

ULFA FRACAS  
Dhaka unhappy  
about Delhi's  
allegations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh yesterday expressed its 'disappointment' at an Indian junior home minister's comments that United Liberation Front of Assam (Ulfa) is being 'nourished' here and Dhaka is 'weak and reluctant' to help Delhi in routing the militant camps.

"This is deeply disappointing, because these statements are not reflective of realities on the ground," read a press release from a Bangladesh foreign ministry spokesman.

"It has been the principled position of the Bangladesh government, reiterated time and again, that Bangladesh does not allow its territory to be used in any activities inimical to the interests of India," the spokesman said.

Stressing that Dhaka will not waver from its stance, the spokesman added, "As to the allegation that the Bangladesh government was not fully cooperative, let me

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Jadid threatens  
to bomb ZIA,  
secretariat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The so-called Islamist militant outfit Jadid al Qaeda yesterday issued threats to bomb important national installations, including Zia International Airport and the Bangladesh Secretariat, if its released leaders and members are not released.

In a letter sent to the editor of a local Bangla daily 'Sunshine', the criminals also termed the government step to arrest the outfit's members and leaders 'unjust.'

Sent by post from Chapainawabganj, the letter was signed by a self-styled commander of the outfit, Ehsanul Azim.

The Sunshine authorities immediately informed the local police and district administration about it.

"The government will learn a lesson within several days," the letter reads demanding unconditional release of their leaders and members. "Jadid al Qaeda is a very

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2 criminals killed  
in 'shootout'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Two criminals, including a regional leader of an outlawed party, were killed in "crossfire" during "shootouts" between police and their cohorts in Meherpur and Kushtia

## Prayer Timing

May 30		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Magrib	6-43	6-47
Esha	8-05	8-35

Source: Islamic Foundation

## Discharge duties with dedication, honesty

CA asks armed forces, police

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser (CA) Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday called upon the members of the armed forces and the police, working at home and abroad, to continue their duties with the highest degree of professionalism, dedication and honesty.

"Let them be a shining example to the world of what Bangladesh and Bangladeshis are capable of. I applaud and thank them for bringing home the glory from the fields of peacekeeping and peace-building and sharing it with us," he told a function marking the International Day of UN Peacekeeping.

Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar, advisers to the caretaker government, former president HM Ershad, former chief adviser Latifur Rahman, diplomats, officers and members of the armed forces, family members of the Bangladeshi troops killed in UN peacekeeping operations and senior civil and military officials were among others present.

Chief of Army Staff General Moeen U Ahmed and UN Resident Coordinator in Dhaka Renata Dessaillien also spoke on the occa-

sion. Foreign Affairs Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Naval Chief Vice-Admiral Sarwar Jahan Nizam, Air Force Chief Air Marshal SM Ziaur Rahman and Inspector General of Police Nur Mohammad were present at the function at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre.

"The chief adviser said the Bangladeshi peacekeepers are bringing laurels to their country through their devoted service."

Earlier, the chief adviser along with the army chief presented crests to the family members of 76 officers and personnel of Bangladesh troops who sacrificed their lives for the cause of establishing world peace while serving as UN peacekeepers.

"They have earned great plaudits from the international community and have earned gratitude of millions in lands far from our shores."

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Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed, advisers and chiefs of three services offering munajat at the foundation stone laying ceremony of a Peace Memorial at National Parade Square yesterday, the International Day of UN Peacekeepers.

PHOTO: PID

## PURCHASE BODY MEET

### Proposal to set up rental power plant at Bogra okayed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The advisers' committee on purchase yesterday approved a proposal for setting up a 20-megawatt (MW) rental power unit in Bogra under private initiative.

The meeting with Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam in the chair also approved proposals for importing 37,000 tonnes of urea

and purchase of another five lakh metric tonnes from Kafco in Chittagong along with import of contraceptives worth Tk 96 crores.

The purchase committee decided to buy power from the rental power unit at the rate of Tk 3.01 per kilowatt for 15 years from the day the plant starts its operation.

