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TODAY'S ISSUE 20 PAGES

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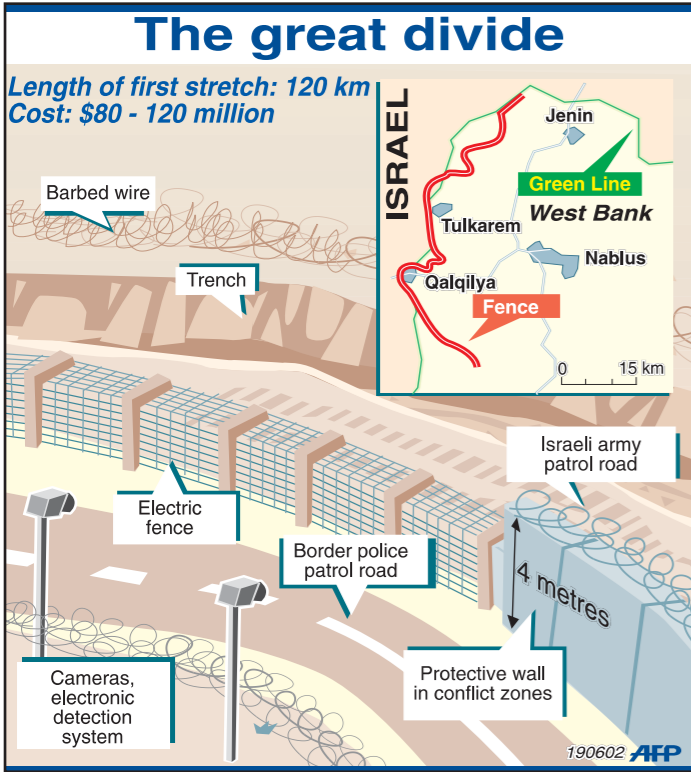
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Israel starts retaking Palestinian territory



REUTERS, Jerusalem

Israel took over two West Bank towns yesterday, announcing a new, hardline policy to occupy Palestinian territory and exact other reprisals until the suicide attacks on its people are halted.

The government decreed the tough line after a suicide bombing Tuesday that killed 19 Israelis on a rush-hour Jerusalem bus and wounded 50 others in the deadliest assault on Israel in nearly three months.

The new tack came at a crucial moment in the Middle East conflict with US President George W. Bush trying to finalise a peace strategy based around the declaration of a Palestinian state.

Israeli troops, tanks and armoured personnel carriers rumbled into the northern West Bank towns of Jenin and Qalqilya, both centers of Palestinian militancy, and briefly occupied the town of Nablus, officials said.

The Jewish state had vowed to take "several military actions" against Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority following the Jerusalem blast that gutted a bus crowded with commuters and schoolchildren.

A statement issued by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office pledged "a change in the way Israel responds to murderous acts of terror. Israel will respond to acts of terror by capturing PA territory."

"These areas will be held by Israel as long as terror continues. Additional acts of terror will lead to the taking of additional areas," it said. Israeli defence ministry sources said work to erect a security fence along porous frontier with West Bank, which started at the weekend, would be accelerated.

An Israeli official, who asked not to be named, said Israel was also considering the expulsion of senior Palestinian officials as part of its crackdown but Arafat would not be targeted.

Israeli public radio said yesterday that the police had arrested about 1,200 Palestinians in the past 24 hours after finding them on Israeli territory.

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Extension of detention under SPA illegal: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two judges of a High Court Division Bench in a landmark verdict yesterday declared illegal any extension of a detention order under the Special Powers Act (SPA).

However, the other judge of the three-member bench, Justice Mohammad Hamidul Haque, in his verdict termed such extension legal. However, the judgement by the majority would be considered effective.

Justice Mohammad Abdul Matin and Justice Mohammad Marzi-ul-Haque in their verdict said the government has no authority to extend the tenure of a detention.

However, the Attorney General's

Office is going to appeal against the verdict.

The two judges in their identical verdict also made it mandatory for the authorities to inform the court about the grounds for the detention order of the accused within 15 days and if possible, earlier.

The ground for the detention order has to be cited before the Advisory Council formed in line with the Article 9 of the SPA and 33 (4) of the Constitution, the verdict further said.

The verdict followed a two-day hearing on a writ filed by Asaduzzaman Meazi, Hasinur Rahman, Rokon Mahmud and Biddyt Kumar after the home

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PHOTO: AFP

Stretching the limit...South Korea's coach Guus Hiddink, who is a national icon, plays with a ball during a training session at the Daejeon Stadium yesterday, two days before the co-hosts' quarter-final clash against Spain.

SC grants fresh time for separation of judiciary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

For the thirteenth time, the Supreme Court yesterday extended the deadline for the government to implement its 12-point directive for virtual separation of the judiciary.

This time, the deadline is October 26. However, the Supreme Court asked the government to report every month to its Appellate Division on the progress in this regard.

The Full Bench of the Appellate Division, upon hearing the government petition for extending the deadline, said the monthly report was needed to scrutinise whether the government was properly implementing the 12-point directive.

Raising questions about the government's proposed Judicial Service Commission, the Appellate Division noted that its structure is not in conformity with the directives.

The Full Bench comprised Chief Justice Mainur Reza Choudhury, Justice Md Ruhul Amin, Justice Md Fazlul Karim, Justice KM Hasan and Justice Syed JR Modassir Hossain.

On behalf of the government, Attorney General AF Hassan Arif told the court the government has made considerable progress in the implementation of the directives. The process would be completed in the next four months, he added.

The government has almost finalised draft regulations and rules for the Judicial Service Commission

and the Judicial Pay Commission. The draft for amendment to two rules and the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) is now at an advance stage, the AG said.

Opposing the government petition, Barrister Amir-ul-Islam said the government has been instructed to form the two commissions and these need to be formed first. Then the commissions would advise on formulating new rules. But, he said, for the last two and a half years the government was killing time,

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AL reaction Vulgar remarks in JS exposes their taste

UNB, Dhaka

The Awami League has termed unprecedented in parliamentary democracy the "indecorous and vulgar remarks" made in the House on Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina on Tuesday.

"The way the Leader of the House (Prime Minister Khaleda Zia) listened, enjoyed and nodded to an indecorous discussion for two and a half hours only exposed her perverted mentality, political vendetta bereft of morality and a culture of obscenities," the party said yesterday in a reaction to Tuesday's vote of censure on the opposition leader.

Awami League General Secretary Zillur Rahman MP issued a

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Game gets global

REUTERS, Yokohama

South Korea's dramatic golden-goal victory over Italy means that, for the first time in World Cup history, three teams from outside Europe and South America are in the last eight.

Statistics show that the 2002 World Cup is far and away the most topsy-turvy of the 17 staged to date because there had never before been more than one nation in the quarter-finals from outside the traditional powerbases of the game.

Since 1970, only hosts Mexico in 1986 and Cameroon in 1990 had broken the dominance of Europe and South America.

South Korea, Senegal and the United States have struck a mighty blow for soccer's 'third world' as all five of FIFA's participating continental confederations will now take part in the quarterfinals for the first time.

South Korea's stunning victories over three European teams - Poland, Czech Republic and France - have

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ROK raring to go

AP, Daejeon

South Korea upset three-time champion Italy, carving out another win against the odds to reach the quarterfinals and upstaging World Cup co-host Japan in the bargain.

Surely Tuesday's thrilling, come-from-behind 2-1 win in extra time over the Italians gave the Korean people more than they could've expected by helping stage the first

World Cup in Asia.

Next up is a quarterfinal Saturday against Spain, which has a record of choking at the World Cup.

Matching neighbouring North Korea's quarterfinal march of 1966 - the best yet by an Asian team at soccer's premier event - the South Korean win came hours after Japan lost 1-0 loss to Turkey eliminated it from the competition.

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DHL
Spec Report

Grameen
Match Report

Censure jolts AL plan to join JS

REAZ AHMAD

The leader of the opposition's remarks about the grave of late president Ziaur Rahman and the Jatiya Sangsad's subsequently censuring her has once again cast a cloud of doubt over chances of an immediate end to the House boycott by the main opposition Awami League (AL).

Sources in the opposition said the disturbing developments over the last three days are taking place at a time when the AL is just a day from making a final decision on joining the eighth parliament, which its 58 lawmakers had been boycotting since its inception.

Before today's crucial AL meeting, there have been lot of debates and discussions within the party

throughout the day yesterday on how the party should proceed with its planned agenda despite the latest developments.

Sources said some Western diplomats had talks with senior AL leaders yesterday. They expressed the hope that the parliament would see a full-house participation soon.

The AL is all set to hold a joint meeting of the party central leaders and lawmakers today and most of them are still favour of joining the Jatiya Sangsad sooner than later, the sources added.

AL President and Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to chair the joint meeting of the 67-strong

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Impeach president

Young BNP MPs blast B Chy for attitude towards party

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Young parliamentarians belonging to the ruling BNP have demanded impeachment of President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury "for his recent attitude towards the party" that elected him to the highest office of the country only seven months ago.

At a meeting of the BNP Parliamentary Party yesterday, they came down heavily on him for not visiting the grave of president Ziaur Rahman on his 21st death anniversary and not mentioning in a message on the occasion Zia's contribution in the War of Liberation.

"He is acting as a neutral person. But being elected on party nomination, how could he show such neu-

trality," a lawmaker was quoted as saying in the meeting.

One of the founder members of the BNP, Badruddoza Chowdhury was elected MP from Munshiganj-1 constituency on BNP ticket in the last general election. Later, nominated by BNP, he was elected President of the Republic on November 14.

Article 52 (1) of the Constitution reads, "The president may be impeached on a charge of violating the constitution or of grave misconduct, preferred by a notice of motion signed by a majority of the total number of members of the parliament and delivered to the Speaker, setting out the particulars of the charge, and the motion shall not be

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INSIDE TODAY

Article 4

HIV/AIDS: House on fire

Column: Just Another View

SH Imam

Business 6, 7

IMF resident representative says

Poverty down in 90s

OPEC may revise output if Iraq reduces exports

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
June 20		6-49 pm
June 21	5-11 am	

Prayer Timings

June 20		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-15	4-45
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-53	6-57
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation