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PM to visit Delhi today

PICKLE

KETCHUP

SHERBET

Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina leaves Dhaka for New Delhi this morning on a oneday visit at the invitation of her Indian counterpart Atal

Behari Vajpayee. Today's whirlwind trip is scheduled to be followed by another one-day visit to Pakistan on June 24.

A special Biman flight carrying the Prime Minister and her entourage will take off for Delhi at 8 am. She is due to return to the capital at around 10.45 pm.

The 45-member entourage includes Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Foreign Secretary Mustafizur Rahman. Principal Secretary to the PM Dr S A Samad, DG, UN desk in the foreign ministry, Jamil Majid; DG, South Asia desk Sirajul Islam, Press Secretary to the PM Jawadul Karim and a host of senior officials.

Bilateral discussions will dominate official talks between the prime ministers of Bangladesh and India. Besides, Delhi is likely to explain its position on the nuclear issue and its security concerns.

Our Delhi Correspondent reports that India will convey to Bangladesh the need for a harmonised stand on a time-See Page 12 Col 3

Muazzem Ali new envoy to France

The government has decided to appoint Syed Muazzem Ali, at present Bangladesh's Ambassador to Iran, as Ambassador to France, reports UNB.

This was announced in Dhaka yesterday, said an official handout.

We regret

Due to sudden breakdown of our Printing Machine last night, we could not reach our newspaper to our valued readers, patrons and well-wishers in time in the city. We deeply regret this temporary dislocation.

Inside Today — Article

Nuclear Tests in India and Pakistan: More for Deterrence than for Defence?

by Khurshid Hamid Page 4

Focus

Hartalotics: Consensus on Intolerance and Conflict Page 5

ধানমন্ডি

২০৩০ বৰ্গফুট

ধানমন্ডি

২৪৮০ বৰ্গফুট

সড়ক-১০এ

ধানমন্ডি

সড়ক-১২এ

ইস্বাটন

২০১৩ বর্গফুট

উত্তরা

১২১৫ বর্গফট

সেকটর-৭

कनमानएउँ :

ध्यारमाकनमान्य निः

ইস্কাটন গার্ডেন রোড

সড়ক-৮

BNP unlikely to join JS session before June 24

By Nazmul Ashraf

BNP's preparation for the June 18 planned hartal across the country is likely to further delay the main opposition party's joining the on going budget session of the Jatiya Sangsad, according to highly placed party sources.

KEWRA-

WATER

ROSE -

WATER

(প্রাণ)

The party is unlikely to attend the session before June 24. when the BNP Parliamentary Party (BNPPP) will meet again. they said.

The BNPPP which met thrice

since Friday adjourned its meeting yesterday till 2 pm on Emerging from the meeting yesterday, Opposition Chief Whip Khandakar Delwar Hos-

sain told newsmen that the de-

ferral was for further discus-

sion before finalising the date for joining the Sangsad session. "We'll definitely join the session, but only after a decision to

Dhaka is looking forward to

the next meeting of the Joint

Rivers Commission (JRC). The

meeting was scheduled to be

held in Delhi in November last

but was cancelled due to politi-

cal turmoil in India, followed

ernment is in place, we look

forward to the JRC meeting to

discuss sharing of waters of

Teesta and other common

portfolio is being held by Indian

Prime Minister Atal Behari

Vajpayee, the matter of sharing

waters of other common rivers

through JRC meetings is likely

to be raised by Sheikh Hasina

during her Delhi visit." an

"Since the Water Resources

rivers," a high official said.

"Now that the Indian gov-

by elections.

this effect is taken ...", he said. Another reason for the break, said Delwar, is to get a response from the Speaker about BNP's complaints of nonimplementation of its March 2 agreement with the government.

A four-member BNP delegation met Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury on Sunday and complained that the government violated the March 2 agreement. In response, the Speaker told the BNP leaders he might convene a meeting of the two sides to help resolve the contentious issues between them

The Speaker is supposed to contact the government side and let BNP know any development in this regard. "We're expecting a reply from

the Speaker by June 24", said the Opposition Chief Whip.

Hasina may raise sharing of

Teesta waters with Vajpayee

By M Anwarul Haq

Rivers Commission [JRC].

which was its 32nd, was held in

Dhaka on July 19 and 20 last

year after a gap of seven years.

The ministerial level meeting

was led by Water Resources

Minister Abdur Razzak on the

Bangladesh side and his Indian

counter part Sis Ram Ola on the

following signing of the 30-year

accord between Bangladesh and

India on sharing the Ganges wa-

meeting that JRC meetings

would be held once in every

ditiously all outstanding issues

three months to resolve expe-

The JRC was reactivated

It was agreed at the Dhaka

The last meeting of the Joint

official said.

other side.

