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Loadshedding
BNP calls hartal
in Sylhet today

From Staff Correspondent
SYLHET, June 6: A day-long hartal has been called in Sylhet district by the BNP tomorrow to protest against the continuous loadshedding of electricity.
The Sylhet town unit of BNP this afternoon brought out a torch procession to drum up support for the hartal. A rally was also held at the court-point with the town unit BNP president Ahsan Reza Chowdhury in the chair.

Floods in 4 thanas
of Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent
SYLHET, June 6: With on-rushing of water from the upstream in the hill areas in Assam and Meghalaya states of India during the last three days vast areas in 4 bordering thanas of Sylhet have been inundated.

Ombudsman

From Page 1
Justice DM Ansaruddin retired as a judge of High Court Division of the Supreme Court in 1995 and is currently Chairman of the Administrative Appellate Tribunal.

After the fall of the then president H M Ershad, a one-man committee comprising Justice Ansaruddin was formed to probe the irregularities committed by the deposed president.
Justice Badruzzaman retired as a judge of the High Court Division in 1996. The caretaker government of Justice Habibur Rahman appointed him Director General of the Judicial Administration Training Institute in July 1996 and he is still holding the post.

Vicario

From Page 1
Half an hour before the game started rains came in big drops and the start was delayed by 40 minutes.
It was a bizarre match as the results would reflect. The contest was so fierce at times that it gained the proportions of a dog fight between the two big fillies of world tennis.

DSE index

From Page 1
Tighten their supervision and monitoring of floor operation to prevent manipulation, he said.
A senior SEC official said investors should gather information before investing in any stock. They should go to the merchant bankers and the portfolio managers for advice.

World Cup

From Page 1
held prior to the kick-off in remembrance of the victims.
"It was a nice game for the strikers, allowing us to improve our goal tallies", Bierhoff said.
"I hope it benefits the people it was meant to raise money for. For us it was a good training exercise just before the World Cup."

Coach Bertl Vogts was unusually relaxed on the sidelines, applauding his players many goals and replacing his usual glare with a grin on several occasions. "I wanted a good result and a clear improvement over our performance against Colombia last weekend (3-1 for Germany) and we did just that", Vogts said with satisfaction.

Most of the German squad got a run in a game marked by its relaxed nature. Olaf Thon was outstanding in the midfield, dispensing the ball at will to his men up front.
Luxemburg's coach Paul Philipp stressed before the game that Germany were the "wrong opponent at the wrong time". A week ago Luxemburg came off quite well against Colombia in a friendly, only losing 2-0, but they crumbled Friday under constant pressure.
The result is a good omen for Germany, who played a similar farwell friendly in Mannheim two years ago before winning Europe '96.

On that occasion they beat the miniature principality Liechtenstein 9-1. The Germans will fly to their World Cup headquarters near Nice on the Mediterranean coast on Sunday and will open their campaign in Paris on June 15 against the United States.

Long march: Security
in Ctg tightened

CHITTAGONG, June 6: Local administration has tightened security as leaders and workers of BNP-led 7-party alliance here are preparing to welcome their colleagues leading to Tuesday's long march from Dhaka, reports UNB.
Dhaka officials said district and police administrations of Chittagong, Khagrachhari and Rangamati are prepared enough to face any possible chaos resulting from the planned long march.

Gold worth
Tk 8.5 lakh
seized at ZIA

By Staff Correspondent
Customs authorities at the Zia International Airport recovered gold chains worth about Tk 8.5 lakh from a transit passenger of a Calcutta-bound Biman flight yesterday.
Besides, foreign injections worth about Tk two lakh were recovered from inside a toilet of the departure lounge in abandoned condition yesterday.
Airport sources said, the transit passenger of the BG-071 flight from Singapore started walking towards the Arrival hall with the Dhaka-bound passengers after the plane landed at ZIA.
He started running and went to the first floor of the terminal after he saw customs officials at the immigration. Officials chased and caught him.
After searching him, Customs officials found three packets inside the pockets of his trousers in which the gold chains weighing about 1,810 grams were kept.
During another raid, Customs officials recovered 4,000 ampoules of foreign injections which were found abandoned in a dustbin at the toilet.

Officials were yet to find out the owner of those injections. Two separate departmental cases were filed with the customs house in connection with the incidents.

