

# 'BNP, Awami League Bills ignored judiciary'

The Jatiya Sangsad resumed its sitting at 4.15 p.m. with Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas in the chair. The day's proceedings began with recitation from the Holy Quran.

Thursday was the private members' day after the question-answer hour. The House was adjourned for Asr prayer. When reassembled it at 6 p.m. the Speaker said he had received notices for two special privilege notices, two adjournment motions and 33 call attention notices. One call attention notice had been accepted, he said.

**Salahuddin Yusuf**  
Salahuddin Yusuf (AL-Khulna) said he had submitted one Constitution Amendment Bill, seeking separation of the Judiciary from the executive but it was not placed before the House. Yusuf said the Bill was submitted on June 11, but unfortunately it did not come up in the House till now.

He said the bill was of vital significance, because it upheld the commitment to the national by the three political alliances during last anti-Ershad movement for guaranteeing independence of the Judiciary.

Referring to another bill, seeking repeal of the Vested Property Act, Salahuddin Yusuf said the notice of this bill was also given by him on June 14, but it too was not brought in the House, the AL leader demanded that the Speaker would take necessary measures so that the two bills are placed before the House in the next private members' day.

**Mohammad Nasim**  
As Salahuddin Yusuf resumed his seat, Mohammad Nasim (AL-Sirajgonj) rose on a Point of Order, demanding a statement from the Relief Minister on the conditions of the people affected by the serious river erosion in Sirajgonj. He said thousands of people have been rendered homeless and on relief has reached them so far.

**Moshiur Rahman**  
Moshiur Rahman BN-Fjhenaidah said the daily 'Ajker Kago' had not correctly reported his Wednesday speech during the Budget discussion. He demanded immediate correction of his speech by the concerned newspaper.

**Luftar Rahman Khan**  
The State Minister for Relief, Luftar Rahman Khan, gave a brief statement on the river erosion in Sirajgonj. He said the government is aware of the situation and relief goods have been rushed to the area. He also said he would personally visit the area Friday.

**Tofael Ahmed**  
Tofael Ahmed (AL-Bhola) drew the attention of the Speaker to the bills submitted by Awami League Leader Salahuddin Yusuf. He said the bills of Yusuf are of great significance to the nation as they are intended to honour the commitment of the political alliances to the nation on separating the Judiciary from the Executive.

Tofael sought Speaker's intervention so that the vital Constitution Amendment Bill

seeking independence of the judiciary is placed before the House during the next private members' day. He also pointed out that the Supreme Court Bar Association and other bodies have already started charging the political parties for not honouring their pledges to the people.

**Suranjit Sengupta**  
The next speaker on the subject was Suranjit Sengupta (GP-Sunamganj), who said separation of the Judiciary from the Executive was urgently needed to give democracy good a start. He regretted that neither the Awami League bill seeking reversion from the existing Presidential form of government to the Parliamentary system nor the ruling party's bill on this vital constitution amendment mentioned this point.

Sengupta felt that it would have been proper to incorporate the issue with the original Constitution Amendment Bill. But he suggested that the bill, submitted by Salahuddin Yusuf, should go to the Select Committee to receive due consideration.

**Nazmul Huda**  
Nazmul Huda, State Minister for Food, said necessary constitution amendment bills have been tabled both by the Treasury and Opposition Benches. He said the amendments which are necessary for the country have already been proposed.

The State Minister, who disapproved of the observations made by some opposition members, also questioned as

could not be placed before the House today.

Referring to the objective of the bill, Mr. Samad Azad said it was intended to ensure fundamental rights of the people, and establishment of Rule of Law. Let us establish Rule of Law by passing this bill, he said.

He said Bangladesh Television and Radio Bangladesh were supposed to be made autonomous bodies but till today nothing has been done in this respect.

to how the then Chief Justice of the Supreme Court could be chosen by the political parties to head the interim government if there was no independence of the Judiciary. He also said that the Select Committee was now discussing the constitution rpt Constitutional Amendment Bills and the House should not waste time discussing irrelevant issues.

The speaker said the rpt the Constitutional Amendment Bill placed by Yusuf was very relevant and he would look into it. About the bill to repeal Vested Property Act, he said, it is still with the Law Ministry.

**Nazir Hossain**  
Raising on a point of order, Nazir Hossain (CPB-Sunamganj) said the back benchers have no independence to place their viewpoints on issues vital to the nation as they got no chance to speak. The seniors in the front rows took all the opportunities whenever they come.

The Speaker said seniors were always honoured and this

convention was even followed in the Judiciary.

**Shahjahan Siraj**  
At this stage, Mr. Shahjahan Siraj (JSD-Tangail) took the floor and said the 11th, 12th and five other Constitution Amendment Bills had already been sent to the 15-member Select Committee. He suggested to send the bill for separation of the judiciary from the executive to the same committee.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad said the main objective of the mass movement was to hand over power to an elected establishment of parliamentary democracy and the setting up of a government accountable to the people.

He said it was not the thinking of Awami League or its leader Sheikh Hasina, rather it was the thinking of the whole nation.

**Samad Azad**  
Mr. Samad Azad said as the Judiciary Bill had been submitted by Mr. Salahuddin Yusuf long ago it should have been introduced today. He wanted to know as to why the bill

**Matiur Rahman Nizami**  
Moulaa Matiur Rahman Nizami (Jamaat-Pabna) expressed the hope that assurance of the Speaker on the bill would be carried out.

He said Deputy Leader of the House had assured that law and order situation of the country, particularly terrorism on the campuses, would be discussed in the House. But he

regretted that no steps had so far been taken in this direction. He called upon the chair to fix a date for discussing the issue.

**Moudud Ahmed**  
Mr Moudud Ahmed (JP-Noakhali) said they had confidence in the Speaker's neutrality. He, however, hoped that the chair would also keep the interest of the back-benchers.

The JP leader said the Judiciary Bill was an important legislation and so it should get proper attention of all.

**Zamiruddin Sircar**  
Taking the floor, State Minister for Land Zamiruddin Sircar said Mr Rashed Khan Menon, Mr Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury, Mr Salahuddin Yusuf and Mr Suranjit Sengupta had given notices on the same issue.

Sircar said a 15-member Select Committee had already been formed with members from both sides. He said this committee would consider the acceptability of any bill. The State Minister for Land called upon the members of the House to arrive at a consensus on whether they would accept the supreme authority of the Chief Justice in regard to the appointment of judges and their promotion or give this power to the President.

**Rashed Khan Menon**  
Taking the floor next, Rashed Khan Menon said by declaring 10 per cent Dearness Allowance for its employees the government

had accepted the legitimacy of enhancing their pay-scale.

He also wanted consideration of the question of pay-rise for both the civil and military personnel, as no discrimination should be made between the civil and military personnel.

Ebadur Rahman (JP) said the resolution was a timely one. He said the services of some few lakh government servants keep the 12 crore people active.

He said, it would not be fair to keep the poor employees deprived of getting enhanced salary with the logic that the market condition would be kept stable.

**Asaduzzaman**  
Asaduzzaman (AL) termed the resolution as very important and urged up the House to accept it. He said, the employees have already come out on the streets and threatened to launch greater movement if the National Pay Scale was not implemented by this month. He said, the nation is not ready to see a movement so early.

**A. S. M. Feroz**  
Mr A S M Feroz (AL) stressed the need for keeping the prices of essentials within the purchasing capacity of the common people along with raising the pay and salary of the employees. He also demanded introduction of ration system for the government employees.

**Rahmat Ali**  
Mr Rahmat Ali (AL) said,

the government so far devalued the currency for 67 times but has not increased the pay of the employees proportionately. With the announcement of national budget and VAT the prices of essentials including medicines had gone up causing serious hardship to the common people.

The Chief Whip of the Opposition Mohammad Nasim called upon the members of the Treasury Bench not to reject the resolution by voice vote through strength of majority. He said, the government employees played a very vital role in establishing this sovereign parliament. He reminded the House that most of the employees had come out on the streets to oust the autocratic regime in the turbulent period of late 90s.

**B Chowdhury**  
The Deputy Leader of the House Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury took the floor and requested Mr Shahid to withdraw his resolution. He also requested the chair not to put the issue to vote.

The Finance Minister then gave his opinion on the issue and the Deputy Speaker deferred the decision on the resolution till Thursday next. He also deferred all other private members resolutions for discussion on the next Private Members Day.

The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House at 9-20 pm to meet again at 4 pm on July 14.

## Metropolitan

### Plea to implement inquiry report on CU incident

CHITTAGONG, July 11: A number of student and other organisations here today called upon the government to implement the suggestions of the inquiry commission on December 22 incident of Chittagong University, reports BSS.

Leaders of Sammito Chhatra Oikkya Parishad, Abhibabok Samity, Chittagong Biswabidyalaya Prakton Chhatra Samity and Bangladeshi Adarsha Shikkok Parishad in separate statements here said that the report of the judicial inquiry commission had truly reflected the Chittagong University incidents and that its implementation would help restore normalcy on the campus.

They also called upon those who were out to mislead the people by whimsical statements on the inquiry commission report, to refrain from do-

ing so in the greater interest of the students and the university.

The signatories to the statements were, among others, Asadur Rahman, Muhammad Badul Alam, Muhammad Yusuf, Advocate Shamsuddin Ahmad Mirza and Prof Nurul Karim.

