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VOL. VIII NO. 161 REGD. NO. DA 781 INTERNET: <http://www.dailystarnews.com> ASHAR 21, 1405 BS DHAKA SUNDAY JULY 5, 1998 RABIUL AWAL 10, 1419 HIJRI 16 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 6.00

Extradition treaty with Thailand to be signed

Thailand is going to sign an extradition treaty with Bangladesh soon, diplomatic sources said in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

The treaty is expected to be signed during the coming visit here of Thailand's Deputy Foreign Minister Sukhumbhand Paribatra, the Thai ambassador to Bangladesh, Pithaya Pooka-man said.

Paribatra will arrive on July 8 on a three-day visit to Bangladesh during which he will hold official talks with government leaders. Besides leading his country's delegation to the talks on July 9, he will also inaugurate the 'Thai Trade Fair '98' and attend a symposium on 'trade and investment opportunities in Bangladesh for Thai businessmen.'

Informed sources said relevant quarters are giving final See Page 12 Col 5



Dutch forward Patrick Kluyvert (R) is challenged by Argentine defender Jose Chamot during their World Cup quarterfinal match yesterday. —AFP photo

Dutch knock out Argentina

MARSEILLE, France, July 4: Dennis Bergkamp scored with 32 seconds remaining in regulation to give the Netherlands a 2-1 victory over Argentina today and send the Dutch back to the World Cup semifinals for the first time since 1978, reports AP.

Bergkamp scored only two minutes after Ariel Ortega was ejected for a headbutt on Dutch goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar, an expulsion which evened the sides at 10 men apiece.

Bergkamp settled a ball from Frank de Boer with his right foot, touched it inside defender Roberto Ayala and beat Argentine keeper Carlos Roa with a blast from seven metres.

Argentina played 12 of the final minutes late in the second half with a man advantage after Dutch defender Arthur Numan was ejected for his second yellow card. Numan was cautioned in the 17th minute for a foul on Ortega and then picked up his second in the 76th for another foul on Diego Simeone.

But with only two and a half minutes to go, Ortega evened the strength.

Ortega fell in the penalty area after a collision with Dutch defender Jaap Stam. Mexican referee Arturo Brizco chose not to call a penalty and Van der Sar confronted Ortega, who was arguing for a call.



The Argentine midfielder then headbutted the goalkeeper, drawing a red from Brizco.

The Dutch return to the semifinals for the first time since losing the championship match in 1978 to the Argentines.

They will play Brazil on Tuesday in Marseille. The two-time champion Argentines were hoping to return to the final four for the first time since 1990, when it was beaten in the final by Germany.

Until Numan's ejection, the Dutch controlled much of the second half, swarming around the Argentine net and missing its best chance when Patrick Kluyvert directed a header from eight metres that Argentine keeper Carlos Roa finger-tipped over the bar in the 65th minute.

A minute earlier, against the run of play, Gabriel Batistuta blasted a shot from the top of the penalty area off the left post.

Kluyvert, playing in his first game since being ejected and from the Dutch's group opener against Belgium, gave the Netherlands the lead in the 12th minute, finishing a three-man combination.

Ronald de Boer sent in a long ball from midfield to the top left corner of the penalty area where Bergkamp sent a falling header into the path of Kluyvert. The 22-year-old AC Milan striker then simply knocked the ball over an approaching Roa from 11 metres.

The goal came seven minutes after the Netherlands shook Argentina with Wim Jonk's 15-metre blast off the right post.

But Argentina composed itself and tied the game midway through the half when Claudio Lopez capitalised on a gambling Dutch defence. Juan Veron sent a ball out of midfield down the middle of the field and marking back Michael Reiziger stepped forward and raised his hand to catch Lopez offside.

But Lopez remained clearly onside, walked in on Van der See Page 12 Col 7

Prominent Karachi politician gunned down

KARACHI, July 4: Gunmen killed a prominent politician today and the government announced it was giving sweeping powers to its paramilitary troops to quell the relentless violence that has terrorized this southern port city in recent weeks, reports AP.

Zuhair Akram Nadeem, a former provincial and federal legislator, was alone in his vehicle when two men on a motorcycle rode up beside him and opened fire with automatic rifles, police said.

