

# The Daily Star

**BUY NOW... PAY LATER**



**Whirlpool**  
HOME APPLIANCES USA  
Refrigerator  
Transcom Electronics Limited  
Authorized distributor in Bangladesh for Whirlpool Appliances, USA

**MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE**  
WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF  
ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA,  
BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESSWARI GREEN,  
MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE  
OF DIFFERENT TYPES.  
**NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.**  
199, TEJGAON 1/A, DHAKA.  
TEL: 605957, 607363 SHOW ROOM: 861985

VOL. VIII NO. 145 REGD. NO. DA 781 INTERNET: <http://www.dailystarnews.com> ASHAR 5, 1405 BS DHAKA FRIDAY JUNE 19, 1998 SAFAR 23, 1419 HIJRI 16 PAGES REGULAR PLUS MAGAZINE: PRICE TAKA 9.00

## US clarifies MOUs signed with Dhaka served same purpose as SOFA

**By Staff Correspondent**  
Bangladesh and the US, at different times, have signed memorandum of understanding for conducting joint exercises which serves the same purpose as Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA).  
According to USIS press release issued yesterday, the two countries concluded a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) for one year's duration when a devastating cyclone struck Bangladesh in 1991. At that time a massive relief mission — operation Sea Angels — was launched. It included 7,500 military personnel and civilians and provision of 120 million US dollars in relief assistance, said the press release titled "US Clarifies SOFA."  
"The United States and Bangladesh conduct small joint military exercises each year," the clarification said, pointing out that this year's US and Bangladesh exercises focus on counter-narcotics activities, disaster relief, air/sea rescue  
See Page 12 Col 3

## BNP demands mid-term election

BNP yesterday asked the government to resign immediately and demanded a mid-term election, reports UNB.  
"If the government does not resign showing respect to people's sentiment, it will be ousted through mass upsurge," BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said.  
Speaking at a post-hartal press briefing in the evening, Bhuiyan said the government has failed to run the country in all fronts during its two-year of rule.  
The "fascist and undemocratic character" of the government has been exposed as it resorted to repression, harassment, arrest and filing false cases against the leaders and workers of BNP, he said.  
City BNP convener Sadek Hossain Khoka claimed that a number of processions led by BNP central leaders at different places in the capital came under police attack.  
He alleged that the ruling party activists and police jointly resorted to attack and bomb-blasts. The police lobbed hundreds of tear gas shells on the pro-hartal processions, he added.  
Replying to a question, Khoka said, over 500 people were injured and 200 arrested in the capital during the hartal hours. The figure may go up as reports of arrest and injured are still coming.  
When asked about the attack on some vehicles carrying See Page 12 Col 8

## Khaleda asks Hasina to quit immediately

Opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia has asked Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to step down as the people, what she said, have expressed no confidence in the government by observing spontaneous hartal across the country, reports UNB.  
"The government should quit immediately accepting the people's demand," she said in a post-hartal statement yesterday.  
The BNP Chairperson said despite provocation and repression by the government, people observed the shutdown to protest the "black" CHT accord and related laws, anti-people budget, power, water and gas crises, corruption and politicalisation.  
Congratulating the people for making the dawn-to-dusk hartal a success, Begum Zia said they have expressed no confidence in the government for its failure in every sector.  
She said the ruling Awami League deployed all its strength to foil the hartal which is a democratic right.  
She said the ruling party not only brought out anti-hartal processions, they also attacked BNP processions with the support of police. Many BNP leaders and workers including Dhaka city BNP joint convener Abul Bashar were arrested during the hartal.  
She said the ruling party not only brought out anti-hartal processions, they also attacked BNP processions with the support of police. Many BNP leaders and workers including Dhaka city BNP joint convener Abul Bashar were arrested during the hartal.



Police chasing pickets at Naya Bazar during hartal hours in the city yesterday. —Star photo

## PM urges opposition BNP Return to JS, play constructive role

**By Staff Correspondent**  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon the main opposition BNP to return to the Jatiya Sangsad, giving up agitation on the streets.  
"They don't need to take to the streets. They are free to speak on the floor of the House on whatever issue they want to," she said in yesterday's sitting of the budget session of the Sangsad.  
"We want the opposition party to come back to the House and play a constructive role here," the Prime Minister said.  
Most of the BNP lawmakers were willing to join the budget session, she claimed and asked who were obstructing them from carrying out their responsibilities in the parliament?  
People would not support any agitation "designed to protect the interests of drug and arms smugglers" who had been affected due to restoration of peace in the CHT, Hasina said, without referring BNP's opposition to the CHT accord.  
About yesterday's dawn-to-dusk hartal at the call of BNP and its allies, the premier said there was no ground for the hartal. "It's only to cause public sufferings and to obstruct peace and development in the country."  
The Leader of the House took the floor after Jatiya Party Whip Fazle Rabbi reiterated his demand for restoration of law and order.  
See Page 12 Col 7

