

Ban awaits Azhar

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but it is final that Azhar will be banned for life.
Dungarpur said he believed the players' version that they were not guilty of fixing matches or dealing with bookmakers.
"So many people come up and speak to cricketers at airports, parties and other places," he told the Star News television channel.
"Some of them may be bookies but how are the players to know that. Bookies do not have labels pasted on them."
"I would rather believe a cricketer who has served his country than a bookmaker."
The BCCI official said there was tremendous pressure from within the board and outside to go soft on Jadeja, despite the BCCI new code of conduct which lays down a minimum ban of five years on players found guilty of hobnobbing with bookmakers.
Jadeja, 30, the only one among the four with a realistic chance of playing international cricket again, could be out for one year, possibly three, depending on how the BCCI's three-man disciplinary committee views it.
The committee, comprising BCCI president AC Muthiah and vice presidents Kamal Morarka and Ram Prasad, will meet in Madras over the weekend to reach a final decision.
Those toying a soft line on Jadeja have cited the example of

President takes iftar with orphans

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed hosted iftar for the orphans and physically and mentally handicapped children at Bangabhaban last evening, reports BSS.
State ministers for Social Welfare Dr. Mozammel Hossain, Religious Affairs Maulana Mohammad Nurul Islam, Women and Children Affairs Prof. Zinnatunnesa Talukdar and secretaries of the concerned ministries attended the iftar.
President Shahabuddin talked to the orphans and enquired about their welfare.
He also wished them bright future.

Pak flag, effigy of Irfan Raja burnt in city

By DU Correspondent
JSD-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday burned the effigy of Pakistani Deputy High Commissioner Irfan Raja and the national flag of Pakistan in front of National Press Club protesting the diplomat's 'aggressive' remarks regarding the Liberation War.
Earlier, BCL brought out a procession from the Dhaka University campus and held a rally in front of National Press Club after parading some city streets.
Addressing the rally, the leaders demanded immediate expulsion of the Pakistani diplomat from the country. They also expressed anguish as "Khaleda Zia and pro-BNP freedom fighters did not protest the incident."
Among others, Karim Sikder, Munir Ahmed Lenin, Golam Shamim, Mohammad Shamim, Shah Alam Helal and Masud Hossain addressed the rally.

PAC beset with backlog

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The studies cover parliamentary scrutiny, budgeting, accounting and internal control in the government departments; financial accountability of local government institutions; and the private sector accounting and audit profession.
The Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of Bangladesh, the supreme audit institution of the state, issues between 50 and 60 audit reports, plus up to 10 'special' studies every year.
"Audits focus on regularity of financial transactions and compliance with rules and regulations. Issues raised in audit reports are not significant. There is no risk analysis to determine priority areas for audit. There is little or no follow up and the num-



3 Killed in Feni

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Earlier on Wednesday night, Mazal Hui, 30, general secretary of Dhola union Juba League and son of the chairman of same union, was chopped to death by unidentified assailants.
Later, the Juba League activists kidnapped Nurul Islam Sarnakar, 50, president of Mangolkandi unit of BNP. Police could not rescue him till writing of this report at 6 pm today.
Protesting the abduction, the BNP activists launched an armed attack on the rivals, injuring Mizan, 30, and Mahub, 28, by bullets. They were sent to Dhaka for treatment.
They also kidnapped another Juba League activist, Sabuj, 25,

Australian expert arrives today to conduct course on journalism

Pieter Wessels, a communication consultant commissioned by the Commonwealth Press Union, arrives tonight to conduct a 5-day training course on "Cyber Journalism-How to Exploit the Internet", reports UNB.
The course, to be held from December 3 at the recently installed Cybercorner of the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB), will be inaugurated by Justice Habibur Rahman Khan, Chairman, Bangladesh Press Council.
Twenty senior and mid-level journalists representing the major newspapers and news agencies of the country will participate in the course, first of its kind in the country.
Pieter Wessels, an independent journalist from Australia who specialises in using the internet to practice his profession, worked more than 30 years as a journalist with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.
He is also chairman of the Australia chapter of the Commonwealth Journalists Association.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

An international development agency working towards improvement of the living conditions of the poorest both in rural and urban areas, invites application for the position of REGIONAL CO-ORDINATOR for Dhaka Zone. We are looking for someone who is capable, has relevant qualifications and is ambitious to experience development taking place in Bangladesh.
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The Leader of the Opposition and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia hosted an iftar party for the Islamic thinkers at her 29, Minto Road residence yesterday. -Star photo

Malika's daughters misleading press

College authorities allege at press confce
By Staff Correspondent
The authorities of Dr Malika College and some relatives of its founder Dr Malika Al-Razee yesterday accused her adopted daughters of trying to create misgivings by giving false information to journalists.
The adopted daughters were also damaging reputation of the college by using forged signature of Dr Malika in various documents, they alleged at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.
It is further alleged that the adopted daughters and their relatives took various 'illegal' advantages as Dr Malika had no child and now they are conspiring to continue doing that even after her death.
The college authorities claimed that all the property of Dr Malika is now owned by the college as per her trust deed.
Principal of the college Mohammad Ishaque said at the press conference that after setting up the college, Dr Malika had brought her distant brother Mahub Dhal and his four daughters from their village home. She had appointed the four sisters and their three brothers to various posts at the college, such as pioner, clerk and gardener.
He alleged that the adopted daughters and their relatives were also involved in forgery of certificates and misappropriation of college funds.
"Dr Malika herself had sacked three sons of Mahub Dhal following allegations of stealing college property and misbehaving with teachers and employees," the principal said in a statement read out by him.
Husband of Maksudha Dhal, one of the adopted daughters, misappropriated a large amount of college funds and when it came light, Maksudha and her husband Ishaq Sikder quit their jobs at the college, the statement mentioned.
It alleged that Vice Principal of the college is also involved in various irregularities.
The press conference was attended by, among others, Dr Malika's son-in-law Dr Amanullah Khan, daughter Shirin Al-Razee, of Dr Malika's sister and Sabiha Salauddin, a teacher at the college.

ECs: back out

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and Mainul Haque a system analyst at the Commission in August last. It triggered a tussle between him and his three deputies.
The three ECs opposed the appointments as there was no provision for appointment of an international consultant in the project, the Commissioner said.
The CEC hired the high-paid consultant from the US for two weeks. Now the consultant has become permanent in the project and is interfering in EC activities, he claimed.
The CEC at an informal meeting with his deputies on Wednesday asked them to consider the appointment as lawful. But the

AL, BNP happy

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Bangladesh," added Amu.
Earlier on Tuesday, AL General Secretary Zillur Rahman had issued a statement asking the Pakistani diplomat to apologise unconditionally to the people of Bangladesh for his audacious remarks. The AL leader had also demanded his immediate expulsion.
Giving his reaction to The Daily Star yesterday, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said Pakistan's decision to withdraw its diplomat from Dhaka would pave the way for improving bilateral relations between the two countries.
Bhuiyan said the Pakistani diplomat had hurt the sentiment of the entire nation by making such derogatory remarks.
Earlier on the day, BNP in a belated reaction to the remarks of AL urged the diplomat to withdraw his remarks. Earlier on Tuesday, BNP had said it would

AL reviews

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successes of the government, they said.
There is still time to fulfil some of the commitments before hand-over of power to a caretaker government, they maintained.
But the party high command is very much concerned at the government's poor record in containing the law and order situation, which deteriorated much in the last two years, the sources said.
In the last election manifesto, AL had promised action against all sorts of criminal activities irrespective of party affiliations of the perpetrators. But in power, it failed to fulfil the promise to a large extent, a fact acknowledged by many mid-ranking AL leaders.
For this, they blamed the government's "indifference" to accumulation of power by a handful of leaders who "earned bad name for the party by resorting to terrorist activities."
Yet, the AL leadership is hopeful of retaining power through the 2001 elections.
One leader recalled that in 1996 the party chief had approached voters seeking forgiveness for AL's past mistakes. "The situation is far better now. This time we will woo voters for continuation of development activities initiated by the government."

ECs differed, saying it involved ethical issues and they could not legitimise it.
The EC said the newly appointed consultant was reversing the project initiated by the TAC. The CEC is keeping mum on the consultant's recommendations whether those serve the interest of the Election Commission or not, he alleged.
Last year, the EC Secretariat formed a five-member Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) with BUET Professor Jamilur Reza Chowdhury as its chief for proper implementation of the UNDP funded Computer Database project to strengthen the Election Commission for improvement of the electoral process.

give reaction on Wednesday. But BNP sent its delayed reaction to the press on Thursday.
When asked to explain the reason behind such delay in giving reaction to such a sensitive issue, Mannan Bhuiyan said the unintended delay was due to tardy communication with party high command.
"Jamal-e-Islami also gave its reaction last night, three days after the incident and termed Raja's remarks as 'unwarranted and sad'. It called for appropriate measures by the Pakistani authorities in this regard."
Meanwhile, different socio-cultural and political organisations continued their agitation against the Pakistani diplomat yesterday. They expressed their deep anguish at the uncalled for statements by Raja and demanded his expulsion.
They also held protest rallies and brought out processions in the city.

QAB

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According to sources in the QAB and health ministry, lack of enterprise is to blame for the deadlock.
One of the QAB members requesting anonymity said, "The scheme is aimed at improving quality of teaching and learning in all medical colleges, both private and public. It is a landmark initiative. But there are people in the health ministry who are against the idea of making it functional."
"For instance, specific instructions were given to respective medical colleges but the QAB has not taken any initiatives in checking if the scheme has been made operational. No external assessor have been nominated and funds have not been disbursed to support training and technical matters."
When contacted, QAB Chairman Professor ABM Ahsanullah said, "It is true that we have not made much progress. In fact, director of medical education, who is acting on my behalf to look into the affairs, is very busy and can hardly make any time to oversee the progress."
Prof. Ahsanullah, however, said that modifications in the curriculum have been proposed in 1994. The proposals for the changes are awaiting approval at the Bangladesh Medical and Dental Council (BMDC) and Dhaka University.

Khaleda hosts iftar for Islamic thinkers

Opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday hosted an iftar party for Olamaye Mashayekh (Islamic philosophers and devotees) at her Minto Road official residence, reports UNB.
Before iftar, Begum Zia exchanged pleasantries with the guests at the huge pandel erected at the premises of her residence for hosting a number of iftar parties during the month of fasting.
Over 200 leaders and workers of Jatiyatadabi Olamaya Dal attended the party.
Moulana Mohiuddin Khan, Prof. Hasanuzzaman, Mufi Fazul Huq Amine, Moulana Bashir Majibhandari, Nasar Ahmed, Abul Kalam Azad and Mofazzal Hossain Kaikobad, MP among others, were present.
Begum Zia will host an iftar party for diplomats at Hotel Sheraton on December 3.

Circular issued about forged signature of PM's Principal Secy

By Special Correspondent
Dr Abdus Samad, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, have sent a circular to all the secretaries alerting them about certain elements or organisations who have forged his signature and seal to issue recommendations or directives and orders.
In a 'top secret' memo on November 26 Dr Samad also urged the secretaries to immediately inform him if they come across any documents containing his fake signatures and take stern actions against the persons or institutions.
"It has been noticed that a section of unscrupulous money seekers and signature forgers and organisations have copied my signature and seal to issue different kinds of recommendations or directives and orders and are involved illegally for their personal gains", he said in the memo.
He said that a number of such documents have come to his possession and reminded all to take action considering the matter and said that during his long career he had never intervened on the natural course of government rules and regulations or made any unjust or illegal recommendations.
"In fact I do not make any correspondence, comments or recommendations out of the government channel in force", he added.
But he did not mention whether he had informed the police about the matter.

Admission test DU Peace and Conflict Studies Dept results

By DU Correspondent
The result of admission test into the MSS programme of the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies of the Dhaka University in the session 1998-1999 was published yesterday.
The candidates bearing the following serial numbers have been qualified for the first batch enrolment in the department: 0018, 0091, 0092, 0117, 0133, 0183, 0014, 0007, 0021, 0142, 0098, 0163, 0134, 0111, 0101, 0080, 0109, 0081, 0084 and 0127.
The selected students have been asked to contact the office of the department and complete their admission formalities by December 10. Failing to do so will lead to cancellation of their eligibility to the admission, a press release said.
The students in waiting list, according to merit order, are: serial nos 0096, 0119, 0054 and 0073.
They have been asked to contact the department office after December 10, the release added.

NCTBB

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take delivery of security paper within 28 days of getting the work order, deposit the printed books to the NCTBB by November 30 and supply those to market by December 15. The Beximco concerns were awarded the job on October 26.

Dhaka to raise

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in India aimed to combat floods.
During the 15-day visit, the team went to the Farakka Barrage in West Bengal, Joyaxan Barrage in Aurangabad, the Water and Land Management Institute (WALMI) in Pune, and many other dams and barrages in different places, said a delegation member.
The team on its return suggested that a master plan be taken for proper water resources management in the country.
Under the proposed master plan, the government has to take up massive dredging in the rivers and their tributaries where navigation is not possible due to heavy siltation in the beds.
On the other hand, the country needs surface water reservoirs for lean season, ruling party lawmaker MA Bari who led the parliamentary delegation to India told the Daily Star yesterday.
Bari said the country needs a long-term well-designed plan to combat flood, which hits the country almost every year. Criticising the bureaucratic tangles, the ruling party lawmaker said the Bangladeshi bureaucrats should change their attitude.
The committee meeting asked the authorities concerned to improve their monitoring system and the early preparedness for any natural calamity.
The Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Water Resources has suggested that the Water Development Board keep close contact with the Indian Water and Land Management Institute, a high-powered research centre, to remain up-to-date regarding ecological matters.
The committee members who visited different parts of India shared their experiences with the members and concerned officials of the Water Resources Ministry at a meeting held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday with committee chairman Abdul Momen in the chair.
"We need a comprehensive plan to dredge off rivers and canals under the Food for Work programme," said the chairman.
The committee asked for preparation of a list of rivers and canals to be dredged out in the next five years.
The parliamentary delegation during a courtesy call on Indian Water Resources Minister Arjun Chandra Shihthi emphasised sharing information regarding water flow in the common rivers. The minister assured the team of co-operation at the highest level.
Committee members Anwarul Islam, Kazi Sekendar Ali, MA Bari, Sarfuddin Ahmed, Oli Ahmed, Bir Bikram, Dr. Habibur Rahman and Golam Mohammad Siraj attended the meeting.

Errant envoy

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for the officer to carry out his duties and responsibilities as a member of the High Commission. The (Pakistani) government has, therefore, decided to transfer him from Dhaka.
The decision to withdraw the envoy was conveyed to Bangladesh High Commission in Islamabad.
Dhaka was seemingly spared of taking a decision to declare the errant diplomat persona non grata following Islamabad's action.
A top official said, "It seemed good sense prevailed on Islamabad. It has acted prudently in taking action against an errant diplomat in an effort to maintain good bilateral relations."
Earlier, a news briefing scheduled for 1 pm was delayed by over one and a half hours as Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad and Foreign Secretary Shaif Sami were at the Prime Minister's Office apparently for consultations on 'contemplated steps' if Islamabad failed to withdraw its diplomat.
At 2:35 pm, a grim faced Samad Azad told anxious reporters, "Our decision will be taken in due course, at proper time."
The waiting newsmen seemed disappointed at the delay in government action.
Azad then said, "Our decision is under process. I am angry. The statements of the diplomat were provocative. It is unfortunate that we have not received anything from Islamabad. We are waiting for a reply."
Asked if the government has asked for the diplomat's recall, the foreign minister replied, "We have not said officially, but we have given indication."
The tense drama ended as the report from Islamabad reached Dhaka that the errant diplomat was withdrawn.
Observers saw this as a victory for Bangladesh's diplomacy and felt that the action would contribute to stability and cooperation in South Asia for which Dhaka is striving for long.

PM: 3-nation tour

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interest of government of Italy, Germany and Switzerland in Bangladesh, the foreign minister said.
The three European countries have already evinced keen interest for investment in Bangladesh and already entered into various agreements securing protection of their investment.
During the visit to Italy at the start of her trip, Sheikh Hasina will hold official talks with her Italian counterpart Ghiliano Amato when they will discuss and review the broad gamut of bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues of mutual interest.
An agreement on scientific and technological cooperation between Bangladesh and Italy is likely to be signed.
Italy, an important member of European Union and trading partner of Bangladesh, has supported Bangladesh's position in the GSP issue. Exports to Italy stood at 248 million dollars in 1999-2000 with ready-made garments, knitwear, shrimps and jute twine being the major export items. The import during the fiscal amounted to 37 million dollars.
In Germany, the Prime Minister will hold official talks with the federal chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany, which is the second largest destination of Bangladesh's exports and the biggest trading partner in Europe.
Bangladesh so far received DM 357million development fund from Germany. Priority areas of development cooperation with Germany include human resources and infrastructure development, promotion of private small and medium-scale industries along with health, energy and private sector and Chittagong Hill Tracts infrastructure.
At the fag-end of her Europe trip (December 8-9) in Switzerland, the Prime Minister will hold official talks with Adolf Ogi, President of the Swiss Confederation and Mr. Joseph Deiss, Federal Councillor and Head of the Department of the Foreign Ministry of Switzerland.
Bangladesh is one of the major recipients of the Swiss Development Cooperation assistance. The priority areas for further mutual cooperation and Swiss investment are rural infrastructure and transport, water supply and sanitation, sustainable land use and micro and small enterprise.

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VACANCY

Applications are invited for the position of **Director (Finance and Accounts)** at North South University.

Qualifications: Masters degree preferably in commerce (Accounting) with CA/CMA/MBA. Candidates with foreign degree(s) will get preference.

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Interested candidates may submit application with complete CV and copies of certificates and credentials to the Pro-Vice Chancellor, North South University by 21 December 2000 latest.