

## Danish text leak

**FROM PAGE 1**  
'Adoption of the Copenhagen Agreement' was leaked out on Monday night and it is now an 'open secret' to the delegates. The Guardian, however, broke the news Tuesday afternoon.

The text says that the world leaders will sign a political agreement next week. This text bypassed the spirit of Bali Action Plan, which mandated legally binding documents not a political one.

G77 and China held a press conference on Tuesday evening and ambassador Lumumba Stanislaus Di-Aping spoke harsh words against developed nations: "I would like to say on behalf of G77 that this is a very serious development. It's a major violation that threatens the success of the Copenhagen negotiations."

Before the press conference of G77 the Chinese delegations had a press conference where they did not allow any foreign journalists. Only Chinese journalists were permitted and they talked everything in China language.

The atmosphere in Bella Centre where the conference is being held was tense with some analysts speculating that some of the G77 nations were ready and could stage a walkout from the negotiations.

Danish text suggests that it would abandon the Kyoto Protocol-- the only legally binding treaty that the world has on carbon emission reduction.

It says: "International public finance support to developing countries would reach the order of (X) billion USD in 2020 on the basis of appropriate increases in mitigation and adaptation efforts by developing countries," meaning it would make any money to help poor countries adapt to climate change depending on their actions.

If such a deal takes place

here in Copenhagen, the adaptation fund would not be anymore, which is a matter of concern for most vulnerable countries like Bangladesh.

Quoting a senior diplomat The Guardian terms the text 'very dangerous documents for developing countries'.

NGOs scrambled to issue statements slamming the developed nations -- apparently the United States, United Kingdom, and Denmark -- who were "secretly discussing" the Danish text while other coalitions rushed to draft their own response.

Kim Carstensen, leader of WWF Global Climate Initiative, said in a statement, "The behind the scenes negotiations tactics under the Danish Presidency have been focusing on pleasing the rich and powerful countries rather than serving the majority of states who are demanding a fair and ambitious solution."

Antonio Hill, Oxfam International Climate Adviser, said in their press statement, "Like ants in a room full of elephants poor countries are at risk of being squeezed out of the climate talks in Copenhagen. As the talks ramp up and the big players put forward their proposals for the deal it is vitally important that vulnerable countries are part of the debate."

Climate policy adviser for Oxfam international, said: "This is only a draft but it highlights the risk that when the big countries come together the small ones get hurting," Hill added.

However, the Danish minister has denied the existence of such text. When a reporter said that the Danish minister had denied the existence of such text, Di-Aping responded at the press conference of G77 and China, "It absolutely exists. The idea that it does not exist will not help address the concerns around it."

## Stop dumping

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committee, told reporters after the meeting held at the parliament building.

"The meeting asked the

Wasa officials to consult with experts to ascertain the alternative way of dumping sewage," he said.

"We said that Wasa might increase its capacity of treating human waste. But whatever the method would be, we have asked them to block all the sewerage lines to the Buriganga, said Rahmat Ali, a ruling party lawmaker.

The condition of the Buriganga, the lifeline of the city, is so miserable at present that no organism survives in its stinky thick black liquid. Study shows that each day about 900 cubic metres of untreated domestic and industrial waste is discharged into the Buriganga-Turag system and Wasa has only one sewage treatment plant at Pagla with a capacity of 0.12 million cubic metres per day, which is only 10 percent of total disposal.

The parliamentary watchdog also asked Wasa to prepare a master plan for the city's drainage and water supply system in coordination with Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk), which is preparing a detailed area plan of the city.

It also asked the LGED ministry to bring all the Pourashavas under a master plan and implement all the development activities.

## Hasina asks

**FROM PAGE 1**  
the climate change summit at Copenhagen.

Danish Premier Lars Lokke Rasmussen, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Mexican President Felipe Calderon also joined the conference.

Hasina reiterated her demands for separate and special funds for the worst victims of the climate phenomenon including Bangladesh saying, "We are the worst victims of climate change having little responsibility for the phenomenon."

The PM said all the countries should uphold the core principle in dealing with the climate change but should have differentiated the share of responsibilities.

The major points of her deliberation at the conference include adoption of a new legal regime under UNFCCC Protocol to ensure overall rehabilitation of climate refugees, adherence to implementation of Bali Plan of Action.

The other points are Incorporation of predictable and legally binding commitments for addressing the needs of vulnerable countries and differentiated but shared responsibilities under a core principle and assured easily accessible UNFCCC fund for adaptation and mitigation.

She said the funds must come separately as grants instead of loans apart from the ODA assistance to enable vulnerable countries to face the climate change.

Hasina also described the initiatives taken by Bangladesh to face the onslaughts of climate change.

## Rights ravaged

**FROM PAGE 1**  
children who toil away all day long in four rope factories there every day.

This is happening when hundreds of NGOs for children's welfare and rights organisations hold discussions, seminars and symposiums to ensure the rights of children.

There are thousands of children involved in different kinds of child labour in the country. Many of them are enduring unbearable pain like Ibrahim at any given moment today when the entire world is observing the International Human Rights Day.

When this correspondent approached Ibrahim, he did not understand anything and just gave a blank look. His brother Rahim, another child labourer of eight, came to his aid.

"He [Ibrahim] can neither hear nor speak," Rahim, who works for Tk 50 every day, said.

As Rahim returned to his place, having a chat with his fellow workers, Ibrahim continued his work with his head down and eyes focused on the ground, dipping deep into a soundless world.

## New traffic rules

**FROM PAGE 16**  
indicates improvement in traffic system.

He said they would continue the drive to streamline traffic movement and reduce congestion on city streets.

Twelve DCs have been working at 12 points in the capital. They are using video cameras, he said.

The DMP campaign started Tuesday to force vehicles to use specific lanes on selected streets. Failing to maintain lanes and ignoring signal lights could cost a driver Tk 1,000 in fines and three months' licence suspension.

## Tarique's election

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Mid-level and junior leaders however are excited about the decision over Tarique, elder son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, a councillor who was at the closed-door session all along described the lead-up to the much-talked about election.

He said Joint Secretary General Nazrul Islam Khan was placing proposals for amendments to the party charter. When he proposed introducing a senior vice-chairman's post, the councillors approved the motion with huge enthusiasm.

A few moments later, Goyeshwar Chandra Roy, another joint secretary general, got onto the podium and said, "Since the post has been created, I'm proposing Tarique Rahman's name as senior vice-chairman."

Thousands of councillors accepted the proposal without question and welcomed it by clapping for a long time.

Afterwards, during the party chief's concluding speech, a number of councillors stood up and said though they have passed the proposal unanimously, they still want a formal decision from her.

"You've [councillors] brought the proposal and again it's you who've supported it. So what else can I say?" an emotional Khaleda replied.

More than 2,500 councillors welcomed her with clapping and chanted slogans in her and Tarique's names.

A few leaders, who were present at Sunday's standing committee meeting, told The Daily Star that Tarique's name did not come up in their discussion over the new post.

They said it caught them by surprise when the proposal to elect Tarique senior vice-chairperson was put forward a few hours after the former prime minister's son announced he had not yet decided when to get involved in party politics again.

Some other sources said that at Sunday's standing committee meeting Khaleda Zia told her colleagues that pressure had been mounting on her to create a new post.

At that point, a joint secretary general who was present at the meeting on invitation proposed creating a co-chairman's post.

But after much deliberation the committee opted to create a post of senior vice-chairman, as a co-chair's post is rare in political parties except those in Pakistan.

Speaking in return for anonymity, a senior leader told The Daily Star, "Tarique holds the future of BNP and there's no alternative to him. But we could have elected him through a collective process and the standing committee could bring the proposal formally."

He said some mid-level leaders exercised spin control

## Ulfa Chief

**FROM PAGE 16**  
National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB), National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT), Tripura People's Democratic Front (TPDF) and United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA), have concluded that Rajkhowa was arrested in Bangladesh and as such they are hurt and disappointed.

However, Bangladesh Home Minister Sahara Khatun earlier personally denied the Ulfa chairman's arrest in Bangladesh.

It may be mentioned that the statement received through e-mail does not bear either the letterhead of any organisation or signature of anyone from the organisations.

Claiming themselves as "liberation forces", the organisations said they would emphasise that they should not commit any such act that may be construed as open infringement upon the sovereignty of their neighbouring countries and hurt sentiments of the people concerned.

## Anti-graft day

**FROM PAGE 16**  
The ACC chief said this at a discussion in Rajshahi city yesterday.

Promoting Governance, Accountability, Transparency and Integrity (Prograti), an USAID initiative, organised the discussion.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also expressed her firm determination to build a corruption-free society.

She said her government would bring to justice those who were involved in corruption in the past, for the welfare of the country, reports UNB.

Hasina said this while she was talking to local people in a videoconference after inaugurating a newly installed 1000-kilowatt medium wave transmission centre of Bangladesh Betar in Dhamrai yesterday.

on the situation just to be in favour with Tarique. But now the party is facing criticism that the council was all about electing Tarique Rahman.

A day after the council, party leaders were yesterday busy lobbying for posts in the central executive and standing committees.

The national council has empowered re-elected Chairperson Khaleda Zia to pick the new committees. Khaleda said she would announce the committees within two or three days.

Talking to The Daily Star, a number of BNP leaders hinted that TH Khan, MK Anwar, Tariqul Islam, Sarwar Rahman, Abdullah Al Noman, Rafiqul Islam Mian, Jamir Uddin Sircar, Mirza Abbas and Goyeshwar Chandra Roy may be chosen to be in the standing committee.

As per the amended charter, the standing committee will now consist of 19 members instead of 15.

Meanwhile, speculations were rife among the party men about who would be the new secretary general.

Party sources say incumbent Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain, standing committee member Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Vice-president Tariqul Islam and former state minister Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir are among those in the race for the post.

On the other hand, young leaders like Rizvi Ahmed, Aman Ullah Aman, Moazzem Hossain Alal, Fazlul Haque Milon, Nazimuddin Alam, Shamsuzzaman Dudu, Shahiduddin Chowdhury Annee, Ashraf Uddin Nizam and Md Shahjahan might be rewarded with important positions and portfolios in the executive committee.

## Govt rules out

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Rahman and Justice Md Emdadul Haque Azad.

The court in the rule also directed the government to explain why appropriate actions should not be taken against Rab officials--Major Wahiduzzaman and Lieutenant Hasan and their companions--for killing of two brothers--Lutfur Rahman Khalasi and Khairul Haque Khalasi.

Replying to the rule and direction, DAG Sagor told the court that no one by the name Major Kazi Wahiduzzaman was found in the Madaripur Rab unit.

The court fixed December 14 for further hearing on the matter.

A case has been filed with Madaripur Police Station in connection with killings of the two brothers on November 16. The following day, the court issued the rule upon a newspaper report on the killings.

On November 22, the bench directed the government to place before it by December 9 (yesterday) the details of Rab officials involved in detaining the two brothers.

Meanwhile, Ain O Shalish Kendra (ASK), a human rights organisation, told the court yesterday that this organisation will provide materials and documents on the incidents of extra-judicial killings to this court.

Advocate Ruhul Quddus appeared for ASK which was earlier allowed by this court to place arguments as an intervenor in this case.

## E-money order

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Post Office Act-1898 which will bring courier service system under legal frame once the bill is passed in parliament.

The amendment to the bill will also give fresh blood to post office which has almost come to a stand still in absence of innovative activities and schemes.

