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ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to unavoidable dislocation resulting from shifting of the offices of The Daily Star, we are unable to come out with a 12 page issue. For the same reason we have been obliged to make some changes in the format of today's issue. We expect to resume our normal 12 page edition from tomorrow. We apologize to our valued readers and patrons for any inconvenience caused.
 —Management

BSF tells BDR at flag meeting

Delhi decides to shelve Operation Push Back

From Atiur Rahman

JESSORE, Oct 10: Indian Border Security Force (BSF) officials today conveyed Delhi's decision to shelve 'Operation Push Back', a programme of the Indian government to deport an officially unspecified number of people whom it calls illegal infiltrators from Bangladesh.

This was the first official decision by India on shelving the Operation.

Official sources here said that the BSF officials at a flag meeting with their Bangladesh

counterparts said that they would not go further with the Operation, pending decision of the higher authorities.

The BSF officials at the meeting also said that they would fillup the trenches dug close to the border in violation of international laws.

Members of the Bangladesh team taking part in the flag meeting said that the BSF had earlier dug trenches along the 10-kilometre border Kalyant to Joytintipur village in the district.

However, BSF officials at the meeting said that they were not in a position to take any decision regarding the Bangla-speaking people brought to the border for deportation, the sources said.

The one-and-a-half hour meeting between the BSF and the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) officials took place on the Indian post of Petrapole, across the Benapole checkpoint in Jessore district.

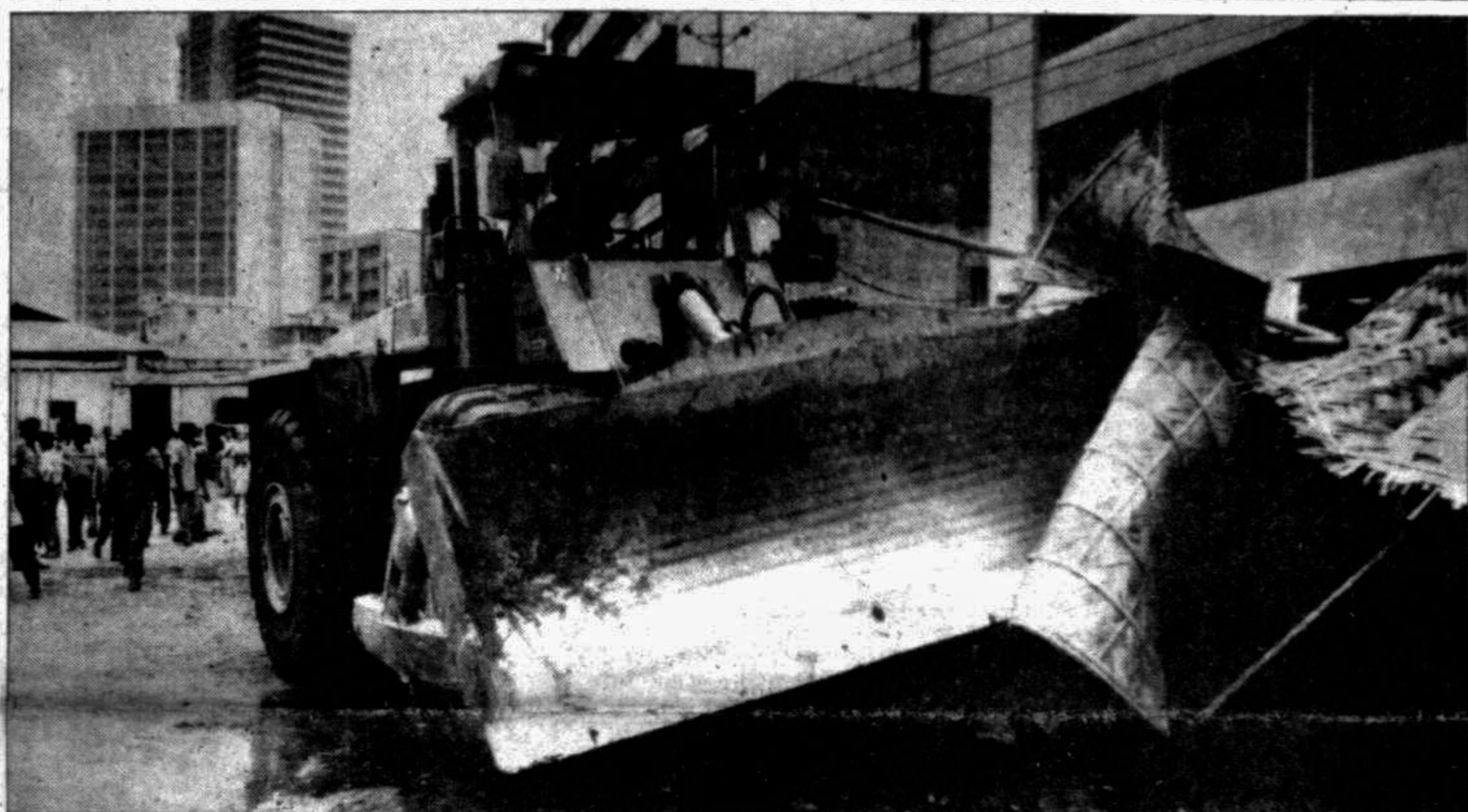
The Bangladesh delegation was led by the BDR Sector

