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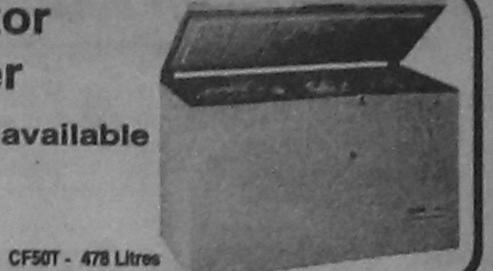
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India lift World Youth Cup

COLOMBO, Jan 28: India outplayed Sri Lanka to win the Under-19 World Cup final by six wickets at the Sinhalese Sports Club Ground here today, reports

India dismissed the hosts for 178 after they had decided to bat first, and then knocked off the runs in the 41st over, to clinch an emphatic win.

Led by Mohammed Kaif, India remained unbeaten right throughout the tournament and it was their professional approach to the game that made them strong favourites to win the title.

Once again it was poor running between the wickets that contributed towards Sri Lanka's downfall.

Four batsmen ended their innings via runouts and whatever chances Sri Lanka had of building a competitive total evaporated with them.

In the semifinals against Pakistan, five Sri Lankan batsmen were run out.

Top scorer for the home country was left-hander Jehan Mubarak who made a patient 58 off 107 balls with five fours. Left-arm fast bowler Sallab Srivastava was the most impressive for India with the ball taking three for 33.

India launched their run chase with openers Manish Sharma and Ranneet Ricky putting on 53 runs and although four wickets fell, there was no doubt that India would get

Ritender Singh Sodhi and Niraj Patel shared an unfinished partnership of 64 off 75 balls to steer India home. -(score on Star Sport)

25 pirates arrested at Mongla

From Staff Correspondent KHULNA, Jan 28: Mongla thana police arrested 25 pirates who were taking preparation to commit a dacoity at a sea-going vessel 'MV Ocean Wave' on

Thursday night. Police seized a trawler from

their possession. MV Ocean Wave was agrounded with 14,000 metric tones of cement imported from China last year. The vessel chartered by A Hossain & Co of Khulna was abandoned by the crew and the captain.

Mongla Port Authority - floated a tender for selling the ship on auction.

Three businessmen of Khulna submitted tenders. But the port authority invited retenders as the quoted prices were not satisfactory. None has so far responded to the invitation of re-tender.



Final touches being given to a stall at the Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF) beginning in the city today.

- Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Public Safety Bill Opposition Report finalised, note of dissent by BNP

(Special Provision) Bill 2000 in

parliament, which triggered

opposition protests. The Bill

was sent to the standing com-

mittee for discussion yesterday.

sain Khoka said they opposed

the Bill and requested the rul-

ing party to give more time to

discuss in details.

fore Parliament

Talking to UNB Sadek Hos-

Khoka said they raised ob-

jections against the way the Bill

was placed in the House. He said

the ruling party has hurriedly

placed the Bill in parliament on

a Private Members' Day, which

he said was not the right way to

The BNP lawmaker termed it

He said there was no need of

If police were not allowed to

He said the proposed law

would not ensure natural justice

to people and has curbed their

fundamental and individual

place such an important bill be-

as 'black law' in his note of dis-

framing any new law and exist-

ing laws are enough to deal with

work independently, then there

was no use of enacting new

laws, he told the standing

committee meeting.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Ministry vesterday finalised its report on the Public Safety Bill with note of dissent by opposition BNP members, reports

BNP lawmakers Khandaker Delwar Hossain and Sadek Hossain Khoka gave note of dissent on the ground that the Bill was brought to the Committee in less than 24 hours after it was introduced in parliament

Home Minister Mohammad Nasim placed the Public Safety

young men shot in city

Two young men were shot by unidentified miscreants at Mirpur and Shaheedbag in the city yesterday evening, hospital

sources said, reports UNB. They said gunmen waylaid computer trainer Kamruzzaman, 22, of 108 West Kazipara at Section 6 Mirpur and Shah Alam. 17. son of Mamtajuddin, at Shaheedbag and shot in their

Both the victims were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

plans tougher agitation

By Staff Correspondent

A meeting of the Central Liaison Committee of the BNP-led opposition alliance yesterday discussed fresh programmes in the wake of the government's move to introduce the Public Safety Bill.

Though the meeting could not finalise a fresh programme, it, however, decided to face what it termed the "repressive black law" through tougher street-programmes.

Sources said the meeting could not finalise any programme because the secretaries general of the four parties did not attend it. The Liaison Committee will meet this evening at 29 Minto Road to finalise fresh programmes.

