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Police nabbing a transport worker while removing trucks from the Nayabazar Road in the city yesterday.

## Shantibahini kill 28

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by the former. Shantibahini demanded high rate of tolls for each cubic feet of timber collected from the forests. Some of the traders, however, said that the outlawed Shantibahini carried out this mass killing following a theft of a water pump owned by a tribal member who lives near Churakhali.

Dipankar Talukdar, an MP of Rangamati district, Rabindralal Chakma, Chairman, Rangamati Hill District Local Government Council and Jalaluddin Muhammad Alamgir, President Parbatya Gano Parishad have condemned the brutal killings.

UNB adds: Police and military sources said soldiers began the search after one woodcutter, injured by bullet, escaped on Tuesday. Five woodcutters were still missing. The injured woodcutter, Yunus, was admitted to Rabeta Hospital at Langadu.

Unofficial sources, however, said 35 people were kidnapped by the Shantibahini insurgents. Of them, two managed to escape and bodies of 30 woodcutters were found. Three were missing, they said.

They further said that the woodcutters had been picked up by Shantibahini men from their houses in Mahila, Pablaikhal and Churakhali areas of Bagairchari thana on the pretext of holding a meeting on toll collection.

The 28 bodies were brought to Langadu thana in the afternoon.

## 8 BCL activists of Gopalganj group rehabilitated in JN hall

By DU Correspondent

Some eight activists of the Gopalganj faction of the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) were rehabilitated in the Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University yesterday as per the "peace accord" for maintaining peaceful atmosphere on the campus.

These activists were ousted by the Faridpur-Madaripur group of BCL some nine months ago. They were rehabilitated after a meeting of the leaders of the two factions.

## 40 candidates

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erwise, the candidate is entitled to a refund.

The number of candidates who lost their deposits include seven from the main opposition BNP and six from JP. All but one independent candidate incurred the loss.

Those who failed to reach the mark include Md Aftab Hossain (BNP, Rangpur-2), Md Khandakar Golam Mostafa (BNP-Rangpur-5), Md Ekramul Huq Khan (BNP, Rangpur-6), Mahbubul Islam Talukdar (BNP-Sirajganj-1). Advocate Gazi Abdul Bari (BNP, Khulna-1), Abdul Wahab Talukdar (BNP-Pirojpur-2), Nurul Huq (BNP, Sylhet-4), Ali Ashraf Chowdhury (JP, Chittagong-1), Lt. Col (ret) Faraj Imam, Bir Bikram (JP, Laximpur-2), Md M A Mannan (JP, Sylhet-4), Dewan Golam Mahbub (JP-Shariatpur-1), Md Latifur Rahman (JP, Khulna-1), Latifur Rahman (JP, Sirajganj-1).

In the June 12 Parliamentary elections, deposits of over 1,860 candidates were forfeited. The total amount of the forfeited deposit money in the June 12 parliamentary and September 5 by-elections come to Tk 95 lakh.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

## Nepali opposition won't ratify treaty with India

KATHMANDU, Sept 11: Nepalese Minister for Water Resources Pashupati Rana tabled a controversial multi-billion dollar treaty with India in Parliament today, which the Opposition have said they will not ratify, reports AFP.

"It is the first time in Nepalese parliamentary history that a joint treaty signed by Nepal and India is being tabled for ratification," Rana said.

"Its ratification will also ease the tension between Nepal and India," he added.

On Tuesday some 1,200 extreme-left activists and youths from the National Democratic Front-Nepal (NDF-N) burnt the Nepalese and Indian prime ministers in effigy here as a protest against the treaty.

Later the demonstration turned into a public meeting where the NDF-N leaders bitterly criticised the ruling tripartite coalition government of the Nepali Congress (NC), the rightist Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP) and the pro-India Nepal Sadbhavana Party (NSP).

Earlier Tuesday Nepal's main opposition Nepal Communist Party-United Marxist and Leninist (NCP-UML) released a list of changes it wants made to the treaty before it will ratify the project.

They are opposed to the signing of the multi-billion dollar Mahakali River Integrated Development Project (MRIDP) which has the potential to generate 4,000 megawatt of electricity besides harnessing the border river for irrigation.

When the prime ministers of Nepal and India had signed the MRIDP treaty in February, the two neighbours pledged to invest equal amounts in the project for equal benefits. But, opposition leaders say India will gain the most.

The treaty has yet to be ratified by the Nepalese parliament.

