

# Wave of attacks

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infatigable, or uprising.  
But Palestinian officials, who denounced the attack, insisted Israel was to blame because of its hardline policies in the territories, where it has re-occupied almost the entire West Bank and sealed off the Gaza Strip.

Hamas' military wing, the Ezzedine al-Qassem Brigades, said in a statement on Lebanese television the suicide attack was a "further riposte to the killing of our leader Salah Shehade," blown to pieces in Israel's internationally criticised air raid on Gaza City.

US President George W Bush condemned the attack and urged all nations to help end anti-Israeli "terrorism".

Hamas killed seven people -- five Americans and two Israelis -- in a bomb attack on Jerusalem's Hebrew University last Wednesday, a day after a suicide bomber killed himself and injured seven Israelis in downtown Jerusalem.

The university blast prompted a swift Israeli tank raid on the centre of Nablus in the northern West Bank, where Israel said the bomb was made. Three Israeli soldiers were slightly injured by an explosion during searches in the city.

Just hours after the bus bombing, a Palestinian man armed with a pistol went on a shooting spree outside the Old City in east Jerusalem, killing an Israeli working for a phone company before being gunned down in a shoot-out with the police.

A Palestinian bystander was also killed in the exchange of fire, which left a dozen people wounded.

In the Gaza Strip, an armed Palestinian wearing a wetsuit was killed early yesterday on the northern coast near the Dugit settlement, the army said.

The frogman was spotted by an army observation post as he left the sea and approached the security perimeter of the settlement, it said.

The Israeli army then launched an incursion into a nearby Palestinian area, destroying a holiday camp run by the Palestinian youth ministry and another building, a Palestinian official said.

Seven Israelis were also injured in separate attacks in the West Bank, including four soldiers whose jeep was blown off a settlers' road near Ramallah in a blast claimed by

the secular Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

A Jewish settler was also ambushed in his car near Tulkarem in the north. Two soldiers who arrived to rescue him were also shot and injured, in an attack claimed by the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, an armed offshoot of Arafat's Fatah movement.

News of the bus blast came as the Israeli cabinet was gathered for its weekly meeting.

Israeli radio said that Sharon was still considering moves to try to alleviate the tough situation of the Palestinians locked in their homes by Israeli curfew across the West Bank.

But it said he was likely to put off meeting Palestinian finance minister Salam Fayad and interior minister Abdel Razak Yahya, two moderates on whom Israel is pinning its hopes for reform of the Palestinian Authority, which it accuses of corruption and collusion with armed groups.

After its massive re-occupation of the West Bank failed to stem the bombings, Israel approved controversial new tactics to deter bombers, including banishing relatives to the Gaza Strip and demolishing their family homes.

The army said it blew up nine homes around the West Bank towns of Nablus, Hebron and Jenin that belonged to families of militants, sending armed groups a message of the high cost for taking part in attacks against Israel.

The army has also been carrying out a sweeping dragnet for activists in Nablus over the past three days and has detained at least 50 people in the city.

And an Israeli military court convened again yesterday to hear the case of two Palestinians, brothers of militants alleged to have killed Israelis, that the Jewish state wants to expel from the West Bank.

The army also ordered the sister of a third militant to be dumped in Gaza, legal sources said.

It was not clear what affect the latest attacks would have on tentative plans for a Palestinian delegation to meet US Secretary of State Colin Powell this week in Washington.

Powell said Saturday he still wanted to meet with the group, despite Washington's fury over Wednesday's bombing at the Hebrew University.

# Latest fighters: PM

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ing desired working capacity.

"The best use and effective application of these national resources procured with hard-earned public money should be ensured through professional skill, obedience and honesty," she told them.

Khaleda said modern equipment and professional competence are imperative to work keeping pace with other developed Air Forces on the international arena.

The prime minister said her government had already given permission to the Air Force for participating in joint exercises and training with other countries in order to build up a modern and strong force.

"By taking this opportunity, I hope, our Air Force gradually will be able to attain international standards in professional, technical, and organisational skills and qualities."

This was prime minister's second visit to the Air Force headquarters and meeting with officers and personnel after assuming power last October, while first visit after Air Vice-Marshal Fakhrul Azam became Chief of Air Staff on April 8.

Earlier at 11:30am, Khaleda visited the Air Force Headquarters where a smart contingent of the airforce presented her a guard of honour. She took the salute. The Air Force Chief received the prime minister.

During her stay at the headquarters for over an hour, Air Chief Fakhrul and assistant chief of the airforce Commodore Shafiqul Islam apprised the prime minister of the BAF's activities.

