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Dhaka's chances of brokering Indo-Pak talks slim

By Staff Correspondent
Chances of Dhaka being invited to mediate between India and Pakistan following their nuclear tests are now very slim, according to officials concerned.
"Both sides are looking for direct talks and it is very unlikely that Dhaka's offer for being a broker would be accepted," said a veteran South Asian diplomat.
According to another South Asian envoy, the forthcoming See Page 12 Col 8

Sharif invites Vajpayee for dialogue to end arms race

ISLAMABAD, Jun 6: Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif today invited his Indian counterpart Atal Bihari Vajpayee for talks to end the arms race between their countries, reports Reuters.
In a speech in parliament Sharif said Pakistan had always offered 'purposeful and meaningful dialogue' to India and stood by this policy. "Even now, I say even today Vajpayee come, let us finish the arms

race in this region."
Tension between the two countries rose significantly last month when India carried out five nuclear tests and Pakistan retaliated with tests of its own.
Sharif said Pakistan's decades-old dispute with India over the Himalayan region of Jammu and Kashmir was a stumbling block and he urged the world to help resolve it.
His statement followed one by Vajpayee in parliament in

New Delhi on Thursday expressing New Delhi's readiness to discuss Kashmir with Islamabad.
Peace talks between India and Pakistan had stalled last year because of differences over Kashmir, the cause of two of three wars they have fought against each other since their independence from Britain in 1947.
"Today the world attention has been drawn to Kashmir," Sharif said apparently referring to the men of the dispute in a communiqué issued by five permanent members of the

United Nations Security Council today adopted a resolution condemning India and Pakistan for nuclear tests, urging them to take concrete steps to avert a disastrous arms race, reports AFP.
Resolution 1172, adopted unanimously by the 15-member Council, condemns India and Pakistan, and urges them to refrain from weaponisation and the deployment of nuclear arms.
The resolution also calls on them to stop testing to join the 30-year-old nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT)—as non-nuclear states—and sign the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.
The Council, urging both countries to show 'maximum

Historic June 7 today

By Staff Correspondent
The historic June 7 will be observed in the country today commemorating the nation's glorious struggle for realisation of the 6-point demand.
This day in 1966, worker Monu Mian and several others were killed in police firing during a hartal called by the Awami League to press Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's 6-point demand in the then East Pakistan.
The agitation for 6-point demand under the leadership of Bangabandhu culminated into a mass upsurge in 1969 that eventually led the Bengalee nation to fight for and establish an independent Bangladesh in 1971.
See Page 12 Col 4

PM tells DU alumni convention CHT to plunge into blood-bath again if accord rescinded



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said no level-headed person can go for a long march against peace, nor want resumption of warlike situation in the CHT region, reports UNB.
"If the peace agreement is rescinded, the region will again plunge into violence and blood-bath, a situation none can desire," she said.
The Prime Minister was addressing the inaugural function of the Dhaka University Alumni Convention at the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) yesterday morning.
Hasina said the CHT peace accord has caused hurt-burn

among some people, who are now trying to 'burn the accord by the fire of unrest'.
About campus violence, she said the government is determined to wipe out all kinds of terrorism from the campus and taking strict action in this regard.
"The situation has improved a lot," she said adding that the government will never hesitate to take action against the terrorists regardless of party.
"We've never patronised terrorism and will never do so in future," the Prime Minister said and urged all irrespective of party affiliation to cooperate in See Page 12 Col 2

UNSC condemns Indo-Pak nuclear tests

UNITED NATIONS, June 6: The UN Security Council today adopted a resolution condemning India and Pakistan for nuclear tests, urging them to take concrete steps to avert a disastrous arms race, reports AFP.
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The Council, urging both countries to show 'maximum

SAARC summit Lankan FM in city to invite Sheikh Hasina

Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar arrived in Dhaka last night to formally invite Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to attend the 10th SAARC Summit in Colombo, reports UNB.
Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad received his Sri Lankan counterpart at the Zia International Airport. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury was present.
Kadirgamar will call on the Prime Minister today and hand over an invitation letter from President Chandrika Ku- See Page 12 Col 5

A day of reminiscence, soul-searching

By Aminul Islam
The Dhaka University wore a different look yesterday when gray-haired alumnus, burdened with age, walked down their memory lanes with young ones, reminiscing their bygone days on the campus.
Some tried to return to the green pasture of their youth, spending the day with their mates, a number of whom were seeing each other after long absence.
They came to the university on the occasion of the first ever Dhaka University Alumni Convention organised by the DU Alumni Association.
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina who is also an alumnus of the university inaugurated the day-long convention in the morning. She was a student of the university from 1967 to 1969.
About 1000 alumni of the university joined the conven-

