# NEWS

### BNP served a blow Khaleda Renegade BNP men Resignation letters despair and anguish of the people

sion, corruption and some of its

leaders' involvement in terrorism.

conference where Tarique

Rahman termed them members of

the same family, they said "War

collaborators, autocrats and

crooked persons are now in com-

this year as well.

FROM PAGE 1

"The BCIC will have to make

Salauddin Kamran, Nurul Alam, Prof

Abdullah. Maior General (retd) MA

Salam, Major General (retd)

Ainuddin, Air Commodore (retd)

Moinul Islam, Commodore (retd)

Shafiqur Rahman, Major (retd)

Milki, Md Arman, Engineer Rafigu

Islam, Saima Jalil, Sadek Ahmed

Khan, Syed Hafiz Mahmud Milu,

Khaled Ahmed. Jenabul Islam Babu.

Choudhury, Abidur Rahman,

Shamsul Jalal Choudhury, Anisur

Rahman, Md Musa, Ismat Zerin

Khan, AM Md Azizul Huq, East-West

University lecturer Omar Faruk.

Bepari, Harun-ur-Rashid, Mokhlesur

Rahman, Abdul Matin Akhand

Abdus Sabur Choudhury, Mir

Mokshed Ali, Zahir Ali, Mobarak

Hossain, Aminul Islam and Mahfuzur

on terrorist activities aimed at India.

Indian police

Science, killing one scientist.

Pakistan denied involvement.

The militants, who were travel-

survey how to blow up the legisla-

rule in disputed Kashmir.

Rahman

FROM PAGE 16

Citing an example of Shibir

FROM PAGE 1 residence of Redwan at Uttara at around 4:30pm Thursday and set fire to the ground floor of the five-storey building. They also torched four vehi cles, leaving five people injured. Witnesses said the attackers left

the spot before police appeared. Two fire tenders rushed to the scene and controlled the fire. Police

and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) have been deployed there to avert further violence. A group of armed youths also set fire to the residence of state minister Alamgir Kabir at Masterpara in

Noagoan at about 3:00pm Thursday. Witnesses said the attackers vandalised the house and looted valuables before setting the residence ablaze. The criminals obstructed the firemen from dousing the blaze. A

vehicle was badly burned in the arson. Alamair's family members alleged that police did not turn up although they contacted the law enforcers several times.

The houses of Barrister Ziau Rahman Khan and Mohammad Ali Zinnah came under attacks at Dhamrai in Dhaka and Mirersarai in Chittagong.

Bombs were hurled from a BNP procession on Zinnah's house Thursday, leaving two of his domestic helps injured. The attackers later vandalised the house and set it on fire. The lawmaker's younger sister Bulbul was injured in the attack.

Witnesses alleged that local BNP men led by ZA Khan, defence adviser to BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia, led the procession that attacked Zinnah's house

The residence of Prof Jahanara Begum, adviser to prime minister, also came under attack Thursday night Some unknown men threw crackers on her Malibagh residence in the capital but none was injured.

Local BNP activists damaged business establishments of BNP MP Ali Kadar who also joined the LDP and burned his effigy at Bangaon in

Jessore Friday noon Sharsha thana BNP also held a protest rally vowing to resist Ali Kadar. They termed him a "national betrayer and declared him "unwanted" ir

Sharsha. Local BNP men ransacked and looted the residence of MA Karim Abbasi, a BNP lawmaker, at Netrokona and burnt his effigy Thursday.

The ruling party men also looted and vandalised the residence of a trader, Anis Rahman, in Bogra at zero hours yesterday after he joined the

### Unrest flares up Ruhul Amin died on the spot during

areas of the capital were under the control of AL activists.

CAPITAL Thousands of activists of AL and BNP and of their different front organisations came out on the streets in the capital during the prime minister's address to the nation and demonstrated violently leaving its residents in panic and anxiety

Activists of both the parties threw bombs on rival party's processions, offices and other establishments and locked into clashes, almost all over the city.

The worst was seen in the area spanning from Motijheel to Demra,

In Kishoreganj, BNP men tried to attack the residence of former deputy minister ABM Zahidul Hug Thursday for leaving the BNP to join the LDP However, the attempt was foiled by of government authority by him.