The government needs the NCP-UML's support if the treaty is to get the required two-thirds majority in the two houses of the Nepalese parliament.

In a related development today nearly 12,000 Maoists led by the Nepal Peasants and Workers' Party (NPWP) held an anti-government, anti-India and anti-NCP-UML demonstration, witnesses said.

They marched 16 kilometres

from Bhaktapur township east of here, shouting slogans like "down with Mahakali treaty", "cancel the treacherous treaty" and "down with India".

They also branded the NCP-UML as "traitors" for allegedly supporting the government.

Later the NPWP held a public meeting attended by more than 15,000 people at which NPWP leaders spoke against the treaty.

"India is blindfolding Nepal to get the treaty ratified only thinking of its interests rather than thinking of Nepal and its people. If the NCP-UML supports it, it will be a misfortune for the country," NPWP Chairman and MP Narayan Man Bishukhe said.

Another NPWP MP, Ashok Basukala claimed "the NCP-UML wants to support the Mahakali treaty just to come to power again."

## India won't allow FBI to set up office

NEW DELHI, Sept 11: The government will not permit a US law enforcement agency to set up an office in India, Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral told Parliament today, reports AP.

Gujral's statement came after a lawmaker drew his attention to a newspaper report that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) wants to post an office to monitor terrorism in the Himalayan state of Kashmir.

"No such permission shall be given," Gujral said. He did not elaborate.

The FBI said last month it would like to open offices in more countries, including India, to monitor terrorism, drug smuggling and organised crime that could affect US interests.

US and British experts worked with Indian security officials in Srinagar, capital of Kashmir state, earlier this year in an attempt to trace Westerners who were kidnapped last year by separatist guerrillas.

Two Americans, two Britons, a German and a Norwegian were kidnapped in Kashmir last year. One American, later escaped, and the beheaded body of the Norwegian was found on the roadside. Four westerners remain missing.

Guerrillas have been waging a war since 1989 to make Kashmir independent. More than 14,500 people have been killed in frequent gunbattles between the militants and Indian troops.

## Mannan iterates demand for repolling in two JS seats

CHITTAGONG, Sept 11: BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan today reiterated his party's demand for re-election in Mirersarai and Laxmipur constituencies saying by-elections in those constituencies were not free and fair, reports BSS.

He alleged that the party in power resorted to coercion and intimidation to win by-elections in the aforesaid constituencies on September 5.

Addressing a public meeting at Lalidighi Maidan here this afternoon he said that the present government had failed to check terrorism and campus violence and it had created panic among government employees by politicising the administration.

He said Chhatra Dal leaders and workers were forcibly evicted from hostels and campuses.

## Truckers go on rampage in city: 7 held

By Staff Correspondent

At least seven truck drivers and helpers were arrested on charges of creating a law and order situation and damaging public property in the city yesterday.

Witnesses said the truck drivers, protesting the arrest of one of their colleagues, barricaded the roads of Tantibazar, Badamtali, Dholaipar, Siddikbazar and Court Kachari for around three hours starting from 10:00 am.

Police lobbed tear gas shells, resorted to lathicharge and with the help of the people removed the trucks from the roads, said witnesses.

A truck driver was arrested on Tuesday allegedly for assaulting a constable.

## 30 hurt in clash over capturing land in city

By Staff Correspondent

Police picked up 30 persons when two rival groups clashed over capturing land at Sugandha Prakalpa at Tongi Division Road under Tejgaon thana last night.

According to the police, the clash between two groups of people began at around 9 pm. Some public property was damaged.

## Housewife beaten to death

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 11: A young housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her husband at Delau village in Belkuchi upazila on Tuesday night, reports UNB.

Police said Abdul Hannan, a local businessman, beat his wife, Poppy, 19, to death following a family feud.

The body was sent to Sadar hospital morgue for autopsy. A case was filed.

## Donors pledge \$1.9b

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The meeting is held every year in April, but this year's meeting was delayed till September because of the general elections in the country. The donors wanted to meet after the election was over.

During the meeting, the finance minister told the donors that his government was fully committed to accelerating economic reforms that would lead to faster economic growth, poverty alleviation and social justice.

He pointed out the considerable importance being given to education, health, and population activities and the government's resolve to raise the effectiveness of such public programmes.

Poverty still accounts for more than 40 per cent of the population of some 120 million, Kibria informed the meeting.

