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Dhaka sticks to its 'no'

Says pressure from int'l community unfair; asks it to take up refugee issue with Myanmar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka is embarrassed and upset over the international community's pressure to open the border for Rohingyas. It has urged the international community to take the refugee issue with Myanmar instead of Bangladesh, as the trouble spawned in that country and the incidents of human rights violation are taking place there. On Wednesday, at a press briefing in Washington, DC, US Department of State urged Bangladesh to respect international obligations under the refugee convention and allow the Rohingyas fleeing the ethnic and religious violence in Myanmar into its territory. Dhaka vehemently reacted to the call for opening the border for Rohingyas and described such call as "interference in the sovereignty of Bangladesh".

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SECTARIAN CLASH Myanmar claims 'Jamaat link'

Dipu Moni tells JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Myanmar government has conveyed its anxiety to the Bangladesh mission there that the Jamaat-e-Islami had been helping the Rohingya groups in Bangladesh with arms to incite sectarian clashes in Myanmar. Foreign Minister Dipu Moni said this in a statement in parliament yesterday. "For the sake of its national security, Bangladesh will not allow any more Rohingyas in," she said. Referring to appeals from different human rights bodies and non-government organisations to allow the Rohingyas to enter Bangladesh, Dipu Moni said Dhaka was not a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol. "Therefore, under no convention or

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PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

A fishing boat carrying a group of Rohingyas in the Naf river on Tuesday. They fled the turmoil in Myanmar into Teknaf and were pushed back by BGB and coast guard the same day. In the background, the border fencing of the neighbouring country is seen.

It's no refugee influx

Rohingyas trespassing porous Teknaf border every month, since 1978

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK, from Teknaf

The intrusion of Rohingyas from Myanmar has become a common feature of the bordering area at Teknaf since their first influx as refugees in 1978.

At least a hundred Rohingyas have fled into Bangladesh every month over the past three years and about fifty thousand of them now live at Teknaf alone, local officials say. While Yangon has built fences

along its border with Bangladesh, Dhaka left the country's border with Myanmar not so protected, resulting in the free flow of these illegal immigrants, they added.

In the last few days, unlawful entry attempts by Rohingyas have increased due to communal violence in a western Myanmar state bordering Bangladesh.

Official statistics show the Border Guard Bangladesh in 2010 stopped

2,688 Burmese from intruding into the country's territory. The figures were 1,802 last year and 1,254 from January to May this year.

The BGB foiled attempts made by 720 Burmese to enter Bangladesh this month. Of them, around 500 tried to penetrate Bangladesh from June 11 till yesterday by a dozen boats, the administration roughly estimates.

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Fakhrul among 13 BNP leaders released

5 re-arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Thirteen opposition leaders, including BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, were freed from different jails in Dhaka and Gazipur last night, hours after a Dhaka court granted them bail until July 26 in a case for twin blast incidents at the

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Garment exporters threaten shutdown

Worker unrest stops production in 300 Ashulia factories for fourth day

KAILASH SARKAR and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Garment owners have threatened to shut down their factories for an indefinite period from Sunday if workers continued their violent protests, suspending production in the readymade garment belt at Ashulia. "We'll close all our units first at Ashulia and gradually across the country if the violence continues," Shafiul Islam



Mohiuddin, president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), said at a press briefing yesterday. He urged the government to take action against the workers who vandalised factories and blocked the roads in the industrial zone for the fourth straight day yesterday. "A national and international evil

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আমরা শোকাহত

সাবেক উপ-প্রধানমন্ত্রী ও উপমহাদেশের প্রখ্যাত চক্ষু চিকিৎসক প্রফেসর ডা: এম. এ. মতিন গত ১৩ জুন, ২০১২ ভোরে নিজ বাসভবনে শেষ নিশ্বাস ত্যাগ করেছেন (ইন্না লিল্লাহি ওয়া ইন্না ইলাইহি রাজিউন)। মৃত্যুকালে তিনি স্ত্রী, পুত্র, পুত্রবধু, নাতি-নাতনিসহ অসংখ্য গুণগ্রাহী রেখে গেছেন। তাঁর দীর্ঘ কর্মময় জীবনে বহু প্রতিষ্ঠান ও দাতব্য সংস্থা বিশেষকরে ইউনিভার্সিটি অফ সাউথ এশিয়া, নর্থ বেঙ্গল মেডিকেল কলেজ ও হাসপাতাল, বিএনএসবি চক্ষু হাসপাতাল (সিরাজগঞ্জসহ ২০ টি জেলায়) প্রভৃতি প্রতিষ্ঠা করে গেছেন, যার মাধ্যমে হাজার হাজার মানুষ আজ উপকৃত হচ্ছে। এছাড়া তিনি অনেক সামাজিক কার্যক্রমে সামনে থেকে নেতৃত্ব প্রদান করেছেন।

আগামী ২২ জুন, ২০১২ রোজ শুক্রবার, বাদ আসর তাঁর নিজ বাসভবন ১১৬, শান্তিনগর, ঢাকায় মরহম এর আত্মার শান্তির জন্য দোয়া মাহফিল (কুলখানী) অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। দোয়া মাহফিলে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য আত্মীয়-স্বজন, বন্ধু-বান্ধব, অসংখ্য শুভানুধ্যায়ীসহ সকলকে বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ জানাচ্ছি।

বিনীত পরিবারবর্গ

BSF claims 'restraint' on border

Its chief says number of killings declines

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Indian Border Security Force is now exercising restraint even at a greater risk to the lives of its members in dealing with cattle smugglers on Indo-Bangladesh border, BSF Director General UK Bansal has said.

"That's why the number of persons killed in firing in the last five months this year has come down to mere seven," The Hindu, an

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