

Three SUST teachers get death threat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Three teachers of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) received death threats on Tuesday.

Dr Sajedul Karim, Asstt Prof of Mathematics, Yousuf Ali, Asstt Prof of Physics and Farzana Siddiqua, Asstt Prof of Bangla received letters with death threats by post that day.

Unsigned copies of the same letter sent to Sajedul Karim and Yousuf Ali contained, "With deep concern we have observed for long that you are the main obstacle on the way of establishing our ideology in the highest educational institution, Sylhet-SUST.

"By no means, we the ML Janajuddha will allow such activities. In compliance with the decision of our high command, as punishment for the offence, you are hereby awarded death penalty. It would be executed soon." -ML (Janajuddha).

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Alliance plans rally Oct 9 to celebrate 3yrs in office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-led ruling alliance will celebrate its three years in power by holding rallies and bringing out processions across the country on October 9.

The alliance will complete three years in government on October 10.

As part of the celebration programme, the alliance will hold a grand public rally on October 9 at Paltan Maidan at 3pm.

Components of the alliance Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP) and Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ) will organise joint rallies and processions in all district headquarters.

A meeting with BNP Secretary

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Prayer Timing		
September 30		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fair	4-40	5-15
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrib	6-00	6-05
Esha	7-30	8-00
Source: Islamic Foundation		



PHOTO: STAR

Policemen haul unlicensed rickshaws onto a truck at Sadarghat yesterday as part of a crackdown. Dhaka roads are flooded with the three-wheelers as illegal workshops churn out rickshaws every day.

Dhaka examines co-ordinated border patrol with Delhi

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bangladesh on Tuesday said it was working on India's proposal for coordinated patrols along the borders between the two countries to stem illegal cross-border movement and drug smuggling.

"India has submitted a proposal and we are working on it. A decision is likely in a month," Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) Director General Maj Gen Jahangir Alam Chowdhury told reporters in New Delhi yesterday evening after a meeting with Indian

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Khilgaon SI, 2 others sued on extortion charge

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Three cases were filed yesterday against as many persons, including a policeman, with the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka on charges of extortion and intimidation.

The accused are Sub-Inspector (SI) Wazed Ali of Khilgaon Police

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Rebel strike grips Nepal on day two

Government considering ceasefire

AFP, Kathmandu

A strike called by Maoist rebels shut down much of Nepal for the second day on Wednesday as the government considered calling a ceasefire to jumpstart talks to end the bloody conflict.

Most shops were closed in the capital Kathmandu and other parts of eastern Nepal and traffic was half the normal volume on the final day of the strike called to protest troops' alleged killing of two senior Maoists.

The strike, which falls during Nepal's popular Kumari festival, came after Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba invited the Maoists to resume negotiations to end the

civil war that has claimed more than 10,000 lives since 1996.

Maoist chief Prachanda, which means "The Fierce," last week said he would only sit down for talks if the rebels, who are fighting to overthrow the monarchy, were certain that King Gyanendra backed Deuba's peace initiative.

Deuba, who was appointed by the king in June and leads Nepal's broadest coalition in two years, held new meetings with his allies on Wednesday to draft a response to Prachanda's statement.

The mainstream communists, who are Deuba's largest coalition partner, pushed for an immediate ceasefire.

"It would be best if the govern-

ment and Maoists jointly declared a ceasefire as we are in Nepal's holiday season," communist leader Madhav Kumar Nepal said.

"But if the Maoists do not agree, let the government call a ceasefire unilaterally. That would create better understanding and goodwill," Nepal said.

Information Minister Mohammad Mohsin, who is close to King Gyanendra, was sceptical of the communist leader's position during a four-hour coalition meeting Tuesday, cabinet sources said.

"The government should offer only the minimum concessions," Mohsin said.

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Clampdown on port pirates soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The police, navy, coastguards and airforce will soon start a joint clampdown on the pirates operating in the river Karnaphuli and outer anchorage of the Chittagong port, official sources said.

The anti-piracy committee at a meeting yesterday decided to carry

out surprise raids on the hideouts of robbers especially at the coastal villages of Anwara, Banshkhali and Patenga. It also decided to formulate a long-term and effectual strategy to combat the organised piracy, sources added.

The committee formed by the shipping ministry held the meeting on Chittagong port office premises.

Chaired by the Chairman of Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) Shahadat Hossain the two hours long meeting was attended by the officials and representatives from port, custom, mercantile marine department, police, coastguards, navy, airforce, Ansars and others concerned.

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N a t w a r assures Morshed of full support for Saarc Summit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indian Foreign Minister K Natwar Singh assured his Bangladesh counterpart M Morshed Khan of India's fullest co-operation for successful completion of the upcoming Saarc Summit to be held in Dhaka in January 2005.

The Indian Foreign Minister made the assurance in a bilateral luncheon meeting held in New York on Tuesday on the sidelines of the 59th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

The assurance follows an official Indian denial of Indian media reports that Delhi might boycott the 13th Saarc summit after some incendiary remarks made by Morshed on September 7 on Indian policy towards Bangladesh.

The two ministers discussed a wide range of issues on Bangladesh-India relations, including trade and

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Road accident kills six in Narsingdi

UNB, Narsingdi

Six people were killed in a road accident in Shibpur upazila of Narsingdi yesterday morning.

Police said the accident occurred when a Sylhet-bound pickup van carrying newspapers from Dhaka collided with a bus coming from opposite direction at Boroitola at about 4:00am, killing three people on board the pickup and its driver

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