Komorowski sworn in as Poland's president

BBC ONLINE

Bronislaw Komorowski has been sworn in as Poland's new president, a month after his election victory.

Mr Komorowski defeated Jaroslaw Kaczynski, the twin brother of the late President Lech Kaczynski, who was killed in a plane crash in April.

In a gesture to Kaczynski supporters, he vowed to work

for national unity. His first foreign visits would be to Brussels, Paris and Berlin in order to "show Poland's European roots", the new,

strongly pro-EU leader said. But he also spoke of the importance of good relations with Russia, Poland's historic rival, which had impressed many Poles with its sensitive handling of the aftermath of the air crash on its territory.

"There will be no stable development of this part of Europe without co-operation with Russia," he said.

Mr Komorowski is the fourth democratically elected president of Poland and is seen by correspondents as someone who will lead the country into a period of political stability.

Under the constitution, the president has power of veto and the right to make key nominations but most executive power rests with the cabi-

Mr Komorowski took the oath of office in front of MPs in the Polish parliament in the capital.Warsaw.

"Smolensk was our common tragedy, our common mourning," he said in his inaugural speech, referring to the Russian region where

President Kaczynski's jet crashed while trying to land in dense fog on 10 April.

"It also showed us all that our society, state, democracy, constitution can rise to such a situation.

lion Poles who had voted for him, he added that he was aware that almost eight million had supported his rival.

duties as president in such a manner to win their understanding and appreciation," he said.

2011 will also contribute."

Poland would continue to back countries like Ukraine aspiring to EU entry, he added.

"conscious of its allied obligations" and that it should commit its forces "to allied actions". Poland currently has some 2,500 soldiers in Afghanistan as part of the Nato-led coalition.

The 55-year-old father of five, who comes from an aristocratic family, is a social conser-

the centre-right governing party, Civic Platform, which supports the free market and is

tion against Mr Kaczynski, the leader of the conservative Law and Justice Party, by a smaller margin than had been expected - 53% to 47%.

Officials said, despite

Our New Delhi correspon-

India hopes the visit would

Apart from the billion-

Bangladesh's readiness, India

Dhaka to pen

FROM PAGE 1 finance minister.

The money will be utilised and bridges to facilitate tranregion through Bangladesh, up of power gridline between

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh announced the credit facility for a range of projects including supply of BG locomotives and passenger coaches for railway, rehabilitation of Saidpur railway workshop and river dredging projects during Hasina's state

visit to India. Official sources said the Indian finance minister may review decisions taken in light of the 51-point joint communi-

qué issued during Hasina's visit. Officials said the two countries are looking at a "package Foreign ministry sources said, Bangladesh will also raise issues like signing of Teesta water sharing agreement and adverse possession of land. During his interaction with

boundary demarcation while discussing with the Indian leader. Although the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh agreed to sign the interim agreement, progress is vet to be made on that accord despite both sides had a series said the sources.

Thanking some nine mil-

"I will try to perform my

On Poland's role within the EU, he said: "We are joining the group of European leaders, we want to strengthen, inspire and dynamise the old continent, to which Poland's presidency of the EU in the second half of

On Nato, he said Poland was

He ran as the candidate of

He won July's run-off elec-

Later, he will witness the failed to act promptly in opensigning of the \$1 billion Line of ing border haats, signing the Credit agreement by CMD, Teesta water sharing agree-EXIM Bank of India and ment, holding meeting of Joint Secretary of the Economic Boundary Working Group to Relations Division (ERD) of settle border disputes, settling Bangladesh at Jamuna, which maritime boundary issues, will pave the way for materiali-Bangladesh's transit activities sation of a range of projects. with Nepal and Bhutan

through India and reduction for implementation of 14 of trade gap. projects, mostly related to development of railway infradent reports: The Indian structure in Bangladesh, finance minister's visit to upgrading of Ashuganj river Dhaka is aimed at signalling port, construction of roads New Delhi's seriousness in its commitment to engage its sit/transshipment of Indian eastern neighbour in resolving goods to its North-Eastern outstanding issues, officials in the Indian capital said yesterpurchase of double-decker buses from India and setting

help assuage Bangladesh's India and Bangladesh. concern over a slowdown in the pace of implementation of the decisions taken by the two countries during Sheikh Hasina's visit to India in January this year.

