

## Russia not mediating in Libya war

AFP, Oslo

Russia is not playing the role of mediator in the Libya conflict, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said yesterday after a Kremlin envoy was dispatched to the rebels' stronghold in Benghazi.

"We have never taken on a role of mediator in Libya," Lavrov told reporters in the Norwegian capital when asked about what has been seen by some as a Russian "mediation attempt."

"We consider that the outcome of the conflict depends on the Libyans," he added, ahead of a conference of countries bordering the Baltic Sea.

An official in Moscow said on Monday that Margelov would meet with rebel leaders but would not travel to Tripoli, contrary to what had been announced previously.

BORDER CONFLICT  
Thailand 'to comply' with UN ruling

AFP, Bangkok

Thailand will respect the ruling of the United Nations' highest court on whether it must withdraw troops from a border area at the centre of a deadly row with Cambodia, an official said yesterday.

"Of course we will comply with the decision of the court," said Ittiporn Boonpracang, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs.

"We are not compelled to comply but we will comply," he told reporters, arguing that the case is not within the jurisdiction of the International Court of



**PHOTO: AFP**  
Smoke billows from the site of an explosion across an area in which strongman Muammar Gaddafi has his residence, in Tripoli yesterday. The complex that includes Gaddafi's residence has been consistently targeted by a Nato air campaign in Libya.

Drop Taliban from UN sanctions list  
Say Afghans

AFP, Kabul

Afghan officials are asking the United Nations Security Council to lift sanctions against some 50 Taliban figures, a senior diplomat said yesterday, amid moves towards reconciliation.

The Council's al-Qaeda and Taliban sanctions committee is expected to decide whether to remove the names -- who include members of the High Council for Peace set up last year by President Hamid Karzai to seek talks with the Taliban -- by the middle of this month.

Western officials in Kabul say they are trying to set up communication channels with Taliban leaders but stress this is at a very early stage.

Karzai set up the peace council to seek talks with the Taliban in return for them laying down their arms and accepting the constitution, although its overtures have been rejected by the militants.

Peter Wittig, Germany's ambassador to the UN and chairman of the Security Council's al-Qaeda and Taliban sanctions committee, said on a visit to Kabul that about 50 delisting requests were pending.

## Philippines harming maritime rights: China

AFP, Beijing

China yesterday accused the Philippines of harming its maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea, in sharp retaliation to claims by Manila that Beijing is undermining regional peace.

The Philippines said over the weekend that China dispatched vessels to intimidate rivals in disputed areas of the South China Sea, violating "maritime jurisdiction" and undermining "the peace and stability of the region."

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Hong Lei said Manila should stop publishing irresponsible statements.

## No disagreement

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issue after discussions, observed the leaders of two ally parties at a meeting at the Prime Minister's Parliament Office last night. The one-hour-long close-door meeting started around 7:00pm.

The Supreme Court in its verdict declared the caretaker government system void. However, it said the

next two elections can be held under such a system without involving the judiciary.

At the meeting, Ershad urged the premier to strengthen the Election Commission for the sake of democracy and if necessary amend laws for this purpose.

Ershad told Hasina that his party is against the caretaker government system

and termed it contradictory to democracy. He said the caretaker government system was introduced during unusual circumstances after the heavily rigged Magura by-election in 1996.

The reality has changed enough during this period, he said, adding that an undemocratic system cannot continue forever. He said

there is no caretaker government system anywhere in the world, be it the parliamentary or presidential form of government.

Many elections have already been held under the Awami League-led government in a free and fair manner and BNP has won in the Chittagong City Corporation election, Habiganj and

Shylchar.

BNP is against the cancellation of the system and the government's stance on the issue. It even called for a hartal on June 5 in protest.

Hazare and others will launch the day-long hunger strike to protest the crackdown against yoga guru Ramdev's congregation against corruption at Ramlila Maidan here on Saturday night.

The announcement about the shift of venue was made by his Hazare's associates Arvind Kejriwal, Prashant Bhushan and Kiran Bedi, while contending the denial permission to hold peaceful protest was against the basic Constitutional rights of citizens.

## 4 oil-based power

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The meeting also approved seven other projects including purchase of 50,000 tonnes of fertiliser (muriate of potash) from Belarus, 20,000 tonnes of sugar from Abdul Monem Ltd, hiring the consultant for a rural electrification upgrade project and construction of a double-line railway from Tongi to Bhairab Bazar.

The committee, however, did not approve purchase of 10 diesel-run locomotives for Bangladesh Railway under the \$1 billion credit line provided by India saying that the government has to look into the matter further.

Fujian Long King Co and Dhaka West Power Ltd will set up a joint venture plant with 108MW capacity at Basila (Keraniganj) at per unit cost of Tk 6.92. The government will have to spend Tk 7,882 crore to purchase electricity for 15 years, according to the project proposal.

The Fujian-Dhaka West JV would set up another 108MW plant at Gabtoli in Mirpur with a per unit cost of Tk 6.92. The government has to spend Tk 7,882 crore too for purchasing electricity in the next 15 years from the plant.

