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81 days to the
3rd Millennium

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Military police return to city streets to fight traffic chaos

By Staff Correspondent
Members of the armed forces will keep helping the traffic department 'as long as the traffic problems at some intersections are not solved', official sources said.

The decision comes following a meeting held at Dhaka Cantonment on September 30, attended by officials of police, Rajuk, DCC, Railway and the armed forces.

Deployment of military police began yesterday at Gabtoli, Aminbazar, Jatarabari, Syedabad and on Kamal Ataturk Avenue. Traffic policemen were present alongside the army men to help smooth flow of traffic.

Sources said the army officials suggested the railway to bring changes in the train timetables at peak hours to ease traffic at different crossings in the city. The railway authorities would 'get back' to the army 'within 15 days' to report what measures they had taken.

The government has also

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Opposition observes 'anti-aggression day' today

By Staff Correspondent

The BNP-led four party opposition alliance will observe 'Anti-aggression Day' across the country today to protest recent killings and atrocities by the Indian BSF.

The BNP, Jatiya Party, Jamiat-e-Islami and Islamic Oikya Jote said they were protesting recent killings of innocent people and BDR personnel by the BSF, intrusion of Indian forces into the Bangladesh territory, occupation of lands, violation of border rules, frequent attacks and looting of properties, push-in and massing troops along the border.

The opposition parties said the programme is also aimed to protest the government's reluctance and failure in taking steps against the border incidents and the Indian aggression.

As parts of the programme, announced on October 3, the

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Foundation of Rangunia EPZ laid

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday laid the foundation of an Export Processing Zone at Rangunia in Chittagong, the first private sector EPZ owned by a Bangladeshi company.

A Korean company earlier set up an EPZ in Chittagong.

The Rangunia EPZ, 30 km from Chittagong city, will initially cover 171 acres of land on the northern side of river Karnaphuli. The area will be increased to over 1000 acres in three phases.

The EPZ will be set up at a cost of 40 million US dollars and is expected to draw investments worth 500 million dollars to create 50,000 employment opportunities, sources said.

It will accommodate 80 small and medium size industries and 20 large scale industries. Sixty per cent of the industries will be agro-based.

An earth satellite station will be set up at the EPZ to transmit data through satellite for the advantages of entrepreneurs, the sources said.

(See details in Business page)

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Article

Nuclear nightmare in Japan

Saying No to Poisoned Power

Praful Bidwai writes from New Delhi

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Focus

The Net: An opportunity for Bangladesh can't miss

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Prayer Timings

October 11

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4:30	5:00
Zohr	12:45	1:20
Asr	4:15	4:30
Maghrib	5:50	5:55
Esha	7:45	8:15

Source: Islamic Foundation

BNP behind bomb planting incidents

PM tells public meeting in Chittagong

RANGUNIA, Chittagong, Oct 10: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today accused the Opposition of being involved in bomb planting incidents and other subversive activities and said by rejecting her proposal for dialogue the Leader of the Opposition proved that they do not believe in democracy, she questioned.

Rejecting the proposal for talks BNP had proposed that they do not have faith in democracy.

The prime minister squarely blamed the main opposition party of former premier Khaleda Zia for harbouring the terrorists.

Hasina said BNP was day-dreaming of capturing power with the help of terrorists by snatching the voting rights of the people.

She reaffirmed that her party would relinquish power before the general elections and the elections would be held un-

der a neutral caretaker government.

Hasina suspected a direct political link with the bomb planting incidents and said all this substantiated the statements of the BNP leader who wanted to know what were the signals behind the bomb blast in Khulna and recovery of bombs at Mirpur and the Daily Janakantha office on Friday.

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Countrywide security alert

By Special Correspondent

The authorities yesterday ordered a nationwide alert asking police to gear up vigilance at shopping centres, bus and ferry terminals, rail stations, courts and places of worship in the wake of Friday's bombing at an Ahmadiya mosque in Khulna that killed six people and wounded over 40 people.

No one has been arrested so far, and no group or individual has claimed responsibility for the bombing.

Police geared up its vigilance after recovering two bombs from a mosque of the Ahmadiya sect's headquarters in Bokshibazar in Dhaka yesterday which had been under police guard since Friday's bombing in southwestern Khulna.

The law enforcing agencies were alerted after a high-level meeting chaired by Additional Inspector General of Police Abdur Rahim Khan that reviewed the security situation

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Alleged conspiracy to kill Prime Minister: One held

Special Branch police arrested Salauddin Shoaib Chowdhury, managing director of now defunct ATV, from his Uttara residence last night, reports UNB.

Police said Shoaib was taken into custody in connection with a case in Motijheel thana about alleged conspiracy to kill the Prime Minister and her close relatives.

After an intensive investigation, police found that an e-mail with false code was sent to newspaper offices few months back. The message announced awards of different amounts for killing the Prime Minister and some of his close relatives.

Shoaib was under interrogation by SB police till late last night informed sources said.