No one claimed responsibility for the killing, but police blamed members of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement, a militant ethnic group for the killing.

Nadeem was a strong supporter of a 1996 local police operation in 1996 to clamp down on the movement and its more militant members. Hundreds of movement members either were arrested or killed.

Despite objections from the See Page 12 Col 7



Novotna new Wimbledon queen

WIMBLEDON, July 4: The Duchess of Kent was right. The third time was the right time for Jana Novotna.

Novotna, the losing finalist in 1993 and 1997, won her first Wimbledon title today with a 6-4, 7-6, 7-5 victory over Nathalie Tauhema.

See Page 12 Col 1

Train over BJMB BR earns Tk 44 thousand from 2 trips on first day

Regular plying of passenger train over the Bangabandhu Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge started yesterday with the inter-city Padma Express crossing the bridge, establishing direct rail communication between the eastern and western regions of the country.

Starting from Rajshahi at about 6:00 am, the train reached Bangabandhu East Station at Ibrahimabad at around 1:20 am. The train left the station on a return trip at about noon.

A total of 879 passengers boarded the train at Rajshahi. Of them, 372 came up to Bangabandhu East Station, sources in Bangladesh Railway told The Daily Star.

On the return journey, the train carried 556 passengers to Rajshahi. Of them, 163 boarded the train at Bangabandhu East Station.

The BR earned Tk 44,000 See Page 12 Col 1

City diagnostic centres No 'appropriate system' of monitoring test standard

By Naimul Haq

There is no appropriate system of monitoring the quality of pathological investigations carried out at the city diagnostic centres.

This was revealed to The Daily Star by a number of victims of wrong diagnosis during a survey of city diagnostic centres.

The Directorate of Health Services, responsible for check-

PCJSS discusses 'future course of action' today

By Special Correspondent

Leaders of the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) are scheduled to meet today at Khagrachhari Circuit House to discuss their post-CHT peace accord strategy, PCJSS sources said.

They are likely to chart out their future course of action vis-a-vis the delay in formation of the Regional Council and activities of the dissidents who are trying to mount a challenge to PCJSS supreme Jyotinindriyo Bodhipriya Lama, known as Shanti Lama.

A disagreement between the See Page 12 Col 2

Series of clashes in Rangamati: 1 killed

RANGAMATI, July 4: One person was killed and 20 others injured, five of them critically, in a series of clashes between the extortionists and shop owners of Banorupa kutcha bazar, near the district town here last night, police and hospital sources said.

The dead person was identified as Nasima Begum, 55.

Police said the clash erupted at about 10 pm last night when a group of alleged extortionists demanded some money from the manager of Banorupa kutcha bazar. The extortionists beat up the manager, Portosh Das, and tried to snatch away his money and other belongings.

Getting information, shop owners of the bazar chased away the extortionists. After an hour, the extortionists along with their accomplices attacked the shop owners again and looted their belongings. The shop owners chased them for the second time.

In the morning today, the extortionists again attacked the bazar and damaged several shops and seven autorickshaws.

See Page 12 Col 8

Child murder: Nargis regains consciousness

By Staff Correspondent

Nargis, who allegedly slaughtered her son Naim and then tried to commit suicide on Thursday, regained consciousness yesterday afternoon at the intensive care unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital but was not 'out of danger,' DMCH sources said.

Nargis, wife of Abul Hasan, allegedly killed her son Naim, 7, and then stabbed in her throat at their flat at North Kamalapur in the city.

DB Inspector Amirul Islam, investigating officer of the case, said that after investigation till yesterday, they were sure that the child was killed by his mother.

The reason behind the tragic incident could be ascertained after the recovery of Nargis, DB sources said. They were, however, suspecting that family See Page 12 Col 1

9 killed, 45 injured in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

At least nine people were killed and 45 others injured in road accidents in Chittagong, Manikganj and Kurigram yesterday.

Of them, three people were killed in Chittagong, three in Manikganj and three in Kurigram.

Our Staff Correspondent from Chittagong reports: Three persons died on the spot and 15 others were injured when a passenger bus bound for Chittagong from Noakhali met with an accident on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Mitachhara post under Mirreshar thana yesterday morning.

The accident occurred at 7:30 am when the speeding bus hit a roadside tree and overturned, police said.

