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# Pakistan military fires at Nato choppers

Alert at all Pak airports after threat; troops kill 16 militants, 2 civilians

AFP, Kabul Khar  
Pakistani troops fired at Nato-led helicopters operating in eastern Afghanistan, the international force said, adding that there was no damage or casualties.  
Amid mounting tensions between Islamabad and foreign forces in Afghanistan over a series of incursions, the International Security Assistance Force (Isaf) stressed that the helicopters had not crossed into Pakistani airspace.  
"Isaf helicopters received small-arms fire from a Pakistan military checkpoint along the border near Tanai district, Khost, September 25 while conducting routine operations in Afghanistan," it said in a statement.  
"There are no reports of any damages to the helicopters or any casualties."

The statement added: "Isaf forces and the Pakistani military are working together to resolve the matter."  
The incident in which Pakistani soldiers fired on helicopters with a Nato-led force along the border with Afghanistan was "an unfortunate misunderstanding," a Pentagon spokesman said Thursday.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

# Kazi Zafarullah charged with amassing wealth illegally

Pintu denied bail  
COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday pressed charges against former Awami League (AL) lawmaker Kazi Zafarullah in connection with cases filed for amassing wealth worth Tk 15.23 crore illegally and concealing information of wealth Tk 7 crore.

Meanwhile, a Dhaka court rejected a bail petition of detained lawmaker Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu in connection with the killing of his employee Fakaruddin

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

# CORRUPTION SUSPECTS ACC gears up legal battle after Eid

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has asked its counsels to take vigorous preparations to fight legal battle against graft-suspects at the High Court (HC) after the Eid and Durga Puja vacation.

The court is set to reopen on October 12 following the festival vacation.

The ACC yesterday held a meeting with its assigned lawyers and asked them not to be worried, though the corruption-suspects are obtaining bail from the HC and the case proceedings against them

are being stayed.

Sources say the meeting was informed that as many as 383 writs and 241 quashment petitions were filed with the HC challenging legality of proceedings of the graft cases and seeking cancellation of the proceedings of the cases filed by ACC after the 1/11 changeover.

The sources add following those petitions the HC has stayed proceedings of about 200 cases and issued separate rules asking ACC and the government to explain why the proceedings of the cases should not be quashed and illegal.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

# 31 more apply for Tac clemency

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Another 31 graft accused including a police official have applied to the Anti-corruption Commission (ACC) for making voluntary disclosure of information about their ill-gotten wealth before the Truth and Accountability Commission (Tac).

The Tac yesterday heard two more government officials including a Titas Gas employee. But the Tac sources denied giving any details about their identity and disclosure.

The ACC yesterday approved submission of three charge sheets against three people including Partex Group Chairman MA Hashem on charges of amassing wealth beyond known sources of income and concealing information from the commission.

"We have 31 more applications in hand seeking permission to approach the Tac. We expect to forward the files at the beginning of next week," said ACC Director General (Admin) Col Hanif Iqbal at a press briefing at the ACC headquarters.

The 31 graft accused include a

police official and officials from BRTA, LGED, forest department, Roads & Highways and sub-registry office. The name of former BNP state minister Maj (ret'd) Kamrul Islam is also on the list.

The ACC has so far sent 79 graft accused to the Tac after receiving applications from them.

MA Hashem will be indicted for amassing wealth worth about Tk 17.11 crore beyond known sources of income and concealing information from the commission.

Another charge sheet will be submitted against AFM Bahauddin Nasim, personal secretary to former premier Sheikh Hasina, on charges of concealing information about wealth worth Tk 3.61 lakh and amassing wealth worth Tk 22.82 lakh illegally.

Meantime, three foreign experts in money laundering made an unofficial call on ACC Chairman Lt Gen (ret'd) Hasan Mashud Chowdhury at his office yesterday morning.

The agenda of the meeting could not be known. Attorney General Salauddin Ahmed accompanied the three experts.

# Jumatul Wida today

BSS, Dhaka

Jumatul Wida, the last Juma in the month of Ramadan, will be observed across the country today.

Special munajat (prayer) will be offered at all mosques of the country after Jumatul Wida prayers, seeking divine blessing for peace, progress and prosperity of the nation.

The largest Jumatul Wida congregation will be held at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque in the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

# 3 criminals killed in 'shootouts'

STAR REPORT

Three criminals were killed yesterday in shootouts between their cohorts and law enforcers in Faridpur and Magura.

The dead are Babu Kosai and Golakata Jahangir of Faridpur, and Raju alias Rajib, 37, of Magura.

Our Faridpur correspondent reports: Acting on a tip-off, Rab members raided an abandoned building at Domrakandi in the

town where Babu and Jahangir were holding a meeting with their cohorts.

Sensing the presence of Rab members, the criminals opened fire on the law enforcers prompting them to retaliate, said a Rab official. Babu and Jahangir were killed on the spot while their accomplices managed to escape, he added.

The Rab official said they also recovered three firearms and six

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



PHOTO: STAR

BDR personnel dismantle a fair price shop at Moghbazar in the city yesterday as they begin wrapping up all such outlets in the country by September 28.

# BDR shuts its fair price outlets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) officially announced yesterday the wrapping up of its 'Operation Dal Bhat' programme after running it for over one and a half year though the sale will continue across the country till September 28.

The BDR announced this at a press briefing at its headquarter at Pilkhana in the city where they also held a view-exchange meeting with the journalists yesterday afternoon.

"We are officially announcing closure of the 'Operation Dal Bhat' today but the sale at the fair price outlets will continue till September 28," said BDR Dhaka Sector Commander Col Mujibul Huq at the briefing.

He, also a taskforce commander, said the main target of the operation was to provide essential commodities to the low-income group people at reasonable prices and they had served on an average

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**Sehri, Iftar timings**

Ramadan	Sep	Sehri	Iftar
25	26		5-54
26	27	4-29	5-53
27	28	4-30	5-53

**Prayer Timing**  
September 26

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-29	4-35
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-08
Maghrib	5-54	6-04
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

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# AL, BNP to carry on reform, shun violence

UK envoy says after meeting Delwar, Ashraf

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Acting British High Commissioner Duncan Norman yesterday said the Awami League (AL) and BNP have committed to refrain from violence, establish sustainable democracy and carry on reforms activities. He said the two parties

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# Reformist Hafiz meets Khaleda

BNP chief asks him to back on track

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Vice-President Maj (ret'd) Hafizuddin Ahmed, who was made the party acting secretary general at a controversial meeting of BNP standing committee, yesterday expressed allegiance with party chief Khaleda Zia.

When Hafiz met Khaleda at her cantonment residence, the BNP chairperson enquired him about the perspective and ins and outs of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

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