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# CHT PEACE ACCORD Main provisions yet to be implemented

SHANTIMOY CHAKMA, Rangamati

Fourteen years after the signing of THE Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) peace accord, the main clauses of the landmark treaty still remain unfulfilled.

The then Awami League government and Parbattya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) signed the deal on December 2, 1997.

A total of 1,947 PCJSS members surrendered and handed over their arms and ammunition to the government in four phases as per the treaty.

According to a book published by the PCJSS on the eve of the 14th anniversary of the accord, the government is yet to declare the CHT as a special region or Jumma land for Jumma people. It has not brought any amendment or any changes into the laws concerned, resolved land dispute in the hills and fixed non-indigenous (Bangalees) permanent residents.

A voter list is yet to be prepared. Rules of business for preparing the voter list and holding elections to the CHT regional council and HDCs are yet to be enacted. The provision that the lone authority will be the three circle chiefs in issuing permanent resident certificates for hill



Over half the street is occupied by construction materials on Shyamoli-Mohammadpur Link Road in the capital. The area suffers from frequent traffic jams because of this and local residents claim that road mishaps have become very common here.

## Call off hartal Businesses urge opposition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The business community yesterday urged the main opposition to withdraw its Sunday's hartal and solve the problem of Dhaka City Corporation split through discussion, saying strikes badly hurt the economy.

A written statement from the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBBCCI) signed by 15 chambers and trade body leaders, says BNP should not call the strike as the issue of splitting the DCC is in the court for final verdict.

The hartal will have a negative effect on foreign direct investment, the statement reads.

The opposition has called the strike at a time

## India test-fires 700km range missile

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India yesterday successfully test-fired its nuclear capable Agni-I strategic ballistic missile, with a strike range of 700 km, as part of the army's user trial from the test range at Wheeler Island off Odisha coast.

The indigenously developed surface-to-surface, single-stage

## HIV cases on rise

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four hundred and forty-five people have been infected with HIV this year and 251 new cases of AIDS confirmed, said Health Minister AFM Ruhul Haque yesterday.

Currently, the country has 2,533 HIV-infected people and 1,101 suffering from AIDS, said the health minister at a seminar at Osmani Memorial Hall in the city on the World AIDS Day styled 'Getting to Zero-Zero New HIV infections. Zero Discrimination and Zero AIDS Related Deaths'.



According to National AIDS/STD Programme (NASP) statistics, 243 people were infected with HIV last year and 231 cases of AIDS confirmed.

This year, 84 people have died from the disease while last year the number was 37, said Ruhul Haque.

A total of 325 patients died in the country since the first case was detected in 1989, he said quoting the ninth surveillance report 2011 published at the seminar.

Sixty-five percent male, 33 percent female and two percent transgender are

## Tk 25CR DEMURRAGE Ex-adviser's plea rejected

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday dismissed a petition filed by former shipping adviser Maj Gen (ret'd) MA Matin and former secretary Sheikh AK Motahar Hossain to cancel its judgment which directed the duo to pay Tk 25 crore in compensation.

