



## Martina new queen of Wimbledon

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

LONDON, July 5: Martina Hingis is the new queen of Wimbledon. At 16 years 9 months and 5 days she is the youngest champion this century.

Her victory at the Centre Court today against Jana Novotna, considered to be a specialist on grass, belied apprehension of many of her fans that whatever her dislike was for the grass court, specially the Centre Court at Wimbledon, she has proven beyond doubt that she was a born champion.

Down by a set which lasted only 22 minutes, Martina rallied round and unfolded a game of great tennis to finally win 2-6, 6-3, 6-3 in an hour and fifty minutes.

True to her promise Novotna did not cry on the shoulders of the Duchess of Kent this time. See Page 12 Col 7

## Previous councils in 2 other hill dists to continue Interim local govt council for Khagrachhari formed

The government constituted a five-member interim local government council for Khagrachhari hill district with Shamiran Dewan as its chairman as a stopgap measure, reports UNB.

According to a Special Affairs Division notification issued at the instruction from the President, the committee came into effect yesterday and will discharge its responsibility until further order.

The notification, signed by Matur Rahman Mridha, Director (Coordination) of the Division, on July 2 also named four other members of the committee. They are Jahedul Alam, Binod Bihari Chakma, Ulah Crew Chowdhury and Rono Bikram Tripura.

The interim committee was

formed following a recent amendment to the Local Government Councils Act 1989 passed by parliament, which empowered the government to appoint such committee.

UNB correspondent from Khagrachhari said the new interim council took over charge at a simple ceremony at the district local government office yesterday morning.

The new committee was announced as the extended term of the elected body expired on Friday.

Interim committees for the hill districts of Bandarban and Rangamati could not be formed for court injunction.

A High Court Division bench on July 3 placed an embargo on the government, following a writ filed by the two councils, in

appointing interim committee for the hill districts.

However, Energy Minister M Noor Uddin Khan told UNB that the previous committees of Bandarban and Rangamati would run the councils till disposal of the case.

The government in 1989 introduced the local government council system for the three districts in Chittagong Hill Tracts. The councils for the hill districts were installed that year through direct elections for a three-year term.

But, due to unrest triggered by tribal insurgency in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, a second election to the parishads could not yet be held.

However, after the expiry of the elected committees in 1992, See Page 12 Col 8

## Dhaka-Tokyo ties to be strengthened further: PM

KYOTO (Japan), July 5: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today said the excellent and mutually beneficial relationship between Bangladesh and Japan would be further strengthened in the future, reports agencies.

The Prime Minister was speaking at a dinner hosted by Governor of Kyoto, Teitichi Aramki.

"I am confident that my discussions with the leaders of Japan, particularly with Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, will further strengthen our excellent and mutually beneficial relationship," she told the function.

Hasina expressed her happiness. See Page 12 Col 3

## Cocaine worth Tk 70 lakh seized in city

By Staff Correspondent

The Detective Branch (DB) police recovered one kilogram of cocaine worth about Tk 70 lakh and arrested one person from Abdullahpur under Uttara thana in the city Friday night.

The arrested man identified as Abul Kalam, 38, was produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) court yesterday, police said.

A DB team, during a raid in Uttara area, arrested Kalam with the cocaine in his possession. Kalam, who comes from Chakhlai in Noakhali, used to live at the Monno Textile Mills Colony in Tongi.

## Bangabandhu murder case: Witnesses to be examined today

By Staff Correspondent

Prosecution witnesses in the Bangabandhu murder case will be examined in the Court of District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka, today.

In the previous sitting of the court on June 30, the judge, Kazi Celam, Basul, had fixed July 6, 7 and 8 for the hearing.

He had ordered the appearance of three prosecution witnesses in his court on each of the three days for recording their statements. The witnesses will appear according to the schedule. See Page 12 Col 8

## BTV's Face the People programme Top BNP leaders divided over Khaleda's participation

By Star Correspondent

The top-level leaders of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) are divided over the television appearance of party chief Begum Khaleda Zia, proposed by the BTV authorities.

The authorities of Bangladesh Television (BTV) sent a letter to Begum Zia, Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad and BNP Chairperson on June 24 requesting her to attend a programme titled *Deshbashi Mukhomukhi* (face the people) to answer questions from a panel of experts as well as members of the public. She has been requested to inform her decision in this regard by July 9.

Prime Minister and President of Awami League Sheikh Hasina had appeared on the BTV and answered queries from the members of a panel of experts and a selected audience

present in the studio on June 23. She also answered questions coming from outside over telephone.

