

# The Daily Star

TODAY'S ISSUE 20 PAGES

COMMITTED TO  
People's Right to Know

REGD. No. DA 781

VOL. XII No. 128

DHAKA TUESDAY JUNE 11, 2002

www.dailystarnews.com

20 PAGES PLUS RISING STARS PRICE: TK 7.00

## India lifts overfly ban on Pak aircraft

### Kashmir borders calm: Infiltration of militants has reduced, says Delhi

AFP, New Delhi

India yesterday acknowledged a reduction in infiltration of Islamic militants into Kashmir and lifted an overfly ban on Pakistani aircraft with immediate effect.

Besides, Kashmir borders became suddenly calm overnight after weeks of heavy exchanges of fire.

"There are some indications of a

diminution of infiltration, so we felt this response was warranted," foreign ministry spokeswoman Nirupama Rao told a press conference.

**Editorial on page 4**

She was referring to the Indian government's decision to lift a ban on all Pakistani aircraft overflying its territory.

"This should be seen as part of

our desire for a lasting peace," Rao said. "There are some changes taking place."

India had slapped a series of sanctions, including a flight ban, on Pakistan after its parliament was attacked by Islamic militants in December.

Claiming Pakistan was sponsoring the militants, it also sent hundreds of thousands of troops to its borders with Pakistan, a move that

was matched by Pakistan.

The tense stand-off spiralled following an attack by militants on an army camp in Indian Kashmir last month in which 35 people were killed.

An intensive diplomatic effort spearheaded by the US was launched to pull the nuclear-capable rivals back from the brink of war.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

## Killing at BUET PM asks home ministry to take legal action against culprits

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia directed the home ministry to take immediate legal action to book the culprits.

She toughened her stance on the offenders following the killing of a female student of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. Sadequnnahar Sony, the said student, died in crossfire during an armed clash between two factional groups on the campus on Saturday.

The prime minister expressed shock at the tragic incident. She asked the authorities concerned to make sure that "no outsiders stay in residential halls of universities".

A five-member delegation of the BUET Teachers Association led by

SEE PAGE 11 COL 8



PHOTO: AFP

One more to come...Portugal's hatricket hero Pedro Pauleta turns away after scoring his second goal as Poland's keeper Jerzy Dudek and Marek Kozminski (L) look on at the Jeonju World Cup Stadium yesterday.

## Govt may revise duties on computer, reconditioned vehicle

SHAHRIAR KARIM

Following criticism from different sections of people, the government is considering some revision of the tax structure proposed in the budget for the next financial year.

On the top of the revision list is withdrawal of the 7.5 per cent proposed import duty on computer and computer accessories, according to highly placed sources in the ruling party.

Also, there is pressure from within the government to withdraw the proposed ban on import of reconditioned vehicles.

The policy planners are now thinking to withdraw the ban, but the government will not allow any depreciation in the assessment of old and used motor cars. So, the price of reconditioned vehicles will shot up to the level of new vehicles, sources concerned said.

"If the government lifts the ban but does not allow depreciation, it will mean that we have to sell reconditioned vehicles at the price of new cars," a dealer of reconditioned vehicles told The Daily Star.

Some tax measures in the proposed budget evoked criticism even

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

## Hasina hints at joining JS 'in people's interest'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina yesterday hinted that her party might join the parliament session 'in the interest of the people'.

"It is not a matter of ego. We will do whatever required and will go wherever needed in the interest of the people of Bangladesh," Hasina told a group of newsmen halfway into the crucial meeting of the AL Central Working Committee in the evening.

Awami League lawmakers have been abstaining from attending sessions of the eighth parliament since its inception.

Asked whether her party would attend the current budget session, the AL chief said, "We didn't say that we will never attend the parliament. The party will do whatever is needed for the people and the country".

The Awami League Central Working Committee (ALCWC) sat at the Awami Foundation office at Dhanmondi yesterday afternoon to resolve many issues.

The issues included disciplinary action against some 'rebel' party leaders and activists who allegedly worked against party candidates in the last election, the party's upcoming biennial council and the issue of its joining parliament session.

Till yesterday evening, the 67-member working committee was

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

## Commentary

## INSIDE TODAY

Article 4

Is it your daughter's turn next? In the land of 'Ghapachus' Column: Straight from the Heart Afsan Chowdhury

Focus 5

Is Europe veering towards the right? and your age is your cage

Culture 8

Documentary: A diary on the Jamuna

## Contractor shot dead in Mirpur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A contractor was shot dead by a gang of extortionists near the fire station at Section 10 in the city's Mirpur area yesterday.

The victim, Mohammad Sanullah, 35, a contractor of rod, cement and sand and son of Deen Mohammad of House number-44, Block-A, Lane-4, Section-6 at Pallabi was killed as he refused to give in to the demand of the gang.

Sources quoting witnesses said the armed gang led by Aziz, Shamsul and Hakim swooped on Sanullah while he was taking tea at a tea shop at Senpara at about 11-45 pm.

The extortionists shot in his head point blank and fled the scene. Sanullah died on the spot.

Yunus, brother of the victim, alleged that the killers demanded Tk 60,000 from Sanullah a few days ago, but he refused to oblige.

The body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy.

A case was filed with Mirpur police station in this regard. The duty officer of Mirpur police station said that police arrested six persons for their alleged involvement in the killing.

## Quader Siddiqui asks Khaleda to stand down

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The lone lawmaker of Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Janata League (BKSJL) Abdul Quader Siddiqui yesterday stunned Prime Minister Khaleda Zia when he asked her to stand down unless she could improve the law and order.

"Quit power if you fail to perform. Let us try what can be done," an angry Siddiqui told the Jatiya Sangsad, apparently stunning the prime minister, who was present in the House at the time.

The outburst prompted Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar to intervene. "This is not a point of order... you please submit a notice on the issue," the speaker said several minutes after Siddiqui started speaking on the killing of BUET student Sabequn Nahar Sony.

Drawing the prime minister's attention to rising crimes, Siddiqui said, "Do you want to turn the coun-

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

## Constable 'commits suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A constable committed suicide while on duty at the old MP Hostel at Nakhapara in the city yesterday, Tejgaon police said.

Constable Mohammad Saiful, 28, of Tejgaon thana shot himself by putting the barrel of his rifle on his chin, police said. Bullets pierced through his brain and he died on the spot, they added.

But they could not ascertain the reason for the suicide as Saiful did not leave any note.

They said at least four policemen are put on duty at the hostel for members of parliament everyday but yesterday there were three in number.

But Saiful's colleague Havidar Mashur Rahman told The daily Star at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) that before the incident he was seen drowsing putting the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

## Portugal stay afloat

AFP, Jeonju

A Pauleta hatricket and a late goal from Rui Costa gave Portugal a 4-0 win over Poland which put their own World Cup campaign back on track and knocked the Poles out of the tournament here yesterday.

With both nations having lost their opening ties the Group D encounter was crucial to the hopes of both nations.

Bordeaux striker Pauleta's treble and Costa's late icing on the cake meant his country moved to within a

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

## Tunisia baffle Belgium

AFP, Oita

Belgium are still in with a chance of reaching the second round of the World Cup after drawing 1-1 with Tunisia here yesterday but their opponents have only the faintest hope of going through.

Belgium took the lead after 13 minutes when captain Marc Wilmots volleyed a headed knockdown past Tunisian keeper Ali Boumnijel.

The Tunisians, looking a vastly improved side from the one that lost

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

### Grameen Match Report

### DHL Spec Report