

**JUICE**  
JAM  
PICKLE  
KETCHUP  
SHERBET

**PRAN** for Health

**SQUASH**  
VINEGAR  
KEWRA-  
WATER  
ROSE-  
WATER

# The Daily Star

**MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE**

WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF  
ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA,  
BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESHWARI GREEN,  
MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE  
OF DIFFERENT TYPES.

**NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.**  
199, TEJGAON 1/A, DHAKA.  
TEL: 805957, 607363 SHOW ROOM: 861985

VOL. VI NO. 280 REGD. NO. DA 781

KARTIK 16 1403 BS. DHAKA THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1996 JAMADI-US-SANI 17 1417 HIJRI

12 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 6.00

**Inside Today**

**Article**

Significance of last two visits of our leaders

**Prime Minister went to New York, Opposition Leader to Saudi Arabia**  
Page 4

**Focus**

Integrating disabled children in regular schooling  
Page 5

**International**

Arafat won't renegotiate '93 ME peace accords

Crisis pushing Zaire, Rwanda closer to war  
Page 8

**Business**

Bangladesh Bank raises bank rate, minimum interest rates on deposits

190-point rise in DSE index  
Pages 6, 7

**DSE MARKET**

DSE price index	2823.62
Market capital Tk	19971.01 cr
Transactions in volume	805820
Transactions in value Tk	37.34 cr

**CSE MARKET**

CSE price index	1200.04
Market capital Tk	12916.25 cr
Transactions in volume	615775
Transactions in value Tk	20.36 cr

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**PM returns today**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is due to return home this morning after completing a 10-day visit to the United States, reports UNB.

During the visit, Hasina addressed the 51st session of the UN General Assembly on October 24, held several meetings with the US investors and joined civic receptions accorded to her by the Bangladeshi expatriates.

**JPPP meets tomorrow**

A meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) will be held tomorrow at 2 pm at the Sangsad Bhavan, a party press release said yesterday. The acting leader of JPPP Anwar Hossain has requested the party MPs to be present in the meeting on time, reports BSS.

**Wahab remanded again**

Abdul Wahab, who was arrested on October 22 in connection with the August 15 killing case, was taken on another five days' police remand yesterday. The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court granted the remand when he was produced there at the end of an eight-day police remand, reports UNB.

**500 phone lines out of order in Khulna**

KHULNA, Oct 30: About 500 telephone lines of city's Khalishpur, Baira and Daulatpur areas went out of order as its underground cables were snapped today. T&T sources said the telephone lines have been snapped due to carelessness of construction workers of Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) who are engaged in construction of drains. It will take at least a week to restore the lines, the sources said, reports UNB.

**UP chairman kidnapped**

KHAGRACHHARI, Oct 30: A union parishad chairman in Dighinala thana of the district was kidnapped by the outlawed Shantibahini gunmen today. Police said Boradam UP chairman Kalijoy Chakma, 35, was picked up at gunpoint from Boradam bazar at 9 am, reports UNB.

**Contract job of Fazal Kamal cancelled**

The government has cancelled the contract job of Fazal M Kamal, Press Minister at the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, said an official announcement last night, reports UNB.

## Impediments to implementation of projects alleged Japan threatens to reconsider future grants, technical aid

By Staff Correspondent

Japan may reconsider future grants and technical cooperation to Bangladesh if the government does not resolve "some impediments" in the way of speedy implementation of various Japanese aided projects.

This was stated by the leader of the visiting Japanese official delegation at a press conference at Hotel Sonargaon yesterday after an annual consultation on Japanese grant and technical assistance to Bangladesh.

"We have told our counterpart that the Japan Government might reconsider its future grant and technical cooperation if Bangladesh fails to remove those impediments and procedural difficulties", Shuichiro Megata, leader of the

six-member official delegation, said without elaboration. Megata is Director, Technical Cooperation, Economic Cooperation Bureau in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

He said that they would wait two to three months for the response from Bangladesh before taking a final decision in this regard.

The reconsideration will not cover Official Development Assistance (ODA) and will concentrate on grants and technical cooperation only, the Japanese official said.

The delegation had a two-day annual consultation with officials on grants and technical assistance which ended on Monday. Mahub Karim, addi-

tional secretary in the Economic Relation Division led the Bangladesh side at the consultations.

Without giving details about the "impediments" and "difficulties" Megata said that Japanese experts often come across unnecessary delay in custom clearances and issuance of pass-book.

He termed the problem in Bangladesh "unique" because they did not face such difficulties anywhere in the world where Japan provides grant and technical assistance.

Giving an example of procedural delay, he said that after reaching an agreement it took five to six months to exchange notes to formalise the assis-

tance. At the official level consultation, he said, the Bangladesh side gave a list with a request for Japanese assistance for upcoming projects.

Asked whether there was any shift in Japanese policy towards Bangladesh, the delegation leader said "Basically we wanted to resolve some pending issues."

Asked about details of pending issues, Megata said Bangladesh must solve pending issues to get assurance of new assistance in those areas.

"No project progressed accordingly" despite goodwill from the Japanese side, and the delay was not due to our fault," See Page 12 Col 3

## ADB offers technical assistance for power import from India

Asian Development Bank has offered assistance to Bangladesh for facilitating commercial arrangements between Bangladesh and India for the development of a 132 KV double circuit transmission line, reports UNB.

The Bank's proposal for sub-regional cooperation in the power sector was given in an aide-memoir submitted to the government on Tuesday by an ADB mission that visited Bangladesh from October 22 to 29.

Bangladesh plans to import 100 to 200 megawatt power from the Indian state of West Bengal through the proposed 80 kilometre 132 KV line, a highly placed source said.

The ADB team strongly supported the government's recent

initiatives for enhancing sub-regional cooperation in the power sector.

The mission confirmed the Bank's intention to finance a regional technical assistance for facilitating commercial arrangements between Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) and Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCI) for the development of the transmission line between Jherhat sub-station near Calcutta and Jessore sub-station in Bangladesh.

The Country Programme Confirmation Mission of ADB reiterated the Bank's willingness to consider financing of the project's investment phase as and when required.

It indicated that the Bank See Page 12 Col 1

**Ganges issue**

### Talks with Deve Gowda by Dec, hopes Hasina

BOSTON, Oct 30: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said she would sit with Indian Premier Deve Gowda to resolve the longstanding Ganges water-sharing issue by December this year, reports UNB.

"I hope to sit with the Indian Prime Minister to resolve the issue by this year," Hasina said replying to a question at Harvard University here on Tuesday afternoon.

The Prime Minister said ministerial-level meeting was going on and hoped that a mutual solution would come out of the talks.

Hasina delivered a lecture at Yenching Library at Harvard University which was followed by a question-answer session. Prof. McJaguhar, a teacher of Harvard University, conducted the programme. See Page 12 Col 4

### Razzak hands over Hasina's message to Deve Gowda

Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, now in India for water talks, called on Indian Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda in New Delhi yesterday, reports UNB.

He delivered a message from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to the Indian premier. Gowda also urged Razzak to convey his warmest greetings to his Bangladesh counterpart.

According to a message received in Dhaka last night the Water Minister also met West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu who is now also in the Indian capital.

Abdur Razzak also called on Indian External Affairs Minister See Page 12 Col 6

### BB raises bank, interest rates

The Bangladesh Bank (BB) yesterday raised the bank rate, and minimum interest rates on savings and fixed deposit accounts by half percentage point with immediate effect.

The central bank in two separate circulars issued yesterday raised the bank rate to seven per cent from the previous 6.50 per cent and revised upward the minimum interest rates for savings account to 6.50 per cent and for fixed deposit to 6.75 per cent from 6.25 per cent.

The new move of the BB means that funds from banks would become costlier for projects. See Page 12 Col 5

Details on Page 6

### Writ challenging Indemnity Ord rejected

By SC Correspondent

The High Court Division of the Supreme Court yesterday summarily rejected the writ petition filed challenging the non-acceptance of a petition as an FIR on the August 15, 1975 killing and the Indemnity Ordinance on the ground of maintainability.

The division bench of the HC comprising Justice MM Huq and Justice MA Matin in their order observed that by acceptance of the 2nd application instead of the petitioners' application as FIR neither the petitioners nor See Page 12 Col 7

## Deadline expires today Most garment units now free of child workers

Star Report

The deadline for elimination of child labour from the country's garment sector expires today.

"There will be no fresh recruitment of child workers in the garment factories," said Uzayer Afzal, an executive committee member of the BGMEA. "No factory owner will risk his business by recruiting any new underaged worker."

Two thirds of 1,171 producing garment factories that were

surveyed in mid-October this year were found without child workers, according to a report of the Dhaka office of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The monitoring of the factories in Dhaka and Chittagong were conducted jointly by ILO, Government of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

The child workers — mainly girls under 14 — are being removed from the garment factories and sent to specialized schools under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) the BGMEA, ILO and UNICEF signed in Dhaka on July 4 last year.

BGMEA, ILO and the UNICEF had identified 10,547 child workers in the garment industries in surveys conducted last year following the signing of the MOU to eliminate child labour from the garment sector.

An ILO official said that ILO would continue to inspect the BGMEA member factories for another 12 months to ensure implementation of the MOU. Besides, UNICEF would arrange schooling programmes for the See Page 12 Col 5

### BNPPP meets today

By Staff Correspondent

The BNP Parliamentary Party (BNPPP) meets today to decide its role in the second session of the seventh Jatiya Sangsad, beginning tomorrow.

The meeting is scheduled to start at 8 pm today at the Committee Room No. 1 of the Sangsad Bhavan with Leader of the Opposition and BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair.

The BNPPP is likely to discuss sensitive issues like sharing of the Ganges water, giving transit to India, purchasing See Page 12 Col 6

## Hydrocarbon exploration Pvt cos to be allowed solicited bidding

By Sharier Khan

The government will allow exploration of hydrocarbon reserves by private companies in different blocks of the country through solicited bidding from January, sources in the Energy Ministry said.

The government will seek proposal for exploration of hydrocarbon reserves through national and international media, said a source.

This will be the second round of bidding for hydrocarbon ventures in the country.

The first round was initiated in 1992. But unlike the second round it offered private companies 24 blocks of the country on the basis of unsolicited negotiation.

The first round resulted in the signing of live Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) for hydrocarbon exploration in Chittagong and Chittagong Hill Tracts (Blocs K-15) and the Bay of Bengal covering Sandwip and Cox's Bazar coast (Block 16) with Cairn Plc of UK and the Surma basin (Blocks 12, 13 and See Page 12 Col 8

### 2 found dead in Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, Oct 30: Two young men were found dead in the port city today with marks of injury on their bodies, reports UNB.

Doublemooing police recovered the body of Alauddin son of one Syed Ahmed of Chandanaisa thana, from the city's Dampara area early this morning.

The body of an unidentified young man aged about 30 was recovered from the hill area at Sher Shah Colony in Panchlaish thana in the morning.

### Teenaged boy murdered

By DMC Correspondent

A teenaged boy was stabbed to death allegedly by one of his friends near his residence at Mirbagh under Ramna thana in the city yesterday morning.

Nurul Islam alias Gopal, 17, sustained fatal injuries when his friend Hira stabbed him in his belly at about 10:15 am. Local people immediately took the See Page 12 Col 4



**AN OPEN LETTER TO THE MAYOR:** It's neither a wayside dairy farm nor a cattle market, but an abattoir! About a dozen cattle are slaughtered here at dawn everyday to cater to the increasing demand of the meat sellers at the nearby Elephant Road junction at Hatirpool. The cattle are sheltered at the same place. All these leave the entire neighbourhood stinky. There had been press reports on the problem several times in the past. Residents have also been complaining to the city fathers. But the people who patronise the abattoir seems to be powerful enough to ignore everything. Even a meat seller has his stall set up on the nearby pavement, which is also shared by auto rickshaw mechanics and their garage. —Shehab Ahmed, photo by Anisur Rahman.

