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TIGERS NO CAKEWALK

West Indies skipper Darren Sammy is not taking Bangladesh lightly

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SOLDIERS REPUDIATE WARS

A third of Americans who served in military post 9/11 believe Afghan, Iraq wars not justified

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CTG CAR BUSINESS LOSING SHINE

Spiralling price casts a shadow on the trade

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Speaker vows to save JS premises

Says metro rail route won't be allowed to run through Sangsad Bhaban complex

TAWFIQUE ALI

Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Abdul Hamid has vowed not to allow the proposed metro rail road to run through the parliament premises as it would spoil the architectural splendour of the famed complex.

"I will not allow it within the 215-acre premises of Sangsad Bhaban under any circumstances," the speaker has told The Daily Star.

The speaker will raise the issue with the prime minister on October 20 before the Sangsad goes into its 11th session on that day.

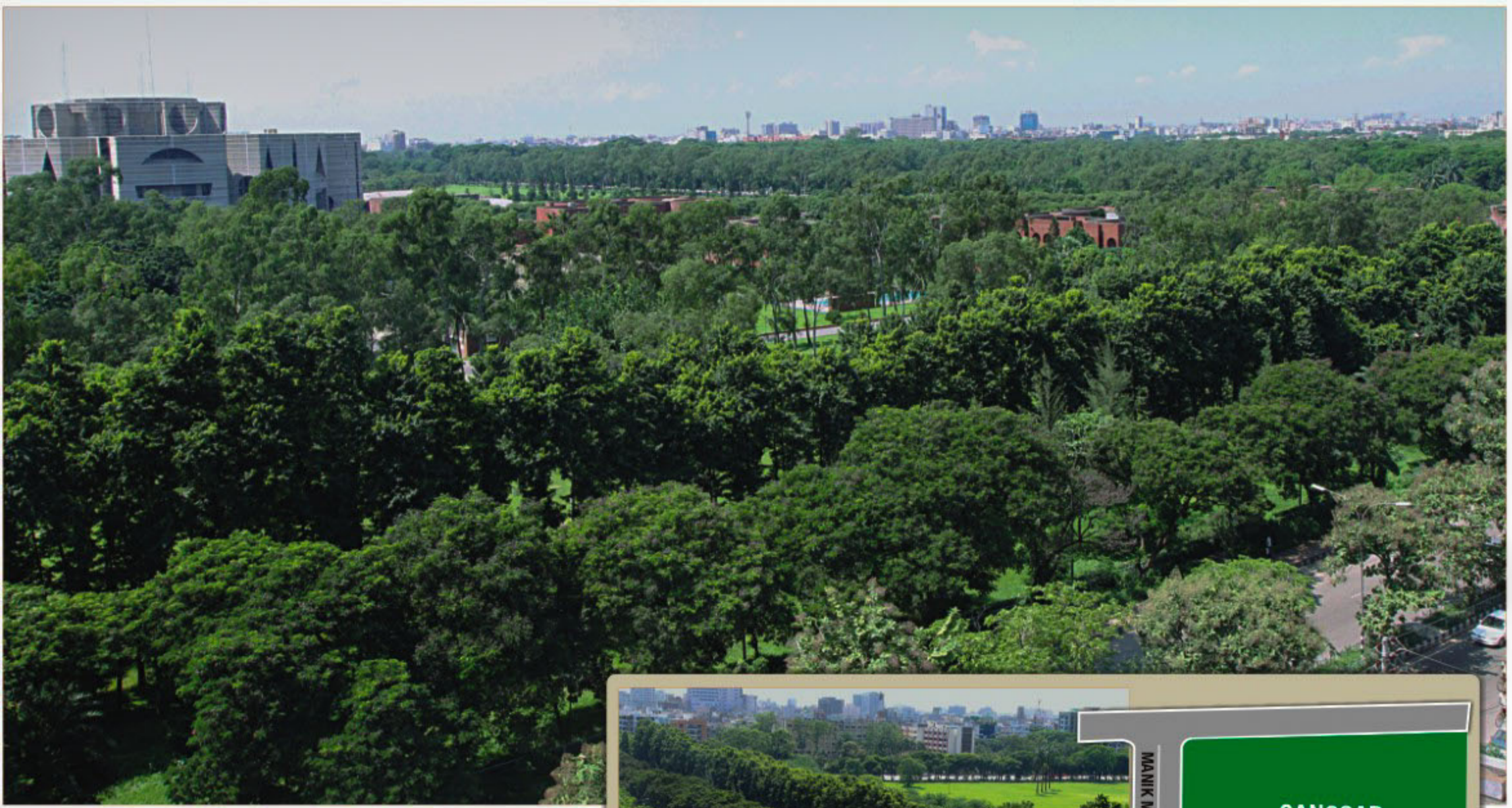
His remarks came amid reports that the government had agreed to the Bangladesh Air Force's proposal to realign the metro line through the Khamarbari side of the parliament premises. Agreeing to the BAF suggestion would mean shelving the original plan to have the metro rail

