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Terrorists have AK 47, police don't: IGP

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, June 18: Inspector General of Police (IGP) AYBII Siddiqui today announced that an action plan was taken to combat terrorism in the port city.

The announcement came while the IGP was exchanging views with the journalists here this morning.

The IGP said crimes and terrorist activities have gone up due to availability of sophisticated arms.

The terrorists have an easy access to AK-47 which is not in the possession of police. This is really a threat to us, he added.

He said that measures were underway to deploy a battalion of Ansars in the city in view of the shortage of police force.

Turning to the incidents of killing he said that 50 persons were killed in the first six months of this year against 35 persons killed during the corresponding period of last year.

Replying to different allegations against police, the IGP said that corruption was the main problem in the police administration. "However, we are trying to control it through motivation and punishment," he added.

DU Senate polls: GOP bags all 25 posts

By DU Correspondent

Ruling Awami League-backed Ganatantri Oikya Parisad (GOP) bagged all the 25 posts of registered graduate representatives to the Dhaka University Senate.

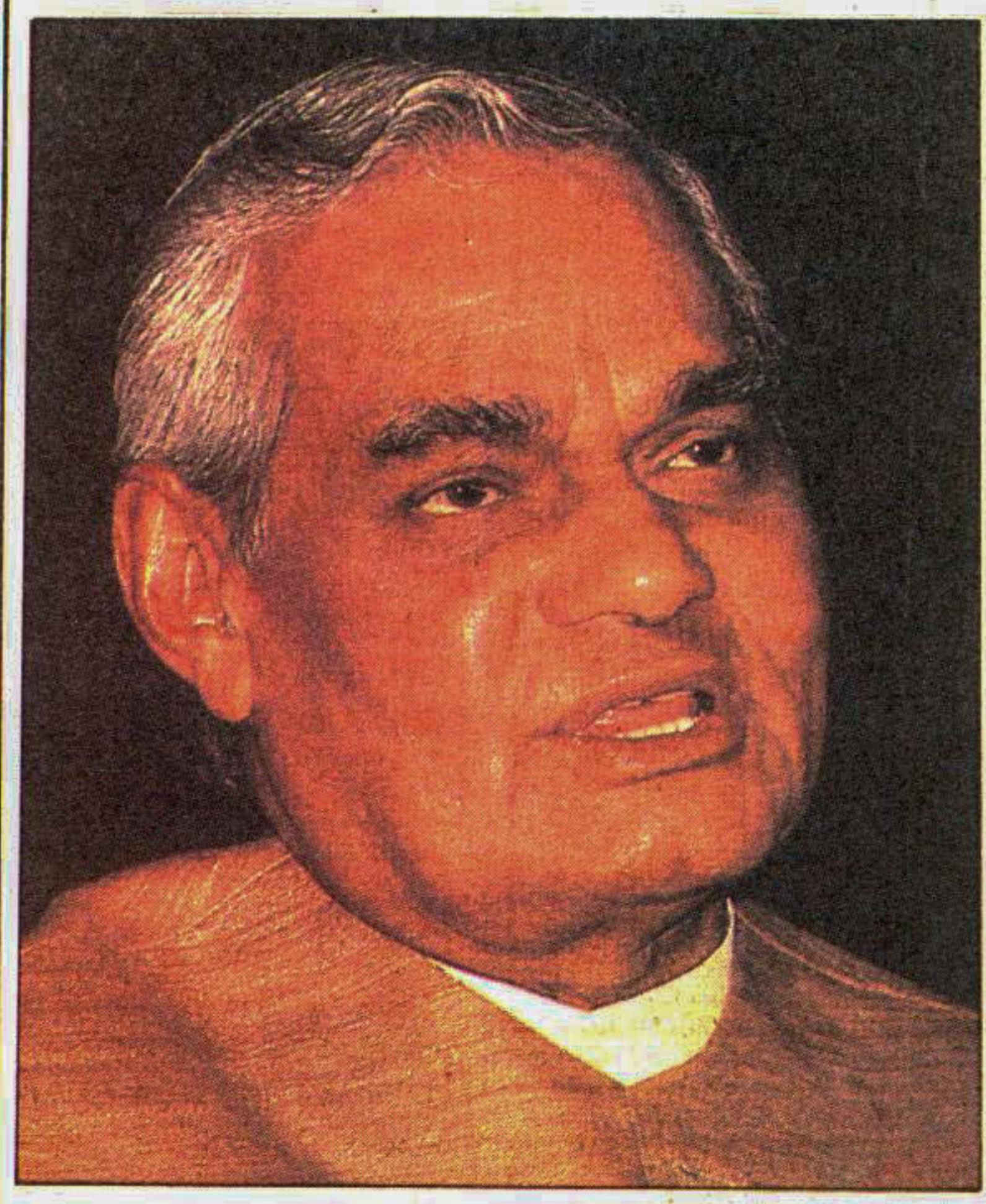
The pro-Vice-Chancellor announced the results of the election at 8 am yesterday.

