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## Sampras lifts Wimbledon for fourth time

**From Tawfiq Aziz Khan**  
 LONDON, July 6: Pete Sampras lifted the men's singles title trophy at the Wimbledon tennis tournament, defeating a tired-looking Frenchman Cedric Pioline 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 at the Centre Court today. This was the American's fourth final at the championships and also the fourth title.

In the absence of Andre Agassi or Goran Ivanisevic in See Page 12 Col 5

## PM returns home

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina returned home last night concluding a six-day official visit to Japan, reports UNB. A Biman VIP aircraft carrying the Prime Minister touched down tarmac of the Zia International Airport at the stroke of midnight. Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman, Education Minister A S H K Sadique, Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, Dhaka city mayor Mohammad Hanif. See Page 12 Col 7

## Eid-e-Miladunnabi on July 18

Holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi will be observed on July 18, a press release of the Islamic Foundation said in Dhaka yesterday, reports UNB. A meeting of the National Moon Sighting Committee took the decision following the sighting of the moon of holy Rabul Awal month yesterday, it said.

Presided over by Vice President of the National Moon Sighting Committee and Secretary of the Ministry of Religious Affairs ABM Abdus Shakur, the meeting was attended by Director General of the Islamic Foundation Morshed Hossain and the members of the committee.

## Wahab Khan takes oath as MP

Abdul Wahab Khan, the newly elected member of parliament from Manikganj-3 constituency, was sworn in yesterday, reports UNB. Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury administered oath to the BNP MP in his Sangsard Bhaban office chamber in the afternoon. He was elected in the June 30 by-election to the seat that fell vacant with the death of BNP MP Nizam Uddin Khan. Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah, opposition Chief Whip Khandker Delwar Hossain, Whip Prof Rafiqul Islam, Shamsul Alam Pramanik MP, A K M Jahangir Hossain MP and Secretary of the Parliament Secretariat Abul Hashem were present.

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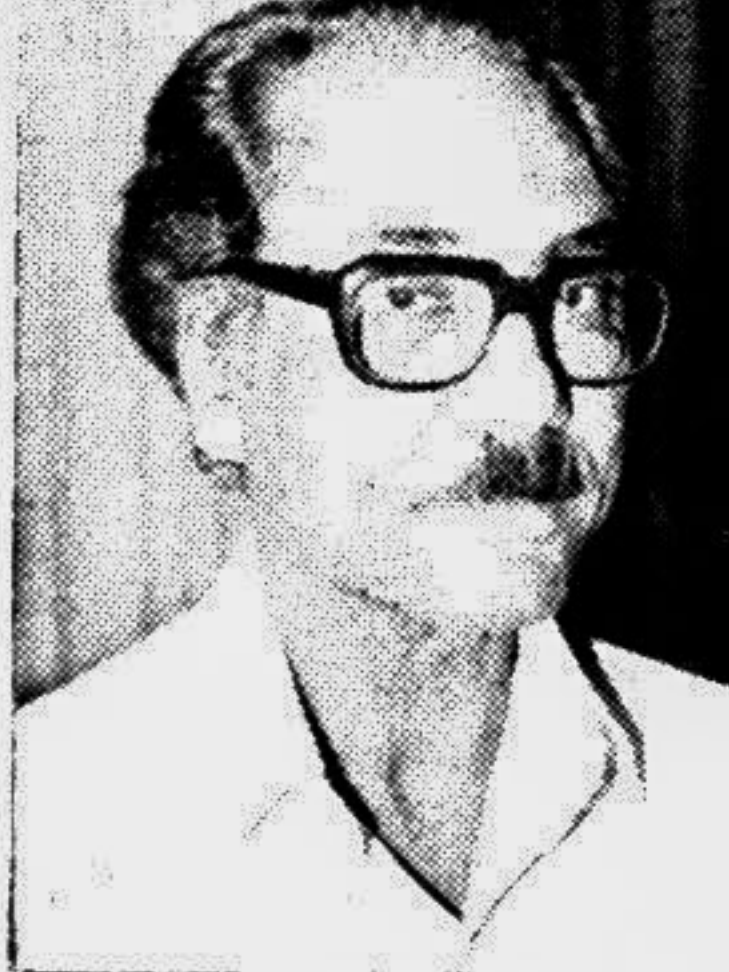
# Bangabandhu Murder Case

