



A rescue team tries to save survivors after the crash of train, which connects on a daily basis Zagreb and the Adriatic resort of Split in Croatia on Friday. At least 12 foreigners were among those injured in a train crash that killed six people near Split.

Troops kill 14 militants in NW Pakistan

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistani troops killed 14 militants and arrested another 29 during an ongoing offensive against Taliban insurgents in northwest Pakistan, the military said yesterday.

The military continued search and clearance operations across Malakand district and the former tourist resort of Swat, where the Taliban first rose up in 2007.

"During last 24 hours, search and clearance operations were conducted in Swat and Malakand division," it said in a daily update on the operation.

Ten militants were killed in Buner district and 29 were arrested elsewhere in the region, it said.

US Senate approves Pak defence aid with strings

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Washington

The US Senate has approved the country's defence budget with an amendment aimed at ensuring that military assistance for Pakistan is actually being used only to fight the Taliban and al-Qaeda.

The bipartisan amendment moved by Democrat Robert Menendez and Republican Bob Corker would mandate a certification by the secretaries of state and defence, before Pakistan is reimbursed with Coalition Support Funds, that the payment is both in the national security interests of the US, and will not affect the balance of power in the region.

"To this point, almost eight years and more than seven billion in American taxpayer dollars for Pakistan's military have not prevented the Taliban and al-Qaeda from regrouping along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border," said Menendez.

"The fight against these extremists is crucial for our own security, which is why we have to certify that our support is in fact doing what we intend it to do and is not being used for other purposes."

"This is an issue of national security and of responsibility with taxpayer dollars, and it is important that passed the Senate."

NEWS IN BRIEF

4 killed in Iraq car bombing

AFP, Fallujah

Four people were killed and 12 wounded in a car-bomb blast on Saturday outside the offices of a Sunni Arab party in the western Iraqi city of Fallujah, a police officer said.

Security forces locked down the city, preventing individuals and vehicles from entering or exiting in the aftermath of the attack.

Rockfall kills 3 in China

AFP, Beijing

Three people were killed and 12 injured Saturday when a rockfall hit a bridge in Wenchuan, the epicentre of the quake which devastated southwest China last year, state media reported.

The rock fell from a mountain on to the Chediguan bridge, sending vehicles plunging into the Minjiang river, the Xinhua news agency said, quoting a local official.

Strike in Kashmir

AFP, Srinagar

A strike called by separatists to protest the arrest of their leaders shut down parts of revolt-hit Indian Kashmir on Saturday.

Veteran separatists such as Syed Ali Geelani, Shabir Shah, Nayeem Khan and leading female separatist Aasiya Andrabi were arrested a month ago by Indian police and are being detained under tough security laws for organising anti-India protests and strikes.

Small errors fail ACC cases

FROM PAGE 1

Hossain Manju and Joyal Hajar were convicted and are likely to be acquitted following the order against Alamgir.

The ACC is however preparing to challenge the HC orders including the one given in Alamgir's case to have a final decision from the Supreme Court as they think charges brought against the accused have absolute merit and were substantiated.

The section 5 (2) of the ACC Act, 2004 says no activity of the commission would be illegal and questioned in any court only due to vacancy in any posts of the commissioners or flaw in establishing the commission, ACC officials say.

Asked about the matters, ACC chief Ghulam Rahman refused to make any comments and said, "The commission will work in accordance with its laws. The commission will take decisions over the matter regarding Alamgir as early as possible once the court order reaches our hand."

"We are waiting for official release of the court order. We'll challenge the verdict at Supreme Court without any delay on receipt of the order. We'll see the matter till the Appellate Division as allegations brought against Alamgir have absolute merit," ACC counsel advocate Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star.

Besides, ACC officials and counsels also criticise the government mentioning the role of the Office of Attorney General regarding Alamgir getting the verdict against him cancelled.

They allege the AG office supported the ground Alamgir's lawyers raised before

the court for cancelling the verdict.

ACC counsels say both the AG office and Alamgir's lawyers made almost same presentation on the same grounds.

The HC on July 13 passed the order regarding the case against Alamgir adjudging that the conviction was illegal.

Immediately after the verdict against Alamgir was scrapped, his lawyers said the court scrapped the conviction and sentence against Alamgir on grounds that the notice and filing of the case had no legal effect.

A special judge's court in Dhaka earlier awarded Alamgir, also a former state minister, the sentence on charges of amassing wealth illegally and concealing information in statement submitted to ACC.

The 200 graft-accused who secured stay due to lack of sanction include Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia, Mosaddek Ali Fala, MA Hashem, M Morshed Khan, Haji Moqbul Hossain, Kamal Mazumder and Mirza Abbas, ACC counsels say.

The lawyers of the graft accused, while arguing, mentioned that though ex-post facto ordinance was passed to give ACC secretary's initiatives including issuance of notices legality since February 7, the ordinance was not ratified in parliament and the cases cannot withstand the fault.

"There is no chance of having an appeal allowed taking advantage of legal loopholes. An appeal will never be allowed only based on technical grounds. We have received

the verdict based on merit," claims Ahsanul Karim, Alamgir's lawyer.

Pak attitude towards Taliban changed: Obama

ANI, Washington

Terming the Pakistan Army's offensive against the Taliban and other extremist groups in Swat and Malakand Divisions of the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) as "unprecedented", US President Barack Obama has said Pakistan is seriously trying to reassert its control in the lawless region.

In an interview with a private television channel, Obama said it was the first time the Pakistan Army has directly countered threat posed by the extremists.

"I think that at this point what you've seen is the Pakistani military step up in a way that we have not seen. I mean, they are engaged in a battle against al-Qaeda allies in that region and are trying to reassert control in areas that have become lawless," Obama said.

