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Israel-PLO accord Monday likely

Clinton offers to host signing ceremony

WASHINGTON, Sept 7: President Bill Clinton has offered to host a ceremony for the signing of an agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, a White House spokeswoman said today, report Reuters, AP.

The United States has offered next Monday as a possible date for signing the agreement between Israel and the Palestinians, the White House said.

"If they get the details

worked out, we've offered that date," spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said.

September 13 is the last day Israeli officials could attend an event in Washington and still get home for Jewish new year celebrations beginning on Wednesday.

Myers said Clinton would host a ceremony at the White House if the two sides are ready to sign by then.

Meanwhile an Arab diplomat said today Israel and the PLO

will recognise each other within 24 hours.

The mutual recognition will be completed with an exchange of letters, said the diplomat in Tunis, where the PLO has its headquarters.

The recognition agreement would be completed "very probably within 24 hours," the diplomat said, declining to be named.

In Cairo, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said after talks See Page 12 Col 8

Arafat plans to have homes in Jericho, Gaza

CAIRO, Sept 7: PLO leader Yasser Arafat plans to have homes in Jericho and the Gaza Strip after the autonomy deal is signed with Israel, the Egyptian news agency reported today, says AFP.

Arafat told Egyptian newspaper editors Monday night that he would have a permanent residence in Jericho on the West Bank and a temporary one in Gaza city, the Middle East news agency said.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman said he had chosen Jericho because even though it was a small town, he would be "closer to all the Palestinians still living under Israeli occupation."

Repeal of Anti-Terrorism Act Opposition parties in JS may take united stand

By Nazmul Ashraf

Opposition parties in the Jatiya Sangsad are likely to unite in the coming autumn session of Parliament for abrogation of the Anti-Terrorism Act, opposition sources said.

The opposition parties are expected to work out a common strategy to back up the Anti-Terrorism Act (Repeal) Bill, submitted to the Parliament secretary by Awami League MP K M Jahangir last Saturday, soon after the session begins on September 12, sources added.

According to AL sources, the party would start a dialogue on the issue for a combined stand by the opposition parties in a bid to put fresh pressure on the government to scrap the more than one-year-old law. Other opposition parties said they would join the AL to renew their demand for repealing the law, which they alleged, was being abused to victimise opposition politicians.

AL General Secretary Zillur Rahman told The Daily Star his

party would decide its own steps on the matter in the AL Parliamentary Party (ALPP) meeting scheduled for September 11, a day before the autumn session starts. Then the party would open talks with other opposition parties to seek support on the private bill, he added.

The AL had been the worst victim of the Anti-Terrorism Act, he claimed, and added every-day his party workers were be- See Page 12 Col 7

Sino-Indian pact to cut border troops

BEIJING, Sept 7: China and India on Tuesday signed an agreement to reduce troops along their disputed border, but the pact did not include numbers or a timetable, report AP, AFP.

Troop reduction was among "confidence-building measures" mentioned in the agreement, but "the extent, depth, timing and nature of the reductions will be worked out through mutual consultations," the Indian Embassy said in a joint statement.

The statement however, hailed the pact as a landmark in relations.

The agreement, signed after two days of talks between visiting Indian Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao and Chinese Premier Li Peng, prepares the

ground for a final settlement of the border issue, the officials said.

"Pending a boundary settlement, India and China have agreed to respect and observe the line of actual control (LAC)," The line has separated the troops of the two nations since the brief 1962 war.

"This landmark agreement lays down the framework for maintaining peace and tranquillity along the LAC," the joint statement said.

Indian diplomats said the key questions of how many soldiers to remove and how far they should pull back would be decided by Defence officials from the two countries.

"We know that the armies do not compromise on matters of strategic importance," an Indian

official said. "These issues have to be sorted out by the army officers because they know what is best in their interest and what sort of compromises were acceptable to each side."

Indian opposition leaders have given a rare unanimous mandate to Rao to resolve the dispute along the 4,000-km borders.