But BNPPP meeting sources said the long recess is for taking preparations for the planned June 18 hartal and the June 22 demonstration against government's alleged attacks on BNP's June 9-10 long march toward the CHT to press its demand for scrapping of the CHT accord laws for its implementation. "This is also for reconsider-

ing the party decision on joining the parliament session and decide on fresh anti-government agitation, said a top BNP leader, attending the meeting. The government's "role dur-

ing the planned hartal and the demonstration will guide our next course of action," he said. Government's excess during the hartal may further delay BNP's joining the parliament session. The discussions at the

relating to sharing of waters of

common rivers." Bangladesh

and India share 54 common

also stated specifically that the

two countries "are desirous of

sharing by mutual agreement

the waters of the international

rivers flowing through the ter-

ritories of the two countries and

making optimum utilisation of

water resources in the fields of

flood management, irrigation,

river basin development and

generation of hydro-electricity

for the mutual benefit of the two

After last year's meeting,

Abdur Razzak had said that the

delay in holding the JRC meet-

See Page 12 Col 7

peoples."

The 30-year water accord

See Page 12 Col 8



England's captain Alan Shearer (L) heads the ball to score the 1-0 lead for his team as Tunisian goalkeeper Chroki Al Quaer (C) fails to save the header during their World Cup Group G match yesterday. England won 2-0. (Story on page 13)

Colombia fail to sparkle LYON, France, June 15: Hit-

LIGHTS

man Adrian Ilie gave Romania a 1-0 win over Colombia in their Group G World Cup opener here today, reports AFP.

It was a lethal performance from the 24-year-old Valencia star. With only seconds to go in the first-half lie burst into the area on the left. As Colombian keeper Farid Mondragon came out to cut the angle llie coolly chipped him.

It was a bitter blow for Mondragon who was playing one of the games of his life as Colombia tried to make amends for their 3-1 defeat by Romania in their opening World Cup match four years ago in America. Ilie could have had at least

three goals if the 26-year-old Mondragon had not been in such sparkling form.

Mondragon pulled off two stunning saves when Romania's aging midfield general Gheorighe Hagi slipped a pass through the defence to free life. The 24-year-old let rip but

somehow Mondragon got down to his right to get a hand to it. The ball broke free to the inrushing Viorel Moldovan but Mondragon dived to his left to get his other hand to it.

JOHN PLAYER

GOLD LEAF

The rebound fell to Ilie who ripped in another shot but it hit a defender and went over for a It was an impressive per-

formance from the Romanians. with Hagi at the heart of everything they did as he sprayed the ball from one wing to another. Meanwhile. Ilie was keeping

Mondragon busy. Given half a glance at the goal he was letting rip — on target Colombia, trying

to forget their nightmare performance in the 1994 World Cup when they went into the tournament as one of the favourites only to crash out in the first round, were playing attractive football but going nowhere.

WORLD CUP '98

Former Newcastle star Faustino Asprilla, recovered from a groin injury, was displaying tricks as he glided up and down the right wing but Bogdan Stelea was having little to do in the Romanian goal. It was not until the 38th

minute that he had to face a -shot in anger but it was straight at him.

See Page 12 Col 4

Cabinet for city corpns in Sylhet, Barisal

By Staff Correspondent The cabinet yesterday approved a proposal for enhancing the meeting attendance allowances for the mayors and commissioners of the country's four city corporations.

The cabinet meeting, held with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair, also decided that the government would fix the new rate of allowances 'soon', meeting sources said.

The government has to amend the ordinances, laws, under which the corporations are governed, to accommodate the cabinet decision relating to the enhancement.

The cabinet also decided to convert Barisal and Sylhet municipalities into city corporations 'gradually.'

Yasmin Murder Case HC admits appeal

against acquittal of accused The High Court yesterday

admitted an appeal against the acquittal of eight persons accused in the sensational Yasmin Murder Case of Dinajpur, reports UNB. District and Sessions Judge's

Court of Dinajpur had acquitted all the eight persons accused of rape, murder and destroying of evidence of the murder in August, 1995. Deputy Attorney General

Shahabuddin Ahmed preferred the appeal on behalf of the The Division Bench com-

prising Justice Kazi Ebadul Hoque and Justice Mohammad Abdul Quddus admitted the appeal after hearing the case.

The accused in the case are SP Abdul Motaleb, Sub-inspector Mahtab Hossain, Swapan Kumar Chakraborty, and Matiur Rahman, ASI Jahangir Alam, constable Abdus Sattar, driver Amrit Lal Barman and Dr Mohammad Mohsin of Dinajpur general hospital.

