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## NEXT COURSE OF MOVEMENT BNP looks for options other than blockade

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

Despite the arrests of its top leaders, the BNP is determined to continue its movement until the demand for election under a non-partisan interim government is met, say several party leaders.

The party, however, plans to bring changes to its strategy because a tough programme like blockade may lose effectiveness if enforced for a long time. Besides, the BNP also risks losing "public sympathy", which it earned over the years, for such programmes that inflict sufferings on people, according to them.

The party leaders said they are now

planning to announce some fresh programmes.

"There will be a variation in the programmes. They may include siege to establishments and hartal," said a senior leader, wishing not to be named.

The BNP is likely to refrain from any protests or demonstrations on November 7 which it observes as the national revolution and solidarity day.

Following its October 28 rally, the BNP observed a nationwide dawn-to-dusk hartal and enforced a three day blockade. It is also going to enforce a two-day blockade from tomorrow.

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## Resist arsonists in every area

PM tells AL activists, asks them to hand over the culprits to cops

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged her party members to put up resistance against the arsonists in every area in an organised way.

"Now you will have to put up resistance against the arsonists not only in Dhaka city but in every area," she said at a discussion at the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

The Awami League organised the event marking the Jail Killing Day.



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## Metro now connects Uttara with Motijheel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several key areas of the capital are now under the metro rail coverage as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates its Agargaon-Motijheel section today.

The extended route will be opened to the public at 7:30am tomorrow, around 10 months after the launching of metro service between Uttara and Agargaon.

The inaugural event will be held at Motijheel Station at 2:30pm.

The 8km section of Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Line-

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An aerial view of Motijheel metro rail station in the capital. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is set to inaugurate the Agargaon-Motijheel section of metro rail MRT Line-6 today. The photo was taken recently. PHOTO: NAIMUR RAHMAN



Afghanistan captain Hashmatullah Shahidi (L) embraces Azmatullah Omarzai after reaching his half-century on way to guiding his side to a seven-wicket victory against the Netherlands in their World Cup fixture in Lucknow yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP



## Afghans dispatch Dutch to boost semis bid

AFP, Lucknow

Afghanistan swept past the Netherlands by seven wickets on Friday to boost their chances of reaching the World Cup semifinals.

Chasing 180 to win, Afghanistan reached their target with 111 balls to spare to clinch a fourth win at the tournament to add to victories over defending champions England, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

They now have eight points, the same as Australia and New Zealand, who currently occupy two of the semifinal qualifying places.

Undefeated India have already made sure of a last-four spot with South Africa almost certain to join them.

Next up for Afghanistan on Tuesday is a potential grudge match against five-time champions Australia.

Rahmat Shah hit his third successive half-century for Afghanistan while skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi made an undefeated 56, also his third fifty in a row.

Rahmat hit a 54-ball 52 with eight fours and shared a 74-run third wicket partnership with Hashmatullah Shahidi.



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Delhi weather adds to misery

MAZHAR UDDIN from New Delhi

Bangladesh's struggle in the ongoing ICC World Cup seems to be a never-ending saga, both on and off the field.

Following sixth straight defeats in seven outings, Shakib Al Hasan and his troops had stationed themselves in New Delhi on Wednesday and were set to resume training yesterday

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