

**FedEx**  
Federal Express  
Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.  
Licensee Of Federal Express Corporation  
Tel # 9565114; Fax # 9565112

**NEW DOHS**  
184/A, Eastern Road, Lane # 2  
Mohakhali, Dhaka  
Tel # 9884851, 603798

**GULSHAN**  
OPEN 24 HOURS  
Bilquis Tower  
Gulshan Circle-2, Dhaka  
Tel # 9883927, 887771

**UTTARA**  
Baly Complex, Sector-3  
Airport Road, Uttara, Dhaka  
Tel # 894213

**PHILIPS**  
Let's make things better.  
Ideal gift for any occasion  
TRANSKOM ELECTRONICS LTD.  
Official licensee of Philips Domestic Appliances  
Dhaka: 8115307-10 CTG: 716353, 725778 Khulna: 723304 Bogra: 6215

**BFTA leaders to hold meeting with SKOP today**

By Staff Correspondent  
Leaders of Bangladesh Federation of Teachers' Association (BFTA) will hold a meeting with the leaders of Samik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP) today to discuss the latest situation of the non-government teachers' strike.  
Teachers and employees of non-government teachers continued their strike for the 13th day yesterday to press home their demands for 100 per cent salary from the government exchequer.  
The BFTA leaders will hold separate meetings with leaders of the two factions of Bangladesh Federation of Journalists' (BFJ) tomorrow (Monday).  
They will also hold a series of meeting with professional bodies like Bangladesh Supreme Court Lawyers Association, Prokichi, Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) and other professional bodies.  
The teachers will stage demonstration at district headquarters across the country on July 25 protesting Thursday's 'police attack' on school and college teachers at Tangail and Rajshahi.  
The teachers will gherao the Education Directorate on July 26 to press home their demand.

**3 Shibir activists, 4 snatchers held at Cox's Bazar**

COX'S BAZAR, July 22: Police have arrested seven young men, including three Shibir activists, reports UNB.  
Sagar, 23, Jaynal, 24, and Alauddin, 22, were arrested from a Chittagong-bound coach at Ramu on Friday night. Police identified them as Shibir cadres.  
Police said the arrested are accused in a number of cases under the Public Safety Act (PSA).  
Security men of Parjatan Corporation caught four snatchers while they were fleeing with purse and ornaments of a couple at the sea beach this morning. They were handed over to the police.

**Sharif**

From page 1  
He inveighed against the military regime for waging a campaign of revenge through the courts.  
"This is personal vendetta. This verdict was expected," he told reporters.  
"The laws are being tailor made to punish me. The judge had said there is no case of corruption or kickbacks but even then he has convicted me."  
He said he would consult his lawyers about appealing the decision.  
According to the prosecution, the helicopter was obtained on a wet lease at 550 dollars per flying hour.  
Sharif later purchased it for 800,000 dollars and spent 1.3 million dollars on maintenance and operating costs until it crashed in 1997.  
The prosecution said Sharif's expenditures were "disproportionate" to his income.  
Sharif, who personified Pakistani politics for the past 16 years, is now languishing in a high-security prison outside the capital. His executive offices there remained empty since last October's coup.  
The meteoric carrier of the 53-year-old industrialist crashed when he sacked then army chief General Pervez Musharraf on October 12. Within hours he was in prison, his government was finished and Musharraf was in power.  
In April, Sharif was sentenced to two life terms for hijacking and terrorism related to events on the night of the coup.  
And today's verdict is not the last of his troubles. The military regime has launched two other corruption cases against him and his powerful family.

**Meghnaghat**

From page 1  
commercial operation.  
The government is pursuing the 450 MW Meghnaghat project since early 1996 and AES was selected the best bidder as it offered a 20-year levelised power tariff of 2.79 cents per kilowatt hour (around Tk 1.4) per kilowatt hour.  
However, for one reason or another, AES was having serious disagreements with the PDB since it was chosen as the best bidder and the agreements were practically signed in July last year.  
The AES-PDB dispute gradually intensified over the Meghnaghat land site development project - a Tk 141 crore scheme which was awarded to Chinese company CWHC after two rounds of bidding. The PDB even threatened to cancel the contracts.