## Principal witness identifies Farook, names 3 others

**By Staff Correspondent**  
 Examination of prosecution witnesses in the Bangabandhu murder case began yesterday in the Court of District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka. After recording the statement of Mahitul Islam, principal witness and complainant, who was resident PS to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Judge, Kazi Golam Rasul, ordered the state defence for the 14 absconding accused to start cross examination of the witness. The judge over-ruled a request by the absconders' lawyers to have the lawyers for the accused in custody begin the cross examination. Advocate T M Akbar, counsel for Muhiuddin, one of the accused in custody, being asked by judge suggested that cross examination should begin on behalf of the absconding accused persons. And the judge accepted it. During the cross examination, Mahitul Islam mentioned the names of four military officers who, he said, were seen at the place of occurrence during and after the killing of Bangabandhu and his family on August 15, 1975. "A group of derailed military officers in connivance with our ambitious political leaders had conspired to kill the President and his family," he said. "Former military officers Maj Sharif Farookur Rahman, Maj Shariful H Dalim, Maj Bazul Huda and Maj SHMB Noor Chowdhury were seen at the place of occurrence during and after the incident," Mahitul Islam informed the court. He identified Farook who was in the dock. "All are finished... President along with his family was killed, Maj Huda said replying to some queries from Maj Farook," Mahitul Islam said. The court recorded his statement. The principal witness also told the court that from discussions, newspapers, foreign magazines and books written on the incident, he came to know that Khandaker Mush-taque Ahmed, Taheruddin Thakur, former military officers Maj Rashid, Maj Pasha, Maj Shariful Hossain Dalim, Maj Rashid Chowdhury, Maj Shahriar, Maj Mohiuddin, Capt Kismet and Risalder Moslemuddin were responsible for the killing. He also said that for security reasons and adverse circumstances, he could not register the FIR earlier. Of the 20 accused indicted in the case, 14 are facing the trial in their absence, five are in custody and one granted bail by the Supreme Court was also released by the High Court. The proceedings yesterday lasted about five hours with a break of one hour and will resume today at 10:30 am. Only one lawyer from the state defence, on behalf of absconding accused Bazul Huda, started cross examining Mahitul Islam. His statement before the court was recorded from 12:25 pm to till about 4:10 pm. The defence counsels raised objections at least twice. In their first objection, they blamed the prosecution side for prompting the witness. The judge asked both the sides to cooperate with the court. At one point while the recording of statement was going on, the defence lawyers again raised objection saying that the court should not ask the witness about the place of occurrence. The court explained it wanted clarification. Normalcy in the court was disrupted when the defence also See Page 12 Col 8

# Security for President, PM to be beefed up

Security for President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina may be tightened further, specially in the capital city, officials sources said, reports UNB. Police are planning some 'newer' security measures for the two top-security VIPs following some disclosures by the youngmen arrested in connection with a rocket launcher recently. The four youngmen were interrogated by the Directorate of Forces Intelligence (DFI) and the National Security Intelligence (NSI), apart from the detective branch of police. On the basis of a report on their disclosures, said the sources, Dhaka Metropolitan Police has decided to beef up security for the President and the Prime Minister in the city. The decision to strengthen the security for the VIPs was taken at a high-level meeting of the DMP at its headquarters yesterday with Commissioner AK Al Mamun in the chair. Though the security of the President and the Prime Minister is ensured by special Security Forces and President's Guard Regiment, police have a vital role in this regard. All Deputy Commissioners of the DMP attended the meet- ing that reviewed overall security measures for the President and the Prime Minister in the city. The meeting observed the recent recovery of a rocket See Page 12 Col 3

