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**There are still tickets but too costly**

**By Syed Ashfaqul Haque**  
Want a ticket for the sell-out matches? You can still grab one if you are willing to pay 5-7 times the normal price.

As the tournament is growing older, the tickets on the 'black' market are becoming more and more expensive. A few touts were seen selling the elusive entry passes at an exorbitant sum all around the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, the rest day of the 10-day Wills International Cup.

Prices of the Tk 120 and 150 gallery tickets shot up compared to the past days with the blackmarketers asking as much as Tk 800 to 900 each.

Frustrated fans, who could- See Page 12 Col 2

**Bail prayer of 3 leaders: Govt asked to explain**

**By SC Correspondent**  
The High Court yesterday separately directed the government to show cause as to why K M Obaidur Rahman, Md Nurul Islam Manzur and Shah Moazzem Hossain should not be enlarged on bail in the 'Jail Killing Case'.

The division bench of the HC comprising Justice Md Abdul Karim and Justice A B M Khairul Huq also ordered the government to provide certified copies of the FIR and charge sheet to the accused detained in the Dhaka Central Jail.

It was submitted in three separate petitions that the accused are ill and suffering from various old age ailments and for proper treatment they should be granted bail.

It was further argued that the case is politically motivated. The charges brought against them are vague and there is no allegation of overt act against them, it said.

Khandkar Mahbubuddin Ahmed moved for BNP leaders - See Page 12 Col 8

**NAM summit City to have 3 more 5-star hotels**

The capital will have three more five-star hotels and an international conference centre, reports UNB.

This was decided at a high-level meeting chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office yesterday.

She asked the authorities concerned to start the construction works of the hotels and the conference centre immediately so that these could be used for the next NAM summit to be held in Dhaka in 2001.

She also asked the authorities to expand and improve the facilities of the existing international standard hotels for this purpose. - See Page 12 Col 3

**BKSAL?**  
By Staff Correspondent  
'Join BKSAL' - this graffiti, all of a sudden, has become a common sight in some parts of the city these days, reminding many of the one-party system once introduced in the country 23 years back.



Aussie captain Steve Waugh shakes hands with a child while presenting an autographed bat as part of imparting cricketing lesson to local children and fund raising for Save the Children Australia's Bangladesh Appeal. -Star photo

## Big bulls lock horns today

**By Al-Amin**  
It will be a big battle within a battle, a fascinating contest between two combative forces in the instant version of the game, when India take on Australia in the third quarterfinal of the Wills International Cup at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

The day-night match will start at 2 pm in front of a sell-out crowd at the 37,000 capacity big bowl. Bangladesh Television will cover the match live and **Bangladesh Betar** will broadcast ball-by-ball commentary of the proceedings.

Although it was not confirmed whether the bookies are in the city ahead of the much-anticipated clash, the two teams are aware of the fact that this is a one-off situation and that a defeat means a trip back home.

The Indian team, which arrived in the city on Sunday, has

**Sunil Gavaskar in city**  
Legendary Indian cricketer Sunil Gavaskar is in the city to watch the Wills International Cup as a guest of International Cricket Council (ICC), reports UNB.

The former Indian captain, accompanied by his wife, arrived in the capital yesterday afternoon on a two-day visit.

ICC official Nasim-ul-Ghani of Pakistan arrived here Monday night to witness the Wills International Cup.

**SIEMENS MINI WORLD CUP '98**  
**COMPUTER**  
CRICKET UPDATES

limbered up in a last minute training session at the main venue under floodlights in the evening. So did the Australians, most of whom flew in from Karachi in the afternoon.

And, after the training session, both the Australian captain Steve Waugh and the Indian skipper Mohammed Azharuddin called their 54th ODI clash 'the toughest one'.

The record books will certainly proclaim Australia as the favourites, who won on 29 occasions against India's 21. But as far as this particular venue is concerned, Azhar's Indian will definitely be looking forward to keeping their slate clean - a one hundred percent success.

