

Provost, tutors of JU hall resign

From JU Correspondent

Provost and House Tutors of A F M Kanahuddin Hall resigned en masse in protest against their confinement in their hall offices by some resident students Friday night.

Their resignation papers, were however, not accepted by the Vice-Chancellor.

Witness said that the students alleged the treasurer of the Kanahuddin Hall Students Union Almas Ali was responsible for the death of Nuruzzaman, a hall employee, on September 12.

Nuruzzaman committed suicide following a quarrel with the Hall Treasurer and the hall administration was reportedly negligent in performing the post-mortem of Zaman, the students said.

They locked the teachers



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing Secretaries and Additional Secretaries of Ministries and Divisions at the PM's Secretariat Saturday. — PID photo

Corruption-free administration

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Turning to the national problems, she said the autocratic regime had not only shattered the national economy but also destroyed all institutions through bribery and corruption. She said the people were blinded in the name of development. "There had been a large flow of foreign aid but those were misused by the regime to cling to power," she said. "If those aids were utilised properly, an infrastructure would have developed by now," she said.

During her about two-hour-long meeting with the officials, the Prime Minister gave a clarification call to all concerned to raise production in fields and factories for strengthening the economy and making the nation self-reliant. Mills and factories have to run profitably, she asserted.

She also called for proper utilisation of foreign aid and said a number of countries wanted to provide help to Bangladesh.

She said mills factories closed during the autocratic regime are being re-opened

and mentioned that Delta Jute Mills had already been re-started.

Begum Zia said unlike the previous one, her government would pursue balanced development of all areas and give priority to small-scale industries also in the rural areas. "This will not only generate employment in the rural areas but will also accelerate the pace of economic activities in the country," she maintained.

Referring to terrorism on the campus, she said her government was determined to stop it and would not hesitate to take stern measures to do it. The Prime Minister sought cooperation of all quarters irrespective of political affiliation to eliminate this scourge once for all. On this score all should keep the interest of the country uppermost, she stressed. The campus violence was the result of actions by the autocratic regime that vitiated the atmosphere, she said.

"We held discussions with the political parties, teachers, guardians and students in this regard," she said adding "we will hold further discussion with them".

Truck drivers call off strike in northern districts

PABNA, Sept 28 : Inter-district Truck Drivers' Union today called off its indefinite strike in 16 northern districts following fruitful discussion between the government and the union leaders, reports UNB.

The Truck Drivers' Union called the strike after a clash between its workers and those of Nagarbari Ghat Kooli Sramik Union on September 25 over collection of tolls. The clash left 20 people injured.

The decision to call off the strike was taken at a meeting this afternoon at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner.

State Minister for Communications Fazlur Rahman Paal, DIG of Rajshahi Range police, SP and DC of Pabna, DC of Natore and General Secretary of Bangladesh Truck Drivers' Union Mohammad Ismail Hossain and General Secretary of Pabna District Truck Drivers' Union Shimul Biswas were present at the meeting.

Suranjit campaigns for Badrul

By Staff Correspondent

Ganotran Party leader Suranjit Sengupta, MP, Saturday called for electing Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury President to nurture the fledgling democracy.

The President under parliamentary system should remain above party politics and be a symbol of national unity, he said in a statement.

Suranjit Sengupta called upon the Prime Minister to take the bold initiative as she did during the passage of the 11th and 12th Constitution Amendments to choose 'strong man from the weak, the brave from the vacillating and the widely respected from the controversial'. "She should rise to the occasion, take the whole nation into confidence and add another landmark to our journey to the world of democracy," he added.

Sengupta justified the nomination of Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury for presidency and said that the post of the President should be kept above politics.

"We should not repeat the mistakes of the past by appointing 'yes-man' President. The nation cannot afford anymore to have a 'yes-man' President under parliamentary system for which we had paid dearly in the past.

US battlefield N-weapons

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vated on a slower schedule under the strategic arms reduction treaty (START) signed this summer in Moscow.

Bush's speech blended optimistic rhetoric about the potential for a more peaceful world with a series of concrete steps toward disarmament — any one of which would have been considered unthinkable even two months ago. He said the collapse of the Soviet threat in the wake of a failed hardline coup last month was significant.

At the same time, Bush said he remained committed to two other costly and controversial weapon systems, the B-2 bomber and elements of the Strategic Defense Initiative, the anti-missile plan known as Star Wars.

Bush's initiative marks one of the broadest and most comprehensive changes in US nuclear strategy since the start of the nuclear arms race in the early 1950s.

The mainstay of Bush's proposal was elimination and destruction of so-called theatre weapons, the tactical nuclear missiles that can be launched from land, bombers, submarines and ships to hit short-range enemy targets. Most are based in Europe, aimed at Soviet sites. Some are deployed in South Korea aimed at the North.

Bush's proposal would maintain tactical nuclear bombs deployed on land-based warplanes.

He called on Moscow to open negotiations for a quick agreement to eliminate all long-range ballistic missiles with multiple warheads, an area where the Soviet Union has a large advantage. He did not propose negotiations on multiple warhead missiles at sea, where the United States has the edge.

Govt college lecturers' strike from tomorrow

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Government college lecturers excepting those under Comilla Board would begin work stoppage for indefinite period from Monday (Sept 30) to press their 12-point demand.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the central executive committee of the Government College Lecturers' Association in the city Saturday.

The strike in colleges under Comilla Board would, however, start from October 10.

The demands include filling 6,000 vacant posts of lecturers in government colleges, creation of 3,000 new posts and promotion of college teachers.

It decided to submit memorandum to the Prime Minister once again in support of the demands.

Office-bearers of the association, including its President Kamal Ataur Rahman, Senior Vice-President A K M Muhammad Sanaulah and General Secretary Omar Faruque, were present at the meeting.

OP-1 winners

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"Over 1,000 winners were not issued visas, but the US authorities declared the programme completed in a press release issued in Dhaka August 21," one of the participants told The Daily Star.

The token fast aimed at drawing attention of the US authorities including the American President George Bush, he said adding that earlier the winners submitted a memorandum to the US Ambassador, the Acting President, the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs but were not yet shown any positive gesture.

He said that 4,900 people won the lottery from Bangladesh under the programme in 1990-91 and according to the conditions the lottery winner, his or her wife or husband and children below 21 years of age were supposed to go to the US.

Till August 21, a total of 6,324 winners and their family members were issued visas although the last date of issuing visas was September 30, he added.

Rangpur killing

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Hostel Wednesday.

Patrol police rushed in from nearby Shahbag Avenue and put off the fire. The agitated students then damaged wind screens of a private car and another car belonging to a donor agency on the road behind the university library. They abstained from further damage of the private car following request from female passengers of the car, eye witnesses said.

Earlier on the day, various student organisations including the newly formed Democratic Student Alliance (DSA), Chhatra League (N-S) and Awami League backed Chhatra League (S-A) held separate rallies and brought out processions on the campus protesting the killing of Habib.

They all blamed BNP backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal for the killing and demanded arrest and trial of the killers.

The Chhatra League (S-A) rally alleged that the JCD was creating anarchy at the educational institutions since long to foil the progressive student movement. It blamed the government for its failure to maintain law and order and called upon all to resist terrorism unitedly.

The DSA rally held at the

UN, Iraqi experts start work on seized documents

BAGHDAD, Sept 28: United Nations nuclear inspectors and Iraqi experts, jointly started work Saturday on drawing up an inventory of documents seized by the UN team, after a four-day showdown at a Baghdad site, reports AFP.

A UN source said the registration began shortly after the 44 inspectors had been allowed to return to their hotel under an agreement reached late Friday. They're expected to work at it all day," he said.

Mission leader David Kay, an American, said earlier he was "very glad" to return to the hotel, and said the end of the stand-off was the result of pressure from the UN Security Council on Iraq and the wide media attention.

His team arrived back at the Hotel Palestine just as dawn was breaking, from the car park of an inspection site just

400 metres (yards) away. They had spent four days and nights out in the open.

Kay also praised "modern technology" — his cellular telephone — which allowed him to remain in contact with the outside world while he and his crew were detained at the car park, surrounded by Iraqi troops.

Under the agreement that allowed the nuclear team to go free, the inspectors will keep the documents but make an inventory together with Iraqi specialists. Iraq is allowed to copy the printed and filmed material.

Kay told the Cable News Network by telephone that an inventory of the documents would begin at 8 am (0400 GMT) Saturday, "with the obligation that it must be completed within 24 hours".

He said the documents would first be seen by "the inspectors themselves and analysts" in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The stand-off had resulted in a victory for his team, the American said.

"The important thing is, in fact, that the team gained exactly what it stood for, the documents remain the property of the inspectors".

Kay said the documents allowed a better understanding of the Iraqi nuclear programme and added that the crew would remain a few more days in Iraq to complete other inspections.

The UN mission is made up of 27 Americans, two Britons, five Canadians, two Australians, three New Zealanders, two Germans, an Egyptian, a Moroccan and a Syrian.

Police camp

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Witnesses said the incident occurred at about 2.30 pm when policemen asked Mannan to halt near Hamidnagar police camp.

Mannan received bullet injury on his belly and was admitted to Osmani Medical College Hospital in a critical condition.

As soon as the news spread, a mob attacked the police camp and set it on fire.

Kotwali police said three policemen were injured in the incident but declined to give details.

