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# The Daily Star

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## NEWS BRIEFS

Mandela warns of stern action

JOHANNESBURG, July 8: Nelson Mandela warned Friday security forces would crack down on factional violence in black townships southeast of Johannesburg that has killed at least 22 people in the past week, reports AP.

SAARC finance ministers' meet begins tomorrow

## Quest for integrated steps against region's poverty

By Staff Correspondent

Participants at the two-day Conference of SAARC Finance Ministers beginning in the city tomorrow, will try to formulate a strategy for sustainable reduction of poverty in the region.

The conference will seek ways for an integrated approach on poverty alleviation given the state of health, sanitation, water supply, education and other social infrastructures in the respective countries.

Member states will present country papers on different aspects of poverty alleviation, touching on the problems they are facing and the progress

Another important issue likely to dominate discussions is the initiation of a new dia-

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Saifur to exchange ideas on reforms with Manmohan

By Staff Correspondent

Finance Ministers Manmohan Singh and Saifur Rahman, two exponents of financial reforms in India and Bangladesh, will exchange ideas and review their experiences when they meet in Dhaka this week, sources said.

India's Finance Minister Manmohan Singh who would lead his country's five-member delegation at the first SAARC finance ministers' meet would extend his stay by a day to hold bilateral discussions with his Bangladesh counterpart, Saifur Rahman.

Manmohan is scheduled to arrive here this afternoon by the British Airways for the two-day SAARC meet beginning tomorrow.

The Indian Finance Minister will spend a busy day in Dhaka on July 12 meeting Saifur Rahman and other high officials. Manmohan's discus-

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## Interview with Foreign Minister

## Water issue: Ball in Delhi's court

By M Anwarul Haq

"Political will on the part of India is required to solve the long-standing water problem with Bangladesh."

This was stated by Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman in an exclusive interview with The Daily Star.

Mostafiz said all outstanding problems could be settled between Bangladesh and its neighbours through dialogue. So far India had not been able to exhibit the necessary political will for a solution of the water issue.

Mentioning that Dhaka was keenly awaiting the proposed visit of Indian PM Narasimha Rao, the Foreign Minister felt it was not possible to arrive at a settlement unless India sits at the table and negotiates.

Mostafiz said he was aware of a rumour circulating about

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## US, North Korea start nuclear talks

GENEVA, July 8: The United States and North Korea on Friday started a crucial round of talks to ease tensions over the Communist country's nuclear programme, reports AP.

The talks, repeatedly postponed because of North Korea's refusal to allow full inspections of its nuclear facilities, are also expected to focus on US technical assistance and diplomatic links.

Both delegations were relaxed and smiling as they shook hands for photographers outside the North Korean diplomatic mission by the shores of Lake Geneva.

Robert Gallucci, the assistant secretary of state for political-military and a coordinator

Amirul panel sweeps JU senate polls

By JU Correspondent

The Jahangirnagar University (JU) Senate yesterday elected a three-member panel of nominees for the appointment of a new Vice Chancellor (VC) of the university.

The panel was elected at a special session of the university Senate with its president, acting VC Prof. Abdul Hossain in the chair.

Two panels contested in the election. The panel led by Prof. Amirul Islam Chowdhury won all the three posts of the panel. Prof. Chowdhury of the department of Economics bagged 61 votes out of 84 cast.

He is followed by Prof. Maudud Elahi (Geography) — 45 votes and Prof. Mesbauddin Ahmed (Chemistry) — 55 votes.

Another group led by Prof. Khondaker Mustahidur Rahman (Economics) was defeated in the election by a huge margin of votes. He got 38 votes while two other candidates of his panel, Prof. Enamul Huq Khan (History) and Prof. Amir Hossain Khan (Physics), got 24 and 23 votes respectively.

The Chancellor of the University, President Abdur Rahman Biswas, will appoint one of the elected persons as the VC of the university for the next four years term. The post of VC fell vacant when the former VC Kazi Saleh Ahmed resigned in the wake of violence on the campus on July 29, 1993.

8 die of diarrhoea in Pabna

PABNA, July 8: Eight people died of diarrhoea in four thanas of the district in the last 24 hours, reports UNB.

Sadar hospital sources said, diarrhoea has broken out in 12 villages of sadar, Sujanagar, Santhia and Chatmohar thanas.

The dead were identified as: Tapu, 29, Shamu, 15, Asad, 22, Full, 5, Jotana, 6, Athar Ali, 32, Abdul Majid, 27, and Jashimuddin, 45.

Acute water crisis is prevailing in the affected areas, local people said.

Civil Surgeon of Pabna Dr Matur Rahman told UNB that 12 medical teams are working round the clock in the four thanas.

Acute shortage of saline is also prevailing in the hospitals, patients complained.

## ATTENTION READERS!

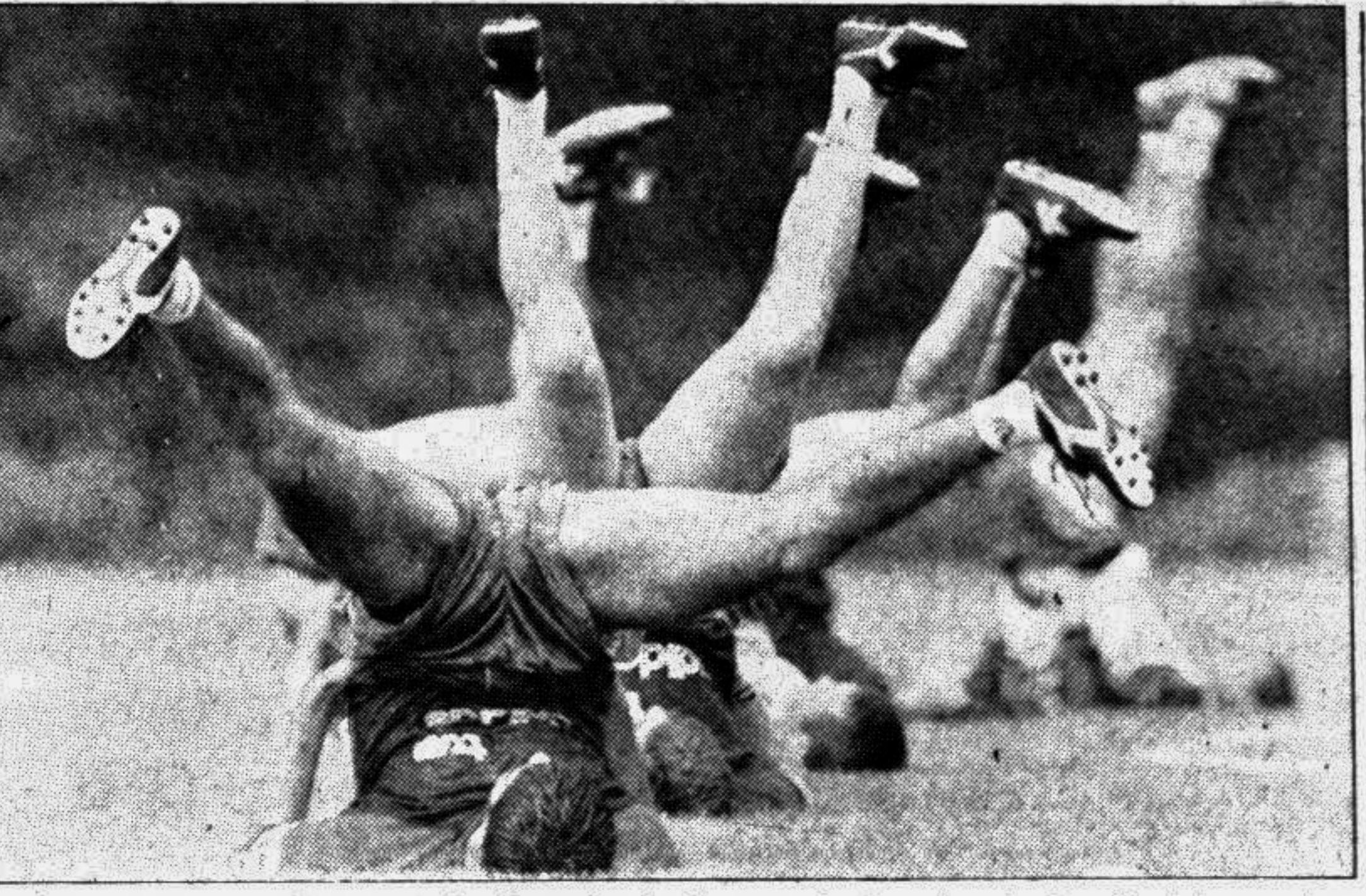
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The Brazilian football team in World Cup '94.

