

Shahabuddin

From Page 1 Col. 4
It can make laws without any interference from the chief executive. The present parliament is fully sovereign in regard to law making, he said.

The power transfer issue may generate heated debate on the floor on April 5, when parliament goes into session. Awami League, in the meantime, called on the Acting President on Tuesday and requested him not to hand over power to the Speaker. The Acting President asked the Awami League delegation to see relevant constitutional provisions without giving any clear indication that he would relinquish his office.

Meanwhile, the administration is facing the problem of duality as the executive power vests in the Acting President and Begum Khaleda Zia is a Prime Minister without any executive power. But the responsibility of the entire administration lies with BNP which has got the mandate of the people in Parliament polls.

In view of the situation, BNP top-notchers are thinking of electing some one speaker who carries the party with him or her. Abdur Rahman Biswas of Barisal is likely to become the Deputy Speaker, according to BNP sources.

Army deployed in tornado-hit areas

COMILLA Apr 3: Army has been deployed at the tornado-hit areas of Comilla. Three army relief teams comprising of Army engineers, infantry and medical personnel rushed to the affected areas yesterday, reports BSS.

Jamaat leader killed

Unknown assailants Tuesday killed Mafizur Rahman, Secretary of Nilphamari Sadar Upazila Jamaat-e-Islami, reports UNB.

Shamsul Huda

From Page 1 Col. 7
which were promulgated since the last session will be presented by the leader of the House.

Salim Tahukder said the issue of election of the new speaker and the deputy speaker did not come up for discussion in the meeting. He told a questioner that the issues may be settled in a meeting today.

Replying to a question, he said the issue of electing chief whip and other whips of the BNP Parliamentary Party will also be settled today.

Besides the procedural matters, the meeting discussed the overall political situation in the country.

Gulf rebuilding

From Page 1 Col. 5
for Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), first major UN meeting here, is seen here as a step forward towards South Korea's efforts to gain the membership of the world body.

Nor'wester

From Page 1 Col. 5
different areas of Ruma, Lama and Alikadam upazilas of the district.

Immediately after the storms law enforcing agency members rushed to help the affected people while district administration officials started assessing the extent of damage.

According to their preliminary assessment, 45 per cent of the houses of Bandarban town were damaged.

It was the severest nor'wester the people of Bandarban have ever experienced, official sources said.

Meanwhile, Chittagong also experienced occasional gusty wind with maximum speed of 40 KPH and eight mm rain fall was recorded in the city during the past 24 hours.

100 hurt in Kishoreganj

Our Kishoreganj Correspondent adds: A boy was killed, 100 others injured and about 500 houses damaged as nor'wester lashed over five villages of Bibhaban upazila in the district last evening.

According to a delayed report reaching here, Abul Hossain (12), son of Dhan Mia of Dhaki village was killed instantly when a tin-roof fell on him. Besides, one seriously injured person was undergoing treatment at the Mymensingh Medical College Hospital while some others were treated at different health complexes.

Relief materials were distributed on Wednesday among the affected people of Dhaki village while more relief materials would be sent to other villages tomorrow (Thursday), district administration sources said.

Jatiya Sangsad

From Page 1 Col. 5
The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party has indicated no major initiative to end the debate on form of government is likely to be taken during this session.

The inaugural session which will be before the holy Eid-ul-Azha will be preoccupied with the routine functions of election of a Speaker and Deputy Speaker, laying of 44 ordinances, passing of a handful of bills, discussion on Acting President's inaugural address, and formation of standing committees, according to sources.

The fifth Parliament is unique in that its election has been boycotted by no party. It represents the people's will. Unlike its four predecessors the Fifth Parliament is not also overwhelmingly dominated by any single party.

Bangladesh Nationalist Parties has 164 seats in the 5th Parliament. It is followed by Awami League with 87 seats and Jatiya Party with 31 seats. Jamaat, Communist party and BKSAL have 20, 5 and 4 seats. By election in 10 seats are due to be held soon.

Ershad: Oath

From Page 1 Col. 8
photographers in the Committee Room veiled JP MP T. M. Fazle Rabbi and he abused the journalist community for what he said was taking an anti-Ershad stand.

At the press conference that followed the oath-taking, T. M. Fazle Rabbi MP was seen constantly sticking to Ershad so that he could be pictured with his leader.