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## Twin bombings kill 33 in Baghdad

8 US soldiers slain in blast, chopper crash, 4 Westerners kidnapped

AFP, Baghdad

Four Westerners were reported kidnapped in Baghdad yesterday amid an explosion of violence that killed at least 33 people in attacks at a prayer hall and busy square in the heart of the Iraqi capital.

The US military also announced that six of its soldiers were killed in a bombing on Monday and

Bashundhara deposits Tk 77cr 'ill-gotten money' to govt exchequer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bashundhara Group, the country's one of the largest conglomerates, yesterday deposited Tk 77 crore to the government exchequer allegedly earned through illegal means.

"This is illegally earned money and they (Bashundhara Group) were compelled to deposit to the exchequer," as sources said.

Earlier, seven businessmen deposited Tk 270 crore illegal money with the government through several pay orders in local currency for the first time in the country's history, banking sources said.

In the face of the government's anti-corruption drive conducted by the joint forces, these businessmen had to deposit the amount, which the central bank termed "non-tax revenue."

Army Chief General Moeen U Ahmed in a recent meeting with the editors of different media said the government's initiative to retrieve illegally earned money from corrupt people will continue.

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PHOTO: STAR

The huge amount of currencies seized from the Uttara residence of Chief Conservator of Forests Osman Gani yesterday.

Govt won't work on diktat of politicians  
Says Mainul

UNB, Dhaka

Law Adviser Mainul Hosein yesterday said the government is not bound to work at the instruction of politicians as, he said, it assumed power with people's mandate to hold a fair election.

"Since we have not assumed power with the mandate of politicians, we are not bound to follow their instructions. We assumed power with people's mandate to hold a fair election and free the country from corruption," he told reporters at PID auditorium.

The advisers declined to make any comment when asked about the renewed arrests of politicians.

He said, "Anti-corruption drive is on, but all are not picked up on corruption charges. Some have been picked up for gathering information about corruption."

About the possibility of arrest of Sheikh Hasina and Khaleda Zia, Mainul said it is not his responsibility

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ACC secretary transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to transfer Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Secretary Delwar Hossain, much-talked about bureaucrat in recent times for his role in the ongoing anti-corruption drive.

Sources said Mokhlesur Rahman, a divisional commissioner, will take over charge as the new ACC secretary.

Delwar, an additional secretary, who was appointed as ACC secretary on December 10, 2006, has been made Director General of BCS Administration Academy. Prior to his joining the ACC, he was a member of the Privatisation Commission.

The outgoing secretary during his six-month stay in the commission came into the limelight when he made public a list of top corrupt suspects on February 18 asking them to submit their wealth statements.

Sources said Delwar would continue his work as ACC secretary until the new secretary takes over the charge.

British CDC to sell 3 power plants to Malaysian firm

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

British company CDC Globelco is selling out the Haripur 360MW, Meghnaghat 450MW and the NEPC 110MW power plants to Malaysian investment company Tanjung Public Ltd Co.

Tanjung on its website announced on Monday that its subsidiary, Pendekar Energy Ltd, has entered into a conditional share purchase agreement with CDC Globelco Monday for the acquisition of Globelco's seven power plant assets located in Egypt, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka with a total installed capacity of 1,434MW for a total purchase consideration of USD493 million.

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Former minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury is being taken to a Dhaka court yesterday.

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The US military also announced that six of its soldiers were killed in a bombing on Monday and

another two lost their lives when a helicopter crashed, making May the bloodiest month for American forces this year.

In the latest kidnapping to blight the war-ravaged country, a security official said four Germans working for the Iraqi finance ministry were reported kidnapped in Baghdad by men wearing national police uniforms.

The men are computer science experts training civil servants at the ministry's information department on Palestine Street in the city centre when 40 police vehicles surrounded the building, he said.

"The ministry is checking the reports of the suspected kidnappings of German citizens in Iraq," a German foreign ministry

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