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## JCD cadres ransack BCL men's rooms

No classes on first day of Duta strike

DU CORRESPONDENT

The syndicate of Dhaka University (DU) yesterday banned outsiders from joining any political programmes on the campus for any student organisations, heaping the blame for Saturday's violence on non-students.

Exiting the emergency meeting, Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz however told The Daily Star leaders of different student organisations are excluded from the restriction even if they are outsiders.

The highest decision-making SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

## Aug 21 dead condoled amid fraying tempers

JS to discuss grenade attack, flood

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parliament yesterday adopted an obituary reference before mixing up business amid fraying tempers during a face off between the ruling coalition and the main opposition lawmakers in the first sitting after the August 21 deadly grenade attacks.

The bedlam began when black badge-wearing Awami League (AL) deputies launched a blistering attack on the government, accusing

it of encouraging the attackers to carry out the explosions on its rally amid nose-diving law and order.

Terming the speech incongruous with parliamentary norms, the treasury bench demanded expunction of AL lawmaker Mohammad Nasim's speech who charged the government with the deadly rally bombing.

The post-budget session began yesterday amid a security blanket in and around the parliament complex in view of an opposition march to

the Jatiya Sangsad and nationwide bomb scare.

The obituary reference was adopted condoling the deaths of 20 people in the grenade attack on an AL rally on Bangabandhu Avenue in Dhaka and eight eminent persons in the last few days.

Amid the uproar and confusion, the Jatiya Sangsad adopted a short discussion on the late legislator Abdul Momin after adoption of the obituary reference in a break with SEE PAGE 11 COL 7



PHOTO: STAR

As depression in the Bay caused incessant rain through out yesterday, part of Chittagong went under water. This picture was taken from the Halishahar residential area.

## 7 drown as low-led storm lash country

Rough weather to continue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least seven people, including six children, drowned and 45 went missing in the Jamuna near Bogra and in the bay off St Martin's Island amid driving rains and strong winds that continued to sweep Bangladesh on back of a depression yesterday.

Police and witnesses said the seven drowned and 40 others went missing when a motor boat with about 100 passengers on board capsized near Hard Point at Ranigram in Bogra at about 10:30am after setting off from Natorpara in Kazipur upazila. SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

Five fishermen went missing on Saturday when as many fishing boats sank in the Bay under the influence of the low that turned into the land depression after making landfall yesterday and pelted Bangladesh with heavy rains, washing away about 200 shrimp farms in Khulna.

Weathermen said the depression could also continue to dump Bangladesh with rain before dying out tonight.

Our Bogra correspondent adds: The bodies of Mridul, 5, Chan Miah, 55, Zia, 8, Bijoy, 5, Sujan, 2, and SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

## Wallich wants security before coming back

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

World Bank Country Director Christine I Wallich, who left Bangladesh following a death threat, yesterday wrote to the finance minister that she is willing to return anytime if she is provided with proper security.

She has also wanted to know what types of security measures would be taken for her safe stay in Dhaka.

An official of the World Bank (WB) handed a letter by Wallich to Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday.

Talking to journalists, Saifur said: "Wallich will be given all types of security. If need be, she will also be provided with Special Security Force (SSF). We hope that she might come back in the next couple of days."

Wallich received a letter at her SEE PAGE 11 COL 3



PHOTO: STAR

Police stop Awami League activists at Dhanmondi Road No. 27 who tried to march towards parliament yesterday demanding resignation of the government over the August 21 grenade attack.

## JRC meets tomorrow on common river water sharing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The two-day long Joint Commission of Experts (JCE) meeting of the Joint River Commission (JRC) starts tomorrow in Dhaka to find a solution to sharing water of some common rivers between India and Bangladesh.

The Indian delegation arrives Dhaka today to take part in the 7th meeting of JCE. Vinod K Duggal, secretary of water resources ministry of India, will lead the Indian team in the secretary level meeting.

Dr Md Omar Faruque Khan, secretary of water resources ministry, will lead the Bangladesh team.

"We have long been striving to work out a way to share the water of common rivers. I think we'll be able to reach a solution this time," Tauhidul Anwar Khan, member of SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

## SPEEDY TRIAL CASES

### Judges, lawyers, clerks fleece litigants

TIB study reveals one-fourth cases politically motivated, govt interfered in one-third cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Judicial staffs including magistrates, lawyers and court clerks have fleeced 67.6 percent or over two-thirds of the defendants in cases filed under the Law and Order Disruption Crime (Speedy Trial) Act 2002, a transparency watchdog reported yesterday.

Corrupt court officials, with clerks holding the lead, even sponged some one-third of the victims in those cases, Courtwatch, a study conducted by the Transparency International, Bangladesh (TIB) found.

The study conducted in 2003 found about 23.4 percent of the magistrates, 29.8 percent lawyers and 44.3 percent court clerks wring money illegally from the accused in the cases.

The Bangladesh chapter of the Berlin-based international organisation quoted lawyers as reporting

that the government intervened in more than one-third of the cases under the speedy trial act, while 25.3 percent of them were 'politically motivated'.

According to the study report, the corrupt legal practitioners extort the money in exchange of a spectrum of 'favours' ranging from providing information to the defendants, getting magistrates act in their favour, 'managing' bail and greasing the judges' palms to obtain favourable verdicts.

TIB Advisor Prof Muzaffer Ahmad in a working paper presented the salient features of the study findings at a roundtable at the CIRDP auditorium. Jatiya Party (JP) Chairman Anwar Hossain Manju, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) President Hasanul Huq Inu and Ain O Salish Kendra Executive Director Sultana Kamal took part in the discussions. SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

## Moudud not sure about judiciary separation this FY

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that the government cannot definitely say whether the separation of judiciary, appointment of ombudsman and formation of anti-corruption commission will be completed in the current financial year that ends on July next year. SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

## Anti-tank shell found in Sylhet destroyed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Experts yesterday destroyed the 10kg anti-tank shell recovered from a suburban house in Piberbazar near Jalalabad Cantonment six days back.

A team of army personnel from Comilla Cantonment had arrived in Sylhet to dispose of the shell. Police SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

## Oppositions march towards Sangsad

Ask govt to quit right now

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Braving incessant drizzle and occasional drenchers, hundreds of leaders, workers and supporters of opposition parties marched simultaneously towards the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) Bhaban yesterday demanding immediate resignation of the government for what they said were its 'absolute failure to deliver and patronising Islamic extremists. Police barred every procession,

particularly those of the main opposition Awami League (AL), left-leaning 11-party coalition and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD), at different points far ahead of the parliament house in the afternoon.

The protest march to the Sangsad Bhaban coincided with the opening of the 13th session of the JS amid a ban imposed by Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) on processions, rallies, demonstrations, and carrying of SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

## New Delhi to express concern on Dhaka 'sheltering' militants

Veena Sikri talks about Indian agenda of home secretary-level meet

PTI, Guwahati

India is to express its concern on militants of the North East Region sheltering in Bangladesh and infiltration from that country at a high-level meeting in Dhaka next week between the two neighbouring

countries. Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Veena Sikri told reporters here Saturday that security concerns was a very high priority in the development of relations between India and Bangladesh. SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

## RALLY ATTACK PROBE

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Interpol investigators recently sent the video footages of the August 21 grenade carnage and a list of suspects to Interpol headquarters to determine whether the suspects are the culprits.

"Interpol's psychoanalysts will watch movements of the suspects in the video footages and will define their link to the grenade attack," a local investigator assisting the visiting Interpol experts said seeking anonymity.

The official however declined to say when the video footages were sent to the Interpol headquarters.

Two more Interpol experts -- one animation specialist and one psychoanalyst -- will come to Dhaka shortly to join the existing four who held a meeting yesterday at the Criminal Investigation Department headquarters, sources said.

Members of different intelligence agencies on the basis of information collected earlier raided several places in the capital yesterday to track down Mukul, a SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

## Tigers thrashed

BISHWAJIT ROY, from Birmingham

The fragile Bangladesh batting stooped to a new low against South Africa in their ICC Champions Trophy opener yesterday promptly putting an end to any optimism of a turnaround after a forgettable Asia Cup.

The Tigers crashed to a heavy nine-wicket defeat to the Proteas in

their Group B fixture at Edgbaston after hitting their lowest total against South Africa when they were bundled out for a paltry 93 in 31.3 overs.

South Africa reached the target in just 17.5 overs. Captain Graeme Smith finished the match in style hitting medium pacer Mushfiqur Rahman for a four SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



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