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**PHILIPS**

**New Dhaka by 2020: PM**  
**Steps being taken to solve city problems**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said her government is taking all possible steps to solve the problems in the city and will initiate a long term plan to build a new Dhaka by 2020, reports UNB.

"We will have to start our work now if we want to see a planned new Dhaka by the year 2020," she said while addressing the MPs and Dhaka City Corporation ward commissioners at the International Conference Centre yesterday afternoon.

Hasina said huge land would be available after constructing the Tongi-Demra flood protection embankment, where a new township will be developed.

In the planned township, the government will provide all civic amenities, including water, gas and electricity, she said.

She added that the government has also taken up a plan to build small townships around the capital where all facilities, including markets, healthcare centres, schools, colleges and parks will be provided.

The Prime Minister said the government is also working on a plan to ease communications between capital Dhaka and its adjacent districts so that people can come in the morning to work in the capital and return home in the evening.

About the problems of the capital, she said the government is taking up diversified programmes to solve the problems of sewerage, water, electricity and telephone.

About traffic jam, Hasina said many new roads have been constructed in the capital and the government has planned to build a ring road around the capital.

She said roads would also be constructed on both sides of the railroad to help ease the traffic jam.

The government will conduct dredging in the rivers around the capital for smooth navigability and also to maintain a waterway around the capital to promote tourism.

She said some effective steps have already been taken for

**Fuel price to increase**

From page 1

Lars and going to enhance the local price," commented a source. "Even if the present international price is as high as the BPC is claiming, it should be covered by the local rates."

Termining the BPC move "outrageous", he said BPC should not incur loss. Rather, it should be making more than 200 per cent profit, defying all business ethics. "If it incurs loss, an investigation should be carried out to see if there is massive corruption there," the source commented.

Oil price in the international market rallied around 15-16 dollars during early last year and then started falling sharply. In the following months, the price of Arab-Gulf crude (imported by Bangladesh) fell to 10-12 dollars a barrel and the trend continued. It dropped to 8 dollars in November-December last year. The price rose again but till June-July this year, it did not exceed 16 dollars per barrel.

From July, the price showed an upward trend but it hardly exceeded 20 dollars, the sources said.

The BPC imports oil in two ways. It imports refined petrol, motor spirit, jet fuel, kerosene, and diesel on half yearly basis. In this way, it has already imported petroleum products to meet the demand for July-December period this year. BPC also imports oil in small quantities to meet emergency needs.

The BPC seldom makes any loss despite its poor market mechanism. "This is mainly because of the government controlled pricing system in which supply and demand do not determine oil price," said an official.

In 1997, while the government claimed that BPC incurred Tk 450 crore loss for petroleum import and sale, BPC gave Tk 1800 crore to the national exchequer as taxes.

"It shows why the government is reluctant to reduce oil prices. Government's revenue earnings from other sectors are in bad shape for the last two years. So it is desperately squeezing out money from oil import as imports continue to increase due to growth in the transport sector," said a source.

BPC made a net profit of Tk 133 crore in fiscal 95-96, Tk 241 crore in 94-95, Tk 919 crore in 93-94, Tk 769 crore in 92-93 and Tk 789 crore in 91-92. Last year's loss was an exception in decades.

Till 1997, the price of petrol was never more than Tk 14 per litre.

The country's annual requirement is about 16 lakh tonnes of diesel, 4.5 lakh tonnes of kerosene, two lakh tonnes of petrol and one lakh tonnes of Octane.

BPC imports about 1.2 million tonnes of crude oil and refines it at its processing plant to get diesel and other petroleum products. It also imports 1.8 million tonnes of petrol and diesel and other petroleum products. The country usually spends around Tk 2500 crore for these imports.

**Waste management**

From page 1

DCC engineers said the work on the project could not be started till they received the entire amount.

DCC officials said the city was running out of space for dumping 3,000 to 4,000 tonnes of solid waste every day. The present dumping site for it at Matuail has almost reached its saturation point.