Obama said there has been a clear change in Pakistan's attitude towards the Taliban, which until recently utilised the insurgents to its "strategic advantage".

"I think that the Pakistani government in the past has tried to take the tiger by the tail and in some cases use militants to their strategic advantage. And I think they now realise that that was a mistake and my hope is that we're going to see them continue to seriously take the threat as a danger to Pakistan," The Daily Times quoted Obama, as saying.



Last British WWI veteran dies at 111

AP, London

Harry Patch, the last British military veteran of World War I, has died at 111, the nursing home where he lived said Saturday.

The Fletcher House care home in Wells, southwest England, said Patch died early Saturday.

Patch had been the last surviving soldier from the British Army to have served in the 1914-18 war. The only other surviving British veteran of the war, former airman Henry Allingham, died a week ago at age 113.

Patch was called up for service in the British army in 1917 when he was working as a teenage apprentice plumber.

A few weeks later, in one of the bloodiest battles of the Great War, at Passchendaele, near the Belgian town of Ypres, he was badly wounded and three of his best friends were killed by a shell explosion.

Musharraf's trial 'need of the hour', says Sharif

ANI, Islamabad

Supporting the Supreme Court's decision to summon former President General Pervez Musharraf, former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has said the military ruler's trial was the "need of the hour."

Sharif said Musharraf must be tried and punished for "breaching the constitution."

"Such a man deserves to be tried and imprisoned instead

of being given guard of honour," The Nation quoted Sharif, as saying over telephone from London.

Sharif lambasted Musharraf for deposing him from the Prime Minister's chair and leading a coup against an elected government in 1999.

"Independent judiciary by accepting my right to be elected and by scrapping the so-called plane hijacking and helicopter cases has already

proven that a power-hungry dictator had made a coup against my elected government," he said.

Sharif, however, clarified that he has no personal grudge against Musharraf, but said he should be tried to justice for "flirting with the Constitution".

Meanwhile, a senior PML-N leader Tehmina Doltana has demanded an immediate trial of Musharraf under war crime charges.

Iraqi Kurds flock to polls in key election

AFP, Arbil

Iraqi Kurds on Saturday began casting their ballots in presidential and parliamentary polls being held as the region grapples with a land dispute with Baghdad and tensions over oil exports.

Queues had already formed at polling stations in the region's two main cities, Arbil and Sulaimaniyah, when voting opened at 8:00 am (0500 GMT).

Incumbent regional president Massud Barzani is widely tipped to be re-elected while his Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and Iraqi President Jalal Talabani's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) are expected to sweep the parliamentary poll.



Ousted president Manuel Zelaya (C with cowboy hat) looks at a Honduran national flag displayed in Las Manos, a border post between Nicaragua and Honduras yesterday. Zelaya briefly stepped across the border from Nicaragua to Honduras in Las Manos on Friday, in a symbolic move almost a month after soldiers sent him into exile.

Zelaya retreats from border after setting foot into Honduras

AFP, Las Manos

Faced with international calls for restraint, ousted Honduran President Manuel Zelaya has retreated from the Honduran-Nicaraguan border after briefly setting foot into his country.

Zelaya's symbolic attempt to return home Friday came almost a month after soldiers sent him into exile.

Clashes between anti-riot police firing tear gas and hundreds of Zelaya supporters, some wielding stones, erupted on the Honduran side of the border as the beleaguered leader arrived just meters away in Nicaragua.

Surrounded by a throng of supporters and media, Zelaya, wearing a leather waistcoat and his trademark cowboy hat, stepped into Honduras briefly before returning to Nicaragua.

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The Pink City Xenovalley, one of the most successful enterprises of ICS Business Group, has already become the leading real estate and township development company in Bangladesh by virtue of its innovative concepts and by establishing newer trends in the housing sector for the home-dreamers of this metropolitan city. By introducing simplex/duplex/triplex private homes and bungalows of semi or full detached categories into its eco-friendly township compound with fully planned landscape and greenery design, The Pink City Xenovalley has already earned a significant level of confidence from the home buyers. To enhance that level of confidence with more dynamism and efficiency in the global perspectives especially for its diversified business volume, the organization is now seeking the following designated professionals on an urgent basis:

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Educational Qualification: MBA/Masters in Marketing and/or related fields
Working Experience: at least 15 years practical experience in reputed Housing/Real Estate Company
Age Range: 38 to 42 years

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Educational Qualification: BBA/Bachelor in Marketing and/or related fields, MBA/Masters preferred
Working Experience: at least 10 years practical experience in reputed Housing/Real Estate Company
Age Range: 32 to 38 years

The incumbents are required to have at least 10 years of demonstrated sales & marketing experience in real estate/housing sector. He/She must have enough experience and capacity to ensure the target-based sales and collection of the salable properties of the company. He/She should be efficient to find out the appropriate customer segments of the homes, shop-lots and other salable properties and to approach them decently. The applicants must have enough communication & motivational skills, be a hands-on decision maker with a dynamic approach to the sales maturity.

Executive(s), Sales & Marketing

Educational Qualification: BBA/Bachelor from reputed University
Working Experience: at least 5 years practical experience in reputed Housing/Real Estate Company
Age Range: 25 to 30 years

The incumbents are required to have at least 5 years of demonstrated sales & marketing experience in real estate/housing sector. He/She should be skilled to motivate and convince the customers and prospects towards buying the salable duplex/triplex home and shop units on a target basis. He/She should also be expert in communicating with the customers for credit realization.

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N.B: Only short-listed candidates will be intimated for the recruitment process.

Director Operations

The Human Resource Department

ICS BUSINESS GROUP

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