SQUARE TOILETRIES LIMITED

Today's The Daily Star contains a free four-colour poster of the Brazilian football team, sponsored by Square Toiletries Limited, the manufacturers of Meril Freshgel toothpaste.



TONIGHT'S WORLD CUP MATCHES ON BTV

Game A : Italy vs Spain at 22:00 (BST)  
Game B : Holland vs Brazil at 01:30 (BST)

Body to finalise guidelines of JS secretariat

By Asiuzzaman

A four-member committee has been formed to finalise the guidelines and rules of the parliament secretariat.

The 'rules formulation committee', headed by the parliament secretary, was gazetted on Wednesday, sources said. The representatives of the ministries of finance, law and establishment are the members of the committee.

The newly-formed committee will hold its first meeting today (Saturday).

Earlier, the first meeting of the parliament secretariat

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Hasina protests harassment of opposition leaders

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday protested the armed attack on and harassment of opposition leaders and workers in different districts and asked the administration to remain neutral, reports UNB.

In a statement, she con-

demned the attempt by 'iden-

tified terrorists' to attack Manikganj district Awami League President Mosleh Uddin Khan Habu Mia and other district leaders at the party office recently.

None of the attackers has yet been arrested despite filing of a specific case against them.

Hasina alleged that the ruling BNP was using local admin-istrators for party interest, leading to deterioration of law and order situation. Leaders and workers of the Awami League and other opposition parties are being harassed by false cases.

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Economy improving, says SNC report

Star Report

Smith New Court, one of the leading international operators in stock market, has said that despite poverty, unemployment and low productivity, Bangladeshi's econ-omy has been remarkably re-

Smith New Court, now ac-tively involved in the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), made the observation in its April re-port on Bangladesh.

The financial operator noted the country's good macro-fundamentals, low inflation rate and good external sector performance.

The report said despite natural calamities, "annual GDP growth has averaged four per cent since independence. The service sector has progressed remarkably, now accounting for 47 per cent of the GDP."

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## G-7 Summit opens in Naples

NAPLES, Italy, July 8: The G7 Summit of the world's leading industrialised nations officially opened in this southern Italian port city this evening, reports AFP.

The 20th G7 Summit opened with Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, in office just a week, held their first meeting before the opening of the summit.

Berlusconi said it was im-

portant that the United States and Japan maintain good rela-tions.

Clinton repeated his asser-tion that the US-Japan relationship is the world's most important bilateral tie.

Trade disputes and world trouble spots were at the top of the agenda for Clinton and Murayama.

There was no announcement of any breakthrough on trade matters but Murayama said they agreed to work co-operatively to establish stable ex-

change rates.

The dollar has been sliding against the yen. "We want the dollar to be properly valued, not undervalued," Clinton said at a joint news conference with Japan.

Clinton and Socialist Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, in office just a week, held their first meeting before the opening of the summit.

Murayama said it was im-

portant that the United States and Japan maintain good rela-tions.

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Trade disputes and world trouble spots were at the top of the agenda for Clinton and Murayama.

"I wouldn't say the signs are all bleak," the President said.

He said American cars are selling better in Japan and the United States is getting a foothold in the rice market.

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Sanskritik Jote condoles death of Jahanara Imam

By Staff Correspondent

The Sammilito Sanskritik Jote yesterday held a meeting at the Central Shaheed Minar to condole the death of Shaheed Janan Jahanara Imam.

Vice-President of the Jote Mamunur Rashid chaired the meeting.

Among those who ad-dressed the meeting were Jote secretary Golam Kuddus, freedom fighter Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Nirmul Samannay Committee Secretary Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, CPB leader Muzahidul Islam

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## Paste unit remains closed for want of sea fish

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, July 8: A frozen fish minced paste or Surimi manufacturing industry based in this port city has remained closed for almost two months now due to lack of small sea fish used by it as the raw material.

Such small fish are known as trash fish because the trawlers used to throw them back into sea before Sea Seolim came along.

To utilise these fish here, Sea Resource Ltd, a fishing company credited as being the country's biggest fishing joint

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Subscription Closes — 10th July 1994

Since our closing of subscription date is inadvertently falling on Friday, 8th July, we are approached by prospective investors to extend the last date for submission of application for investment in the shares of Dynamic Textile Industries Limited. It is, therefore, extended up to 10th July, 1994.

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