BNP lawmakers left their NAM apartments in the city's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Thursday fearing attacks by BNP activists.

from Chapainawabganj, Abdul Karim Abbasi lawmaker from Netrokona and Ali Kadar, lawmaker from Jessore, left their NAM apartments Thursday evening.

public gathering in Naogaon that him up whenever he is seen.

Govt okays FROM PAGE 16 local BNP had so far kept denying his militant link although the media published a number of reports on it over the last few years.

Kabir, who is also the state regions.

At a party meeting in 2005, the former BNP leader, however, blamed Post and Telecommunications Minister Aminul Hague and Deputy Minister for Land Affairs Ruhul Kuddus Talukdar Dulu for patronising the militants

Kabir also allegedly foiled a special drive for arresting Bangla Bhai at Bhitigram in Naogaon in 2004

militants

caused by it. Terming it anti-democratic, they vehemently condemned Tarique Rahman's control over

Zahidul's followers. Meantime, a number of renegade

Syed Monzur Hossain, lawmaker

### **BNP** admits FROM PAGE 16

day ordered BNP activists to beat The BNP high command and the

imported by other importers.

minister for women and children affairs, was allegedly linked with nine murders by militant kingpin Siddiqul Islam Bangla Bhai's Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh in Raishahi. Naoqaon and Natore

sure it does not give extra time to the suppliers. Extra time will create an artificial crisis and a scope for the suppliers to make more profits," said a source.

Police picked up Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh leaders Hemayet Uddin Himu, Abul Hossain and Mantu Daktar but they were released on Alamoir Kabir's diktat.

Meantime, Awami League activists in Raninagar upazila of Naogaon brought out a procession on Thursday and announced Kabir as 'unwanted' for his links with

the police action, said sources but

Gazipur police claimed that he died of

AL activists attacked a motorcade of

Altaf Hossain Chowdhury, a minister

without portfolio, at Subed Ali Bandar

under Mirzaganj thana in Patuakhali at

the local police station as a local AL

procession, led by former general

secretary of Bangladesh Krishok

League Harun-or-Rashid Hawlader,

threw stones at his motorcade and

Altaf was forced to take shelter at

a heart attack.

PATUAKHALI

noon on Thursday.

FROM PAGE 1 brought out a procession at Gulshan and Banani areas following the rally

chanting slogans against Khaleda Zia and her son Tarique Rahman. the ministers and MPs and abuse Never before did BNP face such a high profile defection from the party in the last 15 years. During the The party has slipped away last general election a few dissident from its own ideology just after the leaders revolted against the party 2001 election, it said, adding, the but finally the party high command government has miserably failed managed to quell the revolt sucto run the country for its indecicessfully

BNP sources said Party Chairperson also Prime Minister Khaleda Zia in a party standing committee meeting held on Thursday night expressed her dissatisfaction over the defection of the party lawmakers and asked loval party leaders to 'manage' the defectors and the remaining dissident leaders quickly. LDP leaders told reporters that

mand of the party established by Oli Ahmad had been trying to organlate president Ziaur Rahman". ise dissident BNP leaders over the last six months. A large number of ministers, lawmakers, senior BNP leaders, and former lawmakers agreed to form a new political party two lakh tons and the rest will be under the leadership of Badruddoza Chowhdury and OliAhmad. Sources said a number of

Among the defectors are former these importers, with the help of a speaker in parliament Shaikh section of unscrupulous BCIC Razzak Ali State Minister Alamoi Kabir MP (member of parliament), officials, had previously delayed delivery of fertiliser to make extra Deputy Minister Moni Swapan Dewan MP. PM's Adviser on profit. The BCIC tender for ferti-Primary and Mass Education iser procurement typically gives Prof Jahanara Begum, Ministry the supplier 45 days' time. Earlier former state minister Maj Gen (retd this year, the BCIC favoured an Anawarul Kabir Talukder mporter and gave it six months to Barrister Ziaur Rahman Khan MP, Redwan Ahmed MP, Mohammad supply the fertiliser. The long time Kabir Hossain MP, Syed Monjur allowed the importer to buy fertiliser at a much lower price than its Hossain MP, Abdul Karim Abbasi MP Mohammad Abu Hena MP Al quoted price and make windfall Qadar MP, and Mohammad Ali profits. The delay in supply had Jinnah MP created a fertiliser crisis earlier

Earlier on May 8, 2004 former president AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury formed Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh and soon afterwards erstwhile BNP lawmakers Major (retd) Abdul Mannan and Mahi B Chowdhury joined him.

