

20 newspapers, agencies accept WB award

By Staff Correspondent

A large number of newspapers and two news agencies in Dhaka have accepted the demand for enhanced salaries for journalists and newspaper employees. The demand was put forward by Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ), Dhaka Journalists Union (DUJ), Newspaper Press Workers Federation and Newspaper Employees Federation.

The newspapers and news agencies which have written letters to the unions accepting the Fourth Wage Board Award are: Dainik Bangla, Bangladesh Times, Daily Star, Sangram, Banglar Bani, Dainik Janata, BSS, UNB, Morning Sun, Bangladesh Observer, New Nation, Inqilab, Meilati, Holiday, Newday, Samachar, Capital News, AL Amin, Naba Avijan and Dainik Bhor.

The programmes of movement in these newspapers and news agencies have been withdrawn.

A rally in support of the demands of journalists and employees was held on Wednesday noon in the Jatiya Press Club premises with BFUJ President Reazuddin Ahmed in the chair. The meeting was addressed by BFUJ Secretary General Amanullah Kabir and M A Aziz and Mafzur Rahman, Convener and Joint Convener of Central Action Committee respectively. The speakers congratulated the management of the newspapers and news agencies which had accepted the demand and called upon others to accept the demand immediately.

In his speech BFUJ President Reazuddin Ahmed called for healthy labour-management relations for the growth of newspaper industry. He appealed to the owners to come forward to meet the minimum demands of the journalists and workers. He mentioned in this connection that no one was undesirable in the industry. Referring to BSP

President Barrister Moinul Hussain, Reazuddin Ahmed said that he was not an undesirable person, rather he is a respectable man.

Meanwhile, the journalists and newspaper employees in Chittagong were continuing work stoppage Wednesday as none of the newspapers had accepted the demand. A rally and procession in support of the demand was organised by Chittagong Union of Journalists in the morning.

In Khulna, work stoppage in all the newspapers were continuing in support of the demand.

UNB adds: The management of the Daily Inqilab on Wednesday decided to withdraw the writ petition filed in its name with the High Court Division of the Supreme Court challenging the legitimacy of the Fourth Wage Board Award.

Moulana M A Mannan, Managing Director of the Bengali daily, told the union leaders his son A M M Bahauddin, Editor of the daily and Director of the company, did not file the case along with four other newspaper owners on July 14. Bahauddin left for USA on July 2 on a tour, he added.

Moulana Mannan assured the union leaders he would engage a lawyer today to see in the court how a false affidavit was submitted on behalf of his son.

USSR

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In London last week with President George Bush and leaders of other rich industrial nations. They signalled their willingness to help him shift his country from communism to capitalism.

Faced with a rapidly crumbling economy, Gorbachev has had little choice but to turn for help to the West and to the leading institutions Moscow once derided as capitalist tools.

By applying to join the Fund and the Bank, Gorbachev hopes to gain access to billions of dollars in loans to help him put his country's battered economy back into shape.

EUCSU polls

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Joint Secretary, Magazine Secretary and Literature and Cultural Secretary.

The JCD swept maximum posts including VP and GS at the student unions at Raashed hall, Suhrawardy hall, Sher-e-Bangla hall, Titumir hall and Nazrul Islam hall while BCU won the same at Ahsanullah hall and Shaheed Smrittee hall. 85.5 per cent of votes out of 2876 were cast in the polls held peacefully.

Five panels constituted by JCD, BCU, BCL (S-A), BCL (N-S) and Chhatra Mottree candidates contested the EUCSU poll.

Khaleda

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that during the period of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman the factory was running at a profit.

Later Begum Zia addressed a spontaneous gathering of workers who came there on hearing her arrival.

The Prime Minister called upon the workers to work hard to make the factory profitable once again. She said her government would do everything to ensure better utilisation of the manpower of the factory.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan, State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof Abdul Mannan and General Secretary of Bangladesh Jatiyatadabhi Sramik Dal Nazrul Islam Khan.

Ashura

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for the world Muslim for upholding the holy flag of Islam against all anti-Islamic forces.

Besides, mlad mahfil, Quran Khawani, feeding the destitutes and special prayers were held in different mosques and places in the city and elsewhere of the country to mark the occasion.

Radio Bangladesh and Bangladesh Television put up special programmes while the national dailies printed special supplements highlighting the significance of the day.

The Shia community brought out large mourning processions and paraded main streets of the city expressing 'matam' - 'Hai Hussain, Hai Hussain'.

A procession from 'Karbala maidan' of Azimpur paraded the main thoroughfares up to the Shia mosque at Mohammadpur while other processions with Tazia from Hussaini Dalan and Purana Paltan paraded the streets around.

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BUET students campaigning for elections.

— Star photo

54 hurt in Rajshahi

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Samity joined hands against JCD.

Witnesses said more than 100 rounds of shots were fired and about 12 molotov cocktails exploded during the battles on the RU campus.

About 30 rooms of Habibur Rahman Hall of the University were ransacked and set ablaze. The room of VP Ruhul Kadir Rizvi of Abdul Latif Hall was also ransacked.

The district office of United Communist League at Ganokpara was also ransacked and set ablaze, allegedly by the JCD supporters.

Twenty rooms of Shaheed Selim Hall of BIT were also ransacked and set ablaze.

CU move

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day's meeting, student leaders appreciated the recent steps taken by the authorities to bring back normalcy on the campus and extended help in this regard.

After reopening of Chittagong University on July 16, no class was held for the 8th day today. Less than 30 per cent residential students have returned to the campus.

A large number of police and BDR forces are guarding the trouble-prone campus. Shibir, which still sticks to its demand for VC's removal, staged their six-hour (8 am-2 pm) gherao of the VC office for the fifth day today.

The University remained closed until July 16 since December 1990 because of continued violent rivalry between Shibir and APSU and CUCSU supporters.

The first year, second year and MA final examinations, scheduled for this month, have become uncertain. The schedule of MA final examination has been deferred five times since February, 1990.

BNP, AL differences

From Page 1 Col. 4

ing in parliamentary elections for five years may be dropped. They also told committee members the proposal that a member would vacate his seat if he is expelled from the party may also be withdrawn.

The remaining point of difference on floor-crossing is the proposal to debar members of Parliament from forming groups within the party that nominated them in the parliamentary election.

The sources said, the government side in the Select Committee also agreed to return to the provision made in the 1972 Constitution that the election of the president under a parliamentary system would be conducted by the Chief Election Commissioner, and not by the Speaker as proposed in the government bill.

On the question of appointment of non-MPs as ministers some Opposition members in the Select Committee put pressure for reducing the proportion of such ministers.

The government bill proposes to keep the existing provision of 20 per cent of the ministers from non-MPs.

Some Opposition MPs have suggested that their number should be reduced to 10 per cent, while others have said it should be 15 per cent.

The Awami League bill proposes a return to the provision made in the 1972 Constitution that non-MPs appointed as ministers would lose ministership if they are not elected to parliament within six months of such an appointment.

An insider hinted that the exercise at the Select Committee level was expected to take some shape after last night's meeting which continued till about going to the press in the early hours of today.

The Select Committee is expected to place its report before the House next week.

The Committee was formed on July 9 to scrutinise a total of seven bills, two introduced

Police, posted on the campus at 8 am today, recovered two cut-rifles and some lethal weapons from Rokeya Hall.

The clash scattered to different educational institutions in the city including Rajshahi Government College, Rajshahi New Degree Government College and Rajshahi Government City College Wednesday.

More than 20 per cent resident students RU left their halls for fear of further escalation of violence. No classes were held Wednesday.

The rival student groups also chased each other in Ganokpara, Sahebbajar and Sonadighi areas in the city Wednesday evening.

At about 7-30 in the evening, about 150 JCD activists allegedly attacked and ransacked Rajshahi Sarak Paribahan Samity office.

Two bus owners were injured in the attack. They were admitted to local private clinics.

Tension mounted in the entire city, and police were patrolling different flashpoints.

Raushan

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ers to make the principal accused, Begum Ershad, financially gainier through allotting two bighas of Rajuk land and thereby causing loss to the state.

Three co-accused in this case are former president HM Ershad, former chairman of the Rajuk Rahmatullah and an authorised officer of Rajuk.

The other case in Mottjheel police station had been filed by the bureau of anti-corruption.

Sirajul Huq and Kazi Shahadat Hossain appeared on behalf of Begum Raushan Ershad while the Deputy Attorney General Alhaj M Shamsul Alam and Mrs Rowshanara Begum appeared for the state.

Shantibahini kills seven

From Our Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, July 24 : The Shantibahini gunmen killed seven non-tribals and injured many others at Amtali under Longadu Upazila of Rangamati on Tuesday.

Security forces said that an unidentified number of gunmen showered machinegun bullets from the top of a hill over a group of some 60 non-tribal day labourers who were returning from work in forest.

Six persons died on the spot while the seventh breathed his last at Longadu Upazila Health Complex, the sources said.

Rules of Procedure

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cer or employee of respective ministries.

Independent member Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury sought to ensure that no minister was a member of any standing committee. At present a minister is to be the ex-officio chairmen of the standing committee on his ministry.

Another amendment proposed by Nazrul Islam of Jamaat seeks to clearly define an opposition party in the parliament, and to replace a rule providing for bowing to the chair at the time of entering and leaving the chamber with a rule providing for saluting or showing respect to the chair by raising a hand.

