

## BJP, Shiv Sena

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from Shiv Sena but all these show they are not accommodative of either BJP or other allies," Fadnavis said, emerging from the meeting.

A few minutes after Fadnavis and Tawde had left, senior Shiv Sena leader Diwakar Raote said, "BJP was in a hurry to end the relationship".

"We had come to discuss the final proposal sent by Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray. There were differences on only a few seats but they left the meeting without even caring to inform us," Raote said.

Maharashtra assembly has a total of 288 seats.

One of the proposals, according to reports, was that Shiv Sena and the BJP will contest 151 and 127 seats respectively, leaving 10 seats for their smaller allies. The BJP, which formed the federal government following a landslide victory in the parliamentary elections in May, wanted more seats in their share but Shiv Sena was not willing to compromise.

The two parties had contested the last Lok Sabha elections in alliance, sweeping all but four of the total of 48 seats in the state.

## Last date

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might be unable to complete all the formalities before the September 30 deadline.

The last two days of October are weekends and therefore, the deadline has been set at November 2.

Extension of the deadline has been a common feature over the years. But last year, the tax authorities extended the timeframe several times due to political unrest and to allow people more time to get electronic taxpayer identification numbers (e-TIN).

## BSF kills

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(BGB), said Ziarul along with seven to eight others entered India for purchasing cattle around 9:30pm, crossing the border at Samanta.

When they reached near Nonaganj camp in Chabbish Parganas of West Bengal, the BSF men of the camp chased them and opened fire. Ziarul was hit by bullets and died on the spot while others managed to flee, he said.

BSF returned the body to the BGB yesterday morning as the BGB sent a letter to the BSF, asking to return the body immediately, the commander added.

## Bangladesh

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Navy and US 7th Fleet's executive agent for theater security cooperation in South Asia, who was present as chief guest, said the six-day exercise would help both the navies sharpen their skills and refine their abilities to work side-by-side for regional maritime security.

The US navy ship, Safeguard, with a mobile diving and salvage unit will join Bangladesh Navy ships Somudra Joy, frigate Bangabandhu, Saikat and Durjoy, in the exercise, said an US embassy press release.

The most advanced maritime patrol aircraft (MPA) of the US Navy Poseidon (P-8) will participate in the exercise for the first time with the country's MPA Dornier, it added.

Divers, technicians, and legal and medical professionals from both the navies will also participate.

## Ticket hogging

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Mosharaf Hossain, manager of Hanif Paribahan, said, "Over 60 percent of the tickets for October 2, 3 and 4 have been booked for VIPs. We are still receiving requests. That is why we keep our mobile phones switched off during this time."

Badiuzzaman Badal, advisor of Bangladesh Launch Owners Association, said, "Every year, we have to keep over 50 percent of cabin tickets for VIPs. We are compelled to do this and it has become a norm."

Advance tickets

Bangladesh Railway will sell advance tickets for October 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 from today, tomorrow, September 28, 29 and 30 respectively, said a press release.

Some 130 coaches, 30 locomotives and five return trips will be added to the existing service to cope with the rush, said railway officials.

Advance tickets will be sold only from the capital's Kamalapur Railway Station. One person can buy a maximum four tickets at a time.

Besides, state-run Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation will start advance tickets sale today at its countrywide bus depots.

Private bus operators started selling advance eid tickets from September 15 and continued for the next three or four days.

Private launch owners did not announce any formal date for selling advance cabin tickets. But they have already started the sale at least one week ago. Deck tickets are sold after the vessel is boarded.



PHOTO: STAR

Five suspected militants, including sons of a senior bureaucrat and a former judge, are produced before journalists yesterday, a day after detectives detained them in the capital.

## Air strikes on oil facilities in Syria

Key ● Air strikes in or near town ● Isis-controlled towns



SOURCES: PENTAGON, AP

## US, allies strike ISIS

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The ISIS group seized large parts of Iraq in June, declaring a Muslim "caliphate" straddling Iraq and Syria and imposing its harsh interpretation of Islamic law.

### 'COWARDLY' MURDER OF FRENCHMAN

It has committed widespread atrocities including mass executions of captured Iraqi soldiers, forced conversions of non-Muslims and the on-camera beheadings of Western hostages including two US journalists and a British aid worker.

Late on Wednesday an ISIS-linked group in Algeria which had demanded France halt its participation in strikes in Iraq posted video footage of the execution of an abducted Frenchman.

President Francois Hollande condemned the "cruel and cowardly" murder of Herve Gourdel, a 55-year-old hiker who was kidnapped in an Algerian national park, and was to convene an emergency meeting of his defence council on Thursday.

The latest round of air raids focused on a dozen targets in eastern Syria.

"These 12 targets were what we call modular oil refineries," Pentagon spokesman Rear Admiral John Kirby told CNN.

"They were struck with precision-guided missiles by coalition aircraft. In fact, there were more coalition aircraft in the skies on these particular missions than US (planes)," he said.

Alongside US aviation and cruise missiles, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan have hit targets in Syria. Qatar is providing logistical support.

Previous strikes in Syria have hit ISIS positions, command centres, training compounds and vehicles, in their regional stronghold of Raqa and near the Syria-Iraq border.

The coalition has carried out some 20 strikes in Syria since the start of the week and Washington nearly 200 in Iraq since launching air raids there in December last year.

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Airlines. United Aviation Enterprise Ltd used to be the General Sales Agent of Singapore Airlines Cargo, but it ceased to be so from January 2014.

Our reply

The Daily Star report was based on the letter of the central bank's

In New York, Obama chaired a UN Security Council meeting that unanimously adopted a binding resolution to turn back the flow of foreign fighters heading to Iraq and Syria.

It requires all countries to adopt laws that would make it a serious crime for their nationals to join jihadist groups such as Islamic State and al-Qaeda affiliate the Al-Nusra Front, or risk economic sanctions or military action.

Europeans to send warplanes

More than 50 nations have joined the US-led coalition, including key Arab states, and in recent days more countries have promised concrete military support.

Joining France, Belgium and The Netherlands said they would each send six F-16 fighter bombers to take part in the air campaign in Iraq.

The Netherlands will also deploy 250 military personnel and 130 trainers for the Iraqi military, and Greece said Thursday it would send arms to Kurdish forces battling the jihadists.

Britain has yet to join the strikes but on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly Prime Minister David Cameron said the British parliament would hold an extraordinary session on Friday to vote joining the military campaign.

There had been fears the strikes could inadvertently help Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's regime, which is locked in a three-and-a-half-year civil war with rebels that the UN says has left more than 190,000 dead.

The jihadists have posed the most serious threat to his regime, though Washington has vowed to arm and equip moderate rebels as part of the anti-ISIS campaign.

Yesterday, a Syrian security source said regime troops had managed to recapture the key rebel-held town of Adra near the capital.

The rebels had captured Adra -- one of the country's biggest industrial zones located strategically northeast of Damascus -- in December last year.

Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), which was sent to all banks seeking account information on five firms, including Speed Mark Transportation BD Ltd and United Aviation Enterprise Ltd. The letter mentioned that these two firms are agents of Singapore Airlines Limited.

## Australia 'terror suspect' may not have been acting alone

AFP, Sydney

A terror suspect shot dead by Australian police after stabbing two officers in a frenzied knife attack may not have been acting alone, officials said yesterday, escalating concerns about the threat posed by radicalised youth.

Abdul Numan Haider, 18, was killed on Tuesday evening on the outskirts of Melbourne, a day after the Islamic State group called for Muslims to indiscriminately kill Australians.

The teenager, described by the government as a "known terror suspect" who had his passport cancelled for security reasons, launched an unprovoked attack on the policemen outside their station after arriving for a "routine" interview.

One of them fired a single shot that killed him.

Police on Wednesday said they believed he was acting alone but Victoria state police chief Ken Lay admitted they were now looking into reports that Haider was talking to other people in the lead-up to the attack.

"There is some information that he was certainly talking to other people around the time that he came to the police station," he told ABC radio.

"(They) may well have known him. I won't say working with him, but it's just a little unclear to us at the moment whether there was actually people at the police station with him."

He said police were examining whether someone may have been waiting for him.

## Mirpur to get

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South Korea's Hyundai Rotem

Company in this regard at the capital's Sonargaon Hotel yesterday.

The project primarily costing Tk 521 crore will be completed by June 2016, said Nurul Islam, project director of Wasa.

"We plan to reduce the dependency on groundwater and Tetuljhora-Bhakurta is one of the big projects of Wasa," said Taqsem A Khan, managing director of Wasa, adding that they were also going to construct three water treatment plants by 2021.