## Ban on hunting wild animals, birds for 5 yrs

The government has imposed a ban on hunting wild animals and birds for the next five years to protect the environment and to maintain biodiversity in the country, reports BSS.  
The complete ban under Bangladesh Wildlife (conservation) Act of 1974 will have a positive impact on the environment and ecological balance," said an official hand out last night.  
The government urged the department of Forest in implementing the ban.

## Sporadic clashes mark hartal: 100 injured

**By Staff Correspondent**  
At least 100 people were injured in sporadic clashes during the dawn-to-dusk hartal across the country yesterday called by the BNP-led Seven Party Alliance.  
Normal life was disrupted as buses, trucks and other modes of transport mostly remained off the roads and trains were stopped at various spots. Launches, however, plied as usual but with less passengers.  
The hartal was called to press the demand for scrapping of the CHT accord and the laws for its implementation and to protest the government's obstruction to attacks on the June 9 'long march' towards the CHT.  
Pickets chased away Railway staff from Bogra station, said Railway officials. Barricades were raised at Bonarpara, Kaha and Gaibandha stations, disrupting movement of trains in Lalmonirhat region.  
Dhaka bound inter-city train — Mahanagari Urmi — from Chittagong was stranded for over four hours at Narail near Comilla from 10 am due to a barricade.  
Another barricade was put up at Fatimanagar railway station near Mymensingh at about 9:30 am. It was removed at 11:15 am.  
In the city, clashes between pro-hartal and anti-hartal activists took place in some areas. At least 50 people including six police personnel were injured.  
See Page 12 Col 4

## No possibility of Indo-Pak talks in Dhaka: Delhi

**From Pallab Bhattacharya**  
NEW DELHI, June 18: India today said there was no possibility of Dhaka hosting any meeting between New Delhi and Islamabad following the recent nuclear tests by the two neighbours.  
"There is no question of summit or any other meeting at any other level between India and Pakistan in Dhaka," an External Affairs Ministry spokesman said here setting at rest reports in a section of media that possibilities of an Indo-Pak meeting in the Bangladesh capital would be explored by Indian Foreign Secretary K Raghunath during his forthcoming visit to Dhaka.  
Asked if Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had, during her day-long visit to New Delhi on June 16, offered to host an Indo-Pak meeting in Dhaka, the spokesman said, "our understanding is that there was no such proposal. The (media) reports are speculative."

## Richardson nominated energy secy

WASHINGTON, June 18: President Bill Clinton picked diplomatic troubleshooter Richard Holbrooke as his new United Nations ambassador today, nominating current Ambassador Bill Richardson as his energy secretary, reports AP.  
Clinton announced the twin nominations at the White House with both men at his side. Both require Senate confirmation before they take effect.  
In the Rose Garden, Clinton saluted Richardson, in his work at the United Nations, as a "vigorous and articulate proponent of our engagement around the world and the importance of leveraging that engagement by living up to our United Nations obligations."  
"In short, if there's one word that comes to mind when I think of Bill Richardson it really is energy — but that is hardly the only reason I am appointing him to this job," the president chuckled.

## Anti-hartal processions in city

Bangladesh Awami League and its front organisations yesterday brought out processions, protesting the hartal from different points of the city, a party press release said, reports BSS.  
An anti-hartal procession was brought out from the Awami League Central Office at Bangabandhu Avenue in the morning. City Awami League General Secretary and State Minister for LGED and Cooperatives Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury, Maya, Awami League central leader Prof Fazlul Haq, Krishak League leader MA Karim, Jubo League leader Abul Kashem Montu, Secretary of the League leader MA Mannan Kachi, among others, led the procession.  
Parliament members Habibur Rahman led the anti-hartal procession at Demra, Mohammad Selim in the old Dhaka, Mubol Hossain at Mohammadpur and Sramik League General Secretary Ahsan Ullah Master at Motijheel Commercial Area. Besides, anti-hartal processions were also brought out at Moghbazar, Malibagh, Ramna and Khilgaon, the press release said.



