

Focus on election- '91

House - to - house campaign starts

By Staff Correspondent

With the start of house-to-house visit by political workers seeking votes for their candidates, the election campaign in Dhaka city entered its final phase on Friday.

Jamaat to improve condition of poor, says Abbas

Acting Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami Abbas Ali Khan Friday said his Party does not believe in the politics of falsehood, reports UNB.

He said that people were very enthusiastic about the election this time. He quoted a voter as saying 'We could not vote in the past. We are happy that this time you are giving us our voter-numbers with requests to cast our votes'.

Cooperation to recover arms assured

RAJSHAHI, Feb 15: Students and University officials Friday assured civil and police administration cooperation in cleansing the campus of arms, reports UNB.

Strong govt

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She was addressing four massive public meetings and dozens of wayside gatherings on the first day of her six-day campaign tour to south Bengal.

'Islam and Bismillah' of the Awami League if voted to power, Sheikh Hasina termed it as a blatant lie.

The Midnight File

11 killed in Indian train mishap

NEW DELHI, Feb 15: At least 11 people were killed and 36 injured today when a Delhi-bound passenger train derailed in northern India, railway officials said here.

Socialism thriving: Li Peng

BEIJING, Feb 15: China's Communist Party has weathered severe tests from the outside during the past year and socialism is thriving, premier Li Peng said today, reports Reuters.

Southwest Iran rocked

TEHERAN, Feb 15: An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter Scale rocked the southwestern region of Gachsaran Thursday, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

World's oldest person dies

PALATKA (Florida), Feb 15: Carrie White, listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the oldest person in the world, died Thursday at the age of 116, the nursing home where she resided said, reports PTI.

Barre in Kenyan hospital

ROME, Feb 15: Somalia's ousted President Mohamed Siad Barre is believed to be in hospital in Kenya after escaping over the border last week, a spokesman for the rebel United Somali Congress (USC) said Thursday, reports AFP.

Shots fired at Saudia office

KARACHI, Feb 15: Unidentified gunmen fired shots from a car at a Saudi airlines office in Karachi, but nobody was hurt, Pakistani police said today.

Japan-N Korea meet March 11

TOKYO, Feb 15: Japanese and North Korean negotiators will meet March 11 in Tokyo for their second round of talks on establishing diplomatic relations, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said Friday, reports AP.

Space shuttle's military mission

CAP CANAVERAL, Feb 15: The US space agency NASA moved discovery to its sea-side launch pad on Friday in preparation for a March military mission that will be the first space shuttle flight of the year, reports AP.

Peru's cabinet

LIMA, Feb 15: President Alberto Fujimori Thursday accepted the resignation of Prime Minister Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller.

91 infants among 312 corpses

BAGHDAD, Feb 15: The bodies of 91 infants were among 312 corpses pulled from the ruins of the Amrya bomb shelter that was attacked in an allied air raid Wednesday, Iraqi officials said today, reports AFP.

Foreign journalists, visiting the site for the third consecutive day, watched the latest six bodies being recovered.

Text of Security Council Resolution 660

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 15: Following is the full text of United Nations Security Council Resolution 660, which Iraq was reported today as being ready to implement, reports Reuters.

the right to enforce the economic embargo against Iraq and Kuwait by halting shipping to those countries. Cuba and Yemen abstained on Resolution 665.

Other resolutions

AP adds: Here are the other 11 resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council since Iraq invaded Kuwait on August 2.

Added pressure

However the Iraq offer to withdraw from Kuwait puts added pressure on President George Bush to keep Arab nations in the Gulf coalition while insisting their complaints won't be addressed until the war is over.

Iraq ready to pull out

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Fitzwater, called for Iraq to produce immediate and concrete actions on the ground.

France

France also counselled caution. "We mustn't jump to conclusions, imagining sophisticated and detailed solutions already exist," said a spokesman for the French Foreign Ministry.

Gorbachev

In Moscow, President Mikhail Gorbachev was satisfied and hopeful after learning that Iraq might be willing to withdraw from Kuwait, his chief spokesman said Friday.

UN council meet

Away in New York, the UN Security Council Thursday met for the first time since the Gulf war began to debate the conflict in a rare closed-door session.

GCC suspicious

And, the Gulf Cooperation Council, grouping six Arab countries hostile to Iraq, is "very suspicious," of the Iraqi proposal to end the Gulf war, GCC Secretary General Abdullah Yaacoub Bishara said in Cairo.

Hartal observed

He was buried in his residential area, Gulzarbagh, near the court.

Kuwait welcomes

A senior Kuwaiti official said in Cairo: "It is a good statement by Iraq, but it carries many conditions, Iraq must unconditionally implement all United Nations resolutions."

Britain

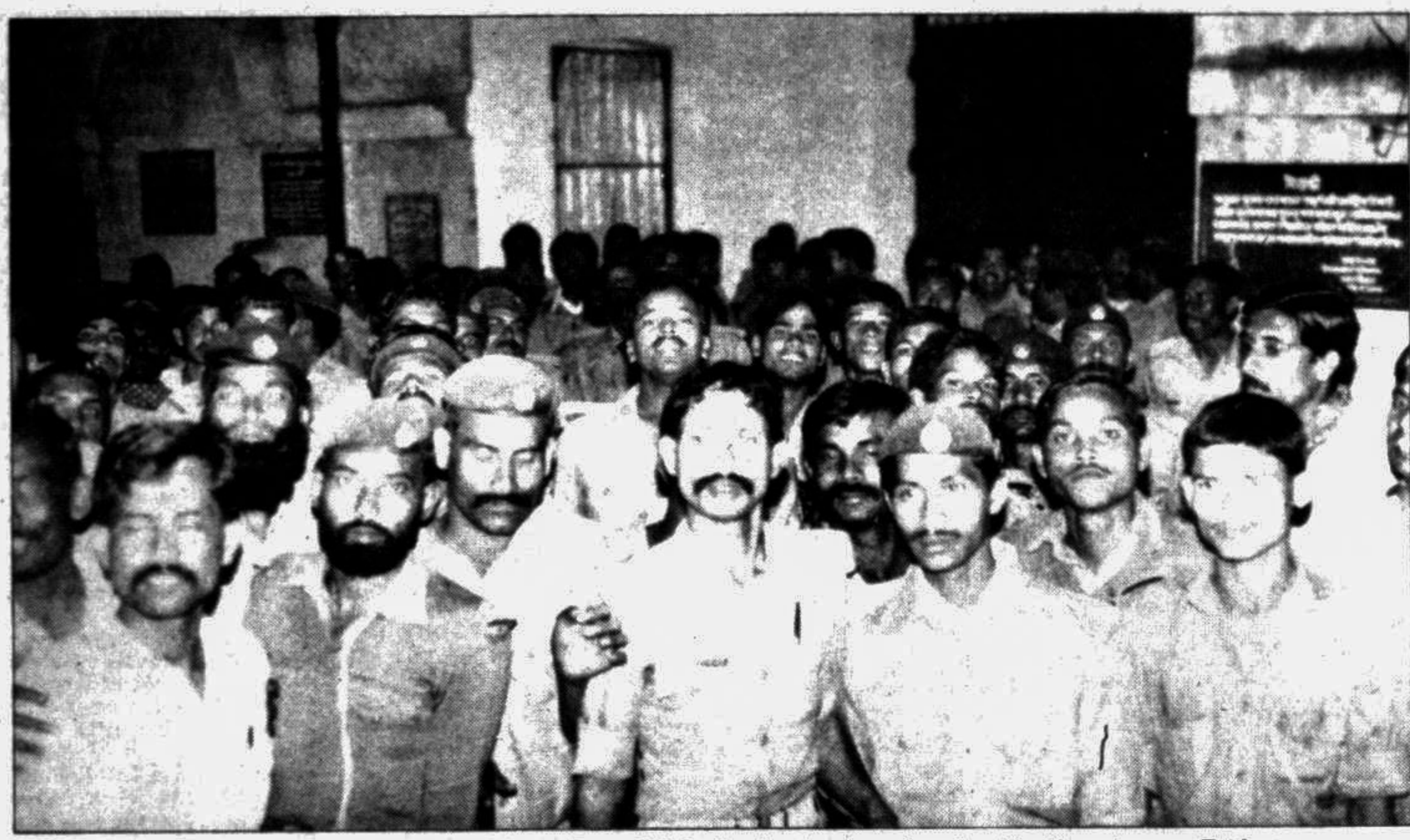
In London, British Prime Minister John Major Friday dismissed Iraq's offer to pull out of Kuwait, describing it as a "bogus sham" and saying it would have no effect on Allied battle plans.

Markets pause

European financial markets rallied briefly Friday following Iraq's offer to withdraw its forces from Kuwait, but the buying frenzy stalled as concerns surfaced over the terms of the pullout, reports AP.

Stocks

Stock prices and the Dollar staged a strong advance, and oil initially slid more than two Dollars a barrel as euphoria swept the markets that the 30 day old war might be drawing to a close.



