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NEWS BRIEFS

Heroin seized in N'ganj

From Our Correspondent
NARAYANGANJ, June 9: One hundred and sixty grams of heroin worth Taka 16 lakh, were recovered by police from Ballagram of Ruppangj thana. One Abu Sayeed was arrested on charge of possessing the heroin.

Body recovered

SIRAJGANJ, July 9: Police today recovered decomposed body of a schoolboy from a place. 50 yards off Sirajganj Bazar Railway Station. The body was identified as Babla, 16, a student of Class X of Solanga School. He had cut marks on his face, hand and neck, police said, reports UNB.

Kim Il-Sung dead

SEOUL, July 9: North Korean President Kim Il-Sung, 82, the world's last hard-line Stalinist leader, died early Friday of a heart attack. North Korean broadcasts announced Saturday, reports AFP.

"The great leader Kim Il-Sung died of illness at 2 am (1700 GMT Thursday) Friday," Pyongyang Radio and other broadcasts monitored here said in a special bulletin at midday.

Kim's death came 17 days

before he was to have met with South Korean President Kim Young-Sam at a historic first-ever inter-Korean summit in

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the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

Kim's eldest son, Kim Jong-Il, 52, would serve as Chairman of the Funeral Committee, the radio said, but it was unclear from the broadcasts whether the younger Kim

would succeed his father.

"With 'dear leader' Kim Jong-Il succeeding the great leader in the revolutionary struggle... will continue," the emotional, static-charged broadcasts monitored here said.

Radio Pyongyang, which announced the death, carried emotionally charged exhortations to North Koreans to remain calm and to fulfil the goals of Kim's revolutionary struggles.

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President, PM shocked

President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia expressed deep sorrow at the death of President Kim Il-Sung of North Korea, reports UNB.

"I have learnt with much sorrow the sad news of the passing away of Kim Il-Sung, your father and President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea," President Biswas said in a message to Kim Jong-Il, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army and Chairman of the Military Commission of the Workers Party of Korea.

"In him the Democratic People's Republic of Korea lost a revered leader," he said.

The President conveyed his deepest condolences to the eldest son and heir apparent of the late leader. "May you have the strength of bearing this in-

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AFP file picture dated 15 April '92 shows North Korean President Kim Il-Sung waving during the celebrations marking his 80th birthday at the Kim Il-Sung Stadium in Pyongyang.

Accord with US co to explore oil in Sylhet

By Sharier Khan

The Petrobangla yesterday finalised an agreement with US oil company Occidental for exploration of oil and gas in the Surma basin in Sylhet region.

The US company had earlier signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Bangladesh in September 1992.

The agreement was previously scheduled to have been finalised in December last but it was delayed because the government had been asking for an indemnity bond from the Occidental to assure Bangladesh of compensation in case of breach of contract.

Occidental had submitted the bond more than once since

Petrobangla was not satisfied with the bond initially.

The oil company has also proposed to set up a 200 megawatt power plant in Sylhet region which will use natural gas from the Jalalabad gas field as raw material.

Petrobangla will now place the just finalised agreement to the Energy Ministry for approval.

Meanwhile, 'good response' was received from foreign companies following the government decisions last month to allow setting up of power plants in private sector and to privatise six gas fields.

Some 10 to 12 American, Canadian, British and Australian

RUTA calls strike today

RAJSHAHI, July 9: The Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (RUTA) called a day-long strike tomorrow to protest the postponement of senate session scheduled for July 8, reports UNB.

The decision for teachers' strike was taken at an emergency meeting of the RUTA executive committee Friday night with Prof Hasan Azizul Hag in the chair.

The meeting condemned the Vice Chancellor's unilateral decision putting off the session as 'undemocratic and evil-designed'.

The RUTA also demanded judicial inquiry into misdeeds by VC Anisur Rahman.

Meanwhile, one of the three panels put up for the VC panel election, led by Prof Azharuddin, at a press conference today demanded fresh senate session by July 31.

Kim's death overshadows G-7 Summit

US trade proposal rebuffed

NAPLES (Italy), July 9: Group of Seven (G-7) leaders today congratulated themselves on a global economic recovery but conceded they had failed to slay the dragon of mass unemployment, reports Reuters.

