

## China, Russia pledge not to target missile on each other

MOSCOW, Sept 3: China and Russia pledged on Saturday not to target nuclear missiles on each other, formally cementing their recent rapprochement after decades of hostility, reports AP.

The joint statement on missiles was signed at the end of Kremlin talks between Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

The two presidents also signed a declaration of long-term development of bilateral relations, and Russian and Chinese foreign ministers signed an accord resolving the two nations' territorial disputes along the Western section of the Russian-Chinese border.

Earlier Saturday, Jiang met Yeltsin for talks aimed at smoothing the remaining frictions between the two countries and expanding their trade and economic cooperation.

They met privately at the St. Catherine Hall of the Grand Kremlin Palace, and the talks continued later in an expanded form, with the participation of top Russian and Chinese officials.

Greeting Jiang, Yeltsin said he was pleased to congratulate the Chinese leader on the occasion of his first official visit to Russia.

Yeltsin said that his own visit to China in December

## Khaleda hosts banquet

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part to make our ties more substantial and durable."

The Bangladesh market is now open to the world, Begum Zia said. Consequently, exports from the Republic of Korea to Bangladesh have grown much faster than Bangladesh exports to Korea, she added.

The serious trade imbalance needs to be reduced on a priority basis, Begum Zia said and added that Bangladesh expects the Republic of Korea will create better opportunities for market access to Bangladesh for its exports. The Uruguay Round and the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP), among other things, enable the Republic of Korea to do so, she said.

Begum Zia requested the ROK leader that his government could consider offering Bangladesh special and differential opportunities.

"Both our countries are committed to democracy and free market economy," Bangladesh Prime Minister said.

There is much commonality in our experiences with democratic governance.

Further consolidation and strengthening of democratic values and institutions is the common challenge faced by our two countries", Begum Zia said. "In this regard, we could benefit through greater ex-

### Drought

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Moreover, two to four per cent of the total cultivable land will remain fallow this season, Agriculture Ministry sources said.

Agriculturists said the high yielding variety (HYV) aman paddy was the worst affected in the drought and most of the transplantation was made with local variety.

Meanwhile, the rainfall in the drought affected regions in August was significantly low this year.

Rajshahi, which usually witnesses an average rainfall of 596 mm in August, had only 206 mm this August. Dinaupur had 132 mm in August against the average of 338 mm.

Rangpur witnessed only 98 mm of rainfall as in August as against the average of 333 millimeter.

Meanwhile, the government's proposed rehabilitation programme in the drought affected areas did not take off because the authorities felt that the situation had improved to some extent. The Tk 40 crore programme was to provide grants to the affected farmers.

A new short term programme is now being formulated by the government to provide *mashikai* dal seeds to the affected farmers. The *mashikai* seeds will be sown between the aman and *rabi* crop seasons.

Agriculturists now expect a huge demand for TSP and potash fertiliser and *rabi* crop seeds since farmers will now go for *rabi* crop because of the aman crop failure. Because of the scanty rainfall, the fields are also likely to have the right condition for *rabi* cultivation just on time.

If the required seeds and fertiliser could be provided in time, the aman crop failure might be offset to some extent, agriculture experts said.

1992 has created a favourable climate for the development of bilateral relations, according to the Itar-Tass news agency.

"Since the visit of the Russian President was short, allow me to use this opportunity to invite you to China again at any time convenient," responded Jiang.

"A Chinese proverb says that during their first meeting, people remain alien to each other, and during their second one they become old friends. I'm very glad to meet my old friend Boris Yeltsin," he said in remarks carried by Itar-Tass.

Jiang arrived in Moscow Friday for the four-day summit, and that same day, Russian and Chinese officials signed a trade accord. Additional agreements on trade and economic cooperation are to be signed during the summit.

Under Friday's agreement, Russia will provide China with equipment for three hydroelectric power stations, a paper plant and a methanol plant, and China will supply consumer goods and food to Russia.

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