



"If I was in the cabinet of the Israeli government, I might not be attacking the only powerful ally that I have anywhere left in the entire world."

US VP Vance warns Israeli critics of Trump

The Daily Star

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SECOND EDITION

DHAKA SATURDAY JUNE 20, 2026

REGD. No. DA 781

VOL. XXXVI No. 145

ASHAR 6, 1433 BS

www.thedailystar.net

MUHARRAM 4, 1448 HJRI

16 PAGES : Tk 15.00



PM'S CHINA TRIP Dhaka eyes funds for infrastructure, investment

PORIMOL PALMA and JAGARAN CHAKMA

After nearly two years of slowdown following the 2024 political changeover, Bangladesh is looking for a fresh boost in Chinese investment and infrastructure financing as Prime Minister Tarique Rahman prepares for his first official visit to China from June 23-26.

Officials at the foreign and finance ministries said Dhaka will seek nearly \$6 billion in Chinese funding for a range of infrastructure and development projects.

Bangladesh is also expected to announce its decision to join China's Global Development Initiative (GDI), Beijing's flagship development framework linked to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

"Our main thrust during the

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Dhaka may seek \$6b in Chinese funds

Around 12 MoUs expected

China may push wider BRI cooperation

Dhaka likely to join Beijing's GDI



Mexico players celebrate Luis Romo's decisive goal against South Korea in their FIFA World Cup Group A match at the Guadalajara Stadium in Zapopan yesterday. A howler from South Korea goalkeeper Kim Seung-gyu helped Romo score the only goal of the game in the 50th minute as 'El Tri' became the first team to qualify for the knockout rounds.

PHOTO: AFP

Mexico coach keeping emotions in check

REUTERS, Guadalajara

Mexico coach Javier Aguirre played down his team's achievement of topping a World Cup group for the first time since 2002 after their 1-0 win over South Korea on Thursday, saying the real measure of success would come later in the tournament.

The co-hosts became the first team to book a place in the knockout stage, sealing top spot in Group A with the victory in Guadalajara



and matching the achievement of Aguirre's 2002 side.

"I didn't know that statistic," Aguirre, who is coaching Mexico at a third World Cup, told reporters. "It's anecdotal. It was anecdotal in 2002 and it's anecdotal now because what matters in the end is the final position."

The result guarantees Mexico at least one knockout-stage match in Mexico City, a prospect Aguirre welcomed as his side seek to build momentum in front of home support.

"There's nothing like playing at home, it's priceless," he said. "The Mexico factor is hugely important."

Mexico delivered a nervy performance in their tournament opener against South Africa but Aguirre said his players had learned valuable lessons from that match.

"Today we learned from our mistakes," he said. "We weren't spectacular, but we played a good match."

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PM orders renaming of two Bogura unions

Fresh row erupts over proposal to rename school after Shahe Alam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has directed the authorities to take steps to rename two unions in Bogura's Mokamtala upazila following controversy over names that match those of the two sons of State Minister

RELATED STORY ON P12 SEE PAGE 9 COL 4

Israel, Hezbollah agree to ceasefire

Says US official; Swiss talks postponed amid strikes on Lebanon

AFP, Geneva

Israel and Hezbollah agreed to a ceasefire yesterday, a US official said, after deadly exchanges between the two sides in Lebanon put a deal to end the Middle East war under strain, less than two days after it was signed.

Talks that were scheduled to take place between the US and Iran in Switzerland yesterday to build on the deal and work towards a lasting settlement were postponed amid the fighting, with no new date announced.

Tehran's top negotiator warned it would not bend on its red lines and that its finger was still "on the trigger", even as shipping appeared to pick up in the Strait of Hormuz, which had essentially been closed during the war.

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THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH



Africa's time to shine?

SAMSUL AREFIN KHAN

Traditionally, African nations have been among the most underrated sides in the FIFA World Cup. Although no African nation has ever won the tournament or reached the final in any of its previous 22 editions, their steady rise on the global football stage has gradually changed perceptions about their prospects in the sport's biggest event.

Take Morocco, for instance. Four years ago in Qatar, the reigning African champions became the first African nation to reach the semifinals. Even in this edition, they are considered one of the strongest sides among the 48 participating teams, capable of replicating that feat -- or perhaps going even further.

Morocco's opening-match performance against five-time champions Brazil has only strengthened that belief. The Atlas Lions held the Selecao to a 1-1 draw and arguably looked the better side against the record world champions.

Morocco's rise is a reflection of the steady progress African nations have made in the World Cup over the years.

From Roger Milla's Cameroon becoming the continent's first quarterfinalists in 1990 after stunning defending champions Argentina in the opening match, to debutants Senegal matching that feat in 2002 by defeating reigning champions France on their way to the last eight, and Ghana coming a successful penalty kick

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‘শরীয়াহুভিত্তিক ও নিরাপদ সরকারি বিনিয়োগে অংশ নিতে আপনার ব্যাংক/ফাইন্যান্স কোম্পানিতে যোগাযোগ করুন আজই।’

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(CAFDRIRP Socio-Economic Development Sukuk)

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