

# Forged notes flood Tangail

Bank installs checking machine

A CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Large scale circulation of forged 500 and 100 taka notes in Tangail district has created panic among the people and worried bankers as well.

Such notes are detected in large numbers in banks every day. Often, quarrel takes place in urban and rural areas as people decline to accept 500 and 100 taka notes, fearing those could be forged.

Sources in different banks said they get 4 to 5 forged 500 and 100 taka notes in a bundle of the currencies brought to banks for deposit every day. This is a great problem, they said.

The Manager of Sonali Bank's Tangail district Sadar branch said 18 forged 500 taka notes were identified from bundles brought by

depositors on August 28.

Identification machines have been installed at Sonali Bank's head office branch Zila Sadar branch to check forged notes. These notes are now being transacted at the two branches after checking with machines, he said.

Some bank officials said it is impossible for people to identify forged notes. "We feel embarrassed when forged notes are found in bundles (Of notes) given by VIP depositors in the counter", an official said seeking anonymity. Checking with machines also slows transaction, he added.

According to police sources, some organised gangs are involved in circulating forged notes through their agents.

They said they are trying to nab the main culprits behind the crime.

# High level BDR-BSF border confce at Shiliguri Sept 6-9

Killing of Bangladeshis, push-in, barbed-wire fencing on agenda

BSS, Rangpur

A four-day second high-level border conference between Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and Border Security Force (BSF) of India will be held in Shiliguri town in India from September 6 to 9.

The meeting will discuss to resolve outstanding border issues for maintaining peace in the borders, official sources said.

Deputy Director General (DDG) of BDR Brig Gen SM Golam Rabbani will lead a 9-member delegation while Inspector Generals (IGs) of North Bengal and South Bengal frontiers of BSF SR Tewari RK Panchanda will jointly lead a 13-member Indian delegation at the conference.

BDR is expected to raise the issues of killing of Bangladeshis by BSF troops, frequent intrusion into Bangladesh by BSF troops and

Indians, abduction of Bangladeshis, push-in, illegal erection of barbed-wire fences, building of roads, bridges and other defence installations within 150 yards from demarcation lines, obstructions by BSF to renovation river banks, revetments, roads, mosques, bridges, Eidgah walls in Bangladesh territory.

Smuggling of Indian phensidyl, drugs, narcotics substances, arms, ammunition, explosives and other items, unauthorised stay of Indian trucks inside Bangladesh at land customs ports, setting up of boundary pillars along 35.5-km demarcated borders in Panchagarh, trafficking of women and children, frequent violation of Bangladeshi airspace by Indian fighter jets and other issues may come up for discussion.

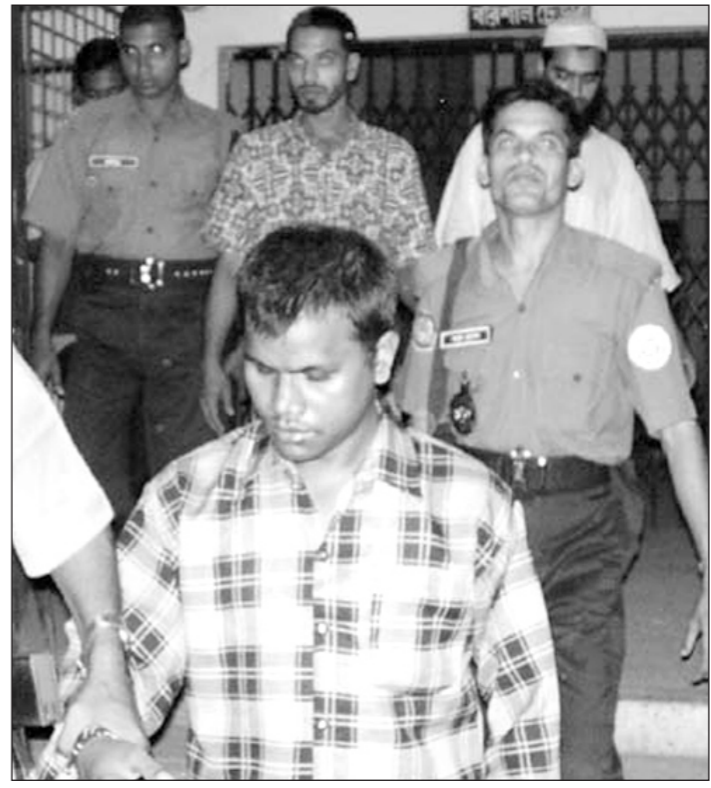
The BSF side is expected to raise issues like alleged border crimes, illegal infiltration of

