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## Delhi mum on defeat in UNSC election

NEW DELHI, Oct 22: The Indian government went into a shell today over its defeat by Japan for a non-permanent UN Security Council seat.

While the opposition spoke out against New Delhi's failure to put India's case, government sources remained tight-lipped over Monday's voting.

A ruling party official, however, said on condition of anonymity that the developing world was to blame.

"The 142-40 outcome is slightly painful because it shows the developing countries did not stand by us," the member of India's ruling centre-left United Front coalition told AFP.

"It shows the developing countries are lost in a uni-polar world. I am not surprised by the West, because for them Japan is an ally and was an obvious choice."

"It is undoubtedly a setback to India."

India was trounced in a 142-40 vote Monday by economic giant Japan in the first round of

secret balloting by the General Assembly for the annual replacement of five non-permanent Council members.

There was no reaction from the Indian government. External Affairs Minister Inder Kumar Gujral, who had lobbied hard at the United Nations ahead of the Monday vote, was in hospital because of fever and could not be reached.

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Foreign Secretary Salman Haider refused to comment. An official reaction was expected later Monday.

India's UN ambassador Prakash Shah expressed surprise and disappointment at the result, noting that even Japanese diplomats had expected the battle between the Asian rivals to run to two rounds.

Shah told AFP in New York that he had received encouragement from many states who had apparently switched allegiance at the last minute in the secret ballot.

## Team leaves for Brussels to talks GSP issue

Country's readymade garments industry, which enjoys the GSP facility in Europe, is confronting some problems in continuity of the treatment, threatening future export prospects in the market, reports UNB.

Official sources said an eight-member delegation left Dhaka yesterday for Brussels to resolve the problem so that the country is allowed continued generalised system of preference (GSP).

The delegation members will hold talks with the officials of the division concerned of the European Union in the Belgian capital October 24-25 in a bid to persuade them to continue the facility for Bangladesh, they said.

Additional Secretary of the Commerce Ministry Azad Ruhul Amin is leading the high-powered mission which also included Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) President Redwan Ahmed.

Director General of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) B M M Mozaharul Huq, Assistant

Chief of Textile Cell Shawkat Ali and four other garment manufacturers and exporters are also in the delegation.

Sources concerned said the readymade garments export to EU markets from Bangladesh was facing problems with regard to the trade clause of "country of origin" and also problems related to dying of fabrics.

Moreover, they said, products manufactured in some other countries were reportedly transhipped to the EU markets showing those as from Bangladesh also caused problems.

As the EU headquarters received some complaints in this regard, they enquired about these problems. An EU team is scheduled to visit Bangladesh next month to enquire further into the allegations against the garment industry in Bangladesh.

European Union as a whole is one of the largest markets for Bangladesh readymade garment industry. Other two major markets are the United States and Canada.

## Kidnappers

From Page 1  
Prime Minister, Begum Khaleda Zia, according to sources.

Nine persons were arrested in connection with the kidnapping case. Four of them were taken on a day's remand yesterday.

Some senior police officials talking to The Daily Star, said, Amir could have been released by the kidnappers without getting the ransom money.

The ransom money was paid by Amir's guardians in Gulshan area, even before police took up the case, the officials observed.

"Probably the ransom money is linked with some previous business transaction," said a police source without elaborating further.

According to one such source a professional group was hired for kidnapping Amir, working under the instructions from 'some others'.

The officials, quoting the statement of Amir after his release from a residential hostel of Dhaka University, said one person came to his furniture shop, flipped through the catalogue and expressed his desire to purchase some furniture from his shop.

Later, the same person requested Amir to accompany him upto his vehicle parked outside the shop and from there he was whisked away by them at gun point, sources said quoting Amir's statement.

After his release from the university area, Amir was given Tk 120 as transport fare for reaching home.

## Docs' strike

From Page 1  
The BMA, Medical College Teachers' Association, Internec Doctors Association, Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Association, students organisations and Associations of the Third and Fourth Class Employees of Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital was held tonight.

The meeting decided to reschedule the strike for the next seven days, doctors will observe strike for two hours from 8 am and abstain from private practice on the morning.

A press release of the BMA said, the strike programme has been relaxed in view of suffering of the patients.

The Prime Minister will visit Boston on October 28 where she will deliver a lecture at the Harvard University. She will also visit the John F Kennedy Library and Museum.

The Prime Minister's entourage includes Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, State Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Matin Khasru, members of parliament Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim and Bir Bahadur and Sheikh Rehana.

The delegation also included a group of 23 leading businessmen who came on their own expenses.

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## Transfer ordered thrice, finally withheld

By Nazmul Ashraf  
The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, after issuing three letters in about four months for transfer of an official, has finally withheld the transfer order.

The reason for withholding the transfer order was not given in the last letter but sources in the ministry said, "It happened at the influence of an official in the highest office of the government."

According to the sources, the Energy Ministry had ordered "withdrawal" of Selimullah Selim, Director (administration) of Petrobangla on June 22 this year because "his presence there was hindering overall development of the organisation". The order had pointed out that Selimullah completed three years in the position.

Selimullah was appointed to the post on June 23, 1993 by an order of the Ministry of Establishment.

The Energy Ministry issued another letter on July 20 requesting the Establishment Ministry to do the needful for withdrawal of Selimullah and his replacement by Li Col (retd) ASM Oluhullah, director (planning and development) of the BSCIC.

Later in another letter, the Energy Ministry again wrote to the Establishment Ministry requesting for "necessary steps" to transfer Selimullah to the Oluhullah as Director, Petrobangla. It was mentioned in this letter that the change was desired by the Energy Minister.

Again on August 23, the Energy Ministry sent another letter to the Establishment Ministry requesting it to take "emergency steps" on the issue.

But finally, on October 2, the Energy Ministry, in a brief letter to the Establishment Ministry, withheld its previous order for the changes without giving any explanation.

## JMB project discussed with WB team

A two-member inspection-pannel of the World Bank (WB) called on Communications Minister Anwar Hossain at his residence yesterday, reports UNB.

The Minister had a detailed discussion on the Jamuna Multi-Purpose Bridge (JMB) Project with WB delegates - Edward Abboh and Ernst-Gunter Brodes.

## Police identify

From Page 1  
He remained missing for two days after the HSC exam results were published on Thursday.

Masud was found dead near the Ceramic Bhaban inside the institute at Dhaka University at around 7 am Monday. There were deep cut injuries in the throat and about six stab injuries while his hands and legs were tied.

Meanwhile, police questioned some of the friends of Masud who were named in a piece of paper found in a pocket of his trouser, police said adding that some money figures were also written against each name in the paper.

Quoting the friends, police said Masud and those friends of him had invested money in the share market.

However, police were yet to find out the motive behind the brutal killing. They suspected that Masud was murdered by some miscreants who had enmity with him.

When asked, whether the young man was murdered inside the Institute of Fine Arts, a police officer of Ramna thana said they were investigating it.

Ramna police, however, said they had already identified the killers and hoped they would be able to find out the motive behind the murder within a very short time.

Meanwhile, the body of Masud was handed over to his relatives yesterday afternoon after autopsy at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof AK Azad Chowdhury visited the institute premises yesterday and asked the officers and employees of the institute about the incident, said a press release of the university last night.

The VC ordered the authorities concerned to take some security measures in the institute premises.

## Businessman

From Page 1  
Police said he came under attack near his Shilbari residence at Khatirpara village while returning home alone after supervising land-and-order situation of a *puga mandop* at nearby Santanpara village.

A gang of about seven miscreants chopped Nazim Uddin with *ramdao* and knife and left him on the spot.

Local people rushed him to Nazrul Clinic at Ghorashal where he succumbed to his fatal injuries at about 12:30 pm.

Police said the killing might be sequel to previous enmity over eviction of a shop from Pabul Bazar.

A case was filed with Polish thana. None was arrested.



A procession by the Hindu community in the city yesterday before the ceremonial immersion of images of Durga in the Buriganga. — Star photo

## Images of Durga immersed Thousands join *bijoya* procession in city

Members of the Hindu community yesterday celebrated their greatest religious festival, Durga Puja in the capital and elsewhere in the country, reports BSS.

Thousands of Hindu devotees brought out *bijoya* processions in the capital and immersed the image of goddess Durga in the river Buriganga.