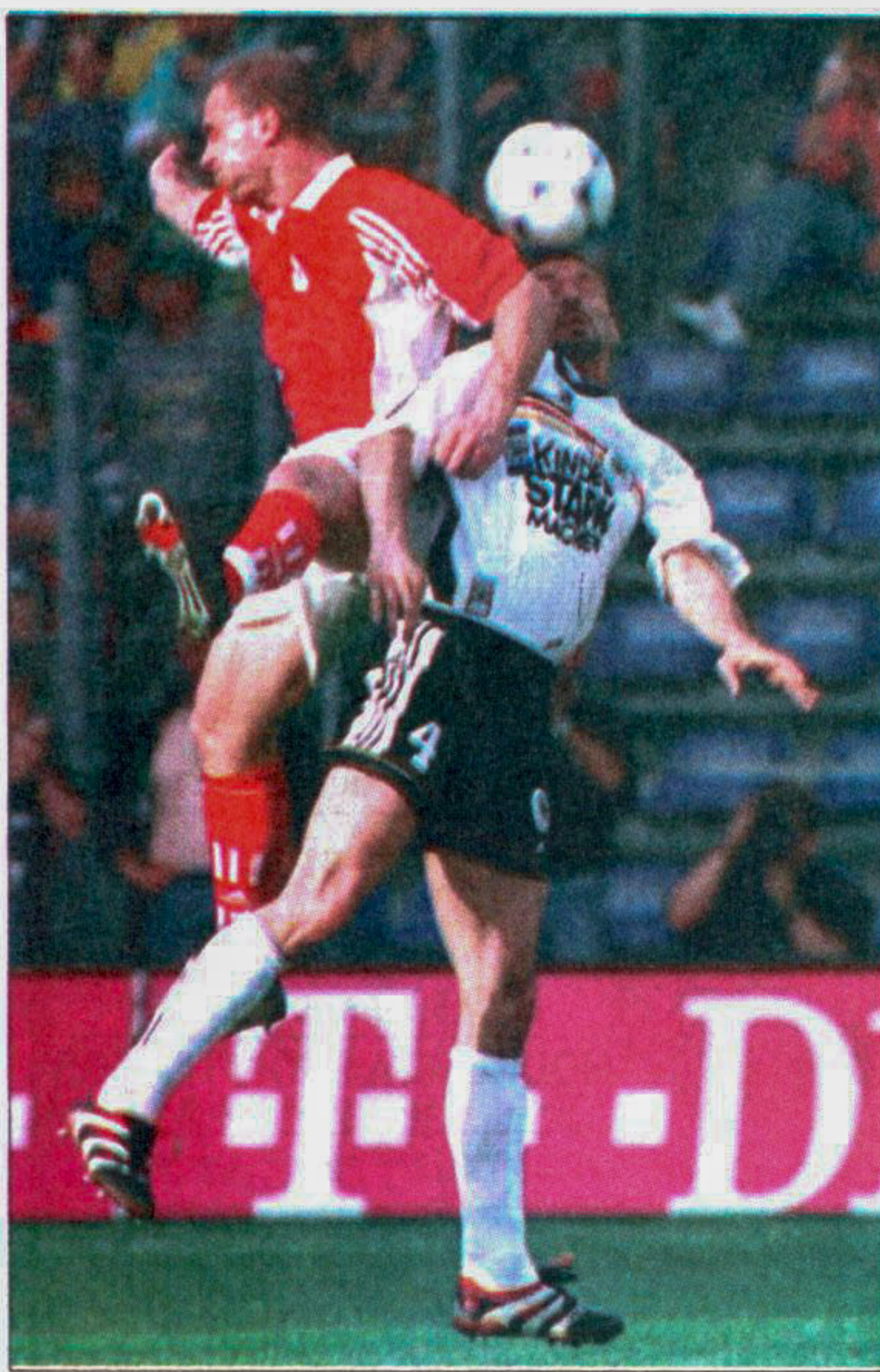
JCD stages protest on campus

BNP-backed Chhatra Dal (JCD) and left leaning Ganotantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) staged demonstrations to protest Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to the campus yesterday.
Hasina inaugurated a convention of the Dhaka University Alumni Association at the Teachers-Students Centre this morning.
JCD activists wearing black mask brought out a group procession. Police kept them away from TSC area.
The demonstrators later held a rally in front of the Arts Faculty. They chanted 'anti-government slogans and accused the ruling party of oppression, repression and killing of political opponents.
The speakers at the rally also accused the Prime Minister for patronising outsiders in capturing the residential halls. See Page 12 Col 3