Hasina

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Chittagong. In a statement on Wednesday she said the defeated forces of 71 Jamaat and its associate Shibir are for quite a long time involved in various misdeeds including killing, dacoity, hatjacking and rape at the area.

Sheikh Hasina also said that the 'mastans' belonging to that group killed Chhatra League leaders Rubel, Jahangir, Manik, Sahed, Helal, Touhid and Samir and injured many others. On July 20 the group shot and injured AL General Secretary of Bhujpur union under Fatikchhari Harun Bashar.

'They have unleashed a reign of terror in the area', she said. But the authorities have remained inactive in taking any action against them. Rather they are harassing the leaders and workers of BCL, she alleged.

Sheikh Hasina demanded immediate arrest of the culprits to restore peace in Fatikchhari area.

Diarrhoeal diseases spread in flood-hit areas

By Staff Correspondent

Flood water continued to recede from the affected areas Wednesday but waves of diarrhoeal diseases trailed behind it.

Although officials estimated as low as eleven deaths and 712 people attacked, unofficial sources put the figure at manifold higher from the diseases, caused by intake of impure water and adulterated food by the affected people and scarce medicine and relief.

The displaced people now on embankments, railway tracks and other high places and the vast multitude marooned in far flung areas are threatened more where life saving medicine and relief are difficult to reach due to inadequate logistic support.

Officials confirmed 7 deaths in Bogra and another 4 in Pabna and 300 people attacked in each district. Tangail, Manikganj, Jamalpur and Sirajganj were also under the attack of diarrhoeal and intestinal diseases where officials put the total number of attacks at 712. Unofficial sources said 63 people had died of diarrhoeal diseases in Netrokona in the last fortnight.

The flood forecasting centre of Water Development Board in Dhaka said the water level of the major rivers receded substantially.

The Midnight File

Agreement on new union treaty in USSR

MOSCOW, July 24 : President Mikhail Gorbachev said today he and representatives of Soviet republics had finally agreed on a treaty establishing the structure for a new federation, reports Reuter.

Iraq to return Kuwaiti gold

KUWAIT, July 24 : Kuwait says Iraq will return 3,216 gold bars in the next two weeks which it looted from the central bank during its occupation of the Emirate, reports Reuter.

PFA wins Magsaysay Award

MANILA, July 24 : The Manila-based Press Foundation of Asia (PFA) won the Ramon Magsaysay Award for international understanding, the award foundation announced today, reports Reuter.

DU Syndicate

From Page 1 Col. 8

ing opinion and urged all concerned to be sincere in carrying out their responsibilities in the greater national interest.

The meeting ended without adopting any resolution regarding a fresh date for the elections or the demand by various student bodies to withdraw the ban on the participation of the irregular students in the polls, for which they refrained from nominating candidates.

Earlier, the VC informed the Syndicate members in detail about Monday's violent activities on the campus following which he had to order postponement of the polls.

July 31 had been scheduled for the elections following a consensus at a meeting of the DU Educational Atmosphere Council (DUEAC) where the student leaders were also present, the VC reminded the Syndicate. But, he regretted, those leaders started creating pressure on the authorities to allow special admissions into the university.

Student leaders got admitted in the Institute of Nutrition and Food Science of the University under 'special admission' arrangements prior to the 1989 DUCSU elections. But the diploma course of the institute they were admitted was abolished following strong criticism by various quarters including the press, the Vice-Chancellor observed.

This year, the 'special admission' system was cancelled by the DU Teachers' Association, he said. But the student leaders were adamant about their demand despite being informed of the contro-

very over the issue, he added. After a number of major student organisations announced their boycott of the polls, a joint meeting of the teachers, Syndicate, members Provosts, Deans, Proctors, and leaders of the associations of the university officials and employees unanimously on July 22 supported the Syndicate decision. The meeting followed submission of separate memorandums to the VC by various student bodies stating their decision to boycott the polls. The Syndicate shifted the polls date from July 31 to August 5.

However, the VC said that some 150 students in a procession Monday evening damaged the offices of the VC and the pro VC and locked the Returning Officer's office at the administrative building.

The processionists later stoned the gates of his official residence.

During the incidents, gunshots and explosions of crackers were heard from the Shamsunnahar Hall area, he said adding that he then ordered the police, deployed near his residence, to announce his decision on the postponement of the polls over loudspeakers.

Kuwait to resume oil exports

KUWAIT CITY, July 24: With more than one-third of its oil well fires snuffed out, Kuwait plans this weekend to export its first crude oil since the Iraqi invasion last August, a Kuwait Petroleum Corporation official said Wednesday, reports AP.

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