Held at the residence of BNP vice chairman M Shamsul Islam MP, it was attended by BNP leader Anwar Zahid, Jatiya Party leaders Mostafa Jamal Haider and Shah Mohammad Abu Zafar, Jamaat leaders Mohammad Kamaruzzaman and Abdul Qader Mollah and Islami Oikya Jote leader ARM Abdul Matin.

Meeting sources said the alliance leaders are unanimous about declaring harder programmes to compel the government to withdraw the new

Karachi police chief tells court

Two Sharif allies told me to take over airport

Khulna: 720304 Bogra: 6215

KARACHI, Jan 28: A senior Pakistani police officer gave evidence today against two senior allies of deposed premier Nawaz Sharif at their trial before a Karachi anti-terrorism court, reports AFP.

Sharif and six of his former officials have been charged with abduction, attempted murder, hijacking and terror-

All pleaded not guilty but if convicted of the hijacking charge they face the death at 7:40 pm that night, just a few

Sharif has been in detention since he was overthrown in a military coup on October 12, led by army chief General Pervez Musharraf.

He and his co-defendants are accused of trying to prevent the landing in Karachi of a Pakistan International Airlines flight carrying Musharraf and nearly 200 other passengers from Sri Lanka on the night of the coup.

The plane landed, with fuel running low, only after the army seized control of the airport. Musharraf then took control of the country and detained

Akbar Arain, the Karachi police chief on the night of the coup, said he was told to take over Karachi airport that night

and stop the plane from land-He said his instructions were from Syed Ghous Ali Shah. Sharif's chief advisor in Sindh

province, and Rana Maqbool, former Sindh police chief, two of the accused. Arain arrived at the airport

minutes before the aircraft touched down, and went into the VIP lounge where Shah and Magbool were waiting. "Syed Ghous Ali Shah said :

'Can you take over the airport now?' Rana Magbool asked me the same question," he said. "I asked what was the matter

and Rana Magbool replied: 'It is the order from the top. The plane of the army chief is coming and it is not to land here. The Civil Aviation Authority and PIA have made all the arrangements and we have to provide protection," Arain told the

-But the police officer refused

to take the airport because he had seen the heavy army presence already there.

"I regretted that I could not take over the airport. I told them the army was present. I advised them to leave and go back. They did not say anything.

Defence lawyers will try to establish Sharif only tried to stop the aircraft from landing after the army had launched its

But the prosecution will argue the coup was a reaction to Sharif's attempt to sack Musharraf and stop him from

returning to Pakistan. Defence lawyers were expected to cross-examine Arain later today before the prosecution call the next witness, Ahsanullah Gondal, the senior police superintendent at the

nearby city Nawabshah. Security was tight around the courtroom today, with hundreds of armed police and paramilitary troops taking up positions outside and on the roof of the building.

The case is expected to run for several weeks.

26 arrested,

arms recovered

in Chittagong

least 26 people, including a ter-

rorist were arrested and three

firearms recovered in the dis-

trict today and yesterday, re-

night recovered two light guns.

a sawed-off rifle and two bullets

and arrested two persons from

Bananipur village in this con-

Fatikchhari police last

Chittagong Metropolitan Po-

Pahartali police arrested

lice (CMP) arrested 24 people.

including an alleged terrorist

from the city today, a CMP

Monir Hossain alias Bhutto

from Goalpahar area. He is al-

press release said.

ports BSS.

nection.

CHITTAGONG, Jan 28: At

teachers start fast-unto-death today

Non-govt pry

By Staff Correspondent The non-government primary school teachers will start fast-unto-death today at Osmani Udyan demanding regularisation of their jobs.

This was announced at a teachers' rally at the Udyan yes-Earlier, the teachers started

a 36-hour hunger strike on Thursday, the fifth day of their sit in programme at Osmani Udyan. Two leaders of the agitating teachers began fast-untodeath yesterday evening.

UNB adds: Two of the nongovernment primary school teachers were hospitalised yesterday evening.

Headmaster of Fulbaria Primary School in Katiadi. Kishoreganj Ibrahim Khalil and assistant teacher of Molda Primary School in Tongibari, Munshiganj Shamsul Alam were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital after they fell sick.

