one-page special on the World AIDS Day

APEC were not preoccupied with thoughts about freeing trade among the members and were more concerned with resumption of global round of talks under WTO reveals their actual intent. They want to use the APEC forum to promote their global interests through WTO. One may not go as far as calling them Fifth columnists. But they very well stand indicated of setting the ship of APEC. adritthrough their myopic view, writes

Mohammad Badrul Ahsan's The Narrow Wide Caps

Hasnat Abdul Hye in APEC Adrift

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SC rule Dec 3

on Ershad's

petition

The Supreme Court will pro-

Ershad's counsel Barrister

He said in all circumstances

The court also can pass order

Attorney General (AG)

AG said the court can not pass

After hearing both the sides

See page 11 col 3

Cyclone lashes

Tamil Nadu

12 killed, 48 missing

MADRAS, India, Nov 30: At

least 12 people were killed and

any order contrary to criminal

procedure code and penal code.

Chief Justice Latifur Rahman

PM leaves for 3-nation tour tonight

me Minister Sheikh Hasina hedried to kick off a nine-day to Italy, Germany and Switrland at midnight tonight as part of her avowed diplomatic pursuits to explore further avenues of bilateral cooperation in investment and employment.

reports BSS. Bangladesh is one of the major recipients of development assisrance from these countries and the Prime Minister during her visit to expected to strongly encourage European entrepreneurs for investment here, taking dvantage of the vast incentives and liberal government policies.

successful in generating support of these donor countries for more active role in development cooperation," Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad told a press briefing here vesterday.

The visit of the Prime Minister s taking place on the invitations extended by the respective govemments of the three European

The invitation is an effective omplement to the continued See page 11 col 7

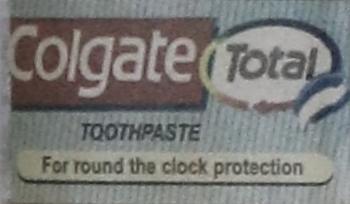
AL, BNP happy over Raja's withdrawal

Star Report Both the ruling Awami League and main opposition BNP yestery expressed satisfaction at kistan's recall of a diplomat om its High Commission in Dhaka for his derogatory remarks lamst the Bangladesh's War of beration recently.

Amidst angry protests across Carintry against Deputy High Commissioner Irian Raja's emarks, Pakistan yesterday

in an instant reaction. Al. residium member Amir Hossain mu told The Daily Star vesteray that "mere withdrawal of the ipiomat wouldn't do. He (Raja) hould withdraw his audacious tatements and Pakistan should seek apology for his remarks."

It's not only the question of alling back a diplomat. Rather. akistan has to change its mindset if it really means nprovement of relations with See page 11 col 4



Sehri, Iftar timings amadan Dec Sehri Iftar 5-00 5-14

Pakistan recalls errant envoy

Three days of explosive diplomatic drama ends

By Diplomatic Correspondent

Irian Raja who was serving as its Deputy High Commissioner in Dhaka.

Raja's recall ended three days of high diplomatie drama whipped up by nationwide protests threaten-

ing to affect bilateral ties between the two countries. Bangladesh's Independence War at a function in Dhaka on Monday and said the atrocities in 1971 We also hope the visit will be | were initiated by 'miscreants of the Awami League and not by the Pakistan Army." He also asked why should his country apologise after losing half of its said.

Bangladesh government acted immediately,

Pakistan yesterday recalled its 'errant envoy' summoning Pakistan's High Commissioner Iqbal Ahmed khan and handing over a protest note to him the next morning:

A news agency report from the Pakistan capital yesterday evening said Islamabad was recalling Irfan Raja, a senior diplomat, from Dhaka following The diplomat had made derogatory remarks on protests over his remarks about atrocities during

the 1971 Independence War. We regret the controversy surrounding the reported remarks of the Pakistan deputy high commissioner," a spokesman of Pakistan's foreign office

In the circumstances, it has become impossible. See page 11 col 7

PM calls upon police to remain alert

Police Staff College at Mirpur inaugurated

By Staff Correspondent

upon the police force to remain alert so that crimimen, she mentioned. nals could not escape trail through loopholes in law. She also ordered for stern action against terrorists and criminals for maintain peace and security in ciency, she hoped.

against them, whichever party they belong to", the for non-gazzetted police officials has been increased PM said while inaugurating the Police Staff College by 40 per cent. in Mirpur in the city.

peace and security in the society.

Hasina also ordered for action against police perform duties with sincerity and honesty will be going training awarded. The entire police department sometimes

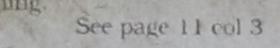
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called faces controversy due to misdeeds of some police

The Staff College will provide better training to police officials to enhance their professional effi-

The government is trying to give the police force "Criminals do not belong to any party. Take action more facilities she said and mentioned that ration

Fifteen bundred new vehicles have been procured She said economic development is not possible for quick transportation and 1,000 digital telephone without improving law and order and ensuring lines installed at the DMP headquarters for better communication, she mentioned.

The PM also inaugurated the course of the first officials involved in annoral activities. Officials who batch in which 24 serior police officials are under t





Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina offers munajat after inaugurating the Police Staff College at Mirpur yesterday. Home Minister Mohammad Nasim is on her left. -Star photo



Abahani striker Kanchan is sandwiched by Muktijoddha defenders Sujon (left) and Hassan al-Mamun during yesterday's title-decider of the National Bank premier division football league at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Muktijoddha won 4-3 in tiebreaker after the regulation period ended goalless and regained the title. -Star photo

PAC beset with backlog

It may take 12 years to review 450 audit reports

By Monjur Mahmud

Some 450 audit reports await scrutiny of the capability. Even the members are not well aware of Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and it may take the committee rules and procedures. the committer more than 12 years to clear the backlog strong and we entroace of hearing continues.

jumped forward and examined some reports of General (STAG) project. 1996-97 fiscal.

undermined, sources say.

It has no budget for hearings and runs on a skele- Accountability Assessment (CFAA). ton staff. It does not have any research or analysis

"In fact. PAC lacks the expertise and resources to

deal with the Issues and the volume of audit According to sources, the committee is now reports, said a World Bank official working under reviewing the audit reports of 1986. It has also Strengthening the Office of Comptroller and Auditor

The World Bank and the United Nations Develop-Although one of the most important parliamen- ment Programme (UNDP) are sponsoring a series of tary committees, the PAC's effectiveness is seriously studies which will form the basis of a consolidated report -- the Bangladesh Country Financial

See page 11 col 1

Dhaka to raise question over forecast failure

JRC meeting sometime next month

By Nazrul Islam

upcoming Joint River Commission (JRC) meeting as bouring countries on December 12, 1996, official to why the Indian authorities did not warn it beforehand about the recent unusual flood despite an such information.

the country causing huge damage to lives and properties in September and October originated from the upstream rivers in India.

January next year, the fourth year of the 30-year

Bangladesh is likely to raise the question at the Water Sharing Treaty signed between the two neighsources said.

The treaty requires both sides to share updated agreement between the two countries on sharing water related data for precautionary measures. Bangladesh, India and Nepal which share several The flood that swept the southwestern region of common rivers will participate in the JRC expertand high official-level meeting.

Meanwhile, following the recent unusual floods in the country's southwestern districts, a 10-member The JRC meeting will take place sometime in parliamentary delegation visited different projects See page 11 col 7

dozens more injured as a eyclone builded the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu and adjourning districts, officials said Thursday. reports AFP.

Forty-eight fishermen were missing at sea, although the Coast Guard said the likelihood was they had taken shelter else-

Search operations at sea for anyone in distress would continue with aerial sorties, an offi-

cial added. The weather office in New Delh! warned that although the cyclone

had spent its fury in the region late Wednesday, the states of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka would be pummelled by rainfall and squalls until Saturday. The storm, which hit Tamil Nadu and former French colony

afternoon, damaged property and brought down thousands of trees. disrupting rail and road traffic. Gales with wind speeds between 130 and 150 kilometres per hour (80-95 mph) sliced

through Tamil Nadu's coastal

of Pondicherry on Wednesday

district of Cuddalore. Local spokesman Chhattrahhsal Singh said the state authorities had received enough forewarning to take sufficient precautionary measures.

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Watch out for date

ECs unlikely to back out

Identical replies to CEC's letter soon

By Staff Correspondent

The three Election Commissioners (ECs) are likely to give on Sunday their identical replies to Chief Election Commissioner MA Syed's letter that nullifled the decisions taken in his absence.

"We will submit our letters explaining our position as reply to the CEC's letter served on Monday last," an Election Commissioner (EC) told a group of newsmen at his office yesterday seeking anonymity.

Another source at the Election Commission said the three ECs will not change their position regarding the "illegal" appointments in an EC project. Through the letters, they will urge the CEC to

change his mind regarding cancellation of the

appointments, the source said. He however hoped that the differences between the CEC and the ECs would be narrowed down

through talks. The EC said, "He (the CEC) has to cancel his decision that he had taken to recruit an international consultant and a system analyst in an EC project. The appointments were unilaterally given by the

CEC ignoring rules and norms," the EC said. The CEC appointed Lionel Wollner a consultant See page 11 col 4

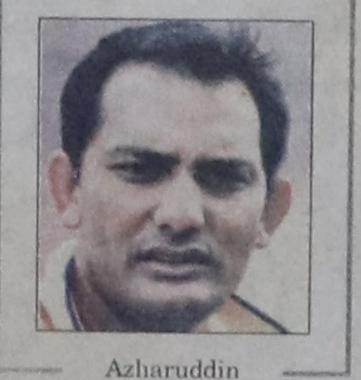
Life ban awaits Azhar

BCCI may go soft on Jadeja

NEW DELHI, Nov 30: Former Indian cricket captain Mohammad Azharuddin is set to be banned for life for matchfixing, while another tainted player. Ajay Jadeja may be let off with a one-year suspension, highly placed sources said on Thursday, reports AFP.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) will next week hand down punishment to four players found guilty by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the board's own inter-

Former players Manol Prabhakar and Ajay Sharma will be banned from having any official role in Indian cricket, while doing, will be exonerated, the Nayan Mongia, against whom the sources told AFP. CBI found no evidence of wrong-



The decision to impose a life

ban on Azharuddin, 38, who the CBI said admitted to fixing three one-day internationals, was supported by 28 of the 30 board affiliates at its special general body meeting in Calcutta on Wednesday, the sources said.

The two exceptions were the Hyderabad Cricket Association Azharuddin's home unit -- and former BCCI chief Raj Singh Dungarpur.

'These two wanted Azhar's contribution to Indian cricket to be taken into account, before deciding his fate," said a topranking BCCI official who asked not to be identified.

We would have announced the punishments on Wednesday itself if all the 30 units had agreed to it. See page 11 col 1

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