

Dhaka to seek 'Shootout' kills

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already opposed the inclusion of alleged "illegal immigration" issue in the JCC agenda and it may not come up for discussion. The Indian side will put maximum emphasis on security issues and some other issues including exemption of travel tax for Indian citizens.

The latest controversy of funding Jamaat-e-Islami of Bangladesh by the Trinamool Congress and Saradha may come up for discussion, said a senior official at the foreign ministry.

But he said the official spokesperson of India Syed Akbaruddin at a press briefing on September 12 in New Delhi confirmed that the government had not received any report of the sort that was mentioned in news reports.

Ali is expected to elicit Indian leadership's views on the progress made towards reaching a national consensus on the Teesta water-sharing, said the source.

Meanwhile, a constitution amendment bill to ratify the LBA is awaiting Indian parliament's approval. The bill was placed in the Rajya Sabha, upper house of parliament, during Congress-led UPA rule last year, but is yet to be passed.

The bill has already been referred to parliamentary standing committee.

After Rajya Sabha clears the bill, it will go to the Lok Sabha, the lower house of parliament whose members are directly elected by people. The next session of parliament is due in December.

The issues of extradition of ULFA leader Anup Chetia from Bangladesh and Bangladeshi convicts Subrata Bain and Sajjad Hossain from India could also be discussed at the JCC meeting, said sources.

Graft accused

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the charges against him, he added. At the programme, the law-maker said people of Teknaf and Ukhiya wanted to know what was going on inside the anti-graft body, and how its chief was "making black things white and white things black".

Refuting the corruption allegations brought against him, Bodi said he had never resorted to corruption and would never do in future.

Bodi and his younger brother Abdus Sukkur were presented with awards at the programme for being the highest taxpayers from Cox's Bazar.

ACC on August 21 filed cases against Bodi and two former state ministers with Ramna Police Station in Dhaka under the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004. The cases are now being investigated.

On Wednesday, ACC Deputy Director Jatan Kumar Roy lodged a general diary after allegedly receiving a death threat from a tax lawyer of another ruling party law-maker, Enamul Haque from Rajshahi. Jatan has been investigating alleged discrepancies in the MP's wealth statement.

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Sensing police presence, the gang started firing, prompting law enforcers to retaliate. One of the criminals was bullet-hit and taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead, said the officer.

The DB team arrested Rajib Hassan, 27, and Al Amin, 31, while four to five others managed to run away. According to police, Al Amin along with Babu was accused in a murder case, and Rajib is a criminal of Old Dhaka.

The arrestees had initially identified the dead as Kailla Babu, Monirul said, adding that police could not identify Babu as they didn't have his recent photo.

The DB team recovered a pistol, three bullets, seven shells of bullets, eight shells of shotgun ammunition and a machete from the spot, the joint commissioner told the media.

Visiting Beparir Goli yesterday afternoon, this correspondent saw pools of blood in the alley and the blood stained wall of an adjacent house.

Wishing not to be named, a 17-year-old local told The Daily Star that he woke up around 3:40am hearing gunshots. Later, he heard two to three more shots. Another

local said he saw law enforcers leaving the place with a body.

The law enforcers cordoned off the area and did not allow anyone to enter the alley until 5:00am.

An inquest report was prepared yesterday while an autopsy would be performed today, morgue sources said.

Babu's wife Mariam said her husband had been living with her in her parents' home at Bijoyanagar of Sonargaon upazila in Narayanganj, and used to visit the capital frequently.

"He used to buy and sell pigeons in Narayanganj. I did not know that he was involved in criminal activities," she said.

The couple has a two-year-old son.

On August 28, Mohammad Munna, 18, Billal Hossain, 20, and Ranu Akhter Brishti, 28, were shot to death and Ranu's brother Hridoy, 20, was injured at a house in Sonalibagh of Moghbazar.

Reportedly, feuds over illegal toll collection and land dispute led to the shooting.

Kala Chan, another brother of Ranu, filed a case in connection with the triple murder with Ramna Police Station, accusing Kailla Babu and fourteen others.

No queries from Dhaka

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of Saradha scam money to Jamaat, State Minister for Home Asaduzzaman Khan, too, said he was "unaware" of any such development.