India won two trophies here -- the Asia Cup in 1988 and the Independence Cup earlier this year, both under Azhar's leadership.

The most capped Indian captain will also be looking forward to achieving a unique landmark in his record 300th one-day appearance for his country. Azhar is only 95 runs away to pip West Indian opener Desmond Haynes to the post. Haynes is the highest run-getter in limited overs cricket with 8,648 runs.

The 35-year-old Azhar, however, had a different approach - See Page 12 Col 4

**A VIEW FROM THE GULLY**  
Tawfiq Aziz Khan  
*Rain, no play.*  
Thus wrote a student years ago when the teacher asked his class to write an essay on cricket on a wet English summer day.

Here in Dhaka, we did not have rain Tuesday but needed rest for a while - a little respite from the heat, humidity and the glare of the floodlights.

But those of us who work in this profession can hardly afford a holiday particularly when such an important event takes place before our eyes. We produce a new product every day. 350 days a year. Many of the public servants get paid for seven days doing five days' - See Page 12 Col 1

**Other members of Kohl's Cabinet followed his lead.**  
The parliament later was to confirm Schroeder's Cabinet ministers, and he was to convene the first Cabinet meeting by evening.

Schroeder and his Social Democrats have sealed an alliance with the environmentalist Greens party that pledges to put Germans back to work, make it easier for foreign residents to get citizenship and move toward shutting down nuclear power plants.

**SEC fines three cos for failing to pay dividends**  
Star Report  
The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) yesterday punished three companies for failing to pay dividends to their shareholders in time.

Olympic Industries was fined Tk 100,000 and Bangladesh Chemical Industries and Bangladesh Zipper Industries Tk 50,000 each.

SEC officials said that the three companies declared dividend against payment.

The ministry found Ekushey Television, a proposal of Investors House, as the most suitable although the technical committee had canceled it, sources said.

According to the sources, 17 proposals came after tender was floated in June this year.

The technical committee headed by the acting chief engineer of Bangladesh Television, which submitted its report in July, found three proposals 'most satisfactory'.

The three were those of Multimode Transport Consultant Ltd, Independent Media Services and Beximco Media Ltd.

Another three were found 'acceptable' after further scrutiny. They were Bangladesh News Service, Bangladesh Sky Networks and Prochar Bigapony Sangstha.

The other proposals were found 'non-viable'.

The evaluation was done on the basis of five criteria which included technical capability for establishing a TV network and airing programme all over the country and overseas, and investment size.

On the other hand, the ministry rated eight proposals 'viable' including some cancelled by the technical committee.

The ministry picked a company called Minard Bangladesh Ltd, disqualified by the technical committee for it did not - See Page 12 Col 1

## 4 pvt cos plan to produce hybrid paddy seeds locally by 2001

**By Reaz Ahmad**  
Four private companies have started marketing imported hybrid paddy seeds for the first time in the country.

The companies - Advanced Chemical Industries (ACI) Limited, Ganges Development Corporation, Malika Seed Company and McDonald Bangladesh Private Limited - have started marketing four varieties of hybrid paddy seeds imported from India and China.

According to sources in the companies, they have plans to produce the hybrid seeds in the country by the year 2001 under joint venture with their respective exporting companies.

National Seed Board (NSB), the highest decision making body on seed, gave permission to the four companies on September 9 for importing a total of 2,200 tonnes of hybrid paddy seeds this year, relaxing

a restriction on import of seeds of rice, wheat, potato, jute and sugarcane. But the NSB put a condition that the importers would have to enter into contracts with the exporting companies for 'technology transfer' so that the hybrid seeds could be produced locally in three years' time.

The price of the imported hybrid seeds is Tk 200 to 225 per kg while that of the local HYV seed is Tk 10 per kg. The importers claim that the hybrid seeds would give 20 to 40 per cent more yield, raising the production to seven tonnes from 5.34 tonnes per hectare now.

