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India willing to accept more goods and services

By Staff Correspondent

Hearty send-off to Vajpayee

Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee was given a hearty send-off yesterday at Zia International Airport at the end of his two-day official visit to Dhaka, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was at the airport to see-off the Indian Prime Minister who arrived here on Saturday to join the inaugural function of Dhaka-Calcutta Bus Service.

Before embarking the special flight, a tiny-tot presented bouquet to the distinguished guest.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Monju, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury and senior officials were at the airport to see off Vajpayee.

West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu left Dhaka yesterday afternoon on completion of his two-day official visit.

Basu arrived here on Friday and had a relaxed programme during his stay here.

Communications Minister Anwar Hossain bade him a hearty send-off at the Zia International Airport.

Before leaving for Calcutta, Basu had a meeting with the leaders of the Bangladesh Workers Party.

Import of toxic dairy, poultry products to be banned

The government has decided to ban import of dairy and poultry products from Belgium following reports of contamination of those items by cancer-causing dioxin, Commerce Ministry officials said yesterday.

Only a mere formality remains. If the minister signs (the papers) today, the ban will take effect immediately," Fazlur Rahman, Deputy Secretary in the ministry told The Daily Star.

Rahman said, "We have decided to ban only those items from Belgium because we have specific information about dioxin contamination. If needed ban will be imposed on import of such items from France and the Netherlands also."

High level of dioxin was recently detected in Belgian poultry and egg. The contamination also spread to France and the Netherlands through animal feed, according to reports.

This caused a food scare

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India's Missed Opportunities in Kashmir

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Dhaka-Calcutta bus service engenders a new beginning Page 5

Business

PSI may start from October
G8 calls for quick debt rescheduling for Russia
DSE, CSE price quotations Pages 6, 7 & 8

Prayer Timings

June 21	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4:20	4:25
Johr	12:50	1:25
Asr	4:50	5:00
Maghrib	7:00	7:05
Esha	7:55	8:15

Source: Islamic Foundation

India is willing to accept more goods and services from Bangladesh's limited export basket and a Technical Expert Group will select those.

The two countries also agreed on the restoration of multi-modal communication links between them.

This was stated by Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee at a joint press conference with his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina prior to his departure from Dhaka yesterday afternoon after a two-day visit to Bangladesh.

The Indian premier said, "I am aware of the concern in Bangladesh of the need to increase its exports to India. These include elimination of Quantitative Restrictions and deepening of concessions under SAPTA."

Vajpayee however observed, "(But) we need to recognise that Bangladesh's export basket is limited at present, and needs to be augmented by the inclusion of goods and services that are of interest to India."

Besides, he said, "India has accepted in principle the request for duty free access on a

non-reciprocal basis to selected items."

The Indian premier went on, "We have both also agreed on the restoration of multi-modal communication links between the two countries. This will greatly facilitate the free movement of traffic between India and Bangladesh."

"In our talks, we also focussed on the need to provide a framework for our border trade."

These issues, he added, will be examined by a Technical Expert Group which is to meet in the near future.

He said that signing of the agreement to extend a credit of Rs 200 crore to Bangladesh over the next three years would facilitate supply of transport equipment and capital goods which will upgrade its infrastructure.

When Vajpayee was asked which 'goods and services' Delhi would like to import from Dhaka in view of his comments that Bangladesh's export basket was limited, Sheikh Hasina replied, "There are many things for export and we will decide what items can be exported to

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Two accords signed

Bangladesh and India yesterday signed two agreements to promote economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries, report agencies.

Under the government to government agreement, India will provide Bangladesh a credit of Rupees 200 crore over the next three years.

Referring to Rupees 200 crore agreement, Vajpayee told the newsmen that the credit line would enable supply of transport equipment and capital goods to upgrade infrastructure, in keeping with Bangladesh priorities.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said the utilisation of the credit would be discussed in the Indo-Bangladesh Joint

Economic Commission (JEC) meeting expected to be held early next month.

Another agreement was signed between the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FBCCI) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI).

The agreement was signed by President of FBCCI Abdul Awal Minto and FICCI President A S Kasliwala at Hotel Sheraton in presence of the prime ministers of both countries.

Under the agreement the two apex chamber bodies have decided to set up a joint chamber to promote economic activities between businessmen and industrialists of the two neighbouring countries.