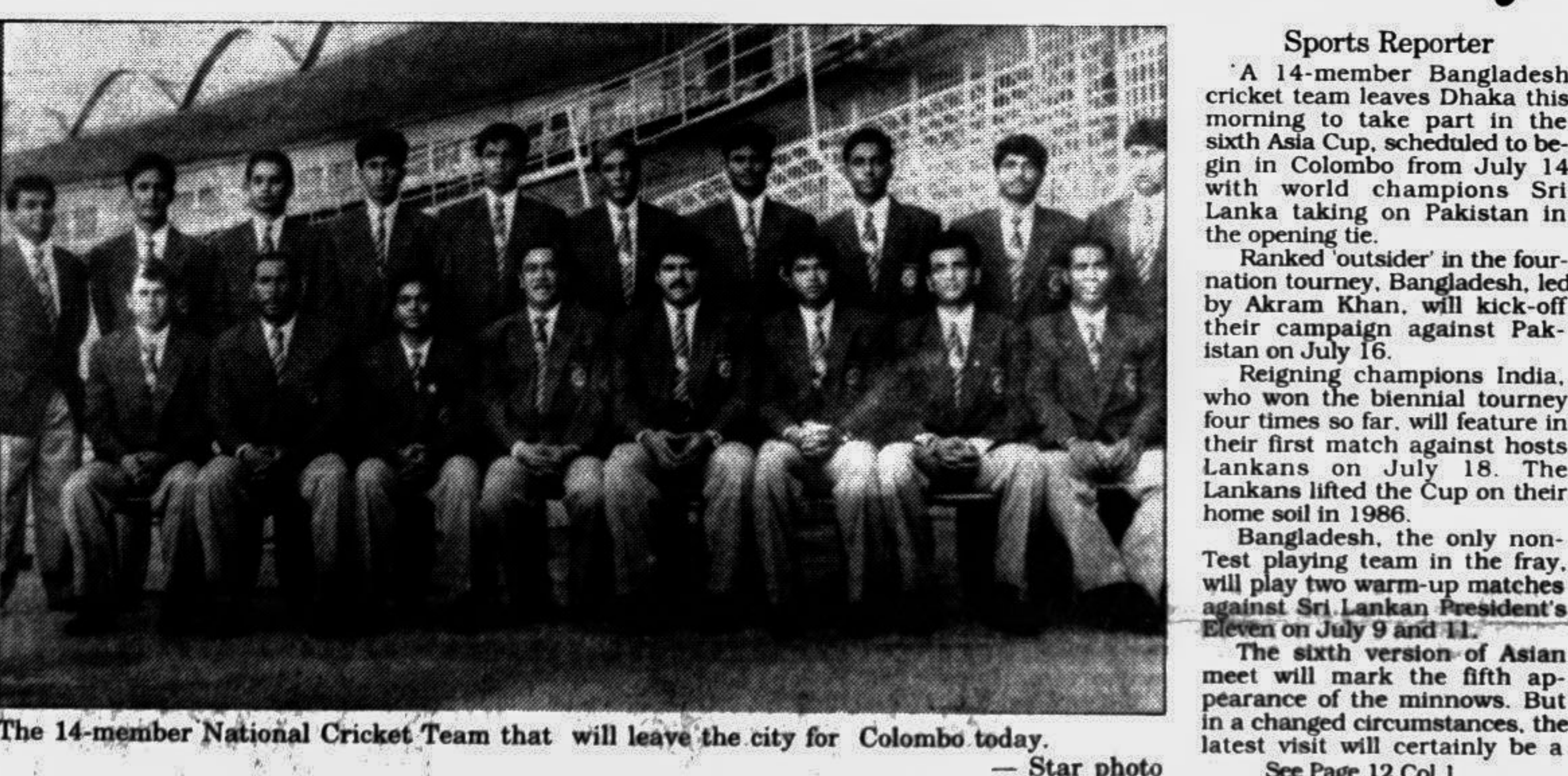


President Shahabuddin



Prime Minister Hasina

# Cricketers leave for Colombo today



The 14-member National Cricket Team that will leave the city for Colombo today. — Star photo

**Sports Reporter**  
 A 14-member Bangladesh cricket team leaves Dhaka this morning to take part in the sixth Asia Cup, scheduled to begin in Colombo from July 14 with world champions Sri Lanka taking on Pakistan in the opening tie. Ranked 'outsider' in the four-nation tourney, Bangladesh, led by Akram Khan, will kick-off their campaign against Pakistan on July 16. Reigning champions India, who won the biennial tourney four times so far, will feature in their first match against hosts Lankans on July 18. The Lankans lifted the Cup over their home soil in 1986. Bangladesh, the only non-Test playing team in the fray, will play two warm-up matches against Sri Lankan President's Eleven on July 9 and 11. The sixth version of Asian meet will mark the fifth appearance of the minnows. But in a changed circumstances, the latest visit will certainly be a See Page 12 Col 1