Tuesday's agreement, one of four signed between the two nations, stressed the principle of mutual and equal security.

They also agreed to open a new border crossing between India and Tibet, cooperate on environmental protection and exchange television and radio programming.

Indian officials played down the possible compromises the border agreement could involve

for both countries.

China claims some 90,000 sq km in India's northeastern Arunachal Pradesh. It also regards India's northern Sikkim state as disputed.

India says Beijing occupies about 33,000 sq km in the Aksai Chin region.

Indian officials say privately that some of the territory claimed by India, and which has been under Chinese control for years, might be formally handed over to China in a final agreement.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wu Jianmin cited a "very harmonious" atmosphere at the morning summit. He quoted Premier Li as saying "positive progress" was made in politics, economics and trade during talks.

Maneka Gandhi offers to lobby against Farakka

By Staff Correspondent

Maneka Gandhi, an Indian politician and widow of Sanjay Gandhi, yesterday said the Third World countries should adopt agro-based economic policies instead of Western models for the interest of the environment and the people.

She said developing nations should also be selective in choosing modern technology since indiscriminate adoption of technology may aggravate the unemployment problem and create imbalances in the ecology.

Maneka, who is more of an environmentalist than a politician, was addressing a press conference yesterday at the Hotel Sonargaon after a day-long workshop on "Women and the Environment," which she attended as chief guest.

Regarding the Farakka Barrage, she said she was against all barrages since these affected the ecological balances. She asked for adequate information about the impact of the dam from Bangladesh for her to lobby in this regard.

See Page 12 Col 1



Maneka Gandhi (L) at an exhibition of handicraft at Hotel Sonargaon in the city yesterday. Hasna Moudud of NARI is seen on extreme right. —Star photo

PM for SAARC joint venture in jute sector

SAARC chairperson Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday suggested establishing a joint venture industry in the jute sector under the SAARC umbrella for ensuring diversified use of jute in the region and giving a fillip to the sector, reports BSS.

Begum Zia was talking to the visiting Sri Lankan Minister for Housing and Construction B Sirisena Cooray while the latter called on her at her office.

The Prime Minister conveyed her greetings to the President and the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. She also invited the Sri Lankan President to visit Bangladesh.

The Prime Minister ex-

pressed her happiness that Cooray had come and attended the fourth BNP council and said such visit strengthened party-to-party relationship of the two nations of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Begum Zia highly appreciated the efforts of the government and people of Sri Lanka to carry forward their nation towards the path of development despite difficulties. She recalled the remarkable contributions of President Premadasa to the building of his nation and strengthening the process of regional cooperation for development through SAARC forum.

The Prime Minister men- See Page 12 Col 7

Tk 10 cr plan to make up crop loss due to floods

By Special Correspondent

A Taka 10 crore agricultural rehabilitation programme has been taken to make up the loss of food crop estimated at 9.67 lakh metric tons due to the recent floods.

Under the programme, the farmers of the affected areas will get support in both cash and kind to boost agricultural output, a well-placed source in the Agriculture Ministry, told The Daily Star yesterday.

The programme will continue until the winter, during which intensive cultivation of Rabi

crop and Boro rice will be undertaken.

The agriculture sector was badly affected by the recent floods which caused heavy damage to food crops, mainly Aus and the Aman. The floods have totally destroyed standing crop on 5.7 lakh acres while crop on another 5.17 lakh acres were damaged partially.

According to authorities concerned, this loss of nearly one million tonnes may create a food deficit which might have See Page 12 Col 7

AL observes 'Peasants' Day' today

By Staff Correspondent

The Awami League (AL) observes its 'Peasants' Day' across the country today.

The day's programmes include demonstrations at the district and thana headquarters and handing over of memoranda to the Deputy Commissioners (DCs) and Thana Nirbahi Officers (TNOs).

The memos will contain identical texts describing problems of the peasants.

