

STRANDED PAKISTANIS  
Bangladesh, Pak  
govts urged to  
resolve issues  
of citizenship

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Demanding Bangladeshi citizenship, leaders of Stranded Pakistanis Youth Rehabilitation Movement (SPYRM) yesterday urged both Bangladesh and Pakistan governments to take necessary steps in the upcoming Saarc Summit to resolve the 34-year hanging problem of the stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh over citizenship.

They threatened to go for a tougher movement, if any positive decision is not taken in the Saarc Summit.

They were speaking at the press conference organised by the SPYRM at the National Press Club in the city.

"Those who opted for Pakistan have partially been repatriated and the remaining ones died, but the new generation of the Urdu speaking community are absolutely Bangladeshi citizens," SPYRM General Secretary Syed Ali Bablu said while reading out the key note paper.

The nationality of the stranded Pakistanis has so far not been cancelled by any law or order of the country, he asserted.

Bablu also demanded of the government to resume suspended relief distribution in the camps of Stranded Pakistanis across the country.

"Our forefathers wanted to go to Pakistan, but we, the new generation, never want it," SPYRM President Sadakat Khansaid.

The two generations of stranded Pakistanis in the country have been destroyed as Pakistan government has been keeping the problem unsettled, SPYRM chief advisor Mostaq Ahmed said.

SPYRM leaders Sahab Uddin and Hazi Mokbul were also present at the press conference.

## Two boys die after falling from tree in Cox's Bazar

Two young school students, trying to fix TV antenna on a tree, fell to death on Monday in Horichada village of Taknaf.

The victims Abdur Rahman and Mostafizur Rahman, both students of Class X of Teknaf High School, fell on the ground and died when a branch of the mango tree they climbed to fix the antenna suddenly collapsed on Monday evening, residents said yesterday.

They said the two classmates, eager to have a better view of ongoing special Eid programmes on television, climbed the tree to set the antenna.

A gloomy atmosphere descended on the village after the tragic accident.

## Harassment of garment leaders protested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jago Bangladesh Garments Sramik Federation yesterday protested the alleged harassment of leaders and workers of different garment associations by the members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab).

In a joint statement, federation President Md Baharane Sultan Bahar and Publicity Secretary Saidul Gani said Rab members have been frequently raiding different offices of garments sramik federations and threatening their leaders and activists since last few days.

This had created panic and insecurity among the garment leaders and workers, the statement added.

## Police, robbers trade gunfire in Munshiganj: Four injured

UNB, Munshiganj

Two police and two robbers were wounded in an exchange of gunfire at remote Char Dumuria of sadar upazila yesterday.

Nayek Imrajuddin, constable Sudendu Das, robbers Sentu and Shah Alam were admitted to the sadar hospital with bullet wounds in legs and arms.

Police managed to arrest the wounded robbers and their accomplice Habib. They encountered with the armed bandits on way to Char Dumuria in the morning.

Ring leader of the bandits Manik was earlier arrested from Dhaka Stadium. On his confessional statement police recovered goods looted from a house at Sumarkandi on October 23.

# BSF kills 2 at Moulvibazar border area

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) killed two people at Sharifpur border of Kamalganj in Moulvibazar yesterday.

It is learnt that the ill-fated people are Bangladeshi citizens. But official sources have not confirmed their identity yet.

The villagers claimed that BSF had abducted Toyabur Rahman, 45, and Rowshon Miah, 35, of Haripur village on Monday and they informed it to the Sharifpur BDR camp.

They also claimed that the two people killed by BSF are Toyabur and Rowshon.

Lieutenant Colonel Imamul Huda, commander of 2- Riffle Battalion, said after receiving the abduction news of two Bangladeshi people, they held a flag meeting with BSF on Monday. But BSF denied the allegation of abduction.

In the meantime two people were killed by BSF near the border demarcation pillar no 1846 at the Sharifpur

border. BDR could not confirm their identity. Colonel Imam said BDR has called the local UP chairman, member and people to identify the bodies.

According to latest information, BSF has proposed a fresh flag meeting to discuss the issue.

However, the residents of Haripur demanded handover of the bodies of two victims to them.

## US embassy offices closed tomorrow

BDNEWS, Dhaka

The American Embassy offices, including The American Centre, Information Resource Centre and the student counseling service, in Dhaka will remain closed tomorrow on the occasion of Veterans Day.

The Veterans Day is an American National Holiday.

## SC rejects stay petition against HC order over ETV chairman

BDNEWS, Dhaka

The Supreme Court yesterday rejected a government plea seeking stay on the High Court order asking the government not to arrest or harass Ekushey Television (ETV) Chairman Abdus Salam till November 20 in three criminal cases.