Ershad, wearing a navy-blue blazer and cream coloured trousers kept on smiling and looked not a bit like one who had been brought to the parliament building from a sub-jail.

"I feel better more relaxed here in this free atmosphere after four months in confinement," Ershad told waiting reporters.

After taking oath he addressed an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the parliament secretariat.

He talked to the journalists freely and without any interruption from the securitymen present there.

The police escort was waiting outside the Parliament House.

The Parliament Secretary Abdul Awal was however busy trying to restrain the press photographers.

Awal's behaviour tended to imply that it was the journalists who were causing the security problems.

After the press conference Ershad addressed a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) at the Committee Room. The meeting was announced by the JP members just after the oath taking.

Securitymen did not bar Ershad presiding over the meeting.

Ershad appeared to have lost none of his gregariousness, striving to establish rapport with the gathered pressmen at every opportunity.

While appearing to chat with the journalists who bombarded him with a barrage of questions, Ershad, who was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad under strict police surveillance for the express purpose of being sworn in as an MP, cleverly contrived to give everyone the slip and hold a full-fledged meeting of his party-men in the Committee Room, taking full advantage of the ignorance of the security personnel regarding the rights and privileges of a person in detention.

When Ershad was coming out of the Parliament Secretary's Room he was handed over a packet by Moudud Ahmed.

On his entering the Committee Room to address the Parliamentary Party meeting three Awami League MPs Mustafizur Rahman, Syed Abul Hussain and Rashed Musharraf met Ershad.

They were on their way to a scheduled meeting of the party on the 9th floor. They also embraced Ershad and exchanged greetings.

Deposed President Ershad attended the Parliamentary Party meeting for about 80 minutes and was then taken back to the Gulshan sub-jail at around 12.30 pm.

Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Awal when asked, told the Daily Star that he did not know whether Ershad was brought to the parliament on parole or under police escort.

On the other hand a Home Ministry source said that Ershad was brought under police escort. But none could clearly whether a prisoner under police escort or on parole could address a press conference or preside over a meeting of a political party.

Ershad: Oath

From Page 1 Col. 8
photographers in the Committee Room veiled JP MP T. M. Fazle Rabbi and he abused the journalist community for what he said was taking an anti-Ershad stand.

At the press conference that followed the oath-taking, T. M. Fazle Rabbi MP was seen constantly sticking to Ershad so that he could be pictured with his leader.

Ershad, wearing a navy-blue blazer and cream coloured trousers kept on smiling and looked not a bit like one who had been brought to the parliament building from a sub-jail.

"I feel better more relaxed here in this free atmosphere after four months in confinement," Ershad told waiting reporters.

After taking oath he addressed an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the parliament secretariat.

He talked to the journalists freely and without any interruption from the securitymen present there.

The police escort was waiting outside the Parliament House.

The Parliament Secretary Abdul Awal was however busy trying to restrain the press photographers.

Awal's behaviour tended to imply that it was the journalists who were causing the security problems.

After the press conference Ershad addressed a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) at the Committee Room. The meeting was announced by the JP members just after the oath taking.

Securitymen did not bar Ershad presiding over the meeting.

Ershad appeared to have lost none of his gregariousness, striving to establish rapport with the gathered pressmen at every opportunity.

While appearing to chat with the journalists who bombarded him with a barrage of questions, Ershad, who was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad under strict police surveillance for the express purpose of being sworn in as an MP, cleverly contrived to give everyone the slip and hold a full-fledged meeting of his party-men in the Committee Room, taking full advantage of the ignorance of the security personnel regarding the rights and privileges of a person in detention.

When Ershad was coming out of the Parliament Secretary's Room he was handed over a packet by Moudud Ahmed.

On his entering the Committee Room to address the Parliamentary Party meeting three Awami League MPs Mustafizur Rahman, Syed Abul Hussain and Rashed Musharraf met Ershad.

They were on their way to a scheduled meeting of the party on the 9th floor. They also embraced Ershad and exchanged greetings.

Deposed President Ershad attended the Parliamentary Party meeting for about 80 minutes and was then taken back to the Gulshan sub-jail at around 12.30 pm.

Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Awal when asked, told the Daily Star that he did not know whether Ershad was brought to the parliament on parole or under police escort.