Justice Choudhury

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wrong, he said.

Justice Badrul Haider Choudhury told The Daily Star that his friends had started an exchange of ideas with MPs belonging to the BNP and the Jamaat. He himself had telephonic conversations with Jatiya Party leaders.

Justice Choudhury said on Saturday that about forty young workers of the BNP hailing from Noakhali, Feni and Chittagong districts saw him at his residence.

Asked if he would be in the race if the opposition failed to put him up as their consensus candidate, Justice Choudhury said "I'm too early to say anything. But I think I will be in the race".

The last day of withdrawal of candidature will expire at 2.30 pm tomorrow (Monday).

The Midnight File

Kashmir guerillas reject Delhi's peace offer

NEW DELHI, Sept 28: The military commander of one of the biggest Kashmiri guerilla groups Saturday rejected New Delhi's offer of peace talks and vowed to fight on for the state's secession from India. Shahid-ul-Islam, 27, who heads the Hizbulah also warned in a telephone interview that his group would take "strong action" against three people it is holding hostage if 10 of its members were not released from prisons, reports AFP.

Bangla-Romania JEC meet soon

NEW YORK, Sept 28: The Bangladesh-Romania Joint Economic Commission will meet shortly to find modalities of further strengthening trade relations between the two countries. Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase at the meeting said his government would like to propose a number of projects under joint collaborations at the JEC meeting. Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman discussed with his counterpart matters of bilateral interest and reviewed the international situation, reports UNB.

Pak EC to sue opposition alliance

ISLAMABAD, Sept 28: Pakistan's top election official has threatened to put leaders of the main opposition alliance on trial for charging that national elections it lost were massively rigged last October. Chief Election Commissioner Najamuddin said "The Commission will issue contempt notices to the PDA leadership and could bring them to trial under the criminal laws for using forged documents in the White Paper," he said, reports Bteer.

FWP in flood-hit areas demanded

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Party Secretary General Shah Moazzem Hossain Saturday demanded immediate launching of Food-Work Programme in the flood affected areas to help the people survive.

In a statement he claimed starvation deaths in Rangpur, Ostbandha and Thakurgon and said food for work programme would save the people and also help rebuild the damaged infrastructural facilities.

20 injured

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which started at around 1 pm. The rival workers used knives, daggers, rods and other weapons to attack each other.

The clashes spread to different areas of the mill premises including New Colony, Shapia Chhatra and the Dhaka Biju areas.

Today's incidents were a sequel to Thursday night's clashes between the activists of the Jatiya Party-backed Adamjee Jute Mills Sramik Union and the BNP supported Jatiyatabadi Adamjee Jute Mills Sramik Dal, which left 30 persons injured.

Four of the injured were admitted to a local private clinic. They were identified as Anwar (21), Dellar (20), Belal (24) and Hasan (25), all belonging to the Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal. The rest of the injured were released after first aid at the local clinics. When contacted, mill authorities said that production at the mills was normal on the day but tense situation prevailed in the afternoon.

Hartal

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night allegedly by some JCD activists.

All shops, schools, colleges, industries and banks remained closed and all vehicles went off streets from dawn to 2 pm. No major incidents occurred during hartal period.

A series of processions participated by Eight and Five-Party Alliances and its student fronts paraded the streets of the town.

Public meetings were held to protest the killing in the afternoon.

Flood situation

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mud houses were washed away Friday night by flood waters.

Water Development Board sources said that the embankment was partially damaged. They admitted that about 1,30,000 people were living in a sub-human condition.

Meanwhile, the miseries of the flood affected people increased manifold due to lack of foodstuff and medicines. The 13 relief centres opened at Rangpur upazila were too inadequate to accommodate the homeless people.

Lack of boat services hampered relief supplies to the affected areas, UZ Chairman said.

Transport strike in 16 northern districts also hindered relief supplies. Government contractors reported that foodstuff did not reach the godowns at Kazipur and Belkuchi upazilas due to the strike.

A report from Manikganj says: Flood situation in the district improved Saturday with the water level of the Jamuna receding but erosion by the river continued unabated.

Water Development Board sources said erosion by the Padma and Jamuna left about 600 families homeless in Harirampur, Shibalaya and Daulatpur upazilas.

Daulatpur Upazila Chairman told UNB Saturday 250 houses in Bachamara, Baghuta, and Jonpur unions were devoured by the Jamuna rendering about 430 families homeless in last three days.

The Jamuna at Arichaghat was flowing 30 cm below the red mark.

Seven thousand people became homeless during the period as flood waters inundated about 50 villages and washed away 1,200 houses in three upazilas of the district.

Standing crops on 9,000 acres of land, several bridges and culverts were damaged by the flood, relief officials said.