

CU students block road, call hartal

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 11: The APSU-CUCSU at a joint rally on the Chittagong University campus today gave a call for another half-day hartal throughout greater Chittagong district on June 16 demanding purge of Shibir activists and normalcy on the campus.

Presided over by CUCSU VP Nazimuddin, the rally was addressed, among others, by CUCSU AS Nazimuddin, Chhatra League (S-A) leader Manzur Alam Shahin and Jatiya Chhatra League leader Mokaddas Ali. Meanwhile, nine hours' blockade of the Chittagong-Rangamati-Nazirhat road by APSU disrupted road communication in the routes. APSU sources said stage of the campus with Shibirites inside will continue. However, campus sources said water and power supply, snapped Sunday by APSU-CUCSU activists, were restored Monday afternoon but telephone lines remained cut off.

Inside the campus, a meeting of the Chhatra Shibir standing committee urged the Chancellor, the Prime Minister and the Education Minister to intervene to end the crisis. The meeting also renewed

their demand for implementation of the Inquiry Commission Report on December 22 incident and removal of Vice-Chancellor Prof Alamgir Mohammad Sirajuddin.

The Shibir standing committee also announced a rally will be held June 13 (Thursday) in front of the Arts Faculty to protest the present stalemate on the campus.

A 72-hour class boycott called Monday by Shibir began today to realise their demands. The administrative section, including the VC's office, will however remain open during the period to facilitate disbursement of salary for the University staff.

Shibir-backed Sangrami Chhatra Oikya and Sammilita Chhatra Oikya Parishad also held a meeting at Anderkella in the city today, cautioning that they will launch a 'final programme' if the VC was not removed within 72 hours.

On Monday, the University Syndicate held a meeting in the city with the VC in the chair. The meeting expressed grave concern over the present situation on the campus and called for immediate intervention of the government to end the crisis.

4 DU students held for extortion

By Staff Correspondent

Patrol police on Tuesday arrested four students of Dhaka University for allegedly trying to extort money from the owner of a construction company.

The arrested students are: Dabir Uddin, 3rd year, Department of Political Science, Jasmuddin Hall Room No 126; Rezaul Karim (Reza), 2nd year, Department of Philosophy, Jasmuddin Hall, Room No 528; Nazrul Islam, 3rd year, Department of Philosophy, Jasmuddin Hall, Room No 431 and Kazi Farook Ahmed, 1st year Department of Finance, Jasmuddin Hall, Room No 430.

Moudud urges govt to ensure campus peace

By Staff Correspondent

Former Vice-President Moudud Ahmed Tuesday urged the government to establish peace and order in the academic institutions and industrial units.

Speaking at a meeting of the Tejaon Industrial area unit of Jatiya Sramik Party, Moudud Ahmed said that the Jatiya Party government had decided to fix minimum wage for workers at Taka 1400. He urged the government to enhance workers' wages, reopen the closed mills and reinstate of the displaced workers.

Moudud Ahmed, who heads the Jatiya Party also urged the government to immediately release all political prisoners.

Students' memorandums

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withdrawal of the cases filed against nine student leaders in connection with the assault on Jamaat leader Maulana Matur Rahman Nizami and reopening of the universities recently closed following clashes between rival student groups.

The student organisations are: Bangladesh Chhatra League (S-A), Bangladesh Chhatra League (N-S), Jatiya Chhatra League, Bangladesh Chhatra Union, Bangladesh Chhatra Motree, Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, Chhatra Oikya Forum, Ganatantrik Chhatra Union, Chhatra Oikya Samity, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and Ganatantrik Chhatra Kendra.

Awami League backed BCL (S-A) in its memorandum also demanded immediate release of its leaders and workers from jails. Shahe Alam and Ashim Kumar Ukil, president and general secretary respectively of the organisation, handed over the memorandum to the Speaker.

Earlier they held a rally followed by a procession on the Dhaka University campus. The rally was addressed by Shahe Alam and Ashim Kumar Ukil.

Baksal-backed Jatiya Chhatra League (JCL) in its memorandum also demanded repeal of all black laws, autonomy of

the Radio and the Television, arrest and trial of the killers of Dr Milon and revival of the Basunia murder case which was withdrawn during the Ershad regime.

Before submitting the memorandum JCL held a rally at the main gate of the Arts Building.

JSD (Inu) supported BCL (N-S) in its memorandum also demanded autonomy of the Radio and the Television, arrest and trial of the killers of Dr Milon and immediate arrest of the armed hoodlums from the educational institutions including Dhaka University, Chittagong University and Agricultural University.

Bangladesh Chhatra Union in its memorandum demanded autonomy of the Radio and the Television, arrest of the armed hoodlums from the educational institutions and trial of the killers of Dr Milon.

The student organisations earlier decided to stage separate marches towards the Jatiya Sangsad building but due to inclement weather they organised rallies and processions on the Dhaka University campus only.

Later the central leaders of the organisations handed over the memoranda to the Speaker of the parliament.

Deregulation

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along with going ahead with liberalisation process, the government will expedite the recovery of overdue bank loans from defaulters. He mentioned that two more loan courts were being set up in the capital bringing their number to four to accelerate the settlement of defalcation cases.

While underlining the importance of quick recovery of loans long overdue, the Finance Minister said, unless the outstanding loans were recovered, a new line of credit would not be available and that there would be no investment in the industrial sector. He reiterated the government was determined to take all legal actions against the defaulters without any exception.

The Finance Minister said, to facilitate borrowing and bring the lending procedures at par with international standards, the banks from now on will classify their clients into three categories on the basis of their credit-worthiness. Interests on loans will be fixed on their performances — better the repayment, lower the interest. The interest rates will fluctuate between nine and 16 per cent and the individual

banks to determine what rate will be charged to a particular borrower, he added.