"We want to make postal services modern and up-to-date through amending the Post Office Act enacted about 111 years back," Inu, also a Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) leader, said.

About introducing postal cash card, Inu said, anybody could send and receive cash within a very short time through mobile phone. He said that there are 8,500 post offices across the country and people will be able to get e-money order services from there.

"All post masters will be provided with special SIM cards. The sender will text a short message service (sms) from his mobile phone to the person he/she wants to deliver the money. The same SMS will be sent to the postman concerned. The postman will check out the specific pin code of the receiver before the money is delivered, President of JSD explained.

He also said that post office authorities have taken some other initiatives including postal life insurance, e-commerce and e-banking to provide better services to people.

## Manmohan

**FROM PAGE 16**  
took place. A member of our ruling coalition said something, which was not appropriate, and with regard to Vajpayeeji those words were used.

"I, on behalf of our government, apologise to the House that those words will not be repeated," Singh said, bringing down the curtains on the controversy and protests by BJP members who had created a din for one and a half hours in Lok Sabha on Tuesday drowning the reply by Home Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram to the debate on the report of the Liberhan Commission.

As the BJP members raised slogans supporting Vajpayee, unfazed Chidambaram addressed the House for nearly 90 minutes during which he launched a blistering attack on BJP and Sangh Parivar's "pre-planned, conspiratorial and cold-blooded destruction of the Babri Masjid" in Ayodhya, the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, on December 6, 1992.

He dismissed BJP's contention that the demolition was a spontaneous action by saffron activists and accused the main opposition party of "breaking every single promise" made before the Supreme Court, the federal government and the National Integration Council on carrying out voluntary labour at the disputed site in Ayodhya and protecting the structure.

Chidambaram admitted that the then federal government of Congress party headed by PV Narasimha Rao had made a "political misjudgement" induced by "lies and false promises" of BJP in 1992 and Congress "paid the price" for it.

He said the then chief minister of Uttar Pradesh Kalyan Singh had "lied to the Government of India, the Supreme Court and the National Integration Council. That is the genesis of the destruction" of the Babri Mosque.

## AL, BNP clash

**FROM PAGE 16**  
school buildings involving Tk 3 crore under the LGED was scheduled to be held on the premises of Sirajganj Sadar Upazila engineer's office around 11:00am.

Police and locals said the pro-BNP group had been obstructing the rivals from submitting bids since the beginning.

The clash ensued when the pro-BNP group protested at the incident. Both sides used iron rods and bamboo sticks and hurled bricks for about an hour.

Later, police brought the situation under control by firing six rounds of rubber bullet and lobbing teargas shells on the feuding groups.

After a two-hour disruption, the tender submission process was started again but the pro-BNP group alleged that they had failed to submit bids under coercion.

While contacted, Rashed Khan Lebu, secretary of ward-11 BNP and also a first class contractor, said some cadres hired by AL supported contractors snatched the tender box and broke that in presence of police.

But pro-AL contractors Altaf Hossain, Firoy Bhuiyan and Nasir Uddin (also a ward commissioner) said the BNP supported contractors and their men were responsible for the incident.

Sirajganj Sadar UNO Mohammad Ali said the tender submission was completed from 12:00noon to 1:00pm peacefully in presence of police and Rab officials.

They however declined to disclose the reason behind the clash.

## SMC

**FROM PAGE 16**  
use a contraceptive injection, nine per cent rely on condoms and the rest depend on traditional methods.

Each year SMC supplies between 140-150 million condoms and 45 million packets of the monthly oral contraceptive pill.

According to the BDHS 2007, SMC has a 56.5 per cent market share of condoms and 44.8 per cent share of oral contraceptive pill purchases.

SMC Chairman, Jalaluddin Ahmed told The Daily Star yesterday, "The matter is now pending in the court and it is the court who will decide everything."