Addressing the airforce, the prime minister said instructions had been given to the authorities concerned for taking various welfare measures for the members of the airforce.

Responding to their longstanding demand, Khaleda said, amid applause, that warrant officer, senior warrant officer and master warrant officer posts would be in force from October this year abolishing the post of Flight Sergeant.

She hoped that each qualified Flight Sergeant would get promotion to Warrant Officer within next one year.

The PM assured that her government would do all possible for the welfare and development of the airforce removing difficulties and problems.

# DCC to manage

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was also presented to the mayor, who also took part in the July 18 roundtable.

The roundtable recommended 'implementation of integrated approach to solid waste management at Mutai site as well as other planned waste disposal sites and immediate construction of 'community transfer station' at two or three locations in Dhaka, with more to follow as land become available.

Other recommendations were for re-excavation of khals and lakes removing illegal encroachment and cleaning of drainage network and box culverts; protection of retention pond areas through proper demarcation and fencing and ensuring operation of pump-stations at full capacity and increasing people's awareness through electronic and print media and involving people in all relevant activities.

Each community transfer station will have about ten kathas of government land on which a huge storehouse will be constructed to accommodate empty waste containers placed at the ground level. Each van carrying garbage, mostly organic waste, will drive straight into the storehouse or station and empty the garbage into each empty container.

As soon as a container is filled out a truck will carry it to a waste disposal site located at a different

place.

"The advantage of this design is to avoid the nuisance created by containers placed on the streets. The station will act as a place where all the containers will be housed to transfer the collected waste to a disposal site," said Professor Md Mujibur Rahman, the leader of the delegation and also chief architect of the community transfer station.

"We don't know yet how much it would cost but the idea is to avoid dumping waste into roadside containers and unnecessarily creating traffic jam as we see now," he said.

The mayor along with the delegation members will pay a visit to the Waste Concern, an NGO making compost from solid waste at Mirpur, Thursday afternoon.

## ETV case

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order regarding leave to appeal petitions of ETV and take necessary steps to hear review petition within the court.

Barrister Rafiqul Haque along with Barrister Moniruzzaman appeared on behalf of ETV while Attorney General AF Hasan Arif assisted by Additional Attorneys General Abdur Rezak Khan and Fida M Kamal and Deputy Attorneys General Ataur Rahman Khan and Adilur Rahman Khan Suvara for the state.

## 6 extortionists

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into a safe haven for extortion, police sources said.

Operation to recover the bodies from the river was continuing when the report came to UNB desk in the evening. Additional District Magistrate, Additional SP, ASP (Circle), UNO and OC of Roangchhari went to the spot.

## Whip's APS

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Saturday morning. Police suspect that feud over a piece of land in the area was the reason for Billal's killing.

The arrested were produced before the CMM's court with a prayer for seven days' remand. The court granted three days' remand.

They were arrested following filing of a murder case by Billal's wife with Mohammadpur thana. In the case, she said her husband's killers were six in number.

Police suspect that the two persons were killed by four hired goons as per a previous plan. But they did not disclose the names of the killers for the sake of investigation.

The murder case has been transferred to Detective Branch of police. DB police said they are trying to arrest the others involved in the killings.

## Shahriar's passport

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The court passed the order following a petition seeking return of Kabir's passport by the defence lawyers on behalf of the accused.

In its order, the court mentioned that the High Court on July 20 asked the government to return Shahriar Kabir's passport for four weeks from the date of his departure from the country for an upcoming visit overseas. As per a directive from the higher court, the CMM's Court granted the petition.

In the petition, the defence lawyers stated that Shahriar Kabir would go to the Netherlands as a South Asian representative of the International Institute of Social History (ISH).

Writer-columnist Shahriar Kabir was arrested at the Zia International Airport on his return from Kolkata on November 22 last year.

Later, a sedition case against him was filed with the CMM's Court, Dhaka on December 8 last year.

## Mugger admits

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Hazzat Ali, Mohammad Kader and Kamal -- had gone to Rapa Plaza (shopping complex) at Dhanmondi in the evening on that day. Kamal was an autorickshaw driver.

Leaving Kamal there to carry one passenger towards Asad Gate, he along with Ali and Kader went to Asad Gate and were waiting there.

SI Nazrul Islam hired Kamal's autorickshaw from Rapa Plaza to go to his house at Mohammadpur. As the autorickshaw reached Asad Gate, Kamal stopped it on the plea that it went out of order and needed repair.

