**People's Right to Know** 

October-1-2005

## 4 highwaymen lynched in **Trishal**

AGENCIES, Mymensingh

Four highwaymen were lynched by a mob at Signboard bus stand in Trishal upazila of the district on Thursday

Police said a gang of seven robbers boarded the Mymensingh bound bus of Showkhin Express from Mohakhali in Dhaka in the guise of passengers at 7:00pm. When the bus crossed Bhaluka, the gang swooped on the passengers and started robbing them.

Receiving information from the passengers of another Mymensingh bound bus, locals stopped the bus at Signboard bus stand, blocking the road

They caught the robbers and beat up them severely, killing four on the spot and injuring three others

Three of the dead were identified as Nayan, 20, Omar Faruque, 25, and SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

### Criminal, two outlaws killed in 'crossfire'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two outlaws and a criminal were killed in separate incidents of 'crossfire between police, Rab and their accomplices in Kushtia, Meherpur and Keraniganj in Dhaka early yesterday.

They are Anisur Rahman, 28, a regional leader of Jasad Gono Bahini (JGB), Azizur Rahman, 32, a top cadre of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP-ML), and Bachchu Khan, 26, of Keraniganj.

Our Kushtia correspondent reported that a team of Mirpur police arrested Anis at village Amanatpur in Sadar upazila of the district Thursday

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

# Bus fares go up today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bus operators will start taking

Now per kilometre fare for 52seater bus will be Tk .80, up from pervious Tk .72 and for mini-bus it will be Tk.83, up from Tk.75.

A high-powered communications ministry meeting with the Minister Nazmul Huda in the chair approved the new bus fare rate on Thursday.

action, that may include

The meeting also warned that stern

FOUR YEARS OF COALITION RULE

# Govt eyes polls but many pledges still unfulfilled

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The ruling coalition completes four years in office today while preparations for the next election are on with many of the pledges the BNP-led alliance had made before the last election remain-

In electoral pledges, Bangladesh Nationalist Party and its allies had declared that their first task would be rooting out terrorism and corruption. But in reality the situation has rather worsened under the alliance regime and it does not bode well for the near

corruption at different levels of the administration and violation of human rights, activities of Islamist militants constitute a very dangerous threat to law and order, making good governance a distant dream

The BNP-Jamaat-led alliance won the last election by a landslide, riding on a number of pledges, which if fulfilled, would ensure good governance. But the prospect now for those being implemented before the next parliamentary election, which is slated for either the end of next year or January

The allegations that BNP and its allies had levelled against the Awami League government in the run-up to the last general elections ironically

have begun to apply to them as well.

Besides, many of the incidents occurring during the last four years have called into question the ruling BNP's very belief in parliamentary

For instance, by adopting a resolution, the ruling BNP parliamentary party had forced the elected president to step down, which is unprecedented

hand, when lawmakers from the same forum urged the government to downsize the cabinet and axe the corrupt ministers, the government did not pay

#### UNBRIDLED CORRUPTION

The government last year had formed the Anti-Corruption Commission in line with its electoral pledges, but has vet to give it free rein to combat corrup

In absence of effective measures to check graft, Bangladesh seems to SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)

and Awami League (AL) will observe

October 1 from opposite standpoints

as the October elections of 2001 put

BNP in power sending former ruling

The ruling BNP calls October 1 as

vote revolution" while the AL bills it as

However, there is no announce-

ment of any confrontational political

The BNP will organise meetings

and processions throughout the

a day of "vote rigging, result forgery".

As BNP, AL

AL to the opposition seat.

programme on the day.

see Oct 1



Leader of the Opposition and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina talks with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh during a meeting in New Delhi yesterday.

# Hasina, Manmohan discuss regional peace, security

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bangladesh Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina yesterday called on Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and discussed regional cooperation, poverty alleviation, and bilateral business and trade

"It was a courtesy call," Prime Minister's Media Adviser Sanjaya Baru said when asked about the halfan-hour-long meeting. She came to India to offer prayers at Ajmer Sharif.

Accompanied by her top aide and a former minister in her cabinet, Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Hasina, who is

Asked if the recent bombings and extremism came up during the meet-

on a five-day visit, travels to Kolkata

today before returning home tomor-

ing, Saber said Singh again expressed his condolence for the victims of the August 21 grenade attacks and enquired about Hasina's health, reports UNB.

Saber would not say if any precise political or economic issue including next general elections was discussed

He said, "Since the Awami

#### Khatme Nabuwat deadline to govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Religious bigots led by International Khatme Nabuwat Movement Bangladesh (IKNMB) at a rally in the capital vesterday demanded that the  $government\,enact\,a\,law\,by\,December\,23$ declaring the Ahmadiyyas non-Muslim.

Giving the deadline, the bigots warned that if their demand is not met they will capture all Ahmadiya com plexes in the country

The rally held at Tejgaon-Nabisco intersection was addressed by IKNMB leaders and attended by about 1,000

The speakers said on expiry of the deadline, they will first occupy the Ahmadiyya headquarters at Bakshibazar in the city and then

# 3 more JMB men arrested, security alert in Panchagarh

Three more Jama'atul Mujahideen arrested in Satkhira and Bagerhat in connection with the August 17 serial blasts in the last 24 hours ending at 9:00 last night and another arrestee confessed to his involvement in Sylhet

Meanwhile, security has been beefed up in Panchagarh following

district.

second wave of bomb attacks might be carried out in the district between Thursday and Saturday, sources said.

Besides, Jewel Khan, owner of Colour City Press at Bashabo in Dhaka, was placed on a two-day remand yesterday after he was hauled before Battalion (Rab) arrested him on Wednesday

Our Satkhira correspondent reports: Police vesterday arrested madrasa teacher Abdul Ahad, 38, at a shop in Abader Hat in sadar upazila at about

Acting on a tip off, plainclothes police raided the shop and arrested Ahad, teacher of Budhordanga SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

# Indian and local criminals jointly staged Aug 17 blasts BDR chief alleges as Delhi talks conclude

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bangladesh Rifles chief yesterday said some "criminal elements in India" had colluded with similar groups in Bangladesh to stage the August 17 countrywide blasts.

BDR Director General Maj Gen Jahangir Alam Chowdhury said this, speaking at a press conference at the end of three-day talks with his Indian counterpart in New Delhi.

The talks between the border guards of the neighbouring countries

Two senior leaders of ruling BNP and

main opposition Awami League (AL)

yesterday expressed the same view that

politicisation of all areas, including

professionals, is bringing no good for

the country and both the parties need

issues like border fencing and crossborder infiltration. Both the sides, however, agreed on confidence build-

ended with divergent views reigning on

ing measures through stepping up of simultaneous and co-ordinated patrol along the border. Indian Border Security Force (BSF) Director General RS Mooshahary said

his force has suggested to BDR that it [BSF] would hand over to them a list of the areas requiring zero line fencing so

POLITICISATION BRINGS NO GOOD, SEMINAR TOLD

BNP, AL should come to

onship for the sake of the nation.

Professional organisations work as

a pressure group in different countries.

But trade bodies such as Bangladesh

Garment Manufacturers and Exporters

Association (BGMEA) and Federation

of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce

and Industries (FBCCI) are all heavily

nation's rescue

The question of fencing of the 4095-

remained unresolved with Bangladesh resisting India's move, contending that the fencing has "a defensive structure' attached to it.

"We want to conduct borderfencing at the level of zero-line due to topographical reasons. But BDR is opposed to it, saying that such fencing is "defensive in structure,

failed to play a positive role in bringing

about a significant change in the

society, they viewed.

country today to mark the fourth year of the "vote revolution." Its main rally will be held at city's

Muktangan followed by a SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

#### One killed as outlaws hurl bomb

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtid

One person died and another was outlawed party hurled bombs on them at village Bharara in Kumarkhali upazila of the district early yesterday.

According to police, a gang of 12

Health and Family Welfare Minister The dead was identified as Esharat Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain and Ali 37, son of Arshed Ali of the village. AL Presidium member Tofail Ahmed belonging to outlawed New Biplobi had a debate on the current political conflicts for which Communist Party (NBCP) stormed

