



জালাল উদ্দিন

Keep an eye on tomorrow's newspaper for details

Russian envoy shot dead in Ankara

Attacker was off-duty police officer

AGENCIES

A Turkish policeman crying "Aleppo" and "Allahu Akbar" shot dead



Andrei Karlov

Russia's ambassador to Turkey at an art exhibition in Ankara yesterday, in what Moscow branded a "terrorist act" that would be punished.

Andrei Karlov died of his wounds after the shooting, which occurred on the eve of a key meeting between the Russian, Turkish and Iranian foreign ministers on the Syria conflict.

The gunman was later killed in a shootout with Turkish Special Forces police, several news agencies reported quoting Turkish officials.

Dramatic television footage showed the moment the veteran diplomat was shot as he opened a show of Russian photographs at the Ankara exhibition hall.

Images showed the ambassador standing up to speak at a lectern, before stumbling and crashing to the ground, lying flat on his back as the attacker --

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Bhabadah, often called the "Sorrow of Jessore", where water is a symbol of suffering, hunger, disease, and death. The perennial waterlogging triggered from Bhabadah point affects mainly three upazilas -- Abhaynagar, Manirampur and Keshabpur -- home to some 10 lakh people. This year, almost six lakh inhabitants were affected when the flood situation was at its worst during the rainy season. Five months later, things have improved but many farmers won't still be able to grow crops. But what's the cause of Bhabadah's woes? Is there no solution? There is. Why is it not happening then? In this two-part story, WASIM BIN HABIB and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY chronicle Bhabadah's saga at a time when, with much of the vast land still under this year's floodwaters, many beel people are wondering how they will prepare for the next rain.

SORROW OF JESSORE

Lasting for decades, getting graver every year



PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

The 21-vent sluice gate on the Sree river at Bhabadah in Abhaynagar, Jessore. It was constructed in the 1960s to turn a vast swamp into arable land, but it is now a key cause of the decades-long waterlogging problem there. The photo was taken on October 22.

On a pale October afternoon, Hari Chand Mandal was gazing at Beel Bokor, one of the 27 major beels in Bhabadah. As he sat on the bank of the vast, black wetland, a soft autumn breeze made ripples on its surface.

But Hari, 40, showed no interest in the wavelets. He had another, more pressing

thought.

"I won't be able to grow Boro paddy on my land this year for sure," said the marginal farmer from Mashiahati Uttar Para of Abhaynagar in Jessore.

Farmers in other parts of the country have already started cultivating Boro rice,

but those in Abhaynagar, Manirampur and Keshabpur upazilas see a grim prospect. Five months after the rainy season ended in July, some of their croplands still remain submerged by knee to waist-deep waters.

Just two months ago, Hari's life was full of miseries. With his elderly parents, wife

and college-going son, he took shelter in a hut he built on a road, after the entire village went under waist-high waters following a heavy rain in mid-August (424mm or about 17 inches of rain in just three days -- August 10, 11 and 20).

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



"We don't want relief items, we want to be relieved of this persistent waterlogging problem once and for all."

RANJIT KUMAR BAWALI, A CAMPAIGNER, ON WHY PEOPLE REFUSED TO ACCEPT ANY RELIEF MATERIALS SENT BY A LOCAL LAWMAKER



Andrei Karlov (L), Russian ambassador to Turkey, lying on the floor after being shot by a Turkish policeman (R) at a public event in Ankara yesterday. Shouting "don't forget Aleppo", the attacker opened fire at point-blank range.

PHOTO: AFP

9 killed, 50 injured in Berlin lorry 'attack'

REUTERS, Berlin

A truck ploughed into a crowded Christmas market in the German capital Berlin yesterday evening, killing nine people and injuring up to 50 others, police said.

German media, citing police at the scene, said first indications pointed to an

attack on the market, situated at the foot of the ruined Kaiser Wilhelm memorial church, which was kept as a bombed-out ruin after World War II.

A police spokesman later told a local TV channel that police arrested the suspected driver of the truck.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

EC FORMATION BNP to step up campaign

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

Happy with Sunday's dialogue with the president, the BNP now wants to intensify its campaign focusing on the formation of a neutral Election Commission and amendments to the electoral laws.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, a number of party leaders said it wouldn't be possible now for the opposition parties to force the government to restore the polls-time caretaker government system ahead

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

'Crimes against humanity'

Amnesty slams military action against Rohingyas; pressure on Myanmar as region holds crisis talks

AGENCIES

Military actions against Myanmar's Rohingya minority may amount to crimes against humanity, Amnesty International said, as the government called a meeting of regional leaders to discuss the issue.

"The Myanmar military has targeted Rohingya civilians in a callous and systematic campaign of violence," Rafendi Djamin, Southeast Asia director for the rights group, said in a statement yesterday.

"The deplorable actions of the military could be part of a widespread and systematic attack on a civilian population and may amount to crimes against humanity."

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



Inauguration of new building for

BANK ASIA INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

at Lalmatia

Bank Asia