On Wednesday night the defecting ministers, lawmakers and leaders gathered secretly in a private hotel at Baridhara and on Thursday The renegades morning Syed Manjur Hossain MP, Ziaur Rahman Khan MP and Prof Jahanara Bagum joined them. Nazimuddin Al Azad, former MP Maniur Hossain came out from his Syed Didar Bakht, former deputy constituency on a helicopter and Zia minister Tarique Mainuddin, ABM went to the hotel directly from the Zahedul Huq, former whip Abu Syed airport after his arrival from London. Khan. former MP Gazi Abdul Huq,

Mahi B Chowdhury MP and former BNP leader Shahadat Hossain Selim received the lawmakers at the hotel. Later they oined the first rally of the nascen political party led by AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury and Oli Ahmad. LDP President Badruddoza

Parvez Kabir, Col (retd) Kazi Haider Ali, former secretary Nazmul Alam Chowdhury and its Executive President Col (retd) Oli formally Siddique, Mahtab Uddin Ahmed, Abu Mohammad Ishtiaq Aziz Ulfat, Dr announced at the rally the formation Jamirul Akhter, Selim Ullah, Barrister of the new party and its avowed MI Choudhury, Ekramul Karim, mission of fighting against corrup Nyem Jahangir, Delwar Hossain. tion, terrorism and poverty.

Before the formal declaration Shahadat Hossain Selim, Dr Aminul came, the defecting ministers and Haq, Sanaul Huq Niru, Sirajul Huq, MPs had submitted resignation Mir Mahmudul Huq, Prof Aminul Haq, letters to their hitherto chairperson Prof M Shariful Islam, Abu Taher Khaleda Zia. Choudhury, Idris Bhuiyan, Sabir

In the resignation letters, the Uddin, Rezaul Karim, Mohammad contents of which were the same, BJP's joint secretary MA the defecting leaders said, "Corruption of some ministers, MPs and Shaheed, MA Kashem, Abul Kashem, Nuruzzaman, Kafiluddin leaders, led by your son Tarique Choudhury, Yusuf Ali, Imran Faruk Rahman, has broken all previous

Titular head

records. This has tarnished the

image of the party. It is not possible

for any person having a sense of

personal dignity to continue in the party anymore. The BNP estab-

lished by late president Ziaur

Rahman is now controlled by

Razakars (anti-liberation force)

autocrats and corruptionists

Against the principle of democracy

Tarique, without having any proto

autocratic leadership of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and her son

Tarique Rahman is the champion of

extreme corruption and ineffi-

ciency," Oli Ahmad said at the rally

explaining the reasons for their defection from BNP.

'family' is involved in corruption and

meddled in the affairs of the state

Khaleda Zia's family amassed enormous amount of wealth in a

very short time and frustrated

administrative moves to curb cor-

ex-minister mentioned that the

government failed to curb price hike,

inflation, crises of power supply diesel and fertiliser. It also failed to

deal with deteriorating law and order

situation, terrorist bombings and to

disclose the sources of illegal arms

and the names of terror financiers,

president Ziaur Rahman when they

revolted against the Pakistani army

to fight the liberation war in 1971

also fulminated against the 'induc-

tion of anti-liberation elements into

Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury

another founder-leader of BNP said

a new journey has begun in the fight

against corruption, terrorism and poverty through the formation of

He alleged that 14 members of

the prime minister's family garnered

hundreds of crores of taka through

Oli, who was a close aide to late

and the party.

ruption'

'family

he added.

I DP

the government'.

corrupt means.

he said.

He told journalists that the PM's

He said some '14 members of

The present BNP under the

col, has been abusing state power.

FROM PAGE 16 of Awami League's threat, Mannan Bhuivan said.

"It is the people who bring a party to power through elections. No party can, by its own force, come to power," he said, adding that Awami League is detached both from the people and its workers.

He expressed hope that BNP will come to power again with public support

The BNP leader said the government was successful during the last five years but the main opposition Awami League did not cooperate with it. About the formation of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), the BNP secretary general said it will not

cause any loss to BNP. Those who left the mainstream political party will fail to sustain for ng, he said, adding that the former BNP lawmakers who left BNP did it apprehending that they would not det nomination from the party.

