

## Inside Today

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Maleeha Lodhi, editor  
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## Shantibahini agrees to sit with Oli-led body

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, Sept 28: The Shantibahini has agreed to a dialogue with the parliamentary committee headed by the Communications Minister on any date fixed by the government in the second week of October, officials here said.

The venue of the dialogue would be the Khagrachhari Circuit House, they added.

At the preparatory meeting held for three hours today between a four-member Shantibahini team and a six-member Liaison Committee at

Dudukchhari under Panchhari upazila of Khagrachhari district the Shantibahini side communicated to the Liaison Committee the decision of the Parbatya Chattagram Janasanghati Samity to hold the first dialogue with a democratic government in Bangladesh.

Officials said that the dialogue with the government committee would be attended by a five-member Shantibahini team to be led for the first time by the President of PCJSS

J B Larma alias Shanto Larma. The list of the team was placed in today's preparatory meeting.

The Liaison Committee through a letter would immediately communicate to the Shantibahini the specific date and decision of the government, the meeting agreed.

Officials also said that at today's preparatory meeting the Shantibahini placed some petty conditions that included its urging the government not to make any irresponsible statement against it and the

maintaining of a congenial atmosphere for a solution to the 18-year-old hill tracts issue.

However, the officials claimed that the preparatory meeting between the Shantibahini, men and Liaison Committee was held in a very cordial atmosphere.

Meanwhile, the authorities withdrew five camps that housed over 300 members of the security forces in a move to facilitate today's preparatory meeting as demanded by

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## Storms lash three dists: 100 hurt

By Staff Correspondent

Storms lashed many parts of the country Monday injuring more than 100 people and damaging houses and standing crops, according to reports available from affected areas.

Parts of Gazipur, Sherpur and Kushtia districts were battered by storms accompanied by heavy rains. Normal life was paralysed in the areas.

The Meteorological office in Dhaka, however, had no information about the storm.

A severe storm hit four villages of Gazipur district leaving at least 70 people injured, two of them critically, a source quoting the victims told The Daily Star over tele-

phone. He said that at least 200 houses, mostly thatched ones, collapsed and trees and crops were flattened by the storm at Purbachandora, Shafipur, Habibganj and Azhpara villages under Kaliakoir thana early Monday.

The Ansar Academy Complex at Shafipur was also affected and parts of its residential areas and nearly 20 picnic spots were damaged, the source added.

The injured were given first aid at the Ansar Academy Hospital while the two critically injured were rushed to

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## Thana criminal courts to be shifted to district HQs

All criminal courts situated in thana headquarters, excepting those in off-shore islands and those functioning in some places for special reasons before the introduction of the now - abolished upazila system, will be shifted to district headquarters by June 30 next year, reports BSS.

The decision was taken at the regular weekly meeting of the cabinet held at Bangabhaban yesterday with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair.

A report of the Ministry of Labour and Manpower was also presented in the meeting on Bangladesh's performance in the 253rd session of the ILO governing body and the 79th international labour conference

## India goes tough on visits by Bangladeshis

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

In the backdrop of the so-called Operation Push Back, India has slapped strict regulations on Bangladeshis seeking permission to travel to the country.

According to reports from New Delhi, the Indian authorities, in a bid to monitor the movement of Bangladesh nationals in the country, have approved a Rs 1.43 crore project to set up computerised visa control network linking the border points, the state capitals and the centre.

The computerised facilities have been planned to ensure better coordination among various control points dealing with the visitors.

The Indian government has also told the state authorities,

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## Govt decision on NCL likely today

Star Report

The government is likely to take a final decision today on the fate of National Credit Limited (NCL) that had applied to become a commercial bank.

The decision will be taken at the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Finance and Financial Matters.

The meeting will be chaired by the Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman, sources said.

NCL, a non-banking investment company, had faced difficulties in its operations since March this year after another similar company, Bangladesh Credit and Investment Ltd (BCI) was shutdown due to a liquidity crisis.

The NCL had applied for permission to operate as a commercial bank on May 4.

Following the NCL's application, the government con-

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## Attempts to push in 55 more India to strengthen BSF, fence off 537 miles by '96

NEW DELHI, Sept 28: Indian Home Minister S B Chavan said today that India would fence its borders with Bangladesh to prevent Bangladeshis from pouring into the country, reports AFP.

Chavan also said the government would construct 2,884 kilometres (1,730 miles) of roads to police the frontier region and fence off 896 kilometres (537 miles) of the border by 1996, adding that the measures would cost 277 million dollars.

Engineers have already built 360 kilometres (216 miles) of border roads and put up fences along 77 kilometres (46 miles) of the border.

Chavan said the 80,000-man paramilitary Border Security Force (BSF), which he is in charge of, would be strengthened to police the frontier which stretches over rivers, forests and rugged hills.