**Editor: Mahfuz Anam**  
Published by the Editor from Transact Ltd, 229, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaword Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215. Telephone Numbers: 8124944, 8124955, 8124966, 8125155, 8125165. GPO Box No. 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: http://www.dailystarnews.com and Email address: dstar@bangla.net

**Dengue scare: More & more people seek blood test**

By staff correspondent  
Amid a dengue scare, more people turned up at different hospitals and diagnostic centers in the city for blood test yesterday.  
At least 150 people sought blood test on the day, according to sources concerned.  
However, as most of the hospitals and diagnostic centres ran out of reagents for dengue virus test, majority of the people returned without having the test.  
As a result, the number of dengue patients - suspected and confirmed - could not be known yesterday and the day before from the hospitals and diagnostic centres.  
The only government laboratory, Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDRC), offering such test made special arrangements yesterday to test blood to detect dengue virus (using date-expired reagents). It, however, remained closed on Friday.  
The death toll from dengue fever in the city is 10 so far. Another person reportedly died on Friday but it could not be confirmed.  
When contacted, Dhaka Medical College Hospital sources said they had only two patients - one yesterday and the other on the day before. Both had 'classical dengue fever' and both returned after recovery.  
Sources in Dhaka Shishu Hospital said they admitted 19 children with dengue fever till 9 pm yesterday. Five of them were in critical condition, suspected to be suffering from dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF).  
A doctor at the hospital said they were facing problem as reagents confirming cases. "Earlier, we referred all our suspected cases to a private diagnostic centre. But since they ran out of reagents, we are to have the test done elsewhere at higher rates," he said.  
Suhrawardy Hospital sources reported admitting one dengue patient yesterday. Two patients were released on the day before after their recovery.  
Sources said one patient was admitted to Al-Raji Hospital and another at Nebedita (child) hospital at Dhanmandi with dengue fever. There were reports of fresh admission of at least three patients to 'Ma-O-Shishu Hospital' but the reports could not be confirmed.  
BIRDEM hospital which ran out of reagents for dengue tests on Wednesday again started testing blood samples for dengue with a limited stock of reagents. About 50 tests were carried out yesterday and the day before but results were not yet available.  
Banghabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH) ran out of reagents on Thursday. The hospital would take at least a week to start dengue tests again.  
Meanwhile, about 1,000 dengue test kits would arrive in Dhaka from Delhi by WHO's diplomatic bag today, sources said.  
Patients with suspected dengue fever were also coming to the capital from various districts for treatment. Four patients arrived in the city yesterday and the day before. Of them, one came from Jessore, one from Thakurgaon, one from Bogra and one from Narsingdi, sources said. Details could not be known.

**Thackeray will be arrested soon**

BOMBAY, July 22: Officials in the western Indian state of Maharashtra were today preparing to arrest Hindu right-wing leader Bal Thackeray for instigating anti-Muslim riots in 1992 and early 1993, reports AFP.  
"The arrest (of Thackeray) is most likely soon," the state chief minister Vilasrao Deshmukh told a television network in the state capital Bombay, in response to a question on whether the arrest would take place this weekend.  
The government of Maharashtra, led by India's main opposition Congress party, last week decided to prosecute Thackeray for anti-Muslim writings that fanned Hindu-Muslim riots in the city in 1992-93.  
The violence followed the December 1992 razing of a historic mosque in northern India by Hindu zealots that led to Hindu-Muslim rioting which claimed some 2,000 lives. The rioting spilled over into Bombay, claiming hundreds of lives in the city.  
Supporters of Thackeray's Shiv Sena (Shivji's Army) party, a formidable force in the state, went on a rampage Bombay last weekend to enforce a general shutdowns and stop traffic.  
Thackeray, a self-confessed admirer of Adolf Hitler, meanwhile, warned his arrest would set the city and India afire.  
But state chief minister Deshmukh said today "We have already taken a decision to prosecute him... It is up to the police to go about it. We are firm on our decision."  
Tension has been building up in Bombay the whole week over rumours of Thackeray's arrest. Shops in several parts of the city have downed their shutters in panic over the rumours, while schools and offices have been closing early.  
The Shiv Sena party runs the municipal government in Bombay, while the Congress party rules the state.  
Shiv Sena spokesman Subhash Desai said the party would take to the streets if Thackeray was arrested.  
"We will not go to the court, but face the issue on the streets. We are determined about that," he said.  
Deshmukh said the government was preparing to face any street violence or disruption to normal life.

**PM: Life threat**

From page 1  
mother and brothers - were killed. So I am not afraid of death.  
Amidst slogans by party workers, Hasina said, Allah has kept her alive to continue the service for the people.  
She said her father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had sacrificed his life for the people and if needed she would also sacrifice her life for the cause of the country.  
About Kotallipara Pourasava Water Supply Project, the PM said the government is working to ensure all services to the people and trying to develop all neglected areas of the country.  
The new project completed at a cost of Tk 3.96 crore will serve 7000 people of the municipality. Initially 500 lines will be given from the project to supply pure drinking water to the people.  
Later, the prime minister laid the foundation of a 250-bed General Hospital at Gopalganj.  
She said the present government was working relentlessly to meet the basic needs of the people, including health care services.

**Qatar Airbus**

From page 1  
left engine that resulted in smoke, he said.  
It was the third incident involving the Qatar Airways this month. Earlier two flights of the airways were affected by birds getting into their engines.

**One shot as rival groups clash at Sayedabad**

By Staff Correspondent  
One person was shot during a clash between two rival groups of local miscreants in front of Sayedabad Darbar Sarif in the city yesterday evening.  
Gulzar, 25, was shot in his waist while he was passing the area, hospital sources said quoting the victim.  
Police could not confirm the reason behind the clash. The victim was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.  
Demra police could not confirm whether the victim was an innocent or member of one of the two groups. They said that none came to the police station to file any complain in this regard.  
In another incident, an alleged extortionist was caught by mob at Abhoy Das Lane under Sutrapur thana in the city yesterday morning.  
Jainal Abedin, 22, went to a local hotel at about 10-30 am yesterday and demanded toll from the manager. As manager refused to give him money, he started ransacking the hotel.  
In the face of resistance by the hotel employees, Jainal came out of the hotel and tried to flee the scene. But the hotel employees, with the help of local people, caught Jainal and beat him mercilessly.  
Later, they handed him over to the police.

**AL brings out lathi procession at Khulna**

From Staff Correspondent  
KHULNA, July 22: Law enforcers today barred a procession by Awami League and its front organisations from entering the area where offices of Jamaat, Shibir and BNP are situated.  
Led by all top ranking leaders of Awami League, the processionists raised provocative slogans while Jubo League and Chhatra League supporters created high tension among business houses. Shutters were pulled down confining the buyers in the shops for over half an hour.  
All vehicles went off the roads and pedestrians ran to safer places seeing 'wooden lathis' in the hands of AL activists.  
Unprecedented security measures were taken with deployment of armed police battalion, riot police and security armed forces (SAF) during the procession.  
Top ranking police officials were seen trying to prevent processionists from entering the area where Jamaat and Shibir activists were holding rallies against the ruling party.



Children, under the aegis of Sylhet Division Development Council, formed a human chain in the city yesterday demanding emergency steps to eradicate aedes mosquito causing the dreaded dengue fever. —Star photo

**Minister, Biman TUs hold talks today**

By Special Correspondent  
Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mosharraf Hossain will hold talks with leaders of trade unions including the Collective Bargaining Agent (CBA) of Bangladesh Biman today on the issue of privatisation of the national airlines.  
The talks will be held at the Biman headquarters - Balaka - at 3 pm, Biman sources said yesterday.  
Employees had vowed to resist conversion of the Biman, a government owned corporation, into a Public Limited Company (PLC) to off-load 49 per cent shares. Nine per cent of the shares would go to employees and 40 per cent to a strategic partner.  
The CBA and other unions say conversion of Biman into a PLC would lead to job losses in the airlines having 13 aircraft and 5,550 employees and officers.  
The Biman authorities holding unofficial talks with the union leaders in the past few days tried to allay their fears that there would job cuts. Any redundancy in jobs due to privatisation would be absorbed into other projects of the Biman, the authorities said.  
Officials of the Biman held talks with CBA leaders yesterday in preparation for today's talks with the minister, the sources said.  
The discord with the employees began when consultants appointed by Biman under a World Bank aided project submitted their preliminary report to the authorities earlier this month.

**India, China to expedite demarcation of border**

NEW DELHI, July 22: India and China today agreed to expedite demarcation of their land border that remains disputed since their 1962 war, reports AP.  
A beginning has to be made to speed up the pace of negotiations with India on the clarification of the Line of Actual Control that separates the two nations, said visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan.  
Tang was talking to reporters after meeting with his Indian counterpart Jaswant Singh in New Delhi.  
An experts group set up by the two countries in 1993 to demarcate the boundary will meet as frequently as necessary instead of once a year. It will take up the middle sector of the ceasefire line stretching from Himachal Pradesh to Uttar Pradesh states in northern India, United News of India news agency said.  
Both countries are keen on thinning hundreds of thousands of troops positioned on their disputed border, but a clear delineation of the disputed territory must precede any such move.  
Tang also met with Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee and Sonia Gandhi, leader of the main opposition Congress party, later Saturday.  
India and China signed agreements in 1993 and 1996 committing themselves to respecting the existing ceasefire line, pending an eventual solution to the boundary dispute.  
The two countries fought a 21-day war in 1962 and have been holding talks since 1988 to settle the boundary dispute.  
India says China illegally occupies 14,500 square miles that it seized in the war in the northwest, a barren Himalayan region adjoining India's Kashmir state.  
Beijing says India is holding 36,000 square miles of Chinese territory in what is now India's eastern state of Arunachal Pradesh.  
India also is concerned about the transfer of missile technology from China to Pakistan, India's hostile neighbour.  
But the Chinese foreign minister said on Saturday that his country enjoyed "a normal kind of military relationship" with Pakistan and it was not directed against any third country, especially India.  
Tang's visit follows the weeklong tour of Indian President Kochar to Raman Narayan to China in June.  
Tang flies Saturday night to Karachi, Pakistan.  
Two-way trade between India and China is valued at \$10 billion a year.