As expected, the G-7 Naples summit also did not deliver a rescue bid for a sagging US dollar.

And Franco-German rejection forced US President Bill Clinton to withdraw a proposal for a prompt new round of global tariff-cutting negotiations to boost trade.

A summit declaration on economic affairs said a toll of 24 million jobless in the seven richest nations alone was 'far

too high... an unacceptable waste.

The leaders vowed accelerated reforms to try to create new jobs. "Recovery is under way," they assured their respective electorates. Inflation, they said, was at a 30-year low.

Away from economic issues, the death of North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung overshadowed the summit.

Korean tensions will preoccupy G-7 political talks due on Sunday, together with a peace plan for Bosnia and discussion of an array of other disorders across the post-cold war world.

The G-7 today reacted to dangers of economic collapse in Ukraine with an accord on

up to dollar 4 billion in aid — plus dollar 200 million more the help it shut its Chernobyl nuclear plant.

Germany particularly fears a re-run of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster. Clinton said in Naples that all Europe was worried about the plight of the 52 million people of Ukraine.

Sunday's political talks will be joined by Russian President Boris Yeltsin who flew to Naples on Saturday asserting that he was not a beggar at capitalism's top table any more.

"I am an equal partner with the biggest countries of the world," he said.

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Punjab governor, 12 others killed in plane crash

CHANDIGARH, India, July 9: The governor of the northern state of Punjab and 12 other people were killed in a plane crash Saturday near the Himalayan resort town of Kulu, United News of India news agency reported, says AP.

The state government aircraft carrying Governor Surendra Nath, 64, his wife Gargi Devi and eight other family

SKOP calls 24-hr strike in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, July 9: The Srani Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP) has called for a 24-hour work stoppage in the city tomorrow to realise its demands, including reinstatement of the retrenched workers, reports UNB.

The other demands of the labour body include implementation of the national minimum wages and increase of bonus, gratuity and to stop deduction of Tk 250 from their monthly wages.

members took off from Punjab's capital Chandigarh early in the morning for Kulu in the neighbouring state of Himachal Pradesh. Nath was officiating as governor of Himachal Pradesh.

Nath's son and daughter, their families and the three-member crew were among those killed.

Air force helicopters located the wreckage about 12 kilometers from Bhuntar airport, where the plane was supposed to land after a 40-minute flight from Chandigarh. Bhuntar's airstrip is the closest to Kulu.

The cause of the crash was still unknown, but officials said the aircraft had lost radio contact minutes before the crash.

Nath, a former police officer, was appointed governor in 1991. He supervised elections and the installation of a popular government a year later after security forces had almost crushed a decade-old Sikh separatist insurgency.



Brazilian star Romario celebrates after netting his side's first goal in yesterday's thrilling World Cup quarter-final clash against the Netherlands at Cotton Bowl Stadium, Dallas. Brazil won 3-2.

Baggio is again Italy's hero



Roberto Baggio

FOXBORO, July 9: Roberto Baggio, master of last-gasp heroics, swept Italy into the World Cup semifinals with a late goal against Spain on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Dino Baggio had given Italy a first-half lead which Jose Luis Caminero cancelled out in the 58th minute.

The game appeared to be heading for extra-time when in the 87th minute Dino Baggio chipped a superb pass through to Giuseppe Signori. The second half substitute hooked the bouncing ball, into Roberto Baggio's path and the forward rounded Spanish goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta to shoot.

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JS body-PCJSS talks today

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, July 9: The parliamentary sub-committee on hill tract affairs will hold its second round of talks with the leaders of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) tomorrow at the border village of Dudukchhari under Panchhari thana of Khagrachhari hill district, official sources said.

The talk is aimed at finding out a peaceful political solution to the long drawn CHT issue.

Rashed Khan Menon, MP, will lead the government side at the talks while the PCJSS team will be headed by its president Jotindra Boddhipriya Lama alias Shanto Lama.

