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How it happened
BDNEWS, Dhaka

Covered by deep forest, the hilly Banbat camp, previously known as NDROKI, was the scene of the bloodiest ambush that left nine Bangladeshi peacekeepers killed Friday in Congo.

On the very fateful day, a total of 21 Bangladeshi soldiers working under UN peacekeeping mission in

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Khaleda warns conspirators

UNB, Sapahar, Naogaon

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday categorically said the conspirators against the country would be faced with a strong hand and washed away in the surge of people's unity.

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CONGO TRAGEDY

Bodies may arrive Tuesday

Dhaka to continue peacekeeping with caution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The bodies of the nine UN peacekeepers from Bangladesh killed Friday in a militia ambush in Congo are likely to reach Dhaka on Tuesday.

"The government has taken all necessary steps to bring their bodies back home and we hope they will arrive here on Tuesday," a well-placed source in the armed forces said last night.

He said the bodies will be

received with due respect and buried according to the desire of their families with full military honours.

Annan's sympathy

BDNEWS, Dhaka

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan strongly condemned the murder of nine United Nations peacekeepers from Bangladesh in an ambush by

In a media release earlier yesterday, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) confirmed that no other peacekeeper from Bangladesh was hurt in Friday's militia attacks. All the 11 Bangladeshi troops of another UN peacekeeping team survived unscathed another ambush the same day.

The nine soldiers serving as UN peacekeepers in northeastern Ituri region of Congo, a stronghold of

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Galib sent to Bogra jail, implicated in 5 criminal cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Militant leader Dr Muhammad Asadullah Al Galib was sent to Bogra jail under tight security yesterday as police implicated him in five cases for murder, bomb attacks and robbery at NGO offices in four districts -- Bogra, Gopalganj, Naogaon and Sirajganj.

Rajshahi Central Jail authorities handed him over to police after they placed a production warrant issued by a Bogra magistrate's court for producing him before it in a murder case filed with Shahjahanpur Police Station.

Galib was taken to Bogra

guarded by a huge contingent of police to face legal proceedings in the murder case and also a bomb attack case lodged with the Gabtali Police Station.

Galib, chief of Ahle Hadith Andolon Bangladesh (Ahab), and Arabic teacher at Rajshahi University, has three other cases against him for robbery at Brac and Grameen Bank offices in Gopalganj, Naogaon and Sirajganj.

Three of his associates -- Shaikh Abdus Samad Salafi, Nurul Islam and ASM Azizullah -- arrested with

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Dozens of Bangla Bhai cases stalled

Cops 'fail' to find witnesses; victims, families talk of police indifference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Police made almost no progress last year in investigating 22 murder and innumerable torture cases by Bangla Bhai's Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (JMJB), submitting only one final report for one case and one chargesheet in another.

"Lack of complainants, evidence and witnesses" are the terms Noor Muhammad, Rajshahi Range police's DIG, used to explain the aforesaid lack of progress. But victims of the attacks as well as their

families pointed the finger at police indifference.

"Bangla Bhai and his group tortured people by hanging them upside down from trees in front of the police," described a torture victim at Bagmara, who met with this correspondent early this month. He added, "The police's SP, Masud Mia, did not hear any complaints against Bangla's men. So, why should they investigate the cases?"

According to a list prepared by Ain O Salish Kendro, a total of 22 murders and a number of tortures

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JUDICIARY SEPARATION

SC asks govt to submit draft rules by Mar 15

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Reprimanding the government for resorting to various tactics to delay the separation of the judiciary, the Supreme Court yesterday ordered the government to finalise all relevant draft rules and submit those to the court by March 15.

The full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Syed JR Mudassir Husain issued the order upon a government petition filed in August last year seeking

extension of the deadline by four months for the separation of the judiciary.

"Nearly six months have elapsed after the government sought time for complying with the directives given by the court. The purpose of the government for seeking time has been fulfilled," the court said.

"We do not want to be part of the falsehood and we will not tolerate it since a lie brings other lies," the court said as the government has

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30 AL men hurt as cops club procession

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 30 opposition leaders and activists including Awami League (AL) lawmaker and General Secretary of Jubo League Mirza Azam were injured yesterday when

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CANDLELIT VIGIL 'Curb terrorism in legal way'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government must immediately stop extra judicial killings and curb terrorism in a legal way, said Bikkhubdo Nari Morcha, an initiative

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PHOTO: STAR

Leading female human rights activists and professionals attend a candlelit vigil at the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday to ask the government to stop killings in 'crossfire'.

PREMIER BANK IPO SCAM

BB finds MD's hand in fake account opening

STAR REPORT

A central bank investigation into the Premier Bank public floating scam has found gross violations of banking rules in the opening of around 19,000 accounts with different branches of the bank which is a criminal offence.

The branch managers concerned said they were forced to open these accounts after they got verbal instructions from Kazi Abdul Mazid, managing director, and

Syed Nowsher Ali, manager of the Banani branch of the bank.

The managers said this in a written statement to the Bangladesh Bank investigation team, sources said.

Despite several attempts, Mazid could not be contacted for his comment as of 9:30pm yesterday.

The central bank rules had totally been ignored in opening these accounts as banks have to follow certain guidelines of Banking Rules

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