Members of Khulna
dev body observe
hunger strike

From Staff Correspondent
KHULNA, June 6: Over 100 leaders and members of Gaoter Khulna Development Action Coordination Committee observed a day-long hunger strike today to press for allocation of fund in the budget for 1998-99 fiscal year for the proposed Rupsha Bridge.

The committee has also demanded immediate implementation of Mongla EPZ, Khulna-Dhaka-Mawa road, Khulna-Dhaka highway and Khulna Airport projects.
The hunger strike at Shaheed Halihs Park began at 9 am and ended at 5 pm.

PM: Alumni convention

From Page 1
Further improving the situation on the campus.
She said the present government has no need to give shelter to the terrorists, nor use the students in power politics.
She added: "We've a well-knit, strong political organisation... we also believe that people are the source of all power."
The inaugural function, presided over by Alumni Association president Prof Mozaffar Ahmed, was also addressed, among others, by the oldest alumnus Prof Sirajul Haq (1923-27 academic year), DU Vice-Chancellor and chief patron of the association Prof A K Azad Chowdhury, convener of the convention preparatory committee and former finance minister A M A Muhi and another alumnus Din Mohammad Khan (1956-60 academic year).

JCD protest

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throwing out the genuine occupants. She has no moral right to enter the campus, they said.
The rally was addressed among others by Abdul Khaled, Habib-un-Nabi, Sohel, Monwar Hossain Rana, Saiful Alam Nirab and Rehana Akhter Ranu.
GCO brought out a procession and later held rally at Operajay Bangla. The rally was addressed by Hasan Hafijur Rahman Sohel, Diponkar Saha Dipu, Saifur Rahman Tapan and Mohsin Sarker.

Khaleda

From Page 1
She said BNP is quite aware of the problems faced by the industrialist and business community. They are not getting working capital and adequate cooperation from the government, she added.
Begum Zia said local mills and factories are on the verge of closure as the government has totally failed to provide them with essentials like gas, water and electricity.
If the deterioration of law and order continues and massive extortion prevails, the industries will collapse automatically, she said.
She pointed out that sub-standard Indian goods are pouring into the country posing a threat to the local industries.
She alleged that the government struck deals in the gas sector for amassing wealth ignoring the national interest.
"We launched the movement not for capturing power, but to protect the interest of the country as well as the business community," she said.
"We wanted to discuss various issues in Parliament in the national interest. But the situation has forced us to take to the street," Begum Zia said.

Hasina tells partymen
Remain alert
against BNP's
'destructive
activities'

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina asked her party leaders and workers to remain alert against the "destructive activities" of opposition BNP "which is out to foil the existing peace and stability," reports UNB.
Addressing leaders and workers of Rajshahi district and city units of Awami League and front organisations at Ganobhaban, she said people have voted Awami League to run the country, serve them and protect their interest.
She said the Awami League workers made a lot of sacrifices to establish rights of the people and now they have to work for economic emancipation of the people.
Hasina said the opposition BNP is trying to create chaos and confusion by making artificial crisis of essential commodities like salt, rice and onions.
She referred to the "attack on Speaker" at the Jatiya Sangsad and said all their activities were directed to create anarchy in the society.
The prime minister referred to the various steps taken by her government and said the water sharing treaty with India and the peace accord on the Chittagong Hill Tracts have been acclaimed at home and abroad.
Hasina apprised them of various projects of the government, including the Asrayan, employment generation bank, poverty alleviation programme and old age allowance.

4 muggers caught
in Uttara

By Staff Correspondent
Four alleged muggers were caught when they were trying to snatch gold ornaments from a woman at Uttara in the city yesterday afternoon.
Police identified the arrested as Masud, Sumon, Nayan and Badal. Police recovered a mace from the arrested persons and seized an auto-rickshaw used by the snatchers.
The arrested four on board an auto-rickshaw intercepted the rickshaw in which Shirina Akter was travelling on Rabindra Sarani at Uttara Sector-7 at about 6 pm, police said.
Wielding knives, the gang snatched a gold chain, ring and a bracelet from her. As Shirina cried out for help, local people and patrol police rushed to the spot.
The attackers exploded a cracker and tried to escape from the scene. But the local people chased them and caught the muggers.
A case was filed with Uttara thana in this regard.