**G8: Indo-Pak talks**

From page 1  
the Third World behind.  
On the second day of their three-day summit, the G-8 agreed to create a task force to pool their efforts to boost interest and lower its costs in developing nations.  
"Countries that succeed in harnessing (IT's) potential can look forward to leapfrogging conventional obstacles of infrastructure development," said a charter signed by the G-8 members: the United States, Japan, Italy, Britain, Germany, France, Canada and Russia.  
"Everyone should be able to enjoy access to information and communications networks," the document said.  
The leaders also called for government policies that avoid undue regulatory intervention in information technology and vowed to protect intellectual property rights in cyberspace. The task force will report on the success of its efforts at next year's G-8 summit in Genoa, Italy.  
In an effort to prevent the gap between industrial and developing societies from widening, Japan announced a 15 billion dollar aid package to help Third World nations bridge the digital divide and a 3 billion dollar one to fight infectious diseases such as AIDS and malaria.  
Prime Minister Mori said developing countries face a "vicious cycle" of poverty and infectious diseases. "How to cut into this cycle is our common task," his delegation quoted him as saying.  
Before the summit, the G-8 met with the officials from South Africa, Nigeria and Algeria in Tokyo to discuss these and other problems. The officials lambasted the rich countries, saying they have been too slow to provide debt relief, foreign investment and the transfer of IT and biotechnology that are vital to economic growth in the Third World.  
The leaders of Germany and Russia shared doubts over a proposed US anti-missile defense today, but they did not form an alliance to fight the idea, German officials said.  
The German government also confirmed that it will reschedule 4 billion dollar in loans that it is owed by Russia. Germany is Russia's biggest creditor.  
German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and Russian President Vladimir Putin held brief talks on the sidelines of the G-8 summit.  
Ctg hartal  
From page 1  
deployed at all important points of the city.  
Police forced a procession of BNP supporters to retreat from Enayet bazar area this afternoon.  
The procession was brought in support of tomorrow's hartal, party sources said.  
Some BCL activists also brought out a procession in Andarkilla area this evening to oppose tomorrow's hartal.

**Bomb blast kills housewife in Gopibagh**

By Staff Correspondent  
A housewife was killed when a bomb was hurled on her by a 'terrorist' in front of her residence at Gopibagh in the city last night.  
Shakila, 42, was seriously injured when Masud, brother of Idu of Asif group, threw the bomb, hospital sources quoting her relatives said.  
Shakila was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College where doctors declared her dead.  
Husband of the victim, however, blamed Lokman, Officer-in-Charge of Sutrapur police for the murder. The OC might have involved hoodlums to kill his wife to take revenge as he lost a case to Rashid, relatives of Rashid quoting him said. Rashid reportedly filed eight cases against OC Lokman on various grounds.  
When the OC went to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital Rashid tried to hit him, they added.  
OC Lokman told this correspondent over telephone last night that the allegation was not true and there was no specific case against him filed by Rashid.  
She might have been killed following a family feud over drug trade, he said. A number of cases were filed against Rashid's family members for their alleged involvement in drug trading the OC added.  
The body was sent to the DMCH morgue for autopsy.

**Security guard murdered in city**

By Staff Correspondent  
The body of a security guard was recovered from Kaola Namapara under Uttara thana in the city yesterday.  
The victim was identified as Solyaman, 35, son of Abdul Aziz.  
The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately, police said.  
Hospital sources quoting the relatives said that some unidentified men called Solyaman out of house No. 1, Road 130, Gulshan in the city on Friday night.  
His body was found on the north side of Natun Bridge at Kaola Namapara yesterday. There were marks of injury in his head, police said quoting the inquest report.  
Uttara police recovered the body and sent it to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.  
No case was filed in this connection till filing of this report last night.

**Stewart spurs England to final victory**

LONDON, July 22: Alec Stewart sustained his superb form by stroking 97 to spur England to a six-wicket victory over Zimbabwe in the final of the triangular one-day series at Lord's on Saturday, reports Reuters.  
After hitting 74 not out, 101 and 100 not out in the three previous games of the 10-match tournament, Stewart rescued England after they slipped to nine for two in pursuit of a victory target of 170 in 50 overs.  
Stewart faced 123 balls and hit 14 fours, sharing a third-wicket stand of 141 with Graeme Hick (41) as England eased to 170 for four with 4.4 overs to spare. Stewart was adjudged man-of-the-match and man-of-the-series respectively.  
England had set up their triumph with combative over-cricket which restricted Zimbabwe to 169 for seven after they were put in to bat on an overcast morning.  
Darren Gough made the inroads with two wickets in 14 balls and it took a stand of 89 between brothers Andy and Grant Flower, who hit 48 and 53 not out respectively, to give the total a degree of respectability.  
West Indies, the third team in the series, were eliminated after winning only one of their six qualifying games.