

## A DEEP PLOT?

New book claims top ministers planning to remove May from office

PAGE 8



## 'ATTEMPT ON PM'S LIFE' PMO bins Indian media report

STAR REPORT

The Prime Minister's Office yesterday trashed a media report that claimed an attempt on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's life was foiled on August 24.

Outright rejecting the media report, the PMO said it was completely "baseless and motivated".

"Some media outlets on September 23 published and broadcast a report about a failed attempt on the life of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, using a source of a foreign TV channel and an international online news agency," said a press release signed by Mohammad Ashraf Alam, deputy press secretary to the PM.

The PMO requested the media to "exercise caution and judgment" in publishing and broadcasting confusing information that goes against the interest of the country's security.

Though none of the print media outlets carried the news, a few TV channels hastily arranged heated talk shows on it on Saturday without verifying at home the very authenticity of the highly sensitive disclosure by Indian journalist Subir Bhaumik on September 22 on Myanmar news portal mizzima.com under the headline "Bangladesh's Hasina survives another attempt on her life."

On the same day, the report of Bhaumik, once a BBC correspondent who

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

## 3 Bangladeshi peacekeepers killed in Mali

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three Bangladeshi UN peacekeepers were killed in an explosion during a battle with criminals in Mali yesterday, said Inter Services Public Relations.

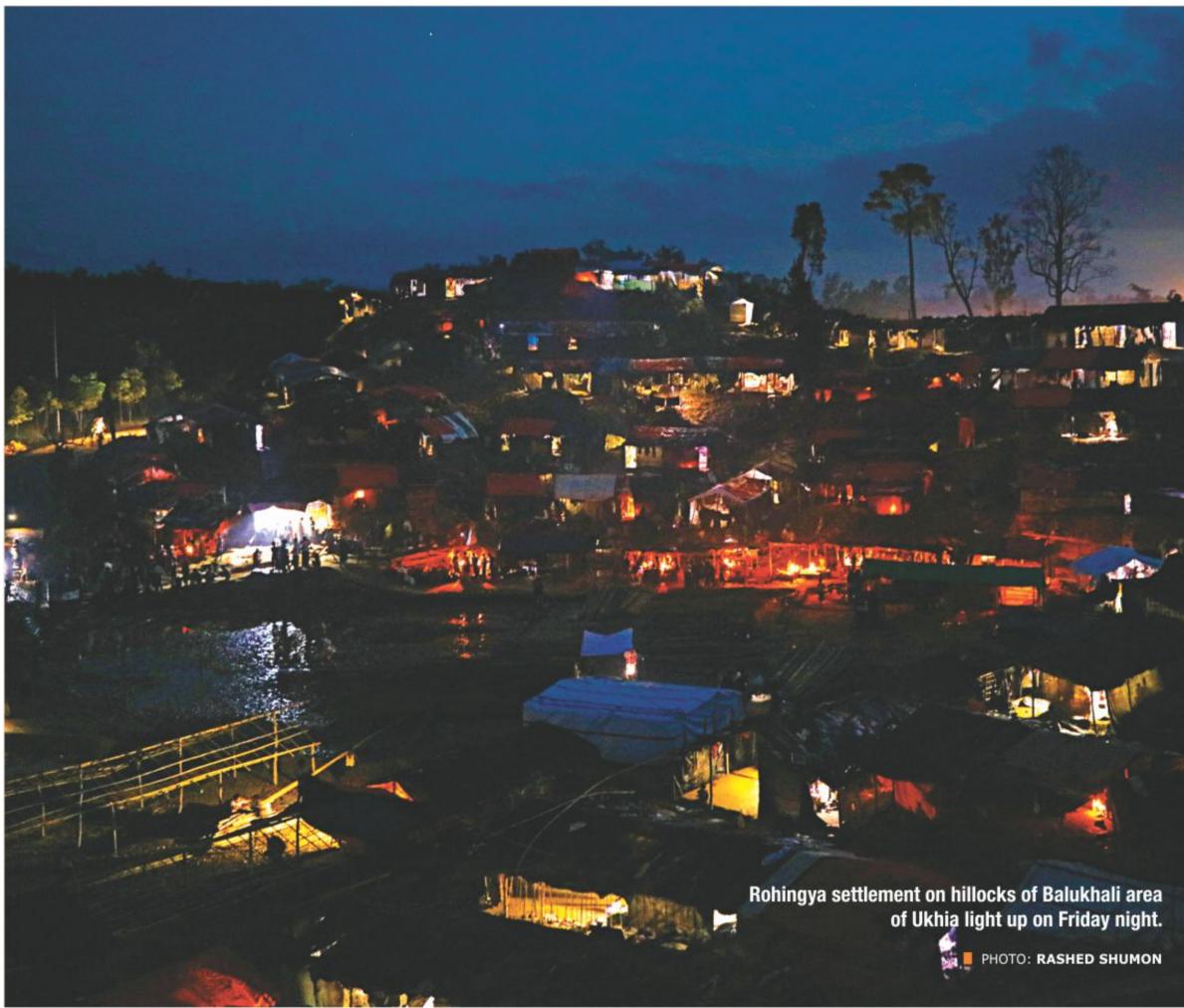
The explosion also left four other Bangladeshi peacekeepers injured.

The deceased are Sergeant Altaf of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Corps in Dinajpur, Lance Corporal Zakirul of Artillery in Netrakona and soldier Monwar of East Bengal in Barisal, said the ISPR.

The injured are Maj Zahid, Corporal Mahim, soldiers Sabuj and Sarwar. They were taken to Gao city for better treatment.