Gangraped

From Page 1
hawk or selling clothes, and made lurid remarks. Then they dragged her to a narrow lane near the Biswa Road crossing at Kuril and raped her. Two of the alleged rapists were identified as Shah Ali and Azam.
The victim filed a case with Cantonment thana. None, however, could be arrested till the filing of this report last night.

June 7 today

From Page 1
President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave separate messages on the occasion.
Awami League and its front organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes to mark the day.
Prime Minister and AL President Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to address a workers' rally at Paltan Maidan in the city at three this afternoon.
AL's programmes include, hoisting of national and party flags at Banjabandhu Bhaban and at the party's central office at 6 am, placing wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu at 8 am and holding rally at Paltan Maidan at 3 pm.



Minister for Environment Begum Sajeda Choudhury checking a public transport at Manik Mia Avenue in the city after launching a drive against emission of black smoke by motor vehicles yesterday.

Hasina tells partymen

Remain alert against BNP's 'destructive activities'

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina asked her party leaders and workers to remain alert against the "destructive activities" of opposition BNP "which is out to foil the existing peace and stability," reports UNB.

UNSC

From Page 1
restraint, called for bilateral talks to resolve the disputes between India and Pakistan on regional security, including over Kashmir.
AP adds: Hoping to curb a dangerous arms race in South Asia, the UN Security Council agreed today on a Japanese resolution urging India and Pakistan to halt their nuclear weapons programmes and denying them status as nuclear states.
The council convened a formal meeting afterward to take a vote.

Lankan FM

From Page 1
maratunga.
He will also hold official talks with his Bangladesh counterpart at the Foreign Ministry today.
Before his departure, Kadirgamar will also call on President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban.
The three-day summit of heads of government or state of the seven South Asian countries will begin in the Sri Lankan capital on July 9.
The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister will leave Dhaka tonight for New Delhi as part of his current tour to invite the SAARC leaders to the summit.

Sharif invites Vajpayee

From Page 1
Pakistan has welcomed suggestions for third-party mediation on Kashmir but India has rejected the idea saying the matter should be resolved through bilateral talks under a 1972 peace accord between the two sides.
New Delhi, which is fighting separatist guerrillas in two thirds of Kashmir it rules, regards the whole of the formerly Princely state as an integral part of India.
Islamabad which controls the remaining third says the predominantly Muslim Kashmiris must decide in a UN mandated vote whether to join Islamic Pakistan or Hindu majority India.
Sharif said diplomatic and political strategy adopted by Pakistan after the nuclear explosions by India had been successful. By the grace of God the world accepted our reaction to India's attitude as logical and natural.
He said Pakistan was not interested to start aggression against any country nor inclined to continue its enmity with any nation. "Our message is peace we are not suffering from delusions to conquer any country."

A day of reminiscence

From Page 1
"Even a barber has seven knives. Do the teachers of the university have seven books? I have collected many books and I will donate all these to the university", Sirajul Haq said in his speech.
"It has become a practice to blame the Vice-Chancellor when an incident happens on the campus. During our time, the teachers of the departments concerned resolved all the disputes that arose in the departments. Heads of the departments were all in all in the departments."
Referring to the Alumni Association's move to play a role in making the university an ideal educational institution again, he said "If you have any political intuition, I will not be with you."
"It is very unfortunate that the teachers of the university are involved in party politics in the university. I was requested by my colleagues to be the VC. I refused the proposal thinking one would have to be a politician to be the VC. I could not do that," he said.
"Today is the day for soul searching. We have to think what we were and what we are now and how we can regain our lost glory," Sirajul Haq said.
"It is still possible to get back the reputation of Oxford of the East if we are sincere. 'Allah will be with us. But before that we have to give up politics,' he said.

4 killed, 40 hurt
in Hyderabad
clashes

HYDERABAD, Jun 6: Fanatic Hindus and Muslims clashed in at least half a dozen places in this southern Indian city for the second straight day today, killing at least four people and injuring 40 others, police said, reports AP.
Police fired gunshots to disperse the rioters who attacked each other with swords, knives and stones in Hyderabad, the capital of Andhra Pradesh state, said Ram Pratap Singh, the city police chief.
Those killed included a police officer whose home was attacked, Singh said. Police imposed curfew as nearly 1,500 Hindus and Muslims, split in at least six groups, rampaged through the southern parts of the city, looted 1,300 kilometers south of New Delhi.