The procession was brought out from Dhakeswari Mandir and paraded different city thoroughfares before terminating at Wiseghat on the river Buriganga.

The immersion of the image of goddess Durga in the river Buriganga was witnessed by thousands of Hindu devotees.

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Saeed inaugurated the *bijoya* procession at Dhakeswari Mandir.

Those who led the procession included K B Ray Chowdhury, Major General (Retd) CR Datta, Dr L M Nath, Prafullah Kumar Howlader, Anil Chandra Nath, Chittaranjan Sarkar, Dr Nim Chandra Bhaumik, Swapan Kumar Saha, and Subrata Chowdhury.

The government declared yesterday a public holiday.

Prafullah Kumar Howlader and Subrata Chowdhury, acting president and general secretary respectively of the Bangladesh Puja Ujyapan Parishad yesterday extended their felicitations to the countrymen irrespective of religions on the occasion of conclusion of the Durga Puja.

In a statement, they expressed the hope that the present government would establish the values of the War of Liberation and secular and democratic atmosphere in the country.

They expressed satisfaction on the conclusion of the Durga Puja amidst peace, harmony and fraternity throughout the country.

Report from Narayanganj adds, Saradia Puja, ended yesterday with the immersion of the image of Goddess Durga in the river Shitalakya amidst joy and merriment.

Hundreds of Hindu devotees including male, female and children, attired in their best witnessed the immersion ceremony standing from both sides of the Shitalakya.

## Hardboard Mills: Pipeline blast snaps production

From Our Correspondent  
KHULNA, Oct 22: Production in the Khalishpur Hardboard Mills has been suspended from 9 pm today following an explosion in the pipeline of the 'hot press'. The boiler of the mills also caught fire.

An official of the mills said the fire was later extinguished. The mills produces 60 thousand sq ft of hardboard everyday.

When contacted, the Production Manager said shortage of raw materials and power disruption were also hampering production of the mills.

## 2 JCD leaders held in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 22: Police arrested two local Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders from their residences at Tarash Bazar in Tarash thana of the district today, reports UNB.

The arrested are: Tarash thana JCD general secretary Jinal Abedin Mahubub and member Shariful Islam Tota.

The JCD leaders were nabbed on charges of attacking Chhatra League (S-P) activists on Tarash College campus on October 17, police said.

## JN University student killing: Two arrested

By Staff Correspondent  
Police have arrested two persons in connection with Monday's killing of a student of Jagannath University in the city.

The two taken into police custody yesterday were identified as Nashu, 23, and Kamal, 25. They were held from the city's DIT extension road, police said.

Zahidur Rahman Jewel, 22, sustained bullet injuries in his forehead. Three young men took him to a clinic at Siddheswar Circular Road at about 5 pm Monday and fled the scene immediately after doctors had declared him dead, according to reports.

## FBCCI election Irregularities in ballot recounting alleged

A candidate for member from the association group of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry yesterday brought allegation of irregularities in ballot recounting, reports UNB.

Alauddin Ahmed, who was elected an executive member in the October 17 election of the association group of the FBCCI, later lost the post after the recounting.

In a statement, Alauddin said he was elected securing 225 votes in the election. But in recounting his vote decreased to 217.

The aggrieved candidate, in this regard, mentioned that his two votes were cancelled by tampering the ballots during the recount.

"It is also not acceptable that during the recounting votes of all but one candidates, Khandoker Ruhul Amin who was announced elected after the recounting, decreased. His vote number before and after recounting was same - 218."

Alauddin Ahmed also alleged that he was not allowed to remain there for about two hours while the appellate board of the election recounted the votes.

He said he would file case with the election tribunal and, if necessary, will go to the High Court.

## Miss World contest Opportunity for Indians to see most beautiful women: Thackeray

NEW DELHI, Oct 22: A fire-brand Hindu leader has come out in favour of next month's 'Miss World Contest' in Bangalore, saying it would give a good opportunity for Indians to see the world's most beautiful women, newspapers said today, reports AFP.

"What is wrong in the show?" Bal Thackeray asked at a meeting of thousands of supporters in Bombay on Monday.

