

Inside Today

Article

'The Ball is Now in Their Park'

by Rashid Suhrawardy

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Focus

Law and Our Rights

Civil Procedure Code
Needs Amendment; and
'Free the Children'

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International

US sends another 5,000
troops to Kuwait

Partymen press Rao to
quit as Congress
(I) chief

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Business

BCIC directed to maxi-
mize production, supply
of urea

Bullish trend in DSE
resumes

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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 1554.61
Market capital Tk 10876.95 cr
Transactions in volume 821644
Transactions in value Tk 13.39 cr

NEWS BRIEFS

One held with
arms in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Sept 14: De-
tectives of Chittagong
Metropolitan Police arrested
Abul Aziz with one re-
volver, two bullets here today, a
CMP press release said. Kotwali
police also recovered one light
gun and five rifle bullets from
Chandrapur in an abandoned
state, reports BSS.

Sirajul Hossain

Khan JP nominee

The Jatiya Party yesterday
nominated Sirajul Hossain
Khan, former minister and
member of the party's presid-
ium, for contesting the by-elec-
tion in Habiganj-2 consti-
tuency, a press release said.
The decision was taken at the
parliamentary board of the
party, reports BSS.

RU employees

continue strike

From RU Correspondent
RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY,
Sept 14: All administrative
work of Rajshahi University
remained completely paralysed
for the 8th day today as the
officers and employees of the
university went on an indefinite
strike from September 8 to
press home their 5 point
demands.

UP chairman held

PABNA, Sept 14: An UP
chairman of the BNP was ar-
rested from the district town
early today on charge of ter-
rorism and possessing of illegal
arms. Sadar police said Hazari
Zakir Hossain alias Chunnun
Hazari, president of BNP Nazir
Nazir unit in Sujanagar thana,
was arrested as two cases were
filed against him with Sujan-
gar police, reports BSS.

Nine dacoits

held in Comilla

COMILLA, Sept 14: Nine da-
coits were caught red-handed by
the villagers of Bishabon vil-
lage under Sadar thana of the
district while they were pre-
paring to commit a dacoity. The
villagers also recovered lethal
weapons from their possession.
Kotwali police arrested the da-
coits and two cases were filed in
this regard, reports BSS.

JS body meets

The second meeting of the
parliamentary committee re-
lating to private member's bill
and resolution motions was
held yesterday at the Sangsad
Bhaban, a Sangsad press re-
lease said, reports BSS.

Chairman of the committee
Col (Retd) Shawkat Ali presided
over the meeting.

The meeting discussed two
constitutional amendment bills placed by Salauddin Quader Chowdhury and
Hafizuddin Ahmed Bir Bikram and the Private Companies
(officials and employees) Service Condition Bill, 1996 brought by Salauddin Quader Chowdhury.

Members of the committee —
Abdul Latif Mirza, AFM Jahan-
gir Hussain, Nazmul Huda,
Aminul Huq and Mizanur
Rahman Chowdhury attended
the meeting.

Six killed, over 100 hurt in train accident

By Staff Correspondent

At least six persons were killed and about one hundred injured when the inter-city train Mohanagar-Urmi coming from Chittagong met with an accident at Khilkhet, three kilometres off the Zia International Airport in the city yesterday afternoon.

Five rear bogeys of the train derailed and fell into a ditch along the rail track when it reached the spot, some 15 kms from the Kamalapur Railway Station at about 1:05 pm, police and witnesses said. The ill-fated bogeys included four passenger coaches and a buffet-car.

Four of the dead persons were identified as Rafiqul Huq Pathan, 43, son of Shamsul Huq; Abdul Latif, 16, son of late Dr Abdul Awal; Sanaullah Bari alias Jewel, 24, son of late Hefzul Bari of Brahmanbaria; and Jubair Hossain, 26. The four bodies, along with unidentified bodies of two men, both aged about 25, were sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy, hospital sources said.

However, police said they received an information that two more bodies were recovered immediately after the accident and were taken away by their relatives. But police could not confirm it.

Of the injured, Shah Alam, 24, Alamgir, 50, Janu Miah, 27, and an unidentified woman were admitted to the DMCH. Sadek Miah, 26, Mesbahuddin, 32, and Mehedi Hasan, 12, were admitted to the Dhaka CMH while three others were under treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital, according to sources in the hospitals.

Major portions of the derailed bogeys plunged into the water in the ditch making rescue operation difficult. The spot of the tragic incident is some 30 feet away from the Airport Road. Two railway tracks run parallel there.

A relief train from Kamalapur with heavy cranes and nine rescue units of the Fire Service and Civil Defence immedi-

ately rushed to the spot with ambulances. Besides, a combined rescue operation, conducted by Bangladesh Railway, Army, Navy and Dhaka Metropolitan Police continued till writing of the report late last night. The first relief train with rescuers and cranes reached the spot at 1:48 pm.

Train communication to and from Kamalapur station was suspended following the tragic accident. Railway sources said last night they were expecting to resume the communication before day-break.

"The train started to shake abnormally with squeaky noise and tumbled into the ditch," said Abul Hashem, a buffet boy, who was in the buffet-car at the time of the incident.