### Hasina's security

FROM PAGE 16 of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) thoroughly checked the inside of Sudha Sadan. Female personnel of . Despite repeated allegations of corruption against cabinet members, the incumbent government took no action because a share of SSF also checked the security the ill-gotten money was given to the arrangement there. The former army officer also an

The BNP-Jamaat alliance gov ernment withdrew the SSF from Hasina's residence shortly after taking charge in 2001

Someone is likely to take the charge as the chief adviser to the caretaker government today or tomorrow when the SSF personnel will take charge of his security.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's SSF security will remain as usual. Meanwhile, security measurers have been beefed up around both the city and village residences of former chief justice KM Hasan, who is likely to take charge as the chief of caretaker government amid strong opposition from Awami League (AL)-led 14-party opposition combine.

### Alliance leaders FROM PAGE 16

The source, however, said the allocation of 200 metric tons of food against each lawmaker under TR was released much earlier. The allocation was given around two months ago and most of the MPs received and distributed the food in their respective areas.

government kept 66,000 The metric tons of food under GR this year as special allocations for the victims of river erosion, fire and

other sudden disasters. The government gave the allocations in favour of mosques, madrasas, orphanages and other social organisations which are primarily run by people belonging to the alliance.

### LDP vows FROM PAGE 16

are the main party and the people are with us," he said. LDP Secretary General Major (retd) Abdul Mannan, and leaders

Anwar Kabir Talukder, Alamgir Kabir, Redwan Ahmed, MA Jinnah, Ziaur Rahman Khan were present at the

briefing. Later. the LDP leaders visited Redwan Ahmed's Uttara residence that went under attack following his joining the LDP.

Meanwhile, the Sirajdikhan unit of LDP said it will blockade the Dhaka-

# Admin put through

FROM PAGE 1

The country's administration saw unprecedented politicisation in the last five years, while the BNP's political office Hawa Bhaban has got the reputation of running a parallel government.

The alliance government at its early stage gave forced retirement to 90 senior officials on political consideration. In addition, services of 223 officers of armed forces were terminated and 46 police senior officers were given forced retirement. Disregarding the rules, 2,238 officials were promoted to the posts of deputy secretary, joint secretary, additional secretary and secretary. But promo-tion of around 2,000 gualified officials remained stopped. Besides, 370 officers have been made OSD on political consideration PREPARATION FOR

Khulna Shipyard Commodore MK Azad as deputy director of the Coastguard and commodore SHM Kolimullah to Khulna Shipyard as The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) managing director.

department, Nilphamari DC

Rabindranath Roy Chowdhury to

environment and forest ministry as

joint secretary, OSD (deputy secre-

tary) Dr Muhammad Aminul Islam as

DC to Joypurhat, Deputy Secretary of

Agriculture Ministry Abul Hasnat

Muhammad Ziaul Haque as DC to

Sherpur, ADC Bhola Ahsan Habib as

DC of the same district, Sherpur UNO

Muhammad Al Amin as DC of

Joypurhat, Shariatpur sadar UNO

Hamidur Rahman as ADC to

Narshingdi, director on deputation at

Mymensingh Medical College

Brigadier General Mohammad Golam

Mostafa to Bogra Medical College,

Managing Director on deputation at

promoted 93 officers at one go. They

are 10 additional DIGs, 38 additional

police superintendents and 45 assis-

ant police superintendents. Earlier on

15 October, seven additional DIGs

were promoted to the rank of DIG.

different posts across the country.

a total of 300 police officials.

RAB

to be filled.

These officials have been deputed in

Besides, the government in the last

six months promoted and transferred

Promotions made among police

officials also affected the services of

two directors of the RAB who were on

deputation from the police as addi-

tional DIG. They are director (adminis-

tration) and director (investigation).

Both these vital posts are now awaiting

Besides, two out of 12 Rab

Commanding Officers (COs), serving

on deputation from the army, will soon

return to their original posts in the

barracks as the authorities have

issued their posting orders. They are

the COs of Sylhet and Rab-11.

Sources said that the Sylhet CO's

possibility that Director of Intelligence

Col Gulzar, who has led many daring

missions, including those against JMB

kingpins, might also return to the army

Rab sources pointed out there is a

performance was excellent.