The Digital Power and Associates will set up a 102MW plant at Narayanganj with per unit cost of Tk 6.91. The government will spend Tk 7,809 crore for 15 years to buy electricity from the plant.

SMEC International Australia has also been appointed consultant for the Chittagong City Outer Ring Road at a cost of Tk 102 crore.

China Railway Group was given the work of constructing double-line railway tracks from Tongi to Bhairab Bazar including signalling at a cost of Tk 1,405 crore.

## Arrest warrant

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Prosecutor Mosharraf Hossain Kajol submitted the petition which stated Tarique went abroad for treatment without obtaining bail from any court.

Moreover, on May 19, the trial court asked Tarique to appear before it yesterday but his lawyer did not file any petition with the court regarding his absence.

Judge Mohammad Mozammel Hossain of the Special Judge's Court-3 will hear the petition on June 20 and take the decision.

However, the defence lawyer Barrister Mabbubuddin Khokon submitted a petition with the court yesterday seeking an adjournment of the charge framing hearing.

The petition stated a criminal revision with the High Court (HC) was filed earlier challenging May 5 trial court order for taking the charges into cognizance against Tarique.

The court then set July 3 as the next date for hearing on the charge framing in the case.

On May 5, another court took into cognizance the charges against Tarique and his business partner Giasuddin Al Mamun, transferring it to the Special Judge's Court-3 for its quick disposal.

According to the Supreme Court's (SC) verdict on February 9 this year, proceedings of the case against Tarique cannot run under the Money Laundering Prevention Act 2009 as the alleged offence took place before its enactment.

However, the trial can proceed under the 2002 act, the SC added.

## Artist Kibria

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age-related complications, and admitted to Square Hospital recently.

Reserved, modest and at times seemingly reclusive, Kibria was a dedicated teacher and a spiritual artist.

He was born in Birbhum (West Bengal, British India) in 1929.

After completing graduation in Painting from College of Arts and Crafts, Calcutta (now Kolkata), India, he moved to Dhaka in 1951 and started his career as an art teacher at the Nawabpur High School.

He joined as a teacher at the Government College of Arts and Crafts (currently Faculty of Fine Arts,

University of Dhaka) in 1954. Kibria studied Painting and Graphics at Tokyo University of Fine Arts (1959-62) as well.

He taught at Faculty of Fine Arts for 45 years and retired as Professor in 1994.

The artist focused on colours and textures and gradually moved to experimenting with pure geometrical forms. His works underscore the inner journey.

The painter exhibited his works at home and abroad (Brazil, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Japan, UK, France etc).

Kibria had received Ekushey Padak in 1983; Bangladesh Charu Shilpi Sangsad Award in 1985 and Independence Day Award in 1999.

## Fakhrul finds PM

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main opposition party.

The stand of ruling Awami League and the premier on caretaker government issue is already decided and therefore, any discussion on the issue will not be meaningful at all, observed the BNP leader.

He also demanded the government create a congenial atmosphere for the dialogue by canceling its decision.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on May 31 said there is no option to continue with caretaker system due to a Supreme Court verdict. Later she urged the opposition to return to the parliament and float a formula about caretaker government

## Waves of Nato aircraft intensify strikes on Tripoli

Russia, China hold talks with Libyan parties

REUTERS, Tripoli

Waves of Nato aircraft hit Tripoli yesterday in the most sustained bombardment of the Libyan capital since Western forces began air strikes in March.

By yesterday afternoon, war planes were striking different parts of the city several times an hour, hour after hour, rattling windows and sending clouds of grey smoke into the sky, a Reuters correspondent in the centre of the city said.

The Libyan government attributed earlier blasts to Nato air strikes on military compounds in the capital, a day after rebels drove Muammar Gaddafi's forces out of a western town.

Bombs have been striking the city every few hours since Monday, at a steadily increasing pace. They began before 11 am local time and were continuing five hours later.

Air strikes were previously rarer and usually at night.

Some of the bombs appeared to hit

in the vicinity of Gaddafi's vast Bab al-Aziziya residential compound.

A Libyan official, speaking over a loudspeaker in a hotel where foreign journalists stay under government supervision, said some strikes had hit the Popular Guard compound and the Revolutionary Guard compound, giving no comment on casualties.

A Nato military official in Naples, headquarters of the alliance's Libya operation, confirmed the current strikes were the heaviest on Tripoli so far.

Libyan TV said late on Monday Nato had bombed the al-Karama neighbourhood and a civilian telecommunications station.

Nato said it hit a military "command and control target."

Further east, Gaddafi's troops and the rebels have been in stalemate for weeks, neither able to hold territory on a road between Ajdabiya, which Gaddafi's forces shelled on Monday,

and the Gaddafi-held oil town of Brega further west.

Rebels control the east of Libya, the western city of Misrata and the range of mountains near the border with Tunisia. They have been unable to advance on the capital against Gaddafi's better-equipped forces, despite Nato air strikes.

But world powers are increasingly making diplomatic overtures to the rebels, including Russia and China -- despite misgivings about interference in Libya's sovereign affairs.

Mikhail Margelov, Special Representative for the President of Russia for Africa, told journalists in the rebel capital of Benghazi yesterday that Gaddafi can no longer represent Libya.

