



Stress free shipping to destinations across Europe

FedEx delivers your international express shipments to over 74,000 postal codes across Europe within 2-3* business days. Please call our Customer Service on 9565114 for pick-up request and more details.

* Service availability may vary according to place of collection and destination



FedEx
Express

Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.
Licensee of Federal Express Corporation

Every Package Matters



Turn Up Your Viewing Experience

- High definition LCD WXGA display, 1366 x 768p
- HD Ready, HDMI
- Digital Crystal Clear
- Progressive Scan
- Virtual Surround Sound
- Smart Picture and Smart Sound
- 1000 page HyperText
- Brightness: 300cd/m²
- Contrast: 3000:1

42TA2800/37TA2800
32TA2800/26TA2800

Sadar Road, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206



Govt, parties must come to agreement

US envoys says about dialogue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

US ambassador James Moriarty yesterday said the government and political parties must come to an agreement to hold talks to avoid disappointing the people of the country and the international community.

He said the political dialogues must also hammer out a plan to set a post-election agenda for new rules of the game in politics, which would help to sustain democracy in the country.

Moriarty was talking to reporters after he spoke at the national conference of the Bangladesh Political Science Association (BPSA) at Hotel Sheraton yesterday.

"We will be disappointed and the people will also be disappointed," Moriarty said when

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Oli wants BNP, AL to join talks without Hasina, Khaleda

UNB, Dhaka

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) President Col (ret'd) Oli Ahmed has urged the two detained former premiers to allow their parties to join the ongoing government-sponsored dialogue and the upcoming elections for the sake of democracy.

He also urged the caretaker government to declare specific date for the general election prior to local government elections to remove doubts from people's mind.

"I hope Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina will allow their respective parties to participate in the dialogue with the caretaker government," Col Oli said while addressing a function organised to welcome some political activists who joined the LDP at the party office yesterday.

He said it will not be right for the politicians to create obstacle to the democratic process in the country as he said if the democracy is disrupted, they will have to pay dearly in the future.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Bush renews support to Musharraf

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Washington

US President George Bush has offered renewed backing to Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf saying he looked forward to continuing to work with him along with leaders of the newly elected government who are seeking his ouster.

In a telephone call to Musharraf on Friday amid rumours that he plans to leave office, Bush "reiterated the United States' strong support for Pakistan and he indicated he looked forward to President Musharraf's continuing role in further strengthening US-Pakistani relations," White House spokesperson Dana Perino said.

Bush's call to Musharraf, who cast his lot with the US after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, was described as a follow

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

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

Source: Islamic Foundation

cellbazaar.com

Help: 01713238381-5

The Daily Star Classifieds
On Mobile or Computer

cellbazaar.com

Help: 01713238381-5

The Daily Star Classifieds
On Mobile or Computer

cellbazaar.com

Nepali king to leave palace quietly

AFP, Kathmandu

Nepal's deposed monarch is willing to leave his palace quietly to begin life as a commoner but wants help finding new accommodation for himself and his elderly relatives, an official said yesterday.

The palace received a letter on Friday asking the unpopular ex-king to leave within two weeks, in line with the newly-elected assembly's vote to abolish the monarchy earlier in the week.

"The palace secretary has told the home minister that (ousted king) Gyanendra Shah and his family are leaving the palace," Bimalendra Nidhi, a official of the Nepali Congress party, told AFP.

"The former king respects the decision of the constituent assembly and is willing to leave the palace soon."

Nidhi also said the government had decided to withdraw army soldiers guarding Gyanendra and to throw a party in the pink-hued palace after he leaves.

The royal palace is still guarded by some 1,500 soldiers but Nepal's army -- previously seen as a bastion of royalists -- has said it would comply with any government orders to withdraw security cover.

The Maoist-dominated new assembly, which will rewrite the Himalayan nation's constitution, abolished the 240-year-old Hindu monarchy and transformed Nepal into a republic -- capping a peace process that ended a decade-long civil war.

Some 13,000 people were killed in the insurgency launched by the Maoists in 1996 to install a communist republic in the world's only Hindu kingdom.

All eyes have been on the king since then, who is still holed up in his heavily-guarded sprawling palace in the heart of Kathmandu and has issued no statement.

The government has asked the king to coordinate his departure with them so they can take "appropriate measures" for his security, a report in the state-run daily the Rising Nepal said Saturday.