Although the project does not address the long awaited recycling of waste, the proposed installation of incinerators comes as a relief. Most of the thousands of kg of clinical waste from more than 450 clinics, hospitals and diagnostic centres in the city every day are simply dumped haphazardly in open space.

A DCC engineer said that to start with they would like to set up one incinerator at Pangu Hospital and the other at BSMMU Hospital.

Asked whether they were aware that incinerating hospital waste could be hazardous to public health, he said the whole thing was quite new to them. "They would seek foreign assistance to complete the project as per international standard."

**Editor: Mahfuz Anam**  
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**Cricket**

From page 1

Desmond Haynes and Richie Richardson.

After Lara's departure, with West Indies firmly poised on 185 for 3 in the 20th over, Bangladesh bowlers made a brilliant comeback restricting their opponents to add only 129 runs in the remaining 30 overs.

However, it was in-form Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who came up with his second successive fifty to help his side cross the 300-mark at the end.

Chanderpaul, the Guyanese batter, who was undefeated on 92 in the first match on Friday, began from where he left and scored yet another unbeaten knock of 77 off 66 balls.

It was a bad day for the Bangladesh bowlers. Two new-ball bowlers Monjurul Islam and Shafiqul Islam conceded 38 and 32 runs from four and three overs respectively. Vice-captain Khaled Mahmud gave away 78 runs in his eight overs. However, it was Habibul Bashar, who came out as the day's most economic bowler with the analysis of 10-0-30-1.

This was the third highest total against Bangladesh in one-day cricket and the fourth 300-plus innings in their 37 ODI appearances.

New Zealand scored 336 against Bangladesh in the Australia Cup in Sharjah in 1990, while Pakistan managed 319 for 5 in the Asia Cup in Colombo in 1997. Zimbabwe scored 312 against Bangladesh in a tri-nation meet in Kenya in 1997.

Replying, Bangladesh struggled throughout their innings before they were bundled out for 205 in the last over. Skipper Anisul Islam, who was out for a duck in the first match, top-scored with an unbeaten 66 off 89 balls, followed by opener Shahriar Hossain who chipped in with 47.

Shahriar could have easily reached his fifty had he not left his crease to miss a wide delivery from occasional bowler Sherwin Campbell, only to allow wicketkeeper Jacobs to remove his stumps.

Campbell, who never got a single wicket in the previous 60 appearances in the instant version of cricket, had something to cherish as he finished the day with 4 for 30 from his 10-over spell. Off-spinner Nematullah Khan and skipper Brian Lara evenly shared four wickets, while McLean and Dillon captured one wicket each.

For his scintillating 117 and two wickets for 12, Lara was later adjudged man-of-the-match.

The visitors were scheduled to leave the capital for Sharjah early this morning.

**SCOREBOARD**  
**BANGLADESH**

Shahriar A Jacobs	17
Hasina K Hossain	18
Hossain M Islam	0
Al-Shohriar A Jacobs	69
K Mahmud B Campbell	12
K Misrod St Jacobs	2
E Hoque c Adams B Perry	13
A Kamal c Chanderpaul B Perry	11
S Ahmed t Ambrose B Lara	0
M Islam not out	5
Extras (lb-3, wa-19, nb-4)	26
Total (All out in 49.1 overs)	205
Fall of wickets: 1-65; 2-66; 3-79; 4-106; 5-108; 6-135; 7-162; 8-184; 9-190; 10-205	

**Bowl:**

McLean	8	0	44	1
Ambrose	7	1	21	0
Dillon	7	0	29	1
Campbell	10	0	30	4
Powell	8	0	47	0
Perry	7	0	19	2
Lara	2	1	12	2

**Result: West Indies won by 109 runs.**  
**M-o-m: Brian Lara.**

**Dollar trader shot, robbed of Tk 52 thousand in city**

By Staff Correspondent

Muggers shot a young dollar trader and snatched Tk 52 thousand from him in the city's Naya Paltan area yesterday afternoon.

The victim was identified as Fahim, 25, son of Syed Ahmed Chowdhury, a resident of the city's Shyamoli area, hospital sources said.