Earlier, his younger brother Sohel Chowdhury was arrested.

Police explosive experts keeping the two recovered bombs in a drum filled with sand and water at the Aliya Madrassah field yesterday.

None arrested: Panic grips Bakshibazar

Two more bombs found at Ahmadiya mosque in city

Star Report

Two bombs similar to that found in a mosque at Mirpur on Friday were recovered from the heavily guarded mosque of the Ahmadiya Muslim Jamaat (Kadiani) at Bakshibazar in the city after Fazr prayers yesterday.

The bombs, wired to pencil batteries, were left beside two batteries in two bags left beside two pillars on the first floor of the mosque.

A volunteer committee formed with some members of the community just after the Fazr prayers to keep vigil on the complex found the two bags. Tarek Saiful Islam, one of their leaders told newsmen who visited the mosque after the incident.

The volunteers immediately informed police, deployed at the complex after a bomb blast at a Kadiani mosque in Khulna killed six persons on Friday. The on-duty policemen called Lalbagh police who informed the army.

Army explosive experts were there at around 11 a.m. They took the bags to nearby Aliya Madrassah field, recovered the bombs and kept those in a drum filled with sand and water. The bombs were kept there till writing this report last night.

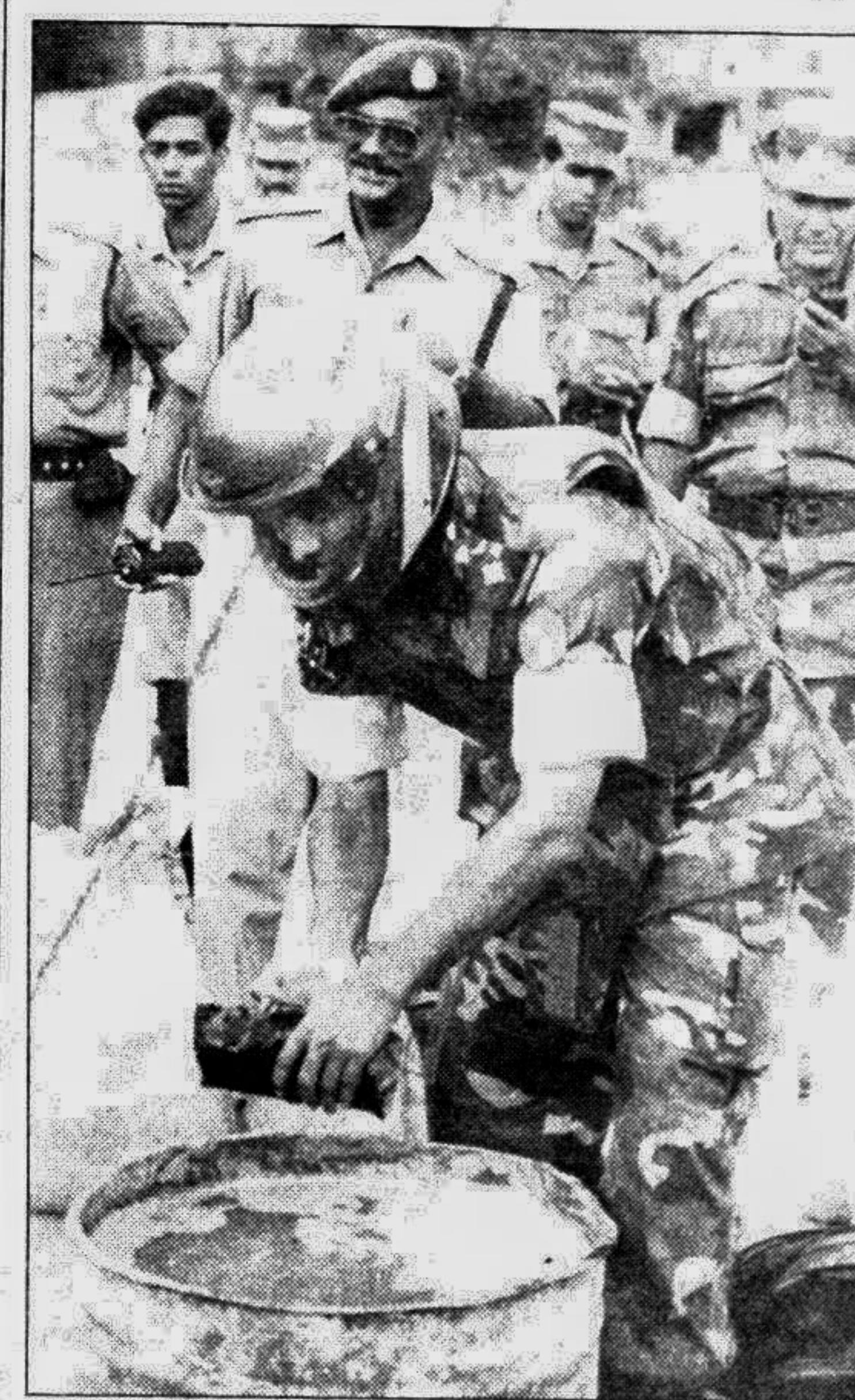
An ISPR press release said last night, 'Steps for demolishing the bombs will be taken after 24 hours' observation'.

