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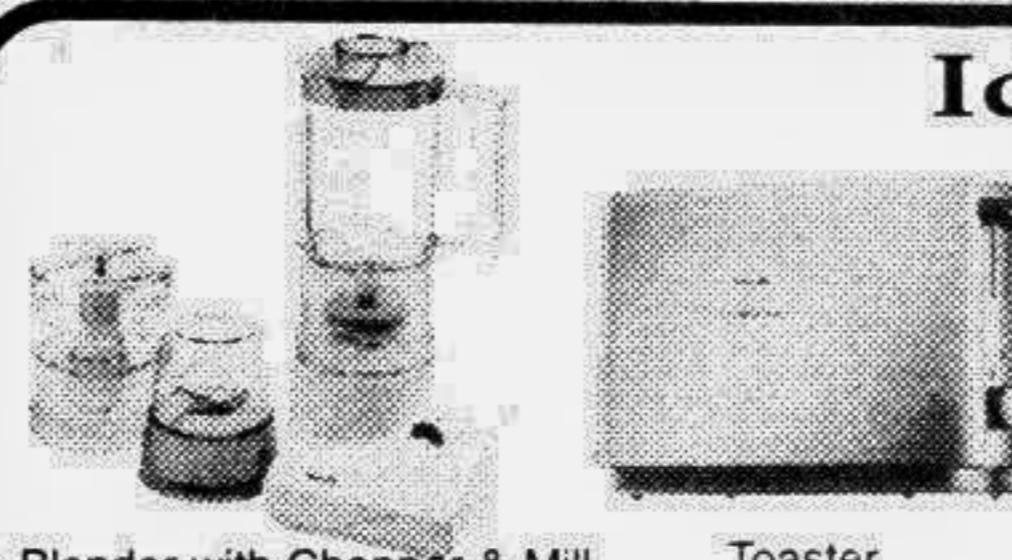
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Deployment of int'l force in East Timor may be delayed

DILI, East Timor, Sept 18: Hundreds of militias and Indonesian policemen were Saturday heading in convoys away from the East Timor capital Dili towards the border, as the arrival of a multinational force here looked set to be delayed, reports AFP.

Scores of trucks and other vehicles carrying the militiamen as well as 28 trucks packed with members of the elite Brimob police force were heading for West Timor, ahead of the planned deployment, travellers said.

Major General Peter Cosgrove, the commander of the multinational contingent, had been expected to arrive here Saturday with an advance party for talks with Indonesia's martial law commander.

But an Australian Defence Force spokesman said the trip had been delayed to Sunday, giving no reason for the change of plans.

A report in the Jakarta Post cited the Indonesian military

(TNI) as saying the visit had been postponed by the Australians.

The transfer of mandate to restore peace and order in East Timor from TNI to the multinational force remains hanging in the balance," martial law Commander Major General Kiki Syahnakri told the newspaper.

Further delays in the multinational force's deployment could prove disastrous for the estimated 125,000 to 190,000 refugees, many sick and starving, believed to have fled into East Timor's mountains and jungles.

They were escaping a brutal backlash waged by pro-Jakarta militias against the August 30 UN-sponsored vote for independence from Indonesia, which invaded the former Portuguese colony in 1975 and annexed it a year later.

On Saturday, columns of smoke hung over parts of Dili, which appeared to have been deserted.

Restructure UN

From page 1
tions flag high in difficult and trying circumstances."

The prime minister expressed her satisfaction over the adoption of Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace by the UN General Assembly Monday. Bangladesh, she said, played a pioneering role in the adoption of this landmark document, which would bring together all actors for promoting a culture of peace worldwide.

Referring to micro-credit programme, she said: "At our initiative more than fifty Ambassadors and permanent representatives have come together in New York to form the Friends of Micro-credit at the United Nations."

Underlining the importance of reforms of the UN body, she said Bangladesh's constructive engagement in restructuring and revitalisation of the United Nations in economic, social and other related fields earned praise from the entire UN membership.

The prime minister also stressed the need for paying UN dues, saying that despite resource constraints

Barisal offices: BB forms probe body

By Staff Correspondent
Bangladesh Bank (BB) has put the shifting of its offices in Barisal district on hold and formed a three-member inquiry committee headed by Deputy Governor Ruhul Amin to study the matter and submit a report to it.

The central bank move came in the wake of opposition from different quarters against the shifting decision.

The BB had initiated the move to shift three of its offices located at three different parts of the district at one place in Kashipur.

Various quarters including the banks opposed the move saying that the area was some seven to eight kilometers away from the place where banks were located.

