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# Loyalty came first for Hasina

WikiLeaks cables show the way Hasina acted after 2008 polls victory

STAR REPORT

Ahead of 2008 parliamentary polls, Sheikh Hasina had noted that it might be her last election, said a leaked US diplomatic dispatch posted on WikiLeaks.

"...While she [Hasina] may want to promote new leaders in order to begin building a legacy, she has also been rewarding loyalty in the selection of candidates [in the ninth parliamentary polls]," the cable said citing an hour-long meeting with Hasina.

On her return from the United States, the then political and economic councillor of US embassy in Dhaka held the one-on-one meeting at her residence on November 16, 2008.

The US embassy in other diplomatic dispatches portrayed a new look of Sheikh Hasina who emerged as "the undisputed leader of her party and the nation" within less than a year after assuming office



through the ninth parliamentary polls held in December 2008.

A diplomatic cable sent to Washington on August 3, 2009 by the then deputy chief of mission Nicholas J Dean described how Awami League President Hasina sidelined her party's senior leaders and promoted leaders loyal to her to the party and also cabinet.

"With the formation of the new party Central Committee and the expansion of the Cabinet, Hasina has underscored the premium she places on loyalty," commented Dean.

"While some party stalwarts dropped from the Central Committee and excluded from the Cabinet were guilty of actively conspiring against Hasina, others were apparently dropped for not being sufficiently loyal -- sins of omission rather than commission."

The US diplomat also wrote even some



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presents a bouquet to ailing writer Humayun Ahmed at the residence of his elder brother in New York Sunday night.

## SEDITION CASE HC rejects Amini's bail plea

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday rejected a bail petition filed by Fazlul Haque Amini, chairman of a faction of Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ), and directed him to immediately surrender before trial court in connection with a sedition case.

A single-member HC

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

ORGAN TRADE UPROAR  
BMA sees foreign plot

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After several reports of illegal organ trade have surfaced in the media, Bangladesh Medical Association comes up with a conspiracy theory involving foreign hospitals.

"BMA thinks foreign

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

## In no way, HR can be violated

Rights leader Sultana Kamal tells The Daily Star about state's lack of sensitivity

PORIMOL PALMA

The biggest concern over human rights situation in Bangladesh is lack of state sensitivity to the fact that "human rights are unconditional," rights activist Sultana Kamal has said.

"Under no condition, human rights can be violated. But the authorities are not aware of this," said Sultana, executive director of Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK), which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

Over the years, the rights body fought many legal battles on violation of human rights, opposed extrajudicial punishment in the name of fatwa, eviction of slum dwellers without rehabilitating them, torture in custody and physical and mental torture of students at educational institutions. And it stood for separation of the judiciary and formation of the National Human Rights



SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## BSF pledges to stop killing of innocents

DG-level meeting with BGB begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A director-general-level meeting of the border guards of India and Bangladesh began yesterday amidst high hopes for resolution of common boundary-related problems.

Meanwhile, Raman Srivastava, the visiting Indian Border Security Force (BSF) director general, met Home Minister Shahara Khatun at her office in the Secretariat and promised that no more killing of innocent Bangladeshis will occur in the border areas, Shahara told reporters.

The BSF director general and his counterpart Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) Director General

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## CHASED BY COPS 'Robber' dies jumping off runaway truck

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An alleged robber died after he jumped off a truck being chased by the police at Badda Natun Bazar area on Pragoti Sarani in the capital early yesterday.

Police arrested eight other robbers and recovered the iron rods that the gang of nine looted from Banani Chairmanbari area.

The dead is Alamgir Hossain, 28, of Patuakhali.

Sub-inspector Shahin Miah of Gulshan Police Station said the robbers in a truck came to a house at Chairmanbari area at around 3:00am where workers were unloading iron rods from another truck.

The robbers took the workers hostage brandishing sharp weapons and robbed the rods, he added.

When the workers raised hue and cry, a patrol team of police chased the miscreants. The robbers were going to Badda via Kuril Biswa Road. As the truck approached another police check post, Alamgir jumped off the truck.

He was taken to Dhaka Medical College (DMC) Hospital at 7:10am where doctors declared him dead.

Gulshan police said they recovered the robbed rods, seized the truck used by the robbers and a case was filed in this connection.

## China favours regional connectivity

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

China favours regional connectivity for the benefit of the South Asian countries, Chinese Ambassador in Bangladesh Zhang Xianyi said yesterday.

The ambassador said China likes to be connected to Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Thailand, Myanmar and Laos.

Asked about the proposed transit between Bangladesh and India, he said "It is an issue between Bangladesh and India but in principle China always supports connectivity if it is good and beneficial for all the countries."



Zhang Xianyi

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## Tahrir seen as biggest threat

Observes study on terror

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The militant outfit Hizb ut-Tahrir is slowly gaining ground and is currently the strongest force in anti-state activities in Bangladesh. The outfit has been banned here since 2009.

The organisation is very active on university campuses, has strong national and international links, and is standing strong at a time when other major Islamic outfits are suffering from leadership problems.

The views came yesterday at the launching ceremony of a Bangladesh Enterprise Institute study on 'The State of Terrorism in Bangladesh, 2009-10'. BEI organised the programme at its office in the city.

While discussing the state of terrorism activities in the country, senior security officials, researchers, writers and diplomats agreed that Hizb ut-Tahrir is a matter of big concern for the nation.

"Of all the Islamic outfits, Hizb ut-Tahrir is currently the biggest threat," said Col TM Jobaer, Director of National Security Intelligence (NSI).

"The organisation is strong because it has a strong international agenda -- it wants to establish a Khilafat in many countries," he said.

The BEI study interviewed 1,214 citizens from different age groups and professions.

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অভিনন্দন

মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনা  
নারী ও শিশু স্বাস্থ্য উন্নয়নে তথ্য প্রযুক্তির সর্বোত্তম ব্যবহারের স্বীকৃতিস্বরূপ  
জাতিসংঘ 'সাউথ সাউথ অ্যাওয়ার্ড' লাভ করেছেন।

এ অভূতপূর্ব অর্জনে বাংলাদেশ কারিগরি শিক্ষা বোর্ড'র পক্ষ থেকে  
মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী জননেত্রী শেখ হাসিনা কে জানাই সশ্রদ্ধ অভিনন্দন।

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Web site : www.bteb.gov.bd

## UNSC set to start parleys on Palestine

Netanyahu urges talks without preconditions

AFP, United Nations

The UN Security Council was set to start consultations yesterday on Palestine's application for full membership of the world body, although a vote on the historic bid is not expected for weeks.

Security Council consultations were set to begin at the UN headquarters in New York at 3:00pm.

The United States has already threatened to veto the move, insisting that only direct Palestinian-Israeli talks can set up a Palestinian state. US President Barack Obama says the UN bid is an unrealistic shortcut that will not produce real and lasting peace on the ground between the two sides.

The mediating foursome of the United Nations, the United States, the European Union and Russia has been urgently trying to get both sides back to the negotiating table.

On Friday, the Quartet offered a counterpoint to the unilateral Palestinian bid at the UN, calling for new peace talks to begin within a month with both sides committing to seeking a final deal this year.

Palestinian leader Mahmud Abbas, riding a wave of

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think the United States should have backed the Palestine's application to the UN to admit it as a full member state?

Yes (83.5%)  
No (14.2%)  
No Comments! (2.3%)

TOTAL VOTES: 878

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's criticism of opposition leader Khaleda Zia's demand for caretaker government system is justified?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT  
www.thedailystar.net  
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT  
facebook.com/dailystarnews

PRAYER TIMING September 27

Azan Jamaat  
Fajr 4:35 5:10  
Zohr 12:45 1:15  
Asr 4:30 4:45  
Maghrib 6:09 6:12  
Esha 7:45 8:15

Source: Islamic Foundation

Padma Islami Life Insurance Ltd.

Holds AGM

Mr. Abu Taher Chairman  
Mr. Zainal Abedin Zafar Vice - Chairman

Recently following AGM of the Company on the same day in the Board of Directors' Meeting Mr. Abu Taher and Mr. Zainal Abedin Zafar have been unanimously re-elected uncontested the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Company for the next term (2011-2012).

The leadership expressed its commitment to work unitedly in cooperation with all concerned to establish Padma Islami Life Insurance Ltd. as a dependable and profit earning company through its better services.

Noor Mohammad  
General Manager  
Public Relations & Board Affairs

পদ্মা ইসলামী লাইফ ইন্স্যুরেন্স লিমিটেড  
ইসলামী শরীয়াহ মোতাবেক পরিচালিত