The three muggers got inside the vehicle and demanded valuables from Nazrul. As he cried for help, the driver sped the vehicle towards Mohammadpur truck stand. Inside, they stabbed Nazrul indiscriminately. Liton said, All of them were carrying knives, he added.

Hearing Nazrul's screams, people nearby came and caught Liton, Ali and Kamal but Kader escaped.

Kamal is now on a three-day remand while Ali is under treatment under police custody.

## Wheat 'scam'

**FROM PAGE 1**  
in the open market at Tk 6,500 a ton. However, good quality local wheat is being sold at around Tk 9,250 a ton in the open market.

On top of it, although the deadline for wheat purchase was July 31, the middlemen in connivance with some food officials at the Bogra LSD and Muladuli CSD in Pabna sold grains to the government silos till August 2.

During a visit to the Muladuli CSD on Friday noon, The Daily Star correspondent saw some armed men patrolling the silo area and pressing Abdul Baset, the officer in charge (OC) of the silo, to purchase wheat.

"You rather kill me," Baset was heard saying.

Some 300 trucks with wheat were waiting in front of the Muladuli CSD. A number of drivers said that the wheat was loaded from Indian rail wagons at Ishwardi.

Some local BNP leaders were lobbying hard to make the food depot to purchase the wheat on a back date.

Allegations are there that about 18 trucks of wheat belonging to one Shahin, a JCD leader of Ishwardi, was purchased by the Muladuli silo on the night of July 31.

The officer in charge of the silo however denied the allegation and said the wheat was purchased earlier, but could not be shifted to the silo because of work pressure.

At the Bogra Sadar LSD, an influential circle supplied wheat even after the deadline. The officials declined to talk to journalists about the matter and said they were purchasing the wheat on special order.

# DCC runs dry on larvicide

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Monday. But even if we place the order now it will not arrive before mid-September," said Dr Ali.

Meantime, a high-level meeting of the Ministry of Health yesterday decided to take 'special measures' to 'check' the spread of dengue fever.

Chaired by Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, the meeting reviewed the latest situation as regards dengue fever.

The meeting decided to cancel leave of all doctors who earlier participated and completed a special training on dengue management and put them on high alert for treatment.

A total of 778 doctors across the country took the special training on dengue management last year.

The meeting also requested the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) to take up a special programme to spray larvicide to control the growth of Aedes mosquito, which carry the dengue virus.

Since the onset of dengue fever this season, 16 people have died, mostly of dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF) and dengue shock syndrome (DSS). Moreover, 1038 patients with dengue were treated at different city hospitals and private clinics.

The minister said death toll from dengue this year was far less than that of previous years and he attributed this to 'careful handling' of patients by the doctors.

Prof. Zahed Hassan, a leading microbiologist of the country, said the total number of cases of dengue infection this year may not be as high as that of the previous years. "But I think the DHF is quite high because these are all second time infections which is dangerous."

Dr M Nasir Uddin, associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology of Dhaka University, said, "Dengue infection is noticed mostly among the children and young adults. We have tested many blood samples and found most of them positive. It is increasing at an alarming rate."

Entomologists or scientists studying insects predicted that this year dengue infection would be similar to the one experienced in 2000 because there is no preparation to control growth of Aedes mosquito.

"We know that a large population of Aedes mosquito already exists and they have by this time laid millions of eggs. The eggs will soon hatch and a large-scale infection will be in the offing," said a leading entomologist.

Meanwhile, a total of 24 patients

were tested positive (IgM) in different diagnostic centres in the city yesterday.

In Lab Aid, out of 29 blood samples tested for dengue yesterday 11 were found positive, while in Medinova Diagnostic Centre out of three two were found positive.

In Comfort Diagnostic Centre, four out of five samples were found infected while in Popular Diagnostic Centre seven out of 13 were found positive.

Meanwhile, a total of 38 people were admitted to different hospitals and private clinics yesterday with dengue fever and DHF.

Seven people were admitted to the Red Crescent Holy Family Hospital, five to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital, while nine children, under four years of age, were admitted to the Dhaka Shishu Hospital.

In Al-Rajji and Central Hospital, 11 people were admitted with dengue fever including two with DHF.

Two persons with dengue fever were admitted to the Ayesha Memorial Hospital and four to Monwara Hospital yesterday.

In the meantime, the City Corporation has called a special meeting of civil society groups on August 7 to discuss ways to raise awareness among the citizens.

# JCD leaders contradict

**FROM PAGE 1**  
confined inside room No. 235 by the angry students and later rescued by his colleagues. Additional Police Commissioner Abdur Rahim, Assistant Police Commissioner Basar Talukdar and Sergeant Anwar were along with him at the time of the raid.

The JCD leaders -- Lucy, Shanta, Tasnim Tanzilid Chowdhury and Lipika Binte Rahman -- appeared before the lone-member judicial commission probing into the Shamsunnahar Hall incident at the commission's makeshift office at the National Academy for Education Management in the city.

Lucy, president of the Shamsunnahar Hall unit of JCD, blamed Prof. Sultana Shafi and her 'loyal' Bangladesh Chhatra League activists for the July 24 incident. While talking to the newsmen, following her appearance before the commission, Lucy accused Prof. Sultana Shafi of plotting against the DU authorities.

She expressed her ignorance about the presence of male police forces in the DU raid excepting four officers who were in charge of the raid. She also refuted the charges of extortion, bullying and involvement

in forcible closure of a photocopy shop inside that hall brought against her.

Lucy said that she went to the hall on the night of July 23 to rescue her fellow activists after hearing that the agitating students had confined them into a room.

Shanta, general secretary of the hall unit of JCD, in her written statement also accused Prof. Sultana Shafi for creating anarchy in the hall. She said that the house tutors of the hall locked the office of the provost. "JCD activists cannot be held liable since their activities have been suspended by their parent organisation," Shanta informed.

"The confined students contacted the university authority and urged it to rescue them. The authority sent four assistant proctors and the female police to the hall," she added.

After seeing the police, the agitating students attacked the Chattr Dal activists with knife, sticks, and other lethal weapons, she alleged.

When the police came to rescue them, the agitating students prevented them from entry. The police chased the attackers and rescued the confined students, she main-

# Corporate funds flow

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Bangladesh, saying it needs to be addressed with emphasis. "In the face of globalisation, if we want to have the market access of our products, we have to maintain the necessary standards in environment, social and labour issues."

The country's industrial sector is heading towards a change and the strength of corporate houses will depend on how much they comply with these standards, Debapriya observed.

Syed Manzur Elahi said there is no choice but to comply with environmental, social and labour standards if export-oriented industries wanted to survive.

"If we really want to see export-led growth and continue to run our business after 2004, there is no option but to comply with these standards and corporate responsibilities have become more important for this reason," he noted.

Expressing his frustration about the corporate standards, he said the corporate houses have to maintain

these responsibilities despite the fact that their earnings have tremendously gone down and they would require more investment in this regard.

In his presentation, Dr Ananya Raihan said corporate responsibility practices in multinational enterprises (MNEs) are better compared to locally owned companies.

"Consensus approach to corporate responsibility needs to be developed in the context of globalisation to protect the country's interest. It is not just philanthropy, or merely about compliance," he added.

Sayedul Islam, an owner of Banthai garment, while elaborating his experiences mentioned that importers from some major countries have listed Bangladesh as a high risk country, taking into account human rights and political issues.

He said the country is heading towards a disaster because of non-compliance of human rights and corporate responsibilities. He termed implementation of corporate

and social responsibilities a win-win situation, saying if these are implemented, companies can even make more profits.

Khushi Kabir, chairperson of Nijera Kori, mentioned that readymade garment workers in Vietnam can maintain much better lives than the Bangladeshi workers. Regarding environmental hazards caused due to shrimp culture, she said: "I don't find that the buyers are interested in raising questions about shrimp cultivation and its impacts on environment."

Abdus Salam Khan, president of Jatiya Sramik Union, felt that a fundamental change is necessary in the relations between the employers and the workers for a responsible corporate entity. "We have to change our mindset to bring about a change in corporate culture," he observed, stressing the need for amending age-old labour laws.

# Law Commission advice

**FROM PAGE 12**  
bodies have demanded for long an end to such abuse of law through effective legal reforms.

In this context, the government earlier this year sought recommendations from the Law Commission as to how such abuses could be stopped.

After having a series of meetings, seminars and symposia, the commission submitted to the government a set of recommendations accordingly.

Last month, it forwarded its recommendation on prevention of abuse of Sections 54 and 167 of the CrP.

One of its recommendations on Section 54 is that a detainee has to be released unless police file a specific case against him within 72 hours of arrest.

In case of Section 167, it suggested that an individual on police remand must be produced before the court every 48 hours.

Moreover, to stop any undue harassment on detainee during the remand period, the commission recommended reforms to Section 344 and said the police officer in charge should be held responsible was there to be any form of torture

on the detainee.