Shahjalal Varsity teachers begin strike

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, July 9: The teachers of the Shahjalal University have begun an indefinite strike today demanding punitive measures against students who ransacked the Vice Chancellor's office and manhandled some teachers of the university recently.

Some students of the university ransacked the VC office on July 4 demanding shifting of the examination schedules.

The students put forward three reasons in support of their demand which included spread of viral fever among students, load-shedding problems in the residential hostels of the university and the World Cup football tournament.

The university authority refused to meet the demand to avoid session jam in the institution.

Branco returns to seal Dutch fate

Brazil in semifinals

DALLAS, July 9: Veteran defender Branco slammed home the winner against the Netherlands with nine minutes remaining to send Brazil into the World Cup semifinals Saturday with a 3-2 victory, reports AP.

Attacking duo Romario and Bebeto broke open an initially tense and anti-climatic quarter-final in the second half, teaming to give Brazil a 2-0 lead after 62 minutes.

But the Dutch fought back to level at 2-2 with 14 minutes remaining on goals by Dennis Bergkamp and Aron Winter.

Branco, who played in the 1986 and 1990 championships, was only second choice Saturday but he made the difference in his first appearance this time. He replaced Leonardo, suspended after being sent off for elbowing US player Tab Ramos in the second round.

In the semifinal, Brazil will play the winner of Sunday's Romania vs Sweden game.

Brazil, the only team to appear in all 15 World Cup final

rounds, kept on track for a record fourth trophy.

The Netherlands won't get a chance to improve on runner-up finishes in 1974 and 1978.

For one half, the supposed showcase of attacking soccer and classy one-touch play was nothing of the sort.

Romario, Bebeto and Bergkamp hardly dazzled as the teams locked in midfield into back-and-forth over ball possession and battled each other with massed defenses.

The game was 21 minutes old before Romario got off the first shot, a left-footed drive from 20 metres that Dutch goalkeeper Ed de Goeij easily stopped.

Bergkamp should have put the Dutch ahead in the 26th when a free kick from the left found him unmarked in the goalmouth, but his header soared over the bar.

Brazil got several chances on set pieces but only defender Marcio Santos got close in the 41st when his glancing header on a corner kick sailed

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TONIGHT'S WORLD CUP MATCHES ON BTB

Quarter-finals

Bulgaria vs Germany 22:00 (BST)
Sweden vs Romania 01:30 (BST)

SAARC finance ministers' meet begins today

By Staff Correspondent

The SAARC finance and planning ministers begin a two-day meeting here today in a bid to formulate a common strategy for alleviating poverty in the South Asian region, which accounts for nearly half of the people living below the poverty line in the world.

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Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, the current Chairperson of the seven-nation regional cooperation association, will inaugurate the meeting at the International Conference Centre at 10:30 am.

The meeting, the first of its kind, is expected to seek ways for an integrated approach to poverty reduction, taking into account the state of health, sanitation, water supply, education and other issues in the

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Countrywide AL demonstrations today

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League will organise demonstrations and processions at the districts and thanas across the country today demanding the next general elections under a caretaker government.

The AL chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina launched her party's agitation programme through leading a procession in the capital on July 3 last.

In Dhaka, a procession will be brought out from the Bangabandhu Avenue at 3:30 in the afternoon.

Similar programmes would also be organised at all other districts and thanas outside of the country on the day.

The AL had earlier instructed its central leaders and MPs to participate in today's agitation at their respective areas. The party is likely to announce a fresh course of action soon.

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QUARTER-FINAL RESULTS

Game 1: Italy 2: Spain 1

Italy in semifinals
Scorers: Italy—Dino Baggio 25th, Roberto Baggio 87th
Spain—Luis Caminero 58th

MATCH STATISTICS

	Italy	Spain
Goals	2	1
Fouls	15	18
Corners	7	11
Offsides	3	5

Game 2: Brazil 3: The Netherlands 2

Brazil in semifinals
Scorers: Brazil—Romario 52, Bebeto 62, Branco 81
The Netherlands—Bergkamp 64, Winter 76

MATCH STATISTICS

	Brazil	Netherlands
Goals	3	2
Fouls	11	18
Corners	3	4
Offsides	6	3

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