line run through Bijoy Sarani. Official sources say that the decision to change the route was officially conveyed to the project's sole foreign donor, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica), after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina endorsed the finance ministry's report on the controversial route alignment.

The prime minister approved the changed plan before her departure for New York to attend the United Nations General Assembly last month, said the sources, requesting anonymity because of the sensitivities associated with the subject.

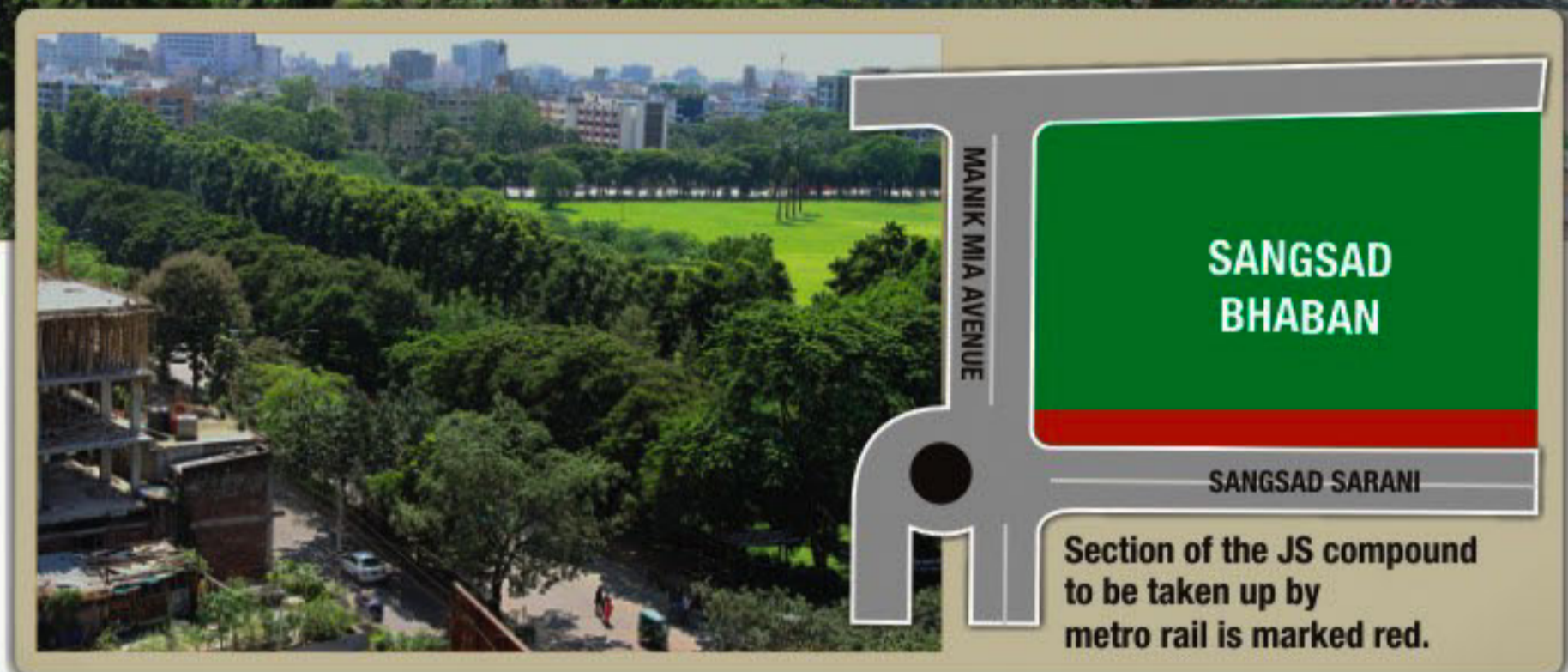
It is understood that the Secretary of the Roads Division has informed Jica that the government will opt for the Khamarbari route through taking up a stretch of green lawn on the eastern side of the Sangsad complex.

