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## JS plunges into chaos as speaker rejects AL demand

BNP MPs blame grenade attack on AL; Opposition to boycott session; files thrown at Speaker; catcalls, slogans rule parliament

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parliament transformed into a heart of chaos before the main opposition declared its boycott of the current session after a stormy walkout in protest against the speaker's rejection of a discussion on August 21 grenade attack adjourning other business.

The lawmakers of the Awami League (AL) shouted slogans in the well, tore papers, threw files at

Speaker Jamir Uddin Sircar and swapped catcalls with the treasury bench members, including ministers, who used the question time to mount a scathing attack on the opposition during the pandemonium.

The unprecedented uproar took hold soon after the prime minister's question time when the main opposition deputies entered the House and ran supreme for about 75 minutes before the walkout.

The AL deputies boycott prime minister's question time in protest against what they term the chair's reluctance to accept their questions for Khaleda Zia.

After the walkout, the treasury bench used the quiet parliament floor to attack the AL once again during general discussion under an unspecified provision in the wake of Sircar's rejection of all adjournment motion notices submitted by opposition lawmakers.

Citing the rules of procedure, Sircar said: "Discussion on an adjournment motion might influence investigations into the grenade attacks, but considering the importance of the incident a general discussion has been included in the agenda."

But AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil questioned the speaker's prudence, saying: "If a discussion on adjournment motion under rule 62

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## Dhaka drenched in fresh bout of rain

Life yet to back on normal track; 40 hurt as tornado lashes Barguna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fresh rain yesterday threatened to prolong the misery of Dhaka residents as the heaviest rain in more than half a century eased for only a few hours and then resumed in the afternoon despite a forecast of gradual improvement.

Official and business activities resumed, many schools and shops opened but normalcy did not return as a moderately heavy rain started at

about 3:00pm yesterday after the four-day downpour that petered out into a drizzle Tuesday evening.

Waterlogging situation in the city has improved but some areas including the old Dhaka were still waterlogged due to poor drainage system.

A tornado lashed eight villages in Bamna upazila under Barguna district yesterday morning injuring 40 persons. UNB says another storm hit Chhonbaria village in

Patharghata upazila in the same district.

Met office forecast the rain would continue whole Wednesday night before getting weaker from this (Thursday) morning as the depression that moved further westwards was centered in Kolkata yesterday evening.

The cloudburst caused the second bout of flooding this monsoon so far killing 19 persons in Dhaka and

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## Youth dies in Rab custody

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A youth died in elite Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) custody yesterday about six hours after his arrest from a private clinic in Dhanmondi where he was receiving treatment for head injury.

A team of Rab-2 arrested Zinnah Tuesday evening and took him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) at 12:15am with his both legs covered in red bruises. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

The death count in the Rab custody now rose to 17.

A Rab media cell official said Zinnah, accused of two criminal charges, was arrested, as his operative Palash told Rab about his arms cache. The Rab arrested Palash the same night from Dhanmondi with a 9mm pistol.

Following Zinnah's statement, the Rab raided three spots to recover

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## River water talks end without consensus

Indo-Bangla joint group given 3-month time to submit another report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The two-day talks between Bangladesh and India ended yesterday in Dhaka without a consensus on water sharing issues of seven common rivers including the Teesta as experts of the two countries expressed divergent views on some technical issues.

The Joint Committee of Experts (JCE) meet, which discussed a

report of the Joint Technical Group (JTG), has sought another report from the Group within three months to narrow the differences of opinion before the next JCE meet.

The Joint River Commission (JRC) meeting expected to be held in October in Dhaka and attended by the water resource ministers of both the countries has also been deferred until the next JCE meeting to be

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## Delhi to be asked to check anti-Dhaka elements

Home secys start 2-day talks today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka is likely to ask for steps to rein in anti-Bangladesh elements and Bangladeshis taking refuge in India, and propose joint security operations on the border when home secretaries of the two countries meet today for the first time in four years.

The Indian side at the two-day talks may press harder on its allegation of the existence of Indian insur-

gent camps in Bangladesh and demand the 'repatriation' of 15 insurgent leaders in Bangladesh jails, greater checks on cross-border infiltration and trafficking of forged Indian currency, according to Indian media reports, sources said.

Home Secretary Omar Farooq is likely to demand a report on the list of 39 anti-Bangladesh camps active on Indian soil, including Shadhin Bangabhumii Andolon and the

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PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Water of Ramna Lake spills over into adjoining roads of Ramna Park bursting its surrounding wall yesterday as the worst cloudbursts in decades continued to wreak havoc for the fifth day.

## 25th BCS preliminary results

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Public Service Commission (PSC) yesterday announced the results of the preliminary (Objective) test of the 25th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examination held on September 3.

The PSC has selected 18,629 candidates provisionally for the written tests against 1,619 vacant posts in different cadres, said a PSC press release.

The PSC reserves the right to cancel the application of provisionally selected candidate if anyone lacks the eligibility in line with the advertisement of the examination

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PHOTO: STAR

Indian Water Resources Secretary Vinod K Duggal, left, and his Bangladeshi counterpart Omar Farooq brief newsmen at the end of a two-day meeting on water sharing of common rivers at a city hotel yesterday.

## Massive plan taken to save Dhaka from floods: PM

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia said the government has taken up a massive programme to save the capital and its adjoining areas from water-logging and floods and is trying hard to get foreign assistance for implementation of the project.

A project involving Tk2,475 crore has been approved by the Executive Committee of National Economic Council (ECNEC) to protect 124 square-km area in the eastern part of Dhaka city from recurrence of flood and water-logging, she told the

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## 2 critically hurt in JCD infighting at DU hall

DU CORRESPONDENT

A group of ruling BNP backed Jatayatbadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) members battered at least eight members of its rival faction leaving two of them critically injured and vandalised seven rooms at Jahurul Haque Hall of Dhaka University (DU) in the early hours yesterday.

Mahbub Islam Khokon, a fourth-year undergraduate of Philosophy department and occupant of the hall's Room No. 201, was severely injured in his head and body and

Rashidul Islam Sagor, a fourth-year student of Bangla of Room No. 2007, received multiple wounds all over his body.

Both were first admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), from where doctors later shifted Mahbub to Combined Military Hospital (CMH) as his condition deteriorated. "His state is very grave," ADMCH duty doctor said.

DU Vice Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz told The Daily Star the university authorities arranged for

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## Opposition's out-govt march

UNB, Dhaka

Braving heavy showers, thousands of opposition activists took to the streets in the capital yesterday afternoon and demanded immediate resignation of the BNP-Jamaat alliance government.

Opposition Awami League (AL), left-leaning 11-party alliance and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Imu) marched through the city streets from three points.

They blamed the government for its "absolute failure" to ensure public security and "patronising" the religious extremists.

The opposition march was part of their three-week simultaneous agitation to dislodge the Khaleda-Nizami government.

AL started its march from Central Shaheed Minar and concluded it at Bangabandhu Bhaban in Dhanmondi after parading Mirpur Road.

Prior to the march, AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil MP said the August 21 grenade attack was not an isolated incident. He blamed Jamaat-e-Islami, a close ally of the

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## Shab-e-Barat on the night of Sept 30

UNB, Dhaka

Lailatul Barat will be observed on the night of September 30.

As the Shaban moon was not sighted yesterday, the month of Shaban will begin tomorrow (Sept 17), said an official release issued after the meeting of the National Moon Sighting Committee yesterday evening.

The committee met at the Islamic Foundation and it received no information from anywhere in the country about sighting of the Shaban moon.

## Windies whip Tigers

BISHWAIJ ROY, from Southampton

Bangladesh completed yet another miserable one-day assignment when they suffered a 138-run defeat against West Indies in the second and final Group B match of the ICC Champions Trophy at the Rose Bowl yesterday.

Set to score 270 for win, the Tigers were bundled out for 131 in 39.3 overs. The batting was again in shambles and it can be best

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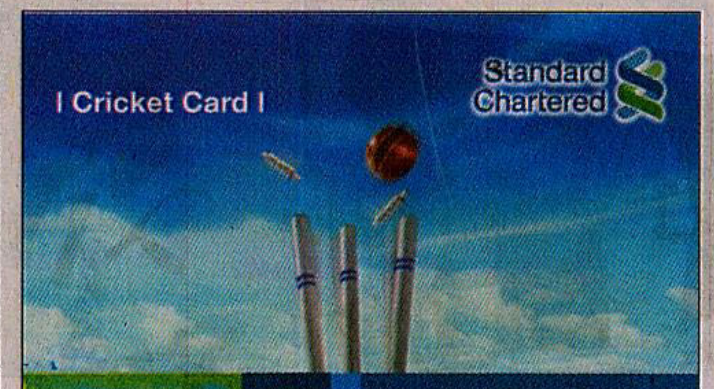
## RABBANI MURDER Court orders extended probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal, Chittagong yesterday ordered an extended probe into KEPZ managing director commodore (ret'd) Golam Rabbani murder case.

Tribunal Judge M Hasan Imam gave the order following a petition made by prosecution lawyer Advocate Ahsanul Haq Hena for a

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**মেলা চলাকালীন সুদের হারে ১% ছাড়\***

## মাই লোন মেলা ২০০৪

**প্রয়োজন মেটাতে জীবন সাজাতে চল যাই এইচএসবিসি-র মাই লোন মেলাতে**

কত কিছুই না চাই আমাদের - কিছু শখের, কিছু প্রয়োজনের। জীবনের সেই সব শখ কিংবা প্রয়োজনকে হাতের নাগালে এনে দিতে এইচএসবিসি আয়োজন করছে মাই লোন মেলা ২০০৪। আপনার পছন্দের পণ্যটি কেনার জন্য মেলাতেই থাকছে লোন নেয়ার সুবিধা।

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\* শুধুমাত্র ফেয়ারে আবেদনকারী দর্শকদের জন্য

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