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**Mirza Azam held after release**

**COURT CORRESPONDENT**  
 Police re-arrested Jubo League General Secretary Mirza Azam on charge of violating the Emergency Power Rules (EPR) soon after his release on bail from the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday.  
 He was earlier granted bail from the High Court (HC) in connection with a graft case and released from jail.  
 Paltan police arrested Azam from in front of GPO (General Post Office) crossing at about 3:20pm when he along with his party activists was making an attempt to break the EPR.  
 He was later produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka at about 4:30pm with a prayer where police appealed to the court to put Azam in jail custody to prevent him from further attempting to violate the EPR.

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**Livni to succeed Israeli PM Ehud Olmert**

**AFP, Tel Aviv**  
 Tzipi Livni, the newly elected leader of Israel's ruling Kadima party, faced the daunting task yesterday of putting together a government to avert snap elections that could further slow the pace of Middle East peacemaking.

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**CA returns home after 4-day visit to China**

**UNB, Dhaka**  
 Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed returned to country early today concluding his four-day official visit to China during which he had discussions with all top Chinese leaders.  
 He had official talks with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao when full assurance of cooperation and

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**Zardari to meet Manmohan in New York**

**PTI, New Delhi**  
 Dispelling fears of a downslide in bilateral ties, Pakistan yesterday said its dialogue with India has not "stalled" despite "hiccups" and that President Asif Ali Zardari would meet Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in New York next week to take the peace process forward.

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**83 killed in fierce Lankan clashes**

**Troops advance on rebel capital**

**AFP, Colombo**  
 Sri Lanka's military said yesterday they killed 32 rebels for the loss of one soldier on Wednesday.  
 The latest fighting raised the number of rebels killed by troops since January to 6,637, while 646 soldiers have died in combat, according to the ministry tally.  
 The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) did not comment on the claims.  
 But the LTTE accused army commandos of setting off a roadside mine on Thursday targeting a passenger bus inside rebel territory, killing three civilians and wounding five, the pro-rebel Tamilnet.com website said.  
 Security forces are now trying to take control of the rebels' political

capital of Kilinochchi for the first time in 10 years.  
 The rebels have warned that the large Wann region, which comprises Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu towns, could turn into a mass graveyard for government troops.  
 Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapakse said this week that security forces hope to capture Kilinochchi by December. The army ejected the rebels from the east in July 2007.  
 The defence ministry also said Thursday that its navy had destroyed a rebel boat in a sea battle off the northern coast of Nachchikudha.  
 The Tigers have been fighting

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**Eid railway tickets draw huge rush**

**KAILASH SARKAR**  
 Bangladesh Railway started selling advance tickets yesterday to cope with the rush of people leaving Dhaka ahead of the Eid. It will be selling advance tickets till September 24.  
 Abu Hanif, 40, of Khilkhet, Dhaka went to Kamalapur Railway Station after Fazl prayers yesterday to get advance railway tickets for September 25.  
 "In the light of my experience in the past, I came early and got three tickets for Dinajpur standing in a queue for over four hours. Several hundred people reached the station before me," he said, adding, "Upon reaching the station, I saw at least three queues that snaked out of the station building."  
 Like Hanif, several hundred others thronged the Kamalapur

Railway Station.  
 Station sources said even though advance ticket sales started at 8:00am, ticket seekers started gathering since early yesterday.  
 According to Railway sources, advance tickets are being sold between 8:00am and 4:00pm. Tickets for journeys on September 25 will be sold on September 18. Tickets for journeys for September 26 will be sold on September 19, September 27's on September 20, September 28's on September 21, September 29's on September 22 and September 30's on September 23.  
 Tickets for October 1 will also be sold on September 24 at Dhaka Airport, Joydevpur, Chittagong and Sylhet stations.  
 Meanwhile, Bangladesh Railway authorities decided to operate trains from September 24

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**7 US troops killed in Iraq chopper crash**

**AFP, Baghdad**  
 Seven American soldiers were killed yesterday when their transport helicopter crashed in southern Iraq, the deadliest such incident in the country in more than a year, the US military said.  
 The CH-47 Chinook crashed about 100 kilometres (60 miles) west of the main southern port city of Basra as it was flying as part of four-aircraft convoy flying from Kuwait to the northern city of Balad, it said.  
 "The seven soldiers were the only ones on board the Chinook at the time of the crash," the US military said in a statement.  
 The crash comes just two days after US General Raymond Odierno took over as the new commander of US-led forces in Iraq from General David Petraeus.

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People wishing to leave Dhaka ahead of Eid queue up at Kamalapur Railway Station yesterday to buy advance tickets for September 25.