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This patch of green along the east side of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban will disappear as metro rail is supposed to be built there. The rail lines were supposed to be along Bijoy Sarani and not through Louis Kahn's masterpiece but the government changed the plan following Bangladesh Air Force's reservations.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ



Section of the JS compound to be taken up by metro rail is marked red.

Durga Puja greetings
The Daily Star WISHES ITS READERS, PATRONS, ADVERTISERS AND WELL-WISHERS A VERY HAPPY PUJA

BANGLADESHIS IN MALAYSIA

2.68 lakh workers set to be regular

Malaysian home minister says his country needs all those who get registered under amnesty scheme

PORIMOL PALMA

All the 2.68 lakh irregular Bangladeshi workers registered under Malaysia's amnesty programme will be regularised from October 10 and given jobs, officials at the Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur said yesterday.

Malaysia's cabinet committee on foreign workers and illegal immigrants yesterday decided to start the regularisation programme on October 10, which might continue for around three months, Bangladesh High Commissioner AKM Atiqur Rahman told The Daily Star over the phone.

"I had talks with Malaysian authorities. They said they need all the irregular workers registered for various sectors. There is no question of deporting any of the irregular workers who got registered," he told The Daily Star.

Malaysian Home Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said on

October 4 employers in five sectors are in need of 1.3 million workers in total. The five sectors where foreign workers are allowed to work are manufacturing, plantation, agriculture, construction and service, Malaysian newspaper The Star reported yesterday.

Around 2.32 million foreign workers have got registered, of whom 1.3 million are irregular, he said.

Kuala Lumpur declared the amnesty programme in June allowing irregular foreign workers to get registered and regularised, or return home without facing any penalty. Their registration continued from August 1 to 31. Separately, regular foreign workers were also registered.

But irregular foreign workers were in a state of confusion as to whether those having no jobs would be allowed to look for jobs after their registration.

Hishammuddin's October 4 announcement has dispelled the confusion.

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JAGANNATH, NAZRUL, COMILLA UNIVERSITIES

Govt funding to continue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday decided to keep financing Jagannath, Comilla and Kazi Nazrul Islam universities like other public universities.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the officials concerned to amend the clauses of laws on those universities so that the government could continue funding them.

She issued the directive after a

Jagannath University delegation led by Vice-Chancellor Mesbahuddin Ahmed met her at her office yesterday.

Later in the day, Education Secretary Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, at a hurriedly called press briefing at the education ministry's conference room, apprised newsmen of the government decision.

The government's move came following street agitation on the issue

by Jagannath University students last month. They took to the streets from September 25 demanding the scrapping of Article 27 (4) of the Jagannath University Act- 2005, which precludes government funding for the university beyond 2012.

On September 28, the Jagannath University authorities, unable to rein in the unruly students, decided to keep the university closed from the next day until today.

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Deal signed for 225MW power plant

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

South Korea's Hyundai Engineering Company and Daewoo International Corporation yesterday signed an agreement with Ashuganj Power Station Company to build a 225-megawatt power plant in Ashuganj.

The project will cost Tk 1,361 crore. Standard

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Wins
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for
Excellent achievement in Total Quality Management.
To be presented in 25th International WQC Convention Paris 2011.



Congratulations to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on receiving The UN 'South-South' Award

Your bold initiative in ICT has brought rare feat for the Nation. We're now even a step closer to 'Digital Bangladesh' by the year 2021.

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