The 15-year old girl. Yas-min, was raped and murdered See Page 12 Col 3

Court boycott in Khulna

KHULNA, June 15: Lawyers of Khulna Bar Association to-day began a boycott of courts demanding removal of the Deputy Commissioner and compensation for the damage to the KBA office during Sunday's clash between lawyers' and employees of the collectorate building

was damaged at its office in the clash. The clash took place following demolition of a boundary wall and construction of another sidewall, blocking a passage between the collectorate building and the judge's

(General) of masterminding the attack on the lawyers with the help of hired goons and over 100 employees of the collectorate building.

dul Aziz, NDC of DC's office, lodged an FIR on Sunday night with Sadar thana accusing six lawyers including the president and the general secretary of KBA for attacking the collec-torate building with the help of See Page 12 Col 7

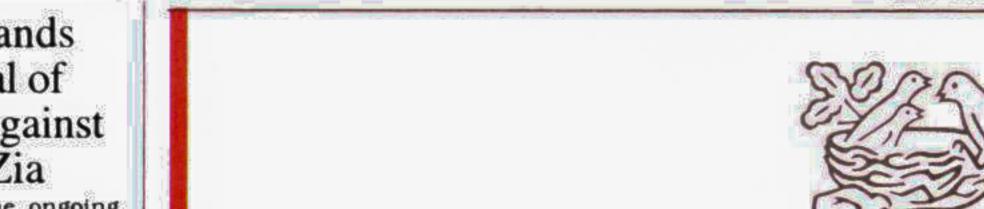
BNP demands withdrawal of Begum Zia

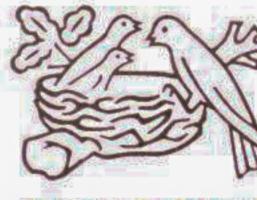
reports UNB.

"Immediately after assuming power, this government has been harassing Begum Khaleda Zia as part of its political vendetta by filing false cases against her and her family members one after another to tarnish their image," said a statement issued by BNP yes-

terday. The statement was issued after a joint meeting of the leaders of BNP and its front organisations at the Minto Road official residence of the Leader of the Opposition in the

See Page 12 Col 8





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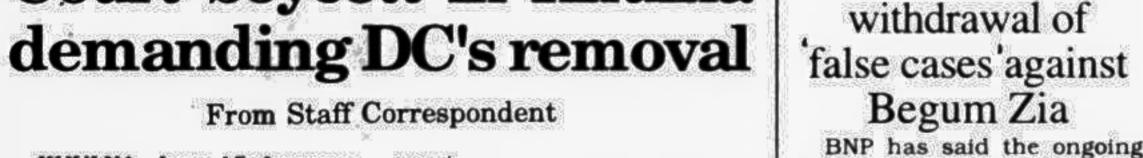
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The KBA has given a 48-hour ultimatum from today to fulfill the demands or to face a tougher movement from Wednesday, its leaders said.

They claimed that at least ten persons were injured and property worth over Tk 10 lakh

President of KBA Advocate Kazi Abdus Salam in a written complaint to Sadar thana ac-cused the DC and the ADC

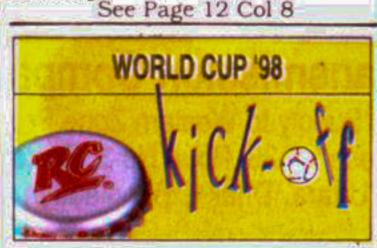
But the complaint has not yet been treated as an FIR as

But, on the other hand, Ab-

sanction from the government is required for this, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Commissioner of KMP

BNP has said the ongoing movement to protect the country's integrity and against the government's subservient policy cannot be stopped by hatching conspiracy against Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia,

evening.



Today's matches Group A Scotland vs Norway, 9:30 pm

Brazil vs Morocco, 1:00 am BST

ensure 300 mw

CHITTAGONG, June 15: Chittagong city mayor Alhaj ABM Mahiuddin Chowdhury today appealed to the govern-ment to ensure at least 300 megawatt power supply in Chit-tagong to free it from frequent loadshedding, reports BSS.

tries, businesses and other economic activities.

Outraged by the frequent power disruption in the city, the soccer fans attacked three substations, including Agrabad Bidyut Bhaban, here during the period, according to UNB.

The mayor called for keeping industries outside the purview of loadshedding from 6 pm to 3 am from 6 pm to 3 am.

Meanwhile, the city BNP has

See Page 12 Col 7

Ctg mayor's call to

power supply

In a statement here tonight, the mayor said frequent power rationing has made life miser-able, hampered production in the mills, factories and indus-

লিমিটেড শুনহাত মানের প্রতিশ্রহতি

প্রশিকা ভবন, ৫ম তলা

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