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World Cup features, diary



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Dhaka Day by Day



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## NEWS BRIEFS

## AL public meet today

The Awami League will hold a public meeting at the Bangladesh Avenue today at 4 pm in memory of Jahanara Imam who expired recently. Party chief and leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina will preside over the meeting, reports UNB.

## Iraqi envoy hosts reception

Zuhair M. Salih, Charge d'Affaires of Iraq in Bangladesh, held a reception yesterday in celebration of the 26th anniversary of the Revolution Day of Iraq, reports BSS.

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THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF RESULT		
Game: Sweden 4 : Bulgaria 0		
Scorers: Sweden-Tomas Brodin 8th; Hakan Mild 30th; Henrik Larsson 37th; Kennet Andersson 40th.		

MATCH STATISTICS	Sweden	Bulgaria
Goals	4	0
Shots on goal	16	21
Fouls	11	13
Corners	3	5
Offsides	6	3
Yellow cards	1	1
Red cards	0	0

100% FULL CREAM SWEETENED CONDENSED MILK

## The Daily Star

## Koirala faces expulsion from party today

KATHMANDU, July 17: The central committee of the ruling Nepali Congress (NC) will meet tomorrow to discuss whether any actions would be taken against Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala for his role in dissolving the House of Representatives, reports AFP.

The dissolution of parliament has caused massive demonstrations and plunged the country into political crisis.

The NC party president, Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, and its general secretary, Mahendra Narayan Nidhi, said today two-thirds of the committee's members were unhappy with Koirala.

"Stern action should be taken against Koirala for his treacherous role against the democratic system of government in Nepal," Nidhi said.

Koirala, however, claimed it was his right to advise the King, who called for new elec-

tions on November 13. Dismayed at the prospect of his expulsion from the NC, Koirala sought to his party president, Bhattarai, and colleagues to hold the forthcoming mid-term polls unitedly in



G P Koirala

the best interest of democracy and the Nepali Congress, the Prime Minister told reporters.

"If the NC can contest the elections unitedly, our party will win with a thumping majority," he said.

"But if we cannot get united, nothing would be more unfortunate," Koirala said.

Koirala resigned July 10 after losing a crucial parliamentary debate on his government's annual socio-economic and political programme.

The King asked Koirala to continue in office until elections are held, which he asked the prime minister to oversee.

The King's decision to dissolve parliament has angered all the major political parties in the 205-seat house of parliament.

Just before the Prime Minister resigned, 86 members, including leftist groups, had voted against his government's annual programme, while 43 other members were absent during the vote.

Only 74 MPs had supported Koirala's programme.

The Nepali Congress (NC) party had 112 seats in the Lower House while the NCP-UML had 68 members.

An NC source said: "The Prime Minister is demanding the NC president to take sternest action against the 36 dissident ex-NC MP who had abstained from the voting."

The 36 dissident ex-MPs are demanding harsh action against Koirala for his unilateral action leading to the dissolution of the elected house without prior permission from the NC president.

The chairman of the National Council (upper house) and treasurer of the NC, Beni Bahadur Karki, expressed doubts about whether the mid-term polls could be held at all.

He alleged that Koirala had exceeded party boundary lines by breaking discipline and had advised the King to dissolve parliament without party consent or knowledge.

## 21 export houses to take part in Moscow fair

by Rafiq Hasan

Twentyone export Houses will participate in the Bangladesh Fair in Moscow scheduled to be held from July 20 to 23.

Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) is organising the single country fair to explore new markets for Bangladeshi products.

EPB sources said, there are enormous possibilities of selling Bangladeshi goods in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

"Bangladeshi quality clothing has earned reputation in North American and European markets. So it is possible to expand the market for Bangladeshi goods in the Central Asia and far eastern countries," the sources added.

Participants in the fair, to be held at the Soving Centre in

Moscow, are likely to receive orders from the buyers and sign contracts.

Samples of garments, fabrics, jute and jute goods, carpet, handicraft, melamine products, tableware, leather, leather goods and some other products will be on display at the fair.

The export houses expected to participate in the fair include Bangladesh Melamine Industries Ltd, Apex Footwear Ltd, Knit Fashion Ltd, Doel Group of Industries, Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation, Helena Enterprise, and Rony Textile Mills.

Bangladeshi earned 26.3 million US dollars from its exports to Russia in fiscal 1992-93. The earning stood at 25.8 million dollars in the first nine months of fiscal 93-94.



Palestinian policemen watching workers coming back home at a road-block leading to the crossing point to Israel as smoke blows from buses set ablaze by Palestinians at the Frez Check Point in Gaza yesterday.

## Anti-Rabbani forces rocket Kabul: 11 die

KABUL, July 17: Opponents of Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani rained rockets on the capital Kabul overnight, killing at least 11 people and injuring more than 40, a spokesman for presidential forces said on Sunday, reports Reuter.

