

**Sharjah, not Dhaka, to host WC cricket**

CALCUTTA, Dec 9: The International Cricket Council will hold a special World Cup knockout tournament in the United Arab Emirates next year. ICC president Jagmohan Dalmiya said today, reports AP.

Nine Test-playing countries have been invited to the championship in Sharjah. Dalmiya told a news conference at the end of a two day meeting here.

The championship will help raise money to popularise cricket throughout the world.

The tournament will be held from September 26 to October 4 on a knockout basis and involve one pre-quarter final, four quarterfinals, two semifinals and a final.

The ICC ruled out holding the meet in Bangladesh because it rains that time of the year. It also decided against Disney-land in the United States because it lacks the necessary

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**BNP, allies call hartal in Ctg, CHT today, tomorrow**

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Dec 9: BNP and its allies have called a dawn-to-dusk hartal in Chittagong and three hill districts tomorrow and day after tomorrow demanding cancellation of the CHT peace accord.

Processions were brought out in the city for and against the hartal.

Supporters of BNP and Jamaat brought out separate processions in the city this afternoon to drum up support for the hartal while Awami League organised anti-hartal procession.

The garments factories have been exempted from the purview of hartal, BNP press release said.

UNB adds: Bangladeshi Gano Parishad today brought out a procession in Bandarban town in support of the dawn-to-dusk hartal in Chittagong and the three hill districts tomorrow and Thursday to protest the 'so-

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**Hartal called to paralyse export, import: AL**

Awami League has called upon the people to remain alert against conspiracy hatched by BNP-Jamaat clique to create anarchy, reports UNB.

The call came from a meeting of the Presidium held yesterday at the Awami Foundation office at Dhanmondi with acting party president Amir Hossain Amu in the chair.

Expressing concern at the hartal call for today and tomorrow in Chittagong and three hill districts, the AL Presidium observed that the hartal was called to paralyse the economic activities including export-import in the port city.

The meeting said the BNP-Jamaat clique called the hartal on an imaginative, false and fabricated allegation against the CHT peace treaty which was widely acclaimed by the people at home as well as the international community.

It said that the clique was trying to create anarchy by inciting confrontation between the tribals and Bangladeshi in the hill tracts.

The AL Presidium urged the people, particularly the pro-liberation political, social and cultural bodies to remain alert against the 'heinous attempt' of the BNP-Jamaat axis.

**The Daily Star  
on the internet  
http://www.dailystarnews.com**

**Inside Today**

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The PM's meeting with the Secys

**The Diagnosis is Sincere but the Counsel Falls Short of It**

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**HC rejects plea for quashment**

## Trial of share scam cases to go ahead

By SC Correspondent

The High Court yesterday ruled that the cases against 42 people of 15 companies and brokerage firms accused of involvement in the country's biggest share market scandal last year would continue for trial.

The trial of the sensational share market scam cases were on hold since June 1 following a reference sent by the Dhaka District and Sessions Judge's Court to the HC upon petitions filed by three of the accused

companies.

A Division Bench of the High Court comprising Justice Kazi Ebabdul Hoque and Justice Mohammad Hamidul Haque in a verdict rejected the reference cases sent by the District and Sessions Judge, Kazi Golam R-

The petitions were filed by the Shine Pukur Holdings Ltd, Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd, and A K M Shamsuddoha of Doha Securities, calling for quashment of cases against

them. They claimed that those were not properly filed by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

The SEC lodged the cases on April 2 with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court, Dhaka against some bigwigs of the capital market accusing them of tailoring share prices, sending the market into dizzying heights leading to its collapse in November last year.

They obtained ad-interim bail from the HC. Later the three companies filed three separate criminal revision cases with the Dhaka District and Sessions Court.

Their counsel Serajul Huq

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THE FIRST BITE OF THE WINTER: The quartet crouch at the verandah of the Mirpur Stadium, waiting for the drizzles to go yesterday.

dent committee after the bubble had burst, from which the market is yet to recover.

Warrants of arrest against the accused were issued by the CMM after taking cognizance of the cases.

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Their counsel Serajul Huq

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### First bite of Winter

By Staff Correspondent

City dwellers experienced the first bite of the winter yesterday.

Day-long drizzles made the life of the poor labourers, beggars, push-cart men and rickshaw peddlers difficult.

The drizzles, totalling 2 mm in the city, began after a misty morning that kept the sun hidden for the whole day.

Resulting from a mating of Easterly and Westerly air flow, drizzles were reported from all over the country barring Chittagong, Noakhali and Barisal.

In Jessore it totalled 4 mm, Srimangal 3 mm Mongla 2 mm and Sathkira 2 mm.

The minimum temperature on the day was 13.5 degree Celsius in Rangamati. In the city it was 18 degree. The Met office have said the drizzles may continue today. The winter will settle down, after the drizzles.

Director of Met office Sajedur Rahman said drizzles at this time of the year generally

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### From polling centres in Jessore

From Morshed Ali Khan

JESSORE, Dec 9: Men, women and children swarmed the small lane leading to Sheikh Hati Dakhil Madrassah centre under Noapara Union of Sadar.

Young men in groups and women in colourful sarees made their way to the already crowded UP pols centre.

This is a contest between BNP and Awami League.

Shahidul Islam Milon is backed by AL and Serajul Islam by BNP.

He was a young man welcoming voters to his stall before they went inside the centre.

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