"Russia is ready to help politically, economically and in any possible way ... That is why we have established a direct relationship with the national council here in Benghazi."

## INDIAN ANTI-GRAFT PROTEST

## Hazare prepares for new fast

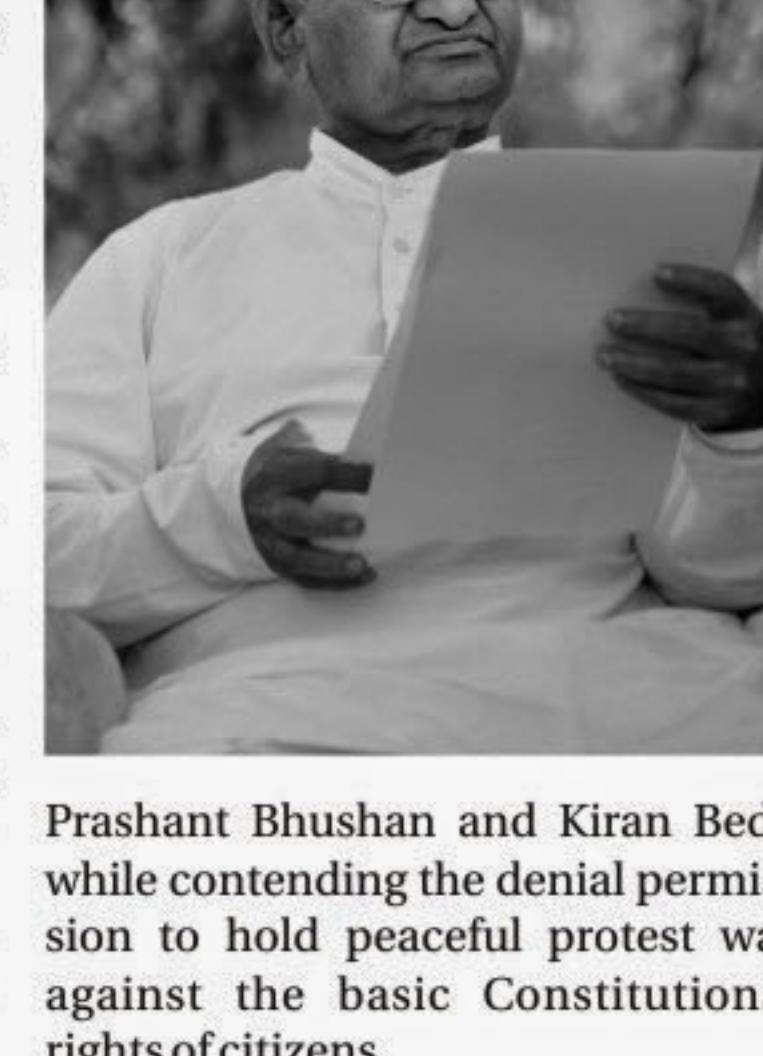
AFP, New Delhi

Anna Hazare, an iconic anti graft figure, said yesterday he would hold another hunger strike against corruption after his first fast in April drew major government concessions.

Hazare, 73, said he would hold the one-day protest from today at Rajghat instead of Jantar Mantar Maidan in Delhi, the riverside site in New Delhi where independence leader Mahatma Gandhi was cremated in 1948 after his assassination, to avoid a confrontation with Delhi police.

Hazare and others will launch the day-long hunger strike to protest the crackdown against yoga guru Ramdev's congregation against corruption at Ramlila Maidan here on Saturday night.

The announcement about the shift of venue was made by his Hazare's associates Arvind Kejriwal, Prashant Bhushan and Kiran Bedi, while contending the denial permission to hold peaceful protest was against the basic Constitutional rights of citizens.



Prashant Bhushan and Kiran Bedi, while contending the denial permission to hold peaceful protest was against the basic Constitutional rights of citizens.

"The Delhi Police Commissioner (B K Gupta) has told us that there is no permission to sit (on fast) there (Jantar Mantar) and directed us not to sit there," Bhushan said.

Kejriwal said "we have no intention for a confrontation. Our intention is only for peaceful protest."

At the same time, he said the denial permission was a violation of Article 19(1) and 19(2) which gives freedom of speech to everyone.

Hazare's earlier 98-hour hunger strike gained widespread national support and built pressure on the government to toughen its anti-corruption laws.

Hunger strikes, a traditional Indian protest that were also used by Gandhi, have become a focus of discontent over corruption that besets all levels of life in India from massive government contracts to small daily bribes.

"দু'টি সত্তারে বেশী নয় একটি হলে ভাল হয়"

## বাংলাদেশ রেশম গবেষণা ও প্রশিক্ষণ

ইস্টিউট (বারেগপথি)

বালিয়াপুর, রাজশাহী-৬২০৭

তারিখ: ০৫/৬/১১

## যত্নপাতি ও মেশিনারিজ, জৈব সার এবং অন্যান্য সরঞ্জামাদি ক্ষেত্রের টেক্নোলজি

## সরঞ্জামাদি ক্ষেত্রের টেক্নোলজি

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