Aussies outclass Pakistan

LONDON, June 20: Australia's Steve Waugh lifted the 1983 World Cup here today after his side sent Pakistan spinning to the greatest humiliation in a World Cup final, reports AFP.

What was expected to be a rousing finale between two well-matched sides, turned into a no-contest as Pakistan were annihilated by eight wickets.

Wasim Akram's side were shot out for 132 in 39 overs, the lowest score ever recorded in a final, after electing to bat on a perfect batting strip.

Australia then raced past the target in 20.1 overs, with an extraordinary 179 balls to spare.

Leg spinner Shane Warne, written off as a has-been earlier in the event, was the key, taking four for 33 off nine overs.

Warne's haul took him to 20 wickets, giving him a share of the tournament record. He was named man of the match, as he had been in the semi-finals.

When Darren Lehmann struck the winning runs with a four to the square cover boundary, his teammates on the balcony jumped to their feet before forming a victory huddle.

Warne punched the air in delight. The Australian fans, waving flags and inflatable kangaroos, dashed towards the pavilion in their thousands.

Steve Waugh, the only surviving member of Australia's side that played in the 1987 World Cup final, proudly held aloft the trophy.

The Aussie captain said: "It was sort of a 260-run wicket, so we should have won comfortably and we did."

"We executed excellently. We have talked about taking half chances and we did today. That was certainly the closest we have come to our best. The way we played was just great."

The victory completed a fairy-tale tournament for Waugh.

His side lost two of their opening three games, but they then won six of their next seven games to lift the title.

The other game, against South Africa in a dramatic semi-final, ended in a

tie, with both sides making 213.

Waugh's side scraped through because of a better second-round record.

"The semi-final was probably the defining moment," Waugh said.

Warne, who also took four wickets in the semi-final, said: "A couple of big games brought out the best in me. It looked a good wicket but it turned."

"The whole World Cup was something to remember. There were a few things I tried a couple of times and it all worked, my wrong'uns and flippers."

Pakistani supporters in the sell-out crowd of 30,000 watched in disbelief as Wasim Akram's men caved in without a fight.

Pakistan fell short of West Indies' total of 140 in the 1983 final against India at the same venue.

Their highest contributor was the 25 extras conceded by Australia's bowlers, just ahead of Ijaz Ahmed, who made 22.

Opens Saeed Anwar and Wajahatullah Wasti, who put on a World Cup record stand of 194 in the semi-final against New Zealand, were both dismissed with the score on 21.

Wasti fell to a spectacular catch by Mark Waugh, who flew to his right at second slip to hold the ball with both hands.

Anwar departed four balls later, bowled by Damien Fleming for 15.

Glenn McGrath conceded just six runs in his opening spell of six overs - at one stage

he did not concede a run for 26 deliveries - as Pakistan were restricted to 37 for two in 12 overs.

The New South Wales pacer, however, under the good work when he dropped an easy catch at long-off to retrieve Abdul Razzaq in the 17th over.

Razzaq, then on 13, added only four more before Steve Waugh removed him with a brilliant low catch in the covers off Tom Moody.

Warne, coming on in the 22nd over, struck with his 10th delivery when he bowled Ijaz Ahmed, who paid the penalty for going back to a good length ball.

Nine balls later, Warne

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The ultimate accolade Australia's leg-spin wizard Shane Warne holds the World Cup, yesterday, after his team demolished Pakistan in the final by 8 wickets at Lord's in London. Warne took four wickets and was adjudged Man-of-the-Match. — AFP photo

Roll of honour

- 1975 — West Indies beat Australia by 17 runs
 - 1979 — West Indies beat England by 92 runs
 - 1983 — India beat West Indies by 43 runs
 - 1987 — Australia beat England by 7 runs
 - 1992 — Pakistan beat England by 22 runs
 - 1996 — Sri Lanka beat Australia by 7 wickets
 - 1999 — Australia beat Pakistan by 8 wickets
- AP



FBCCI President Abdul Awal Minto and FICCI President A S Kasliwala exchanging documents after signing an agreement between the two apex chamber bodies in presence of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart Atal Behari Vajpayee at Sheraton Hotel yesterday. —Star photo

Parliament passes suppl budget

By Staff Correspondent

The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday adopted the Appropriation (Supplementary) Bill, 1999 granting the government an additional amount of Tk 4374 crore 7 lakh and 53 thousand for the 1998-1999 fiscal ending on June 30.

