

Nato airstrike kills 9 more Afghan civilians

AFP, Kandahar

Nato's International Security Assistance Force (Isaf) targeted a Taliban position with a precision-guided air strike in southern Afghanistan, killing civilians, the force said yesterday.

One tribal elder claimed that nine people were killed but there was no immediate confirmation of the number of deaths.

Isaf said in a statement the air strike followed "extensive engagement" with insurgents fighting from a compound in Nad Ali district of troubled Helmand province late Wednesday.

"Isaf received reports of a number of persons killed in the compound, including women and children," it said, without giving a specific death toll.

Some civilians were also reported wounded, it said, adding they were taken to an Isaf hospital for treatment.

Huji first to use

FROM PAGE 1

Chittagong division as a cover for militant activities.

Huji operatives and Rohingyas had similar looks and dialects and it helped them a lot.

Throughout the first half of the 90s, law enforcement agencies either ignored their activities or encouraged those thinking the militants might help them deal with the local insurgents, said the sources.

Apart from the hill areas, the militants set up camps in deep forests of Fatiakhali, Putia, Hathazari, Raozan, Rangunia and Satkania in Chittagong.

In 2004, police happened to bust two militant camps in Hathazari and Rangunia upazilas.

The Hathazari camp was set up just two months before the raid. By the time it was closed it was used to train over 60 youths in arms operation.

Apart from hill tracts in Chittagong, the Huji also set up some training camps in Sylhet region and remote rural areas in northern districts, said a source who had worked there.

New passport

FROM PAGE 1

after a four and a half hours long meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

He blamed the last caretaker government for not giving due importance to the MRP project and delaying it.

Salam said the present government promptly took steps to finalise the project for issuing MRP before expiry of the international deadline.

The committee chairman also accused the previous BNP-Jamaat coalition government of delaying implementation of the project.

"The authorities concerned will evaluate the tender documents after the October 27 deadline for submitting tenders and choose a competent firm to implement the project," said Salam, also lawmaker of ruling Awami League.

Bangladesh must intro-

Rejoinder, our reply

FROM PAGE 1

with full facilities on our ear-marked premises.

"Our mission and vision is to improve and develop infrastructure of the club with modern facilities for sportsmen, club members and residents."

The club's vision is to cater sports and recreational facilities, develop infrastructure and provide local youngsters with sports training. The main mission is to prevent misuses of the playground, the rejoinder says.

Dhanmondi Club was renamed Lt Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club Ltd with a new executive body at a general meeting on August 20 this year, it says.

As per the rejoinder, "Lt Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club Ltd" is just the new name of the Dhanmondi Club, which has been illegally occupying the said playground with its office structure for long.

The rejoinder itself agrees that The Daily Star report has "rightfully" mentioned as only Kader in our report. We regret the mistake.

ACC to quiz

FROM PAGE 16

connection with the corruption might be changed, as the parliamentary sub-committee on shipping ministry has made it without visiting the spot for taking deposition of the witnesses.

The team also will collect documents from the shipping ministry and then issue notices to the then secretary of the ministry and other officials concerned for quizzing.

The two-member team, also investigating corruption regarding increment of retirement age of shipping pilots, completed their three-day long quizzing of five more persons at the port yesterday.

The committee headed by ACC Deputy Director (DD) Sheikh Md Fanaullah also met with the teams from Ishak Brothers, which was awarded the job of container handling of the port, and Bandar Shramik Federation.

Our staff correspondent from Chittagong adds: The committee yesterday talked to Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) Member (Planning and Admin) Hadi Hossain Babul, Member (Marine and Harbour) Captain S Arif Mahmud, former additional general manager Ibrahim Khalilullah and former general manager (Audit) Giasuddin Ansari.

One member of the committee said the evaluation criteria were right but they would not be able to say if anything happened wrong inside the Chittagong Port Authority.

The committee was given primarily 15-day time that can be extended by another 15 days if necessary to complete the investigation, said Fanaullah.

Outlaw killed

FROM PAGE 16

(ML-Janajuddha).

Acting on a tip-off, a joint team of police and Rab conducted operation at Chukathi Palpara area when the outlaws were holding a secret meeting at about 5:00am.

Sensing their presence, the outlaws opened fire on them prompting the law enforcers to retaliate that triggered a gunfight.

Masud was caught in the line of fire and died on the spot while his accomplices managed to flee.

Police said Masud was wanted in 15 cases.

Police recovered three firearms, one sharp weapon, 29 rounds of bullet and five cartridges from the spot.

The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy.

They urged the prime minister and cultural minister to investigate who are involved with the "conspiracy to tarnish the image of the government".

They also demanded immediate removal of those loyal to the BNP-Jamaat alliance from the cultural ministry.

Jhuna Chowdhury, Mannan Hira, Salauddin Badal, Mahabubul Haider Mohon, Afroza Banu, Selim Shamsul Huda, Khandaker Ismail, Aslam Sunny are among the signatories to the statement.

Shoe thrown

FROM PAGE 1

end of his speech, remained calm throughout the incident.

As the shoethrower was being taken out of the conference hall at Bilk University, another protester attempted to unfurl a banner, but was also quickly overpowered by security guards.

Both protesters were taken into police custody, the Anatolia news agency said.

Several others stood up, applauding and shouting slogans denouncing the IMF and its "collusion" with Turkish government, which has been negotiating for a fresh loan since last year.

"IMF thief IMF creates wars and makes people poor," chanted the 20-strong group.

In remarks to reporters after the incident, IMF spokeswoman Caroline Atkinson gave an, ironic reaction to the protest.

"The managing director noted that the students were at least polite enough to wait until the end of the discussion," she said. "The IMF needs to speak to people and listen to people even if not everyone agrees with us."

Strauss-Kahn is in Istanbul ahead of the annual meetings of the IMF and World Bank in Istanbul next week.

Several Turkish left-wing groups and anti-globalisation activists have called for protests in the run-up and during the meetings.

Manzur Kader was inadvertently mentioned as only Kader in our report. We regret the mistake.

The rejoinder itself agrees that The Daily Star report has "rightfully" mentioned that the playground has been

PM returns

FROM PAGE 1

On September 21, the premier left Dhaka on a nine-day visit to the US where she held bilateral talks with different heads of state and government, including US President Barack Obama on the sidelines of the UNGA session. She invited US president to visit Bangladesh.

The AL leaders and activists carrying banners and festoons welcomed their party chief as she came out of the VVIP terminal. They thanked her for delivering speech in Bangla at the UNGA session.

The prime ministerial convoy had to stop amid welcoming slogans. In a brief speech, Hasina said she had returned home after a very successful trip.

"I am fine. The success we achieved through the trip is not mine only...it is for the whole nation," she told the cheering crowds.

Hasina asked the party men to pray for her so that she can build a "Sonar Bangladesh" by 2021. She also thanked them to greet her on arrival.

Deputy Leader in Parliament Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, cabinet members, advisers to the prime minister, the chiefs of three services, diplomats and civil and military high officials received Hasina as she arrived at the airport at about 8:20am on a Qatar Airways flight.

Moeen's power

FROM PAGE 1

On September 21, the defendant, who is still staying out of the country, could sign the vokalatnama. So, the signature of the vokalatnama should be rejected, the prosecution appealed to the court.

On the contrary, the defence told the court they would file written objection against the prosecution.

Judge SM Saiful Islam of the Court of Third Joint District Judge, Dhaka fixed October 20 for further hearing.

Tuku was present during yesterday's hearing and sought justice before the court.

On July 12, Tuku filed the Tk 100 crore defamation suit accusing the former general of making derogatory remarks that damaged his (Tuku's) reputation.

On a petition filed by Tuku, the court the same day asked Moeen to explain in three weeks why his property would not be attached.

On March 27, 2007 Gen Moeen said at a tea party at the National Parade Square that US officials had siphoned off at least Tk 20,000 crore from the energy sector during the four-party rule, read the complaint.

The party was held in honour of the freedom fighters.

5 killed

FROM PAGE 16

granddaughter Happy, 4, of Narayapur village in the upazila and auto-rickshaw driver Mizanur Rahman.

Police said the Feni-bound bus from Comilla knocked the three-wheeler at about 9:45am, leaving its three male passengers dead on the spot.

Happy died on the way to Comilla Medical College Hospital after the collision.

The injured were admitted to the same hospital where Mizanur succumbed to his fatal injuries after admission.

MP's men

FROM PAGE 16

However the municipal mayor rescued the officials and patched things up by distributing sweetmeats, the lawmaker added.

The victims told The Daily Star that Abu, a bodyguard of the lawmaker, entered the upazila land revenue office around 3:00pm Wednesday and demanded lease of government land in Marokhola area of the town on the basis of his recommendation of the lawmaker.