"You will get to see the world's most beautiful women in the show."

Thackeray's support flew directly in the face of opposition to the event from numerous Hindu and women's groups.

The Pioneer daily quoted Thackeray as saying that those were criticising the pageant, to be hosted in the southern city of Bangalore, despite mounting protests, "had nothing else to do."

Thackeray is the founder-leader of the Hindu militant Shiv Sena (Shivaji's army) Party which rules Bombay, India's financial and movie capital.

## 2 killed in Ctg

From Page 1  
Between two groups of youths at a *puga mandop* on Monday night.

Police said Salauddin was stabbed by a young man when he tried to refrain the two groups. He died on the spot.

In Mirersharai, four pro-Awami League Chhatra League activists received bullet injuries as gunmen opened fire on them at Talbaria village while returning home after visiting *puga mandops*.

Police said nine BCL activists were ambushed at about 9:30 pm while returning from *puga mandops* by three motorbikes.

Four of them - Jahangir, Mominul Islam Tipu, Mohammad Shahid and Jafaruddin - were hit with bullets in the attack. They were admitted to local health clinic.

In a statement today, Chhatra League BCL blamed BNP's student wing, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) for the attack and demanded arrest of the attackers.

## PCJSS

From Page 1  
tee letter of October 11 sent after its meeting with the National Committee on October 7 at Khagrachhari Circuit House, Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Ismail told this correspondent.

The government has formed a 10-member National Committee, headed by Chief Whip of the Jatiya Sangsad Abul Hasnat Abdullah and another 10-member Technical Committee on CHT affairs committee for the fruitful solution of the problem.

## JN University student killing: Two arrested

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Zahidur Rahman Jewel, 22, sustained bullet injuries in his forehead. Three young men took him to a clinic at Siddheswar Circular Road at about 5 pm Monday and fled the scene immediately after doctors had declared him dead, according to reports.

## Woman chopped

From Page 1  
shouting for help from the neighbours. She died on the spot.

Tipu's younger brother, Swapan, filed a case with Sutrapur police in this connection.

Police arrested four persons. They are Sazia's father, Noor Alam, step-mother Gool Nahar alias Falan and brothers Sabir Alam and Samsad Alam alias Tutul.

Gaddu was absconding.

## US proposes new NATO membership by '99

DETROIT, Oct 22: President Bill Clinton said today he wants NATO to admit its first new members by 1999, the first time he has backed a target date for an expansion of the alliance expected to begin with former Soviet bloc states, reports Reuter.

"Today, I want to state America's goal: By 1999 - NATO's 50th anniversary and 10 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall - the first group of countries we invited to join should be full-fledged members of NATO," Clinton said.

Clinton, speaking at a US election campaign rally as NATO begins the process of incorporating new members, did not name specific countries. But

## UNSC calls for truce in Afghanistan

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 22: The UN Security Council today called for an immediate cease-fire by Afghanistan's warring factions and urged all sides to seek a political settlement, reports AFP.

In a resolution adopted unanimously, the 15-member council also denounced the "discrimination against girls and women, and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan."

## Water accord

From Page 1  
He also said the agreement between Bangladesh and India should ensure that the losses are kept at the minimum and requirements of both are met.

For that there should be mutual cooperation and attention should be paid to the special need of the lower riparian, he pointed out.

South-western Bangladesh needs to save its environment, he said, adding already the environment there is adversely affected and should not be allowed to go on.

Prof Nishat further said that since the Ganges flow was enough to meet the year-round demand, there could be a master plan covering the entire Ganges basin. A barrage should also be constructed immediately inside Bangladesh.

"Bangladesh needs water to prevent environmental disaster and use it for eco-friendly development. There is question in India even on the use of water diverted from Farakka to help Calcutta port. If there is increase in withdrawal at upstream, the upper riparian must bear the responsibility. The flow of Ganges water did not fall overall."

There might be ups and downs in the flow in certain year. But the availability of water at Farakka could be considered on the basis of the previously available water, records from 1948 till 1973 are enough. Any question on the availability of water would only complicate the issue," Prof Nishat maintained.

## New posting of judges

By Staff Correspondent  
Some changes have been made in the posting of judges, according to the official sources.