The bill, however, incorporated an amount of Tk 1043 crore 14 lakh and one thousand non-votable account. The rest of the money was granted by voice vote.

Finance Minister S A M S Kibria placed the supplementary budget along with the budget for 1999-2000 - on June 10 and the House witnessed a two-day general debate on the supplementary budget.

The opposition MPs moved several hundred cut motions, disapproving a total of 93 demands of grant made by various ministries. But the Chair allowed them to deliberate only on a couple of motions of the foreign ministry and the home ministry, while applying gullotine for the rest of the mo-

tions.

In his winding up speech on the supplementary budget, the finance minister told the House that its size was smaller than those of the government of Khaleda Zia.

Referring to opposition criticism about the government claim of 5.2 per cent economic growth in the current fiscal, the minister said that the estimate was based on data provided by the Bureau of Statistics. "It is a rough estimate based on reports of growth upto April, the minister said adding: "The figure might go up further following a final calculation at the end of the fiscal."

The minister accused the opposition for misguiding the nation, while thanking all concerned, especially the farmers whose efforts made the nation achieve the 5.2 per cent growth rate even after a three month devastating flood.

Replying to another opposition criticism that the govern-

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Two murdered in city

By Staff Correspondent

Two young men were murdered in the city within a span of 11 hours yesterday.

The victims were identified as Alamgir, 37, son of Mansur Ali, a resident of Malibagh Chowdhurypara and Ripon alias Rafique, 20, son of Atahar Ali, a slum dweller in the city's Demra area, police and hospital sources said.

Police recovered the body of Alamgir from inside a private car at Road No 17 at Banani late Saturday night. His body bore marks of bullet injury.

Police quoting the FIR said that Alamgir came out of his house with his private car accompanied by his friends Baten and Matiar Saturday evening.

Alamgir was shot from another car by a gang when he was returning home at about 11 pm, police said.

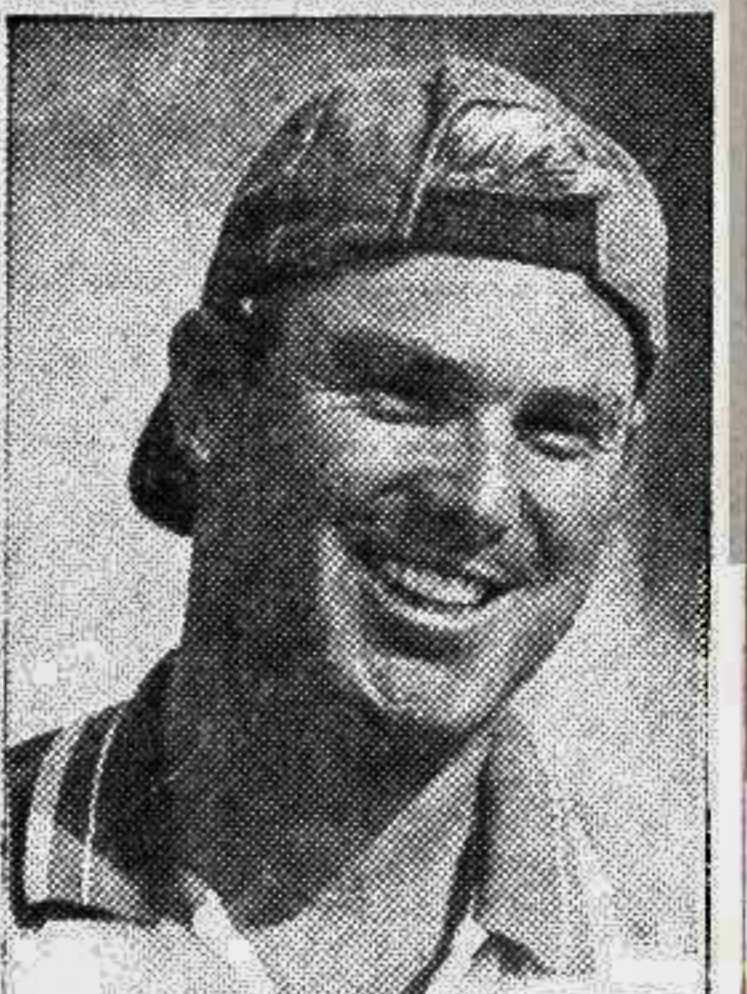
Police arrested Baten for his alleged involvement in the incident. A case was lodged with Gulshan thana in this connection. Police also seized the private car.