**Exams postponed**  
The Chittagong University Thursday announced the postponement of the following examinations on account of unavoidable circumstances, a university press release said.

Final Masters degree-1988, first year honours-1990, first year BA honours-1990 and BA honours second year-1990.

Fresh dates for all examinations will be announced soon, the release said.

**Cancellation of inquiry report demanded**  
A students rally held in the

forefront of Dost Building near New Market in Chittagong Thursday reiterated its call for cancellation of one-man commission report on December 22 incident of Chittagong University.

The rally, presided over by Chittagong University Central Students Union (CUCSU) Vice-President Muhammad Nazim Uddin, was addressed by local student leaders Makaddes Ali Majumder, Fakhru Islam, Joyjit Barua, Nazmul Karim Dulal and Shaheen-bin-Hussain Kazal.

They demanded punishment to the killers of student leader Faruquzzaman Faruk and ouster of terrorists from the campus to ensure a peaceful academic atmosphere at Chittagong University.

They said any action on the university campus in violation of 1973 University Ordinance would be resisted by the students of the university.

### Saifur to attend special session of ECOSOC

A high-powered delegation led by Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman, will leave Dhaka for Geneva on Saturday night to attend the special session of the UN Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC), reports BSS.

The special session of the ECOSOC began in Geneva on July 3 and will continue upto July 26.

The ECOSOC special session will take up Bangladesh matters on July 16 when elaborate discussion will be held on possible assistance by different countries and agencies in the post-cyclone rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes in Bangladesh. The Task Force report, prepared by the Bangladesh Government and UN bodies will be presented to the session by the Bangladesh delegation.

The French Minister of Human Affairs Bernard Kouchner will preside over the session.

The other members of the Bangladesh delegation are: Relief Secretary Akhter Ali, Joint Secretary of ERD Anisul Huq Chowdhury and the Bangladesh Permanent Representative to the UN office in Geneva.

### \$10.83m IFAD credit for livestock development

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) will provide a credit of US Dollar 10.83 million to support a small livestock development project in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

An agreement to this effect was signed in Rome on Thursday between IFAD president Idriss Jazairy and Bangladesh Ambassador to Italy Walhur Rahman.

The US Dollar 15.8 million project, intended to assist thousands of landless rural people in the country become more productive and self-reliant, will also be financed by Danish International Development Agency.

The main thrust of the project is to provide technical advice, training and credit that will enable landless or near landless men and women to expand poultry and goat production on home compounds. Initially concentrating on 30 upazilas, the activities of the project would eventually extend to 80 upazilas.

The IFAD project will operate principally through organised self-help groups of men and women, each assisted by locally recruited village workers.

### Reception

**By Staff Correspondent**  
The outgoing Thai Ambassador in Bangladesh Chaiya Chindawongse and his wife Sandra hosted a function at their Gulshan residence on Thursday. High officials, members of the diplomatic corps, journalists, leaders of the business community and elites of the city attended the function.

### PM urges scientists to lead nation to next century

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia called for checking "brain drain" and asked scientists to utilise their talent, wisdom and experience in service of the countrymen, reports BSS.

"We have been prey to brain drain for lack of opportunities at home due to resource constraints," Begum Zia said addressing the award-giving ceremony of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences at the International Conference Centre (ICC) on Thursday evening.

"Be patriotic and dedicate yourselves to the welfare of the people by staying beside them," she urged the scientists.

The Prime Minister pledged to lead the nation towards scientific and technological advancement keeping in view the need of the next century.

"It's time for us to think about the needs of the next century and prepare the nation accordingly," she said, adding the people expect the leadership of the scientists in this direction.

Key to socio-economic development and overall

progress of the country is optimum exploitation of indigenous resources and waging a scientific movement in the country, Khaleda said.

Assuring all help from her government for the growth of science, Begum Zia expressed her desire to build a National Science Bhaban in the capital with facilities of research for all scientists of the country.

The Prime Minister also suggested introduction of National Science Award to encourage the endeavours of the Scientists in nation building.

Looking back to the formation of the National Science Council by late President Ziaur Rahman, the Prime Minister called upon the scientists to further activate and intensify its tasks.

Addressing the function as special guest, Minister for Education, Science and Technology Dr. AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury said integration of scientists' talent and politicians' will could carry the nation forward.

Pointing to the queue at medical and engineering col-

leges and science faculties of universities, the Education Minister said most students were attracted to science.

Dr. Chowdhury called upon the scientists to keep up the trend and make more contribution to the development of the country.

The function was also addressed by Education Secretary ANM Yusuf, Science and Technology Secretary Abul Hashem, President of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences Prof. Innaas Ali and its Secretary Prof. AM Harun-ar-Rashid.

Five scientists of the country were awarded with the Academy's Gold Medal-1990, which also carries cash prize, for outstanding contribution in their respective field of works.

Those who received awards are Prof. M. Shamsur Ali for Nuclear Physics, Prof. Mahmud-ul-Amin for Biology, Prof. Mohammad Wahajuddin for Engineering, Prof. Khondokar Siddique-e-Rabbani for Micro Electronics and Dr. Luftar Rahman Khan for Agricultural Engineering.

### Two hurt in gunbattle over toll collection at brothel

**By Staff Correspondent**

A three-hour gunbattle between two groups of local toughies at Golapbag Lane and Lalchan Mukim Area left at least two persons hurt and caused panic in the area on Thursday.

The gunbattle started around 11 am and lasted till 2 pm. Dozens of cocktails and hand bombs rocked the area during the fight.

Sources said the clash started centering toll collecting at a local brothel. The rivalry between the two groups on toll collecting have been going on since last two months. But it took a severe turn on Thursday.

Later, police arrived on the spot and arrested eight persons. A tense situation is prevailing in the area.



### Charity dinner for cyclone victims

Renowned Britain film stars and pop musicians will join members of Labour Party's shadow cabinet for a special charity dinner in London on Monday July 15 to raise funds for the victims of the April 29 cyclone in Bangladesh, according to a message received Dhaka Wednesday, reports UNB.

The famous Red Fort restaurant owned by Bangladesh-born businessmen Amin Ali will be the venue for the event being organised by One World Action, a leading British development agency.

Bangladesh for spending on long-term reconstruction and rehabilitation projects." The organisation has already sent more than 50,000 pound sterling for support to reconstruct the damaged dwelling house, schools, embankments and water supply system.

Mr Ali, an active supporter of One World Action, has decided to donate the entire food, soft drinks and services for the evening. His suppliers will be giving all wine and beer free of charge.

### BRTC abandons 1,722 buses

Communication Minister Col (Rtd) Oli Ahmed told the Jatiya Sangsad on Thursday that since its inception, Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) purchased 2,154 buses at a cost of Taka 70,68,65,999, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Mr Joynu Abdin Faruque (JP-Noakhali) the minister told the House that out of the total number of buses procured by the BRTC, 1,722 were abandoned while 206 buses were at various depots awaiting repairs.

The minister further informed the House that out of 1,722 abandoned buses 1,606 were sold in auction while the other 116 buses were awaiting auction.

### Village doctors' memo to Speaker

Dr Abdus Sattar and Dr Abdul Huq, President and Secretary General of the Association of Bangladesh Village Doctors respectively, called on Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas at his official residence Thursday and submitted to him a memorandum containing some demands, reports BSS.

The Speaker assured them that he would send their memorandum to the concerned authority for consideration.

### Shamsuddin Mollah laid to rest

The body of Advocate Shamsuddin Mollah was laid to rest at Alipur Graveyard in Faridpur town Thursday afternoon, reports BSS.

A senior Awami League leader and ex-MNA and MP, Mollah died of old age complications at the PG Hospital Wednesday.

### Humayun Ahmed resigns as House Tutor

**By DU Correspondent**  
Dr Humayun Ahmed, novelist and a teacher of Chemistry Department of Dhaka University resigned from his post of House Tutor of Shahdullah Hall.

Sources said he resigned due to his unwillingness to perform the duty at the hall gate as the other House Tutors of the university were doing after reopening of the residential halls.

According to the source, Dr Ahmed wrote in his resignation letter that he did not have enough time to do such job and moreover he felt that it could not be a job of a university teacher.

Dr Ahmed could not be contacted as he is now in Mymensingh.

### Pipegun seized, 3 held

**By Staff Correspondent**  
Gulshan police on Thursday noon recovered one pipegun with ammunition and arrested four youngmen for possessing arms from a house at Maddha Badda.

### Asma Hussain's death mourned

**By Staff Correspondent**  
A milad mahfil and a discussion meeting was held on Wednesday at Munshiganj Mahila College to mourn the death and pray for the salvation of the soul of Begum Asma Hussain, wife of renowned Muslim League leader Qazi Amir Hussain and mother of Qazi Ajmeri Zaman, a social worker of Bikrampur and President of Bikrampur Naart Mangal Samity. Speakers lauded the contributions of late Begum Asma Hussain for the welfare of the people of the locality. Destitute were also fed at the mazar premises of Hazrat Umaruddin Mastan Shah.



Indian Army Chief of Staff General Sunith Francis Rodrigues being seen-off by Chief of Army Staff Lt General Mohammad Noor Uddin Khan at Zia International Airport on Thursday. —ISPR photo



Mrs and Mr Chaiya Chindawongse, the Thai ambassador in Bangladesh seen with the Egyptian envoy and his wife at a function in city on Thursday. —Star photo