At least 360 rockets were fired by anti-Rabbani forces led by Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and northern warlord General Abdul Rashid Dostum during the night over areas of Kabul controlled by Rabbani's forces, the spokesman said.

Most casualties were civilians, he said.

"It was a noisy night with huge bangs heard all over night," one resident said. "The rockets were raining all over the place."

## Israeli troops gun down 5 Palestinians in Gaza

GAZA, July 17: Israeli troops shot dead five Palestinians in a riot today at the crowded exit-point for workers going to Israel from the new self-rule area in the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian official said, reports Reuter.

More than 100 Palestinians were wounded in the clashes, the bloodiest since PLO chairman Yasser Arafat launched Palestinian self-rule.

Thousands took part in the violence around two adjacent checkpoints, one of which is controlled by Palestinian police and the other, just before the Erez crossing into Israel, by Israeli troops.

"Up to now the numbers are five dead and more than 100 wounded," Rashid Abu Shbak, a senior security officer for Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip, said.

Abu Shbak insisted Palestinian policemen had not fired

at the rioters. A Reuters reporter at the scene said he saw Palestinian policemen firing but he could not see at whom.

Rioters set fire to about 20 Israeli buses at a parking lot. Smoke could be seen 15 km (10 miles) away. Ambulances and armoured troop carriers sped through the area. The cause of the riot was in dispute.

Israeli military sources said it started when Palestinian workers wrested a gun from a Palestinian policeman, fired in the air and then crowds pushed past the Palestinian police checkpoints towards the Erez checkpoint into Israel and hurled rocks at Israeli troops guarding it.

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat called today for immediate deployment of international observers in Palestinian self-rule areas

## ADB team praises Dhaka's economic progress

The visiting directors of the Asian Development Bank yesterday lauded the economic progress Bangladesh is making under the able management of the government of Begum Khaleda Zia, reports UNB.

"We are impressed by the progress and macro economic stability Bangladesh has attained during the last three and a half years," the high-power ADB delegation told Begum Zia when they called on the Prime Minister at her office in the afternoon.

The members of the Board of Directors of the Bank, touring the country to get a

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## Akhtaruzzaman MP, 5 others indicted for Zahir's murder

Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury Babu, and Awami League MP, and five others were indicted today for murdering Advocate Humayun Zahir, reports UNB.

Additional District and Sessions Judge M Akhlakur Rahman Chowdhury framed the charges against them.

Humayun Zahir 45, an industrialist and a director of the United Commercial Bank Ltd. UCBL, was shot dead in the porch of his Dhanmondi House on April 8 last year.

Babu, also a multimillionaire businessman from Chittagong and co-Director of the UCBL, went into hiding, jumping an ad-interim bail which was

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## Election delayed

## Bangla Academy to have new law soon

Star Report

The enactment of a new law for Bangla Academy is now at the final stage and for this the election of its Executive Council scheduled for next month has been postponed.

According to authoritative sources, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs has finalised the draft of the law titled Bangla Academy Act 1994 and sent it to the Cabinet for approval. The approved draft, after obtaining vetting of the Ministry of Law, will be placed

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## S M Ali's The Rainbow over Padma launched

By Staff Correspondent

"The Rainbow over Padma," a political novel by S M Ali, celebrated journalist and Founding Editor of The Daily Star, came out yesterday when the author was enthusiastically embracing the dream of empowering the silent majority.

At a launching ceremony in the capital, the speakers lauded the life-long efforts of Ali in bringing about a qualitative change in the political

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## First chunk of comet leaves earth-sized mark on Jupiter

BALTIMORE, July 17: A fragment of the doomed comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 made an earth-sized mark on Jupiter, whetting astronomical appetites for 20 more mini-comets expected to collide with the great planet this week, reports Reuter.

Fragment A, thought to be one of the smallest of the 21 pieces of the comet, slammed into Jupiter's surface around 2018 GMT in the beginning of what astronomers are calling a once-in-a-millennium occurrence.

Speeding toward Jupiter at 138,000 miles an hour, the fragment caused an explosion on impact that rose about 600 miles above the planet's surface and was seen by telescopes in Spain and Chile and confirmed by the first images from the orbiting Hubble space telescope, which were shown at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore.

The black-and-white picture showed the explosion as a light coloured dot near the edge of the visible disc of Jupiter and a mysterious black spot at the point of explosion.

A later enhanced version of the image showed an oval 'bird's eye' with a dark splotch at the centre where the comet fragment hit and a smudgy rim outside it. The area of the image was about the size of Earth but seemed small on Jupiter's gigantic surface.