# JS adopts resolution

## Blasphemous posters, Israeli role condemned

**By Staff Correspondent**  
 Jatiya Sangsad yesterday unanimously adopted a resolution strongly condemning printing and publishing of "heinous, obscene and blasphemous posters by the Zionist clique" against the Holy Quran and Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (SM). The resolution also expressed deep anguish at the role of Israel. Jatiya Sangsad adopted the resolution at 8:30 last night following a discussion in the House on the blasphemous posters published in the occupied Palestinian city of Al-Khail. Earlier, Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad gave a statement on the issue. Then some other lawmakers belonging to the Awami League, BNP, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami spoke on the issue. Earlier, the BNP, JP and Jamaat MPs demanded that a resolution condemning the incident be adopted by the House. During the Maghreb recess, draft of the resolution was prepared in the Speaker's chamber. MPs of different parties took part in the hour-long draft preparation exercise. The resolution says, "this heinous and conspiratorial act not only hurt the religious belief and sentiment of world Muslims including those in Bangladesh, but also aggrieved and worried all conscious people of the world." The House demanded finding out the main conspirators behind the act and their exemplary punishment. It observed that such conspiracy was hatched to do away with the Middle East peace process. Reaffirming Bangladesh's firm support in favour of an independent Palestinian state. See Page 12 Col 4

# SSC exam results tomorrow

The results of the SSC examinations of all education boards of the country will be published simultaneously from respective examination centres tomorrow, reports UNB. The heads of all schools have been advised to collect the results from their respective centre secretaries, said an official handout yesterday. It said the results will not be available in the Education Ministry, education boards and newspaper offices.

# College student shot dead in city

A college student was shot dead during a gunfight between two groups of terrorists at East Goran in the city last night, reports UNB. Khalid Hossain, 24, received bullet wounds while passing by the area during the fight that erupted at about 11 pm over establishing supremacy in the area. He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where the doctors declared him dead. Khalid, son of one Chan Mia, was a BA first year student of Jamalpur College and resident of 418/1 East Goran. The body was sent to DMCH morgue for autopsy. See Page 12 Col 4

# Khaleda blasts some intellectuals for 'anti-state' statements

**BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday censured a section of intellectuals for their recent 'anti-state' statements and asked them to refrain from issuing such statements that goes against the country and its people, reports UNB.** "There are some intellectuals who always give statements as per instruction of the ruling party to see reaction of the people," she said while addressing a group of freshers to the BNP at her 29 Minto Road officials residence here in the evening. Quoting from a recent statement of an intellectual, in which he said, "there is no need for army in Bangladesh," Begum Zia said a true and patriotic citizen of this soil cannot give such a statement. The Leader of the Opposition said Bangladesh has an armed force and it should be made stronger. As long as there is existence of Bangladesh there must be a strong army, she added. The BNP Chairperson said there are some intellectuals in the country, who issue statement on various occasions to create confusion among the people. "The consequence of issuing such statement will be dangerous for the nation," she said. Meanwhile, officials alleged that there are some people in the country, who are See Page 12 Col 7

# Khulna CMM court employee stabbed to death

**From Staff Correspondent**  
 KHULNA, July 6: An employee of the CMM's court here Nazmul Islam, 35, was stabbed to death allegedly by his colleague on the court premises at 10:30 this morning. According to police, previous enmity was the cause of the murder. The alleged killer, Qudus Ijaradar, 30, managed to escape soon after the killing. Police have sent the body to the victims village home at Moishaguse under Rupsa thana. See Page 12 Col 7

# Mysterious death of JN Varsity student in city

A student of Jagannath University died mysteriously in the city yesterday, police and hospital sources said, reports UNB. Police recovered the body of Shaiful Islam Jewel, 25, hanging from a tree near his mess at North Kamalapur in the morning. Jewel hailed from Anwarhata of Madhupur thana in Tangail district. A second year student of Islamic History and Culture Department, Jewel had been living at a house at Kamalapur with three others. Recently, his roommates went to their village homes. The maid of the house told the police that she came to work in the morning, but found the body hanging from a tree near the Railway Hospital and informed the local police. Police filed a (UJ) case saying that Jewel apparently committed suicide. But they suspected that it might be a killing. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy. See Page 12 Col 7