The minister noted that a GDP growth rate of at least 7 per cent per annum was necessary to tackle Bangladesh's pervasive poverty.

He also affirmed that necessary steps would be taken to maintain macroeconomic stability and low inflation, with fiscal discipline to be observed through more effective tax administration and a tightly controlled public-expenditure programme.

Kibria emphasised that reforms in banking, state enterprises, energy, telecommunications, and public sector management, which had stalled as a result of political unrest, would be pursued in earnest to boost investors' confidence and raise domestic and foreign investment.

"Privatisation will be stepped up to stop the haemorrhaging caused by losses of the state-owned enterprises that the nation cannot afford," he told the donors.

The minister noted his government's strong desire to secure a domestic consensus on economic reform in order to ensure their effective implementation.

The donors welcomed the orderly transition of government in June this year and commended the new government on its commitment to faster growth for poverty alleviation.

They pointed out the need both for political and macroeconomic stability and were supportive of the government's economic and social reform initiative.

They urged the government to reverse macroeconomic policy slippages, return to a more comfortable international reserve position and increase the use of aid through better project implementation.

The donors endorsed the priority being given to poverty and social equity to deal with the pervasive problems of rural and urban poverty. They urged more rapid implementation of existing programmes to deal with the problem of malnutrition and maternal and child health.

Donors took note of the commitment to enhance the role of women in mainstream economic activities through a combination of legislative and administrative means.

Given the internationally recognised dynamism of Bangladesh non-government organisations, the donors endorsed government's desire to facilitate sound NGO operations. They also welcomed the



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## 2 ex-army officers not taken to CID custody

Star Report

Two detained former army officers, placed on a seven-day remand following a prayer from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) Monday, for interrogation on the jail killing of November 3, 1975, were not taken to the custody of CID till yesterday, officials said.

CID sought the remand for interrogating the two Col (rtd) Shahriar Rashid Khan and Major (rtd) Khairuzzaman on the jail-killing of November 3, 1975.

Earlier, CID had taken over the case.

Three retired officers — Col Farooq Rahman, Col Shahriar Rashid Khan and Major Khairuzzaman — were picked up by police on August 13. They were sent to Dhaka Central Jail on a 30-day detention order under the Special Powers Act of 1974.

Meanwhile, Farooq's remand for the fourth time expired yesterday. He is charged in two other cases. Some sources said CID may seek a fresh remand of Farooq today for investigation of the jail killing case.

Four national leaders — Tajuddin Ahmed, Mansur Ali, Kamruzzaman and Syed Nazrul Islam — were killed inside the jail.

CID had taken over the case filed by the then DIG (Prisons) following the jail killing. The case was registered with Lalbagh police.

## DCCI team to visit 4 European states from tomorrow

An 11-member trade delegation of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) led by its president Ali Hossain leaves here Friday on a 10-day visit to four European countries to explore possibilities of expanding trade and investment in Bangladesh, reports BSS.

The delegation yesterday called on Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed at his office to brief him on the objective of their coming visit.

The delegation apprised the minister that they would visit the UK, Belgium, Germany and France and meet the leaders of chambers of commerce and industry of those countries. They will also have meetings with UK Department of Trade and Industry, Belgian Foreign Trade Board and relevant agencies in France and Germany.

The minister told the delegation members to act as Bangladesh envoys abroad for attracting foreign investment as well as expanding market of the country's goods.

The minister said the government already enacted private EPZ law, constituted permanent law commission and revitalised the Board of Investment. All these steps were taken to attract foreign investors, he said, adding that the present government was making all-out efforts to convert Bangladesh into an ideal venue for private investment.

## Joint body

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Committee of experts is a departure from the previous practise of involving the Joint Rivers Commission for studying data on the water flow for formulating a water sharing agreement or MOU as in the past.

Formation of the Joint Committees emphasises the importance and urgency being given by the two governments on reaching an understanding on the water sharing issue at a rapid pace, said an official of the Foreign Ministry. However, the JRC may later take over in the follow up phase, the official said.

The Joint Committee is likely to "reconcile" the status quo on the availability of water at Farakka during the main lean season beginning on April 21 and ending on May 31, including a ten day leanest period during the dry season.

Water experts in Bangladesh are learnt to have a different set of figures on the availability of water and its flow that of the Indian side.

The quantum of water that is likely to be made available to Bangladesh in the proposed water sharing agreement is likely to be decided after "reconciling the differences" in the statistics on ground water availability during the lean season.