Chamber Judge of the Appellate Division Justice MM Ruhul Amin also fixed November 16 for hearing on the stay petition filed by the government with the regular bench of the Appellate Division.

Additional Attorney General Abdur Razzak Khan and Deputy Attorney General Helaluddin Mollah moved for the government while advocate TH Khan opposed the petition.

On October 7 and 19, Farzana Shilpi, the divorced wife of Abdus Salam, and Sub-Inspector (SI) of Kafrul Thana Nasimul Islam filed three criminal cases against Abdus Salam with the Kafrul Police Station and the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court.

After hearing separate bail petitions filed by Abdus Salam, also the managing director of ETV, the High Court on October 25 and 27 ordered the government not to arrest and harass him so that he can surrender before the High Court on November 20.

## Golden statue of Shree Bishnu recovered in Gopalganj

A CORRESPONDENT, Gopalganj

Police yesterday recovered a golden statue of Shree Bishnu weighing one kilogram from Kotalipara upazila in Gopalganj district.

They also arrested four people in this connection.

The arrestees are Bishwajeet Mohanta and Mahadev Mandal of village Goalgram, Prosanta Bala of Kaligram and Rezaul Mallik of village Gangarampur under Muksudpur upazila in the district.

Police arrested them when they were making a business deal over the sale of the statue at Latenga High School ground at noon.

Locals say after being examined by Gauranga Majumder of Maa Jewelers of Bhangarhat Bazaar, police confirmed that the statue was made of gold and bronze.

But Chapal Kanti Roy, officer-in-charge (OC) of Kotalipara Police Station, told this correspondent that the statue was examined by goldsmiths of Ghaghore Bazaar who have confirmed that it was made of brass.

He said an organised group of frauds had tried to set up a trap against the local Hindus through the statue.

## Toxic liquor kills 3 in Chuadanga

UNB, Chuadanga

Three people died after drinking toxic liquor in Damorhuda upazila here early yesterday.

The dead were identified as Kalam, 28, of Anwarpur village, Kalam, 28 of Pathanpara village and Sher Ali, 48 of Dhakkinn Chandpur village.

Sources said the three men fell sick after drinking liquor from a shop at Darshana Bazaar at night and died on the way to hospital.

## Obituary



Freedom fighter Momrez Ali passed away due to cancer on November 2 at the age of 61, says a press release.

He left his

wife and two sons.

He was buried at Azimpur graveyard on Wednesday with state honour.

Leaders of 'Amra Muktioddhar Shantan' expressed condolence at the death of the veteran freedom fighter.

## Death anniversary



Today is the second death anniversary of M A Jalil, former director of Physical Education, BUET, says a press release.

On this occasion, Qurankhani and milad mahfil will be held at his residence at 184 Central Bashaboo, Sabujbagh in the city after Asr prayers today.

Relatives, friends, and admirers have been requested to attend the mahfil.