The impact, which will not affect life on Earth, fulfilled the hopes of the comet's American discoverers, Eugene and Carolyn Shoemaker and David Levy.

The three celebrated with champagne at a news conference at the institute as the first rough Hubble image was released.

"I'm absolutely thrilled to pieces," Levy said. "It's such a rare night when nature calls you on the phone and says, 'I'm going to drop 20 comets on Jupiter at 138,000 miles an hour. All I want you to do is watch... We are watching with everything we've got tonight, and nature winked at us.'"

Hubble's pictures are significant because, unlike ground-based telescopes, its images are not impeded by Earth's atmosphere. The best pictures of the actual impact — not just the crash site — are likely to come months from now when the satellite Galileo sends pictures back to Earth.

The crash of Fragment A is the first in a 'string of pearls' of 21 mini-comets that formed when the comet broke up when it came close to Jupiter in 1992.

Eugene Shoemaker said before the picture was shown that early indications from the Calar Alto Observatory in Granada, Spain, and the Nordic optical telescope at La Silla, Chile, had confirmed the impact.

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Jupiter and a mysterious black spot at the point of explosion.

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## Dhaka, N'ganj municipalities owe Tk 74cr to Rajuk

Star Report

The Dhaka City Corporation and the Narayanganj Municipality together owe a total of Tk 73.67 crore, as arrears contribution and other development costs, to the Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakhya (RAJUK).

Meanwhile, RAJUK's total expenditure in fiscal 1993-94 stood at Tk 79.86 crore compared with Tk 36.48 crore in fiscal 1992-93. The total comprises revenue expenditure of Tk 7.46 crore and capital expenditure of Tk 72.40 crore as against Tk 5.89 crore and Tk 30.58 crore respectively in the previous year.

Of the arrears dues, the DCC owes the lion's share of Tk 71.86 crore to RAJUK on account of mandatory contributions, price of allotted land and the costs of markets handed over to it.

Both the DCC and Narayanganj Municipality are required to pay 15 per cent of the total property tax collected by them to RAJUK as contribution as per law

The DCC has an arrear due of Tk 1.94 crore in contribution to RAJUK while Narayanganj Municipality owes Tk 1.81 crore. In addition, the DCC owes RAJUK Tk 3.42 crore as the price of allotted land and another Tk 66.5 crore for the city markets handed over to it.

Officials said RAJUK repeatedly wrote to the two organisations to pay their dues, but failed to get any response. "A few years ago contributions of the DCC was adjusted with the municipal taxes owed by RAJUK," said an official.

Of the total expenditures of RAJUK in 1993-94, Tk 63.78 crore was spent from its own income while Tk 16.08 crore from the government allocation under the Annual Development Plan.

The total income of RAJUK during the year stood at Tk 87.49 crore including Tk 21.81 crore in revenue income, from rental assets and the 7.5 per cent of capital expenditure as per law

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## Indian troops kill 6 Kashmiri militants

NEW DELHI, July 17: Indian troops shot and killed six Muslim separatists in Kashmir Sunday, a day after a bomb planted by Islamic guerrillas left six bus passengers dead, news reports said, reports AP.

Press Trust of India said soldiers fatally shot the militants in two separate incidents in the state, where the radicals are campaigning for secession of Kashmir from the Indian union.

The incidents occurred at Pahalgam and Sopore areas.

On Saturday a bomb, hidden inside a bag, exploded as a commuter bus was headed to Jammu, the northern Jammu-Kashmir state's winter capital, from the nearby town of Kulian.

Two people were killed instantaneously, while four other died in hospital.

The Jamait ul-Mujahideen, a pro-Pakistan guerrilla group fighting to secede Kashmir from India, claimed responsibility for the blast.

This should serve as a warning to (Hindu) pilgrims intending to visit Amarnath shrine in south Kashmir next month," an unnamed spokesman for the group was quoted by the Pioneer newspaper in New Delhi.

Jammu is the transit point for millions of Hindu pilgrims who take buses, ride mules and even trek for days each year to reach ancient temples built inside caves of the sub-Himalayan mountains.

Since a military crackdown in the Kashmir valley, where insurgents had been active, many of the radical groups shifted south to Jammu, where most people are Hindus.

More than 9,400 people have been killed in Jammu-Kashmir state since a campaign for independence turned violent at the end of 1989 and troops were deployed to combat the guerrillas.

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Bangladesh General Insurance Co. Ltd	5,000,000	Mr. Nasir-ur-Rahman Sinha	500,000
Eastland Insurance Co. Ltd	4,000,000	Mr. Shahed Abdul Khaleque	500,000
Mr. Khwaja Abdul Quddus	100,000	Mr. Qazi Kamal	500,000
Mr. A S Shahidul Huque Bulbul	500,000	Mr. Kamal Edwar	500,000
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