In May, the commission also recommended that reforms be done to the SPA clause that deals with preventive detention.

"While approving a detention order, the Ministry of Home Affairs must be satisfied beyond any reasonable doubt with the evidence produced before it justifies a detention order issued by the district magistrate and the detainee must be informed of the ground on which he has been detained," the commission report said.

However, the government has not paid any heed to the Law Commission recommendations.

The government is scrutinising the recommendations, the law minister has told the media whenever asked about their fate.

Meanwhile, sources say that a section of the government does not want the recommendations implemented. A section of the civil servants is also against the proposed reforms.

They argue that if these legal provisions were to be reformed, the government would be politically handicapped, as it would not be able to detain political opponents as they can now, sources said.

# Western pipeline

**FROM PAGE 1**  
million cubic feet of gas to India set by the ADB for financing the project.

According to the minister, the consortium for the 500-kilometre pipeline for gas supply to western part of the country could draw investment from both home and abroad.

"We can form a consortium with involvement of our government, international oil companies and other foreign investors. But I prefer a government-to-government contract," Mosharraf said.

He, however, said before any decision regarding gas export that ADB put as a condition, the government urgently needs to get the reports of the two national committees on the basis of which it will take a decision.

"We hope the committees will realise the urgency of the matter and submit their reports shortly. I will then put the reports for consideration of the prime minister and the Cabinet," he said.

The minister also hoped ADB would give more time for taking the crucial decision, on which the donor agency said the fate of funding the western-zone pipeline would depend.

During the project formulation,

## UP chairman

## shot dead in

## Rajbari

**BSS, Rajbari**

A union parishad chairman and BNP leader was shot dead by unidentified assailants at Goolondo crossing on Saturday night.

Police said the victim, Anisur Rahman Anju, Chairman of Sultanpur union parishad of sadar upazila, came under attack while he was returning home riding motor bike at about 9 pm. They shot Anis point blank. He died on the spot.

Police arrested one person in connection with the murder.

A case was recorded with Rajbari police station.

# Flood rages in city

**FROM PAGE 12**  
two remained unchanged.

The Jamuna at Aricha was flowing 68cm above the danger mark while Lakhya at Narayanganj by 30cm, Turag at Mirpur by 13cm, Kaliyanga at Taraghat by 62cm, Padma at Goolondo by 43cm and at Bhagyakul by 73cm, Suma at Kanaighat by 32cm, Kushiyara at Amaishid by 35cm and at Sheola by 25cm and the Meghna at Bhairab was flowing 46cm above the danger level. Meanwhile, Water Resources Minister Engineer LK Siddiqui yesterday said Dhaka City is still free from floods, but water logging swamped different areas around the capital.

The minister directed the pump-house authorities to keep the pumps operative round the clock for pumping out the stagnant rainwater.

He gave the instructions while visiting the pump houses to see their activities, following reports that low-lying areas of the capital have been flooded.

"Water logging has been created in some low-lying areas in the capital due to heavy downpour. But floodwater did not enter Dhaka City," he said after visiting some low-lying areas in northeastern part of the city.

Water is being drained out through 28 pumps set up at Rampura, Goran, Chatbari, Kalyanpur and Dholaikhal.

Stagnated water has swamped especially Mirpur, Mohammadpur, Kalyanpur, Begunbari, Gulshan, Rampura, Badda and Dholaikhal, an official release said after the minister's visit.

Member (implementation) of Water Development Board AKM Shamsul Islam, Chief Engineer of Dhaka Central Region Khaleda

the ADB put the condition that Bangladesh would have to export 300 million cubic feet of gas every day to India if it wanted to get the funds.

A delegation of the ADB during a visit to Dhaka last week reminded the government about letting them know the decision regarding export within this month to process the project for final approval in December.

The donor team also made it clear that the government would have to go for export if it wanted to get funding from the ADB. A negative decision means no credits from the bank for the pipeline.

The 30-inch pipeline can supply 500 million cubic feet of gas per day and the western zone can consume only 200 million cubic feet. The ADB has proposed export of the remaining 300 million cubic feet.

## PID handout

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National Mourning Day and keeping the national flag at half-mast on August 15, had been cancelled following a cabinet decision. The Press Information Department (PID) had released the handout at 3:15pm but withdrew it after two hours.

Even though the handout, an outcome of the July 22 cabinet meet, did not mention any cancelling of state programmes on the day, newspapers quoting cabinet sources the following day said the programmes had been cancelled.

The Awami