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## PM's directive Consult ministries before going for Apparel Board

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday advised the Industries Minister to consult the ministries of textile and finance before formally proposing the formation of an autonomous body to supervise and monitor the country's export oriented garments sector.

The PM gave the directive at the weekly cabinet meeting held yesterday afternoon.

According to cabinet sources, the Commerce Minister had proposed that an Apparel Board be set up to supervise and monitor the country's garments sector. The board, which would be headed by the Commerce Minister, will also take care of various problems of the export oriented garments. According to the Commerce Ministry's proposal, the board

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## Khaleda cold-shoulders Hasina's offer for talks

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia last night cold-shouldered Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's offer for talks on specific demand towards resolving the political impasse.

Avoiding direct reply to a question on her response to the Prime Minister's offer for dialogue, Khaleda Zia said, "ours is now a single demand".

When her notice was drawn to Sheikh Hasina's statement inviting her for talks on specific demands, she said, "I've not heard nor do I know what she [Hasina] said."

Asked if she reject the offer for talks, the BNP chairperson avoided direct reply.

Speaking exclusively to UNB as she was leaving the official residence at Minto Road at 9:50 pm, Khaleda stood firm to the one-point demand — resignation of the government and early election.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressing a public meeting in Bagerhat on Sunday invited the opposition leader without naming her for talks on specific demands instead of enforcing frequent hartal that caused sufferings to the commonman.

Launching a virulent campaign against the 39-month old Awami League government she threw one-point demand from the Paltan Maidan on September 22.

## Dhaka protests killing of Bangladeshi by BSF

Dhaka formally protested to Indian government the killing of yet another Bangladeshi national, Enamul Haque, by the BSF at a frontier village in Kurigram district on Friday, reports UNB.

The government over the past weeks had already expressed grave concern over series of border incidents in which a number of Bangladeshi personnel, including three BDR personnel, were killed inside Bangladesh territory.

Once again another Bangladeshi national Enamul Haque, 18, was killed by the BSF at a border village in Kurigram, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in protest note yesterday.

In connection with the latest incident of shooting by the Indian Border Security Force, the government of Bangladesh formally protested the 'uncalled for killing' of a Bangladeshi national by the BSF within Bangladesh territory without any provocation."

## Inside Today

### Article

#### The BJP's Dual Agenda: The 'Non-hidden' One is Bad Too

by Praful Bidwai  
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neers a new movement

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### Prayer Timings

#### October 5

	Azan	Jamaat
Fair	4:30	5:00
Zohr	12:45	1:25
Asr	4:15	4:30
Magrib	5:55	6:00
Esha	7:45	8:15

Source: Islamic Foundation

## Gold glitters for booters, finally

From Hasan Masood

KATHMANDU, Oct 4: After 15 years of shattered dreams, Bangladesh football team finally got their first-ever gold in the SAF Games when they beat hosts Nepal by a solitary goal in the final at the Dasharath Rangashala (stadium) here this evening.

In the topsy-turvy final of the 8th SAF Games, ace striker Alfaz Ahmed scored the all-important winner in injury time of the first half, stunning the 18,000 capacity home crowd.

Alfaz, the nimble centre forward who was out of form in the three previous matches, rose to the occasion, this time to shoot the ball home from a goal-mouth melee.

Matiur Rahman lobbed a flag kick from the left side from which Jewel Rana's header put it a position for Alfaz to take it his first attempt that Nepal cus-

todian Binod Kharai did well to parry Alfaz was fortunately at hand to take his second attempt from the ensuing scramble, much to the delight of the few hundred Bangladeshis who came all along from Bangladesh by road to cheer their national team.

This was Bangladesh's first win in the SAF Games final after failing on four previous occasions out of the seven meets.

This was also sweet revenge for Bangladesh, who lost the first SAF gold to hosts Nepal 2-4 way back in 1984.

Buoyed by the morale-boost-

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ing win over pre-tournament favourites India in the first semi-final last Saturday, Bangladesh came up with their best performance in the competition by adopting the same defensive strategy.

They adopted the 5-3-2 formation with a tight defence, which left no room for the other fast Nepalese forwards.

Bangladesh began the match with a positive attitude and concentrated on the lead right from the beginning. They launched their first attack in the first minute through the left

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AL activists  
clash with  
police as  
court rejects  
bail petition



STRIKING GOLD: Alfaz Ahmed shoots the all-important goal against hosts Nepal.

— BPJA photo by Amran Hossain

## Plot to assassinate PM unveiled: Nasim

dialogue offer.

"There might be differences... But all the discrepancies could be removed, all problems solved across the table," he said. But if they do not come, the government will have nothing to do but going its own way," he warned.

The latest conspiracy was to kill the prime minister on her return (from Paris) after receiving the Unesco Peace Award," the home minister told newsmen at his chamber at the Secretariat in the city yesterday.

Elaborating 'conspiracies' hatched by BNP and some other opposition parties since Awami League assumed power, he confidently said no conspiracy will be successful as the government enjoys people's support.

The home minister, however, would not elaborate the plot to assassinate Hasina for the sake of further investigation to bring the culprits to book.

He also did not divulge names of individuals or parties involved in the conspiracy to kill the prime minister like her father, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Referring to the prime minister's repeated call to the opposition for resolving all problems through discussion in parliament, Nasim said people hoped it would respond to the

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BNP holds janaza:  
Demonstration  
on Thursday

By Staff Correspondent

BNP yesterday organised a

Gayebana Janaza for Sherpur district Jatiyatabadi Secchababdal Dal leader Bidyut Talukder who was killed during the countrywide hartal on Sunday.

Maulana Shah Mohammad Nesarul Haq conducted the Janaza at the south gate of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque after the Asr prayers.