On the other hand a Home Ministry source said that Ershad was brought under police escort. But none could clearly whether a prisoner under police escort or on parole could address a press conference or preside over a meeting of a political party.

Ershad: Oath

From Page 1 Col. 8
photographers in the Committee Room veiled JP MP T. M. Fazle Rabbi and he abused the journalist community for what he said was taking an anti-Ershad stand.

At the press conference that followed the oath-taking, T. M. Fazle Rabbi MP was seen constantly sticking to Ershad so that he could be pictured with his leader.

Ershad, wearing a navy-blue blazer and cream coloured trousers kept on smiling and looked not a bit like one who had been brought to the parliament building from a sub-jail.

"I feel better more relaxed here in this free atmosphere after four months in confinement," Ershad told waiting reporters.

After taking oath he addressed an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the parliament secretariat.

He talked to the journalists freely and without any interruption from the securitymen present there.

The police escort was waiting outside the Parliament House.

The Parliament Secretary Abdul Awal was however busy trying to restrain the press photographers.

Awal's behaviour tended to imply that it was the journalists who were causing the security problems.

After the press conference Ershad addressed a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) at the Committee Room. The meeting was announced by the JP members just after the oath taking.

Securitymen did not bar Ershad presiding over the meeting.

Ershad appeared to have lost none of his gregariousness, striving to establish rapport with the gathered pressmen at every opportunity.

While appearing to chat with the journalists who bombarded him with a barrage of questions, Ershad, who was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad under strict police surveillance for the express purpose of being sworn in as an MP, cleverly contrived to give everyone the slip and hold a full-fledged meeting of his party-men in the Committee Room, taking full advantage of the ignorance of the security personnel regarding the rights and privileges of a person in detention.

When Ershad was coming out of the Parliament Secretary's Room he was handed over a packet by Moudud Ahmed.

On his entering the Committee Room to address the Parliamentary Party meeting three Awami League MPs Mustafizur Rahman, Syed Abul Hussain and Rashed Musharraf met Ershad.

They were on their way to a scheduled meeting of the party on the 9th floor. They also embraced Ershad and exchanged greetings.

Deposed President Ershad attended the Parliamentary Party meeting for about 80 minutes and was then taken back to the Gulshan sub-jail at around 12.30 pm.

Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Awal when asked, told the Daily Star that he did not know whether Ershad was brought to the parliament on parole or under police escort.

On the other hand a Home Ministry source said that Ershad was brought under police escort. But none could clearly whether a prisoner under police escort or on parole could address a press conference or preside over a meeting of a political party.

Ershad: Oath

From Page 1 Col. 8
photographers in the Committee Room veiled JP MP T. M. Fazle Rabbi and he abused the journalist community for what he said was taking an anti-Ershad stand.

At the press conference that followed the oath-taking, T. M. Fazle Rabbi MP was seen constantly sticking to Ershad so that he could be pictured with his leader.

Ershad, wearing a navy-blue blazer and cream coloured trousers kept on smiling and looked not a bit like one who had been brought to the parliament building from a sub-jail.

"I feel better more relaxed here in this free atmosphere after four months in confinement," Ershad told waiting reporters.

After taking oath he addressed an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the parliament secretariat.

He talked to the journalists freely and without any interruption from the securitymen present there.

The police escort was waiting outside the Parliament House.

The Parliament Secretary Abdul Awal was however busy trying to restrain the press photographers.

Awal's behaviour tended to imply that it was the journalists who were causing the security problems.

After the press conference Ershad addressed a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) at the Committee Room. The meeting was announced by the JP members just after the oath taking.

Securitymen did not bar Ershad presiding over the meeting.

Ershad appeared to have lost none of his gregariousness, striving to establish rapport with the gathered pressmen at every opportunity.

While appearing to chat with the journalists who bombarded him with a barrage of questions, Ershad, who was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad under strict police surveillance for the express purpose of being sworn in as an MP, cleverly contrived to give everyone the slip and hold a full-fledged meeting of his party-men in the Committee Room, taking full advantage of the ignorance of the security personnel regarding the rights and privileges of a person in detention.

When Ershad was coming out of the Parliament Secretary's Room he was handed over a packet by Moudud Ahmed.