### directed the establishment ministry to WITHDRAWAL

remain on duty on Monday. Establishment Secretary Dr Bhola DC Munshi Shafiul Haque, Muhammad Mahbubur Rahman Sherpur DC MAN Siddique, and rushed to the PMO at 8:00pm that day Chuadanga DC DM Golam Farug where he worked late night. From then were withdrawn from their positions on, the orders of transfers, promotions and recalled to Dhaka and forced retirements, many issued under back dates, started rolling out POLICE FORCES On Monday last, the government one after another

### FORCED RETIREMENT

WRAPPING UP

The PMO considered 11 names for forced retirement, sources said. However The Daily Star could confirm only three names who were given this retirement: LiaqatAli, IG (Prison), OSD (joint secretary) Shoilen Odhikari and OSD (joint secretary) ASMAli Kabir. PROMOTION

Nine officials were promoted on the same day. They are acting Chairman --Land Reforms Board Muhammad Murtaja Hossain Munshi, Transport Commissioner--Government Vehicles Directorate Mohammad Osman Goni, Chairman -- Tariff Commission Mohammad Abdul Wahab, acting Secretary -- Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock Kamrul Hasan, Director General -- Manpower, Employment and Training Bureau Sheikh Muhammad Wahiduzzaman, acting Secretary -- Cultural Affairs Ministry ABM Abdul Haque Chowdhury, Secretary -- Food and Disaster Management Ehsanul Hauge Fattah, Telegraph and Telephone Board Chairman -- Mohammad Akram Hossain and acting Secretary -- Rural

Development and Cooperatives Sheikh Enayetullah. TRANSFER

Secretary at the president's office Jafar Ahmed Chowdhury was transferred to IMED department, Rafiqui Islam secretary, IMED department, to president's office, Additional Secretary of the Health Ministry CQK Mustague Ahmed to agriculture ministry Personal Secretary-1 to the Prime Minister Monirul Islam to the health ministry as additional secretary. Joint Secretary of Home Ministry Akhtar Ahammed to Election Commission Secretariat, Ataul Haque Mollah. secretary, land ministry, to establishment ministry, OSD (joint secretary) Pius Costa to land ministry, Abul Hussain Miah, establishment ministry joint secretary, to finance ministry BRTA Chairman Abu Bakar Muhammad Shahjahan as Rajshahi divisional commissioner, land ministry Joint Secretary Abdur Rouf Chowdhury as Barisal divisional commissioner, home ministry Joint Secretary Anwarul Karim to com-

due to his promotions. Gulzar has been recently promoted to the rank of colonel from that of lieutenant colonel. **BUSY CABINET DIVISION** A few sections of the Cabinet Division regarding the oath ceremony of the caretaker government spent a working holiday on Thursday, just one-day

after the Eid-ul-Fitr, to finalise the formalities of the caretaker government's assuming office.

### MORE CHANGES TO COME

A massive reshuffle of the secretaries will be done under the caretaker government sources said adding that a list 16 secretaries for change from their current offices has been sent to the would be chief adviser KM Hasan.

B Chowdhury -- who had been made to make an unceremonious exit from the presidency during this government's tenure -- observed that the PM's family is 'corrupt' and 'misappropriated' national wealth affecting 'most of the cabinet ministers'

State Minister Alamgir Kabir, a veteran freedom fighter who was accused of patronising militant leaders led by Bangla Bhai, alleged that corruption these days passed all previous records since

the country's independence'. Thousands of crores of taka was siphoned off the country. This is poor people's money and the peoe must realise that money back,

he said. "Who are the masterminds of Islamist militancy in the country? the dissident minister asked adding that the 'secret' must be disclosed.

Former speaker in parliament Shaikh Razzak Ali said, "The nation expected this from us as it wants to resist those who want to destroy democracy. "We urge the people to join the

FROM PAGE 16

regard.

unrest," he said.

movement against corruption and the failure of the government," Redwan Ahmed said.

Chittagong Port today if Justice KM

Hasan took oath as chief adviser to

take immediate measures in this

whichever political party or interim

government comes to power, it

would take necessary steps to

protect the industry from any

faces problems at home as well as

abroad in the competitive world

He said the \$10-billion industry

The BGMEA president also

"We want to be assured that

the caretaker government.

Former state min

forcing hundreds of commuters to walk to their destinations in complete darkness as the clashing political operatives damaged the street lights and barred vehicular traffic on Dhaka-Chittagong highway.

Activists of both the parties were seen patrolling the streets with sticks and stones in hands in search of rival party men. They were chanting slogans against each other.