In another incident, Ripon was shot dead by assailants yesterday morning.

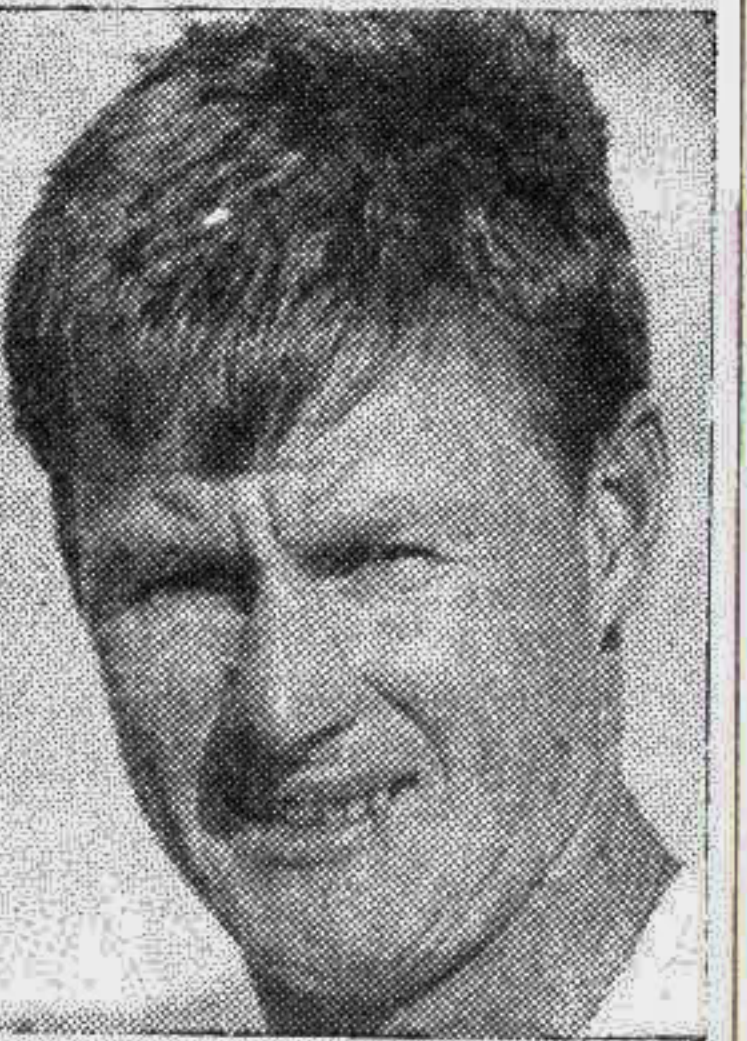
Muktijodha Jubo Com-

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SHANE WARNE (Australia) Man of the Match (Final)



LANCE KLUSENER (South Africa) Man of the Tournament

Sec 144 in Tangail Poura Udyan

TANGAIL, June 20: Section 144 was imposed in one square kilometre area of Shaheed Smriti Poura Udyan in the town to avert a possible clash between supporters and opponents of Kader Siddiqui today, reports UNB.

Muktijodha Jubo Com-

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Beyond the boundary Finality Of An Anticlimax

By Shakil Kasem

Nobody, apparently, quite remembered a final match at Lord's as completely and totally one-sided as this. Pakistan's worst fears came back to haunt them when they expected least expected it. The inner man, who had been well and truly bottled until now, surfaced in grand fashion. He chose the moment well. The final of the World Cup, is hardly the setting for a team to advertise its worst performance in the competition. Yet the Pakistanis did just that, with a vengeance. The only pressure exerted by them in this match, was on Steve Waugh's chewing gum. Australia were ahead of all that was going on at Lord's by the clear length of a mile.

Pakistan started the day well, Wasim Akram calling correctly. After that, as the French

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we score... while others watch

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A view from the Gully

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan

On 14 May 1999, England made a short work of the Champions at Lord's.

The opening match between the reigning champions and the hosts may have been billed as a traditional one but the currents of competition flowed furiously underneath. The Sri Lankans, led by their mastermind Arjuna Ranatunga, for the umpteenth time gave the impression that it was another day and another match. He was cool and unruffled, as usual, as his openers took the strike. The sky was overcast and a small crowd clapped and said "Hear, hear" as Tony Blair declared the contest open for the last time this mil-

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