French Open Vicario beats Seles, lifts crown

ROLAND GARROS, Paris, June 6: Given the opportunity of a fair fight, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario can still prove she is second to none in international tennis.
One can bet his money on her as Viv Richards could bet his life on the performance of Javed Miandad.
In front of a packed Centre Court crowd, the plucky Spaniard collected her third French Open title defeating the much fancied Monica Seles 7-6, 0-6, 6-2 in one hour and fifty-three minutes.
The morning was bright and warm, the afternoon dark and See Page 12 Col 1



Germany's Juergen Kohler (R) and Luxembourg's Gordon Braun fight for the ball during their World Cup friendly in Mannheim, Germany on June 5. The Germans won 7-0. — AFP photo

Business leaders tell Khaleda Govt, opposition should narrow differences

Expressing concern at the current sluggish economic trend, the business leaders said the situation is turning worse with widening gap between the government and the opposition. This trend must be reversed, they emphasised.
Some 25 business leaders took part in the discussion. Among them were president of MCCI President Laila Rahman Kabir, FBCCI acting president Shafiqul Islam, DCCI president Rashed Maksud Khan, BGMEA president Mustafiz Golem Kuddus, Banking Association president Abdul Awal Minto and Chittagong Stock Exchange president Amir Khasru.
Begum Zia said her party will join the coming budget session of Parliament and make all-out efforts to press for moving the economic problems. See Page 12 Col 3

France '98
COUNTDOWN
3
Days Away

Germany tune up well

MANNHEIM, Germany, Jun 6 (AFP/Internet): Veteran Juergen Klinsmann was on target on Friday as Germany hammered Luxembourg 7-0 in a World Cup warm-up here.
Kirsten set the ball rolling with the first goal in the 6th minute before Klinsmann, in fine form for Spurs towards the season's end, made it two after 15 minutes.
Thomas Helmer bagged the third on 28 minutes before Kirsten scored another on the stroke of half-time.
Liver Bierhoff, whose golden goal won Germany the 1996 European Championship, then blasted two more before his future AC Milan teammate Christian Ziege wrapped things up six minutes from the end.
It was the ideal match to boost the European champions' confidence with the proceeds going to charity. Children's groups will be the main beneficiaries with the home side wearing the slogan 'Make Children Strong on their white shirts. Around 250,000 marks has been earmarked for the victims of this week's train disaster in northern Germany which claimed the lives of at least 96 people. A minute's silence was See Page 12 Col 1

Ombudsman: 3 names under consideration

By Mizan Ali
The Ministry of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs has proposed the names of Justice DM Ansuruddin, Justice Badruzzaman and Justice Naimuddin for appointment as Ombudsman, according to official sources.
Following approval by the Prime Minister, one of the names will be placed before the Jatiya Sangsad for its clearance and then sent to the President for appointment.
During the budget session of the Sangsad, scheduled to begin on June 10, the proposal will be placed in the House, the sources added. See Page 12 Col 1

Employees plan to demonstrate at Sectt today

By Special Correspondent
Two groups of government employees are scheduled to stage separate demonstrations at the Secretariat today, pressing demands for full implementation of the pay commission report and change in office timing.
Shaah said one group, led by Shour Alam, are scheduled to stage a sit-in before the establishment secretary's office at 10 am.
Another group, led by Zafar Ahmed, will conduct a 'mass contact and organisational visit' at the Establishment Division. See Page 12 Col 6

Watch Out!
Coming out this week for the World Cup '98 a 48-page, colour tabloid "SPECIAL" with 2 fabulous posters, eye-catching photographs of your hot stars and dream teams. Don't miss it. Watch this page for date.

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Indo-Pak Nuclear Race and Bangladesh
Column: Frankly Speaking
by Faruq Choudhury
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Some day labourers resting under the trees near Central Shaheed Minar during the scorching heat yesterday. — Star photo

DSE price index marks sharp rise

Star Business Report
Stock prices rallied spectacularly on the floor of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), propping its price index up by a record 11.65 percentage points on a single day yesterday.
The DSE benchmark All Share Price Index yesterday reached a five-month high of 778.48 points, beating the index on December 22 last year.
Market operators attributed the unprecedented rise in index to 'return of the investor'.
"The investors had been watching the market for some time. They have started feeling confident in the market and are coming back to brokerage firms," said a DSE broker.
Some, however, termed the trend of the market "unusual."
"There is no reason for the market to move so high. There is not a single foreign buyer and prices of most of the shares

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