A gang of about five muggers shot Fahim in his legs. He was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

According to hospital sources, the gang intercepted the rickshaw in which Fahim was travelling in front of Jonaki Cinema hall at about 2 pm. They dragged him inside a narrow lane beside the cinema hall at gunpoint and shot him. They then took away the money from his pocket.

**10 hurt as BCL factions clash at Barisal**

By Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Oct 9: At least ten people were injured when two rival groups of BCL clashed on Barisal Government College campus centring a girl at around 2:30 pm today.

Both the groups — one led by Ali and the other by Suman — charged each other and exploded crackers during an hour-long clash.

Ali was also injured in the clash. He was admitted to Barisal Medical College Hospital.

Police arrested one Rajesh Dutta from the spot.



West Indies captain Brian Lara receiving trophy from Obaidul Quader, Minister for Youth and Sports yesterday. — Star photo

**Talks only on formation of caretaker govt for early polls: Khaleda**

SHERPUR, Oct 9: Opposition leader Khaleda Zia said here today there could be discussion with the government only on formation of a caretaker government for an early election.

"There can be discussion only on one issue, that is, when a caretaker government will be formed for holding general election," the BNP chairperson told a big condolence meeting at the New Market crossing.

In an obvious reference to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's offer of dialogue on specific demands of the Opposition, Khaleda again brushed aside the proposal and reiterated her one-point demand — resignation of the government and early general election.

She called upon the people to unite and get ready for the 'final blow' to the 'corrupt and inefficient government subservient to its alien masters.'

Khaleda asserted "Now the only movement is to dislodge Hasina and save the country. This is the demand of the people."

The meeting was organised to console the death of Bidyut Azad, Albright

**Armed terrorists attack houses, loot shops in Barisal town**

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Oct 9: At least 20 people were injured when a group of armed terrorists created a reign of terror in Amanatganj area in the town this evening.

They exploded huge bombs, fired shots and looted at least 25 shops in the area.

They also attacked and ransacked the houses of Ebaidul Haq Chand, district BNP secretary and his brothers Nader and Kayes in that area.

Earlier in the morning, the slum dwellers of Palashpur slum in Amanatganj area brought out a procession protesting an alleged incident of rape in which one Lalima, a poura commissioner and a JP leader are said to be involved.

BNP blamed the BCL activists for today's incident.

**Abducted mother, son rescued in Rangamati**

RANGAMATI, Oct 9: Police in a raid today rescued mother and son from Debashishnagar of the town who were abducted by a gang of youths yesterday at gun-point from Reservebazar, reports BSS.

The rescued were identified as Mira Barua, 45, and her son Bishu Barua, 26.

The armed gang abducted the victims at gun-point as they resisted them on Thursday last in their bid to collect tolls from a boat carrying firewood at Amalali in Balukhali union under sadar thana of the district.

The victims made the abductors annoyed as their attempt failed. Chairman of Balukhali Union Parishad said.

**Khulna blast**

From page 1

UNB adds: Five of the seriously injured persons were shifted to the Combined Military Hospital in Dhaka in critical conditions.

Police said President of the local Ahmadiya Muslim Jamaat, Shamsur Rahman filed a case with sadar thana. But, police refused to disclose details of the FIR.

Meanwhile, six army explosive experts from Jessore Cantonment visited the spot today. They are yet to submit their findings.

A number of CID and DB police teams separately visited the spot and collected splinters of the bomb. They also recovered some documents from adjacent areas of the mosque.

However, he wanted former

**C'wealth is now the cat's paw of 4 western nations: Farooq Sobhan**

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 9: The 54-member Commonwealth remains divided over who will be its next Secretary-General, reports IPS.

The two candidates vying for the job are Don McKinnon, the foreign minister of New Zealand, and Farooq Sobhan, a former foreign secretary of Bangladesh and ex-chairman of the "Group of 77" developing countries.

Of the 54 members, 50 are from the developing world, and four from the developed world, namely Britain, Australia, Canada and New Zealand.