BNP leaders including secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Dr Khandaker Mosharrif Hossain, Tarique Islam, Shahjahan Siraj, Prof MA Mannan, Mirza Abbas, Sadek Hossain, Khoa MP, Amanullah Aman MP, Jatiya Party leader

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Nasim said parliament will sit according to the Constitution, local body polls be held under democratic procedures and parliamentary elections will take place in due time.

The home minister also briefed the newsmen about law and order situation, stating that BNP and some other opposition parties had been trying to destabilise the country for last three and half years.

As no conspiracy of the opposition was successful, now its only option is violent hartal to kill either innocent people or members of law-enforcing agencies he added.

Nasim, also organising secretary of ruling Awami League, said countrymen do not support the current spell of hartals as those do not serve their interest. Anti-hartal sentiments are growing in the country, he added.

The growing anti-hartal sentiments are a positive sign in our democratic politics."

Welcoming protest against hartal from different professionals and classes, including businessmen, the home minister said the present government wants to cooperate with those who want to continue work and business during strike.

The court rejected their bail prayers and sent them to jail. When party activists came to know about the court order, they, armed with sticks, marched towards the court

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From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Oct 4: At least 20 people including four policemen were injured when more than a thousand Awami League activists clashed with police at the Narayanganj court premises at Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday evening.

The clash ensued after the court rejected bail to four Awami League leaders and activists and ordered sending them to jail.

Police and witnesses said Sramik League leader Kawsher Ahmed Palash, Fatullah Jibro League president Masudur Rahman and two Sramik League activists Ishaq and Khaled appeared at the Additional District and Sessions Judge's Court yesterday in connection with a murder case lodged with Fatullah thana in 1994.

The court rejected their bail prayers and sent them to jail. When party activists came to know about the court order, they, armed with sticks, marched towards the court

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## BNP MPs tell NDI officials

## Ruling AL has turned JS into party office

By Staff Correspondent

The visiting officials of the Washington based National Democratic Institute (NDI) yesterday had a lengthy discussion with BNP MPs on various aspects of Bangladesh's parliament.

On the first day of the workshop, the NDI officials told the ruling party had already turned the Jatiya Sangsad into its 'party office' and that the opposition bench members were hardly allowed to talk on important issues like law and order situation and corruption.

The BNP lawmakers told the NDI officials that the ruling party had already turned the Jatiya Sangsad into its 'party office' and that the opposition bench members were hardly allowed to talk on important issues like law and order situation and corruption.

On the first day of the workshop, the BNP MPs and NDI officials exchanged views on the role of the Speaker, the parliamentary standing committee system, the role of civil society in the legislative process and scheduling and organisation of parties in parliamentary de-

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NGOs want to  
finish their  
slum projects

By Staff Correspondent

NGO leaders told the NGO Affairs Bureau yesterday that they would wind up their activities in the city slums in phases and asked the government to allow them to complete their ongoing projects sources said.

DG of the Bureau Giasuddin Pathan told the NGO leaders at a meeting that their proposal would be conveyed to the authorities concerned.

More meetings between the two sides will be held before a decision is taken regarding eviction and rehabilitation of slum dwellers, the sources said.

Yesterday's meeting was convened by Pathan to find ways to remove slums dwellers from the city in phases and rehabilitate them back in their villages as per a recent government decision.

The meeting held at the NGO Bureau was attended by repre-

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## Tayebi murder: Interpol help sought

By Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 4: The CID has sought help of Interpol to round up the alleged mastermind behind the killing of Indian national Jibrin Tayebi.

In a letter to the Interpol the CID requested it to trace out Yasin Rahman Titu, son of a local industrialist, CID source said.

Meanwhile, another person, identified as Md Siddique, arrested in connection with the murder, gave his confessional statement in the court today.

But CID and Detective Branch police failed to record confessional statement of alleged main killer Osman in the court.

Earlier, Osman confessed his involvement in the murder during the five-day police remand, CID and DB sources said.

So far, the CID arrested seven terrorists in connection with the murder and five of them gave confessional statements.

## Liquor poisoning kills 3 at Lalmirhat

LALMIRHAT, Oct 4: A liquor tragedy in the district claimed three lives today, reports UNB.

The victims were identified as Railway sweeper Suresh, 40, Kashem, 28, and Jagesh, 45, of Sadar thana. They died at Lalmirhat Sadar Hospital and Railway Hospital.

At least 20 people fell sick after they took spurious rectified spirit.

Ten of the sick people were admitted to the hospitals while 10 others treated at private clinics.

Local people said some homeopathic pharmacies are the main source of rectified spirit.

Over 100 people died and another 200 fell sick in Netrokona and Narsingdi early this year.

## City's garbage collection system in a mess

By Staff Correspondent

The garbage collection system of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) is in a mess, with many of its recently installed demountable containers and trucks going out of service, officials said.

They said about 100 demountable containers 'have broken down' over the last few weeks while 'less than 80' out of the 104 container trucks are now in service.

"Most of the 408 demountable containers have become unusable as they have rusted badly forcing us to withdraw more than 90 from the city roads," said an official in the DCC's Conservancy Department.

The officials said after the withdrawal their problems

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## TOSHIBA TV RANGS GROUP Bangladesh 229 in first innings

By Sports Reporter

Bangladesh enjoyed a promising first day of their three-day match against the West Indies at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

In their first-ever first-class game against a Test-playing country, Bangladesh garnered 229 before all out in 80.3 overs. Javed Omar (53) and Khaled Masood (59no) hit two gutsy half-centuries to make sure that the home side bat out almost the entire day.

Winning the toss, Bangladesh captain Aminul Islam opted to