

Print media ignored in Saarc coverage

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The print media was blithely ignored during the just concluded 13th Saarc Summit as reporters and photographers of the national dailies were barely allowed in venues to cover the seven-nation meet.

The authorities granted the newspapers access only to the inaugural and concluding sessions while the electronic media was allowed in all the summit venues.

The Ministry of Information set up an well-equipped media centre at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel for local and foreign journalists, but it [the centre] failed to supply the

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More money turns white in NBR witch hunt

JASIM UDDIN KHAN

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has stepped up its hunt and launched several drives recently to track down the black money holders.

The Central Intelligence Cell of NBR has conducted a number of searches including investigating personal accounts and suspicious monetary transactions to noose such

illegal money holders on its list.

The vigorous vigilance and hunt have prompted the black money owners to respond well to the NBR call for declaring illegal money in order to avoid its seizure, NBR sources said.

Individuals and companies have whitened over Tk 100 crore of illegal money by declaring it with the NBR in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2005-06.

The amount whitened during the extended window of opportunity provided by the government to legalise undeclared illegal money is much higher than was expected, NBR sources said.

The provision, which faced wholesale criticism from all quarters, was extended by one year this fiscal year with only a 7.5 per cent

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PHOTO: STAR

Lawyers take out a procession in the capital to protest against the assassination of two judges in a bomb attack in Jhalakathi yesterday.

Ctg arms haul hearing postponed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Hearing of the Chittagong arms case could not be held here yesterday as the court remained adjourned due to a sense of insecurity prevailing among the judges following the bomb attack in Jhalakathi that had killed two judges in the morning.

The hearing of the case filed under the Arms Act in connection with the smuggling of 10 truck-load of deadly weapons and a large quantity of ammunition at the jetty of the Chittagong Urea Fertilizer Limited on April 2, 2004, was scheduled to be held at the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court.

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PHOTO: STAR

With the Saarc summit over, regular traffic resumes in the capital, marking the resumption of traffic congestion as well. The photo was taken near the Holy Family Hospital yesterday.

City gets back its snarl-ups

RAFIQ HASAN And SHAHEEN MOLLAH

The city has started getting back its normal life of traffic jam and bustle as the weeklong security blankets for 13th Saarc Summit in Dhaka was withdrawn yesterday evening following formal departure of all the participating heads of the government.

On the occasion of the summit, the city witnessed unprecedented security measures with around 30,000-strong forces comprising army personnel, police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) guarding round the clock.

Movements of vehicles and people were restricted in front of all summit venues and the places where dignitar-

ies stayed and visited.

"We are withdrawing the security forces from the city gradually," Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner S M Mizanur Rahman said, adding that the usual security check posts on the important crossings will remain.

The additional barricades that had been put on the occasion of the summit have already been removed from most of the places.

The city roads returned to their normal busy condition in the afternoon as thousands of vehicles started plying immediately after the withdrawal of restrictions of the

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Militants back in action after green signal, says Hasina

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Awami League (AL) President and Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina has condemned the killing of two judges in a bomb attack in Jhalakathi.

In a statement yesterday, she said the militants are back in action after getting green signal from the coalition government.

It is clear to the people of the country that the activities of the Islamist militants were halted for a certain period just for the Saarc summit, Hasina said.

The opposition leader said the last bomb attack was carried out in Lalmonirhat on November 3 prior to the

Saarc Summit.

She said the Islamist militants, patronised by the BNP-Jamaat coalition government, declared war against independence, democracy, constitution and rule of law.

Not only the common people but also the judges are falling victims to the heinous bomb attacks during the rule of the BNP-Jamaat coalition, Hasina said.

She said terrorism and bomb attacks are being carried out in the country deliberately under the patronisation of the coalition government since it assumed power.

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BSF kills one at Thakurgaon

UNB, Thakurgaon

A Bangladeshi national man was gunned down by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) on Baliadangi border under Thakurgaon district yesterday.

Shafiqul Islam, 25, a farmer of Charaigati village crossed the border in the morning in search of his father Kafiluddin who was

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Prayer Timing		
November 15		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-05	5-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-21	5-24
Esha	7-00	7-30
Source: Islamic Foundation		