Commander of Khulna Colonel K M Anwar Hossain. He was assisted by the Commanding Officers of Jessore and Satkhira.

The Indian side was headed by the Deputy Inspector General of the BSF Y Kaushik, assisted by the Sector Commander and the Assistant Battalion Commander of the BSF P K Chatterjee.

Both the sides at the meeting discussed the present border situation arising out of

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A Rajuk bulldozer demolishing unauthorised shanties near the Wari Club in city yesterday. — Star Photo

JS goes into session today

Opposition plans joint move to thwart anti-terrorism ordn

By Nurul Kabir

Opposition parties in Parliament excluding the Jamaat met today to discuss a joint strategy to resist the ruling party attempt to get the anti-terrorism ordinance approved by the House.

Parliament goes into its autumn session at 4 this afternoon.

The ruling party is expected to lay four ordinances including the anti-terrorism one in the House today.

The Opposition had once rejected the anti-terrorism ordinance when the Treasury bench moved it in the House — in the form of a bill — during the last session of Parliament.

The Treasury Bench, in the face of strong opposition resistance withdrew the bill but promulgated it last month following a severe increase in terrorist incidents all over the country.

Almost all the opposition parties, however, protested the promulgation of the Ordinance saying that the law of the land relating to violence was adequate to check terrorists provided the government was sincere on the issue.

Sources in the Awami League (AL)-led Opposition told The Daily Star last night that as the Jamaat had also

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Khaleda's nephew beaten at Hasina's house

Shams Iskander alias Atanu, aged nine, elder son of Major (ret'd) Sayeed Iskander, brother of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, was mercilessly beaten by some miscreants at Dhanmondi Road No 32, residence of the Leader of the Opposition in parliament Sheikh Hasina, reports BSS.

Police sources said Atanu was on his way to the residence of his private tutor at Dhanmondi and was intercepted by the miscreants at Dhanmondi road no 32 at about 5.30 pm.

Atanu was forcefully taken into the house of the leader of the Opposition with his driver of the red colour private Toyota car, used by the BNP chairperson Begum Zia during the anti-terrorist movement, and manhandled in that house, police said.

The security police posted

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'Push back began after PM's visit'

Divulge secret deal with Delhi: Hasina

RAJBARI, Oct 10: Awami League leader Sheikh Hasina today accused the BNP government of selling out national interest to foreign countries during its 18 months in power, reports UNB.

She referred to the so-called Indian pushback and the staggering Rohingya refugee problem.

India undertook the Operation Push Back shortly after Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia's visit to India, Hasina said addressing a massive election rally at the Rajbari railway maidan this afternoon.

"The people want to know what secret deal she made with India during her visit to New Delhi."

Under the drive, India is deporting Bengali-speaking

Muslims to Bangladesh in a humiliating way, creating tension in the border areas.

The Leader of the Opposition in Parliament also criticised the government for failing to send back Rohingya refugees. Some 2.65 lakh Myanmar refugees have crossed into Bangladesh to escape alleged military persecution.

"The government is pursuing a bankrupt foreign policy and running the country at telephonic instruction from a foreign country."

The 18-month rule of BNP government had produced nothing good but breeding terrorism, corruption, unemployment and famine, she observed.

Quoting press report, she

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Matin's directive Nab smugglers irrespective of party, position

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury yesterday asked the officials of Anti-smuggling Task Force to take drastic measures against smuggling which is eating into the vitals of national economy, reports UNB.

Addressing a conference of the Dhaka region Anti-smuggling Task Force, the Home Minister reiterated the government's firm determination to root out smuggling at any cost to save the national economy from ruin.

Reviewing the smuggling situation of Dhaka division, the Minister instructed the officials to gear up the anti-smuggling drive against contrabands and smuggling goods in shops, marketing centres and bordering areas.

Chowdhury directed the members of the task force to enlist the names of organised

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EC takes up 5-yr aid strategy

Bangladesh and the European Commission have agreed on a Five-Year Cooperation Strategy providing for increased EC assistance to Bangladesh's priority development areas, reports UNB.