Perveen Rasheed, Managing Director of SMC told The Daily Star yesterday, "I hope all the problems will be resolved as soon as possible and we can continue to fulfill our commitment to the nation by providing birth control products."

SMC imports condoms using government-approved funds and distributes them to shops, kiosks and NGOs at highly subsidised prices. It also imports oral contraceptives and makes them affordable for the low and medium income groups.

SMC is the world's largest privately-managed not-for-profit organisation to operate in a single country.

## China detains 94 for July rioting

**AP, Beijing**

China said yesterday that police had detained 94 people who fled the western region of Xinjiang after deadly rioting there in July the country's worst communal violence in decades.

China continues to pursue and punish people involved in the violence, which it says left more than 200 dead, most of them from the majority Han ethnic group.

As of Friday, China has handed down 17 death sentences over the rioting.

A month long "strike hard" campaign in November caught the latest 94 people, police in Xinjiang said Wednesday.

A woman answering the telephone in the Xinjiang region's police office said no further details were available, including how many of the 94 were Muslim Uighurs and how many were Han. The woman gave her surname as Li.

Long-simmering tensions between the Turkic Uighurs

and the Han majority have increased since the July violence, in which Uighurs attacked Han, only to face retaliatory attacks two days later.

Overseas Uighur groups say Uighurs have been rounded up in mass detentions since the riots. Of the eight death sentences handed down last week over the violence, seven had names indicating they were Uighur.

State media reports said some of those sentenced to death had killed bystanders with bricks and fires during the rioting.

Many Uighurs resent Beijing's heavy-handed rule in Xinjiang, their traditional homeland. China says it respects minority rights and has spent billions on boosting living standards and economies in minority areas such as Xinjiang.

China blames the rioting on overseas-based groups agitating for broader rights for Uighurs in Xinjiang. The groups deny it.

## Dhaka demands

**FROM PAGE 1**  
about the leaked "Danish text" not the Least Developed Countries' (LDCs) issues.

"The documents BASIC made is not better than the Danish text," said a member of Bangladesh delegation.

The "Danish text" called Adoption of Copenhagen Agreement was leaked Monday night and was an open secret. The Guardian of the UK broke the news yesterday afternoon.

The text says that the world leaders will sign a political agreement next week. This text bypassed the spirit of the Bali Action Plan as the Bali Action Plan gave mandate to a legally binding deal not a political one.

Meanwhile, Saber Hossain Chowdhury, chief of all-party parliamentary group on climate change, spoke at a session yesterday evening where he said the LDCs had a bitter experience over accessing funds.

BASIC countries already prepared a text themselves and tried to impose it as the official text of G-77 and China while the developed countries made another text now known as the "Danish text", none of which was the result of negotiations.

Small islanders yesterday staged demonstrations in front of the plenary session's room at the climate summit in Copenhagen after the session was adjourned following a division in the G-77 and China coalition.

In the plenary session, Tuvalu proposed amendment to the Kyoto Protocol rather than making a new deal under article 17 of the UNFCCC convention. This was strongly supported by Association of Small Island States (AOSIS) yesterday afternoon.

China and India protested this initiative and said the Kyoto Protocol only allows making a new deal not amendments. The Tuvalu claimed they have proposed according to the convention.

Connie Haggard, the chair of the session, adjourned the session as the house divided. The adjournment was strongly opposed by the small island nations and Tuvalu.

Chanting slogans "listen to the islanders" and "stand with Tuvalu", the small islanders and at least two organisations--tck tck and 350.org--staged the demonstration in front of plenary session room and other parts of the Bella Centre.

Bangladesh did not have a position on the issue.

Delegates present during the session said Tuvalu presented the proposal and it was opposed by the giants of G-77 and China because if the Kyoto Protocol is maintained then these developing countries will have to cut emissions.

But there would be no legally binding deal if they make a political agreement and the developing countries would be able to escape mandatory emission cuts.