Three others panels — opposition BNP-supported Jatiyatobadi Oikya Parisad (JOP), left-leaning Progati Parisad (PP) and an independent panel also contested the election.

Out of 31,424 registered graduates, some 21,000 cast their votes at 37 centres in the city and across the country in four phases to elect the new registered graduate representatives to the DU Senate. The polling began on June 6 outside the capital and ended on DU campus on June 16.

Advocate AFM Messbah Uddin got the highest 10,570 votes.

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Vajpayee arrives today

By M Anwarul Haq

The ceremonial inauguration of Dhaka-Calcutta bus service on the premises of Osmany Memorial Hall this evening will be the highlight of the visit of Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee who arrives in the city today on a two-day visit to Bangladesh.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will receive her Indian counterpart on his arrival by special aircraft at 10:45 am.

Vajpayee will be accompanied by Minister for External Affairs Jaswant Singh and Foreign Secretary K Raghunath.

This will be Vajpayee's second visit to Bangladesh after a gap of over two decades. He had first come in the late Seventies as his country's foreign minister when Morarji Desai was prime minister.

On the sidelines of the goodwill trip, the Indian premier will take the opportunity

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Govt formulating Gas Act, to set up regulatory body

By Sharier Khan

The government is formulating Gas Act aimed at setting up of a powerful Gas Regulatory Commission which will give license to gas operators, ensure public safety and punish violators of the Act.

As per the proposed Act, none will be allowed to export or import gas except under a license granted by the government. Final draft of the Act is now being reviewed by the Energy Ministry, sources said.

The draft says, the Act will help development of the natural gas sector "within a competitive environment and with significant private sector participation".

Besides, it will ensure safe operation of the gas industry in the absence of competitive conditions and will "regulate conduct in the sector and prevent misuse of monopoly power".

The proposed Bangladesh Gas Regulatory Commission would be formed with a Chairman and four members. The office bearers will require 15

year's experience in government, law, business, industry, commerce, engineering etc.

The Commission will be independent in exercising its powers to develop the gas industry, meet needs of different zones in the country, promote competitive market conduct, prevent misuse of monopoly power; facilitate entry into the relevant market and maintain the financially viable gas industry.

Gas industry operators will require license from the Commission to operate in the fields of gas transmission, processing and distribution. It will also ensure that licenses under the Act are given in a "fair and transparent way without undue discrimination".

The Commission will advise the ministers concerned on gas related issues.

It will appoint a Chief Gas Safety Inspector to ensure

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Formal opening of bus service today Basu 'excited,' hopes for early train service

By Staff Correspondent

same language but we do not know each other and rarely get a chance to interact. It will now open up a huge window of possibility. Particularly our younger generation will get an opportunity to know one another more closely."

Basu said that when he met the Chief Minister of Tripura two days back, the CM asked him to convey to the Bangladesh Prime Minister that direct bus link should also be set up between Dhaka and Agartala. He felt it would help the eastern Indian state.

Asked if bus service between Dhaka and Siliguri should also be started, he said, "Let these two start now. One should pro-

ceed gradually."

He said his government has extended road link facility to Nepal.

The visiting Chief Minister said condition of the road for bus travel on the West Bengal side is bad. He is seeking support of the Indian government for improvement of the road and if it is not done, it will be done by his state government, he added.

Basu was due to meet Sheikh Hasina at a private dinner yesterday.

Asked if he would visit his ancestral home at Barodi, 26 km from the city, he replied, "How would I go? I do not have

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Sunil, Mahasweta outraged, won't join bus ride

CALCUTTA, June 18: Eminent litterateur Sunil Gangopadhyay and Magsaysay Award Winner Writer Mahasweta Devi today rejected the Centre's offer to join the cultural team of Calcutta-Dhaka inaugural bus service protesting the initial dropping of Gangopadhyay's name from the list of invitees, reports PTI.