It is not known to Bangladesh now how much water is available at Farakka after diversion of water in the upstream by the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

Both the Indian external affairs minister, I K Gujral, during his just concluded visit to Dhaka and Bangladesh Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad at his press briefing yesterday had stated that a permanent water sharing accord would be signed between the two countries before the onset of the next lean season. Gujral had also stated that the accord would be reached after examining Bangladesh's need for water and the quantum of water available at the ground level.

## Foundation of friendship hospital laid in Savar

SAVAR, Sept 11: The present government is determined to reach healthcare service to the people of rural areas, reports UNB.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Salah Uddin Yusuf said this while addressing the foundation laying ceremony of Bangladesh-Korea Friendship Hospital near the Export Processing Zone today.

It was also addressed by Korean Ambassador in Bangladesh Byun Jong Kyoo, Khaleel Khanam MP, Dr Dewan Mohammad Saiauddin MP and Additional Secretary of the

Ministry of Health and Social Welfare Mohammad Nurul Abedin.

The works of 30-bed hospital project is expected to be completed in 1997-98 at a cost of Tk 550 lakh, of which Tk 400 lakh will come as donation from Korean government and the rest Tk 150 from the government of Bangladesh.

The Health and Family Welfare Minister said the project will help improve the health status of the people of the area as well as to create job opportunities for them.

The joint venture project closely conforms to overall objective of the government of achieving the goal "Health for all by the year 2000," the minister said.

He thanked the government of the Republic of Korea for financing the project and hoped that the existing relationship between the two countries will be further strengthened in near future.

He informed that Korea was willing to establish another hospital at the Chittagong Export Processing Zone, said a PID handout.

Addressing the ceremony, Korean Ambassador Byun Jong Kyoo expressed his government's willingness to share the results of economic development with the friendly countries like Bangladesh under the spirit of share and respect.

## Aditmari thana OC, SI withdrawn for arrest of 2 girls

LALMONIRHAT, Sept 11: Two policemen were withdrawn from Aditmari police station today allegedly for rounding up two girls after midnight and inflicting mental torture on them, official sources said, reports UNB.

Officer-in-Charge Hemayet Ali and Sub-Inspector Shamsul Huq of the police station were issued stand release amidst a tense situation following public protest.

Mina, 18, and Mily, 16, daughters of a school teacher, were picked up by a police team led by SI Shamsul Haq at about 1 am on August 22. Their father, Mosul Haq, headmaster of Saral Khan Government Primary School, was not at home when police arrested them.

Relatives of the two girls alleged that police tortured them mentally at night and sent them to jail hajat in a false case on the following day. They were later released on bail.

The Primary Teachers' Association led the protest against police harassment.

## AL: Confrontation

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Since the September 5 by-election to 15 Jatiya Sangsad seats, the BNP launched street agitations seeking repolling in two constituencies and resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner.

"We will come up with various programmes to give an impression to the people that Awami League has not left the streets," said a top party leader.

To start with the Dhaka city unit of Awami League held a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, Awami League Joint Secretary Abdul Jalil said, "We have succeeded in our fight for establishing peoples' franchise, now our goal is to 'rescue' the people from the propaganda by a certain party desperately looking for issues to do politics based on those."

He added that the AL's future political programmes would be mainly focused on preventing "misunderstanding" among members of the public and to face the political opponents "politically."

Meanwhile, as the national council session of Awami League is nearing, party leaders are expected to spread over the country soon to attend and oversee council sessions of the district and thana level units.

## Foil conspiracy

From Page 1

home minister to ensure proper action against those who had threatened the Prime Minister.

The central leaders who addressed the rally included AL joint secretaries Shamsur Rahman Khan and Abdul Jalil, publicity secretary Mozaffar Hussain Paltu, Relief Secretary Montaz Hussain, Health Secretary Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Abdul Mannan, Advocate Shahara Khan, Siddique Rafiq Khan, Mukul Bose and Prof Fazlul Haq.

Besides, city AL leaders Fazlur Rahman Khan, Akhtarul Alam, Advocate Qamrul Islam, Mahmudunnabi, Kamal Chowdhury, Abdus Salam and Advocate Mehboob Alam, Mokbul Hossain, MP. Jubo League general secretary Advocate Razi Iqbal Hussain and Jot Bangali Sangshikritik Jote convenor Salahuddin Badai addressed the rally conducted by City AL Organising Secretary Moizuddin.