

**JS BODY ON DEFENCE
AL demands
dissolution of
Armed Forces
Division**
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The main opposition Awami League (AL) representative in the parliamentary standing committee on the defence ministry yesterday demanded that the Armed Forces Division (AFD) be dissolved, terming it unnecessary for the defence services as well as a democratic

**Ctg 'criminal'
killed in
'shootout'**
Rab nabs Shibir man
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An alleged criminal was killed in a 'shootout between the police and his accomplices' at Khulshi in the port city yesterday while Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested notorious Shibir cadre Gias Hazarika at Kuaish Burischar in Hathazari upazila.

**Satkhira bigots
threaten tough
agitation**
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Religious bigots yesterday threatened to take up strong agitation programmes including strike if one of its members who was arrested Tuesday, is not released immediately.

870 acres of army land still in grabbers' grip

Armed forces ask for another 22,000 acres

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The armed forces have asked for more land when 870 acres of military land across the country are in land-grabbers' hand. The forces have sought government permission for requisition of about 22,000 acres of land, a parliamentary body meeting was told yesterday.

The Military Lands and Cantonment Directorate in the last three years recovered only 53 acres out of 923 acres of illegally occupied land from the grabbers in different parts of the country, the meeting was told. According to the statistics submitted to the parliamentary body, the military land directorate has lost over 598 acres of land in Lalmonirhat district and 101 acres in Dhaka cantonment, said a meeting source.

Out of a total of 47,766 acres of military land across the country, Bangladesh Army alone holds 33,315 acres. Lately the armed forces division has proposed to the government for requisition of 20,874 acres of land for the army while about one thousand acres for navy and air force. The parliamentary body yesterday discussed the ways to recover 112 acres of military land adjacent to Dhaka cantonment. The military land directorate on several occasions initiated steps to retrieve the land that have been lost to the grabbers. But it could not succeed as people have already built houses, shops and other structures on those land.

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**Jatiyatabadi
Chhatra Dal
(JCD) activists
pass time play-
fully while
guarding one of
the entrances to
Dhaka
University
campus at the
Doyel Chatter
yesterday to
keep
Bangladesh
Chhatra League
men from
getting in.**



PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

The persistent heat wave across the country has become unbearable for the wildlife too as these two birds gape in thirst.

**10 die from
heat stroke**
*Hundreds suffer from
dehydration, diarrhoea*
STAR REPORT

Heat stroke caused by the extreme heat wave persisting over the country for the last few days killed at least 10 people, including three women, in Sirajganj, Gaibandha and Mymensingh, and sent hundreds seeking treatment for dehydration and diarrhoea at hospitals and clinics in Dhaka.

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**Fake Tk 500
note comes
out of ATM**
*But bank officials shrug
off responsibility*
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A customer of American Express Bank found a forged Tk 500 bill among the Tk 10,000 cash he withdrew yesterday from the bank's Gulshan Branch ATM (automated teller machine).

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**Ansar
commander
shot dead**
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unknown assailants yesterday shot down an ansar commander at Sanatagarh in the city's Hazaribagh, while muggers shot and injured a shop-owner at Badda.

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NARSINGDI BY-POLLS
**Four BNP rebels
pull out**

Four rebel candidates of the ruling BNP yesterday withdrew from the race of Narsingdi-1 by-election. However, Rokeya Ahmed Lucky, wife of former BNP lawmaker Shamsuddin Ahmed Ishaq, is still in the race as an independent candidate. The last date for withdrawal of candidature is June 5.

Those who withdrew their candidature apparently following pressure from the high command of the BNP are Mia Mohammad Selim, Mesbahuddin Bhuiyan Iran, BG Rashid Nawsher and Harunur Rashid Harun, son of Ishaq.

At a joint press conference, they said they withdrew their candida-

tures, showing respect to the party's decision. "We will remain united in any kind of decision in the future", Mia Mohammad Selim told the newsmen at the press conference. Vice-president of the BNP district unit Mir Fazlur Rahman, Jasim Uddin Bhuiyan, Golam Kabir Kamal, Mostakim Panna and AKM Golam Kibria Billal were present at the press conference. Rokeya Ahmed Lucky said she will contest the election as an independent candidate to finish the unfinished works of her husband. The ruling party has nominated Khairul Kabir Khokon as its candidate. The parliamentary seat fell vacant following the death of Shamsuddin Ahmed Ishaq.

EXPLOSIVES HAUL
**Charges
pressed
against Galib,
4 others**
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Police yesterday submitted another charge-sheet under the Explosive Substances Act accusing Asadullah Al Galib, ameer of the Ahle Hadith Andolon, and four others. This was the third charge-sheet submitted at different courts against Galib. The charge-sheet submitted by Khairul Islam, Sub-Inspector (SI) of the Gabtoli Police Station, also accused Abdur Rahman, chief of outlawed Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh; Shafiqullah, a Jamatul Mujahedin operation squad member; and Joyanal of Gabtoli upazila and his wife. According to the prosecution, on a tip-off police raided Joyanal's house in Chaksudu village of Gabtoli upazila in Bogra at about 3:00pm on

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**Tigers hope for
fortune reversal**

AL-AMIN from Chester-le-Street

Bangladesh will be aiming for damage limitation when they start the second Test against England at the beautiful Riverside ground here on Friday.

The visitors will also be a part of a small piece of history as a Test match in England probably starting on Friday for the first time instead of a traditional Thursday start. The organisers here have done this in an

effort to draw more TV viewers. Besides, they have also arranged onfield entertainment with some hundred girls to get ready for a physical display during breaks at the 17,000-capacity ground. But the Tigers, who announced a 13-member squad for the second and final Test, will desperately look to improve on their performance after a forgettable first match at Lord's.

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**Series of attacks
kill 34 in Iraq**

AP, Baghdad

Three suicide car bombings struck within an hour and two parked motorcycles exploded in northern Iraq yesterday, while gunmen in speeding cars opened fire on a crowded market in Baghdad in a series of attacks that killed at least 34 people. Continuing violence during the past days also has claimed the lives of three children, a US soldier and a Sunni Muslim cleric, underscoring the rampant, random nature of an insurgency that has killed almost 800 people since the April 28 announcement of Iraq's new Shia-led government, according to an Associated Press count. Twenty people were killed as a wide swath of northern Iraq was hit by three suicide bombings within an hour. A suicide bomber struck a restaurant in Tuz Khormato, 80km south of the northern city of Kirkuk, during breakfast hours Thursday, killing at least 12 people, including a bodyguard of a deputy prime minister, and wounding 40, according to

the Iraqi Defence Ministry and police. The blast set ablaze eight cars in the restaurant's parking lot, the focal point of a bloody, rubble-strewn scene that US and Iraqi police quickly cordoned off. Shards of glass, shoes and splattered breakfast meals covered the restaurant's floor as emergency workers raced around overturned tables and wooden chairs in a bid to treat the casualties. Earlier in Kirkuk, a suicide car bomber targeting a convoy of Toyota Land Cruisers carrying civilian contractors killed four Iraqi bystanders and wounded at least 11 others, said Dr. Bassam Mohammed of Kirkuk Emergency Hospital. None of the occupants in the convoy was injured, although one vehicle was damaged, the US military said. Another suicide bomber killed four people and wounded four in Baqouba, about 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, police Col. Mudhafar Mohammed said. The victims included Hussein Alwan al-Tamimi,

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Prayer Timing		
June 3		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-45	6-50
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation