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ISPR on the incident

BSS, Dhaka

A local vested group that has been obstructing Army Housing Scheme (AHS) for last few months is responsible for yesterday's incident at Rupganj in Narayanganj.

Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a press release with reference to Army Headquarters last night said the vested group has instigated landowners and local people through spreading "hostile" and "fearful" rumours against army and the army housing project in the area.

It said the land purchase project is completely run by the personal fund of the army members and there was no question of "land acquisition" in the ongoing project.

The AHS authorities have held several dialogues with the local people to remove confusions from their minds and decided to withdraw all temporary offices from the

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Rupganj flies into fury

Locals torch army camp over 'forced' land purchase for housing project; 15 bullet-hit among 50 injured; army men airlifted

STAR REPORT

Thousands of villagers fought pitched battles with law enforcers yesterday over "forced purchase of land" for an army housing scheme in Rupganj of Narayanganj.

At least 50 people were injured, 15 of them bullet-hit.

The clashes broke out when the law enforcers opened fire on stick-wielding protesters laying siege to a makeshift army camp at Tanmushury around 11:00am, said witnesses.

The violence soon spread to three other camps in the area.

In the afternoon, the authorities had

60 troops airlifted out of the area, as over 7,000 villagers besieged the camps.

Later, the demonstrators torched two vehicles and the Tanmushury camp.

Vehicular movement on the road between Rupganj upazila headquarters and Ichhapur remained suspended throughout the day.

Of the injured, those with gunshot wounds were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital and the rest to private hospitals and clinics in Dhaka and Narayanganj.

Eleven cops, four Rapid Action Battalion men and three of the army were among the wounded.

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An army camp was set ablaze by angry villagers during an agitation over "forced purchase of land" for a project, the Army Housing Scheme (AHS), at Rupganj upazila in Narayanganj yesterday afternoon. Inset, A satellite view obtained from Google Earth shows the project site.



PHOTO: STAR

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AL sees BNP hand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Joint General Secretary of the ruling Awami League Mahbubul Alam Hanif held BNP responsible for yesterday's clash in Rupganj of Narayanganj.

BNP men want Khaleda Zia to stay in the Dhaka cantonment house despite a High Court verdict. That's why they instigated the Rupganj clash, he alleged in a press briefing at Rangpur Circuit House in the afternoon.

The AL leader warned that such conspiracy would not help Khaleda retain her cantonment house.

He called upon the Rupganj people not to be influenced by BNP's ill motives and urged them not to choose the path of violence.

"If there is any problem with the housing project, we may solve it in a proper way," he said when asked if there were any anomalies in the project.

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INT'L MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

UN to observe it on Feb 21 every year

BSS, Dhaka

From now on, the United Nations will observe February 21 as International Mother Language Day every year.

The fourth Special Political and Decolonisation Committee of the 65th UN General Assembly adopted a unanimous resolution to this end at a meeting on Thursday, according to a message received yesterday.

The resolution was adopted under the agenda No 54 titled 'Questions Relating to Information' of the committee at the UN Headquarters in New York.

"Earlier, it was unanimously adopted at a meeting of the 113-member 'Committee on Information' in May

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DHAKA, DELHI SIGN DEAL

Direct trading at 2 border haats

India lifts ban on cotton export to Bangladesh

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bangladesh and India yesterday signed two separate agreements for setting up two border haats (markets) and allowing each other's trucks to move into their territories to carry goods right up to the warehouses.

In another decision, New Delhi has accepted Dhaka's request to lift the ban on cotton export for Bangladesh's readymade garment sector.

A memorandum of understanding was signed by Bangladesh Commerce Minister Faruk Khan and his Indian counterpart Anand Sharma at the Indian Commerce Ministry office here yesterday afternoon to set up two border haats -- one in Sunamganj bordering the northeastern Indian state of Meghalaya and the other in Kurigram.

The two countries have identified 13 items -- locally grown agricultural goods and locally

manufactured finished products -- for trading at the border haats.

The trade at these haats would be carried out in Bangladeshi taka and Indian rupees and free of duty.

Sharma said the border haats would be operational by February next year and by that time other formalities would be completed.

The proposal of the border haats was part of the joint declaration signed by India and Bangladesh during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to New Delhi in January this year.

The two countries also signed a separate MoU on Standard Operation Procedure under which trucks carrying goods from India and Bangladesh will be permitted to enter each other's territory up to 200 yards and carrying them right up to the nearest warehouses.

This will help overcome the problem of unloading and reloading of goods at the border

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College teacher Mizanur dies

DIG assures of arresting Natore stalkers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After fighting for life for 12 days, Natore college teacher Mizanur Rashid died at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Hospital early today.

"I declared him dead at 12:55am," Dr Hassanul Alam of Intensive Care Unit at

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BIMAN PILOTS' PARTIAL STRIKE

KL flight cancelled

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka-Kuala Lumpur flight of Biman was cancelled yesterday as the authority failed to persuade any of its pilots to fly the aircraft after the designated pilot fell ill.

The pilot complained of sickness just before the departure at 10:00pm on Friday, said the Biman management.

The authority rescheduled the flight four times and finally cancelled it failing to find any pilot to fly the plane.

A Dhaka-Chittagong-Dubai flight took off from Shahjalal International Airport at 11:00am yesterday after a 15-hour delay. The aircraft was to leave at 8:10pm on Friday.

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4 killed in trawler capsized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Four people drowned after a trawler capsized in the Ichhamati River in Sirajdikhan upazila of Munshiganj on Friday night.

The deceased were identified as Mohiuddin Chhoton, 26, staff reporter of the daily

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NOTICE FOR BIDDING

Pursuant to consent of Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to commence bidding by the Eligible Institutional Investors (EII) for price discovery of ordinary shares, all the EII are invited to participate in the bidding as per the following schedule:

Issuer	: MJL Bangladesh Limited
Issue Manager	: Prime Finance & Investment Limited
Registrar to the Issue	: Grameen Capital Management Limited
Size of Public Offer	: 40,000,000 Ordinary Shares of Tk10/- each
Quota for EIIs	: 8,000,000 Ordinary Shares
Indicative Price	: Tk. 127/- per share (including a premium of Tk. 117/- per share)
Price band for Bidding	: 20% Upward and Downward band of Indicative Price (i.e. Tk. 101.60 to 152.40)
Bidding Period	: 07 November 2010 at 11:00 am to 10 November 2010 at 4:00 pm
Time of Bidding	: Round the clock
Period for Depositing Bid Money	: 02 November at 10:00 am to 10 November at 1:00 pm
Mode of Payment	: Payment Order/B.B. Cheque/Cash/Electronic Transfer

All Eligible Institutional Investors (EII) are requested to visit www.dsebd.org or www.bbsbangladesh.com, in order to participate in the bidding [as per Securities and Exchange Commission (Public Issue) Rules, 2006] for price discovery of MJL Bangladesh Limited. Draft Prospectus for bidding is available in the website of SEC (www.secbd.org), DSE (www.dsebd.org), CSE (www.cse.com.bd), Issuer (www.mobilbd.com), Issue Manager (www.primefinance.net) and Registrar to the Issue (www.grameencapitalbd.org).

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