UNB adds: Three motor-cyclists, including a policeman were killed in an accident on Dhaka-Aricha highway near Tora toll post in Ghor thana of Manikganj district yesterday morning.

The victims were identified as Abdul Majid, 32, of Baghjan village in Sadar thana, Abdul Khaleque, 32, of Barangail and Jomat, 35, of Bibirasti in Shibabaya thana. Majid died on the spot while Khaleque and Jomat succumbed to their injuries at Manikganj Sadar Hospital.

Police and witnesses said the accident occurred at 10 am as a passenger bus bound for Aricha rammmed the motor cycle. The bodies were sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

Driver of the bus managed to See Page 12 Col 3

WORLD CUP '98 KICK-OFF

Semifinals

July 7: Brazil vs Holland, Marseille 1 am (BST)

July 8: France vs winner of the Germany vs Croatia match, Saint-Denis 1 am (BST)

JS budget session resumes today

The Jatiya Sangsad will resume its budget session at 2 pm today after a four-day recess on June 30 following passage of the national budget for fiscal 1998-99, reports UNB.

The budget session is likely to be prorogued on July 9 after dealing with two bills — Banga- See Page 12 Col 3

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- Millennium Investment Management Co. Ltd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Under the "Young Entrepreneurs and Professionals Speak Out" programme The Daily Star will hold a follow-up meeting at 6 PM on Tuesday, 7th July, at the British Council. All young entrepreneurs and professionals, especially those who have registered earlier, are invited to attend to help chalk out our future activities.
- Our first issue of the special page on "Alternatives" will be published on 15th of July and will deal with "Safe Drinking Water for All". The page will deal with alternative ideas and proposals as to how we can make fresh water available to all — for drinking and other purposes. Please send in your views and suggestions by 10th July if you would like to contribute to new thinking in this area.

Transit trade needed for optimum use of BJMB ADB favours Jamuna water sharing accord with India

By Govinda Shil

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has suggested that the government should make efforts to reach a water-sharing agreement with India on the Jamuna river.

The agreement would be necessary to formulate a multinational "Jamuna River Development Association," involving China, Nepal and India to make optimum use of the Bangabandhu Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge.

The future of the (regional) trade is dependent on the maintenance of channels and water-sharing agreements on the Jamuna," said an ADB report titled, "Northwest Region Development and Investment Study," released recently.

It said the optimum use of the Jamuna Bridge should be ensured through developing scope for multi-modal transportation, including road and rail links. The bridge would fetch Bangladesh around 300 million US dollars a year through transit trading.

The study said facilities at Chittagong and Mongla ports must be expanded to exploit regional business potentialities after the opening of the bridge.

"One critical area of future cooperation among South Asia and China is the Jamuna river basin. The large river basin draws on Nepal, China and India for water and a large volume of water flows into Bangladesh."

It said the upstream use of water is a matter of acute concern for Bangladesh. "The downstream water rights need to be worked out as soon as possible to ensure a reasonable long-term water flow."

This should ideally be done with a river basin development plan that identifies the various projects to use the water and establishes a group of inter-related projects that taken together improve everyone's welfare, the report said.

See Page 12 Col 8

Taxi cab service starts today

By Staff Correspondent

Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Manju will inaugurate the meterised taxi cab service in the city today at a ceremony to be held at the National Press Club auditorium at 4 pm.

The Taxi Cab Services (Bd) Ltd yesterday said the meterised taxi cabs would start services with a fixed fare rate from today.

Initially, the company will launch a fleet of 16 air-conditioned cars, according to UNB. "Immediately after the inauguration, the meterised taxis will start plying on the roads," said M Lutfar Rahman Khan, chairman of Taxi Cab Services.

He informed that they have a plan to release 300 to 400 air-conditioned Ambassador or Contessa cars for services in the capital.

By the end of July, the number of taxis of the company will be 50, he added.

The fare of an AC taxi will be Tk 20 for the first two-km and Tk 8 for each additional kilometre. Non-AC cars will charge Tk 15 for the first two-km and Tk 6 for each additional kilometre.

Apart from The Taxi Cab Services, another company, Mukti Metro Cab, will begin its operation with a fleet of 500 non-AC cars shortly.

Lutfar Rahman Khan said See Page 12 Col 8

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