

**Kiwi's bowlers strike out**

New Zealand faced the batting wrath of Australia's Matthew Lawrence Hayden in 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2007, when he scored an unbeaten 181 in a One-day international match, which featured 11 fours and 10 sixes.

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**in Short**

**Ershad laments joining grand alliance**

UNB, Comilla

Jatiya Party Chairman H M Ershad has lamented for joining the ruling Awami League (AL)-led grand alliance that, he said, has totally frustrated the aspirations of the people.

"We are the largest partner of the ruling alliance. But they (AL) ignore us, they do not care us," he told a big public meeting at

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**2 brick fields fined for air pollution**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment on Tuesday fined owners of two brick fields Tk 7 lakh and closed down one of those for causing massive environmental degradation at Alfadanga and Sadar upazilas in Faridpur.

A DoE enforcement team led by its Director Mohammad Munir Chowdhury shut ABF Bricks Field

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**Fatwa hearing resumes today**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday adjourned until this morning the hearing on the appeal against the High Court verdict that declared fatwa illegal.

The six-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque yesterday passed the adjournment order after concluding hearing for the day.

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**PRAYER TIMING** March 10

Azhan	5-05	5-40
Fajr	5-05	5-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	6-12	6-15
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

**AKHAURA-AGARTALA RAIL LINK**

**Work to start by year-end**

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

Dhaka and Delhi are set to construct a 10-kilometre railway track late this year directly linking Akhaura with Agartala by next year to facilitate transit for India, communications ministry officials say.

India has linked Agartala with its railway network in the northeast region. With the establishment of the new link, Tripura and part of Northeast India will be connected to the Chittagong Port through railway.

Communications ministry officials say the new rail link, to be constructed with Indian grant, will open up huge opportunities for both the countries in trade, tourism and communications.

India will be able to transport goods through the tracks by using the seaport,

while Bangladesh will gain financial benefit by charging them for using the railway and port facilities.

Delhi has been pressing for the rail link as it will also reduce distance between Agartala and Kolkata by nearly three times. The distance between Agartala and Kolkata via Guwahati is around 1,200 km.

However, the rail link is mainly aimed at freight services.

There is also a road link between Akhaura of Brahmanbaria and Agartala of Tripura. The Dhaka-Agartala bus service, introduced in 2003, operates through the route irregularly hardly bringing any benefit out of it.

The two countries have already finalised alignment of the rail tracks and are now determining construction cost as

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**Dutch make India sweat**

AFP, New Delhi

Yuvraj Singh scored a match-winning 51 not out as India pulled off a five-wicket win against a spirited Netherlands after making heavy weather of a small target in the World Cup on Wednesday.

Chasing 190 under lights, India were reeling at 99-4 after a three-wicket burst by left-arm spinner Pieter Seelaar but scraped through with 81 balls to spare before a packed Firoz Shah Kotla Stadium.

Yuvraj, who also grabbed two key wickets, has come to India's rescue twice in as many games after starring with both the bat and the ball against Ireland on Sunday.

The win maintained India's near-perfect run in the tournament and virtually assured them of a place in the quarterfinals with two more league matches to go.

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Govt wants to scrap caretaker system: Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia last night said the government wants to scrap the system of caretaker government from the constitution to stay in power forever.

"The government is taking controversial decisions one after another using the court. Now they are trying to scrap the caretaker government system and introduce electronic voting. But we will not accept it," she said

addressing a ceremony at

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**Nine-year-old domestic help Shahidul Islam fell from a seven-storey building in the city's Wari area yesterday. The photo was taken at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.**

**Boy survives 7-storey fall**

*The domestic help claims to be pushed over by employers*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A minor domestic help cheated death yesterday after falling from a seven-storey building while trying to escape from the house he was confined to on charge of theft in Wari in the capital.

Nine-year-old Shahidul Islam was seriously injured and is struggling for life at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Son of day labourer Abdul Khaleq of Kurigram, Shahidul was serving in the house of fabrics businessman Motiur Rahman Montu of Larmini Street for last one month at Tk 600 a month.

Although he was only nine years old, he had to keep clean the stairs of the entire seven-storey building, his housemaster's flat on the fifth floor, the roof and the utensils.

Locals say the boy was kept confined for allegedly fleeing off the house stealing some money.

They add although he fell from the top of the seven-storey building, he survived as he first fell on some

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**PM warns against grain hoarding**

*Govt to go tough on artificial crisis of food*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has warned of stern actions against those found responsible for playing foul with people's food.

"We will strictly enforce the anti-hoarding law so that none can create artificial crisis of food," the premier said in parliament yesterday.

Hasina was replying to lawmakers' queries on the present food situation in the country, her government's effort to control prices of essentials and tackle any crisis by importing food grains.

The PM said there is no food crisis in the country and her government is very careful about ensuring food

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**2 traders caught with rice for OMS**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday arrested two dealers for selling rice meant for OMS in the black-market and seized about three tons of rice from their shops.

The arrestees are Abdul Bari, owner of City Rice Agency and Mujibur Rahman, owner of Mita Rice Agency at Shaheb Bazar.

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**37 killed as Pak funeral attacked**

REUTERS, Peshawar

A Taliban suicide bomber attacked a funeral in northwest Pakistan yesterday, killing 37 people in the latest in a string of Islamist militant attacks.

The funeral was for the relative of a pro-government, ethnic Pashtun tribal elder near the northwestern city of Peshawar, top district administrator, Siraj Ahmed, told Reuters.

The attacker struck as mourners were about to hold funeral prayers, officials and survivors said.

"As we are readying for prayers, a boy wrapped in a shawl headed toward us. People shouted to the imam

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**নতুন প্রাকৃতিক সপ্তাচার্য নির্বাচনে সুন্দরবনকে ভোট দিন**

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**আকিজ সিমেন্ট**

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**অটুট নির্মাণের খোঁজে..**

**আকিজ সিমেন্ট**

আকিজ সিমেন্ট যাত্রার শুরু থেকেই বিভিন্ন গবেষণার মাধ্যমে সিমেন্ট-এর সর্বোচ্চ গুণগত মান নির্ধারণে সবসময় সচেষ্ট। যার ফলস্বরূপে, আকিজ সিমেন্ট এখন দেশের সবচেয়ে শক্তিশালী সিমেন্ট হিসেবে সমাদৃত। আর এই ধারাবাহিকতায়, নির্মাণে সিমেন্টের সঠিক ব্যবহার ও নির্মাণশৈলী নিশ্চিত করতে অটুট নির্মাণের খোঁজে এবার আমরা আসছি আপনার কাছে। আপনার স্থাপনায় ব্যবহৃত সিমেন্ট ও তার সুবন্ধার লক্ষ্যই আমাদের এ যাত্রা।