At least three men were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital last night with bullet wounds.

Several crackers were blasted at the residence of Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, parliamentary adviser to the prime minister, last night for the second time in the last seven days.

AL activists hurled bricks at the residence of Communications Minister Nazmul Huda leaving its windowpanes shattered. They also ransacked business establishments of lawmaker Salauddin Ahmed in Demra.

Lawmaker Amanullah also came under attack at his residence at Imamganj in Lalbagh. The attack left four including Aman injured as AL and BNP exchanged bullets there at 4:45pm for half an hour.

AL activists allegedly set fire to the office of the commissioner of ward no 67 at Moulavibazar at 1:00am yesterday. Clashes between the operatives of BNP and AL in the area erupted again in the afternoon.

AL activists burnt and ransacked the banners and posters of Nasir Uddin at Kamrangir Char at 6:30pm.

AL operatives also burnt many BNP offices at different places in the capital including Lalbag, Mirpur, Demra and Dhanmondi

### BRAHMANBARIA

The district BNP brought out a procession in the district-headquarter immediately after the prime minister's address to the nation.

Some unknown men threw bombs at the procession leaving Advocate Habib and several others injured Doctors declared Habib dead after he had been rushed to a local clinic. GAZIPUR

AL and BNP activists got locked in a battle at Shivbari crossing when AL activists tried to set fire to a local Jamaat office yesterday evening.

Several Jamaat activists including Ruhul Amin became targets of the attack as they were coming out of an adjacent mosque after saying their prayers.

Police charged batons to disperse the fighting activists of the two party leaving at least 15 injured. Thursday

chased him during his visit to his constituency. RAJSHAHI

About 30 persons were injured yesterday. 10 of them with bullet wounds, in a daylong clash between two rival groups of BNP one led by Post and Tele-communications Minister Barrister Aminul Hague and the other by Tanore municipality chairman also

Major (retd) AKM Hamidur Rahman former upazila Juba Dal president Choudhury Omar Sharif, former MP Emran Ali Mollah Amir Uddin Ahmed, former joint The clash began when supporters secretary Md Kamal Uddin, of Emran beat up eights supporters of Moniruzzaman Sarker, Shahabuddin, Mozzaffar Hossain, the minister at a rally on the founding Md Abdul Gafur Mandol, Iqbal anniversary of Juba Dal on the Dak Hossain Khan, M Yakub Ali, Bungalow ground, reports our Akhteruzzaman Bakul, Hossain Ali

Raishahi staff correspondent. To secure the loyalists of the minispolice fired teargas shells and ter rubber bullets to disperse the mob hitting 10.

Protesting the police attack, Emran's men stormed the local police station, damaged the local BNP office, and set fire on three motorcycles. KHULNA

A procession attacked the house of BNP lawmaker Ali Asgar Lobi in Khulna and damaged two private cars and windowpanes of the house. It also assaulted Qamrul Ahsan, Khulna bureau staff photographer of the daily Prothom Alo. Later, police rescued Qamrul

### BOGRA

At least 10 were injured in an attack on the office of BNP lawmaker Kazi Rafig from Bogra-1 constituency. The lawmaker, however, was unhurt. RANGPUR

### Five cops and 50 activists of the 14-

party opposition coalition and Juba Dal were injured, 10 of them critically, in a series of chase and counter-chase in Rangpur town last evening. BARISAL

### The local administration imposed

section 144 in Baufal fearing confrontations in the locality. Over 80 people had been injured and many residences of both BNP and AL leaders came under attacks in Barisal in the last two davs.

COMILLA Over 50 people were injured and 10 houses damaged in clashes between AL and BNP activists in Debidwar and Burichang upazilas in Comilla over a feud on graffiti on

militant assaults elsewhere in India. Islamabad denies the charges.

Mysore.

AFP.

FROM PAGE 1

prime minister shall be ineffective Sved Abul Bashar. Badsha Miah. Sheikh Ashraf Uddin Anarul, although the chief adviser to the caretaker government will have and Nazimuddin Ahmed, Jalaluddin will be entitled to the remuneration and Master, Waresul Siddique, Dilip Kumar Sikder, Dr Fazal-e-Akbar privileges of a prime minister.