dollar credit line for a range of sectors including railway and river dredging, Mukherjee is likely to announce India's decision to fast track exports of two lakh tonnes of parboiled rice and one lakh tonne of wheat to Bangladesh.

deal" on demarcation of the 6.1km of disputed border and

Bangladesh leadership, Mukherjee is expected to persuade Dhaka to allow a joint venture to set up a power plant in Chittagong on the pattern of the one India had recently executed in Sri Lanka,

loons, weather stations, ships,

indicators, out of which seven

are on rise and three are on

decline, the report said men-

tioning that seven indicators

are on rising trend and three

air temperature over land and

ocean, sea-surface tempera-

ture, sea level, ocean heat,

humidity and tropospheric

temperature in the active-

weather layer of the atmo-

sphere closest to the earth's

surface while declining indi-

cators are -- arctic sea ice,

glaciers and spring snow cover

The report said human

society has developed for

thousands of years under one

climatic state, and now a new

set of climatic conditions are

sistently warmer, and some

areas are likely to see more

extreme events like severe

The report said during the

These conditions are con-

taking shape.

in the Northern hemisphere.

The rising indicators are --

The scientists studied ten

buoys and field surveys.

others are on decline.

Last decade

warmer than the decade before and the temperatures in 2000s were 0.6 degree Celsius warmer than the 1960s and 0.2 degree Celsius warmer than the 1990s, the report said.

of meetings since January.

While preparing the report, the scientists considered the climatic order of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka in South Asia region, which experienced notably warmer than normal conditions in

The annual mean temperature for Indian region was +0.91 degree Celsius above average, making 2009 the warmest year since nationwide records commenced in 1901, the report said.

It was the first report that brought together multiple observational records from the top of the atmosphere to the depths of the ocean.

State of the Climate report was published in the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society last week in which more than 300 scientists from 160 research groups in 48

drought, torrential rain and violent storms. countries contributed. The data of the report came winter season in 2009, many from many institutions worldparts of region experienced wide, which were collected mean temperatures 3 degree from diverse sources, includ-Celsius to 5 degree Celsius above their 1961-90 normal. ing satellites, weather bal-

AP, Kabul, Afghanistan Roadside bombings killed 12 Afghan civilians and a Nato service member in increasingly volatile eastern Afghanistan,

12 Afghan

civilians, 1

Nato service

member killed

officials said yesterday. Nato did not disclose the nationality or provide other details about the death of the service member yesterday.

Nine civilians were killed Thursday by a remotecontrolled bomb in the Bar Kunar district of Kunar province, according to Gen Khalilullah Zaiyi, provincial police chief. Three civilians were killed and others were wounded in a different blast Thursday in the Qarabagh district of Ghazni province, Nato said.

In the south, Nato said Afghan-led security forces detained several suspected insurgents Thursday in Helmand province where they were tracking two Taliban district commanders in charge of Garmser and Naway-i-Barakzayi districts.

Don't sign

FROM PAGE 1 among others, present at the

conference. Replying to a question, the

leaders said they would protest the loan agreement but did not say if they would announce any programme to that end.

'The government is getting the loan from the Indian bank with an interest rate seven times higher than that from any multinational bank or donor agency," Anwar said in the statement.

Such agreement will go against our national interest, he added.

He also said that taking out Indian loan, Bangladesh will implement 17 projects in Indian interests. Roads, railways and land ports will be developed for India to use Bangladesh as corridor.

The BNP leader said the country has gained nothing since Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to India.

He demanded that all treaties signed between the two countries be made public.

India is engaged in a war against its disadvantaged masses. The conscious citizens of Bangladesh cannot accept the government's decision to give India corridor, which would amount to joining India's internal war, observed the opposition party.

British murder

FROM PAGE 1

alert notice by Interpol. "Ayub's parents are Pakistani citizens and he runs a business in London. He came to Bangladesh a week ago on tourist visa," the Rab official said.

He was later handed over to cantonment police.

Cantonment police confirmed the arrest and said no

case was filed till 10:15pm. Police and Rab officials suspect Ayub had left UK in a bid to evade capture by British police.

RMG unrest

FROM PAGE 16

The Rab official alleged that some neighbouring countries are trying to create unrest in the garment sector through workers movement.

Some 10 to 15 workers organisations are being funded to instigate violence, he added.

Asked about the funding source, he said the matter is under investigation and will be made public at an appro-

priate time. "We have identified 40-50 people involved in vandalism and the arrests were made on the basis of evidence,

Rashidul said. The arrestees however maintained said they knew nothing about the master

minds behind the violence. Rubel Mia, one of the arrested workers, said he joined the protesters and threw stones at some shops

and factories at Mohakhali. Bachhu, another detained worker, said he took part in the protest without knowing

As Rab officials asked Rasel, an arrestee, whether he took part in vandalising a spectacles shop in Gulshan-1 and stole sunglasses, he said he went there with fellow workers but did not enter the shop. "They were my sunglasses

and I put those on as I had problem in my eyes," he said. As his attention was drawn

to the photographs where he was seen holding a stick and a pair of black sunglass, Rasel said his factory was closed at 10:30am on the day and he took a pipe in his hand while going to Gulshan-1 but did

nothing with it. He claimed he did not participate in any ransacking.

Fish stock set

NEWS

From page 1

they often stay close to the coast, where fish eggs and fries wash in. "TRIALFISHING"

Equally damaging is the trialfishing licence. The authorities regularly impound trawlers of different countries that illegally fish in Bangladesh's territory. Seized trawlers are auctioned on condition that they be not used for fishing. But 34 such boats now fish

with temporary permits from the High Court for "trial fishing". Those who buy the seized trawlers simply tell the court that since the seizure notices identify the boats as trawlers, they should be given permission to fish. The court gives them tem-

months and asks the government to show why the trawlers should not be allowed to fish all the time. Industry sources say the government never takes these notices seriously so

renewed temporary permits

last for years. Another 20

trawlers are set to begin

porary permits for three

fleet, fish stocks will likely decline further.

STOCKDECLINES

The Bay of Bengal has 65 commercially important fish species and 36 shrimp species, according to DoF data. However, Bangladesh lacks any survey vessels to assess fish

The DoF favours a study before any action to safeguard stocks. "The government could not take any step to curb over-fishing [now] because it does not have a stock survey," said Mahbubur Rahman Khan, director general of the

"We should go for immediate research to get an idea on the current marine stock, and decide how much of the fish can be caught and how many trawlers should be allowed. Otherwise, the way fishing is going on, it may have a negative impact on the marine

Many countries, such as lapan and South Korea, depleted their stocks by over-

fishing. Japan, which caught more than 1 crore tonnes in the mid-80s, netted less than 40

lakh tonnes in 2000. Md Rashed-Un-Nabi director of the Institute of Marine Sciences and Fisheries, said annual marine catches have increased in Bangladesh due to a rise in the number of nets and boats. "But catch per net has dropped, indicating that marine stock is falling," he

1985 and found that 8.2-130.4kg fish could be caught with a single net. But by 2005, the catch per net had dropped to 1.43-25kg. Nabi suggests that an immediate stock survey be conducted to determine the maxi-

He studied fishing boats in

mum sustainable yield (MSY) needed to ensure risk-free fishing. It has been more than two decades since the last detailed survey of marine stock. Still, it has provided numbers that suggest overfishing at present. A government committee formed in 1997 and led by

Mahmudul Karim, now execufishing with the court's per- tive director of Bangladesh mission. Once added to the Shrimp and Fish Foundation (BSFF), recommended continuous survey by research vessels to determine MSY. "The present level of catch is far above the known MSY level,' Mahmudul told a seminar recently. The committee's report

observed that MSY for fish living at the seabed would be around 1.75 lakh tonnes at 0-200 metre depth. If the middepth fish are also counted, the MSY could be 3.5 lakh tonnes a year--far lower than the 2008-09 catch of 5.14 lakh It also said an additional

10,000 tonnes could be caught at depths beyond 40 metres. "Based on the available data yielded as a result of resource exploratory surveys in the past, the present level of marine catch represents a clear case of overexploitation," said Mahmudul. "The results o

overexploitation may be disastrous from the resource sustainability point of view," he

No Ulfa camp

Bangladesh now," says a law enforcer involved in the interrogation.

Speaking anonymously, the interrogator adds Ranjan however could not say whether Ulfa had any training camp or base in Bangladesh earlier.

remand in TFI he made no disclosure about how many Ulfa operatives are still hiding

in Bangladesh. Ranjan and his Bangladeshi aide Pradip Marak were arrested in Bhairab in Kishoreganj on July 17 by Rapid Action Battalion with one pistol, one revolver, four handmade bombs and

bomb-making materials. The arrest of Ranjan was the second which was revealed by law enforcers. Earlier, Ulfa general secretary Anup Chetia was arrested in Mohammadpur in 1997 and is still behind bars in India.

Bangladesh. However, local and international media reported that a number of Ulfa top brass were arrested in Bangladesh and turned in to India since the incumbent government

assumed office. Ranjan, organising secretary of Bhubri district unit Ulfa, was responsible to provide shelter to the soldiers from 109 Ulfa battalion of Meghalaya, one of the five

battalions of the group. He used to get Tk 9.5 lakh from Ulfa annually. Of this amount, Tk 4 lakh was provided for treatment of wounded members, Tk 1 lakh for transport costs of members crossing border, Tk 1.5 lakh for their food, and Tk 3 lakh for giving his neighbours gift during festivals in a bid to maintain good relations with them, the interrogation state-

The Ulfa used to bear all his Kurigram and Sylhet, the expenses. Besides, the organisation provided him Tk 10-12 lakh for construction of a house and another Tk 2 lakh for running a business. He was also given a motorcycle for movement. He also made some earning

ment reads.

through orchards and fishing at his homestead in Jhenigati in Sherpur. On the source of Ulfa fund,

an interrogator quotes Ranjan as saying that money was never a problem for them as almost all the government establishments give them a certain amount every month.

missed the media claim. Ranjan alone used to pro-

vide treatment to 30 to 35 Ulfa members.

The Ulfa leader, who has been living in Bangladesh since 1997, also told the interrogators that he used to provide shelter to 10 to 15 separatists when they faced a tough situation in India.

He also sent them back to During his seven-day India when the situation improved.

The interrogator says they also questioned Ranjan about the 10-truckload of firearms seized in Chittagong in 2004, but he said he knew nothing about that.

Police officials investigating the biggest ever arms and ammo haul in the country have already found enough evidence that the consignment was smuggled in for

According to Ranjan, Ulfa operates two training camps -one in Goalpara in Meghalaya and the other in Nagaland in

He also said the separatist outfit has five battalions covering Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Goahati and parts of Bhutan with each battalion having around 600 trained soldiers.

Ranjan told the interrogators they never use telephone, courier or mail services to exchange information except messengers.

He married a Bangladeshi woman from Sherpur in 2001 in presence of Ulfa top leaders Poresh Barua and Shahadhar. He made frequent trips to India on organisational purposes, Rab officials had said earlier.

He first entered Bangladesh through Kurigram illegally in September 1997 to meet Ulfa military wing chief Poresh Barua in Dhaka. Rab sources say Ulfa operatives under Ranjan's leader-

ship are active in Sherpur,

bordering districts of Assam.

In 1995, Indian law enforcers arrested Ranjan on his way back to India from Bhutan after his meeting with Ulfa general secretary Anup Chetia. Last December, Assam

police arrested Ulfa chief Arabinda Rajkhowa Raju Barua and eight others although some international media reported that they were handed over to Indian Border Security Force by Bangladesh at Dawki in Meghalaya. The Bangladesh and Indian

governments however dis-

4 more GDs

FROM PAGE 16

Meanwhile, four general diaries were filed with different police stations in Dhaka and Bogra against the Jamaat leader who allegedly issued threats against the government and the state while addressing a meeting at the Jatiya Press Club Wednesday.

Another general diary was filed the day before yesterday. Senior BNP leader Moudud

Ahmed was also implicated in

the general diary filed by

Special Public Prosecutor

Lutfa Al Galib with Bogra Police Station. The BNP leader had attended the meeting. Police sources said personnel from the Detective Branch of police and Ramna and Adabar police stations conducted separate raids at Taher's party office in

Shyamoli in Dhaka. Syed Nurul Islam, additional deputy police commissioner of Ramna division, said on information, law enforcers from DB and Ramna division conducted the joint raid at Taher's office around 8:00pm but he was not there.

Moghbazar and home in

The first general dairy was filed on Thursday with the city's Shahbagh Police Station by Golam Kibria Jobayer, treasurer of the Dhaka Lawyers' Association. In the general dairy,

to use his "reserved forces' against the government when the time comes. Police recorded the general diary and sent a copy to home ministry, as lodging of any

sedition case requires

Jobayer said Taher threatened

approval from the ministry. Of the three other general diaries, Sub-Inspector Mohammad Nasim of Shahbagh Police Station filed one with his police station, Muktijoddha Sanghati Parishad convenor of Uttara unit Mohammad Muminur Rahman filed one with Uttara Police Station and local Awami League leader Emdadul Huq filed one with Savar Police Station.

SI Nasim in his general diary mentioned that the Jamaat leader's statement on August 4 might impede the trial of war criminals and create a chaotic situation in the country. Taher held a press confer-

ence yesterday evening at the Jamaat's central office at Al Falah building in Moghbazar clarifying his Wednesday's speech. He claimed that he meant "increasing public support" by Shakti Sonchoy (power

streets) by "reserved forces".

gathering) and Rajpather

bairer er janogan (the people

who have not taken to the

Govt to recover

FROM PAGE 16 cost of Tk 52.82 lakh in Dhamrai upazila. Under the project, a total of 1,210 underprivileged families will be

given shelters gradually. The minister also informed that the government has been working to modernise land records, survey and land management system.

"The government has taken proper initiatives to lessen corruption in the land management system and remove sufferings of the people apart from ensuring correct ownership of land," he

Dhamrai Upazila Nirbahi Officer Khadija Nazneen

presided over the function. Local lawmaker Benjir Ahmed, national project director of cluster village M Hasan Imam, among others, were present at the function.

One killed

FROM PAGE 1 extortion charges.

Acting on a tip-off, a Rab-10 team went to the rail tracks near Sayedabad bus terminal where Anwar and his men had gathered.

Sensing their presence, the

gang opened fire on them at around 1:40am. As the crime busters returned fire, a gunfight ensued. After about 20 minutes, the

criminals gave in and fled the scene, said Rab officials. Later, Rab and policemen

carried out a search in the area and found Anwar's bullet-hit body. They also recovered a revolver, a shutter gun, two rounds of bullets and four cartridges from the spot.

Two Rab members were injured in the gunfight, said the officials.

Nepal fails to elect PM again

Parliament vote in vain for the fourth time

AFP, Kathmandu

Nepal's parliament failed to elect a new prime minister for the fourth time yesterday as the deadlock between the three main parties deepened.

Many lawmakers failed even to turn out for the vote, the latest to be held since the coalition government collapsed on June 30 under intense pressure from the opposition Maoist party. Neither Maoist leader

Pushpa Kamal Dahal -- better known as Prachanda, or "the fierce one" -- nor his opponent, centrist Nepali Congress chief Ram Chandra Poudel, managed to win the 301 votes needed to secure a majority. The result leaves Nepal facing a sixth week without a

analysts warned that the stalemate could cause public confidence in the country's political leaders to collapse. "This is not just a political crisis, but a constitutional and moral crisis," political com-

mentator Yubharaj Ghimire

told AFP.

functioning government, and

"If this continues, the political parties will be discredited in the eyes of a public that supported change four years ago," he added, in a reference to the 2006 popular uprising that forced the king to end direct rule and restore democracy.

International concern is growing about the impact of the stalemate in Nepal, which is still struggling to recover from a 10-year Maoist insurgency that cost at least 16,000 lives and ultimately led to the 2008 fall of the monarchy. The United Nations has

urged a swift resolution and India this week dispatched a senior envoy to help resolve the stalemate, which has paralysed the peace process that began when the civil war ended in 2006. Dahal, whose party holds the highest number of seats in

parliament, won just 213

votes, despite intensive efforts by the Maoists to win the support of smaller parties. His

The third-largest party, the BDR jawan

FROM PAGE 16 family in Meherpur in the

opponent Poudel took 122.

Shafigul's relative Rafigul Islam said the border guard had a tumour in his right arm and he was receiving treatment for it.

"But his proper treatment was not done after he was arrested," he alleged, adding that the tumour turned into cancer because of lack of treatment.