Bangladeshis, smuggling and 'distortion of facts in news published in Bangladesh media.

Both sides are expected to raise the security issue along the common borders, the sources said.

The DDG of BDR will be assisted by sector commanders Col Lutfar Rahman, Col Kazi Quaiser Uddin, Col AKM Mahfuz-ul-Haque, Col Rezanur Rahman Khan, Lt Col Md Didarul Alam, Col Choudhury Hasan Sarwardi, Major Mamun Al Mahmud and Captain Md Shariful Islam Meraj.

The two IGs of BSF are expected to be assisted by Additional Director General SK Mitra, Deputy Inspector General AK Jha, S Ramaswami, OP Gour, Harish Kumar, GK Sharma, RC Chilkoti and Brig AK Bhanot, and staff officers AK Aggarwal, SS Sandhu and AK Sharma.



Morshed Chowdhury, Jalal Arefin and Abu Solaiman, three officials of Al-Iqam, an Islamist NGO, were brought back to Barisal after quizzing by the Joint Interrogation Cell (JIC) in Dhaka and produced before court on Thursday. The court sent them to Barisal Central Jail.

# 2 Satkhira JMB cadres on fresh remand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

JMB cadres Nasir Uddin and Maniruzzaman Munna were placed on eight days' fresh remand for the third time on Thursday and sent to Dhaka for quizzing by the joint interrogation cell (JIC).

Investigation officer (IO) of the August 17 bomb blast case CID Inspector Munshi Atiqur Rahman brought the two accused here from Dhaka and produced them before the court of Magistrate Saidur Rahman, seeking 10 days' remand. The court granted eight days' remand.

Earlier, they were placed on eight days' remand twice—on August 18 and August 25.

Police sources said the two JMB cadres were arrested on August 17 by police soon after the blasts across the country. They admitted involvement in the August 17 incident.

# Feud in BNP factions in Kishoreganj intensifies

A CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Intra-party feud in Tarail thana BNP in Kishoreganj has intensified as the present party committees led by Saiduzzaman Mostafa and Mahbubur Rahman Khan Selim were declared illegal by either factions.

A press conference was held at Kishoreganj Press Club on Thursday where its organisers termed the existing body 'a pocket committee' of Education Minister Dr M Osman Faruq.

Tarail, being the constituency of Education Minister Dr M Osman Faruq, the thana committee was formed on his order, ignoring the suggestion of party leaders, the press conference was told.

They said the minister at a party convention on June 18 last year promised to announce the names of thana BNP president and secretary after consultation with party leaders who suggested for an election.

But to their utter astonishment, they said they found Saiduzzaman Mostafa and Mahbubur Rahman Khan Selim, two close associates of Osman Faruq, proclaimed themselves president and secretary of BNP thana committee after six months of the convention. It was the beginning of the feud, they said.

In reply to a question, they said they would meet the minister shortly and request him to dissolve the existing committee.

The two rival factions observed the founding anniversary of the party separately on Thursday.



Five year-old Munir Hossain, son of a day labourer and a victim of August 17 bombings, at Rangamati General Hospital with severe burn injuries. Two fingers of his right hand have been amputated.

# For whom the boy suffers?

August 17 victim groans at Rangamati hospital

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Five year-old Munir Hossain, son of a day labourer and a victim of August 17 bombings, was groaning with pain at Rangamati General Hospital.

His helpless poor father Md. Shahjahan Miah was trying to comfort him in his mother's lap. But mere sweet words will not cure him from grievous injuries.