The successful candidate will be voted into office early next month. "It will be a very close fight," predicts Sobhan, who says there has never been an Asian Secretary-General although Asia accounts for two-thirds of the population of the Commonwealth.

The closed-door elections are scheduled for Nov 12 during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Durban, South Africa. The Commonwealth Secretary-General is the only international institutional head who is personally voted into office by heads of governments.

Sobhan points out that the Commonwealth Secretariat — which has an annual budget of about 16 million dollars — has long been dominated by the four Western nations.

Two of the three posts of Deputy Secretaries-General (DSG) are traditionally occupied by Britain and Canada.

The current DSG for Development is Nick Hare of Canada while the DSG for Economic Affairs is Dame Veronica Sutherland of Britain. The third DSG is the only one from a developing nation — Kris Srinivasan of India, who is in charge of Political Affairs.

Additionally, says Sobhan, a British national recently was appointed Director of the Commonwealth Foundation, to succeed Humayun Khan of Pakistan.

"It is important to maintain a balance between developed and developing nations," argues Sobhan, "this is the key to encouraging a sense of belonging and sense of proportion among developing countries."

One Asian envoy — whose country is backing McKinnon — says however that the Commonwealth for a long time has been "one big happy family" and that Sobhan's candidature has "created a divisive element and split the Commonwealth."

Moreover, he points out, the current secretary-general is from a developing nation, as was his predecessor.

Last month, after a prolonged deadlock, Mike Moore, a former Prime Minister of New Zealand was elected to head the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Geneva. If McKinnon wins, he will be the second New Zealander to hold a high-profile international job.

"McKinnon is without question a person of outstanding qualities," admits Sobhan, but he adds that since New Zealand already has the WTO job, it would be unfair for a New Zealander to be head of the Commonwealth.

"The Commonwealth is now the cat's paw of the four Western nations," says Sobhan, "if you want to promote good governance and democracy you should not be eroding the credibility of the organisation."

Good governance and democracy is on the national agenda of every developing country, he says.

"But how can you preach democratic principles to us when you don't apply the same principles to international organisations where the majority of nations are from the developed world?"

**Haripur project**

From page 1

tractor fail to make timely payment to the manufacturers. This may also lead to legal battles between the government and the AES, sources pointed out.

In April, AES informed the government that though it could not complete financial closure of the project, it has started construction work. It added that the decision was based on the government's confirmation to the WB that it would go for certain reforms and abide by the covenants of the Indemnity Agreement for Haripur project so that WB provides the Partial Risk Guarantee.

The government had earlier agreed with the WB on certain principles to follow in the power sector. The Finance Minister in a letter on April 21 told WB, in relation to the Government's programme for the development of the sector, it intends to continue its present policy of transparent bidding process for future Independent Power Projects and will adopt prudent criteria including (a) Least cost in relation to the energy sector development programme; (b) competitive bidding; (c) review of fiscal and financial burden; and (d) balance of payments implications.

In a subsequent letter to the ERD on May 24, WB wrote, "on the basis of assurances contained in the Minister's letter, we have notified AES of our willingness to proceed with the PRG."

Following the decision favouring Marubeni, WB said the government has violated the agreement because (i) there has been no prior consultation with WB as agreed, (ii) the project was not awarded on a competitive basis, (iii) BPDB does not meet the Financial AF-

**Explosives**

From page 1

cleared the confusion about the nature of the explosives, police and officials gave contradicting versions.

The grenade found in the mosque was kept at the middle of a field adjacent to the Grameen Bank office at Mirpur Section-2. The briefcase with the mine was kept at the east end of the road in front of Jaankantha building until yesterday. Security men cordoned off both places.

Army experts took both into their custody yesterday afternoon.

Before exploding the explosives army experts examined them and informed the police, DMP commissioner AKM Shamsuddin told the Daily Star yesterday.

Police were investigating into both the cases. The investigating officials have been asked to submit their reports at the earliest possible time, the commissioner said.