BSF's gunboats would also be increased, the Home Minister told a conference of Indian State Chief Ministers.

He told the provincial governments of states bordering

Bangladesh to halt the refugee influx through intensified patrolling, detection and deportation.

Our Staff Correspondent quoting All India Radio adds: The Chief Minister agreed on a well-coordinated plan of action to resist infiltration.

The meeting also spoke of creating public awareness to thwart the migrants apart from the administrative measures.

According to the Radio, the West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu insisted that the two countries start negotiations to deal with the issue that threatens to rupture Dhaka-Delhi ties.

UNB from Jessore adds: Indian Border Security Force (BSF) Monday failed in their bid to push into Bangladesh some 55 people through the frontiers at Sadipur and Benapole.

BDR sources said an attempt to send 27 people into Bangladesh was thwarted at Sadipur border this afternoon.

The Indians also made a futile attempt to push another batch of 28 people through

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Parents and relatives attend children at the DMCH as nurses go on a 72-hour strike yesterday. —Star photo

## Nurses begin 72-hr strike

By Staff Correspondent

The medicare system of the country became paralysed as some 15,000 nurses began a 72-hour work stoppage yesterday.

Male and Female nurses joined by the student nurses began the work stoppage at 8 am at eight medical college hospitals, 12 district hospitals and 18 nursing training institutes across the country to press home their 14-point charter of demands which include pay raise, regularisation of jobs of 750 nurses appointed on ad-hoc basis and increased allowances to the student nurses.

Meanwhile, the government began a late night talks with the leaders of the Bangladesh Diploma Nurses Association (BDNA), the organiser of the work abstention in a bid to overcome the crisis.

Health Ministry officials said that a meeting between the BDNA leaders and the Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf had started at about 10 pm at his residence.

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## No room for terrorism in democracy: PM

From now on there will be only academic activity in educational institutions — no terrorism — declared the Prime Minister yesterday reiterating her government's "sacred pledge" to eradicate the menace, reports UNB.

"There is no room for terrorism in democracy. Education is light and terrorism darkness", she told a

function at the International Conference Centre yesterday afternoon.

"The government is determined to uproot terrorism, it's our sacred pledge to the nation," she said, adding "terrorists do not belong to any party. They have only one identity — they are terrorists".

The Prime Minister was speaking before handing over Katabon and Plasssey markets to Dhaka University and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology respectively.

She formally handed over the documents of 366 kutchas and pucca shops constructed by the Dhaka City Corporation in the two areas to the VCs of DU and BUET.

The Prime Minister blamed the ousted autocratic regime for patronising terrorism with a design to cling to power. The menace still hangs on the nation because, she said, the collaborators of autocracy are active.

Recalling the remarkable contribution of the students of Dhaka University and BUET in the anti-autocracy movement,

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## Govt withdraws 91 cases filed during Ershad regime

A meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Minister yesterday discussed various aspects of withdrawing the case and commuting the convictions of the persons who had been harassed or got punished by the ousted autocratic government for their participation in the 9-year long movement for restoration of democracy, reports BSS.

Presided over by Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury at the Sangsad Bhaban, the meeting was attended by members of parliament Abdur Rouf Chowdhury, Shahjahan Chowdhury, Wing Commander (Retd) M Hamidullah Khan, BP, Abu Yusuf, M Khalilur Rahman, M Rahmat Ali, Abdul Hasanat Abdullah, Mostafa Rashidi Suja and Whip Mahbubul Alam Tara. It was recalled in the meeting that the Standing Committee had earlier recommended the withdrawal of 103 cases of which government already issued orders to withdraw 91 cases.

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## Polytech teachers submit memo to Prime Minister

By DU Correspondent

The striking teachers of 20 polytechnic institutes in the country submitted memorandum to the Prime Minister through the Education Minister and its copies to the DCs at the district level yesterday morning.

The teachers yesterday passed the eighth day of their indefinite strike which began September 21 to press home their 10-point charter of demands.

The demands include promotion, formulation of a service structure, regularisation of those appointed on adhoc basis, payment of arrears stipends to the polytechnic students and introducing of a double shift system in these institutions.

Ignoring torrential rains the polytechnic teachers in the capital brought out a silent procession which dispersed at the Jatiya Press Club after marching the city roads.

Police halted the joint procession of Bangladesh Polytechnic Shikshak Samity, Dhaka Polytechnic Institute, Women's

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## 167 killed as Pak plane crashes in Kathmandu

KATHMANDU, Sept 28: A Pakistan International Airlines plane with 167 people on board crashed Monday on its landing approach to this city ringed by Himalayan mountains, reports AP.