According to an ISPR press release uploaded on their website, Bangladeshi peacekeepers were locked in clashes with criminals in the troubled-torn West

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Rohingya settlement on hillocks of Balukhali area of Ukhia light up on Friday night.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON



## NIGHT AT A REFUGEE CAMP

PINAKI ROY and MOHAMMAD ALI JINNAT

7:00pm

As the last relief truck departs, Shafiuallah Kata Pahar, a group of hillocks, reverts back to a strange sense of calm. People, carrying sacks of rice and packs of food, begin to return to their tents.

Suddenly, the hills seem to be dotted with fireflies. Lamps and candles masquerade as shining stars in the sky on a dark night, lighting up one by one.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## Influx, again

After a break due to bad weather and lull in violence in Rakhine, thousands stream in

PINAKI ROY and MOHAMMAD ALI JINNAT

The influx of Rohingyas fleeing violence in Myanmar's Rakhine state had slowed in the last few days, but thousands have started pouring into Bangladesh again.

The flow resumed after a brief pause since Monday mainly due to bad weather and lull in violence in Rakhine.

Most of the fresh refugees are from Buthidaung area and are entering Bangladesh through Anjuman Para and Rahmater Beel border points in Palongkhali union in Ukhia.

Many more are waiting on the Myanmar side to enter Bangladesh, said a number of refugees.

They did not see any fresh violence in Buthidaung, but these correspondents saw smoke rising from at least one place in Rakhine yesterday. Earlier on Wednesday, a Reuters reporter saw such smokes at two places.

However, it was not clear what caused the



smoke.

Abdul Gofur Chowdhury, chairman of Palongkhali union in Ukhia, estimated that some 10,000 refugees may have arrived yesterday through Rahmater Beel and Anjuman Para points alone.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

## World's most urgent refugee crisis: UNHCR

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

As Rohingyas have continued to flee into Bangladesh, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Filippo Grandi warned of humanitarian disaster.

The exodus of Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar is "the most urgent refugee emergency in the world" right now, he told reporters while visiting the refugee camps in Cox's Bazar yesterday.

"People have fled unspeakable violence, and their needs are enormous," he said, as he toured around Kutupalong camp and its adjacent sprawling new extension.

Arriving in Bangladesh on a three-day visit, Grandi went to Cox's Bazar on Saturday to observe the situation of Rohingya refugees in camps.

The needs of more than 435,000 people who have fled terrible violence in Myanmar over the last month are



Filippo Grandi

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## No refugee status now for Rohingyas

Says industries minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is not considering giving "refugee status" to the Rohingyas, who are entering Bangladesh fleeing persecution in Myanmar's Rakhine State, Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu said yesterday.

Following the growing influx of the Rohingyas, the government is increasing the number of camps in Cox's Bazar, the minister said.

Till yesterday, around 4.5 lakh Rohingyas have crossed into Bangladesh, Amu told reporters after a meeting of the cabinet committee on

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

## Merkel wins fourth term, exit polls show

Far-right enters German parliament first time in 60 years



AFP, Berlin

Chancellor Angela Merkel clinched a fourth term in Germany's election yesterday, but her victory was clouded by the hard-right AfD party winning its first seats in parliament.

Merkel, who after 12 years in power held a double-digit lead for most of the campaign, scored around 33 percent of the vote with her conservative Christian Union (CDU/CSU) bloc, according to exit polls.

Its nearest rivals, the Social Democrats and their candidate Martin Schulz, came in a distant second, with a post-war record low 20-21 percent.

But in a bombshell for the German establishment, the anti-Islam, anti-immigration Alternative for Germany (AfD) captured around 13 percent, making it the country's third biggest political force.

While the likelihood of the AfD winning seats was clear for months, commentators called its strong showing a "watershed moment" in the history of the German republic.

Supporters gathered at the party headquarters in Berlin cried out with joy as public television reported the outcome, many joining in a chorus of the German national anthem.

The four-year-old nationalist party with links to the far-right French National Front and Britain's UKIP has been shunned by Germany's mainstream.

It is now headed for the opposition benches of the Bundestag lower house, dramatically boosting its visibility and state financing.

Alarmed by the prospect of what Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel branded "real Nazis" entering the Bundestag for the first time since World War II, the candidates had used their final days of campaigning to implore voters to reject the populists.

Germans elected a splintered parliament reflecting an

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

## BNP dismisses PM's proposal for safe zone for Rohingyas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP yesterday rejected Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's proposal to build some safe zones for Rohingyas inside Myanmar, terming it dangerous for Bangladesh.

"We are rejecting the prime minister's concept of safe zone. It will be harmful, dangerous and will go against the interest of Rohingyas and Bangladesh as well," said BNP Standing Committee member

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

## Deported, man remains missing

Family says Malaysia sent him back on militancy allegation; no official statement yet

SHARIFUL ISLAM

A Bangladeshi citizen who along with his family went to Malaysia last year has remained missing since July 19 after Malaysian immigration police deported him for his suspected links with militancy.

Nazia Ferdousi, wife of Golam Rabbani, quoting Malaysian officials said Bangladesh authorities had asked for his deportation. However, there has been no



Golam Rabbani

official statement in Dhaka in this regard.

Nazia said Rabbani was never involved in militancy, but Malaysian authorities told her that Bangladesh police got "some information" relating to his "terror activities".

Nazia, who is still in Malaysia with her three children, told The Daily Star recently over the phone that her husband last called her from the cell phone

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

**SINGER AC TROUBLE FREE AC**

Bring Singer AC at Only **₹10,000** Down Payment

Exciting Discount on cash purchase

Low Voltage Compressor

Copper pipe

Blue Fin Technology

Free installation

0% interest up to 12 months through Credit Card of major banks

WARRANTY 3 YEARS

Up to 6 months 0% interest

For online shopping visit: [www.singerbd.com](http://www.singerbd.com)

SINGER HELP LINE 16482