Hashem and Shamsul Alam, another employee of the buffet-car said that they clung to the iron bars inside the carriage and somehow came out through the windows of the car after it plunged into the water.

Abu Taher, a passenger of the ill-fated train escaped unhurt and was attending injured Alamgir, a co-passenger at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital last night. Talking to this correspondent Taher said the accident occurred within a twinkling of eye before "we could understand what was going wrong".

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahaman, Communications Minister Anwar Hossain, Home Minister Rafiqul Islam, BUI, Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed and local MP Rahmatullah also visited the spot.

Meanwhile, the government has formed a three-member probe body to investigate the accident. It will submit its report within five days.

Anwar Hossain Manju, talking to The Daily Star said the probe body report would be made public at the earliest. "A major overhaul is required in the

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The derailed bogeys of the Mohanagar Urmia after the accident yesterday.

— Star photo

Probe body formed

The government yesterday formed a high-level enquiry committee to investigate the causes of tragic train accident at Khilkhet near the capital, an official handout said, reports BSS.

The Prime Minister has ordered the enquiry committee comprising the chief engineer, chief operating superintendent and chief mechanical engineer of the eastern region of Bangladesh Railway to submit the report within five days.

Besides, the inspector of Bangladesh Railway would

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Tk 1 lakh for each family of the dead

The government will provide Tk one lakh for each of the families of those killed in the Khilkhet train accident yesterday, reports BUN.

The decision was taken at the directive of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, said an official handout last night.

The ministers, at an informal gathering late Friday, already condemned Washington's military build-up in the Gulf as an "act of provocation".

The League has denounced US cruise missile attacks on Iraqi targets earlier this month and voiced concern over plans by Turkey to set up a "security zone" in northern Iraq as a violation of Iraqi sovereignty.

The foreign ministers today also discussed the stalled Middle East peace process and obstacles facing the Palestinian, Syrian and Lebanese tracks of the peace process with Israel.

Abdel Meguid stressed the need to forge a common Arab stand and bolster coordination, especially on the Palestinian issue, at international forums

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sentatives of Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman and Somalia.

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Police charged batons and fired several tear gas shells to disperse the feuding groups at about 11:50 am. Several workers were picked up from the scene.

During the half an hour

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Khaleda asks partymen to prepare for agitation

she lamented that the government was not taking advantage of BNP's good intention.

Begum Khaleda Zia said the government's undemocratic activities are enraged the people and increasing the popularity of the BNP. "That is why the government is trying to repress the voice of dissent," she said.

The BNP chief said this government is not a government of the people, it is working in the interest of a group of people.

"The present government is trying to be the champion in the name of a consensus government," she said.

She said despite the ruling party's terrorism and harassment of BNP men across the country her party wanted to cooperate the government. But,

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FBCCI team returns from visit 'Good trade prospects with N-E Indian states'

By Staff Correspondent

President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Salman F Rahman said the seven north eastern states of India can be a big market for Bangladeshi goods if India gives preferential access.

A huge quantity of natural resources remains unexplored in those states, which we can use for business and industrial purposes. Salman said while briefing newsmen at the FBCCI auditorium yesterday. The FBCCI president led a 30-member business delegation which recently visited some of the north eastern Indian states.

The seven states with a population of about 30 million are landlocked and they are getting supplies from other In-

dian states, mainly West Bengal.

"If we have free access to those states, definitely we shall get much advantage in this regard due to geographical prox-

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ACC Trophy final Bangladesh take on UAE today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh will take on United Arab Emirates in the Pepsi ACC Trophy final at the Kila Kelab ground in Kuala Lumpur this morning.

Bangladesh Betar "Dhaka Kha" and Star Sports TV channel will air the match live from 7:30 am (BST).

The Gulf outfit, who participated in the 1996 World Cup this year, confirmed their birth in the 12-nation meet final defeating Fiji by five wickets in the second semifinal yesterday.

Batting first, the Pacific islanders were all out for 138 in 36 overs.

In reply, UAE reached 140 in the 33rd over with five wickets to spare. Openers Salim Raza and Azhar Sayeed contributed 45 and 30 respectively.

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Hartal observed in 2 hill districts

From Our Correspondent

RANGAMATI, Sept 14: A dawn-to-dusk hartal was observed in Rangamati and Khagrachari hill districts peacefully today, barring a few sporadic incidents.

The hartal was called by the Parbatya Gano Parishad protesting the killing of 28 woodcutters by the Shantakhali on Wednesday at Churakhali in

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Exhibition of Construction Material & Methods on World Habitat Day

Venue : South lawn of Ramna Restaurant at Ramna Park

Date : From 7th Oct to 10th Oct

Time : From 3 pm to 8 pm

Stalls are being allotted on first come first serve basis. Each stall costs Tk 8500/-

Contact point: Superintending Engineer, Dhaka Circle-1

Tel: 9550727 (office hours only)

S-523



From right — Sameera, Salman Shah, Sharooq Khan, the Bollywood superstar and his wife Gouri at a function in Bombay sometime early last year.

— Photo courtesy: Salman's family

'Salman, we will never forget you'