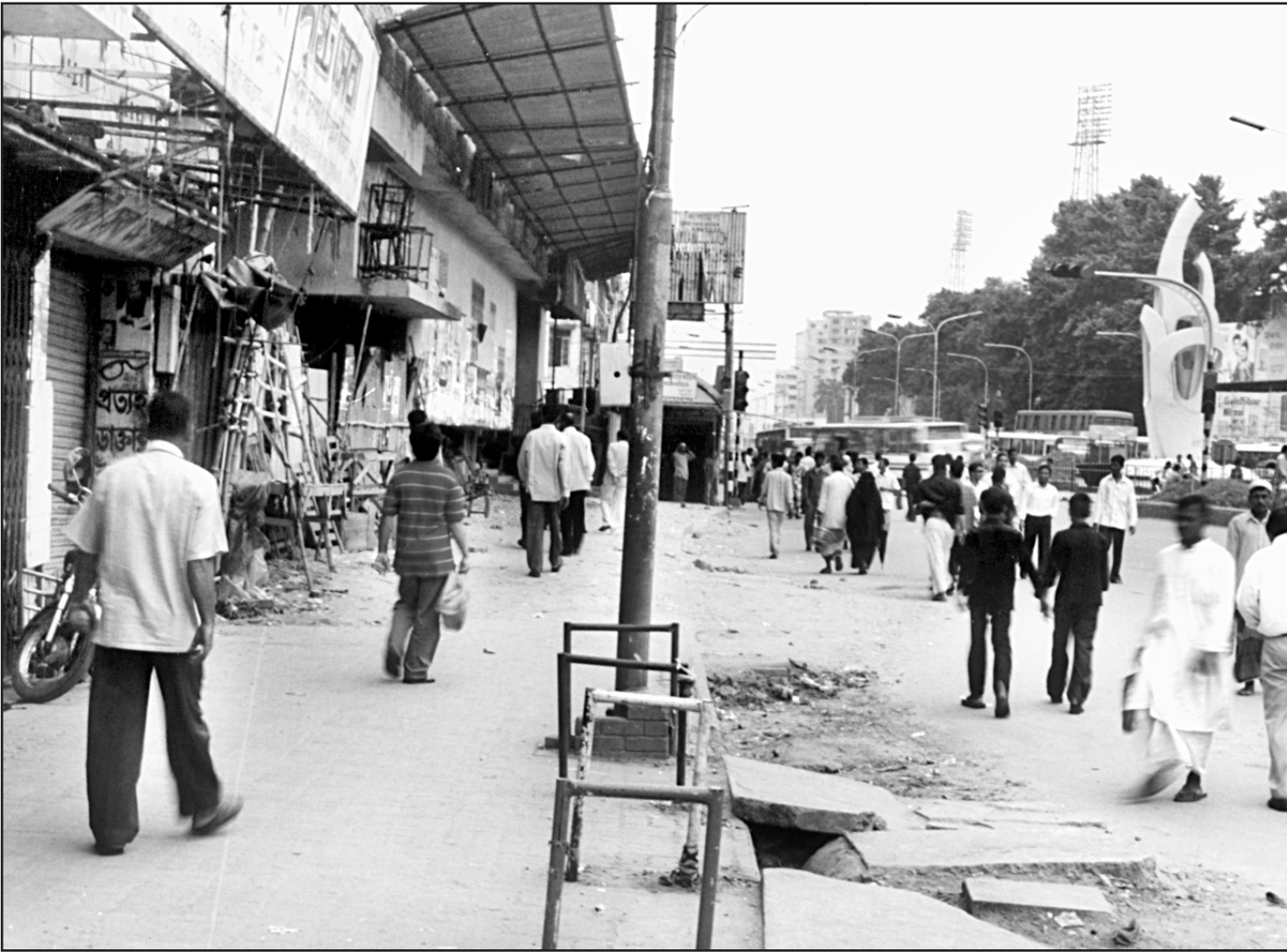


PHOTO: STAR

Pedestrians walk along a footpath in Gulistan area yesterday as hawkers have been evicted from the footpaths ahead of the Saarc summit.

## Cadet college student drowns in pond in Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

A student of Faujdardhat Cadet College, who passed the HSC examinations this year, drowned in a pond near his house at Mohammadpur in Chittagong city yesterday morning while he was learning to swim.

The dead was identified as Cadet Abdullah-Al Mumid, 19, son of Mokarram Hossain Bhuiyan. He achieved GPA-5 in the HSC exams and also qualified in the BMA (Bangladesh Military Academy) long course, family sources said.

The tragic incident took place at around 8:30am when Mumid and his elder brother Abdullah-Al Sumit were learning to swim, relatives and police said.

On information, Fire Brigade men rushed to the spot and rescued Mumid in an unconscious state, but doctors declared him dead when he was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital at around 9.30am.

# Orange alert at ZIA on Nov 11-14

FROM PAGE 1

Civil Aviation Authority, Bangladesh press release read yesterday.

Officials said the country has never seen the highest security alert, 'red'.

"The normal flights will be kept waiting from 15 minutes before the landing of flights bringing in the VVIPs and for 30 minutes afterwards when they will receive guard of honour," ZIA Chief Security Officer Azad Zahirul Islam told The Daily Star yesterday.

In case of departure of Saarc dignitaries, the regular incoming and outgoing flights will remain stopped for 15 minutes before and 15 minutes after their planes take off, he added.

ZIA, which is already under an intense security watch by members of different law enforcement, security and intelligence agencies under supervision of the SSF, will come under a foolproof security blanket with army personnel forming a net around the takeoff and landing zone.

The SSF early Monday took over the charge of security of 10 important venues including ZIA, where red

carpet will be rolled out to receive dignitaries from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives.

Yesterday, members of PGR, Rab, police and Ansar and plainclothesmen were seen guarding Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre (BCFCC), the main summit venue, where rehearsals of different programmes were going on. They did not let any commoner enter the venue or any vehicle to near it. Even top government officials had to pass through a security archway set up at the main gate and their vehicles were thoroughly checked.

Security personnel including those from the army were seen to rehearse motorcades from Dhaka Sheraton Hotel to the BCFCC. An army dog squad was guarding Sheraton, where the summit delegates will stay. A watch helicopter was also seen hovering over the hotel, which has put on a festive decoration and lighting to welcome its dignified guests.

Security men made Ramna Park off-limits to public from Monday and

Zia Udyan from 4:00pm yesterday.

Both the parks are under heavy guard. Besides searching pedestrians, commuters and vehicles on different city roads, especially those adjacent to the summit venues, security forces are also patrolling the river-ways around the city and its sky. Members of Rab, coastguard, navy, police and other agencies are screening the traffic in the Buriganga, Shitalakkhya, Turag and Balu rivers.

Troopers of Rab and the Special Branch of police equipped with binoculars and heavy sophisticated weapons were seen patrolling the city sky in eight helicopters, especially over the BCFCC and other summit venues. They will continue the vigilance until the end of the grand regional event.

Highly placed sources said the security teams from the Saarc member states are coordinating with their Bangladesh counterpart and that the Indian team has expressed its full satisfaction at the security arrangements made for Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

# Summit to focus on poverty

FROM PAGE 1

The foreign minister said bits of important work regarding a number of supportive trade facilitation have gone into consideration and a few important agreements and instruments are ready for signature during the Dhaka summit.

The summit will also concentrate on how to increase the capability of dealing with natural disasters and their aftermath as well as address social issues like education, empowerment of women, and child and key health issues.

He said the region has been the scene of some most devastating natural calamities during the last one and a half years. These disasters brought home the message that important and timely initiatives are necessary to deal with these types of emergencies and cope with the

human and economic dimensions of disasters, he added.

On the funds for executing future Saarc projects, he said due to lack of modalities, the South Asian Development Fund (SADF) of \$5 million could not be utilised. Besides, several member countries made commitment to provide fund for poverty alleviation, he added.

Khan hoped that the summit will take decision on how funds could be raised and spent.

He ruled out the possibility of amending the Saarc Charter at this summit, saying the charter ensures all the seven South Asian leaders to make collective and unanimous decisions for the welfare of their people.

He admitted that the progress of Saarc was impeded because of hostile relations between India and Pakistan, but said things have taken a positive

turn with the resumption of peace talks between the two nuclear rivals.

Morshed Khan hoped that Leader of the Opposition Awami League President Sheikh Hasina will attend the Saarc summit and contribute from her position to make it successful.

Describing Hasina as "the prime minister-in-waiting" and denying the report that she was sent invitation by mail, Khan said the opposition leader was duly invited according to her status as a cabinet minister just as other cabinet ministers, former president and chief justices were invited.

Foreign Affairs Adviser Reaz Rahman, Foreign Secretary Hemayetuddin and Information Secretary Dr Mahbubur Rahman were present at the briefing.

## AUG 21 GRENADE ATTACK

## CID raids several places in N'ganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police raided several places at Siddhirganj in Narayanganj yesterday to track down criminals involved in the August 21 grenade attack on the Awami League rally but could not make any arrest.

The CID conducted raids on Bhuiagar and Jalkuri areas acting on information from Shafiqul Islam Shafiq, Abul Hashem Rana and Noor-e-Alam who were arrested on Saturday in connection with the gruesome grenade attack.

"The accomplices of the arrestees might have been involved in the August 21 attack. So, we raided Siddhirganj to arrest their accomplices," said Superintendent of Police (SP) Ruhul Amin of CID yesterday.

During the interrogation yesterday, the three arrestees also confessed to their involvement in various criminal activities, including murder and extortion.

The August 21 grenade attacks left 22 AL leaders and workers, including Ivy Rahman, dead and 200 others injured.

## Jewellery shop owner injured in bomb attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A jewellery shop owner was severely injured in a bomb attack by outlaws at Dhulgram ferry ghat under Abhoynagar upazila in Jessore district on Monday night.

The victim Goutam Kumar Das, 48, was rushed to Khulna Medical College Hospital. As his condition deteriorated, he was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday noon.

According to eyewitnesses and police, the outlaws hurled the bomb at Goutam, proprietor of 'Maa Jewellers', when he was returning home at around 8:30pm. He is also a leader of Abhoynagar upazila unit of Awami League.

Doctors said the explosion has damaged his spinal cord.

When contacted, family sources said Janajuddho operatives might have carried out the bomb attack as he refused to pay them tolls.

His wife filed a case against two outlaws yesterday.

## Visa section of Pak HC closed for five days

UNB, Dhaka

The visa section of the Pakistan High Commission in Dhaka will remain closed for five days from today in view of 13th Saarc Summit on November 12-13, says a press release yesterday.