Indian Bangla daily Anandabazar Patrika on Friday said crores of money from Saradha chit fund was invested to spark violence in Bangladesh. Citing "intelligence reports of Bangladesh", the newspaper said the money made its way to Jamaat-e-Islami in 2012-13 through Ahmed Hassan Imran, a Rajya Sabha member from West Bengal's ruling TMC.

In a new development, Babul Supriyo, a BJP MP from Asansol, on Sunday alleged that the charges against Imran playing a leading role in receiving funds from Bangladesh-based political party Jamaat-e-Islami to help TMC win the 2011 Assembly polls, were "not merely allegations, but are facts", according to a report published yesterday in leading Indian daily Hindustan Times.

The report also says all opposition parties in West Bengal -- the Left, BJP and the Congress -- upped the demand for West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's resignation over the Saradha chit fund scam.

The CPI(M) demanded that the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) should interrogate Mamata and Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in connection with the scams, claims the report.

Suryakanta Mishra, leader of the opposition in the Bengal assembly and CPI(M) politburo member, also passed the blame on the BJP for the chit fund scams, alleging that Jaitley's tough stand on the scams in his first budget speech as finance minister stood in stark contrast with his decision to "have lunch on the same day with Trinamool Rajya Sabha MP KD Singh".

"The CBI should interrogate what relation Jaitley shares with Singh," Mishra was quoted as saying.

State Congress leaders also reiterated their demand that Mamata step down till she was cleared of charges

by the CBI. They also threatened to move the Supreme Court against Trinamool Congress' protest demonstrations alleging it was a contempt of court, claims the report.

According to the report, the TMC decided to hold more counter rallies across the state over the next three days to give a "fitting reply to those who are trying to malign the government" over the Saradha scam.

"The opposition parties are hurling allegations against us. We have decided to give them an appropriate answer and for that we would hold rallies from September 19 to 22," Trinamool General Secretary Mukul Roy was quoted as saying in the HT report.

Mamata keen to visit Bangladesh
West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who had skipped her visit to Bangladesh in September 2011 with then Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, yesterday showed her keen interest to visit Bangladesh.

Mamata expressed her interest when Abida Islam, the outgoing Bangladeshi deputy high commissioner to India, extended an invitation of Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali to her in a meeting at the state secretariat "Nabanno".

The meeting took place amid speculations that there may be tension between the two about Indian media reports that a Trinamool Congress leader was allegedly involved in funneling Saradha chit fund money to Jamaat-e-Islami in Bangladesh.

It was purely a courtesy call as she was returning to Bangladesh on completion of her diplomatic assignment in Kolkata, Abida told diplomatic correspondent of The Daily Star over the phone.

"Media reports on Saradha scams simply did not come out in our discussion," she added.

During the half-an-hour meeting, Mamata informed Abida that her state government decided to award noted singer Feroza Begum with the "Banga Bivushon Award" at a ceremony on September 22.

More than 2 lakh

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Myanmar," the commander said while talking to The Daily Star over the cell phone.

Around 5:00am, they spotted an engine-run trawler near C (Charley) point of the outer anchorage in the Bay of Bengal. Sensing the presence of the navy members, the trawler speeded up and headed towards the port channel.

The team chased the smugglers, but all of the gang of eight to 10 jumped into the Karnaphuli river near Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Ltd (Kafco) jetty and fled, said Jasimuzzaman.

Searching the vessel, the team found 22 cartons hidden under stacks of sea fish. There were 10,000 yaba tablets in each carton, he added.

The tablets were of R-7 brand, the costliest one. The navy official said such tablets sell at Tk 750 per piece on the market.

He estimated the tablets' price at over Tk 15 crore.

These would be handed over to the Narcotics Control Department, Jasimuzzaman said, adding that a case would be filed.

On August 24, Bangladesh Coast Guard members seized around two lakh yaba tablets from the same area.

UN troops withdraw from Syrian Golan

AFP, Golan Heights

Hundreds of UN troops withdrew from the Syrian to the Israeli-occupied sector of the Golan yesterday, an AFP correspondent said, two weeks after Al-Qaeda-linked rebels kidnapped dozens of the peacekeepers.

They crossed in a UN convoy in the afternoon into the Israeli-occupied sector, the correspondent said.

There was no confirmation from the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), which monitors a 1974 ceasefire between Israel and Syria on the Golan Heights.

In late August, rebels on the Syrian side including Al-Qaeda affiliate Al-Nusra Front seized the Quneitra crossing and kidnapped more than 40 Fijian UNDOF troops, before they were released two weeks later.

They also clashed with 75 Filipino members of the force, who eventually fled a nearby outpost.

Rebels including Al-Nusra have now taken control of most of the Syrian side of the Golan Heights from forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, a Britain-based Syria monitoring group said on Saturday.

The fighting has driven thousands of Syrian families in the area from their homes, the Red Cross said.

"Clashes between government forces and the armed opposition have intensified in recent days in Quneitra governorate -- in Quneitra city in particular, where access to clean water, food, and health care is limited," the International Committee of the Red Cross said in a statement.

The ICRC said it has provided emergency relief for more than 50,000 people, but warned the number of displaced people was "expected to grow."

BASIC Bank gets new MD

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"The next MD will be appointed upon approval from the central bank," the official told The Daily Star yesterday.

The post of the chief executive of BASIC Bank fell vacant in May this year after the central bank fired Kazi Faqurul Islam for presiding over a period of serious irregularities at the state-run scheduled bank that cost the taxpayers Tk 4,500 crore in the last four years.

In another development, the government has decided to appoint a retired judge to oversee the election of nine women directors of the Grameen Bank board.

The finance ministry has taken opinion from the law ministry on the issue, said another official.

The ministry has also decided to extend the time for holding the election of the nine

directors by a year, as the deadline for holding the polls expires in the first week of October.

The Grameen Bank (Election of Directors) Rules 2014 will soon be amended to this effect, said the second official.

The rules were introduced in April to transfer the power of appointing members of Grameen Bank board from the microcredit organisation itself to the central bank, a move that brought the micro-lender in the grip of the government.

The new rules gave six months to the central bank to form a commission to elect the nine directors of the 12-member board.

But the central bank informed the finance ministry that it would not be able to hold the elections, as it is not involved in any election either for private or public banks.

Giant dinosaur

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America, the researchers said.

Paleontologists discovered the massive fossil during fieldwork in the Rukwa Rift Basin in southwestern Tanzania.

Political instability in certain parts of Africa can prevent dinosaur digs, but fossils in this part of the world are also elusive for geological reasons. As the continents drifted apart, Africa did not move as much as the other continents did, leaving its fossils buried instead of pushed up by plate tectonics, said Patrick O'Connor, a professor of anatomy at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, and one of the researchers on the new study.

Africa also had fewer ideal areas where sediment could quickly bury a creature and begin the fossilization process. Politics and geology, "those two things together account for why we don't know so much about continental Africa as we do about other parts of the world," O'Connor said.

Joseph Seritch, then a graduate student at Stony Brook University in Long Island, New York, and now a paleontologist at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, was the first to spot the bones in the Rukwa Rift Basin.

"He scrambled into a gully and found the skeleton coming out [of] the cliff surface," O'Connor said.

A careful excavation by local coal miners and paleontologists in 2007 and 2008 suggests that muddy elements had buried the dinosaur's remains — not once, but twice, O'Connor told Live Science. About 100 million years ago, the dinosaur likely died on a muddy floodplain. Mudstone eventually covered its body, but shortly after, a river running through the plain cut away at the mudstone, exposing part of the skeleton and encasing it in sandstone.

A river still runs near the site, and its drainage through the cliff face had begun to uncover the ancient skeleton, O'Connor said.