Doctors have amputated two fingers of Munir's right hand. He sustained multiple injuries in the right leg, chest and face. There are severe burn injuries all over his right leg, which needs better treatment at a specialised hospital.

"Doctors have suggested me to shift him (Munir) to Chittagong for better treatment but I can't afford that", Shahjahan told this correspondent during a visit on Thursday.

"I have no money to buy medicine and food. How can I afford better treatment for my son?" he said.

This is not all. His son's injury has stopped his income as he can not go for work, he said.

Shahjahan said Deputy Commissioner Gazi Md. Zulhash and Rangamati Hill District Council Chairman Maniklal Dewan visited his son at the hospital and donated Tk 2000 and Tk 1,000 respectively for his treatment.



The Daily Star Readers Club arranged a discussion meeting at Gopalaganj Bar Council conference room recently. Teachers, lawyers doctors, journalists, students and the elite of the town attended the meet.

# BNP-Jamaat differences widen in Satkhira

A faction vows to 'resist' Jamaat MP in next polls

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Rift in Satkhira BNP has widened further. The two rival factions separately observed the 27th founding anniversary of the party on Thursday.

Due to long standing internal feud in the Satkhira BNP, the two factions brought out separate processions and held rallies in the town marking the day.

The separate programmes, held by blocking roads in the town, created traffic jams from 3 pm to 7 pm on most of the thoroughfares in the town.

The rift in ruling BNP has also widened the differences between local leaders of BNP and its partner Jamaat-e-Islami. The difference became apparent when leaders of a BNP faction criticised Jamaat lawmaker Abdul Khaleq (elected from constituency) at a rally for what he called ignoring and undermining BNP leaders and activists. At the rally, the BNP leaders announced the name of Alipur Union Parishad Chairma Abdur Rouf as their

candidate next general election from the Sadar thana constituency.

The BNP faction led by Satkhira district BNP General Secretary Ramatullah Palash brought a procession and held a rally at Shahid Alauddin square, blocking the Satkhira-Kaligonj road.

At the rally it was announced that BNP men will resist Jamaat leader Abdul Khaleque in the next parliamentary polls.

"We will not support the Jamaat candidate as four party alliance candidate for Satkhira Sadar constituency in the next general election", he said. Other speakers urged BNP leaders and activists to remain cautious about those who are "dividing the party" and to fight against all conspiracies.

The faction led by district BNP president Habibul Islam Habib MP held a rally in front of district BNP office, also blocking the Satkhira-Kaligonj road for about three hours.

The speakers criticised the other faction alleging that they were weakening BNP by doing anti party activities.

# More areas flooded in Sirajganj: 3 drown

A CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

More 58 unions in nine upazilas in Sirajganj district have been flooded due to onrush of waters from the upstream and rains in the last three days.

Three persons drowned in floodwaters. The victims are Halima Khatun, 35, of Rawja village in Chowhali, Basu Deb, 56, of Khasrajbari in Kazipur and Tukku Mia, 28, of Azugopra in Belkuchi upazila.

Over three lakh people have been marooned. The worst affected upazilas are Kazipur, Belkuchi, Sirajganj Sadar, Shahjadpur and Chowhali. In Shahjadpur, the old court area and a hospital have gone under knee-deep water, official sources said.

Thirteen unions in Kazipur upazila, seven unions in Sadar upazila, two in Kamarkanda, eight in Belkuchi, 10 in Chowhali, six in Raiganj, six in

Shahjadpur, two in Ullapara and four unions in Tarash upazila have been affected.

Standing transplanted aman (T-aman) paddy and jute on 25,000 acres of land have gone under water, according to sources in the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) here.

Most of the flood victims have taken shelter on high land and flood control embankments. They are passing their days in misery as they are yet to receive relief from the government or any non-governmental organisations.

Abbas Ali, 60, of Nischintapur village in Kazipur said he has been starving for the last two days because of lack of government relief.

An acute crisis of food and drinking water has been prevailing in the affected areas.

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