The Mirpur thana OC said that the army experts exploded the bombs at Chanmaribagh firing range at about 5:15pm yesterday.

Two separate cases were filed by the President of the mosque committee Abul Kashem and the Janakantha management.

**Khaleda**

From page 1

and cultural organisations, including Gana Forum, Jamaat-e-Islami, Workers Party, Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal, Udichi, Ghata Dal Nirmul Committee also condemned the incident of bomb blast in Khulna and recovery of bombs in the city.

**Vajpayee likely to take oath of office on Thursday**

NEW DELHI, Oct 9: India's Hindu nationalists have stepped up efforts to form a new government within five days after leading their alliance to an overall majority in elections, officials said today, reports AFP.

Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee's BJP party was trying to persuade all its numerous allies to join a coalition government by Thursday to give it a measure of stability.

BJP officials said Vajpayee, 72, was expected to take the oath of office Thursday at the head of a multi-party government that would herald his third tenure as prime minister.

"We have picked Thursday for swearing in, and we hope there will be no obstacles," a senior party leader said.

The proposed government would have representatives from almost all its allies, but there appeared to be some uncertainty over the participation of its largest partner, the regional TDP party.

TDP supreme N. Chandrababu Naidu, who also led his party to a spectacular comeback in parallel local elections in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, reportedly prefers to prop up Vajpayee from the outside.

central bank governor and a passionate advocate of free market C. Rangarajan, to become finance minister, party sources said.

BJP officials admitted that other allies — knowing the Hindu nationalists' dependence on them — were bargaining hard for plum cabinet posts.

Vajpayee first became prime minister in May 1996, but his government lasted only 13 days.

His second tenure at the head of a multi-party coalition ended after 13 months in April when he lost his majority in the 545-member parliament by one vote.

Vajpayee's 1998-99 coalition was propped up by several parties, but not all of them joined the government — turning it into a wobbly and squabbling alliance.

BJP officials said they were keen to avoid earlier mistakes.

"Coalitions are here to stay," said a party leader, Narendra Modi. "We think we have learnt from experience and can govern better."

The Hindu nationalist-led coalition is to formally elect Vajpayee as leader of its parliamentary wing Sunday and call upon the president a day later to stake its claim to power.

Vajpayee has to then prove his majority in parliament — which aides say would pose no hurdles.

Leaders of the bruised Congress party of Italian-born Sonia Gandhi were expected to meet, also Sunday, to debate its worst electoral rout.

The mood in the Congress — the main opposition party — was "very bitter," a party strategist said, though a revolt against Gandhi was unlikely.

"Many think Sonia Gandhi has failed to deliver, but the problem is there is no one else to lead the party," the strategist said. "But people considered close to her may face the wrath."

The Congress won just 112 seats — far below its earlier worst showing of 141 seats in 1998.

It was the Congress's first parliamentary elections under the leadership of Sonia, the widow of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi who took to politics only last year. She was also elected to parliament for the first time.

The dominant BJP has 182 MPs in the ruling coalition — which is the same number it had in the earlier house. The alliance won 296 seats, with the BJP's main ally, the TDP, bagging 29 seats.

**JU students form human chain at DU**

By JU Correspondent

Students of Jahangirnagar University (JU) formed a human chain on Dhaka University campus yesterday demanding immediate re-opening of JU and withdrawal of enhanced admission fees.

The human chain was formed under the banner of the Admission Fee Hike Resistance Committee (AFHRC), a body of agitating JU students.

Five students' organisations at DU — Bangladesh Chhatra Federation, Jatiya Chhatra Dal, Biplobi Chhatra Miltree, Chhatra Oikya Forum and Biplobi Chhatra Sangha — also held a joint rally on the campus in support of JU students' demands, brought out a procession and joined the human chain.

Nonotantik Chhatra Oikya (GCO), another students body at DU, also held a rally on the campus where its leaders called for observance of strike at all universities on October 13 for realising the demands of JU students.

When contacted later, some teachers of JU told this correspondent that the university may be re-opened in the first week of this month or first week of next month.