**October-4-2005** 

### More destructive bombs this time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Yesterday's bombs were more powerful and destructive than those used in the countrywide serial blasts on August 17.

But the bomb the attackers blasted in Laxmipur to make their escape way had some similarity with those of August 17.

"The one that went off inside the courtroom was different, quite

**76-KG BOMB** 

### Hannan says he made it at his soap factory

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The investigators are quizzing militant kingpin Mufti Abdul Hannan, operations commander of Harkat-ul-Jihad (Huji), to extract information about the militant dens as the law-enforcers are

# Militants strike again on courts

**People's Right to Know** 

2 killed in Laxmipur, Chandpur; Ctg judge escapes narrowly as bombs hurled at him did not burst; 38 including judge, cop wounded; JMB leaflets found; 10 held

Yet another incident of five serial bomb blasts at courts in Chandpur, Laxmipur and Chittagong yesterday left two people killed and 38 others, including a district judge and a policeman, injured, stoking fears that have loomed over the country since the August 17

Some hand-written leaflets of the Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), calling for establishing Islamic rule in the country, were found at the Chandpur blast site.

Two bombers held from the Chandpur blast site and one from Laxmipur said IMB, which is blamed for the August 17 attacks across the country, assigned them to carry out the

They said the militant organisation had plans to turn public attention to its

leaflets by blasting bombs in court-

In Chittagong, the attack took place in the courtroom soon after a JMB cadre linked to the August 17 incident was produced in court.

People present in the courtroom caught three suspects while police later arrested three others. Police recovered two unexploded

bombs after the blasts, which took place within 15 minutes starting from 11:45am, forcing immediate closure of court proceedings. The bombers set the bombs inside thick books and hurled them while

proceedings were going on, a few

hours into Sunday night's explosion in

Brahmanbaria and Satkhira, where

two people were killed. Abul Hashem Bakaul, 55, a witness in a case, and Mujibul Huq, 70, died in Chandpur and Laxmipur.

Police were put on high alert and security was beefed up by deploying additional forces at key installations across the country, especially Supreme Courts, lower courts, shopping complexes, bus, rail and launch stations, airports, foreign missions, commercial buildings and banks

State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfozzaman Babar told journalists that

the arrest of several suspects from the blast sites "has been possible as police hurriedly coming out of a meeting on mobile courts at his ministry vesterday

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premises and other places were targeted to protest different courts' successive denials to grant bail to militant kingpin Asadullah Al Galib of Ahle Hadith Andolon Bangladesh (Ahab).

The August 17 serial blasts at court

Aug 17 blasts a

protest against court's denial of

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

bail to Galib

Top level investigators yesterday SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

# ACC unearths Tk 92-crore

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday unearthed an incident of dodging Tk 92 crore import duty at Benapole land port.

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## tax evasion OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Sources said a team led by ACC Commissioner Moniruddin Ahmed identified two importers who evaded tax

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The authorities have further tightened security across the country, especially in the key-point installations and sensitive establishments, after yesterday's fresh serial blasts in three districts that left two people killed and 38

taken in and around the capital to prevent any attack and to ensure security while the administration in some districts has asked the law enforcement agencies to be alert to thwart any such attacks.

Additional measures have been

The police headquarters earlier alerted the police forces in all the districts after militant kingpin Mufti Hannan was arrested on October 1.

"We have directed our men to be alert to the maximum and to take all necessary actions against any attempt of criminal activities," Dhaka

Metropolitan Police Commissioner SM Mizanur Rahman told The Daily Star vesterday.

"DMP has deployed additional forces in all major installations in the capital," he added

Supreme Court and lower courts, airport, bus and launch terminals, railway stations, shopping centres, commercial buildings, banks, mosques, foreign missions and other sensitive places in Dhaka have been placed under special surveillance.

The DMP commissioner said people should also remain alert about any person or object that raise suspicion and help the law enforcement agencies by dialling 999.

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) has also deployed additional forces in all the districts as part of the heightened

"We have already deployed SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

# **Security tightened** First charge-sheet filed against militants

Ahle Hadith men named

Defying alleged pressure of the ruling alliance, Joypurhat police filed the first charge-sheet in one of the August 17 serial blast cases against 28 militants including two top leaders of Ahle Hadith Andolan, Bangladesh (Ahab)

Jamir Uddin Ahmed, officer-incharge of Joypurhat Police Station, with the home ministry nod secretly handed over the charge-sheet to court Sub-inspector Abdus Salam last night, reports our Rajshahi staff correspon-

Salam places the charge-sheet today before a first class magistrate's

The charge-sheet submission was scheduled for October 1, but it was delayed on the last moment instructions of a local BNP lawmaker for

A few keymen of the alliance government persuaded by the Ahab activists now on the run had also lobbied in this connection.

dropping Ahab adherents' names.

Among the 39 arrestees in the case, 21 militants were accused under Sections 3, 4 and 6 of the Explosive Substances Act. Seven of the chargesheeted accused are on the run.

Fugitive Hafizar Rahman, Ahab central finance secretary, was made principal accused in the charge-sheet as he masterminded and SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

### 35 mobile courts to work in city in Ramadan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

bomber arrested immediately after the blast; and part of a bomb exploded in the court.

Thirty-five mobile courts will launch a vigorous drive in the capital from the first day of Ramadan to check irregularities in catering and transport services.

Led by magistrates, the courts will take action against sale of adulterated food, enforce traffic rules and check realising extra fares and overloading in buses and launches.

The decision was taken vesterday at home ministry meeting at the SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

# Blasts won't affect Saarc meet: FM

Says 16 US lawmakers' statement was prepared in Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

(From left) Security tape put around the Joint District Judge's Court, Chittagong after yesterday's bomb blast; the judge's table damaged in the explosion; a

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan vesterday resolutely said that neither the bomb blasts in the country nor the BDR chief's remarks in New Delhi will affect the twice postponed 13th Saarc Summit in Dhaka set for November 12-

"You will see unprecedented, unparalleled foolproof security when the summit takes place...we will build a complete security net. Inshallah, the Saarc summit will be held in Dhaka on schedule," he said at a press briefing at the Foreign Ministry.

### 5 Bangladeshi 'thieves' lynched in India

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Five Bangladeshis were lynched by a mob in Uttar 24 Parganas of West Bengal, India, on Sunday.

They are Minhazul Islam, 35, son of Mohamad Ali, Shafiqul Islam Lata, 30, son of Rabiul Islam, Akhtarul Islam, 25, son of Mujibur Rahman, Zahidul Islam, 30, son of Intaz Ali and Belal Hossain, 25, son of Abdul Khaleque. All the five hailed from Ghiba village in Sarsha upazila of Jessore.

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