# JS snippets

**By Nazmul Ashraf**  
 Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury yesterday advised the MPs to offer Maghreb prayers before drafting a resolution condemning publication of a blasphemous poster against Islam. "We need the blessings of Allah for drafting the resolution with appropriate words," he told the MPs who were nominated for drafting the resolution in his chamber. The Speaker's proposal for a meeting of the representatives of the Awami League and the BNP and the Jatiya Party at his chamber during the Maghreb recess to draft a resolution condemning the Zionist conspiracy to defame Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (SM) pleased the lawmakers, debating on the issue See Page 12 Col 1

# No new licence for mobile phones

## Accords for 67500 digital lines in city by July 14

The authorities will sign agreements with three companies by July 14 for installing 67,500 digital telephone lines in the capital under a Tk 636 crore Japanese-aided project, reports UNB. Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim disclosed the government move in Parliament yesterday while replying to a series of questions about the future programmes in the telecoms sector. The minister, however, did not mention the names of the companies with whom the government is going to enter into accords. He said the project would be completed within one and a half years time. Nasim said the registered demand of telephone in Dhaka city was 62,238 till May this year. The demand would be fulfilled by the year 2000, he added. He told the House that some 87,334 telephone lines would be available for connection across the country during 1997-98 fiscal. Of them, 27,677 are in Dhaka and 22,769 in Chittagong. He said the government will evaluate the quality of service by the existing mobile telephone companies before issuing licence to new operators. The demand for mobile telephones would also be considered as a precondition for granting new licence. Nasim said. See Page 12 Col 8

# Bangladeshi burnt to death in Bahrain

MANAMA, Bahrain, July 6: Unidentified attackers set ablaze a snack bar in a village in Bahrain yesterday, burning to death a Bangladeshi man trapped inside the injurious another, news reports and officials said, according to AP. A government official confirmed the victims were Bangladeshis. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but suspicion immediately fell on Shi'ite Muslim activists who See Page 12 Col 4

# Mother, son killed in road accident

COMILLA, July 6: A woman and her seven-year-old son were crushed under the wheels of a running bus at Kabila Bazar in Burichang thana on Dhaka-Chittagong highway today, reports UNB. Witnesses said the Chittagong-bound coach knocked down Monwara Begum, 35, and her son Abul Basher of Monshason village in Sadar thana while they were crossing the road at about 1 pm. Protesting the incident, local people intercepted and stopped some buses. Later, police pacified the mob and let the buses go. Also in Sirajganj, an old woman was run over by a speeding truck in Sharisakol area on Bogra-Nagarbari highway today. The victim was identified Ramisha Beyoa, 62, a beggar. See Page 12 Col 3

# Flood hits 20 villages in Pabna

PABNA, July 6: Twenty villages in Chatmohar thana were flooded due to onrush of water from three tributaries of the river Jamuna today, reports UNB. According to officials, standing crops on about 5,000 acres of land were submerged in last 24 hours till 6 pm today. The water level in the Gumani river rose by 22 cm, Chiknai 14 cm and Boral by 17 cm during the period, leaving some 1000 people of Haripur, Saikula, Nimachhara and Polizana unions marooned. See Page 12 Col 5



The Hilsa is in abundant supply in city markets. The picture was taken from Sawarighat yesterday. — Star photo

# Deadlock: Severe congestion at Ctg port feared

**From Staff Correspondent**  
 to break the stalemate. 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. Meanwhile, officials concerned said, huge quantities of imported cargo unloaded from ships remain dumped at the port sheds due to suspension of delivery for the last four days. A senior official commented that Chittagong port might face a severe congestion if the strike continued for a few more days. Though partial work is going on in the ships at the jetties now, after few days the whole See Page 12 Col 7

# Govt to help set up housing society for journalists

Minister for Housing and Works and Telecommunications Mohammad Nasim has said the government would extend help for setting up a housing cooperative society for the working journalists in the city, reports BSS. He gave the assurance when the leaders of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) called on him at his Sangsard Bhaban office yesterday. Mohammad Nasim said the government, particularly the See Page 12 Col 5