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## Dhaka, Delhi agree to coordinate patrols



Home Secretary Omar Farooq shakes hands with his Indian counterpart Dhirendra Singh after a joint press conference in the city yesterday.

Bangladesh to give Indians double-entry and exit visa, consider extradition treaty

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and India agreed to coordinate patrols in their own territories by their security forces and Dhaka agreed to grant double-entry and exit visas to Indians transiting through international air and land ports before wrapping up home secretary level talks yesterday.

Dhaka said it was ready to sign an agreement to enhance cooperation in security issues, if required and also agreed to consider New Delhi's proposal for an extradition treaty and respond to it at a meeting between the two countries likely to be held in next January or early February.

New Delhi, on the other hand, proposed a three-point package proposal for Dhaka to notify India on the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement and agreed to work towards a more concrete solution to the problem after receiving Dhaka's response to the package.

The coordinated patrol of the borders came as a compromise to India's proposal of joint security operations along the borders and entailed exchange of information on terrorists' and criminals' movement across the borders. But the nature of the patrol was still unclear.

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) SEE PAGE 11 COL 3



A dance sequence at a function at Shilpakala Academy yesterday marking the 30th anniversary of Bangladesh's membership of the United Nations.

## Kakri joins Gumti in flooding 100 villages

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Close on the heels of Gumti, a swollen Kakri also burst its banks Wednesday being unable to contain the huge rainwater rushing down from the Tripura Hills.

Together the two rivers have flooded over 100 villages and marooned around six lakh people in Devidwar, Burichong, Choudhogram and Muradnagar upazilas in southeastern Comilla district until yesterday.

Meanwhile, in Devidwar 14

Awami League activists on relief work among the flood victims were severely injured yesterday in a clash with cadres of ruling BNP.

The Gumti that burst through its dam earlier Wednesday spread further yesterday inundating 14 unions and threatening Bakhrabad Gas Fields, while Dhaka with its lying areas still under water saw the sun for the first time after a five-day unprecedented deluge.

The second bout of flooding this season caused by the heaviest downpour in more than 50 years killed

seven more people, five from snakebite and two crushed under collapsed mud wall yesterday raising the death toll to 26.

According to Met office forecast, the current spell of rains that started six days ago paralysing life and economic activities across the country would continue for four more days.

Yesterday's cloudburst was a result of the monsoon as well as the depression that crossed Bangladesh Tuesday, a weather forecast officer SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

## Two stabbed to death in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A landlord stabbed by the robbers on Tuesday died in the early hours yesterday in Merul Badda and a cloth store employee was stabbed to death at Shantibagh in Motijheel yesterday evening.

Mojibur Rahman, 55, accounts officer of Shaheed Suhrawardy College, died on returning home to his treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) on Thursday.

On Tuesday, a band of seven robbers broke into his house while it was raining very hard. They stabbed him and his daughter Mahfuza Akhter, 28, and beat up the other members of the family. Mujibur received several stabs in the head, cheek and right thigh.

The robbers took away valuables SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

## Threat to capture Ahmadiyya complex in N'ganj Oct 8

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Aamra Dhakabashi, a religious fanatic group under the banner of a socio-cultural organisation, yesterday vowed to capture Ahmadiyya Missionpara Complex in Narayanganj and say the Juma prayers there on October 8.

The leaders of the organisation also announced that they will hold a grand rally on DIT Mosque premises in Narayanganj before marching to the Ahmadiyya complex.

The organisation held a rally and marched in procession from Baitul Mukarram National Mosque, demanding that the government declare Ahmadiyya sect non-Muslim. They also demanded arrest of the Ahmadiyya supporters including Kabir Chowdhury, Hasan Imam and Shahriar Kabir. SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

## Arguments in '99 Chhatak blast case start today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Arguments in the Chhatak bomb blast case will begin in the Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal, Sylhet, today official sources said.

The blast occurred at the residence of then ruling party MP Muhibur Rahman Manik at Chhatak upazila headquarters on March 15, 1999, killing two people on the spot and injuring two others, allegedly at the time of bomb-making.

One of the injured succumbed to his injuries at the hospital.

The blast caused a huge damage to the first floor of the two-storied building. Manik was not present at his residence during the incident. He filed a case with Chhatak Police Station the following day. The then officer-in-charge of the police station also filed a case in connection with the blast on March 26. SEE PAGE 11 COL 8

## Commentary

### Hon Speaker, you could have taken the JS to a greater height

MAHFUZ ANAM

Honourable Speaker, you rejected all of the nearly 150 notices that were served by the opposition. Couldn't you find even a single one that deserved to be accepted under rule 62 of the rules of procedure, seeking an adjournment motion for a discussion on the grenade attack on the

AL rally? The main reason you gave for not permitting an adjournment motion was that the events of August 21 were under a judicial inquiry and any discussion in parliament may influence the investigation. It is a noble intention and we appreciate it.

However the question is if any discussion on the floor of the House

is likely to influence the ongoing judicial investigation, then didn't the general discussion that you permitted do the same? If you really wanted to 'protect' the judicial investigation from being influenced by any discussion in the Jatiya Sangsad, then shouldn't you have stopped all sorts of discussion?

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

## FM off to NY to join UNGA session

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan set off for New York yesterday on a 12-day trip to address a plenary session of the 59th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on September 23.

Incidentally, September 23 is the 30th year of Bangladesh's membership of the UN.

Briefing reporters at the foreign ministry on Thursday, the foreign SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

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## Rain spoils Eng-SL tie

AGENCIES, Southampton

Play in the ICC Champions Trophy match between England and Sri Lanka at the Rose Bowl had to be abandoned on Friday.

Before rain forced the players off, the home team had reached 118-3 after 32 overs and the Group D decider will now have to be finished on Saturday. SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

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