## Declaration at ESCAP confce in Delhi Vow to develop infrastructure thru' regional cooperation

From S Y Bakht

NEW DELHI, Oct 30: Ministers of the Asia Pacific region yesterday adopted a declaration reaffirming their commitment to address all aspects of infrastructure development in the region through regional cooperation.

The declaration was adopted at the conclusion of the two-day Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure here yesterday. Organised by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the conference was hosted by the Government of India.

The principal objective of the declaration was to reaffirm the commitment of members and associate members of ESCAP and other organisations active in the development of infrastructure in the region to address with new vigour all aspects of infrastructure development, operations and management, and to enhance regional cooperation in meeting the challenges of infrastructure

development," the Declaration said. The ministerial conference was earlier inaugurated on Monday by Indian Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda at the Vigyan Bhavan conference centre here.

The conference was attended by 358 participants including delegates from 47 ESCAP member countries, nine inter-

### New records in DSE

Two major market indicators at the Dhaka Stock Exchange DSE set newer records yesterday as the bourse has been witnessing voluminous trading everyday since the beginning of the week.

The All Share price index reached 2823.62 points yesterday marking a record 190.11 point rise in a single day trading. See Page 12 Col 3

national organisations, 13 non government organisations and 70 private sector companies. The Bangladesh delegation at the conference was led by Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Manju.

The Bangladesh delegation said that the country attaches high priority to the maintenance, rehabilitation and improvement of its road system and added that it also recognised the beneficial prospects of enhanced surface transport links with neighbouring countries.

The conference also launched the New Delhi Action Plan identifying 64 projects for promoting infrastructure development under the regional action programme for the 1997-2007 period.

The Asia Infrastructure Development Alliance (AIDA), a tripartite alliance of governments, the private sector and multilateral intergovernmental agencies, was also floated See Page 12 Col 8