On his entering the Committee Room to address the Parliamentary Party meeting three Awami League MPs Mustafizur Rahman, Syed Abul Hussain and Rashed Musharraf met Ershad.

They were on their way to a scheduled meeting of the party on the 9th floor. They also embraced Ershad and exchanged greetings.

Deposed President Ershad attended the Parliamentary Party meeting for about 80 minutes and was then taken back to the Gulshan sub-jail at around 12.30 pm.

Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Awal when asked, told the Daily Star that he did not know whether Ershad was brought to the parliament on parole or under police escort.

On the other hand a Home Ministry source said that Ershad was brought under police escort. But none could clearly whether a prisoner under police escort or on parole could address a press conference or preside over a meeting of a political party.

Ershad: Oath

From Page 1 Col. 8
photographers in the Committee Room veiled JP MP T. M. Fazle Rabbi and he abused the journalist community for what he said was taking an anti-Ershad stand.

At the press conference that followed the oath-taking, T. M. Fazle Rabbi MP was seen constantly sticking to Ershad so that he could be pictured with his leader.

Ershad, wearing a navy-blue blazer and cream coloured trousers kept on smiling and looked not a bit like one who had been brought to the parliament building from a sub-jail.

"I feel better more relaxed here in this free atmosphere after four months in confinement," Ershad told waiting reporters.

After taking oath he addressed an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the parliament secretariat.

He talked to the journalists freely and without any interruption from the securitymen present there.

The police escort was waiting outside the Parliament House.

The Parliament Secretary Abdul Awal was however busy trying to restrain the press photographers.

Awal's behaviour tended to imply that it was the journalists who were causing the security problems.

After the press conference Ershad addressed a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) at the Committee Room. The meeting was announced by the JP members just after the oath taking.

Securitymen did not bar Ershad presiding over the meeting.

Ershad appeared to have lost none of his gregariousness, striving to establish rapport with the gathered pressmen at every opportunity.

While appearing to chat with the journalists who bombarded him with a barrage of questions, Ershad, who was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad under strict police surveillance for the express purpose of being sworn in as an MP, cleverly contrived to give everyone the slip and hold a full-fledged meeting of his party-men in the Committee Room, taking full advantage of the ignorance of the security personnel regarding the rights and privileges of a person in detention.

When Ershad was coming out of the Parliament Secretary's Room he was handed over a packet by Moudud Ahmed.

On his entering the Committee Room to address the Parliamentary Party meeting three Awami League MPs Mustafizur Rahman, Syed Abul Hussain and Rashed Musharraf met Ershad.

They were on their way to a scheduled meeting of the party on the 9th floor. They also embraced Ershad and exchanged greetings.

Deposed President Ershad attended the Parliamentary Party meeting for about 80 minutes and was then taken back to the Gulshan sub-jail at around 12.30 pm.

Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Awal when asked, told the Daily Star that he did not know whether Ershad was brought to the parliament on parole or under police escort.

On the other hand a Home Ministry source said that Ershad was brought under police escort. But none could clearly whether a prisoner under police escort or on parole could address a press conference or preside over a meeting of a political party.

Ershad: Oath

From Page 1 Col. 8
photographers in the Committee Room veiled JP MP T. M. Fazle Rabbi and he abused the journalist community for what he said was taking an anti-Ershad stand.

At the press conference that followed the oath-taking, T. M. Fazle Rabbi MP was seen constantly sticking to Ershad so that he could be pictured with his leader.

Ershad, wearing a navy-blue blazer and cream coloured trousers kept on smiling and looked not a bit like one who had been brought to the parliament building from a sub-jail.

"I feel better more relaxed here in this free atmosphere after four months in confinement," Ershad told waiting reporters.

After taking oath he addressed an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the parliament secretariat.

He talked to the journalists freely and without any interruption from the securitymen present there.

The police escort was waiting outside the Parliament House.

The Parliament Secretary Abdul Awal was however busy trying to restrain the press photographers.

Awal's behaviour tended to imply that it was the journalists who were causing the security problems.

After the press conference Ershad addressed a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) at the Committee Room. The meeting was announced by the JP members just after the oath taking.

Securitymen did not bar Ershad presiding over the meeting.

Ershad appeared to have lost none of his gregariousness, striving to establish rapport with the gathered pressmen at every opportunity.

While appearing to chat with the journalists who bombarded him with a barrage of questions, Ershad, who was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad under strict police surveillance for the express purpose of being sworn in as an MP, cleverly contrived to give everyone the slip and hold a full-fledged meeting of his party-men in the Committee Room, taking full advantage of the ignorance of the security personnel regarding the rights and privileges of a person in detention.

When Ershad was coming out of the Parliament Secretary's Room he was handed over a packet by Moudud Ahmed.

On his entering the Committee Room to address the Parliamentary Party meeting three Awami League MPs Mustafizur Rahman, Syed Abul Hussain and Rashed Musharraf met Ershad.

They were on their way to a scheduled meeting of the party on the 9th floor. They also embraced Ershad and exchanged greetings.

Deposed President Ershad attended the Parliamentary Party meeting for about 80 minutes and was then taken back to the Gulshan sub-jail at around 12.30 pm.

Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Awal when asked, told the Daily Star that he did not know whether Ershad was brought to the parliament on parole or under police escort.

On the other hand a Home Ministry source said that Ershad was brought under police escort. But none could clearly whether a prisoner under police escort or on parole could address a press conference or preside over a meeting of a political party.

Ershad: Oath

From Page 1 Col. 8
photographers in the Committee Room veiled JP MP T. M. Fazle Rabbi and he abused the journalist community for what he said was taking an anti-Ershad stand.

At the press conference that followed the oath-taking, T. M. Fazle Rabbi MP was seen constantly sticking to Ershad so that he could be pictured with his leader.

Ershad, wearing a navy-blue blazer and cream coloured trousers kept on smiling and looked not a bit like one who had been brought to the parliament building from a sub-jail.

"I feel better more relaxed here in this free atmosphere after four months in confinement," Ershad told waiting reporters.

After taking oath he addressed an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the parliament secretariat.

He talked to the journalists freely and without any interruption from the securitymen present there.

The police escort was waiting outside the Parliament House.

The Parliament Secretary Abdul Awal was however busy trying to restrain the press photographers.

Awal's behaviour tended to imply that it was the journalists who were causing the security problems.

After the press conference Ershad addressed a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) at the Committee Room. The meeting was announced by the JP members just after the oath taking.

Securitymen did not bar Ershad presiding over the meeting.

Ershad appeared to have lost none of his gregariousness, striving to establish rapport with the gathered pressmen at every opportunity.

While appearing to chat with the journalists who bombarded him with a barrage of questions, Ershad, who was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad under strict police surveillance for the express purpose of being sworn in as an MP, cleverly contrived to give everyone the slip and hold a full-fledged meeting of his party-men in the Committee Room, taking full advantage of the ignorance of the security personnel regarding the rights and privileges of a person in detention.

When Ershad was coming out of the Parliament Secretary's Room he was handed over a packet by Moudud Ahmed.

On his entering the Committee Room to address the Parliamentary Party meeting three Awami League MPs Mustafizur Rahman, Syed Abul Hussain and Rashed Musharraf met Ershad.

They were on their way to a scheduled meeting of the party on the 9th floor. They also embraced Ershad and exchanged greetings.

Deposed President Ershad attended the Parliamentary Party meeting for about 80 minutes and was then taken back to the Gulshan sub-jail at around 12.30 pm.

Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Awal when asked, told the Daily Star that he did not know whether Ershad was brought to the parliament on parole or under police escort.

On the other hand a Home Ministry source said that Ershad was brought under police escort. But none could clearly whether a prisoner under police escort or on parole could address a press conference or preside over a meeting of a political party.

Ershad: Oath

From Page 1 Col. 8
photographers in the Committee Room veiled JP MP T. M. Fazle Rabbi and he abused the journalist community for what he said was taking an anti-Ershad stand.

At the press conference that followed the oath-taking, T. M. Fazle Rabbi MP was seen constantly sticking to Ershad so that he could be pictured with his leader.

Ershad, wearing a navy-blue blazer and cream coloured trousers kept on smiling and looked not a bit like one who had been brought to the parliament building from a sub-jail.

"I feel better more relaxed here in this free atmosphere after four months in confinement," Ershad told waiting reporters.

After taking oath he addressed an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the parliament secretariat.

He talked to the journalists freely and without any interruption from the securitymen present there.

The police escort was waiting outside the Parliament House.

The Parliament Secretary Abdul Awal was however busy trying to restrain the press photographers.

Awal's behaviour tended to imply that it was the journalists who were causing the security problems.

After the press conference Ershad addressed a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) at the Committee Room. The meeting was announced by the JP members just after the oath taking.

Securitymen did not bar Ershad presiding over the meeting.

Ershad appeared to have lost none of his gregariousness, striving to establish rapport with the gathered pressmen at every opportunity.

While appearing to chat with the journalists who bombarded him with a barrage of questions, Ershad, who was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad under strict police surveillance for the express purpose of being sworn in as an MP, cleverly contrived to give everyone the slip and hold a full-fledged meeting of his party-men in the Committee Room, taking full advantage of the ignorance of the security personnel regarding the rights and privileges of a person in detention.

When Ershad was coming out of the Parliament Secretary's Room he was handed over a packet by Moudud Ahmed.

On his entering the Committee Room to address the Parliamentary Party meeting three Awami League MPs Mustafizur Rahman, Syed Abul Hussain and Rashed Musharraf met Ershad.

They were on their way to a scheduled meeting of the party on the 9th floor. They also embraced Ershad and exchanged greetings.

Deposed President Ershad attended the Parliamentary Party meeting for about 80 minutes and was then taken back to the Gulshan sub-jail at around 12.30 pm.

Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Awal when asked, told the Daily Star that he did not know whether Ershad was brought to the parliament on parole or under police escort.

On the other hand a Home Ministry source said that Ershad was brought under police escort. But none could clearly whether a prisoner under police escort or on parole could address a press conference or preside over a meeting of a political party.

Ershad: Oath

From Page 1 Col. 8
photographers in the Committee Room veiled JP MP T. M. Fazle Rabbi and he abused the journalist community for what he said was taking an anti-Ershad stand.

At the press conference that followed the oath-taking, T. M. Fazle Rabbi MP was seen constantly sticking to Ershad so that he could be pictured with his leader.

Ershad, wearing a navy-blue blazer and cream coloured trousers kept on smiling and looked not a bit like one who had been brought to the parliament building from a sub-jail.

"I feel better more relaxed here in this free atmosphere after four months in confinement," Ershad told waiting reporters.

After taking oath he addressed an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the parliament secretariat.

He talked to the journalists freely and without any interruption from the securitymen present there.

The police escort was waiting outside the Parliament House.

The Parliament Secretary Abdul Awal was however busy trying to restrain the press photographers.

Awal's behaviour tended to imply that it was the journalists who were causing the security problems.

After the press conference Ershad addressed a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party (JPPP) at the Committee Room. The meeting was announced by the JP members just after the oath taking.

Securitymen did not bar Ershad presiding over the meeting.

Ershad appeared to have lost none of his gregariousness, striving to establish rapport with the gathered pressmen at every opportunity.

While appearing to chat with the journalists who bombarded him with a barrage of questions, Ershad, who was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad under strict police surveillance for the express purpose of being sworn in as an MP, cleverly contrived to give everyone the slip and hold a full-fledged meeting of his party-men in the Committee Room, taking full advantage of the ignorance of the security personnel regarding the rights and privileges of a person in detention.

When Ershad was coming out of the Parliament Secretary's Room he was handed over a packet by Moudud Ahmed.

On his entering the Committee Room to address the Parliamentary Party meeting three Awami League MPs Mustafizur Rahman, Syed Abul Hussain and Rashed Musharraf met Ershad.

They were on their way to a scheduled meeting of the party on the 9th floor. They also embraced Ershad and exchanged greetings.

Deposed President Ershad attended the Parliamentary Party meeting for about 80 minutes and was then taken back to the Gulshan sub-jail at around 12.30 pm.

Parliamentary Secretary Abdul Awal when asked, told the Daily Star that he did not know whether Ershad was brought to the parliament on parole or under police escort.

On the other hand a Home Ministry source said that Ershad was brought under police escort. But none could clearly whether a prisoner under police escort or on parole could address a press conference or preside over a meeting of a political party.

Graham Greene dead

PARIS, Apr 3: Graham Greene, whose novels of intrigue, suspense and mystery captivated readers for a half-century, died early Wednesday at his home in Geneva, Switzerland, his French publisher Robert Laffont said. He was 86.

The cause of death was not immediately clear.

Long regarded as one of the English-speaking world's greatest novelists, Greene combined a passion for politics, exoticism and religion in his long career.

Greene, who also had a home in Antibes on the French Riviera, is the author of such acclaimed novels as "The Power and the Glory," "The Third Man" and "The Quiet American." He eventually turned many of his stories into successful movie scripts.

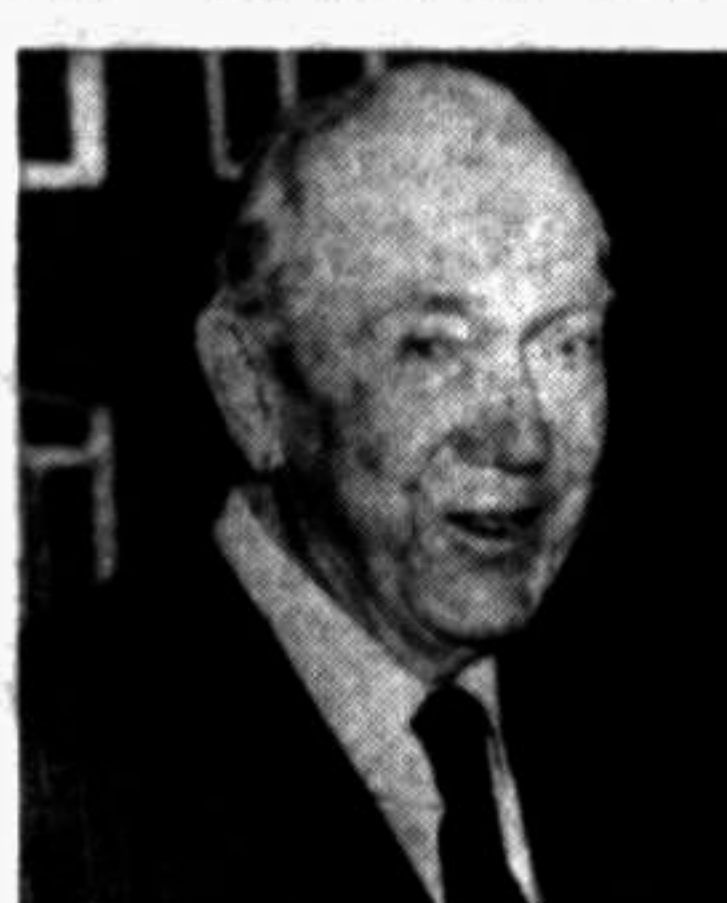
The British-born Greene travelled widely and many of his most successful novels had a political thrust.

Critics said his novels sought to convey a sense of morality and hope to man, whom he saw as plagued by frustration and despair. But Greene, a Roman Catholic convert, viewed many of his novels as "mere entertainments" and labeled them as such.

Yet it was his unique craftsmanship in creating atmosphere and characters that won his widest acclaim.

Greene's works combined elements of the spy thriller and the psychological drama whose heroes acknowledge their sins and thus achieve salvation.

For millions of readers his name was synonymous with action, intrigue, suspense and mystery. Greene himself did not think he had talent, just patience and a penchant for hard work.



Graham Greene—AFP photo

Greene would spend months on location, painstakingly gathering material for a future novel, but claimed his own life lacked the colourful adventures of his characters.

"I have spent almost as much time with imaginary characters as with real men and women," he wrote in his 1971 autobiography.

Nor could he remember anecdotes about his real friends. "The only stories which I faintly remember are the stories I have written," he said.

The stories were compelling parables of the damned, born "out of my own sense of failure and boredom," he said.

His characters, as the critic Michael Mewshaw put it, "are strong because they know they are weak, good because they are sinners."

Greene turned many of his stories into movie scripts, including "The Third Man," "Our Man in Havana" and "The Comedians."

Graham Greene was born in Berkhamsted, England, on Oct. 2, 1904. His father, Charles Henry Greene, was headmaster of Berkhamsted School, one of Britain's most prestigious

boarding schools for boys.

Greene and his younger brother, later Sir Hugh Greene, future publisher and head of the British Broadcasting Corporation, were educated under their father's watchful eye at Berkhamsted and later at Oxford University.

In "A Sort of Life," the first volume of his autobiography, he wrote extensively of his fears — including birds, moths, witches, water and cars — that would haunt him throughout his life, despite undergoing psychoanalysis at 16.

He also explained his "feeling like a double agent," as fostered by his split loyalties as student and headmaster's son.

Greene got his first job on the staff of The Times of London in 1926, where he worked as a copyreader for four years. He joined the Foreign Office during World War II.

His first novel, "Babbling April," was published in 1925. He eventually published 24 novels, seven plays, five screenplays, numerous essays and children's books, and two volumes of his autobiography.

His international reputation was established by 1932 with the novel "Stamboul Train," published in the United States as "Orient Express."

In 1982, Greene became a "cause celebre" with "J'Accuse," a 25-page pamphlet in English and French charging underworld corruption in France at the highest police and government levels. The title was borrowed from the French writer Emile Zola.

Though friends nominated him repeatedly for the Nobel literature prize, he never got the coveted award.

He never mastered the typewriter and wrote in long-hand.

Asanuma

From Page 1 Col. 4

afford.

Evaluating the overall macro-economic management of the administration, Asanuma said the performance had been "pretty well" after recovering from a major lapse in 1989.

The World Bank Director indicated that in view of the government's recent good performance in following the common policy agenda of the donors, the Bank would recommend to the Aid Club for a generous aid offer in the coming Paris meeting.

Asked how the new popular government could afford the donors' prescribed public sector rationalisation programme which would call for retrenching a large workforce, he observed the unemployment problem could only be solved through growth in agriculture and manufacturing sectors.

"Of course excess labour will have to be cut and the people will accuse the administration but the government must choose the option of long-term sustainable employment growth than short-term localised employment."

Asanuma emphasised on large scale reforms in the tax administration and making tax base more elastic. Tax collection must grow at a pace of economic growth, he said, and the new government should be able to achieve it as fast as possible.

On defence expenditure, he said the World Bank should not comment on such a "delicate" issue. But donors, he added, would obviously be concerned and oppose if external aid is spent on this head at the cost of people's poverty.

Justifying the Bank's opposition to wage hike, the World Bank official said although poor wage is "deplorable" in a poor country like Bangladesh, wage must be linked to productivity which, according to him, was gradually going down here.

Defending the World Bank suggestion on withdrawal of concessional lending, he said such concessions had only protected some people but not resulted in industrial growth in Bangladesh. "Not concessional lending but what the private sector here would probably like more is better functioning of the banking system."

Asanuma, in a philosophical tone, observed that generational changes were now taking place among major policy makers as well as the major players of the economy in Bangladesh. This is the sign of "maturation of a nation" which, he said, would immensely help in managing its economy better.

Enunciating the economic policy of the new government, the Minister declared in clear and in no uncertain terms that it will be based on free market principles and that the private sector will be given all encouragement and facilities to increase its investment and thereby contribute to growth.

"Private sector will be the main vehicle of economic growth in the country and not the public sector," the Minister said.

"The government's role will be restricted to building physical and social infrastructure," meaning roads, transport, communications, human resources, schools, health facilities and measures of this type.

However the Minister felt that the agriculture sector was not yet ready to be left to market forces alone and that the government will continue to play its role in that sector for the time being.

"Due to total financial and budgetary indiscipline of the Ershad regime, current government expenditure had shot up three-fold in the last nine years, rising to 60 per cent of the total government expenditure," the Minister told The Star.

This has resulted in massive wastage of taxpayers money and has led to drastic reduction in development outlay, he said.

This will be corrected through a widespread austerity drive touching every branch of the government. "No more fancy and prestige projects, I assure you," he said.

To change the current state of stagnation in the industrial sector government will institute wide-ranging reforms aimed at comprehensive deregulation and simplification of official procedures to encourage the private sector to come forward to invest more.

"To implement the reforms I will set up reform committees, immediately on my return to Dhaka, to devise short term and long term measures".

The minister informed the Star that a set of measures recommended by the World Bank, the UNDP and other multilateral and bilateral bodies were already available to him. "There is no time to lose in correcting the basic flaws in our economy," the Minister emphasized.

The Finance and Planning Minister laid great stress on domestic resource mobilization which the government will aim to achieve through a more efficient tax-collection