

## It was a plot to foil rally

Claims Khaleda, asks all to get ready for oust-govt movement

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN, from Sirajganj

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia has put the blame of Sirajganj train incident on the government saying it was a conspiracy hatched to foil her rally.

Addressing a student-mass rally in Sirajganj, where the train accident occurred, she urged all to be prepared for a movement. She also said bloodshed might occur during the movement, but the "autocratic" government must be ousted.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal organised the rally yesterday to mark the Shaheed Jihad Day. Top-ranked BNP and JCD leaders attended the rally chaired by JCD President Sultan Salauddin Tuku.

Bearing portraits of late president Ziaur Rahman, Khaleda Zia and Tarique Rahman, thousands of opposition leaders, workers and supporters from across the region started gathering at the venue since afternoon.

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The inter-city train set ablaze after it ran through the crowd that spilled over the railway track from at the BNP chairperson's rally in Sirajganj yesterday, killing five.

PHOTO: ABDUL KUDDUS

## RALLY VENUE SELECTION Who is to be blamed?

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN from Sirajganj

It was not a usual ground for arranging a mass rally in Sirajganj.

But, the local BNP selected the Sayedabad ground, which is three kilometre away from the Bangabandhu Multi-purpose Bridge, to avoid possible "trouble" with local Awami League at Ullapara--where the rally was supposed to be staged.

On October 1 or 2, the BNP took permission from the local administration to hold a student-mass rally at Ullapara on October 10.

But, the BNP shifted both the spot and the date of the rally as local Awami League also selected the same venue at Ullapara to hold another rally of their party.

After selecting the Sayedabad ground, which is 10 to 15 yards away from the Dhaka-Dinajpur rail tracts, Sirajganj district unit BNP general secretary submitted an application to the local administration on October 8 seeking security measure at the ground to hold the rally there.

Iqbal Hasan Mahmud Tuku, president of Sirajganj district unit BNP, said this to The Daily Star yesterday when he was asked about the

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## Train torched to create anarchy

Says govt, terms Khaleda's remark totally frustrating

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The ruling Awami League and the government yesterday came down heavily on Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia's remarks that the government had deliberately orchestrated the train accident in Sirajganj.

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## Train burnt as it kills 5

Khaleda reaches Sirajganj rail side rally after the accident, violence

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN and ABDUL KUDDUS FROM SIRAJGANJ

At least five persons were run over and killed by an intercity train, when it ploughed through an opposition rally spilling onto the tracks at Sayedabad near Bangabandhu Multipurpose Bridge in Sirajganj yesterday.

The accident happened before BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia reached the venue to address the rally, the stage of which was set just

around 15 yards away from the tracks.

More than hundred passengers of the Drutajan Express to Dhaka from Dinajpur were also injured when opposition supporters threw stones at the train and vandalised it before setting it on fire following the accident. The mob also beat up the driver of the train and a guard of the nearby rail crossing.

The injured were admitted to Sirajganj General Hospital and other clinics of the district town.

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PHOTO: ANSIR RAHMAN

GRABBING THE CHANCE WITH BOTH HANDS: Recalled Bangladesh opener Shahriar Nafees sweeps the ball on way to scoring a fluent 73 during the third one-day international against New Zealand at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

## Major shake-up in police admin

Chiefs of CID, 5 metropolitan city police transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a major reshuffle in police administration, the home ministry last night transferred 55 senior police personnel including a number of top-tier officers.

Three additional inspectors general of police (Adl-IGPs), commissioners of five metropolitans, three deputy inspectors general (DIGs) of three ranges are among the top officials who have been transferred on promotion, said a press release issued by the home ministry last night.

Criminal Investigation Department Adl-IGP Shah Jamal Raj and Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner (Adl-IGP-current charge) AKM Shahidul Hoque have been transferred to the Police Headquarters.

Adl-IGP (current charge) Muhammad Aminul Islam has been made the Commandant of Bangladesh Police Academy, Sarda. Dhaka Range DIG Mokhlesur Rahman is now the CID chief. He has been promoted to the post of Adl-IGP (current charge).

DIG Benazir Ahmed of Police Headquarters has been made the new DMP Commissioner. Rajshahi Metropolitan Police Commissioner Nowsher Ali has been made the Chittagong Range DIG; Khulna Metropolitan Police Helal Uddin Badri has been transferred to the Police Headquarters as a DIG.

Sylhet Metropolitan Police Commissioner Aftab Uddin Ahmed is now the additional director general of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and Adl-DIG of Rajshahi Range Mohammad Obaidullah the new RMP commissioner.

## ODI SERIES AGAINST NZ Tigers stroll to 2-0 lead

BISHWAJIT ROY

After being haunted by rain ever since their arrival in Dhaka, New Zealand prayed for glorious sunshine for their third one-day international against Bangladesh in a desperate effort to level the series.

The sun did shine over the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, but it smiled on the brave Tigers who strolled to a 7-wicket win over the Black Caps and took an unbeatable 2-0 lead in the five-match series.

It was a pleasantly surprising day for Shakib Al Hasan and co as Bangladesh hardly set a foot wrong after young pacesman Shafiqul Islam removed dangerman Brendon McCullum in the very first over. The Kiwis then got caught in a spinning web only to be bundled out for 173 runs in 42.5 overs.

Shahriar Nafees and Imrul Kayes then produced 127 runs for the opening stand as Bangladesh chased down 174 with ten overs to spare, much to the delight of a 14,000-strong partisan crowd.

It was the first time Bangladesh won two consecutive one-day internationals against a full-strength, top-flight opposition and thus they have also brightened their chances to script a memorable series victory.

No sooner Bangladesh won the match, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina congratulated the heroes for making the nation proud.

The Kiwis, who lost the first match by nine runs, in fact were caught in the web of Bangladesh spinners for the second successive match. This time it was young left-arm spinner Sohrawardi

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