Judge Mohammad Mohsinul Haque of the

## DU 'GA' UNIT ADMISSION TEST Answer sheets to be evaluated again

### HC asks for removal of dean

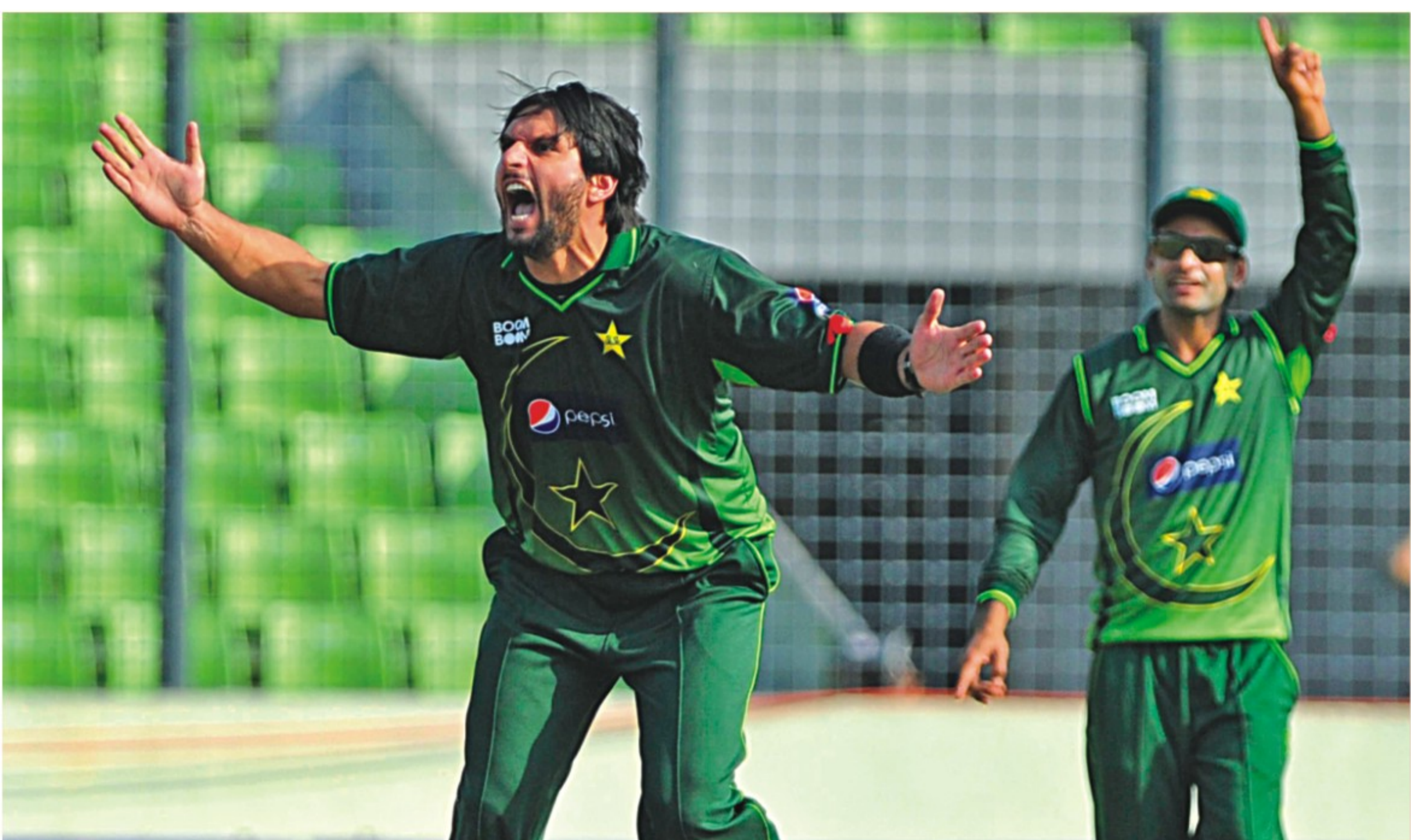
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the Dhaka University authorities to immediately re-evaluate the answer sheets of this year's 'Ga' unit admission tests by a three-member committee and publish fresh results.

It also cancelled the DU's decision for holding fresh tests.

Passing the order, the court said Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology will head the committee and the DU will appoint two of its teachers including one from the business studies faculty as members.

The court order followed on a writ



THE TORMENTOR: Pakistan's Shahid Afridi celebrates after taking yet another Bangladesh wicket in the first one-day international of the series at Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday. He also scored an unbeaten 24 in a five-wicket win. (Story on Page 16)

## 'Enough is enough'

Enraged Pakistan says Nato attack threatens war on terror

REUTERS, Islamabad

Pakistan, enraged by a Nato cross-border attack that killed 24 soldiers, could end support for the US-led war on militancy if its sovereignty is violated again, the foreign minister said, warning "enough is enough."

The South Asian nation has already shown its anger over the weekend strike by pulling out of an international conference in Germany next week on Afghanistan, depriving the talks of a central player in efforts to bring peace to its neighbour.

"Enough is enough. The government will not tolerate any incident of

## KHOKON'S ARREST Parliamentary body unhappy

Criticises law enforcers for implicating him in false cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday severely criticised members of the law enforcement agencies for arresting BNP leader Khairul Kabir Khokon in "baseless" cases filed over the torching of a train and vandalism at the Narsingdi district commissioner's bungalow on November 2.

The filing of such baseless cases tarnishes the government's image, Mujib-ul-Haque Chunnu, a member of the committee, quoted two members of the parliamentary standing committee on the home ministry, including Mirza Azam, treasury bench whip, as saying at a meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhavan.

The body also asked Home Minister Sahara Khatun, State Minister for Home Affairs Shamsul Haque Tuku and top police officials about the reasons behind the arrest of Khokon, meeting sources told The Daily Star.

Tuku then said it was better not to discuss an issue which was under investigation.

Talking to The Daily Star, Chunnu, a Jatiya Party

## TIPAIMUKH PROJECT Delhi reassures Dhaka "no harm"

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India sought to allay Bangladesh's concerns over the Tipaimukh

## Ivy for strong local govt

### First NCC mayor takes office

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Selina Hayat Ivy yesterday took over as the first mayor of Narayanjan City Corporation and vouched for a stronger local government.

Assuming office Ivy told the people present there that the present government has passed a law in parliament abolishing the

caretaker government system.

But a provision has been made recently so that unelected people could run the city corporations when the terms of elected representatives expire, she said, adding, "An elected representative would hand over responsibilities to the next elected representatives... which is normal. But the

## Animals predict quakes

BBC ONLINE

Animals may sense chemical changes in groundwater that occur when an earthquake is about to strike.

This could be the cause of bizarre earthquake-associated animal behaviour, scientists say.

Researchers began to



Toads appear to be able to sense impending earthquakes before any seismic activity strikes.