An important feature of the hybrid paddy seeds is that the yields from those cannot be used as seeds in the next season.

Agronomists at the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute - See Page 12 Col 4

## Ekushey TV awaits PM's clearance

**By Rafiq Hasan**  
The Ministry of Information has recommended Ekushey Television as the first private television channel in the country.

The initial evaluation report of the technical sub-committee however did not include Ekushey.

According to sources, the ministry proposal is now awaiting Prime Minister's approval.

The ministry has also recommended not allowing any other private TV channel in the next 24 months after the approval of Ekushey.

Before starting their own channel, the Ekushey will be allowed to telecast some popular programmes using Bangladesh Television transmission facilities against payment.

The ministry found Ekushey Television, a proposal of Investors House, as the most suitable although the technical committee had canceled it, sources said.

According to the sources, 17 proposals came after tender was floated in June this year.

**Smart Sox**  
HowZat!  
For Stylish Socks

**Today's match**  
Third quarterfinal  
Australia vs India  
Time: 2 pm. Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium.

**TOMORROW**  
Last quarterfinal  
Pakistan vs West Indies  
Time: 2 pm. Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium.

## Agitation aims at mid-term polls:BNP

**By Staff Correspondent**  
BNP's on-going agitation aims to compel the government fulfil the demand for a mid-term election, secretary general of the party Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said yesterday.

"Our agitation is for protecting the country and its people. The agitation has now got a new dimension after a pause due to the recent flooding. People are not paying heed to the government propaganda," Mannan Bhuiyan told a joint meeting of BNP and its front organisations at the Opposition leader and party chairperson Khaleda Zia's official residence at Minto Road in the city yesterday.

See Page 12 Col 3

## One killed in BNP-AL clash in Jessore

**JESSORE, Oct 27:** A fierce gunfight between BNP and Awami League activists in Sarsha thana today left an Awami League activist dead and four people injured, reports UNB.

The dead was identified as Khorsheed, 35.

Police said the clash took place at Lashkanpur Bazar when Awami League activists allegedly hurled bombs and fired shots at Jubo Dal leader Shawkat Ali, 40, while he was going to attend the founding anniversary of Jubo Dal at Sarsha thana in the morning.

As the news of the attack spread in the area, BNP and Jubo Dal activists rushed to the spot and launched a counter-attack. - See Page 12 Col 6

## 3 drown, 20 hurt as bus plunges into river

**From Our Correspondent**  
**NARAYANGANJ, Oct 27:** At least three persons drowned and 20 others were injured when a passenger bus plunged into a river from a bridge at Jhaochar in Sonargaon thana of the district today.

Police said the Chatkhil-bound bus from Dhaka with some 50 passengers fell into the Menikhal river when it broke

See Page 12 Col 3

## Schroeder takes office as new German chancellor

**BONN, Oct 27:** Gerhard Schroeder, the Social Democrat who defeated Chancellor Helmut Kohl in elections last month on promises to modernize Germany after 16 years of conservative rule, was confirmed as Germany's seventh postwar chancellor today, reports AP.

Although the vote was expected, Schroeder clearly savored the moment, smiling slowly then standing to embrace Social Democratic party leader Oskar Lafontaine as the new parliament's president announced the results: 351 in favor, 287 against with 27 abstentions.

Schroeder acknowledged the vote, stating simply, "I accept the election."

Schroeder, 54, will lead Germany into the 21st century and through some critical changes, including the government's move to Berlin and the adoption of the single European currency to replace the German mark. He was to be sworn in

later today. Parliament president Wolfgang Thierse wished Schroeder "strength and much success for our country."