A section of BNP leadership told the party chief that she should accept the invitation and utilise the occasion to inform the people about the failures of the government and the repressive measures it has so far taken against the BNP activists, insiders told The Daily Star.

They also told her that if she rejected the invitation, people might 'misunderstand' her, the sources further said.

But another group, led by a leader who lost the last general elections and later returned to the BNP, suggested that Begum Zia should not respond to the BTV invitation. According to this group, BTV is fully controlled by the government. See Page 12 Col 7

## S Arabia bans foreigners from working in 7 more categories

RIYADH, July 5: Saudi Arabia has banned foreigners from work in seven more categories in government contracts as part of its policy to create jobs for its own citizens, the AL-Sharq Al-Awsat newspaper reported today, reports AFP.

Saudi authorities will no longer issue work permits or extend existing ones to expatriates as labourers, stone masons, painters and four other areas of manual labour in the public sector, according to the London-based newspaper.

The new policy is expected to affect thousands of immigrant workers many of whom come from the South Asia sub-continent, as the work permits have to be renewed every two years. Some foreign workers, however, could continue to find jobs in the private sector, economists here said.

The Saudi government also See Page 12 Col 8

## Unusual move by Law Ministry about a bank loan defaulter

By Nurul Kabir and Inam Ahmed

The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has directed the Law Ministry to clarify the status of those persons who are claiming that they are not bank loan defaulters, according to an authoritative source in the ministry.

The Law Ministry, in an unusual move, has already started inquiring from different banks about a particular person and his company who have been declared defaulters by either the central bank or the commercial banks.

The Law Secretary, on Wednesday last, had admitted that he had initiated the pro-

cess under directives from 'higher authorities', but refused to disclose the authorities and the reason behind this exercise.

This newspaper ascertained from other sources that the Prime Minister's Office was the 'higher authorities'. Eyebrows were raised in the banking circle when the Law Ministry was seen making 'special efforts' in the case of one particular business house which was termed a defaulter by a commercial bank, and which was known to owe hundreds of crores taka to various banks and whose repayments were rescheduled for one reason or another.

The Law Secretary on Tuesday called officials of a number of banks to his office and asked them to make written statements on the loan status of the above mentioned company, right there in his office.

The officials, however, got surprised to find one of the owners of the alleged defaulting company sitting in the secretary's room, and refused to make any statement in front of the company man. However, on insistence, they made statements and signed the paper jointly.

This incident has caused widespread dissatisfaction among the bankers who view it as an 'unprecedented' intervention by the Law Ministry in a matter which is the jurisdiction of the Bangladesh Bank and the Finance Ministry.

They claim that the correct procedure for the PMO would be to ask the Bangladesh Bank to investigate the matter and report through the Finance Ministry.

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**NILOY CEMENT INDS. LTD.**  
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Prospectus published on June 28, 1997 and July 01, 1997 in The Financial Express and The Daily Janakantha respectively

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**MANAGER TO THE ISSUE**

**CO-MANAGER TO THE ISSUE**

## Merchant workers still on strike at Ctg port

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, July 5: Deadlock at Chittagong port continued for the third consecutive day today following a strike by about 5,000 merchant workers, port sources said.

The merchant workers started the wildcat strike from Thursday afternoon in protest against engagement of 'hatch workers' in lighterage cargo from ships anchored at the outer anchorage.

Port officials said a series of meetings were held with the leaders of the striking workers but the deadlock did not end.

They said that the strike had hampered the port activities including the delivery of cargo to and from Chittagong port.

However, the officials claimed that loading and unloading work were being done by dock workers in some ships anchored at the jetties.

The port officials apprehended that if the deadlock continued for few more days the loading and unloading work done by the dock workers in the ships might be stopped due to space constraint in the sheds as the delivery remained fully suspended after strike.

Port officials said that the hatch workers though had no identity cards from the port authority, joined the lighterage work from Thursday at a ship anchored at the river mooring, following a decision taken at a joint meeting of C&F agents and other port users organisations, chaired by Chittagong City Corporation mayor Mohiuddin Chowdhury.

Meanwhile, a press release issued by Chittagong City Corporation said that leaders of different dock workers unions this afternoon held a meeting with the mayor and requested him to take necessary measures for breaking the stalemate through discussions immediately.

However, a large number of police were deployed around the port area as tension escalated from yesterday evening after a blasts of some cocktails at Patenga when merchant workers attempted to oppose the hatch workers.