Tuvalu proposed making a working group to amend the Kyoto Protocol where there will be emission reduction targets for developed and developing countries. At the same time they proposed a financial mechanism since it would be hard to make a new legally binding deal within this short period of time.

Police chased away the protesters and the session resumed.

**POLICE RAID CLIMATE ACTIVISTS' SLEEPING AREA**  
Around 3:00am yesterday, about 200 police officers raided the Ragnhildgade centre in Northern Copenhagen where

activists were staying. Police surrounded the building where the activists were sleeping and proceeded to confiscate a number of tools and materials before leaving around 4:00am.

Tannie Nyboe of Climate Justice Action said, "It is completely inappropriate for the police to come in at three o'clock in the morning, surround the sleeping spaces, and intimidate the guests. It is really unacceptable for the police not to use the liaison process that we set up and very worrying that this is how Denmark is being portrayed to our international guests."

Lars K Kristiansen, who has been working to secure windows, building fire doors and insulating empty buildings in the run up to the summit, said, "The Danish authorities have been criticised for failing to provide enough space for people to sleep. We were trying to meet that need but now the police have confiscated the tools that we were using to construct those sleeping spaces."

Isabelle LaChoix, who was sleeping in the centre at the time said, "People from all over the world have come to Copenhagen to deal with climate change, just like the people staying at the Ragnhildgade centre. The 'Danish text' has already been a source of international embarrassment for the Danish government and now it risks more criticism by treating climate activists like criminals."

## Taliban

**FROM PAGE 16**  
this act," he said.

Pakistani troops launched an offensive in Khyber district -- which straddles Peshawar and Afghanistan -- in September to try and flush out both the Taliban and home-grown militant group Lashkar-e-Islam (Army of Islam).

Bara is close to Peshawar, the capital of North West Frontier Province, which has been hit by a series of bombings in recent months, with a suicide blast on October 28 killing 125 people in the worst attack in two years.

Islamist militants opposed to co-education have destroyed hundreds of schools, mostly for girls, in the northwest of the country in recent years.

Nearly 200 schools were destroyed in the Swat valley alone during a two-year Taliban uprising to enforce Sharia law in a district once favoured by Western tourists for its ski slopes and bracing mountain air.

Pakistan's military is engaged in offensives against Islamist fighters across much of the northwest including the tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, a region branded by Washington as the most dangerous place on earth.

About 30,000 troops poured into South Waziristan in mid October to try and dismantle the strongholds of the Taliban leadership, enraging militants who have responded with a surge in bomb blasts and attacks.

On Monday, blasts in Peshawar and the eastern city of Lahore killed 59 people, then on Tuesday two suicide attackers detonated a car bomb near the offices of Pakistan's main spy agency in eastern Multan, killing nine.

A fierce Islamist insurgency has killed more than 2,670 people in attacks in Pakistan mostly blamed on the Taliban in the last two-and-a-half years.

## Maldives emerge

**FROM PAGE 16**

Ahmed Thoriq put Maldives, who needed a draw to see them into the last four after Nepal increased their goal average with a 3-0 win over Afghanistan in the day's first fixture, ahead in the 16th minute while Fazeel Ibrahim ensured the rout striking eight minutes from after India were reduced to 10 men in the last 30 minutes.

Despite resting five players from the match against Nepal, the three-time champions India, who had earlier confirmed their semifinal berths with two successive victories against Afghanistan and Nepal, never looked comfortable against a side to whom their senior side lost 1-0 in the final of the last edition of the SAFF Championship.

They could hardly split a desperate Maldives' backbone and went down in the 16th minute as Maldives captain Ashfaq Ali darted in the box from the right to release a cute minus for unmarked Thoriq, who blasted home from the edge of the eight-yard box to give the islanders a lead and raise his tally to three in as many matches.

Maldives dominated the midfield with their crisp passing and better movement centering around playmaker Ashfaq, but they suddenly lost possession in the midfield and India nearly levelled the margin in the latter part