Nepalese rescue workers who reached the site said there was little chance of finding survivors, said Nagendra Prasad Ghimire, the deputy chief of Kathmandu airport.

Airline officials said most of the 155 passengers on the Airbus A300 were Europeans. The aircraft carried a crew of 12, they said.

Ghimire said the plane crashed 14 miles south of the airport.

It was the second air disaster in less than two months. On July 31, a Thai Airways plane, also an Airbus, crashed into an 11,500-foot mountain north of the airport, killing all 113 people on board.

Flight PK2680 originated in the southern Pakistani city of Karachi.

Airline officials in Karachi said the passengers included at least one American, three

## Generals still rule Myanmar under ML

BANGKOK, Sept 28: Generals still rule Myanmar under martial law despite removing the right of regional military commanders to dispense summary justice, reports Reuters.

Diplomats in Yangon today described the junta's weekend announcement revoking two martial law decrees as an attempt to increase central control while trying to show critics abroad it was improving its human rights record.

Still in force are four-year-old martial law decrees banning all political gatherings of five or more people and any anti-military agitation. It was on these decrees

banning gatherings and agitation, named "order number 2/88" and "notification number 8/88" respectively, that the military's State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), the junta, established its martial law powers.

The ban on gatherings was declared the day the junta took power on September 18, 1988 and brutally crushed a nationwide movement for democracy.

Since the takeover, thousands of political opponents have been jailed and although the junta has begun freeing some since naming General Saw Maung in April, most senior opposition figures remain

in detention. They include Aung San Suu Kyi, winner of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, who has been held under house arrest in Yangon.

The two decrees revoked on Saturday were put into force shortly before her detention to stop her pro-democracy agitation, which had gained widespread popular support.

The revoked decrees had given local military commanders the right to try suspected opponents without calling witnesses and hand out sentences ranging from three years to life imprisonment or death.

The following May, the junta held a general election

but ignored the result when Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy won by a landslide.

Diplomats said the junta was anxious to convince the international community that it was acting to improve its human rights record in advance of a visit by a United Nations investigator in November and a debate on Myanmar in the UN General Assembly expected in December.

"It's definitely a public-relations exercise," said a diplomat reached by telephone in Yangon from Bangkok. "There's been no dancing in the street because the basic realities have not changed."

## বেসরকারী খাতে গম আমদানীর বিশেষ সুযোগ

বাজার অর্থনীতি সম্প্রসারণের লক্ষ্যে বেসরকারী খাতে গম আমদানীর সরকারী সিদ্ধান্তের প্রেক্ষিতে মার্কিন যুক্তরাষ্ট্র সরকারের তরফী পুট ইইপি কর্মসূচীর আওতায় বেসরকারী গম আমদানী-কারকদের বিশেষ ব্যবস্থায় সহজ শর্তে স্বগপত্র খোলার সুযোগ দেয়া হচ্ছে।

বেসরকারী আমদানীকারকগণকে উক্ত সুযোগ গ্রহণের জন্য জনতা ব্যাংকের নিম্নলিখিত শাখাসমূহের সাথে যোগাযোগের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে:-

- ঢাকা : ১। স্থানীয় কার্যালয় শাখা।
- ২। বৈদেশিক বিনিময় কর্পোরেট শাখা।
- ৩। ইমামগঞ্জ কর্পোরেট শাখা।
- নারায়ণগঞ্জ : ১। বঙ্গবন্ধু সড়ক কর্পোরেট শাখা।
- চট্টগ্রাম : ১। লালদীঘি ইন্ট কর্পোরেট শাখা।
- খুলনা : ১। কে ডি যোষ রোড কর্পোরেট শাখা।
- রাজশাহী : ১। সাহেব বাজার শাখা।



জনতা ব্যাংক  
 দেশের সেবার নিবেদিত

## BANGLADESH GARMENT MANUFACTURERS & EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION

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## বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বি জি এম ই এ এর নিবাহীকমিটির এক সিদ্ধান্ত মোতাবেক সকল সম্মানিত সদস্যদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, আগামী, ২-১০-৯২ ইং রোজ শুক্রবার বেলা ৪ (চার) ঘটিকায় সোনার গাঁও হোটেলের একটি জরুরী সাধারণ সভার আহ্বান করা হইয়াছে।

উক্ত সভায় বানিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক প্রণীত তৈরী পোষাক রপ্তানীর খসড়া কোটা নীতি আলোচনা করিয়া প্রয়োজনীয় সুপারিশমালা ও প্রস্তাব গ্রহন করা হইবে।

সম্মানিত সদস্যবৃন্দকে উক্ত সভায় অংশ গ্রহন করিবার জন্য বিনীত অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

মোহাম্মদ ফজলুল আজিম  
 ভার প্রাপ্ত সভাপতি