Three Ijtema devotees die

GAZIPUR, Jan 28: Ti ree devotees of Biswa Ijtema dica at Tongi in the last three days, reports UNB. They were identified as Haji

Matiur Rahman, 54, Sagar Ali and Mohsin. Sources said Haji Matiur Rahman of Shantibagh in the

yesterday morning. Devotee Sagar Ali from Mymensingh was injured critically when a bus hit him while crossing Dhaka-Mymensingh road near Tongle Bazar Thursday. He died on the way to Dhaka Medical College Hospi-

city died on the ljtema premises

College student Mohsin, son of Mohammad Nurul Huq of East Zurain, Dhaka drowned in the river Turag on Wednesday.

Advocate S R Paul dead

Advocate Sabita Ranjan Paul, a doyen of legal practice in the country, died of heart disease and other complications at the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) here yesterday evening. He was 87, reports

Illegal construction at DMCH

No action yet against the man behind the misdeed

By Staff Correspondent

No action has been taken against the man believed to be behind illegal construction at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

According to sources, the deputy director of the hospital, Dr Babar Hossain, allegedly allowed Class IV and Class III employees of the hospital to construct a number of shops without the authorities' permission. Many of the senior staff of

the hospital want the deputy director removed for his corrupt practices. Sources said following re-

cent press reports about his misdeeds, the health ministry was considering probing the allegations against Hossain,

However, it is yet to do so. Hossain denied to have allowed the employees to go ahead with the illegal construction. He said he had no link with

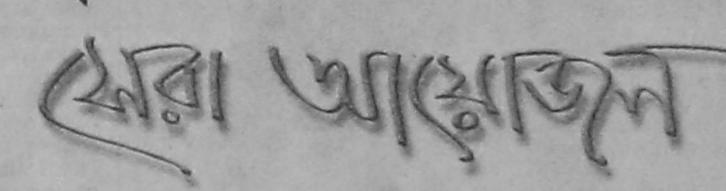
Sources said Dr Babar Hossain as acting director allowed a section of the hospital employees to go ahead with construction of a number of retail shops on the hospital premises while director Brigadier Badrul Munir was out Sources also said he al-

legedly issued work order for procurement of about 300 hospital beds each costing roughly Tk 20.000 without approval of the survey committee in August See page 11 col 8

legedly involved in criminal activities in the area for long and wanted in eight criminal cases.



रुष्य-याजीप्तत्र जन्य वियात्नत

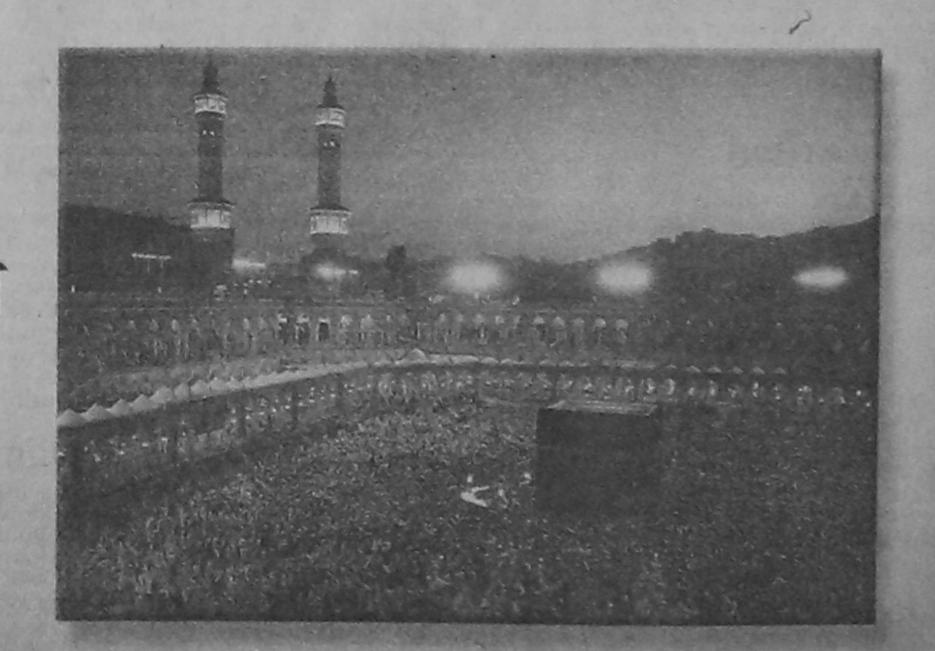


निष्ठ (জनाद्रियन সুপরিসর বোয়িং-দ্রিপল সেভেন

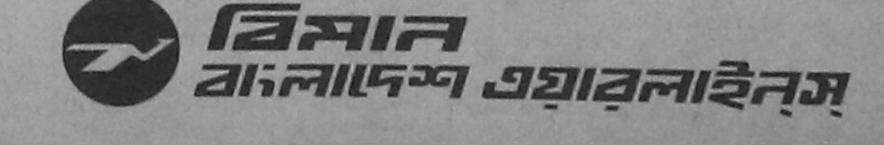
সম্মানিত হজ্ব-যাত্রীদের জন্য বিমান বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স্