Zahurul Islam, the District and Sessions Judge of Netrakona, was transferred to Faridpur, while the District and Sessions Judge of Noakhali, Moutaz Ali Bhuiyan has been posted in Tangail, the sources said.

Salam Khan, the district and Sessions Judge of Dhaka has been transferred to Noakhali and the District and Sessions Judge of Tangail has been transferred to the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs as joint secretary, sources added.

## DESCO

From Page 1  
create power tariff and privatise DESA which has been performing very poorly.

DESA's system loss is 37 to 40 per cent and it attributes this loss to pilferage by a section of ledger writers and metre readers. This heavy system loss is causing the government to incur a net loss of nearly Tk 200 crore annually, sources concerned noted.

The donors, taking note of the reality, have long been expressing their dissatisfaction at the performance of DESA as well as PDB.

The combined loss of PDB, DESA and REB is estimated at Tk 400 crore a year. DESA has a backlog of over Tk 700 crore to be paid to PDB.

DESA administration has remained weak because of a very dominating labour union backed up by big political parties, DESA officials said.

For the 9th Power Project, ADB will provide 100 million US dollars while World Bank, British Overseas Development Agency, NORAD and OECF will provide 94 million dollars. The remaining 106 million dollars needed for the project is yet to be arranged.

## Campaign

From Page 1  
focus on many of the issues she has raised, Blair declared that the issues she raised should be "at the centre of the political debate", as they cross right-and-left boundaries.

Support has also come from Cardinal Basil Hume, head of the Roman Catholic Church in England, who said, "Frances Lawrence has spoken for our society needs to rediscover moral and spiritual values." And Dr Nigel McCulloch, Bishop of Wakefield, added, "I back her campaign very firmly."

The Dunblane families are also optimistic that their Snowdrop campaign will succeed in getting a total ban on handguns. The government has already decided to make most guns illegal, but exempts 22 single-shot target pistols. The Labour party, however, has pledged to bar handguns completely, if they are elected next May.

Alliance members see Poland, Hungary and the Czech republic as heading the queue.

He said NATO's doors would remain open to others after the first new members were accepted, adding: "NATO will remain open to all of Europe's emerging democracies who are ready to shoulder the responsibilities of membership. No nation with an autocratically excluded. No country outside NATO will have a veto."

In a clear effort to reassure Russia, Clinton said NATO's enlargement was not directed against anyone and would enhance the security of members and non-members. He called for a formal cooperation agreement between Russia and NATO and said: "We should set up a mechanism for regular NATO-Russia meetings at all levels."

## Body found at Gulshan

By Staff Correspondent  
The decomposed body of a man, aged about 30 was found in a ditch at Maddhya Badda under Gulshan thana in the city on Monday. Police suspected that the man was murdered somewhere in the city and then dumped into the ditch.

The victim was identified as Nazmul Shahadat alias Nasim of Tajmahal road in Mohammapur area, police sources said.

Gulshan police sent the body to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy and filed a murder case.

## Fire service

From Page 1  
Kabir also submitted a joining report to the Ministry of Home along with the verdict of the court, but no decision has yet been taken in this regard, the officials said.

Kabir a former Staff Officer of the Civil Defence Department had served with the Rescue and Security Service under the Roads and Highways on deputation. He "managed" to alleviate his position to that of a Deputy Director there, the sources said.

Although he was never appointed Director of the Rescue and Security Service of the Roads and Highways, he gave appointment to about 200 people in various posts between '79 and '82 signing the necessary papers as director, the officials said.

The Rescue and Security Service of the Roads and Highways was merged with the Fire Service which was named Fire Service and Civil Defence in July '82. Kabir was given the charge of Director in the newly created department.

Kabir was temporarily suspended on 14-1-86 for allegedly showing himself a graduate in an application form for training abroad and promotion.

After investigations the Home Ministry issued the order for his forced retirement on 1.6.86.

## Rashid

From Page 1  
leged killers who are now in abroad. The government has already formed a high-powered task-force to bring the killers back to the country for trial.

Meanwhile, arrested honorary captain (retd) Abdul Wahab was taken to Criminal Investigation Department (CID) on an eight-day police remand yesterday on charge of killing Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.