The affected areas include Mirpur, Asad Gate, Mohammadpur, Dhanmondi, Jigatola, Green Road, Elephant Road, Jatra Bari, Maghbazar, Gandaria, Mugga, Ahmedbagh and Sabujbagh, Khilgaon and Goran.

The disruptions usually last five minutes to three hours and in some areas these are very frequent.

DESA Chairman M A Rahim, when contacted, said To my knowledge, no part of

the delivery remained fully suspended after strike.

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DESA Chairman M A Rahim, when contacted, said To my knowledge, no part of

the city should experience loadshedding now a days. Power supply and distribution situation has improved these days. The voltage fluctuation problem in the city has also been taken care of."

The DESA Chairman said there is an on-going project for improving the power distribution network, including the transformers.

Yes, there are still some over-loaded transformers in the city, but in most areas we have installed new devices."

He pointed out that according to the reports he received, power supply in the city had improved significantly. "If there is any problem in some areas, it might be due to some sudden problem arising in those particular areas," he said.

But residents in many areas of the city told The Daily Star that power disruption was an everyday phenomenon.

In Mugga, Sabujbagh and Demra areas, the disruptions See Page 12 Col 2

## Trial will begin on July 19 Zardari, 18 others charged with Murtaza murder

By DMC Correspondent

Two persons were murdered at Nayatola and Pirebagh in the city early yesterday.

Police said, one of the victims identified as Rafiq, 25, was found lying beside a road near Jhalpat at Nayatola at about 1 am with bullet and stab wounds.

The body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy. A murder case was lodged with Ramna thana.

Zardari was detained the day Benazir was sacked in November. See Page 12 Col 1

ing them of conspiracy leading to Murtaza's killing.

The accused in the highly-publicised case include police and intelligence officials — among them former intelligence bureau chief Masoud Sharif and former city police chief Shoaib Suddle.

The court, headed by district and sessions judge Shahinawaz Awan, set the trial to start on July 19 in Karachi's central prison.

Murtaza, politically estranged brother of Benazir, was killed along with seven of his political colleagues in a police shootout in Karachi in September last year, about three months before Benazir was ousted from power.

Leaning on a stick because of spinal problems, Zardari told reporters afterwards "I am innocent."

"They (the government) have jailed me for no crime. They want to harass and mentally torture me, but I am not afraid," he said.

Zardari was detained the day Benazir was sacked in November. See Page 12 Col 1

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## SSC exam results likely this week

By Staff Correspondent

The results of the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations will be announced by the end of this week, according to officials sources.

The exams, which began in March, were conducted with identical question papers for the first time this year.

The examinations were held amidst allegation of leakage of question papers and the date for holding English second paper examinations were rescheduled.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Attention has been drawn to our client Mr. Manzurul Islam, son of late Alhaj Jahurul Islam, Chairman and Managing Director, Islam Group of Companies of 125/A, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000, to a Public Notice published in the Daily Star and the Daily Janakantha on 5th July, 1997. We have the instruction -

To inform all the well-wishers, friends, business associates and all the buyers and sellers, that our client and all the companies of Islam Group are engaged in doing business of all the properties including lands and building, shares in companies, Bank Accounts and other movable and immovable properties legally and without any restriction from any court of law.

All the properties including land and building, shares in companies and other movable and immovable properties are unincumbered properties of the individual companies of the Islam Group and they do not deal with any personal property belonging to late Alhaj Jahurul Islam left at the time of his death on 19.10.95.

It is further informed that in Matter No 36 of 1997 and Matter No.37 of 1997 the Hon'able High Court Division of the Supreme Court in two separate orders passed on 15.5.97 has dispensed with the advertisement of notices in the newspaper so that such notices do not cause any harm to the companies and its shareholders. Such order of restriction was passed to protect the interest of the companies.

Earlier also the same heirs of late Alhaj Jahurul Islam tried to revoke their Power of Attorney empowering our client to construct and sell apartments in their plots and the Honourable Court of the 4th Subordinate Judge, Dhaka, in Civil Case No.105 of 1996 was pleased to grant a temporary injunction against the cancellation of the said Power of Attorney in order to protect the interest of the buyers of those apartments.

Our client is surprised and shocked to see that despite the aforesaid orders of the Hon'able High Court Division and the decision of the learned Subordinate Judge such Public Notice could be published in the newspapers which, according to our client, is not going to benefit any of the shareholders. On the contrary it may only cause harm and damage to the reputation and heritage left by late Alhaj Jahurul Islam. Members of public are, therefore, requested to ignore such Notices.

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