

# INDIAN FOREIGN SECY IN CITY Consultations today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENTX

Indian Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao arrived in Dhaka yesterday to review bilateral relations between the two countries and in the run up to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's proposed visit to Bangladesh later this year.

During her two-day visit, she will hold foreign secretary-level consultations between the two countries today when all aspects of bilateral relations as well as sub-regional issues will be discussed during the consultations.

Foreign Secretary Mijarul Quayes will lead the Bangladesh side.



Nirupama Rao

The bilateral talks will focus on an agreement on the sharing of Teesta water, bilateral trade imbalance, demarcation of boundary, exchange of enclaves and adverse possession of territories and killing of Bangladeshi nationals along the border.

Nirupama will hold exclusive talks on bilateral issues as well as Manmohan's upcoming

visit to Bangladesh with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today.

Diplomatic sources said she is carrying a special message from Manmohan and will subsequently carry message from here to New Delhi.

Foreign ministry officials said Nirupama's visit will provide the two sides with an opportunity to take stock of the progress of implementation of decisions taken during Bangladesh prime minister's visit to India in January last year, to chart out way forward and also to discuss issues to further expand the areas of bilateral, regional and sub-regional cooperation for the mutual benefits of the two friendly countries.

On the first day of her visit, the Indian foreign secretary held a meeting with Prime Minister's Economic Affairs Adviser Dr Mashur Rahman and International Affairs Adviser Dr Gowher Rizvi.

She will call on Foreign Minister Dipu Moni today. A joint press conference on the foreign office consultations will be held today.

Nirupama will also attend a programme organised on the occasion of the consultations and as part of the joint celebration of the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore at National Museum in the city today.

Earlier, on arrival at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Nirupama was received by Foreign Ministry Director General (South Asia) Mashfee Binte Shams, Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Rajeev Mitter and other senior officials.

**BNP holds a rally in front of its central office in the city's Naya Paltan yesterday protesting arrest and torture of the party leaders during Sunday's countrywide hartal.**

PHOTO: STAR



## Trader shot in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers shot a trader in front of the Infectious Disease Hospital at Mohakhali in the city yesterday.

The victim was identified as Mohammad Helal, 33, also a local resident.

Four muggers stopped him in front of the hospital around 5:30pm when he was going to his shop near the hospital from the house.

The miscreants shot Helal in his left leg as he refused to give in and took away money in cash and a cellphone set.

Babu, a security guard of the area, took Helal to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

# City stuck in severe gridlock

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

City commuters suffered badly yesterday due to a severe traffic gridlock following a holiday-like empty street during Sunday's daylong hartal.

BNP, the main opposition party, enforced the countrywide hartal demanding that the caretaker system must stay intact for holding of parliamentary election.

Though traffic congestion is a daily phenomenon in the city its severity worsened yesterday thanks to the sudden onrush of all kinds of vehicles that remained stranded the previous day.

The gridlock in most city thoroughfares started in the morning and continued till noon.

Mofiz-Uddin Ahmed, deputy commissioner (traffic) of west zone, said all the vehicles hit the streets

after a three-day break (two weekend days and a hartal day) yesterday morning creating such a huge tail-back.

The situation was unbearable particularly in Banani area because of the closure of the right hand turn

said it took him two hours to get to Farmgate from Uttara while it usually takes one to one and a half hours.

He added that it took him an hour to reach Jahangir Gate of Dhaka Cantonment from Chairmanbari of

Rashidul Aziz, a Moghbazar resident, said he had to wait for 15 minutes to cross Sonargaon intersection, as the Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue was packed with cars.

Responding to the justification for gradually blocking right turns in different areas of the city, Ahmed said it facilitates a faster flow for the north-south traffic.

The north-south flow constitutes the city's major traffic volume. Blocking right-turns is also intended to discourage the east-west traffics from taking the north-south roads.

The right turns seriously disrupt the heavy flow of north-south traffic, the police official said, adding that the east-west traffic will naturally choose an alternative to avoid north-south roads if the right turns are denied.

## Onrush of vehicles following Sunday's hartal

to Banani road-11 from Mohakhali, he added.

Sobhan Murshid, who went to Agargaon from Dhanmondi by bicycle around 9:00am, witnessed a traffic gridlock all the way up to the passport office.

Shahed Khan, a daily commuter,

Banani, which is a five-minute drive by car.

According to the traffic department, around 66 educational institutions and half a dozen level crossings contribute to the gridlock on the busy Airport Road in Uttara Model Town every day.



**Parbatya Chattagram Pahari Chhatra Parishad brings out a procession in Dhaka University yesterday demanding restoration of the 1972 constitution and implementation of Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace agreement.**

PHOTO: STAR



Robi presents



# CONCERT FOR JAPAN



Charity performance by:



LRB



Warfaze



Sumon & Rafa



Alif



Naveed's Comedy Club

Date: 14th June 2011  
Gate Open: 7 pm, Start: 8 pm  
Venue: Army Golf Garden  
Tickets Available: All Robi Sheba (Dhaka)  
Ticket Price: BDT 1000 & 1500

For more details, call 123 (from Robi number) or 01819400400 (from any number)

an axiata company

Advertisement



**Alhaj Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury MP, Chairman, Mr. Showkat Aziz Russell, Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. A. Sabur, Chairman, Executive Committee and Mr. Md. Jahangir Alam Khan, Chairman Audit Committee of UCB.**

Alhaj Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury MP & Chairman of Parliamentary Standing Committee for Textile and Jute Ministry has been unanimously elected as Chairman of United Commercial Bank Limited (UCB) in an emergent board meeting held on 30 May, 2011. He is one of the founder Directors of United Commercial Bank Limited (UCB).

Eminent business entrepreneur and director of United Commercial Bank Limited (UCB) Mr. Showkat Aziz Russell has been elected as Vice-Chairman of the Bank.

Among others, Mr. M. A. Sabur and Mr. Md. Jahangir Alam Khan have been re-elected as Chairman, Executive Committee and Chairman, Audit Committee respectively.

Mr. M. A. Sabur and Mr. Md. Jahangir Alam Khan are the distinguished entrepreneurs of the country and also the founder directors of United Commercial Bank Limited (UCB). They are also the former Chairmen of UCB.

## HSC candidate kidnapped in port city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examination candidate was kidnapped in the port city on Saturday.

Subhashish Paul Mishu, of Cantonment Public School and College, went missing on way to his aunt's house at Dewan Bazar from his house at Banik Para of Chowdhury Hat area under Hathazari Police Station around 8:00pm.

Mishu's father Mihir Kanti Paul said a caller over an Airtel number claimed he had Mishu for a special job. Mishu was then given the phone and he said he was kidnapped. From then on the number was switched off, he said.

Mihir filed a case with Hathazari Police Station on Sunday and also informed Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-7).

Assistant Superintendent of Police (Hathazari circle) Babul Akter and Major Ashfaq of Rab-7 said they are probing into the matter.