

Hasina criticises bills to raise high-ups' pay

UNB, Dhaka
Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina has denounced the bills on enhanced salaries of the prime minister, the speaker, ministers and MPs as a classic instance of "self-seeking" and "greed for money" of the BNP-Jamaat alliance government.

BLASTS, FUEL PRICE HIKE

AL forms 8-km human chain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The main opposition Awami League (AL) and its front organisations yesterday formed an eight-kilometre long human chain in the city in protest against price hike of fuel and essentials and countrywide serial bomb blasts on August 17.



PHOTO: STAR
Main opposition Awami League leaders and activists form a human chain in the capital yesterday protesting the August 17 countrywide bomb attacks.

Palestinians take control of Gaza

Israel ends 38 years of occupation

AFP, Kissufim
Israel closed the door yesterday on four decades of occupation in the Gaza Strip as Palestinians took control of a territory for the first time in history amid a blaze of celebratory gunfire and ransacking mobs. Thousands of Palestinian security forces swarmed into abandoned settlements, raising their flag over land that Israel captured in war 38 years ago, as Israeli tanks rolled out to end a military presence steeped in bloodshed.

Biman raises domestic fares

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Biman Bangladesh Airlines has decided to increase the fares of its domestic flights due to rise in aviation cost including fuel price hike. The increased fares will come into effect from September 16, said a Biman press release yesterday.

Results of 25th BCS written test published

UNB, Dhaka
The results of the written test for the 25th BCS examinations 2004 were published yesterday, with 10,293 candidates coming out successful. Psychological test (written) of the successful candidates will be held on October 14. The viva voce of the candidates will start from October 25.

Dhaka, Islamabad to bolster trade

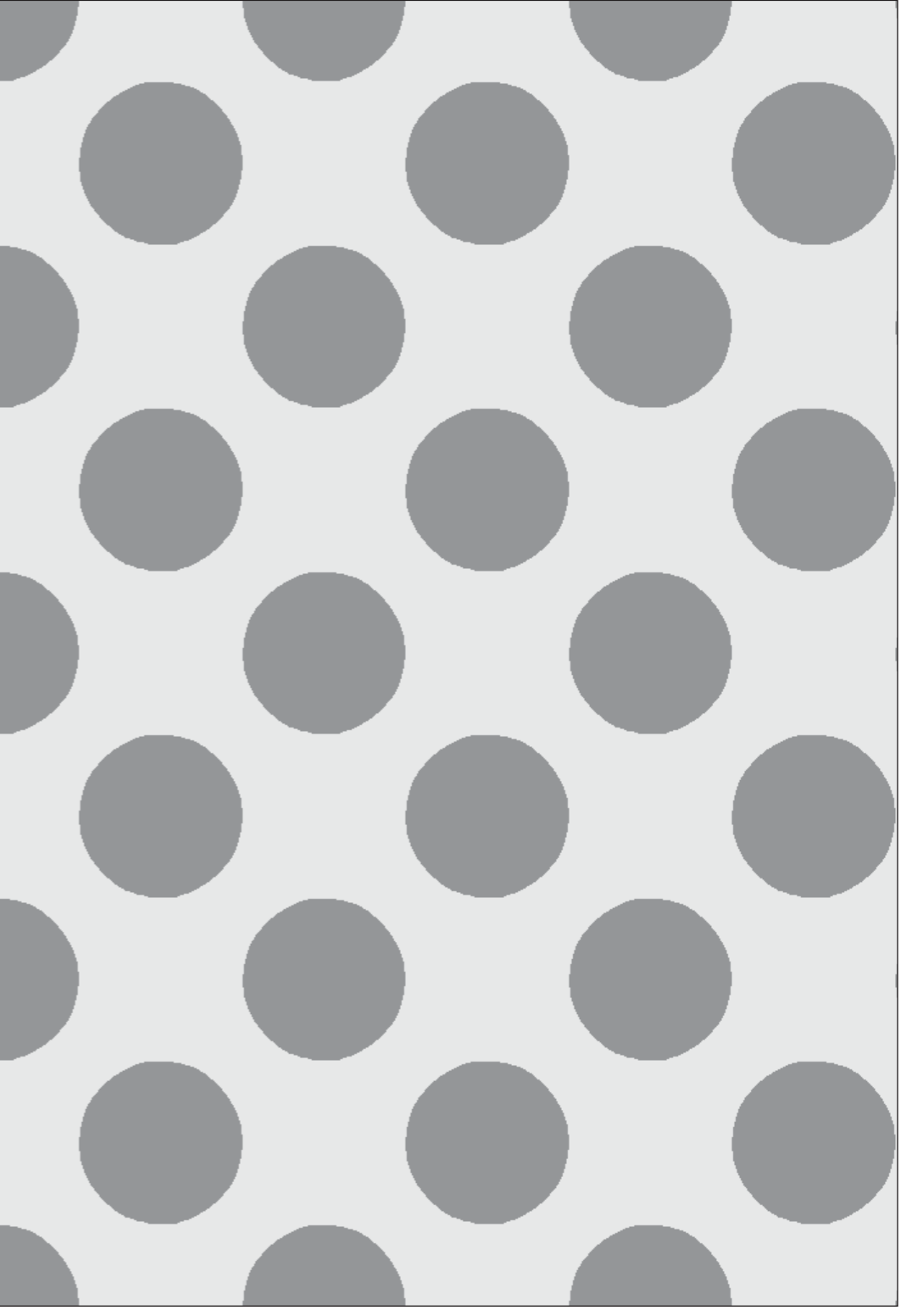
MONJUR MAHMUD
"A bilateral FTA between Pakistan and Bangladesh would greatly facilitate increased trade between the two countries. An FTA does not detract from any multilateral agreement but rather augments it," said Dr Salman Shah.

Talks with Tata deferred by a week for hartal

BDNEWS, Dhaka
The third round negotiations with Tata on the billion-dollar investment plan was deferred by a week due to the opposition called hartal on September 21, official sources said.

JATIYA SANGSAD BHABAN Kahn's son for keeping its original form

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban must be protected in its original form as one of the architectural marvels of the world, says Nathaniel Kahn, son of world famous architect Louis I Kahn who made its master plan.



Iraqi troops kill 157 rebels

REUTERS, Tal Afar
The Iraqi army has killed 157 insurgents in rebel Tal Afar, a Defence Ministry official said yesterday, as troops continued mopping up suspects in the northern town.

HC stays trial of Shamsur Rahman murder case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
The High Court (HC) on Sunday issued a stay order on the trial of journalist Shamsur Rahman murder

Table with 3 columns: Prayer, Azan, Jamaat. Rows include Fajr, Zohr, Asr, Maghrib, Esha. Source: Islamic Foundation.