**JANAKANTHA EDITOR 14 editors ask for immediate release**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
 Editors of 14 national dailies at an emergency meeting yesterday demanded immediate release of The Daily Janakantha Editor Mohammad Atiqullah Khan Masud.  
 He was arrested on March 7 last year.  
 In a joint statement after the meeting at Janakatha Bhaban, the

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**MALICIOUS REPORT Amar Desh served with 2nd legal notice**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
 The editor, publisher and a reporter of daily Amar Desh were served with another legal notice for not begging unconditional public apology and publishing the full rejoinder to a false, malicious and defamatory report about The Daily Star, daily Prothom Alo and Transcom Group.

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**REGISTRATION 102 political parties collect forms, 4 apply**

**UNB, Dhaka**  
 Some 102 political parties have collected forms for registration with the Election Commission (EC) and only four of them submitted their applications until yesterday.  
 The EC had earlier urged the political parties to submit their applications by October 15 for registration, which is mandatory for the parties to contest the general election.

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Vehicles negotiate a rundown road in Banshbari of Mohammadpur yesterday. The appalling condition of the road has caused several accidents.

**Mohammadpur roads bear 3 years of neglect**

**ROADS UNCARED FOR 3**  
**HELEMUL ALAM**  
 As authorities concerned failed to give attention to the roads of Mohammadpur area during the last three years, a number of the roads have become so rundown that they are causing accidents.  
 Banshbari Road in Mohammadpur is one of them.  
 Amjad, a rickshaw-van puller, is one of the victims who broke his arm on the road. His vehicle fell apart on the bumpy road last week.  
 "It was a painful thing to see as the accident broke his arm keeping him away from work. He was the sole bread earner of his family," said Mostafa Kamal, a shopkeeper of the BDR market who witnessed the accident.  
 Babul, another shopkeeper of BDR market, said one of his rickshaw-vans also turned turtle last week incurring a loss of Tk 1,400. Over-turned rickshaws or rickshaw-vans are a regular phenomenon in the area, he said.  
 Banshbari Road was repaired about four years ago but it started to become damaged just after a year as poor quality materials were used during construction, claimed Babul. He said movement of heavy vehicles is also a reason for the road getting damaged fast.  
 The condition of the road to Mohammadpur Bus Stop from Shia Mosque via Banshbari is very bad, he said.  
 Khadiza Begum, a teacher of Dhaka State College, said, "It is very hard to walk on the road especially after rain as most of the time my clothes become dirty due to the muck on the road."  
 "The road is not only causing accidents but also reducing the number of customers especially after rain," said Azizul Haque, a shopkeeper of BDR market.  
 Like Banshbari Road, many other roads of the area including Khilji Road, Jakir Hossain Road and Iqbal Road are also very rundown, causing much suffering to residents of the area. The sick suffer the most.  
 Delwar, a resident of Iqbal Road, said the road was constructed early in the four-party alliance's rule but its condition

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**Comilla Medical College closed after clash**

**UNB, Comilla**  
 Comilla Medical College (CMC) was yesterday declared closed for an indefinite period following a clash between students and local people.  
 The college academic council in an emergency meeting took the decision and also asked the students to leave their dormitories by Friday noon.

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**Sehri, Iftar timings**

Ramadan	Sep	Sehri	Iftar
18	19		6-02
19	20	4-27	6-00
20	21	4-27	5-59

**Prayer Timing**  
 September 19

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-26	4-32
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-02	6-12
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

**India faces threat from home-grown militants**

**Manmohan admits intelligence failings after blasts**

**AFP, New Delhi**  
 The Indian government unveiled new security measures yesterday after Prime Minister Manmohan Singh admitted to "vast gaps" in intelligence gathering following a spate of bombings in major cities.  
 The cabinet approved proposals to hire 7,000 additional policemen in New Delhi, install closed-circuit television cameras in busy areas and create a research wing in its intelligence agency, Home Secretary Madhukar Gupta told reporters.

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**Judicial probe ordered into Manna's death**

**COURT CORRESPONDENT**  
 A Dhaka court yesterday ordered judicial inquiry into a complaint case filed against six physicians of United Hospital and its board of directors allegedly responsible for the death of popular film actor SM Aslam Takulder Manna.  
 After scrutinising the documents submitted by the complainant, Metropolitan Magistrate Saifur Rahman Siddiqui passed the order.  
 The accused are Dr Zahiruddin Mahmud Elias, Dr Mohammad Enayet Hossain Sheikh, Dr Momenuzzaman, Dr Khandaker Mahbub Hussain, Dr Fathima and Dr Maimul Islam Majumder and all members of the board of directors of the hospital.  
 On Tuesday, Manna's brother-in-law Reza Kader filed the case with Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka, against the doctors and members of the board.

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Shrimp farmers try to protect an enclosure at South Halishahar in Chittagong yesterday as a depression over the Bay has been triggering unusually high tides washing away shrimps for the last three days.

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