But the king is apparently being hampered in his move by worry over what to do with his mother Ratna and 94-year-old great-grandmother Sarala, party official Nidhi said.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

FBCCI chief warns of another 1/11

UNB, Niganj

President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Anisul Huq has cautioned the nation of another 1/11 if the ongoing dialogue with political parties fails due to non-participation by the major parties.

"And if this happens, the business community will be the worst sufferer," he said at a function of Meghna Group of Industries at Sonargaon yesterday.

He, however, hopes that the major parties will change their decision and join the dialogue.

BNP and Awami League have already decided not to join the dialogue with the government without their party chiefs Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina.

Anisul Huq urged the government and the parties to be flexible and take positive initiative to make the dialogue fruitful.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

BMC Student Killing Murder case filed against 5 DU students

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A murder case was filed against five Dhaka University students, two SM Hall guards and around 15 other students of the university yesterday in the death of a Bangladesh Medical College (BMC) student.

Ehtesham-al-Ziad Minal, a first-year student at BMC, was beaten to death Friday morning with iron rods and sticks on SM Hall premises, allegedly by a group of hall students on suspicion of stealing a mobile phone.

Autopsy revealed that Minal's body bore several injury marks.

His father Musharraf Hossain laid the case with Shahbagh Police Station, mentioning the names of the five DU students and two hall guards. He stated that 15-20 unidentified students were also

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Textile workers clash with cops, 20 injured

UNB, Narsingdi

At least 20 people, including four policemen, were injured in a clash between textile workers and the law enforcers at Chawala industrial zone here yesterday.

Some 100 small textile factories are located at Chawala near the district town where workers are employed and paid on production basis. About 3000 workers blocked the Dhaka-Narsingdi road at noon demanding wage increase.

The trouble began at noon when police reached the spot. They used club and fired warning shots to disperse the unruly workers. Witnesses said at least 16 workers were injured in police action.

Police claimed that four constables were injured when the demonstrators pelted stones on them. Injured cops Zahirul, Shahjahan, Mahmudul and Nakuzzaman are undergoing treatment in Narsingdi Sadar Hospital.

Police picked up nine workers from the spot. The injured workers received treatment at private clinics.



A young man puffs on a cigarette in front of an anti-smoking banner close to the venue of a music programme organised by anti-drug club Pratyasaha at Sayedabad Bus Terminal in Dhaka on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day yesterday.

Afghan forces kill over 100 rebels

AFP, Kabul

Afghan authorities said yesterday they have killed more than 100 Taliban-linked militants in an operation to retake a remote district from the rebels in southwestern Afghanistan.

The rebels were killed during two days of operations by Afghan security forces and their international allies in Bakwa, a remote district in the southwestern province of Farah, which was captured eight months ago, they said.

"During two days of operations more than 100 enemies of peace and stability were killed," interior ministry spokesman Zemarai Bashary told AFP, adding that the

district was recaptured from the rebels on Friday.

"We captured the district after eight months of enemy control," the spokesman said. Security forces were still chasing the rebels in the district, he added.

He said five "prominent" Taliban commanders were among the dead.

The Taliban, the main militant group behind a spiralling insurgency, have taken control of remote towns and districts but have been easily pushed back by Afghan and foreign security forces.

Farah, which borders Iran, has seen some of the bloodiest violence in a two-year insurgency, which has mainly taken place in the country's south and east.

The rebels stormed and captured a district centre in the central province of Ghazni on Thursday and were pushed back by Afghan security forces a day later, according to authorities.

The Islamic rebels, removed from power in a US-led invasion in late 2001, have stepped up attacks in recent months, including a campaign of suicide and roadside bombings.

Four Nato-led soldiers and as many Afghan civilians were wounded in a suicide car bombing, the latest in the bloody Taliban campaign in the eastern city of Jalalabad on Saturday. The Taliban claimed responsibility for that attack.

Jails desperate for doctors

KAILASH SARKAR

As doctors are unwilling to work in jails, the Directorate of Prisons proposed the government to allow appointment of all doctors in jails on deputation basis and with special facilities.

The existing laws allow jail authorities to appoint 50 percent doctors directly while the rest are appointed through deputation from the health ministry.

The Directorate of Prisons also proposed the government to change some regulations regarding doctors' appointments in jails.

Meanwhile, considering the lack of doctors and proper treatment facilities, the Directorate of Health initiated temporary treatment facilities for prisoners in different jails.