Denmark's Allan Nielsen and South Africa's Brendan Augustine challenge for the ball during their Group C WC match yesterday. — AFP photo

## Call for hartal in Khagrachhari today

**From Our Correspondent**  
KHAGRACHHARI, June 18: Sarbadalio Oikya Parishad, a pro-BNP organisation has called a dawn-to-dusk hartal in Khagrachhari district tomorrow protesting arrest of its three activists during today's hartal.  
The arrested are Golam Sarwar Simul, 25, Md Rubel, 27, and Amjad Hossain, 20.  
Leaders of the Oikya Parishad held a rally at Shapla Square and condemned police harassment on the Parishad's activists during today's hartal.  
Meanwhile, Awami League activists, brought out a procession in the town today urging the people to boycott tomorrow's hartal called by Oikya Parishad.

## Barisal Krishak League leader shot dead

**From Staff Correspondent**  
BARISAL, June 18: A Krishak League leader was shot dead by some unknown assailants in front of a school at about 10 am yesterday.  
Police and witnesses said, Khalilur Rahman, 44, a former acting chairman of Agarpur Union Parishad and currently the thana unit president of Krishak League under Babuganj thana of the district was gunned down on way to a market by four unidentified.  
After the incident thana units of BCL and Krishak League brought out processions protesting the killing. The processionists damaged the office of the thana BNP.  
Later JCD brought out a procession protesting attack on BNP office. The JCD activists exploded crackers and damaged and ransacked shops.  
A case was filed with Babuganj thana today accusing 24 in connection with the killing.

## Int'l confce on CHT begins tomorrow

**By M Anwarul Haq**  
A two-day international conference begins in the city tomorrow in an attempt to garner donor support for the development of Chittagong Hill Tracts.  
The conference is also aimed at disseminating information about the prospects of taking up development projects in the hill districts following the signing of CHT peace accord.  
The conference titled, "Peace and Chittagong Hill Tracts" will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the International Conference Centre.  
The conference is being jointly organised by the Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).  
Finance Minister SAMS Kibria, explaining the need for hosting the conference, said, "It is indeed a remarkable feat to sign the peace treaty. And it is remarkable that 62,000 Chakmas have returned and surrendered their arms."  
"But we must now consolidate the gains of the peace treaty. It is now the foremost task since the history of insurgency shows that it has a tendency to linger. Insurgencies have a habit of persisting. We must involve everyone and take up development schemes."  
The finance minister said the focus of the conference will be on the prospects of development in the CHT.  
ERD Secretary Mashur Rahman told this correspondent, "We hope to generate greater awareness in the international community about the prospects of investment and development in the CHT. We want to sensitise the international community, particularly donors, so that they are encouraged to take up participatory programmes."  
He explained that "The three main objectives of holding the meeting are to learn about the experiences of ethnic conflicts in other countries, to find out what sort of institutional measures can be taken up for development and to list the economic potentials that could be tapped."  
"The conference will mainly be held at the conceptual level," he said.  
See Page 12 Col 3

## Death of maid Housewife on one-day remand

**By Staff Correspondent**  
The woman who was arrested on charge of torturing her teenage domestic help to death at city's Gulbarga area Wednesday, was placed on one-day remand yesterday.  
Nilufa Aziz, 40, was arrested by Motijheel police on Wednesday after Dulce, the maid, succumbed at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with burn and cut injuries on different parts of her body on the same day.  
Police produced Nilufa before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court yesterday seeking a 7-day remand. But the court granted a one-day remand.  
Meanwhile, the body of Dulce, daughter of Md Askan of Natore, was kept at the DMCH after autopsy, hospital sources said, adding that none came to claim the body till filing of this report last night.

## Inside Today Article

**To Love in Two, Always Two**  
Column: Do I dare!  
by A Z M Obaidullah Khan  
Page 4

**Focus**  
The on-going TAP Project of Land Ministry; and implementing health for all strategy in Bangladesh  
Page 5

**Business**  
NBR clears confusion over capital market incentives  
Stronger yen helps Asian markets rebound  
Pages 6, 7

## 3 sent off in Denmark-SA match

TOULOUSE, June 18: Benedict McCarthy scored South Africa's first World Cup goal today to grab a 1-1 draw against Denmark in an incident-packed match which saw three sendings-off, equaling the record for a finals, reports Reuters.  
All three were substitutes — two from Denmark — sent off in the second half.  
Allan Nielsen gave Denmark the lead in the Group C match when Chelsea-bound Brian Laudrup set him up with a perfectly-measured cross from the right wing. The Tottenham midfielder arrived unmarked at the far post to volley the ball home with his right foot in the 13th minute.  
McCarthy, the new superstar of South African soccer, scored the equaliser in the 67th minute against his soccer hero, Peter Schemichel.  
The Ajax Amsterdam forward, who earlier this week said it was his ambition to beat the Danish keeper, ran on to a delightful flick from Sean Bartlett and slotted the ball through the Manchester United goalkeeper's legs from close range.  
Denmark were reduced to 10 men in the 67th minute after a nasty foul by substitute Miklos Molnar on Lucas Radebe. South Africa had Alfred Phiri sent off just two minutes later for elbowing Thomas Helveg in the face.  
Incredibly, a third substitute — Denmark's Morten Wieghorst — was shown the red card with five minutes to go for a tackle on McCarthy. Only two previous games, in 1938 and 1954, have seen three players sent off.  
Denmark had dominated the opening phase of the game and had several good chances to extend their lead.  
Michael Laudrup sent a powerful long-range shot inches over the bar in the 16th minute and Martin Jorgensen nearly scored from a corner two minutes later. His kick rebounded off the post and Brian Laudrup then sent a diving leader into Hans Vonk's arms.  
Striker Ebbe Sand looked set to score in the 42nd minute but his curling shot from the edge of the box hit the upright.  
South Africa came alive after the first quarter and they dominated the latter stages of the game after Denmark were See Page 12 Col 7

## 2 BCL activists, another of JCD held in Ctg

**From Staff Correspondent**  
CHITTAGONG, June 18: Police in two separate raids in the city today arrested an activist of Chhatra Dal and two activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL).  
Police said they were arrested on charge of terrorism, illegal toll collection and other criminal activities in the city.  
Police said that Morshed Khan, president of South Bakalia unit of Chhatra Dal was arrested from his residence at 10 am today after a brief exchange of fire.  
Police said Morshed was wanted in many cases, filed in connection with terrorism, abduction and illegal toll collection.  
Chhatra Dal supporters put up barricade at Bakalia and staged demonstration protesting the arrest of Morshed. Police chased the demonstrators and removed the barricade.  
In another raid at 5 pm today in Agrabad area, police arrested Nurul Kabir alias Helal and Abul Kasem, both identified as activists of Chhatra League and members of alleged terrorists group 'Kader Bahini.'

## Today's matches

Group D	Nigeria vs Bulgaria, 9:30 pm BST
	Spain vs Paraguay, 1:00 am BST

## 3 Bangladeshis killed in BSF firing

LALMONIRHAT, June 18: Indian Border Security Force (BSF) gunned down four people, including three Bangladeshis farmers, at frontier Baraipara village in Hatibandha thana today, reports UNB.  
The three Bangladeshis were identified as Abed Ali, 25, and Javed Ali, 32 — sons of Lokman Hossain — and Jamir Ali, 26, son of Mozammel Haq. The other victim is Lutfur Rahman, an Indian national.  
Villagers said four BSF men along with Lutfur, a resident of Kuchibihar district of India, walked into Bangladesh territory through the village at 6 am while the three farmers were cultivating land in the area.  
As the BSF men accused the farmers of lifting cattle from across the border, they were locked in an altercation.  
At one stage, the BSF men opened fire, leaving Jamir, Abed and Lutfur dead on the spot while Javed succumbed to his injuries on way to the thana health complex. They also took away the cattle of the victims.  
Meanwhile, BDR Commanding Officer Lt Col Aminul Islam rushed to the spot from Lalmonirhat and sent a letter to the Indian authorities in this regard.  
Sector Commander of Rangpur Headquarters Col Azad also visited the spot.  
A tense situation was prevailing in the area. BDR and BSF have deployed extra forces at their respective sides.  
The bodies were sent to Lalmonirhat Hospital morgue for autopsy and a case was filed with Hatibandha thana.

## Container handling at Ctg Port resumes

**From Staff Correspondent**  
CHITTAGONG, June 18: Container handling at Chittagong Port resumed at midnight last night as the equipment operators withdrew their work abstention, port sources said.  
The work abstention was withdrawn following assurance from port authorities of considering their demand.  
The equipment operators went on work abstention from Wednesday night demanding regularisation of their services.

## Clarification

Sonali Bank (SB) and Managing Director of Lunic Cold Storage Md Sajjad Amin in two separate statements have clarified their position in The Daily Star news item on "forgery in sanctioning Tk 3.68 cr loan by SB detected."  
Sonali Bank said it agreed in principle to provide loan to M/S Lunic Cold Storage Ltd. but subsequently as they (M/S Lunic Cold Storage Ltd) failed to provide necessary documents as per bank's rules and regulations, the bank abandoned the proposal. As such no sanction letter was issued to the entrepreneur.  
Sajjad Amin said the allegations against him are false. He said he had submitted an application for loan at the SB local branch to set up a cold storage in Tangail. Since he was busy in service and two of the directors were women, the other director See Page 2 col 4