Detected police searched the Bakshibazar mosque and its compound later but found no destructive materials, police said.

None has been arrested in connection with the two incidents at the mosques and another such incident at the daily Janakantha office on Friday.

A top official of DMP was asked about the incident said, 'The bombs inside the (Bakshibazar) mosque must

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Army explosive experts keeping the two recovered bombs in a drum filled with sand and water at the Aliya Madrassah field yesterday.

— Star photo

Another Khulna blast victim dies 'Security passes' seized from mosque complex

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Oct 10: The death toll in Friday's BSF firing in Sharsia border rose to three as two Bangladeshis who were undergoing treatment in an Indian hospital succumbed to their bullet injuries on Saturday night, reports UNB.

Informed sources said Babar Ali, 28, of village Dighipar and Master Ali, 30, of Fulota in Khulna district died at Bangaon Hospital at midnight.

Another Bangladesh national, Abdus Samad, 24, of Dighipar, died on the spot at 10 pm on Friday.

After the firing, BSF personnel had taken away the body and the injured Bangladeshi.

A flag meeting between BDR and BSF officials will be held tomorrow. The meeting will discuss return of the bodies of three Bangladeshis, sources said.

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Ahmadiyas hold Khatme Nabuwat responsible for Khulna bombing

By Staff Correspondent

Ahmadiya Muslim Jamaat has held the Tahafuz Khatme Nabuwat responsible for Friday's explosion of bomb at its Khulna mosque and planting bombs at the Dhaka mosque.

The Ahmadiya Muslim sect in a statement yesterday said that the bomb attack at the Khulna mosque was nothing surprising and that it was done under a well-planned design.

The culprits left bombs in two bags at 4. Bakshibazar Road Ahmadiya mosque after Fazr prayers on Sunday ... The Lalbagh police later took the bombs outside. Tahafuz Khatme Nabuwat was established with the objective of eliminating the Ahmadiyas in Pakistan and its local chapter is carrying out similar activities in Bangladesh.

The statement recalled that

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10 Bangladeshis kidnapped by BSF in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Oct 10: Ten Bangladeshis kidnapped by Indian BSF from Kanaighat border yesterday are yet to be returned, an official said this afternoon.

BSF has not responded to an official protest by the BDR. A company level meeting between the BDR and BSF today ended without any result. It is the third kidnap incident in the Sylhet borders in the last five days.

Of those kidnapped yesterday, eight from village Kaliganj went to collect wood from the hill areas near the border.

They are, Harun-Ur-Rashid, Joynal Miah, Abdulla, Abdul Aziz, Shamsuddin, Foyez Ahmed, Safar Ali and Abdur Rab. The two others are Abdur Rahim and Harun Miah of village Atgram.

With this, the number of Bangladeshi nationals kidnapped by BSF from Sylhet borders during the last 15 days rose to 23.

Akther Hameed Khan dead

KARACHI, Oct 10: Noted Pakistani scientist Akther Hameed Khan died of kidney failure in the United States today, his family here said. re-ports AFP.

The 85-year-old Khan, who was decorated in Pakistan and abroad for his services in social development, died in a hospital in Indiana where he had gone to meet his relatives, they said.

A former bureaucrat during the British rule in India, Khan served after independence in educational institutions in India, the then East Pakistan, and Karachi.

Five acres of lakeside land in Dhanmandi illegally occupied

Probe body proposes demolition drive

By Staff Correspondent

A committee probing the Dhanmandi Lake Development Project has proposed demolition of all illegal structures on the lakeside to help complete the project within the specified time, officials said yesterday.

Works ministry officials say that 28 people have illegally occupied five acres of land beside the lake. The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC), however, said that the number of illegal occupants is 42, who grabbed about two acres of land.

The value of the land occupied by these people would exceed Tk 25 crore, which is almost three times more than the worth of the Dhanmandi Lake Development Project itself, sources noted.

The Tk 9.69 crore

cupation of land along the lakeside.

The committee suggested demolition of all structures on the encroached land along the lakeside, sources said.

The development project provides for fresh water in the lake and removal of impurities from there. There are about 17,000 feet of walkway along the lake area with sufficient parking facilities for vehicles.

All the islands along the lake area would be connected with the lakeside by footbridge, the project proposal said.

A permanent podium for cultural activities, boating club, swimming club, children's park, five snack spots and em-

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Dhaka protests 'push-in' bid

The Foreign Ministry yesterday summoned the Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka to protest recent attempts by the Indian Border Security Forces to push-in so-called Bangladeshis through Rangpur and Dinajpur borders, report agencies.

According to a foreign office release, Indian High Commissioner Deb Mukherjee was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday.