

Abedi won't be extradited, says Sind Chief Minister

KARACHI, July 31: The ailing founder of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International will not be extradited to the United States or any other country to face fraud and embezzlement charges, a government official said Wednesday, reports AP.

In the first official reaction to the BCCI scandal, Sind Chief Minister Jam Sadiq Ali charged that the closure of the bank's operations worldwide and the indictment of Agha Hasan Abedi were engineered by the West and Israel.

"I am deeply grieved by the malicious, racist and baseless campaign against Abedi," Jam Sadiq told a news conference.

On Monday, a New York grand jury indicted BCCI, four affiliates, Abedi and former deputy Swaleh Naqvi on charges of fraud, falsifying records and stealing more than 30 million dollars.

Pakistan and the United States have an extradition treaty, but so far Washington has made no request, the chief minister said. He refused to answer questions on how he might stop the federal government in Islamabad from extraditing Abedi.

Government officials in Islamabad declined comment on Jam Sadiq's statement. Jam Sadiq has acknowledged he received financial support from BCCI while he was living in exile in London in

the 1980s during Martial Law. He defended Abedi as an honourable man and said he would willingly stand trial before any court in Pakistan. "Abedi's only crime was that he stood up and fought the disciples of the evils in the developed world," Jam Sadiq said. "BCCI was a Third World bank and it took to the challenges of breaking a hegemonic control of the Jewish lobby on the world's financial institutions."

He said Abedi only sought to help the Islamic world acquire scientific and technological independence.

"How could they tolerate Abedi, a Muslim, and the institution he created to make inroads in their financial domination?" he said. Abedi was the lone fighter in this field. He fought bravely and courageously and I pray that he continues to do so despite his failing health."

Manila lifts ban on Imelda

MANILA, July 31: President Corason Aquino's government on Wednesday lifted its five-year ban on former first lady Imelda Marcos and said she may return from exile to face tax fraud charges — but without her husband's body.

In New York, Mrs. Marcos said she received the news with "mixed emotions."

DU students

From Page 1 Col. 7 native accommodations and some others for relatives or friends' residences.

Meanwhile, eyewitnesses said a number of students of Jahurul Huq Hall, SM Hall and Jagannath Hall brought out separate processions at the hall premises on Tuesday night after the announcement of closure of the university sine die. They were reportedly member of BCL (S-A).

Various political and student organisations expressed grave concern Wednesday over the indefinite closure of Dhaka University in the wake of Tuesday's gunbattle.

They called upon the government and the university authorities to take effective measures for immediate reopening of the University.

Prof Muzaffar Ahmed and Pankaj Dhattacharya President and General Secretary respectively of National Awami Party (NAP) in a joint statement Wednesday condemned the continued violence in educational institutions and urged the relevant authorities to take effective steps against it.

They observed that these incidents are ominous signs at a moment of the nation's transition to democracy.

They demanded strict measures including arrest of the "terrorists" irrespective of their party affiliations and suggested their ouster from the parties.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Rab) in a statement held the "negative politics" of the political parties responsible for the anarchy in the educational institutions including Dhaka University.

The statement termed the situation as a threat to the educational system of the country and called upon the students to gear up an independent student movement free from influence of political parties.

Islami Chhatra Shibir held a

rally at the north-gate of Baitul Mukarram mosque protesting terrorist acts in the educational institutions.

The rally, addressed by Aminul Islam, Aminur Rahman and Hamid Hossain, accused BNP and Awami League's student fronts for the anarchy in the educational institutions and called upon the political parties to expel all armed hoodlums from the organisations.

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, the students wing of BSD(Khaleq) held a rally on the DU campus protesting the closure of the university.

The rally, addressed by Naimuddin Ahmed, President of it's DU unit, accused the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Chhatra League (S-A) for terrorism and anarchy in the educational institutions throughout the country and demanded immediate measures to stop it.

Chhatra League (L-A), the student front of JAOPA in a statement on Wednesday termed the closure of the educational institutions as shameful for the nation and demanded their immediate reopening.

Islami Chhatra Sena in a statement strongly condemned the terrorist act on the Dhaka University campus and demanded it's immediate reopening.

An article on Page 4 'Illegal Ershad regime' raises heated debate

By Staff Correspondent

A plea made by Jatiya Party MPs to delete the words 'illegal' and 'undemocratic' used in the Constitution (Eleventh Amendment) Bill to qualify the government of former President Ershad led to a spell of heated discussion in the Parliament Wednesday.

Jatiya Party leader Moudud Ahmed argued that there should be differences between political speeches and written provisions of the constitution. If the government of Ershad was regarded as illegal, then how the appointment of the caretaker government could be termed as legal, he asked.

AL leader Begum Sajeda Chowdhury took the floor to assert that 'All powers of the Republic belong to the People' and it was the people who had termed the government of Ershad as 'illegal' and 'undemocratic.' She asked how former President H.M. Ershad had come to power.

Buranjit Sengupta of Ganatantri Party said that Moudud Ahmed who had signed the unanimous report of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Constitution amendment bills had no right to speak against the modified bill. He said that the Ershad government had come to power by toppling an elected government in violation of the constitution.

Abul Hasan Chowdhury of AL said that a unique situation was now prevailing in Bangladesh. And arguments made by MPs against the return of Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed to the Supreme Court bench were not valid.

JCD rally today

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) will hold a rally in front of Jatiya Press Club today (Thursday) at 4 pm. The rally has been organised to demand immediate arrest and trial of the killers of Dr. Milon and Mahub. JCD sources said, reports UNB.

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BCCI depositors, worried by the uncertainty looming large following suspension of the bank's operations, bring out a procession in the city Wednesday demanding return of their deposits. —Star photo

Discussion on 12th amendment

From Page 1 Col. 4 tions as Acting President; to enable him to resume duties as Chief Justice.

Jatiya Party members and one independent member however, made an appeal to the Acting President to voluntarily refrain from joining the Supreme Court bench after the passage of the bill.

A total of 40 MPs took part in the discussion of the 11th Amendment Bill. Twenty-two of them spoke on Wednesday.

The Chief Whip of the Opposition Mohammad Nasim said that Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed had saved the nation from a constitutional crisis by agreeing to take charge when the democratic movement of the people was crowned with success. The Acting President has created a rare example in the history of the nation, he said.

Nasim renewed the resolve of his party, Awami League, to fulfil the commitment made earlier by the three political alliances to allow Justice Shahabuddin to go back to the post of Chief Justice, and to establish sovereignty of the Parliament.

He said that the government and the opposition had travelled a long path and prepared an unanimous report on the Constitution amendment bills by fronting out differences. The nation was now united to introduce a parliamentary system in the country.

The AL leader urged the Treasury Bench to settle the point of discord relating to trial of killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Forces of autocracy would be uprooted for good if it could be done, he said.

AL leader Salahuddin Yusuf made a plea to insert the joint declaration of the three alliances in the Constitution. Why this could not be done if martial law proclamations could be inserted in the document, he argued.

He emphasised the need for making provisions in the Constitution to ensure trial of August 15, 1975 killings, and establish independence of the judiciary.

Matiya Chowdhury of AL said that the passage of the

11th Amendment Bill would establish the fact that people, not barrels of guns, were the sources of all power. Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed should be given the opportunity to go back to his post with a view to fulfilling the commitment of the three alliances, she said.

Matiya Chowdhury, however, said that the joint declaration had called for transfer of power to a sovereign parliament, a condition which was yet to be fulfilled. Criticising JP members for opposing the return of Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed to the Supreme Court, she said it was due to him that even former President Ershad and other Jatiya Party men could get elected to the Parliament.

She called for passage of the Indemnity Bill initiated by AL leader Mohammad Nasim to end the politics of coup and conspiracies. AL would help pass the 12th Amendment Bill, she said adding her party not only stood for 'bismillah' in the Constitution but also try to insert 'Aujubillah' to free all from the vices of 'satan'.

Moudud Ahmed, acting chairman of Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party made a plea so that Justice Shahabuddin did not resume duties as Chief Justice of Bangladesh saying this was needed to uphold the dignity of the office of Chief Justice.

He said that success of democracy depended on a culture based on proper functioning of democratic institutions. He said it would be good for the country if Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed on his own decided not to resume duties as Chief Justice after the passage of the amendment bills and the election of a new President.

Salahuddin Kader Chowdhury of National Democratic Party urged Justice Shahabuddin to voluntarily avoid joining the Supreme Court bench in the interest of upholding separation of powers of the organs of government. Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed would find it difficult to dissociate from the executive actions taken by him or under his instructions during the last

several months, he said.

Other MPs who took part in the discussion on the 11th Amendment Bill were: Barkat Ali, Altaf Hossain Golandaj, Zubeed Ali, Shah Haduzzaman, AKM Jahangir, Sheikh Harunur Rashid, Prof Wallullah, Abdul Matin Khashru, Mohiuddin Ahmed, Abdur Rouf, Abdus Shahid, Nazrul Islam and Abdul Hasan Chowdhury of AL, Shah Md. Ruhul Qudus and Enamul Huq of Jamaat, Abu Lais Mohin Choudhury of JP and independent member Redwan Ahmed.

Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz requested Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas to start discussion on the 12th Amendment Bill, and the latter obliged.

Initiating the discussion, Asaduzzaman of AL said that those elements who could not accept the independence of Bangladesh killed Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman through a conspiracy. The trial of his killers was blocked by promulgating an ordinance on August 20, 1975. He urged all to pass a bill initiated by AL leader Mohammad Nasim to repeal that ordinance.

Leaders of the students unions of Rokeya Hall and Shamsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University Wednesday demanded expulsion from the university and exemplary punishment of those who entered the hall compounds during Tuesday's gunbattle between rival student groups.

Addressing a press conference at the National Press Club in the evening, vice president of the Rokeya Hall Student Union also demanded inquiry into the incidents. Leaders of the Shamsunnahar Hall students union were also present at the press conference.

Shirin Sultana alleged the pro-Mujib Chhatra League (S-A) gunmen entered the halls, indiscriminately fired gunshots, chased the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) workers there. The intruders also ate food in the dining rooms and threatened the hall employees pointing guns at them.

Shirin Sultana complained the gunmen of the Chhatra League including the alleged killers of Dr. Milon and student leader Mahub kept the hall residents hostage for over two hours.

Chased by the attackers, 10 to 15 residents of the halls were injured while running for safety, she added. Tearing the incident as a black chapter for the halls, Shirin Sultana, belonging to JCD said the incidents reminded the students of the days during the Awami League regime.

The JCD leaders demanded immediate reopening of the university.

CU situation : Teachers seek Chancellor's action

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, July 31: Chittagong University Teachers' Association (CUTA) demanded of the Chancellor of the universities to take immediate actions to restore normalcy on the university campus.

In a joint statement Prof Yusuf Sharif and Abul Kalam Azad, President and General Secretary respectively of CUTA recalled that the Chancellor had said he would take steps within 15 days to bring back normalcy. The deadline passed Wednesday.

The CUTA said it would take up fresh movement programme including abstention from work if immediate decision on the CU situation was not taken.

Meanwhile Sanmilita Chhatra Oikya Parishad announced Wednesday it would observe a token 18-hour hunger strike from 8 pm Thursday at the premises of the VC's residence to press for implementation of the enquiry commission report and removal of the Vice-Chancellor.

Another students group, the Sangrami Chhatra Oikya which includes CU Central Students Union also staged a sit-in demonstration in front of the VC's office on Wednesday to declare the enquiry commission report void and continuation of the VC in office.

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Intrusion into women's halls : Expulsion demanded

By Staff Correspondent

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5 hurt as Moitry, BCL (N-S) clash in Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, July 31: Five students were injured in a clash between Chhatra Moitry and Chhatra League (N-S) at Government KC College hostel here Monday afternoon, reports UNB.

Of them, Asaduzzaman (22), and Anup(21), belonging to Chhatra League were admitted to Sadar hospital while the others were released after first aid.

According to sources, the clash between the groups ensued over the occupation of the hostel seats.

Govt's accounts, audit reports submitted to Shahabuddin

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Supporters see its completion as ending 50 years of military confrontation and shifting the focus to economic cooperation and competition as the Soviet Union dumps old-style communism and move to a freemarket system.

START must now go to the US Senate and the Supreme Soviet for formal approval. Under the pact, US strategic nuclear forces are expected to decline from about 12,000 to 10,000 weapons and Soviet forces, from about 10,000 to 8,000.

The treaty and associated protocols force both sides to reduce long-range ballistic missiles and bombers with a range of more than 5,500 kms (3,400 miles) and mandate a 50 per cent cut in the deadly Soviet SS18 missile that carries multiple warheads.

It also reduces warheads and limits air and sea-launched Cruise missile that travel over 600 kms. Reduction must be in phases over seven years.

To ensure against cheating, START carries the most stringent and complicated verification requirements ever devised, including challenge inspections on 16-hour notice.

Six Lithuanian guards were killed and two seriously wounded when the post on the border with the neighbouring Soviet Republic of Byelorussia came under attack early Wednesday morning, the Lithuanian Interior Ministry said.

A ministry spokesman said he did not know who was responsible. Border posts set up by the three breakaway Baltic republics have been attacked several times by Soviet "Black Beret" troops.

Moscow regards the posts as illegal but has denied ordering any attacks.

START is the third and most important US Soviet arms treaty in the past four years. It follows reduction in conventional Forces in Europe and elimination of intermediate-range nuclear weapons.

Doctors' strike

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The BMA called strike was scheduled to begin Wednesday. The BMA had called the strike in protest against the appointment of Maj General (Retd) MR Chowdhury, as National Professor, rehabilitation of the collaborators of the former autocratic regime and for the implementation of the physicians' 23-point demands and the immediate arrest of Dr Milon's killers.

Dr M A Majed and Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, President and Secretary General of BMA in a meeting on Tuesday said that Maj Gen (Retd) MR Chowdhury was a collaborator of the autocratic regime and the chairman of the committee which framed anti-people health policy.

The statement pointed out that the Minister of Health and Family Welfare had given assurance of implementing the 23-point charter of demands of the physicians.

Violent students

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The processionists damaged six vehicles in the morning and another in the evening. Dhanmondi police said, the unruly processionists damaged a car (Dhaka Metro-Ka 03-1419) at about 8 pm.

BSS quoting a DMC source adds: The students of Dhaka College yesterday set fire to a hydraulic ladder (Dha-Metro-Da-5201) of Dhaka Municipal Corporation (DMC) in front of the college.

Mozammel Haq, the driver of the ladder car was seriously injured and taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. His condition was stated to be critical.

Normalcy was restored in the area at 10 pm, police said. None was arrested in connection with the incidents.

The Midnight File

Blast kills 15 on Soviet train

MOSCOW, July 31: Fifteen people were killed and 15 injured when a bomb exploded Tuesday on a train travelling from Moscow to Baku, capital of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Soviet Minister for Railways said here today. The Russian news agency Ria quoted Leonid Matukhin as saying the blast occurred when the train was near Makhakkala, Tbilisi town in the Daghestan, or Caucasus, region, reports AFP.

Six killed in US train mishap

NEW YORK, July 31: At least six people were killed and more than 120 injured when five carriages of a passenger train were derailed in South Carolina today, CBS television news reported. It said the Silver Star Express was bound from Miami to New York with 426 people aboard when it left the track in the town of Lugoff, near Camden, reports Reuter.

Indian troops have killed 4000 Kashmiris, alleges Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, July 31: Indian troops have killed more than 4,000 civilians in the Indian state of Kashmir since early last year, Pakistan charged today, accusing its neighbour of "atrocities". A Pakistan foreign office spokesman said Islamabad would seek a resolution calling for an end to the "repression" in Kashmir at the August 4-8 Istanbul Islamic Foreign Ministers conference, reports AFP.

Bush, Gorbachev

From Page 1 Col. 4 to restore diplomatic relations, broken off during the Middle East war in 1967.

"We believe there is a historic opportunity right now" to bring peace to the Middle East, Bush said, adding that he and Gorbachev were convinced the opportunity mustn't be lost.

Outside the summit, Bush preached the virtues of democratic capitalism in a speech to budding Soviet businessmen. "People must be free — to work, to save, to own their own home, to take risks, to invest in each other and, in essence, to control their own lives," he said.

"This notion of free markets and free people — opportunity for all — this joint venture between political and economic liberty — this is the spirit of democratic capitalism," Bush stated.

"Some call it the 'American dream,' but it's more than that. It's a universal dream," he said. "And it's dream that the Soviet people are now striving to make real for themselves."

Reports of a bloody attack on a Lithuanian border post cast a shadow over the super-power summit.

Six Lithuanian guards were killed and two seriously wounded when the post on the border with the neighbouring Soviet Republic of Byelorussia came under attack early Wednesday morning, the Lithuanian Interior Ministry said.

A ministry spokesman said he did not know who was responsible. Border posts set up by the three breakaway Baltic republics have been attacked several times by Soviet "Black Beret" troops.

Moscow regards the posts as illegal but has denied ordering any attacks.

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