World Health Organization Country Office for Bangladesh

House No. CWN (A) 16, Road No. 48, Gulshan - 2, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh
Tel.: (880-2) 883 1415 (hunting), Web Site: <http://www.searo.who.int/bangladesh/en>

VACANCY ADVERTISEMENT

Title:	National Consultant – Mental & Neurological Health		
Reference:	SO-3 (NCD-6)/SSA	Level:	SSA: 8
Date of issue :	15 September 2014	Closing date:	7 October 2014
Contract Type:	Special Services Agreement	Duty Station:	Dhaka
Duration:	Up to 31 December 2015 (may be extended)		

Description of Duties:

Under the overall guidance of the WHO Representative to Bangladesh and the supervision of the WHO National Professional Officer – Non Communicable Diseases, the incumbent will provide technical assistance to the Health Services and civil and professional societies for the mental and neurological health and psychoactive substance use. Specifically, s/he will be responsible for:

- (1) Providing technical support to develop of policy and action plan on mental and neurological health, alcohol, and psychoactive substance use;
- (2) Building capacity of national authorities on mental and neurological health;
- (3) Facilitating development and coordination mechanism of network(s) on mental and neurological health including autism;
- (4) Facilitating psychosocial support to the disaster victims;
- (5) Establishing models on mental health, autism, epilepsy integrating into primary health care;
- (6) Generating evidences in relevant areas for policies and programmes;
- (7) Preparing reports on national, regional and global status of mental, neurological health, alcohol and psychoactive substance;
- (8) Performing any other duties assigned by the supervisor as and when required.

Qualifications :

Educational	Essential : MBBS with post-graduation degree in psychiatry or neuroscience or NCD prevention
	Desirable: Thesis work on public health aspects of mental or neurological health
Experience	Essential : At least 10 years' experience in public health aspects of NCD prevention with focus on mental and neurological health
	Desirable: Publications in international journals as first author out of population surveys in relevant field will be an added advantage

Note:

Applicants should submit a brief **resume** of their relevant experience and other qualifications together with 2 sets of completed **Personal History Form (PHF), Verification Form** and give reasons for being suitable of the post. A Personal History Form and detailed vacancy notice can be downloaded from <http://www.searo.who.int/bangladesh/en>. Applicants are advised to send their applications by courier/registered mail to: **The WHO Representative, House No. CWN (A) 16, Road No.48, Gulshan # 2, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.** A written test using computer will be held only for the short listed candidates and only qualifying candidates in written test will be requested to attend the interview. **"WHO is committed to workforce diversity"**. We regret that due to large volume of applications normally received, applications cannot be acknowledged individually. **"Any attempt to unduly influence on WHO's selection process will lead to automatic disqualification of the applicant."**

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Requirements:

- Business Graduate from a recognized University/Institution
- Relevant working experience for 3-5 years will be preferable
- Excellent command over verbal and written English
- Superior ability to work with MS Word, PowerPoint & Excel
- Highly methodical, logical and organized - able to do strong follow-up with people
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Application Deadline: 22 September 2014

Ershad denies

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Most of the mainstream media yesterday published and aired news that Ershad and some of his loyal MPs, including the JP Secretary General Ziauddin Ahmed Bablu, boycotted the meeting due to conflicts with Raushan over a number of issues including appointment of the deputy leader of opposition.

In the release, Ershad claimed he had to visit the Combined Military Hospital in the city to check his health as he felt weak.

Contacted, a JP legislator said the party chairman just lied in the statement.

"We must have known if sir [Ershad] was sick," he told The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

It was pressure from government high-ups which calmed down Ershad in his conflict with wife Raushan, he mentioned.

Ershad wants to see Ziauddin Ahmed Bablu as the deputy leader of the opposition while Raushan favours Kazi Feroz Rashid for the post, party insiders said.

At least seven JP lawmakers were present in Ershad's room when the JP parliamentary party was in the meeting between 3:45 and 5:15pm on Sunday at the opposition leader's office, just a floor up from Ershad's room which he has been allocated as a special envoy to the PM.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, State Minister for Labour and Employment Mujibul Haque Chunnu said abstaining of Ershad and others from the meeting was their personal matter.

Baghdad blast turns wedding joy into funeral grief

AFP, Baghdad

Raghda Yaqub was just days away from marriage, but a bombing in east Baghdad meant the 24-year-old Iraqi was buried wearing her wedding dress instead.

"Last Thursday was her engagement, and this Thursday we buried her," the young woman's weeping mother Sana says at her home, where she and other family members are receiving condolences.

"Which religion accepts these crimes?"