

Case filed against Mymensingh doctors for attack on cops

**UNB, Mymensingh**

A case was filed on Tuesday night against the students and intern doctors of Mymensingh Medical College and Hospital (MMCH), accusing them of attacking police and obstructing them in performing their duties after a road accident that left two, including a doctor, dead.

Police Inspector Meheruddin filed the case with Sadar Police Station under the Explosive Act against 200-300 students and interns.

Panic gripped the students and the interns as police filed the case without mentioning the names of the accused.

Meanwhile, the students of Mymensingh Medical College (MMC) yesterday boycotted their classes and wore black badges protesting the accident and police attack on them.

The local unit of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) organised a meeting at the MMCH auditorium yesterday, mourning the death

**SEE PAGE 15 COL 8**

36 including 3 GIs killed in Iraq

**AFP, Baghdad**

US-led troops have clashed with insurgents in northwest Iraq, as at least 36 people including three US soldiers were killed in attacks centred mostly north of the capital.

Soldiers from Iraq's 1st Brigade, 3rd Army Division and the US 2nd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment pressed on with their offensive against insurgents in the northern town of Tal Afar, west of Mosul, the US military said late Tuesday.

"Major clashes occurred in the area of Tal Afar where Iraqi and coalition forces were successful in security operations," it said in a statement.

It said that troops had found and destroyed nine weapons caches and detained 73 suspects since the start of the operation on May 26.

Predominantly Turkmen Tal Afar, 100 kilometres from the Syrian

border, is suspected by US and Iraqi officials of being a sanctuary for Sunni Arab foreign fighters infiltrating through the country's porous borders with its western neighbour and carrying out attacks in the area which includes Mosul.

It was the scene of major street fighting in September of last year that left dozens dead and has since then seen frequent attacks against US and Iraqi forces.

Since November, Mosul, Iraq's third largest city, has become a new front for the fight against insurgents with both US and Iraqi officials frequently announcing the arrest of senior aides to Iraq's most wanted man Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the alleged frontman for the al-Qaeda terror network in the violence-ravaged country.

The US military said the operation in Tal Afar was part of 30 other operations involving both US and Iraqi troops or just Iraqi forces.

As the Iraqi government touted the success of Operation Lightning in Baghdad saying it would spell the "slow death" of the insurgency, rebels struck mostly further north of the capital on Tuesday in what has become a familiar pattern in a cat-and-mouse game that sees insurgents refocusing their attacks from one area of the country when they are under pressure to another.

Three US soldiers were killed in two separate attacks late Tuesday north of Baghdad, the military said.

Two soldiers were killed in "an indirect fire" attack on their base in Tikrit, while another was killed in a roadside bomb explosion during a patrol in the restive town of Balad.

The US casualties capped a bloody day that saw at least 33 Iraqis killed, making it one of the most violent days since May, during which about 700 Iraqis died in a frenzy of car bombs.

**SEE PAGE 15 COL 3**

11 Indians die as high voltage wire falls on bus

**BBC ONLINE**

Eleven people died when a high voltage wire fell on their bus in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh yesterday, police say.

Another 15 people were injured in the incident in the village of Poonampally, about 450km (280 miles) south of the state capital, Hyderabad.

Police say the current was so strong that those electrocuted died on the spot. The state chief minister said the bus had too much luggage on its roof.

Witnesses said a shoeless 10-year-old boy was first to be electrocuted.

His mother was killed trying to save him.

Compensation of 200,000 rupees (almost \$4,500) has been announced for the families of the deceased.

Iran wants to import 150 product lines

**UNB, Dhaka**

Iran is actively contemplating importing some 150 products from Bangladesh as it began negotiations to have greater trade cooperation with the country to boost bilateral trade.

"We've prepared a list containing 150 products of Bangladesh, which we want to import on the basis of mutual understanding," Iranian Commerce Minister Shariatmadari told newsmen at the VIP Lounge of Zia International Airport yesterday morning.

Shariatmadari, who is also the minister in-charge of Shipping,

arrived here at 8:45am on a three-day official visit to sign a bilateral trade agreement today. Official level talks on a draft Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) were held yesterday.

Commerce Minister Altaf Hossain Choudhury along with high officials of the ministry received the Iranian minister at the airport.

Replying to a query, the Iranian minister said his country will also consider giving some Bangladeshi products duty-free access to Iran.

"Everything will be done under the bilateral agreement," he said adding, "Iran will allow Bangladeshi

workforce, particularly doctors, engineers and scientists."

He said they hope to settle some important issues relating to trade and business promotion including finalisation of the Bangladesh-Iran Bilateral Trade Agreement and Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries.

Shariatmadari said the issues have already been discussed at the relevant expert level and the documents were also exchanged between

**SEE PAGE 15 COL 7**

Bodies of 2 PBCP cadres recovered in Khulna

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna**

Police yesterday recovered bodies of two armed cadres of Janajuddha faction of Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) from two places in the city.

They were identified as Tarikul Islam Shiplu, 35, and Zakir Hossain, 28.

All the five police stations in the city have been put on high alert in the wake of reports that a group of extremists have planned a series of killings.

Tarikul was a chargesheeted accused in Jubo League leaders Zahiruddin Panna and Anwar Hossain murder cases.

Zahiruddin was killed in a gun attack in 2003 at the car park of a local hotel and Anwar was gunned down in 1998 on the compound of

**SEE PAGE 15 COL 5**



A high-level delegation of the buyers of Bangladeshi garment products and international labour leaders call on Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina at her Dhanmondi residence yesterday.

BJP rejects Advani's resignation

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi**

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) central office bearers and its Parliamentary Board yesterday rejected the resignation of LK Advani from the party president's post and called for the withdrawal of his decision.

A resolution rejecting Advani's resignation has been adopted at a Parliamentary Board meeting attended by former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and central office bearers.

"The meeting unequivocally rejected the resignation of LK Advani. The meeting appeals to Advani to continue to lead the party, which he has so ably led in the past," said the resolution.

Earlier yesterday, Advani asserted he will not relent on his decision to quit. "There had been no change in the reasons for my decision to quit from party post," he said.

Body formed to refix bus fares

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The communications ministry yesterday formed a committee to refix the bus fare, reviewing its feasibility in the wake of the government-initiated increased fuel price.

The committee, headed by Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) Chairman Farruk Ahmed, will submit a recommendation report within the next 10 days, meeting sources said.

It was also decided in the meet-

ing that no bus operators will take increased fare until the report of the committee is prepared.

The other members of the committee included representatives of the Bangladesh Bus Truck Owners' Association, Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Samity, and Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC).

The government in 2003 fixed the

**SEE PAGE 15 COL 8**

PBCP threatens 5 journos with death

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira**

The outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party's (PBCP) Janajuddha faction yesterday threatened five journalists with death in Satkhira.

Janajuddha member Atiar Rahman in a letter sent to the Satkhira Reporters Club convenor said five journalists of different national and local dailies are on their hitlist.

They are Janakantha correspondent Mizanur Rahman, Prothom Alo

**SEE PAGE 15 COL 8**

Prayer Timing		
June 9		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-45	6-50
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation