops found 27 LTTE bodies along with automatic weapons during a search of the area immediately after it was captured.

"Ground troops saw many dead and wounded begin carried away by those who were feeling our advance," an army officer said, adding that the area was captured "within a matter of hours" after fierce fighting at the outset.

"It was not an orderly withdrawal on their side and it was easy for our air force and artillery units to attack them," the officer said. Troops cleared dozens of mines laid by fleeing LTTE rebels to delay the army advance.

Officials said security forces took two days to capture the same area from LTTE rebels during a major offensive last year to lift a rebel siege on the nearby Elephant Pass army garrison.

NEWS BRIEFS

Budget session resumes today

The budget session of parliament resumes at 4-30 pm (Sunday) after a two-day recess, reports UNB.

ALPP meet today

A meeting of Awami League Parliamentary Party will be held today at 3 pm at the conference room of the opposition leader at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban. Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad Sheikh Hasina will preside over the meeting, reports BSS.

Milam hosts reception

The US Ambassador in Bangladesh, William B Milam hosted a reception at his residence here Saturday evening in celebration of the 216th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America. reportsBSS.

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