Employees

From Page 1
Both the groups had also staged protests on Thursday. The faction led by Shah Alam staged demonstrations at the finance ministry and the group led by Zafar Ahmed on the Secretariat premises.
The government meanwhile said that the pay commission report would be implemented in the next budget.
But in categorically said that office hours would not be changed.
Authorities reinforced riot police inside the Secretariat on Thursday, who would remain alert today to maintain order, officials said.
Demonstrations inside the Secretariat are prohibited.
Sources in the group led by Zafar Ahmed said that they would take a decision on their next course of action on Monday at a council session of Sachubalaya Karmachari Sanjukta Parishad.
They said the deadline for acceptance of their demand will pass today.

Rural school bldgs

From Page 1
The officials involved failed to ensure quality and paid bills for non-existent works, the inquiry found.
The inquiry, conducted by three faculty members of BUET and engineering colleges, covered 100 schools, colleges and madrasahs in 15 districts, which were already built or being built by the Facilities Department of the Ministry of Education.
The inquiry said its findings only corroborated complaints made earlier by many senior project officials.
In most cases, the inquiry found, there were a lack of wisdom and judiciousness in the selection of sites for physical structures. "Structures were built on lands below the level of roads, or having slopes or ponds adjacent to them."
"Same type of foundation has also been used for all structures without taking into account the difference of soil quality in different places. In many cases, the foundation did not reach three feet below the ground and cement plasters were not done six inches deep down the ground level. In some sites, the casting and depth of RCC mastrest fell short of the schedule."
In many cases, the inquiry said, it was found that the verandah and floors had developed cracks and cavities. "It happens when sand is used instead of earth for foundation or when the earth is not properly compacted."
In some floors, the casting of patentstone was less than 25 mm and of low quality. Cement casting was found to be less than 75 mm in thickness in some cases and of poor quality. In most floors, polythene layer or brick flat soling was not used.
"Some ceilings were found damp, indicating water stagnation on the roof."
"Walls were found to have cracked along the roof. This happens if the walls slide down. The quality of cement plaster on walls, beams, columns and ceiling were found to be of poor quality and contained more sand than the standard limit."

Dhaka's chances

From Page 1
SAARC summit in Colombo will possibly provide the prime ministers of India and Pakistan 'the first opportunity' to meet on the sidelines of the event.
Chances of the SAARC summit being held brightened as Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar arrived in the capital last night carrying the invitation letter for the Colombo summit next month. He is also due to proceed to other SAARC capitals.
Bangladesh did not receive any response till yesterday from either New Delhi or Islamabad regarding the proposed visit of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to the two capitals, according to the officials.
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in separate letters on June 1 to Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, wrote: "I would be happy to visit your great country at an early date to discuss the situation arising out of the nuclear tests and all issues of mutual interests."
Pakistan High Commissioner in Dhaka Karam Elahi said his government has not yet made any response to the letter of the Bangladesh Prime Minister. He however added, "In principle, we welcome any mediation, from any source."
Asked if Dhaka could be a venue of a meeting of the leaders of Pakistan and India, he replied: "Mechanism could be agreed if both sides consent."
Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Dev Mukherjee was not available for comments as he is in Delhi now.

The investigators also complained about furniture and electrical fittings which were found to be of poor quality and did not adhere to the standards set in the tender schedule.
They found that it was not possible to know how much money was paid to the contractors since the accounts were not properly maintained. There were differences in the expenditure on works, based on the same design, specification and material.
"For many schools, contractors received payments for flat brick soling which they had not done. There were also inconsistencies between the measurement books and the works done."
"It was learnt that many school buildings under different projects were completed in a hurry. It is not proper to carry-out works without adequate manpower that may have resulted in the defects observed in the buildings inspected."
"Concerned officials and employees themselves said that due to insufficient manpower and rush to complete the works, it was not possible for them to supervise the construction works regularly and properly. Almost all the executive engineers in charge of the sites inspected had their families living in Dhaka that made it difficult for them to perform his duties."

Complaints in respect of Banks

Members of the public are requested to send their complaints, if any, in respect of banks, to the Bangladesh Bank direct.

Vigilance Teams have been formed in Bangladesh Bank to enquire into irregularities in and complaints against the banking sector.

In addition to investigation of complaints received, these teams will conduct surprise checks in different banks.

The objective of this step is to check irregularities in banks and improve the standard of their service.

Bangladesh Bank

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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