Gangopadhyay's name had been forwarded by the West Bengal government in the list of eminent persons on board the bus, but his name was dropped by the centre.

Later, facing a storm of protest in the state against removal of Gangopadhyay's name from the passengers' list, the Centre invited the author to join the team. But it was rejected by him.

Gangopadhyay told PTI that he did not know the reason why his name was dropped initially.

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No mediation needed: Basu

By Staff Correspondent Chief Minister of West Bengal said in Dhaka yesterday that India did not seek third party mediation in the recent conflict with Pakistan in Kashmir.

Responding to questions from newsmen on his arrival in the city, Basu said this is a bilateral issue that has to be solved with Pakistan and there is no scope for third party mediation.

It may be recalled that Foreign Secretary Shafiq Sami, in reply to a question at a press briefing on Thursday, said should the countries so desire, Bangladesh may agree to play a role in the matter.

Power tower collapse: 7 chargesheeted

From Our Correspondent PABNA, June 18: Seven persons have been charged in the case in connection with collapse of two towers of the 230 KV East-West Interconnector at Ghoragra in Pabna Sadar in 1997.

They are Chunnu, Sharif, Maohammad Arif and Bablu, all blacksmiths, and Ishaq, Rowan and Krishna, junk iron traders.

Assistant Superintendent of CID police, Pabna, Nabakumer Das, submitted the charge sheet in the court of magistrate Mohiuddin yesterday, police and court sources said.

They were arrested after the towers collapsed on the night of March 14, 1997, snapping power supply to 36 districts northern and southern districts for several weeks.

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West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu was received by Communications Minister Anwar Hossain on his arrival at ZIA yesterday.

— Star photo

Sunday's showdown at Lord's

Akram confident, Waugh cautious

From Nizamuddin Ahmed

LONDON, May 18: Pakistan skipper Wasim Akram was confident of lifting the World Cup tomorrow, but added, "the team that plays better on the day will win".

He was addressing a pre-final press conference at the city's Royal Garden Hotel in Kensington, the Pakistan team's abode.

Also present at the largely-attended conference were vice captain Moin Khan and the world's fastest bowler Shoaib Akhtar.

Pakistan meet Australia in tomorrow's final at the Lord's.

The Pakistani skipper dispelled rumours of any rivalry between the two teams. He said

he was surprised by the question and that they would be "positive" about the final.

Akram assured that the "carnival of cricket" would be very much alive on Sunday.

Replies to a question, the fast bowler said they knew nothing of any big prizes from home if they won the final. "And, we do not want to know," he said concealing a smile.

Moin Khan revealed that he had been playing with a finger injury throughout the tournament.

Shoaib said he was not thinking of breaking the 100 mile per hour barrier. He was happy to be doing well but added

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For Long Lasting Fresh Breath and Sparkling White Teeth

250 families evicted from slum in Banani

Guilshan police yesterday evicted 250 families from their shanties at a slum on government land in Banani Jheelpar and over 300 road side shops between Gulshan-1 and Badda Gudaragh, reports BSS.

Police said they conducted the campaign under the supervision of a magistrate of Rajdhani Unnayan Kotriphaka (RAJK) from 10 AM. Earlier, the RAJK issued notices to the illegal occupants for vacating the government lands. Besides, police also announced about the drive of eviction through megaphone in the morning.

A senior police official said they are carrying out the eviction campaign against illegal occupants of government lands constructing slums and shops in the roadside for curbing drug abuse and terrorism from the city.

Free quota encourages export: BGMEA

By Rafiq Hasan

Free quota system should continue in garments export to the US and Canada for expansion of the market, BGMEA has said.

"We have already approached the government to reconsider its decision", BGMEA Vice-president Nurul Haque Sikder told this correspondent yesterday. The government in a recent notification cancelled the system from next month.

"The system is necessary to encourage new exporters and develop the sector," said the Vice-president of the Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association.

The system helps exporters "adjust their export orders" and encourage new entrepreneurs to come in the business, he said.

"If the system is abolished, many garment factories will face tremendous difficulties in

Beyond the boundary

The Future Didn't Work

By Shakil Kasem

Post-mortem never helps the corpse. Still, whichever way one might want to look at the Australia vs. South Africa semi-final, one dominant feature is likely to stand out. It was one of the greatest games in the history of the World Cup.

Normally, a tied match throws up a host of possible permutations to determine the outcome. In a league format, perhaps points can be shared. At a knockout stage, numbers of wickets lost in reaching the tied total, are a criteria. Should both sides lose the same number of wickets, the run rate for a specific number of overs are used as a benchmark. In this particular match, the past result of their only encounter came into play. Australia had insured themselves well, there also. South Africa, whether they accept the rude fact or not, did not quite do themselves justice in both these pressure

cooker matches.

The question that must be asked now, is whether cricket as a game is ready yet to be considered as an exact science. The South Africans, over the last decade, had given enough indications to the rest of the world, that they were in the process of building up the perfect cricket team. It was meant to be a team sans emotion, sans intuition, sans everything not likely to be found in scientific laboratories. They had been programmed to perform. They had been controlled to make specific moves at specific times. They had virtually taken the most important element of the game, the art of captaincy, and relegated it to being a set of possible equations on a computer. For want of a more suitable analogy, the Proteas played the game like a set of green mutant ninja turtles, guided and instructed by a

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ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা

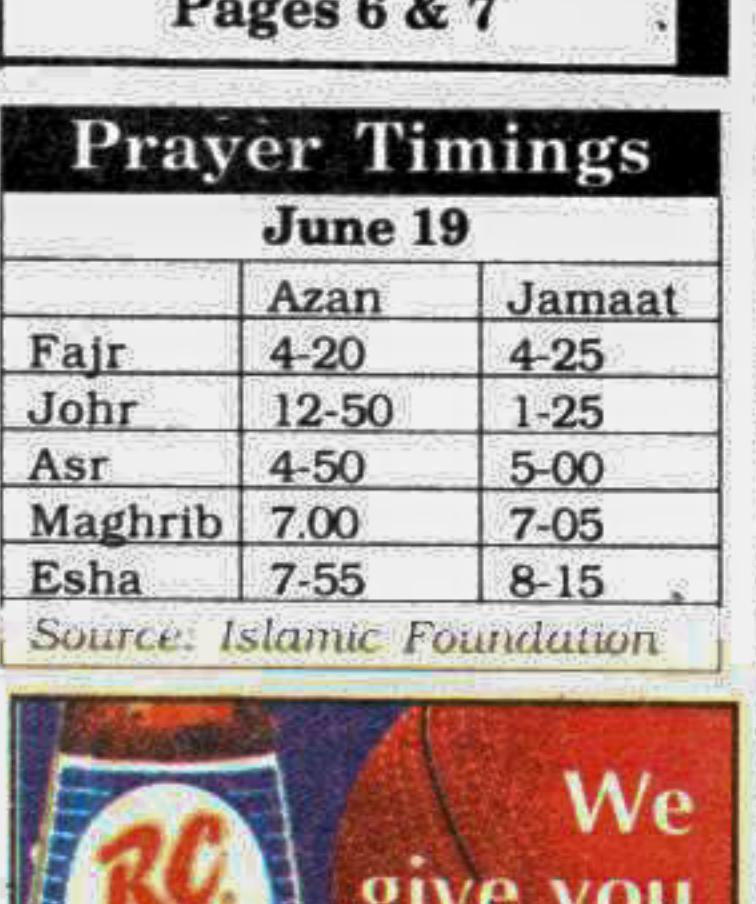
আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কৃত রাখুন
আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন

“সারচার্জ মওকুফের সময় বর্ধিত করণ সংক্রান্ত জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি”

সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের অনুরোধের প্রেক্ষিতে সারচার্জ মওকুফের সময়সীমা ৩০ শে জুন '৯৯ ইং পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করা হইল। উল্লেখিত সময়ের মধ্যে বকেয়া সহ হাল কিস্তি পর্যন্ত কর এককালীন পরিশোধ করিয়া সারচার্জ মওকুফের শেষ সুযোগ গ্রহণের জন্য সম্মানিত করদাতাগণকে অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

কর্তৃপক্ষ

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা।



There is no match today.
The World Cup 99
will be played between
Australia and Pakistan
at Lord's tomorrow.
BTV, ESPN and Star Sports
will telecast the match live
simultaneously
from 3:45 pm.

Source: Islamic Foundation

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