Kamrul Huda Siddiqui alias Sumon, project coordinator for Anirban, a local rights body, said they are trying to liaise with Rab and local police so that they can rescue the victim and send her to a safe home in Dhaka.

"It will not be possible to take any step till the victim is rescued from the grips of political persons," he added.

On August 3, a Dhaka court ordered further investigation into the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League rally, stating that the probe conducted earlier could not identify the collectors and suppliers of grenades.

The court also ordered the inspector general of police to conduct the investigation and submit the report to the court within two months.

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina had narrowly escaped the attack but 23 of her party leaders and workers died and over 300 were injured.

The eight absconding accused are Pintu's brothers Tajuddin and Maulana Liton, Anisul Mursalin and his brother Mahibul Muttakin, Iqbal, Maulana Abu Bakar alias Selim Howlader, Jahangir Alam Badar and Khalilur Rahman.

The CID, which had misdirected the investigation during BNP-Jamaat-led four-party rule, finally pressed charges in June last year accusing Pintu and 21 Huji members including its top leader Mufti Abdul Hannan.

In the forward report, newly appointed investigation officer A. D. A. S. Superintendent of Police Abdul Kahar Akond said they need to remand the accused to find out clues when and why they held a meeting at Pintu's government residence before committing the offences.

Pintu, Taher

FROM PAGE 1

On August 3, a Dhaka court ordered further investigation into the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League rally, stating that the probe conducted earlier could not identify the collectors and suppliers of grenades.

The court also ordered the inspector general of police to conduct the investigation and submit the report to the court within two months.

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina had narrowly escaped the attack but 23 of her party leaders and workers died and over 300 were injured.

The eight absconding accused are Pintu's brothers Tajuddin and Maulana Liton, Anisul Mursalin and his brother Mahibul Muttakin, Iqbal, Maulana Abu Bakar alias Selim Howlader, Jahangir Alam Badar and Khalilur Rahman.

The CID, which had misdirected the investigation during BNP-Jamaat-led four-party rule, finally pressed charges in June last year accusing Pintu and 21 Huji members including its top leader Mufti Abdul Hannan.

In the forward report, newly appointed investigation officer A. D. A. S. Superintendent of Police Abdul Kahar Akond said they need to remand the accused to find out clues when and why they held a meeting at Pintu's government residence before committing the offences.

"We will raise the issue in today's (yesterday) meeting to set an action plan to save the playground," said Bapa Member Secretary architect Iqbal Habib.

Dhanmondi Club was named Lt Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club Limited at a general meeting on August 20.

The newly formed limited company intends to build a mini stadium and club building and develop sports and recreational facilities at the playground.

"IMF thief IMF creates wars and makes people poor," chanted the 20-strong group.

In remarks to reporters after the incident, IMF spokeswoman Caroline Atkinson gave an, ironic reaction to the protest.

"The managing director noted that the students were at least polite enough to wait until the end of the discussion," she said.

"We will raise the issue in today's (yesterday) meeting to set an action plan to save the playground," said Bapa Member Secretary architect Iqbal Habib.

Dhanmondi Club was named Lt Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club Limited at a general meeting on August 20.

The newly formed limited company intends to build a mini stadium and club building and develop sports and recreational facilities at the playground.

"IMF thief IMF creates wars and makes people poor," chanted the 20-strong group.

In remarks to reporters after the incident, IMF spokeswoman Caroline Atkinson gave an, ironic reaction to the protest.

"The managing director noted that the students were at least polite enough to wait until the end of the discussion," she said.

"We will raise the issue in today's (yesterday) meeting to set an action plan to save the playground," said Bapa Member Secretary architect Iqbal Habib.

Dhanmondi Club was named Lt Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club Limited at a general meeting on August 20.

The newly formed limited company intends to build a mini stadium and club building and develop sports and recreational facilities at the playground.

"IMF thief IMF creates wars and makes people poor," chanted the 20-strong group.

In remarks to reporters after the incident, IMF spokeswoman Caroline Atkinson gave an, ironic reaction to the protest.

"The managing director noted that the students were at least polite enough to wait until the end of the discussion," she said.

"We will raise the issue in today's (yesterday) meeting to set an action plan to save the playground," said Bapa Member Secretary architect Iqbal Habib.

Dhanmondi Club was named Lt Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club Limited at a general meeting on August 20.