Meherpur, said Rafigul. Before his admission in the hospital he was in Dhaka Central Jail. The jail authorities said the BDR habildar had long been suffering from cancer and he

was given treatment in several

Shafiqul lived in Pilkhana

mess and his family in

Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist (UML), refused to support either candidate, and urged them both to withdraw and open negotiations for a consensus government.

Karachi

FROM PAGE 16

be witnessed by the people of Karachi within next 48 hours.

The minister said a comprehensive strategy has been devised by the law enforcing agencies to contain the growing incidents of targeted killings, and if needed, army might be called out to assist the administration.

ted that Karachi has turned into a city of weapons and said a campaign to de-weaponise the city was being planned in consultation with all the political parties. Karachiites would hear 'good news" in this connection

very soon, he said, adding that

Prime Minister Syed Yousaf

Raza Gilani will visit Karachi to

discuss proposed anti-

To a question, Malik admit-

terrorism actions with coalition partners. "Next 24 hours are crucial in

ruling coalition partners, the PPP (Pakistan People's Party), the MQM (Muttahid Qaumi Movement), and the ANP (Awami National Party) would find out a permanent solution to the menace of targeted killings.

community to carry out their activities in Karachi, but they would not be allowed to deteri orate law and order in the city. MQM leader and member of the Sindh provincial assem-

using the name of Pashtun

torched more than 50 vehicles including buses and trucks and set several shops and fuel

stations on fire. Ethnic violence and target killing has claimed more than

last two years.

Shahidul said the DMP will make sure that the traffic signals are duly followed. He however admitted that the

signal system is interrupted at times due to power cuts. "We requested the Dhaka City Corporation to install solar

lights," he said. Referring to the shortage of manpower, the DMP commissioner said the DMP will recruit

months. The Detective Branch of

All available

market. Some buy them for meat while a few as pets, the seller added. He sells a pair of pygmy cotton geese or lesser whis-

800 each. *Paan Kauri* has never been a meat item as it smells. But since other birds became rare, sellers brought this species in the market," said emi-

Pygmy cotton geese, once found in abundance in the country's wetland, have reached the brink of extinction in just three decades, said ornithologist Enam Ul Haque, adding that now we have nearly 5,000 of this species existing. The populations of lesser

whistling teal, purple moorhen and white-breasted water hen are also declining due to loss of habitats and unabated poaching. The story goes the same for

etc.

hilly myna, jungle myna, common Indian myna, roseringed parakeet, blossomheaded parakeet, spotted dove and munia, which are also sold besides cage birds like pigeons, ducks, free ranged chickens, bazrigors,

According to Wildlife Act 1974, killing, selling, possessing and trapping of these waterfowls are illegal. Anyone willing to take a

little trouble can also find

mongoose, rhesus monkey,

kite and squirrel in the market. These animals are also illegal to trade as per the act. "If you are lucky, you can even buy squirrels and mongooses," said another animal trader who had a caged baby

rhesus monkey in display for

When informed about the illegal trading last June, Tapan Kumar Dey, in-charge of wildlife and nature conservation division division, said they would soon launch a drive against the sale of wild

"We have consulted with the police and may launch a drive next week," he said. Following the assurance,

The Daily Star has visited the

Tongi market every Sunday but found the trading of birds and animals go as usual. "I wonder how such crime go unabated when there are so

many campaigns to save the

he observed.

this regard," he said. He asserted that the three To a question, he said that some Taliban fighters were

bly, Raza Haider, was shot dead Monday in Nazimabad area where he had gone to attend a As the news spread, mobs

1,500 lives in the city over the

Lane rules

panels to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the signal

650 staff by December. He said DMP filed 4,76,635 cases for violation of traffic rules and fined more than Tk 20.53 crore in the last eight

police will watch the market closely during the Ramadan and take actions if any syndicate or hoarder tries to increase the prices of essentials artifi-

cially, he said.

FROM PAGE 16

hospitals to this end.

tling teals at Tk 2,000 while a pair of water hens at Tk 1,200, egrets and pond herons at Tk 600 and water cormorant at Tk

nent birder Ronal Halder.

nature, said ornithologist By killing the birds or caging them, we are only contrib-

uting to destroying the nature,