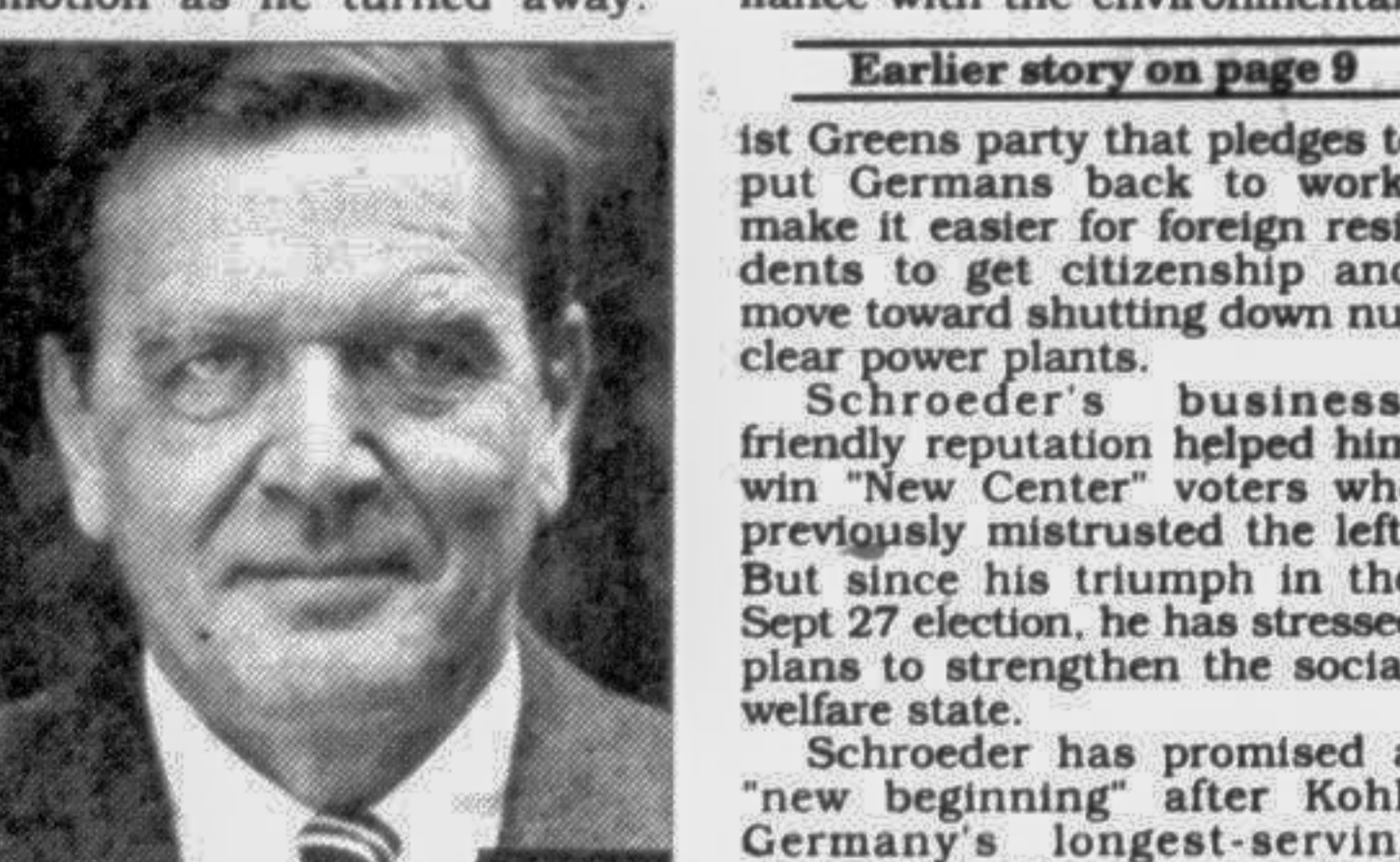
Kohl, who was relieved of office Monday, waited until after the vote was confirmed to shake Schroeder's hand, showing no emotion as he turned away.

**Earlier story on page 9**  
1st Greens party that pledges to put Germans back to work, make it easier for foreign residents to get citizenship and move toward shutting down nuclear power plants.

Schroeder's business-friendly reputation helped him win "New Center" voters who previously mistrusted the left. But since his triumph in the Sept 27 election, he has stressed plans to strengthen the social welfare state.

"Schroeder has promised a new beginning" after Kohl, Germany's longest-serving chancellor this century, whose

See Page 12 Col 8



Gerhard Schroeder

## 14 firms pre-qualify for \$40m NGL project

**By Sharier Khan**  
Fourteen foreign oil and gas companies have been pre-qualified for the proposed Ashuganj NGL Fractionation Plant Project.

The proposed plant under Rupanarita Praktik Gas Company Ltd (RPGCL), a Petrobranga subsidiary, will process various gas-by-products like LPG, motor spirit and diesel from 'wet' gas supplied from Jalalabad-Kailashitla-Beanibazar gasfields.

Sources said that most of the companies pre-selected yesterday were American. The companies included Occidental, Enron, Larsen & Turbo, Amac Process, China Hunquo Chemical and Tullow oil.

The project involves an investment of over US\$ 40 million.

The bid was floated on September 27. This is the first such downstream project which involves foreign private investment. RPGCL will be a partner of the best bidder. The prospective bidders queried about RPGCL's assets and the

bidding criteria at yesterday's meeting. The proposed NGL plant would be fed 500 tonnes of raw material equivalent to 450 MMCFD gas from Kailashitla, Jalalabad and Beanibazar fields. The raw material will generate 39,600 tonnes of LPG a

## গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড  
ঢাকা  
• প্রদেয় আয়কর পরিশোধ ককন এবং  
• দেশের অর্থনৈতিক কর্মকাণ্ডে আপনার অবদান রাখুন।

## সরকারী চাকুরীজীবীদের আয়কর রিটার্ণ দাখিল প্রসঙ্গে

- আপনি কি একজন সরকারী চাকুরীজীবী? আপনার বার্ষিক বেতন আয় ৬০,০০০/- টাকার উপরে হলে অবশ্যই বেতন আয় ও অন্যান্য আয় (কুবি আয়, বাড়িভাড়া আয়, সুদ আয়, লভ্য আয় ইত্যাদি) মিলে বার্ষিক আয় ৬০,০০০/- টাকার উপরে হলে অবশ্যই আপনাকে আয়কর রিটার্ণ দাখিল করতে হবে।
- আপনার বেতন আয়ের উপর প্রদেয় কর "সরকার কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত বলে গণ্য (deemed to have been paid by the Government) করার অর্থ এই নয় যে আপনাকে আয়কর রিটার্ণ দাখিল করতে হবে না।
- বর্তমানে প্রচলিত বেতন বিলে টিআইএন (Taxpayer's Identification Number) উল্লেখ করার জন্য নির্দিষ্ট ছক রয়েছে। যারা ইতোমধ্যে টিআইএন সংগ্রহ করেছেন, তারা তাদের বেতন বিলে টিআইএন উল্লেখ করবেন।
- যারা এখনো টিআইএন সংগ্রহ করেননি তারা টিআইএন এর জন্য নির্দিষ্ট ফর্ম পূরণ করে তা ১৯৯৮-৯৯ কর বৎসরের আয়কর রিটার্ণের সাথে সংশ্লিষ্ট কর সার্কেলে জমা দেবেন।
- ১৯৯৮-৯৯ বৎসরের আয়কর রিটার্ণ জমা দেয়ার শেষ তারিখ হচ্ছে ১৫ই নভেম্বর '৯৮ইং।
- ব্যাসময়ে আয়কর রিটার্ণ দাখিলে ব্যর্থতার কারণে আপনাকে খেলাপী করপাতা হিসাবে গণ্য করে জরিমানা করা যেতে পারে।
- ব্যাসময়ে আয়কর রিটার্ণ দাখিল করুন এবং কর প্রদান হলে তা পরিশোধ করুন।
- আয়কর সফলভাবে কোন তথ্য, প্রমাণ বা পরামর্শের জন্য কর পরামর্শ কেন্দ্র, ১৩৩, নিউ বেইলী রোড, ঢাকা ফোন ৪৪১৭৮০ অথবা সেন্ট্রাল কর কমিশনার বা নিকটস্থ কর অফিসে অফিস সলাকালীন সময়ে যোগাযোগ করুন।

ডিগ্রেশন-২২৬২৮-২৬/১০  
জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড  
৯-২৪১৬

## Fresh drive to drive out smoke-emitting vehicles

The Department of Environment (DOE) yesterday renewed its crackdown on smoke-emitting motor vehicles in the city with the help of troops, police and volunteers.

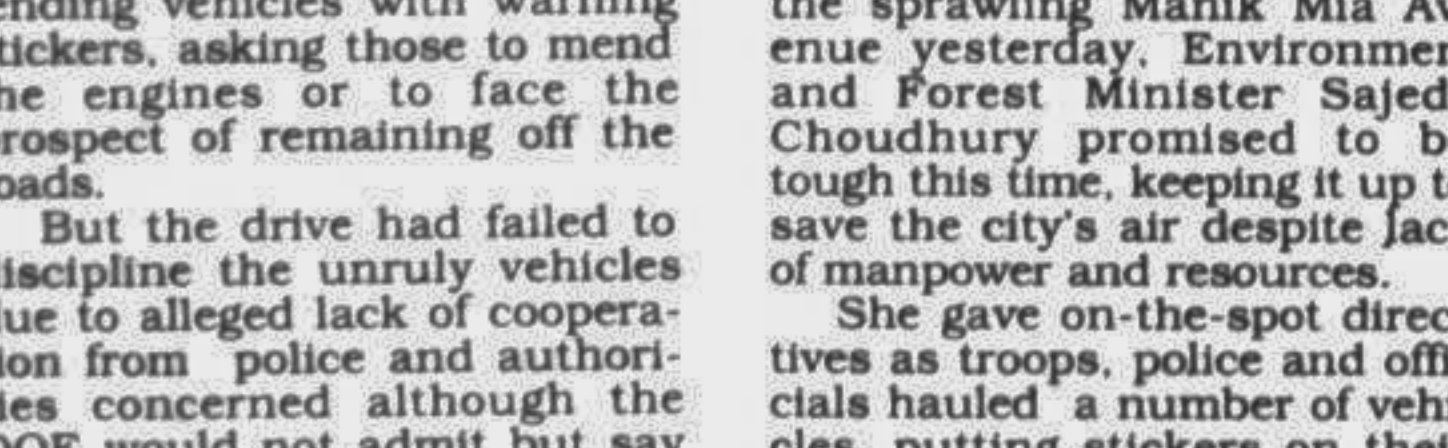
Excessive emission of smoke by vehicles are fouling the city's air and making it one of the worst polluted metropolises in the world.

The drive had failed to discipline the unruly vehicles due to alleged lack of cooperation from police and authorities concerned although the DOE would not admit but say that it was postponed due to floods.

Launching the drive again at

the sprawling Manik Mia Avenue yesterday, Environment and Forest Minister Sajeda Choudhury promised to be tough this time, keeping it up to save the city's air despite lack of manpower and resources.

She gave on-the-spot directives as troops, police and officials hauled a number of vehicles, putting stickers on their windshields or fining them. But words soon spread around, and there were fewer



By Special Correspondent

buses and trucks to use the Manik Mia Avenue.

Even the air quality monitoring equipment was not functioning, forcing those conducting the drive to use small portable emission monitoring devices and ask the vehicle drivers to put pressure on their accelerators.

The minister, expressing her anger at the condition of the equipment, said the drive would continue and promised to expand it to cover other areas of the city.

Abdur Rob Khan, DG, DOE said there would be 20 check posts in the city so that the offending vehicles could not escape the checking.

He said the authorities are planning to tighten vigilance on air quality control with a 6.5 million dollar World Bank assistance to combat air pollution in major cities. - See Page 12 Col 7