They also pointed out that it would be risky for them to carry money to the distant place for clearing purposes.

Services of Gen Anwar placed at disposal of MOFA

By Staff Correspondent
The government has placed the services of Maj Gen Anwar Hossain at the disposal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for appointment as envoy, sources said.

He is now the GOC of Bogra area.

The Army headquarters has directed him to report to Dhaka by September 22, the sources said.

One beaten to death in N'ganj

NARAYANGANJ, Sept 18: A young man was beaten to death by unidentified assailants in Santapur area in Fatullah thana today, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Abu Siddique, 32, resident of Chamnari area of the town.

Police said the gangsters beat up Siddique mercilessly with iron rod and sticks, leaving him unconscious state in front of Khan Re-ruiling Mill at about 3:45 pm.

Siddique was rushed to Narayanganj Hospital where he died soon after admission. A case was filed.

Editor : Mahfuz Anam

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Find the 'missing' girl : SNS

By Staff Correspondent
Sammiti Nari Samaj (SNS), a conglomerate of some women's rights organizations, has demanded of the government information about the girl who is missing from Bhupur, Tangail after being abducted by a policeman on September 15.

Though the policeman, Walur Rahman, was arrested for abducting the 14-year girl, no case has yet been filed against him, SNS said in a statement here yesterday. Local people suspect that the girl was raped and killed, SNS said.

The local police administration is trying to save the rapist, as in other incidents of rape by police elsewhere earlier, the SNS alleged.

AL-BNP clash in Jessor: 20 hurt

JESSORE, Sept 18: At least 20 people were injured in a clash between ruling Awami League and opposition BNP at Monirampur Thana here today, reports UNB.

Local people said the clash erupted at about 2 pm over Thursday's election of Kheda para Kadombari Madrassah committee. Some 40 handmade bombs were exploded during the clash that continued for three hours.

Of the injured, Nister Faruk and Amjad Hossain were rushed to the district general hospital in critical condition while others to the Thana health complex.

About 100 vehicles, including buses and trucks, remained stranded during the clash, disrupting communication in the area.

A tense situation was prevailing in the area.

Oil mill manager killed by dacoits at Feni

From Our Correspondent
FENI, Sept 18: Dacoits killed a manager of an oil mill in the town last night.

The victim was identified as Arabintha Bikash Saha, 60, manager of Luxminarayan Oil Mill.

Police said, a gang of dacoits entered the mill by breaking open the door of the mill and strangled manager Arabintha. The gang then broke open the cash box and decamped with Tk 32,000.

Police recovered the body this morning and sent it to Feni Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

None was arrested in this connection till filing of this report at 7 pm today.

Yojtsna

From page 1
not identify the hall or even the abductors, the family sources added.

Quoting the victim, the sources said that the abductors, numbering eight, took him at gunpoint to the dormitory by a microbus. Later they telephoned his father and demanded Tk 150,000 as ransom.

Accordingly, the father paid the money and found his son in front of Dhaka Medical College Hospital at around 7:30pm.

Talking to The Daily Star last night, uncle of the victim Prof. Sadruddin Amin, teacher of the Department of English and former Proctor of the university, said, "I informed the matter to Proctor and I will formally inform the authorities about the matter."

Asked if he had lodged any case, he said: "Why should I file a case with police as a number of police personnel are deployed on the campus for security?"

However, Prof. Amin declined to disclose the identity of the victim and his family for the sake of their security.

When contacted, Proctor Prof. AKM Nur-un-Nabi said, "I've already informed the police and SB about the incident and they are looking into the matter."

Ershad Shikdar

From page 1
leader Moslemuddin Khan Moslem was murdered allegedly by Ershad on February 25, 1995 at Lower Jessor Road under Kotwali thana.

In another development, investigation has been started against the police officials and politicians who were financially benefited by Ershad for concealing his criminal acts since 1982, the year he joined Jatiya Party.



East Timorese women walk in front of a building which was burned by pro-Jakarta militias on the main street of Dili yesterday. —AFP photo

Pakistan 222 for 5

TORONTO, Sept 18: A century by Younus Youhana and a half-century from Abdul Razzaq lifted Pakistan to 222 for five in the second of three one-day matches against the West Indies, reports AFP.

After 10 overs, the Pakistanis had scored just 23.

With the pitch favouring the bowlers early in the game and Lara mixing the spinners and spinners, Pakistan were restricted to around three an over.

However, the turning point in the innings came in the 38th over when Youhana and Razzaq hit nine runs off Walsh, at that stage the highest score in one over.

The scoring then gathered momentum with Youhana and Razzaq notching up their 100 partnership in the 44th over.

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