The petition will also carry a set of demands for increased subsidy to the agriculture, lower prices of agricultural inputs, bank loan facilities for the See Page 12 Col 2

GF's signature campaign from Sept 17 against campus violence

The newly-formed political party of Dr Kamal Hossain, Gano Forum will launch a month-long signature campaign September 17 on its demand for cleansing the country's educational institutions of violence and arms, reports UNB.

Sources in the GF said yesterday they had also formulated a five-point charter of demands for elimination of campus terrorism and would begin signature collection in its favour.

The first meeting of the 24-member executive committee of See Page 12 Col 3

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh National Board of Revenue Dhaka Notice

The date for advance income tax payment for the 1st quarter of the current financial year is September 15, 1993.

The advance income tax payable by the concerned taxpayer is to be paid through I.T. Form No. I.T. 31(B) (amended) challan.

The taxpayers should pay the advance tax filling in the said challan form as usual by replacing the figure "74(1)" with the figure "64" in as many places as it occurs in the form.

It may be mentioned that the financial limit of total income for payment of advance income tax for all classes of assessee is now Taka 1,00,000/=.

All assessee concerned are requested to pay their advance income tax for the 1st quarter of the current financial year relevant to the assessment year 1994-95 under this system by September 15, 1993. Simple interest @ 12% per annum will be leviable if the advance income tax is not paid or paid at a lesser amount than due.

National Board of Revenue

Marcos returns home to be buried

LAOAG, Sept 7: The body of former president Ferdinand Marcos returned home to an ecstatic welcome from loyalist followers today, seven years after he was driven from power in a popular revolution, report Reuters, AP.

Thousands of fervent loyalists wearing 'we love FM' T-shirts thronged Laoag airport in the Marcos heartland in the northern Philippines to welcome home the body of the man who died in exile in Hawaii in 1989.

Mrs Marcos, draped in a black veil and black native dress, kissed the bier and wept alongside her three children. Women in the crowd also wept.

After a colorful ceremony

featuring native death rituals, the black metal casket was loaded abroad a black, horse-drawn carriage and taken in a solemn procession to the city's cathedral and later a reviewing stand in front of the white provincial capital building.

Through the afternoon and evening, towns people and visitors filed by the coffin, flanked by a Philippine flag and the seal of the president.

The body was to remain at the capitol until Wednesday, when it was to be transported in a torchlight procession to Batac, 15 kilometers to the south, for burial Friday in a stone mausoleum in the yard of

his family home.

Marcos' mother, Josefa, is to be buried Thursday. She died in 1988 but her body was kept in a refrigerated container until her son returned to his homeland.

In Manila, Mrs Aquino's spokeswoman, Lourdes Sytan-gco, said the former president would have no comment because "it doesn't deserve it." Mrs Aquino refused Marcos a Philippine burial, but her successor Fidel Ramos agreed to allow the funeral in Marcos' home province, Ilocos Norte.

Ramos did not attend, but sent his sister, Sen. Leticia Shahani, as his representative.



Former first lady Imelda Marcos (R) with children Congressman Ferdinand Marcos Junior (L) and Imee Manotoc (C) singing the Philippine national anthem before the flag-draped coffin bearing the remains of late Ferdinand Marcos during arrival ceremonies at Laoag city airport in Philippines yesterday. —AFP photo

malaysia AIRLINES ANNOUNCEMENT

**MALAYSIA AIRLINES IS PLEASED TO
ANNOUNCE FOUR SCHEDULED CHARTERED
FLIGHTS WEEKLY, EFFECTIVE
11TH SEPTEMBER '93 EVERY
SUNDAY - TUESDAY- THURSDAY AND
SATURDAY DIRECT SERVICES
KUALALUMPUR-DHAKA-KUALALUMPUR**

DEPARTURE - KUALALUMPUR - 1200	ARRIVAL-DHAKA - 1350
DEPARTURE - DHAKA - 1450	ARRIVAL-KUALALUMPUR - 2040

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YOUR AGENT OR US**

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