



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina flags off a train at the Agargaon metro station inaugurating the Agargaon-Motijheel section of the MRT Line-6 yesterday. From today, metro rail will be in limited operations from the Uttara North to Motijheel.

PHOTO: PID

From Uttara to Motijheel in 30 mins!

Agargaon-Motijheel metro section opens to public today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Agargaon-Motijheel section of the country's first metro rail is open to the public from this morning, bringing some relief to the city dwellers facing traffic congestions on the roads every day.

With the opening of this 8km stretch of the MRT Line-6, people can now reach Motijheel from Uttara – the total length of the route being 20.10km – in half an hour, a commute which takes 2-3 hours by road due to heavy traffic.

However, commuters will have to wait a few

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Fabulous Fakhar keeps Pakistan alive

REUTERS, Bengaluru

Pakistan endured a battering by New Zealand's top order before launching their own onslaught through centurion Fakhar Zaman to win a rain-hit World Cup game by 21 runs via the DLS method on Saturday and stay alive in the hunt for a semifinal spot.

Chasing 402 to win the high-stakes clash, Pakistan took the attack to New Zealand as Fakhar hit a blistering century off 63 balls and Babar Azam inched towards his fifty when rain halted play with the score on 160-1 in 21.3 overs.

The target was revised to 342 in 41 overs and Fakhar picked up from where he left off, reaching 126 not out with eight fours and 11 sixes, while Babar struck an unbeaten 66 but the showers returned with Pakistan adding 40 to their total in four overs.

Pakistan's fireworks meant they were 21 runs ahead of the DLS par score when the game was eventually called off, ensuring a victory that took them to eight

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Australia Knock England out

AFP, Ahmedabad

Spinner Adam Zampa starred with bat and ball as Australia knocked England out of the World Cup semifinals race with a convincing 33-run win on Saturday.

Chasing 287 for victory in Ahmedabad, England folded for 253 in 48.1 overs

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'BNP a party of arsonists' PM doubles down on opposition-slamming

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the hand that sets vehicles on fire should be burnt in the same flame.

She also called the BNP a party of arson terrorists.

"I urge the people of the country and Dhaka city dwellers to resist them," she was quoted as saying by UNB.

The prime minister said these at a rally organised by Dhaka Division Awami League in Arambagh.

The rally was held after she inaugurated the Agargaon-Motijheel section of the metro service.

Hasina, also the president of the ruling Awami League, said burning people is like a festival for the BNP and its allies.

"Their movement means carrying out arson terrorism, killing, attacking law enforcers and destroying everything. Why would they destroy everything like this? Who gave them the right?"

The BNP and Jamaat must stop their

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Boycott mars EC talks with parties

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR and ASIFUR RAHMAN

More than a third registered political parties, including opposition BNP, boycotted the Election Commission's talks yesterday. And some of those who joined the dialogue observed that the current situation is not conducive to holding a free and fair election.

Political analysts termed the talks "meaningless," as it shows that some major opposition political parties have little confidence in the Election Commission.

"I feel the Election Commission had to hold the talks under certain compulsions. Just to show that they have called everybody once again and that they did not get support [from all political parties]," former election commissioner Brig Gen (retd) M Sakhawat Hossain told The Daily Star.

"I don't find any meaning of this dialogue. As far as I know, no Election Commission has ever arranged talks to share the election preparations with political parties. They [EC] knew that major political parties would not join the dialogue. How will they come amid such a political situation?" he said.

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EC doesn't have the ability or mandate to solve political crises: CEC

Blockade begins as crackdown on BNP continues

6 buses torched, dozens of activists held on the eve

STAR REPORT

After a brief pause over the weekend, the BNP, along with like-minded parties, is going to enforce a two-day nationwide blockade starting today with many of its top leaders behind bars.

Further arrests of leaders continued yesterday but the BNP said it was determined to continue its movement until the demand for the upcoming general election under a non-partisan interim government was met.

On the eve of the blockade, six buses were torched in Dhaka, Narayanganj, and Bhola. Separately, dozens of opposition leaders, including BNP Organising Secretary Syed Emran Saleh Prince, were arrested.

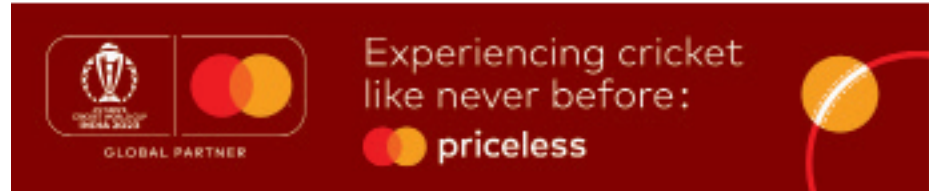
The BNP has also called a dawn-to-dusk hartal in Chattogram for today in protest of the arrest of the party's standing committee member, Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, who is

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Pakistan opener Fakhar Zaman raises his bat after reaching a blazing century against New Zealand in their crucial World Cup fixture at the M Chinnaswami Stadium in Bengaluru yesterday. Zaman's unbeaten 126 from 81 deliveries helped Pakistan to a 21-run win (DLS method) over the Kiwis.

PHOTO: AFP



Bank Asia Wins GOLD Award at 23rd ICAB National Award



Bank Asia Limited wins Gold Award in two categories – 'Private Sector Banks' and 'Corporate Governance Disclosures' – at the 23rd ICAB National Award for Best Presented Annual Reports 2022.



Mr. Shafiuzzaman and Mr. ANM Mahfuz, Additional Managing Directors along with Mr. Mohammad Ibrahim Khalil, FCA, Chief Financial Officer of the bank are receiving the awards from Commerce Minister Mr. Tipu Munshi