Currently, as few as 17 doctors, all appointed through deputation, are on hand for around 86,000 inmates in 67 jails of the country.

None of the prisons and jail

hospitals has nurses or ambulances. Convicts sentenced to rigorous imprisonment are randomly assigned to take care of patients when the situation requires a nurse.

Sources said the jail in Dhaka has a 172-bed jail hospital and it is always crowded with 250-300 sick prisoners.

Most of the jails have no hospitals and they only have paramedics and a sick room for prisoners. As many as 55 jails have no doctors at all.

According to sources, the Dhaka Central Jail hospital has four doctors while 11 others are posted at different central jail hospitals. Two doctors are assigned to the two former prime ministers, Sheikh Hasina and Khaleda Zia, kept at makeshift jails on the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban premises.

There are 77 posts of doctors in jails across the country for treating 27,000 prisoners. As the number of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

5 killed in truck-tempo collision in Rajbari

UNB, Goalanda, Rajbari

Five people died and three others were injured when a tempo collided with a truck on the Doulatdia-Khulna highway early yesterday.

Police said the tempo left Doulatdia ghat for Goalanda crossing with eight passengers on board at about 1.30am.

When the tempo reached the Canal ghat area, a goods-laden truck coming from the opposite direction collided with it, killing four passengers of the three-wheeler on the spot and injuring four others.

Three of the dead were identified as Nitai Kunda, 27, Shahidul Islam, 25, and Nawsher, 20. Identity of the remaining two could not be known. Nawsher died at Goalanda Health Complex.

The injured were admitted to the health Complex and then shifted to Faridpur Medical College Hospital.

Tigers reject devolution plan, kill 31 troops

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger rebels condemned government moves to devolve more power to the north and east as they reported killing 31 troops in fresh fighting, according to a pro-rebel website yesterday.

The head of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam's (LTTE) political wing, B Nadesan, said the plan under which the government recently held local elections in former rebel-held areas contained "no basis for a settlement."

"Recognition of Tamil sovereignty and right to self-determination are key issues in creating a climate for a negotiated settlement," he told Tamilnet.com in an interview.

He also accused Colombo of blocking peacebroker Norway from meeting LTTE leaders by refusing to provide access to rebel-held areas. The defence ministry

bars media, aid workers and diplomats from travelling to rebel-held areas, citing safety concerns.

Sri Lanka's main financial backers -- the United States, Japan, the European Union and Norway -- should keep up their peace-building work, Nadesan said, urging Colombo to allow diplomats to meet LTTE representatives.

His statements came as a senior Sri Lankan official accused the LTTE of showing no signs of wanting peace.

"We are looking for a negotiated end to this conflict... so far they have shown no inclination to enter into any constructive dialogue," Palitha Kohona, a secretary with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said on the sidelines of a security summit in Singapore.

"The LTTE is free to come back to the negotiating table but... must do so genuinely with a

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

N Korea tests missiles off its west coast

AP, Seoul

North Korea has fired three short-range missiles into waters off its western coast in an apparent routine test, Yonhap news agency reported Saturday.

North Korea fired ship-to-ship missiles into the West Sea on Friday, Yonhap said, citing South Korean government officials it did not identify.

An official with South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said it could not confirm the report, citing intelligence matters. The Defence Ministry also said it could not confirm the report.

The reported firings came after the North launched missiles off the western coast in March in what South Korea's government said at the time was a routine test firing.

North Korea, though impoverished, maintains a large military.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8



Dhaka Wasa closes off a part of Rokeya Sarani, from Sheorapara to Mirpur-10 intersection, during the morning rush yesterday to repair the storm water drainage system. The photo was taken at Kazipara.

Sewerage line repair work causes public sufferings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A lane in the capital's Rokeya Sarani stretching from Mirpur-10 roundabout to Sheorapara remained closed for the second day yesterday due to maintenance works of a Wasa sewerage line near Sheorapara.

The closure of the lane resulted in a long tailback at Mirpur section-10 and its adjoining areas causing sufferings to hundreds of commuters.

Besides, many Mirpur-bound vehicles took the Mirpur Road to reach their destinations creating gridlock at Mirpur-1 intersection.

Deputy Commissioner of Traffic (West) of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Awlad Ali Fakir said they closed the lane after the Dhaka City Corporation sought their cooperation for maintenance work of the Wasa sewerage line.

He said the task was scheduled to be completed by yesterday evening.