



VOL IX NO. 116 REGD. NO. DA 781

INTERNET: <http://www.dailystarnews.com>

JAISTHA 8, 1406 BS

DHAKA SATURDAY MAY 22, 1999

SAFAR 6, 1420 HIJRI

16 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 6.00

**Bogra killings:  
9 BCL workers  
arrested**

From A Correspondent  
BOGRA, May 21: Nine Chhatra League workers were arrested for their alleged involvement in the killings of two student leaders in the town yesterday afternoon.

The arrested were identified as Happy, Shahidul, Dulal, Abdus Salam, Chhota Mohan, Amin, Mamun Shahid and Belal. The arrested identified themselves as Chhatra League activists, but the leaders of the organisation said the party has no link with the terrorists.

Tanvir Hassan Samar, president of Chhatra League Town Unit was stabbed by some miscreants at Hakkir Morth at about 4 pm yesterday. He succumbed to his injuries at Bogra Mohammad Ali Hospital. Just an hour later, Farhad, another BCL activist was murdered inside the hospital where he went to Samar's body.

It has been learnt that Samar and Farhad were murdered as a sequel to a conflict among the partymen over toll collection in Sultanganj and adjoining areas.

**19 Bangladeshis  
languishing  
in Indian jail**

PANCHAGARH, May 21: Nineteen Bangladeshi nationals, reportedly convicted by Indian courts, have been languishing in Jalgaojuri District Jail in West Bengal even after ending their jail terms, reports UNB.

The convicts were reportedly arrested by Indian Boarder Security Force (BSF) from different frontier areas on various charges, including smuggling and intrusion.

Mohammad Shahidul Islam, chairman of Barashishi Union, has recently disclosed this to the Deputy Commissioner of the District.

Islam was learnt to have told the DC that he had visited the Indian jail and had talks with its Superintendent.

He submitted a list of the convicts, containing their detailed addresses, to the DC and sought proper initiatives in this

See Page 12 Col 3

**Mohiuddin  
acting Foreign  
Secretary**

Additional foreign secretary Mohiuddin Ahmed will work as acting Foreign Secretary in the absence of CM Shahi Sami who has gone to New Delhi to complete some formalities there, reports BSS.

Before being appointed foreign secretary recently, Shahi Sami was Bangladesh High Commissioner to New Delhi. His appointment in March followed the death of Mustafizur Rahman, former foreign secretary.

Shahi Sami who left the capital Thursday will be in the Indian capital till middle of June, sources in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said yesterday. He will meet the Indian president, the prime minister and other dignitaries.

**Inside Today****Article****What is  
Sovereignty?**

Column: Window on  
Asia  
by Shahid Latif  
Page 4

**Star  
Literature**

Book review: The allure of the everyday; Reflections: Thoughts from the other side of 50; and Essay: Humour in English literature  
Pages 6 & 7

**Business**

Govt, donors to go for detailed study before investing in CHT  
US policymakers see no quick-fix for global financial system  
Pages 8 & 9

**Prayer Timings**

May 22

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-15	4-20
Zohr	12-45	1-30
Asr	4-45	4-55
Maghrib	6-40	6-43
Esha	7-40	8-10

Source: Islamic Foundation

**BNP's negotiation with govt****Allies unhappy,  
feel ignored**

By Rezaul Karim

Commotion has been created in three partners of the four-party opposition alliance over BNP's negotiation with the government that resulted in withdrawal of the ban on the recent road march through the Bangabandhu Bridge.

The three partners — Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Oikya Jote — "felt ignored and were unhappy" as they were not consulted before the negotiation, sources in the parties

said. Leaders of the parties now believe that only a "summit" of heads of the four parties and a joint statement could remove the "mistrust and misunderstanding" and strengthen the anti-government agitation. JP has again started creating pressure on BNP for a "summit".

The BNP action is a "violation" of the agreement on launching a united movement against the Awami League government, they said.

"There is no alternative to a summit immediately and a joint statement vowing to maintain unity and contest the next general election united," JP Presidium member Kazi Firoz Rashid told The Daily Star.

Sources in BNP however said they prefer the "planned summit" when the current agitation gets more momentum.

See Page 12 Col 1

**Deadly delay**  
Healthcare centres may soon run dry of vital drugs

By Naimul Haq

Government health care centres may face a shortage of certain vital drugs due to delay in releasing funds to procure them.

The report also said that procurement of drugs, vaccines and contraceptives has been constrained by lack of capacity and delay in signing memorandum of understandings (MoUs) with UN agencies like Unicef and UNFPA.

TB drugs include streptomycin, rifampicin, isoniazid and ethambutol. Malaria drugs include quinine tablets and injections, chloroquine and mefenamic acid for spraying. ARI drugs include trimethoprim, sulphamethoxazole and ampicillin.

See Page 12 Col 2

**Bomb explodes  
minutes before  
Vajpayee's plane lands**

IMPHAL, May 21: Underground militants exploded a powerful bomb on Imphal-Airport road minutes before Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee's aircraft touched down here today, reports PTI.

Official sources said the explosion was reported in Kwakethel Heinoukhongnembi area around 1030 hours. The Prime Minister is on a two-day visit to Manipur.

Vajpayee, who was accompanied by Union Information Minister Pramod Mahajan and Minister of State for Communications Kabiendra Purkayastha, was received at the airport by Governor O N Shrivastava, Chief Minister Nipamatha Singh and his council of ministers. State BJP chief Haobam Bhutan Singh and others.

**Mobil-Jamuna venture****High-tech LPG plant at Ctg may be delayed by a year**

By Sharier Khan

Setting up of a high-tech LPG plant near Chittagong port under a joint venture by Jamuna Oil and US company Mobil is likely to be delayed by more than a year due to various reasons including non-representation of Jamuna in the Managing Board of the company.

The joint venture contract was signed in August last year for setting up of a Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Import Terminal and Lubricant Oil Blending Plant to produce and distribute 80,000 tonnes of LPG annually against a demand for five lakh tonnes in the country.

The 25 million US dollars plant was scheduled to be completed by the end of this year. Several months were lost initially in land acquisition by Jamuna and due to its inability to nominate an official as a Director in the Managing Board of the company.

Jamuna's role in this joint venture has been undermined from the beginning. Despite the fact that Jamuna would take the responsibility of marketing, all decisions regarding this project is coming from the Energy Ministry," said a source.

"If things go on like this, the joint venture may not work properly because of lack of sharing the responsibility by Jamuna."

Leader of outlawed party slaughtered in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, May 21: Ganesh Kumar Dey, 35, a regional leader of Jessor-Khulna based unit of the outlawed Turuq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and a Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) official have been made Chairman and a Director respectively of the company. Jamuna has 25 per cent share in it. The rest is owned by Mobil.

His body guard Shamim alias Shumon, 32, received severe injuries in the attack and was later admitted to Khulna Medical College hospital.

See Page 12 Col 7

Although Jamuna, affiliated with BPC, is one of the leading oil distribution agencies, it has no senior official now, sources

See Page 12 Col 3

He however added that the structure of the Board could be changed any time. "But the Energy Ministry, which is working on behalf of Jamuna, is apparently indifferent about the lack of leadership in it and Jamuna's non-representation in the venture."

Mobil also did not mobilise funds. "Now the land has been acquired and we can expect that Mobil would mobilise funds and the project would soon see the light of day," commented a source.

Meanwhile, Mobil has decided to off-load 10 per cent of its shares to a Bangladeshi private company, East Coast, a leading concern dealing in oil and gas for the last 20 years.

A government official said that Mobil was violating the venture agreement by off-loading shares to a third party without consulting Jamuna.

However, another official said that the agreement had scope for off-loading shares to a third party in the first year.

Mobil has already nominated Azam Chowdhury, chief of East Coast, as a Director in the Board, replacing its Vice-president for Asia region, Paul Martin, the official added.

The project is expected to provide employment to more than 125 Bangladeshis and create employment opportunity.

See Page 12 Col 6

**Alleged death from whipping****Teenage girl's body exhumed for autopsy in Sylhet**

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, May 21: The body of Bedol Begum of village Battail under Jagannathnagar thana was exhumed today in presence of a magistrate and autopsy done at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College in the afternoon.

It was alleged that the teenage girl died due to whipping after a *fatwa* by an *Imam* of a mosque following an attempt for abortion.

But the mother of Bedol Begum denied the allegation today while talking to newsmen in presence of neighbours. She said that about a month ago, her daughter took medicine from a quack for her menstrual ailments. Her condition deteriorated. But the family could not afford to consult physician and she died of tetanus on May 16.

The villagers were informed of her death through loudspeakers at two mosques as an usual practice.

The SP of Sylhet who visited

See Page 12 Col 4

**Bangladesh put up a better show**

From Nizamuddin Ahmed

CLONTARF, Dublin, May 21: West Indies paced their batting without taking any chances as they convincingly beat Bangladesh by seven wickets in conditions that were alien to both. It was wet and cold, and finally sunny as the 12th match of the World Cup concluded at Clontarf today.

Bangladesh batted first, and till the 50th over to their credit, to score 182, West Indies reached the target losing three wickets and with three-and-a-half overs to spare.

The West Indies batting prowess was not on display and their run rate was not flashy, which must go to show that Bangladesh bowling attack did

not make the chase easy. But neither was it penetrative enough to spell a West Indian doom.

Despite a wet start, it did get

sunny in the end, although it remained very cold throughout.

The improvement in brightness also encouraged the ticket-holders to make it to the ground to provide a capacity crowd for

Clontarf today.

Bangladesh batted first, and

till the 50th over to their credit,

to score 182, West Indies

reached the target losing three

wickets and with three-and-a-

half overs to spare.

The West Indies batting

prowess was not on display and

their run rate was not flashy,

which must go to show that

Bangladesh bowling attack did

not make the chase easy. But

neither was it penetrative

enough to spell a West Indian

doom.

The defeat leaves

Bangladesh with two losses

from as many matches, the first

being to New Zealand. West Indies

have their first win, having

lost to Pakistan in their previous

match.

The crowd at Clontarf was

excellent. They cheered every

See Page 12 Col 8

**CLOSE-UP**  
WITH LONG LASTING MOUTHWASH & FLUORIDE  
SHINY WHITE TEETH • FRESHER BREATH

For Long Lasting Fresh Breath and Sparkling White Teeth



MEHRAB MAKES HIS MARK: Bangladesh opener Mehrab Hossain executing a square drive against the West Indies at Dublin yesterday.

—AFP photo

**A view from  
the Gully**

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan

'Love thy neighbours,' preached Jesus Christ some 2000 years ago. But when it comes to cricket, there is no love lost between Australia and New Zealand.

With a dented ego, favorites Australia chose to bat on a wicket that lacked bounce and pace at Cardiff on Thursday. Since the days of Sir Richard Hadlee, New Zealand were never credited as team that was particularly proficient in the department of bowling. Neither the Kiwis had any pretensions about it. But their bowlers stuck to their job without experimenting anything silly. They bowled to their field and was backed up very efficiently. Geoff Allott, inspired by his performance against a timid Bangladesh openers struck early; quickly removing the openers and pushing the

See Page 12 Col 3

**3 Pabna Judo  
League leaders arrested**

From Our Correspondent  
PABNA, May 21: Three Judo League leaders of Pabna District Unit were arrested from their respective houses in the town this morning.