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GOING UP

A Japanese firm claims it can build space elevator

YUNUS INTERVIEWED

Speaks on social business, Grameen Bank and microfinance debates

PAGE 15

by killings at border

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The killing of Bangladesh civilians on the border by the Indian Border Security : Force is shocking and should be strongly addressed, Jean Lambert of European Parliament said yesterday.

She made the remarks while replying to queries at a press conference in Dhaka yesterday.

"This is going on for a considerable period," she said adding that the matter would be raised in the European Parliament and with the Indian ambassador in Brussels, the de facto capital of the European Union. It will also be taken up with the European delegation

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

JOURNALIST COUPLE MURDER

Evidence destroyed

by horde of journos

Hasina asks them not to

crowd crime scenes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

yesterday.

EU shocked Border firing to go on

Reasserts BSF chief day before home ministers' meeting in Delhi

· PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Indian Border Security Force chief UK Bansal yesterday reaffirmed his view that his soldiers at the border with Bangladesh would fire on criminals who dared them, a statement that has already created controversy over border killings.

"If, despite their [BSF personnel] efforts [of exercising · restraint], they get into a situation where they are threatened and their lives are in danger, then they will use the force available to them to save their lives or the lives of their companions. That means they will fire," Bansal told Press Trust of India news agency.

According to the rights organisation Odhikar, 203 people lost their lives in BSF firing near the border between 2009 and 2011.

None of the killings occurred in a situation in which the Indian guards' lives were at stake.

Triggering a controversy, Bansal had earlier said firing SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

very positive,

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

interesting

Says delegation

A delegation of the

European Parliament

yesterday welcomed

Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina's proposal for

appointing Prof Yunus as

the World Bank president.

"We see it as a very

positive proposal, and

certainly we see it as an

expression of confidence

about a personality like

notice urging people to use footbridges and underpasses to cross the road. PM's proposal Elections must be

trusted by people European Parliament wants parties to agree on a mechanism for fair polls

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The European Parliament wants to see political parties in Bangladesh reach an agreement on the mechanism to ensure free and fair polls well ahead of electioneering getting underway.

"Whatever mechanism is in place, the election results

: must be trusted by the people," said Jean SEE PAGE 6 COL 6 · Lambert, leader of the visiting European IT IS TO RIDICULE YUNUS: Parliament delegation, at a press confer-NEW CHIEF PAGE-2 · ence yesterday.

Pedestrians jaywalk at the capital's Hotel Sonargaon intersection, ignoring a Dhaka Metropolitan Police

Jean Lambert

elections is not trusted, it will not make stable government and not bring stable investment for Bangladesh," she said. Praising the elections held

"If the outcome of the

in 2008 under a caretaker government, Lambert said the people needed to build on that to ensure the next elec-

tions are fair and the results are accepted. The seven-member delegation, which came to Bangladesh on February 19, SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

COMMENTARY

PM FOR YUNUS AS WB CHIEF

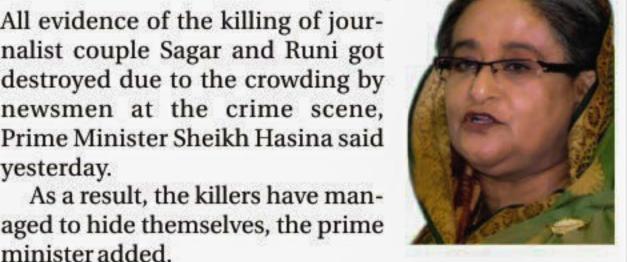
Is it a change of heart or a mockery?

SK ENAMUL HAQ

MAHFUZ ANAM

After terming him the "bloodsucker" of the poor and relentlessly harassing him and forcing his departure from Grameen Bank that he founded and led to Nobel Prize stature, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, on Wednesday, requested the visiting EU delegation to use their "influence" to make Prof Yunus the next president of the World Bank.

On the occasion she also praised him, according to UNB news agency, for "his outstanding contribution in alleviating poverty through micro credit activities." The PM is also quoted to have further said that ProfYunus has vast experience and enjoys an "excellent reputation in the world". She reportedly holds the view that Prof. **SEE PAGE 6 COL 4**



As a result, the killers have managed to hide themselves, the prime minister added.

"It's not possible to guard anyone's bedroom," she said and added that even after the destruction of the

evidence, the agencies concerned were investigating the killing to bring the culprits to book. SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

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