The president is constitutionally empowered to issue proclamation of emergency on his own for 120 days if addressed the rally. he is satisfied that a grave emergency situation exists in which either security or economy of the country or any part thereof is threatened by war or external aggression or internal disturbance. In case of proclamation of emergency, counter signature of the prime minister is necessary when a political government is in office, but this is not applicable when the caretaker govern-RMG factory ment is operating.

If the president issues the proclamation of emergency and wants to extend its time, the next parliament-which will be formed after the upcoming elections--will have to adopt a resolution in this regard, otherwise the emergency shall cease to operate upon expiry of 120 days.

While a proclamation of emergency is in operation, articles 36, 37, 38. 39. 40 and 42 of the constitution Prime Minister Manmohan Singh shall remain ineffective. These articles has said progress in the peace talks deal with the freedom of movement, hinges on Pakistan cracking down freedom of assembly, freedom of association, freedom of thought and The alleged plot to attack the conscience and speech, freedom of Karnataka legislature came 10 procession or occupation and rights of months after gunmen attacked property.

Bangalore's Indian Institute of The president, who cannot promulgate any ordinance without being India blamed that attack on the advised by the prime minister, may however, promulgate such ordinance with his own jurisdiction during the pro-Pakistan Lashar-e-Taiba guerrilla group, which is battling Indian caretaker government if situation arises where promulgation of such an In 2001, Islamic militants whom ordinance becomes a necessity for the New Delhi charged were backed by preservation of the constitution or the Pakistan staged a suicide attack on continuity of the constitutional pro-India's parliament that nearly cess.

brought the two nations to war In the existing parliamentary government system, the president is Two policemen were injured in normally vested with the executive the gunfight following the capture of power of the state which is exercised the suspects. Mohammed Ali by the cabinet led by the prime minis-Hussian and Mohammed Fahad, ter, and the president is to act on the Mysore commissioner Sood told advice of the ministers.

Legal experts said this provision will remain ineffective during the caretaker government. They ling on a motorcycle when they were caught, were part of a team sent to observed that the president is now constitutionally empowered to take ture, Sood said. "The evidence is conclusive," he every necessary step to preserve, protect and defend the constitutional said adding that police were "on the process

lookout for more militants in They said the president has taken mandatory oath in terms of article 148 New Delhi often accuses rival of the constitution to preserve, protect Pakistan of responsibility for guerand defend the constitution, which is rilla attacks in Indian Kashmir where not just a matter of formality or rituals.

Indian soldiers are fighting Islamic With the president having such duty, it is difficult to deny him the separatist rebels, as well as for authority necessary for discharging the duty, they said.

Maoa Highway today if Justice Hasar Kabir Talukader said, "We will fight agrees to become the chief of the next against corruption and the dynastic caretaker government. politics in Bangladesh.'

Prof Jahanara Begum, Abdul Karim Abbasi, MA Jinnah, Ziaur Rahman Khan, Ali Qadar, Syed Eid-ul-Fitr Manjur Hossain, Mahi B Chowdhury FROM PAGE 16 and Shahadat Hossiin Selim also

Chief Justice Syed JR Mudassir Husain, City Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, ministers and judges of the Supreme Court, among others, offered Eid prayer at the National Eidgah.

Female devotees also joined the main congregation under special arrangements on the southern part of the Fidgah

President lajuddin Ahmed hosted a reception at the Bangabhaban in the morning for the ministers, MPs, political leaders, diplomats and elite of the city.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia exchanged Eid greetings with a cross section of people and the diplomats at Prodhanmontri urged the caretaker government to Bhaban at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city.

Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina exchanged greetings and pleasantries with diplomats, eminent personalities, leaders of various political parties and professional groups and party members at her Dhanmondi office.

US, UK urge FROM PAGE 1

views by different groups in a peaceful manner," he said, adding, "We call upon all parties to resolve their disputes through political process, and peacefully.

"We expect political parties will exercise restraint; we don't support any violence," said a spokeswoman for the British High Commission in Dhaka.

The British government still hopes that the political parties would reach a consensus and resolve their disputes to ensure free and fair elections, she added.

Responding to a query about the grim political situation following the failed dialogue between the government and the opposition on election issues, US State Department spokesman Sean McCormack told daily press briefing in Washington on Thursday that Bangladesh people will decide their domestic political issues.

On a question about terrorism, he said, "We certainly stand with any government that is in a fight against terrorism. .....it is a serious issue for the Bangladesh government."