जिका-जिका

রুটে, নতুন প্রজন্মের সুপারসর দুটি বোয়িং - ৭৭৭ এর আয়োজন করেছে।



আগামী ১৫ই ফেব্রুয়ারী থেকে ২৯শে ফেব্রুয়ারী পর্যন্ত ঢাকা-জেদা পথে এবং ২১*শে মার্চ* থেকে ৪ঠা এপ্রিল পর্যন্ত জেদ্দা-ঢাকা পথে বিমান সম্মানিত হজু-যাত্রীদের জন্য প্রতিদিন ফ্লাইট পরিচালনা করবে।



Time to review Indian constitution? From Pallab Bhattacharya

NEW DELHI, Jan 28: Does Indian constitution need a review? Political circles in India are abuzz with a debate today, a day after divergence of views came out in open between President KR Narayanan and the government of Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee on the

need for a review of the consti-The differences of views between two top constitutional authorities were interestingly spelt out at a function held here vesterday to mark the 50 years of adoption of the Indian con-

Looking straight at eyes of

the Vajpayee government's of India.

move to set up a committee to review the constitution, Narayanan made no secret of his reservations about it by saying "we have to consider violate." whether it is the constitution that has failed us or whether it stitution.

is we who have failed the con-Vajpayee, speaking shortly before the president, sought to defend his government's move to review the constitution citing, among the reasons, the need for stability at the centre and in the states, people's impatience for speedy development and removal of imbalances among different regions

However, the Prime Minister made it clear that the constitution's basic structure and its core ideals would remain "in-

Rejecting the plea of stability, the President said "our recent experience of instability in government is perhaps not sufficient reason to discard the parliamentary system in favour of the presidential or any other system."

He said the Drafting Committee of the constitution had preferred the parliamentary form because they preferred responsibility to stability.

Narayanan drew a distinction between amending the constitution and reviewing it and said "the founding fathers made the amendment process easy so that Parliament could rectify the "shortcomings or lacunae" without much difficul-

"Whatever we may do... we should ensure that the basic philosophy behind the constitution and the fundamental socio-economic soul of the constitution remain sacrosanct," the President said adding "we should not throw out the baby with the bath water."

The Prime Minister, however, felt that the constitution was not immutable. "Five decades after its (constitution's) adoption India is faced with a new situation." he said arguing for a review.

"Even in the mightiest fort, one has to repair the parapet from time to time. One has to clean the most and check the banisters... the same is true of our constitution." Vajpayee

other hand, asserted that "shortcomings" in the people cannot be obviated by constitutional changes or provisions. He quoted Dr BR Ambedkar. one of the framers of the Indian constitution, as saying "... if

things go wrong under the new

See page 11 col 6.

President Narayanan, on the

Alleged power theft by Shikdar KMP, PDB start probe

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Jan 28: The detective branch of KMP has started investigation into the alleged theft of electricity worth over Tk 10 crore at Shikdar's residence 'Swarnakamol', Ice factory at the Skid ghat, Nalchity project and Shaad-Moni shopping complex at the Station

There is an allegation that Ershad Shikdar stole electricity of such a huge amount in connivance with five executive engineers of the PDB.

DB started investigation following a written allegation to the Home Ministry and the PDB by one Kamal Hossain of Khulna city, said a top official

It has been stated in the allegation that Ershad Shikdar had stolen electricity using unauthorised connection for several years causing loss of govt revenue income of over 10 crore. A former superintendent en-

gineer of the Khulna office of PDB, now serving at a power station in Dhaka and four other engineers helped Shikdar steal ing electricity. All five PDB officials are

beneficiaries of Shikdar, said the KMP official quoting writ-ten allegation of Kamal Hossain who has demanded an impartial enquiry into this mat-Meanwhile, a high-level

committee of the PDB has also

started probing the theft of electricity at Swarnakamol. It has been learnt from a member of the committee that four of the executive engineers who connived with Ershad in stealing electricity are serving in Goalpara Power Station.

Police have also confirmed this information keeping watch on their movements. Wife of one of the four alleged executive engineers happens to be a close relative of Shikdar, police said.

The offices of The Baily Star will ties. be shifted to its new premises at

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> > **Editor: Mahfuz Anam**

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