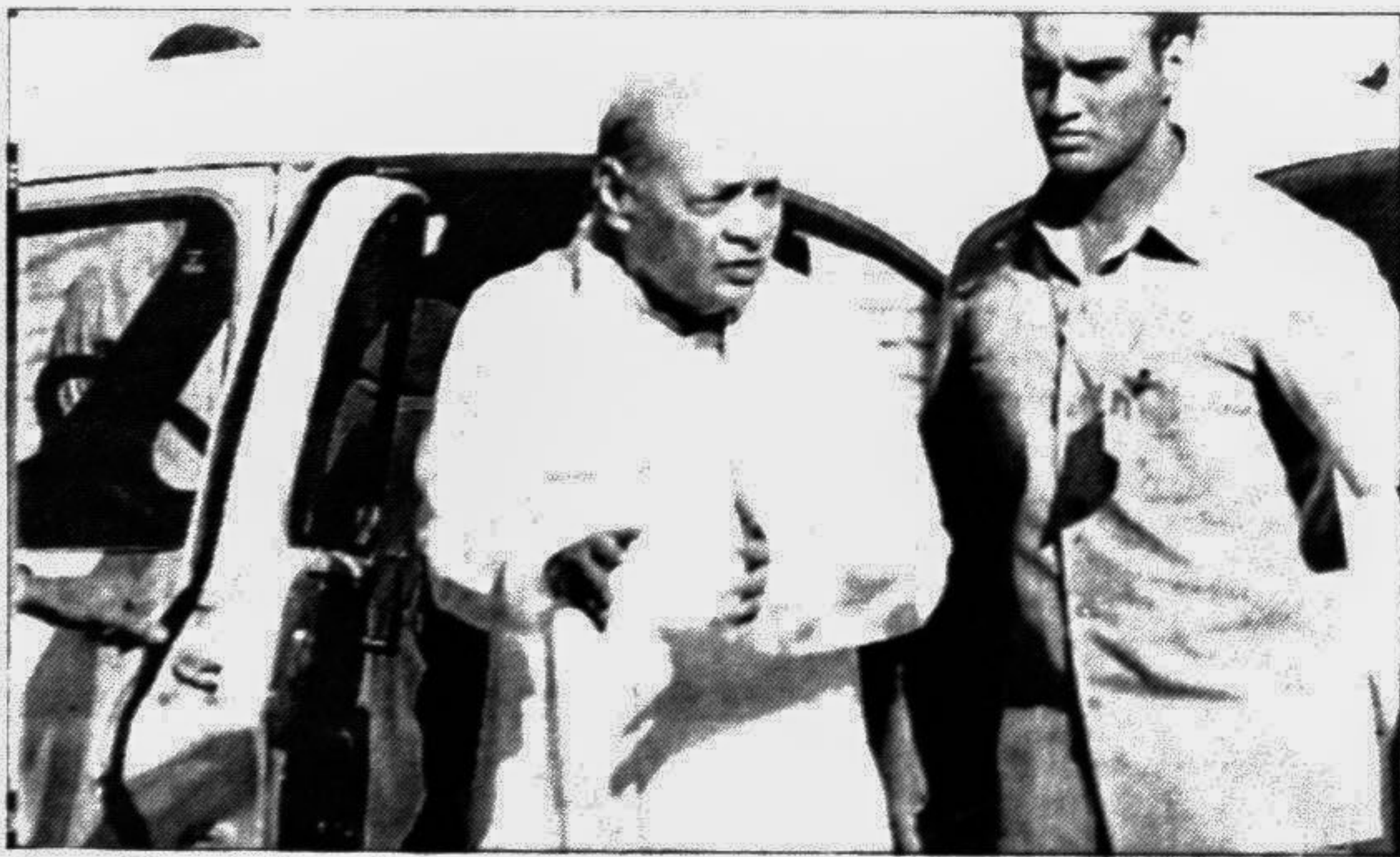


**Wasim Akram's magnum opus**  
Sports Reporter

Pakistan skipper Wasim Akram became the first man on the planet to capture 300 one-day wickets when the 'sultan of swing' had Zimbabwe opener Dave Houghton in front of the wicket in their first encounter of the three match series in Quetta, Pakistan yesterday.

Akram, the most fearsome and arguably the best bowler in the cricketing world today with this scalp in his 298th one-day appearance entered into an en- See Page 12 Col 6

## Rao chargesheeted in bribery case



Escorted by a bodyguard, former prime minister P V Narasimha Rao, accused in a forgery case, arrives outside a New Delhi court yesterday. —AFP/UNB photo

NEW DELHI, Oct 30: Former Indian Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao was charged today with bribing four members of parliament during a confidence vote in parliament in 1993, reports AFP.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) filed charges against Rao and two of his aides over the payment of one million dollars to four regional politicians three years ago in exchange for their vote.

Special judge Ajit Bharihoke said his court would open a pre-trial hearing on Friday.

The four Jharkhandi Mukti Morcha (JMM) members of parliament are in prison on charges of holding huge sums of unaccounted money.

The two others named by the CBI were former federal ministers Buta Singh and Satish Sharma.

Rao earlier today appeared before chief metropolitan magistrate Prem Kumar on forgery charges in an unrelated case. Paramilitary commandos ushered the 75-year-old leader See Page 12 Col 7

## What Needs to be Done After Planting of Seedlings?

Taking care of seedlings is what needs to be done after planting. This includes watering and application of fertilizer and insecticide as per needs. Only you can save the seedlings by taking proper care.

Don't forget about their protection. Children and Cattle cause extensive damage to seedlings. Keep them at safe distance and let the seedlings survive.

It's time for taking care of, and providing protection to planted seedlings. Get into action now. You will be benefitted.

**Seedlings Need Protection and Care**  
DFP-24399-27/10 Coastal Greenbelt Project  
G-1389 Bano Bhaban, Dhaka