"But again, how they do -- how they engage in that fight within the context of their democratic laws and the context of their constitution is one for them to decide," he added.

## Hasan stays out

professional organisations called upon KM Hasan not to take over the office of the chief adviser to the caretaker government to avoid chaos across the country.

merce ministry, OSD (joint secretary)

SM Harunar Rashid to social welfare

Leaders of some organisations also urged the president to initiate a proactive move to find a constitutional solution to the deadlock over appointment of the chief adviser to the caretaker government.

Leaders of Peshajibi Samannay Parishad and Sammilito Nagorik Andolon yesterday went to the house of former chief justice KM Hasan to submit a memorandum urging him not assume the post of the chief adviser to the caretaker government.

The leaders sent in requests to KM Hasan to receive the memorandum but he did not come out and the police did not allow them to enter the house. The leaders of the organisations sat on the street in front of the gate of the house prompting one of the relatives of KM Hasan to come out and receive the memorandum.

The memorandum stated that for the sake of greater interest of the nation and to keep the country chaos and violence free KM Hasan should not to assume the office of the chief adviser.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court Bar Association yesterday called upon the president to initiate a proactive move to find a constitutional solution to the deadlock

After the expiry of the BNP-led fourparty alliance government's tenure, the president can perform his constitutional duties like appointing the prime minister and the chief justice on his own.

"So, in the case of appointing the chief adviser to the interim government, there is no scope for the president to act in accordance with the will or advice of the outgoing government," Hasan. SCBA President Barrister M Amir-UI Islam told a news conference in the bar

The SCBA looked to the head of state for a remedy as the four-party regime ended its term last night leaving the standoff between the government and the opposition unsolved.

Referring to Article 48(3) of the constitution, Barrister Amir said the president should exercise his executive authority on advice of the prime minister but appointing the chief adviser is a constitutional function not an executive one.

In a written statement, the SCBA eader expressed his disappointment

over the statement made by BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan breaking off the dialogue between the two major political parties at the eleventh hour.

"Mannan Bhuiyan has disappointed the entire nation by keeping the dialogue hanging through procrastination, which is very unfortunate," he told journalists.

Echoing the observations made by the SCBA president, constitutional experts Dr Kamal Hossain and Dr M Zahir said now is the time for the president to discharge his constitutional responsibilities on the basis of a national consensus, reflecting the will of the people, to save the nation from

any impeding disaster. Among others, Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, Abdul Baset Maiumder, Ozair Faroog, Khandaker Mahbub Hossain, Yusuf Hossain Humayun, Shahara Khatun. Abdul Mannan Khan, and Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miah were present.

> South Asian People's Union against Fundamentalism and Communalism in a different statement called upon the president to take active measures so the administrative power is handed over to a caretaker government headed by a 'real neutral

person'. Professor Kabir Chowdhury, Binod Bihari Chowhdury, Justice KM Sobhan, Advocate Gaziul Haq, Kalim Sharafi, Maj Gen (retd) CR Dutt. Professor BK Jahangir, Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, Journalist Kamal Lohani, writer Hasan Azizul Hag and many others signed the statement.

Leaders of Sammilito Nagorik Andolon yesterday submitted a memorandum to the president that urged him to appoint an honest, neutral person as the chief adviser instead of KM

Dr Qazi Faruque Ahmed of Proshika, Principal Abdul Ahad Chowdhury, Nasiruddin Yusuf, Shahriar Kabir, Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Professor Ajay Roy, Abu Osman Chowhdury, Ramendu Majumder, Professor Muntasir Mamun and some others were present at Banga Bhaban while submitting the memorandum.

Nari Sangram Committee also submitted a memorandum to President lajuddin urging him not to appoint KM Hasan as the chief adviser to the caretaker government.

to bulbs at a few emergency points from the DESA connection of the Jai Jai Din. It is not possible to run the press," the notice added. Security guards did not let any-

one inside the office, with one of them handing over termination letters to sacked employees. Some of the sacked staff report-

edly wanted to resign a few days back but stayed on when the editor intervened, according to sources.

Those who retained their jobs gathered in front of the editor's house in the afternoon when he was holding a meeting with a sevenmember delegation of the Jai Jai Din

"We've gathered here to know when our newspaper will resume publication," a reporter told this correspondent.

Editor Shafik Rehman could not be reached for comment despite several attempts through phone.

market. Jai Jai Din FROM PAGE 16

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