The three new plants will raise the use of surface water to 70 percent by 2021, he said.

## TIB worried

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laundering upon the ACC, while the new one may cause a conflict of interests and breed complications if police get the responsibility to investigate corruption, the main area of the ACC, it said.

This will ultimately hamper the functions of the ACC, the statement added.

## Dhaka Saarc

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A proposal to establish a "SAARC Cultural Heritage Committee" was also adopted for preservation, maintenance, as well as digital mapping of historic sites in member countries.

The summit also agreed to launch a website to promote Saarc member countries' cultures, including digitisation of rare manuscripts, rare books and other articles of intangible cultural value, said Srinivas.

## COLD WAR KIDNAPPINGS REPORT Japan, N Korea officials to meet

AFP, Tokyo

Japan and North Korea will hold talks next week in China, officials said, after Pyongyang failed to produce a report on its probe into the Cold War kidnappings of Japanese citizens.

The planned meeting comes after Japan announced in July it was easing sanctions against North Korea following the secretive state's promise to reinvestigate cases of Japanese people kidnapped in the 1970s and 1980s to train the North's spies.

"A working-level meeting between Japan and North Korea will take place so that the Pyongyang side can tell us how the re-investigation is going," Japan's Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida told reporters on Wednesday during a visit to the United Nations.

"It will be on September 29 in Shenyang, China."

Japanese officials had expected the report by September, but North Korea recently said it would be unable to supply substantial details in that timeline.

"The North informed us in mid-September that they could neither brief us on anything more than the early phase of the probe, nor clarify when they could present the first report," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga, the Japanese government's top spokesman, told reporters Thursday.

## Meet the first supersonic

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using proprietary supersonic laminar flow technology - almost as fast as Concorde, which flew at 1,350 mph.

The two companies announced this week that they will be joining forces on the project, sharing "capabilities in design, manufacturing and certification".

Engineers from Airbus' Defence and Space Division will work with Aerion at its base in Reno, Nevada.

The cost of the AS2 is thought to be more than \$100 million - over £60 million - and Aerion hopes test flights will begin by 2019.

The jet, which will fly between major global cities, will be made mostly from carbon fibre composite material.

Design features include wings which reduce overall drag by 20 per cent, allowing for lower fuel consumption and longer range and a luxurious 30-foot-long cabin will seat up to 12 passengers.

Aerion chairman Robert M Bass, said in a statement, "This is a major step forward for Aerion. It puts us solidly on track toward our objective of certifying the world's first supersonic business jet in 2021."

After 27 years of service, British Airways retired the Airbus' Concorde airliner - which travelled at more than twice the speed of sound -- in October

2003, signalling the end of the supersonic passenger jet.

Modern commercial long-haul jets typically cruise at speeds between 480 and 560 mph.

The plan is to certify the plane in 2021 with first delivery in 2022. Flight testing would begin in roughly 2019.

Aerion officials knew it would take a well-established original equipment manufacturer to complete the project, he said.

"We couldn't be more delighted with the choice of Airbus," Barents said. "We think that their footprint around the world is clearly going to help us as we develop the airplane."

Billionaire Bass has been open about his personal mission to offer the first business jet to fly faster than the speed of sound, a project begun in 2002.

Aerion, Chief Executive Officer Doug Nichols, told CNN: "The collaboration with Airbus was an essential piece in order to bring the expertise of a premier aircraft development concern into the fold."

The US forbids civilian planes from the sound barrier -- about 750 mph per hour -- while flying overland due to noisy sonic booms, but the AS2 model will fly at subsonic speeds until it reaches the ocean, when it will speed up. Over Europe it can fly at supersonic speeds without detection.

## Case against

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to explain what he knew about the matter.

Tofazzal Hossain, deputy director of the airport, had filed the case against the three with Airport Police Station.

### CASE FOR ASSAULTING POLICE

Another Dhaka court could not start trial of a case against BNP leader Zainal Abdin Faroque and 146 others in connection with assaulting police as complainant of the case Sub-Inspector Md Jahangir Hossain of Paltan Police Station failed to show up before the court yesterday.

Metropolitan Magistrate Tareq Mainul Islam Bhuiyan adjourned the hearing until November 10.

The case was filed for assaulting police