DOWN-AND-OUTS ... Policemen outside Dhaka Central Jail after having been forced out by the prisoners Friday. —Star photo

Ershad trial

AFM Hasan Arif will conduct the case on behalf of the government while Barrister Kazi Shahadat Hussain, Advocate Sheikh Rezaul Karim and Yousuf Hussain Humayun will appear before the tribunal defending Ershad.

BSP proposal for probe welcomed

Leaders of journalists, newspaper press workers and employees unions in a statement on Friday welcomed the Bangladesh Sangbadpatri Parishad (BSP) proposal to set up a committee to investigate what facilities the newspaper owners and the journalists had taken personally during the autocratic rule of deposed president Ershad.

Khaleda

huge national wealth, killing people, patronising corruption and crippling the country's economy and demanded prompt trial of Ershad and his associates.

Water treatment

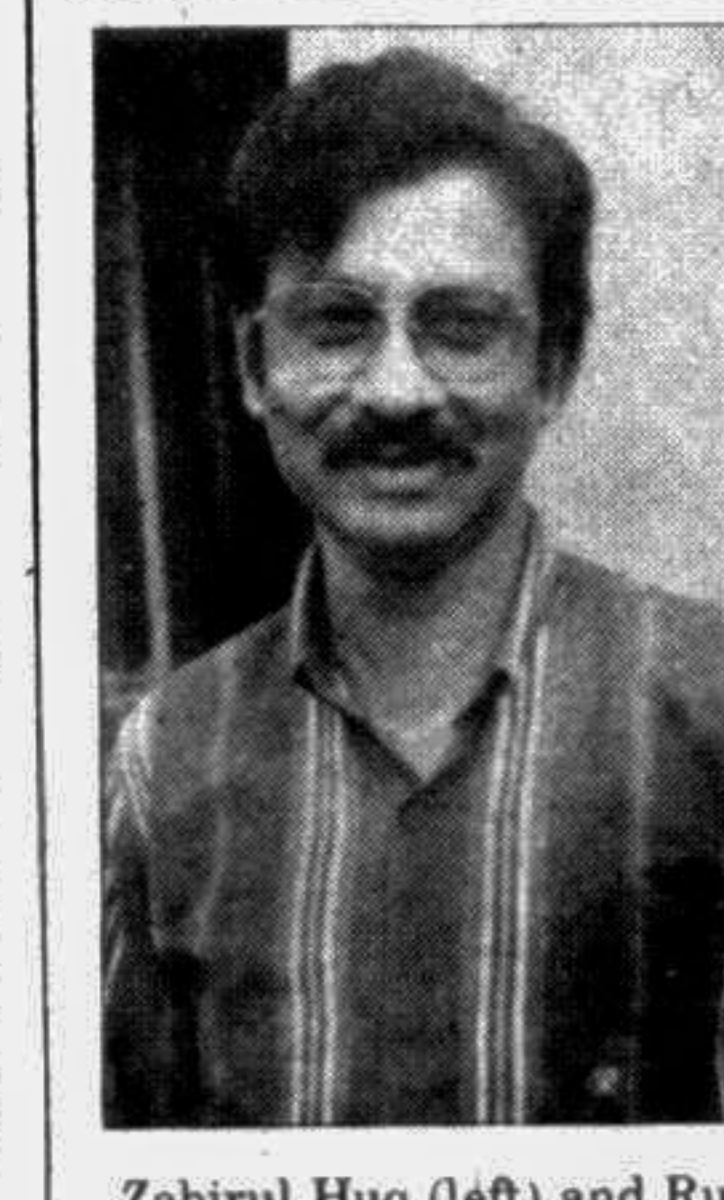
the Turag which surrounds the Dhaka city. They will also examine the probability of utilising the water from the Meghna river for solving city's growing water problem. The French experts will suggest the setting up of treatment plants using river waters along with its economic aspect and cost.

Zahir, Gazi

Rousseau (448), Khandaker Hasnat Karim (436) and Abdul Hakim (400). Joint Secretary: Abdul Aziz (446). Treasurer: Sadrul Hasan (452). Organising Secretary: Mahmud Shafiq (417). Publicity Secretary: Delwar Hossain (450). Sports and Cultural Secretary: Syed Mesbahuddin (436). Social Welfare Secretary: Abdul Gaffar Mahmud (420) and Office Secretary: Kazim Reza (419).

Water treatment

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Zahirul Huq (left) and Ruhul Amin Gazi. —Star photo