The agreement was reached in principle in the eleventh session of EC-Bangladesh Joint Commission held October 7-8 in the Belgian capital of Brussels, according to a message received here yesterday.

The priority areas to receive increased EC assistance include agricultural production, food security, rural development, poverty alleviation, women development, environmental protection, human resource development, transfer of technology and flood

control. The multi-year financial perspective will replace the existing annual cooperation framework.

A six-member Bangladeshi delegation led by Commerce Secretary Nazem Ahmed Chowdhury attended the session. The delegation also included Bangladesh Ambassador to Belgium and Head of Bangladesh Mission in European Commission S Hassan Ahmed.

In view of Bangladesh's current drive for privatization and economic liberalization, EC agreed to strengthen assistance in the fields of trade and industrial promotion as well as institutional support to the growth of the private sector.

The EC delegation also pledged increased investment in Bangladesh, said the message.

In the session, the Bangladesh delegation leader gave a brief resume of the short, medium and long-term economic policies of the government, including the new development perspective, new thrust of fiscal policy aimed at increased domestic resource mobilisation.

He also referred to the trade policies for facilitating industrial growth and export promotion, policies for restoration of discipline in the financial sector and improving operational efficiency of the public sector enterprises as well as the privatisation policy.

Nazem Ahmed also explained the salient features of the Fourth Five-Year Plan and strategies for achieving the targets set for the plan.

The delegation stressed the need increased EC assistance to government's priority areas like agricultural development, poverty alleviation, flood control, industrial and infrastructural development.

EC support for protection the interest of LDCs in the current GATT negotiations was also sought.

The EC side appreciated reemergence of democracy in Bangladesh. They also lauded the "achievement" of the present government in increasing "accountability" and "transparency" of the administration.

36 killed in Indian riots

NEW DELHI, Oct 10: India's new anti-riot force was deployed for the first time Saturday after at least 36 people were killed in Hindu-Muslim riots in eastern India, police and news reports said, reports AFP.

Heavily-armed Rapid Action Force (RAF) personnel moved into Sitamarhi and neighbouring villages where mobs went on a killing spree after in altercation during a religious procession Tuesday sparked communal clashes.

"The RAF is here," police spokesman said by telephone from Sitamarhi, a small town 500 kilometers (312 miles) northwest of Calcutta and close to India's border with Nepal.

He gave no further details, but said the situation was "now under control."

News reports said 23 bodies had been recovered in Sitamarhi and 13 in adjoining villages, and more than 100 people had been injured in 162 incidents of arson and rioting.

Authorities in Patna, Bihar's capital, said more RAF personnel were on their way to the riot-hit areas where dozens of houses and shops were destroyed.

The 8,000 man RAF was unveiled in New Delhi on Wednesday to combat periodic bouts of Hindu-Muslim and other communal violence, and its members are based in 10 communally sensitive cities.

The new force is the first in India to be equipped with so-

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Serbs defy UN air ban, bomb Bosnian city

SARAJEVO, Oct 10: Serbian rebel combat planes reportedly fired rockets and dropped bombs on a northern Bosnian town Saturday, a day after the UN Security Council banned military flights over the former Yugoslav republic, reports AP.

Croatian radio also reported heavy shelling by Serb rebels of Muslim government positions in the besieged Bosnian capital of Sarajevo.

UN peacekeeping officials in Sarajevo also reported heavy fighting Saturday on the ap-

proaches to the airport and around Stup on the western edge of the city. There was no immediate word on casualties.

Croatian radio said there was intense fighting in Gradacac and surrounding government-held enclaves. Gradacac is in northeast Bosnian about 100 kilometers (60 miles) from Sarajevo.

The radio, quoting the government defense center of Gradacac, said planes rocketed and bombed the industrial zone and several residential

villages surrounding the town.

"Destruction is great and more casualties are feared," the radio said of Saturday's attacks. It said Friday's attacks on the city killed 14 civilians and two soldiers and wounded 37 civilians and four soldiers.

A Moscow report says: The United Nations may ease sanctions on Serbia and Montenegro to help former Yugoslavia get through the winter, a Russian official said Saturday after meeting with UN special envoy Cyrus Vance.

The Daily Star OFFICE SHIFTED

The Daily Star announces the shifting of its editorial, news and commercial offices to Road 3, House 11, Dhanmandi Residential Area, Dhaka with effect from Saturday, October 10, 1992.

All our valued readers, advertisers and patrons are requested to kindly note the change of address. Press releases, ads and all other communications should be addressed to:

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This special facility will be available from 15th October, 1992 to 15th November, 1992. The Fertilizer Marketing Cell of BCIC Head Office and Jamuna Fertilizer Company Management will furnish further details on the issue. Tel: Dhaka-233068, Factory-0981/3380

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