Replying to a question, the Finance Minister said, significant response have been received from defaulters to settle their borrowings. He informed that the committee would examine the extent of defalcation, case by case, and would extend necessary relaxation to those who had genuine difficulties. The minister, however, reiterated that willful defaulters would be severely dealt with.

To another question, the Finance Minister said, a special audit is being planned against defalcation. He said if bank officials were found involved in malpractices, they would be sued under criminal charges. Under the new Banking Act of 1991 bank officials could be imprisoned upto three years if found in corrupt practices.

State Minister for Finance Mujibur Rahman, Principal Finance Secretary Khurshid Alam and Governor of Bangladesh Bank 'SB Chowdhury were present at the press conference.

Related story on Page 8



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia inaugurating the eight symposium of Federation of Asian and Oceanian Biochemists (FAOB) at the Hotel Sheraton in the city on Tuesday. Story on page 3. —PID photo

Ershad : wealth amassing

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happen at the 'same time' or in the 'same transaction'. Hence the Articles 234 and 235 of the Criminal Act do not stand to prosecute cases of different natures simultaneously.

Invoking the Section 6 of Criminal (Amendment) Act, the Attorney General Aminul Haque however said that to avoid unnecessary sufferings of the accused, the Special Court might try the cases at a time, as per the FIR.

The learned Judge after about 45 minutes of the hearing rejected the petition made by Defence Counsel and ordered the continuation of the prosecution.

Prosecution witness Deputy Director of the Anti-Corruption Bureau Salehuddin Ahmed who lodged the FIR of the case was then produced for cross-examination by the Defence Counsel. Depositing before the Court Salehuddin Ahmed said he was convinced that the subject matters of the case were either earned or procured by Ershad illegally.

He said that on evidence from the Inventory Committee he lodged the FIR and saw for himself the subject matters of the case after lodging the FIR.

Defence Lawyer (D L) Sirajul Haque : Do you know that the Inventory Committee gave an unofficial note to the Home Ministry?

Salehuddin (SA) : Yes. I know that.

D L : The unofficial note asked for necessary instructions about the recovered goods. Do you know that?

SA : Yes, that was mentioned in the letter.

Judge : When was the note given?

SA : On the 6th of January.

D L : What instruction did you receive?

SA : I did not receive any instruction from the Home Ministry.

D L : Did you make any enquiry about the case?

SA : I reviewed the enquiry made by the 8-member Inventory Committee.

D L : Did you ask anything to the accused during your enquiry?

SA : No.

D L : As a man from the Bureau of Anti-Corruption do you know that there was a provision of listing disproportionate income in a prescribed form?

SA : There is a provision for filling up a form for disproportionate income but that is not applicable in this case.

D L : Did you ask the wife of the accused anything?

SA : No.

D L : Did you seek his income tax return?

SA : No I did not seek his income tax return.

D L : You are an officer of the Anti-Corruption Bureau and you can also enquire about anything from the income tax office. Did you go to the income-tax office to see the income tax payment by General Ershad?

SA : No. I did neither go to him nor to the income tax authority.

D L : Do you know that there is a form of 'wealth statement'?

SA : Yes. I have heard about it.

D L : Did you assess the debts and liabilities of the accused?

SA : I got the account of income from the Convener of the Inventory Committee.

D L : You lodged the FIR on the basis of that account?

SA : I believed that the recovered money had no consistency with the income of deposited President Ershad and the property recovered from the Sena Bhavan was not compatible with his income and after reviewing all these I lodged the FIR.

D L : Do you know that he was the chairman of a political party?

SA : Yes. I know that he was the chairman of the Jatiya Party.

D L : Did you try to know whether that money belonged to the Jatiya Party or to any

other person?

SA : Neither did I enquire about the money nor did he claim so.

D L : Have you seen the inventory list?

SA : Yes. I saw the list.

D L : Was there no mention in the list that the recovered money was personal?

SA : No. There was a gap. There was a note of interrogation against the money recovered from the house.

D L : The money belonged to the Jatiya Party and he was the custodian of that money.

SA : I don't know anything in this regard.

D L : When have you seen the articles, recovered from the Sena Bhavan?

SA : After lodging the FIR of the case.

D L : Do you know the price of the goods?

SA : No.

D L : You have mentioned about 264 electronic goods. Do you know the value of the goods?

SA : No. I would not know. The goods included TV, refrigerator and other accessories.

D L : Was there any instruction for lodging the case from the Inventory Committee?

SA : No, there was no mention about the case in the unofficial report. The Committee did not say anything about lodging the FIR.

Judge : There was no instruction from the Committee to lodge FIR.

D L : 'What, 'Babu' says, his aides say more.' That means, there was no instruction for lodging the case but you filed it at your own initiative!

SA : (Refuting the suggestion) It is not a fact.

At this stage Defence Counsel Sirajul Haque said that he would not continue the cross-examination before seeing the exhibits of the case.

Later he however asked a few more questions.

D L : Is the Sena Bhavan a personal house?

SA : No. It is not a personal

house.

D L : So the government property was kept in a government house to be watched over by government personnel.

SA : Those personal goods were kept in a government house.

D L : All those articles belonged to me.

SA : There were some gifts and some personal goods.

Then the Prosecution produced Nurul Alam Officer-in-Charge of the Cantonment Thana as the second witness. He corroborated the statements of prosecution witness Salehuddin Ahmed and produced the eight weapons deposited at the Cantonment Thana with the licences as exhibits of the case.

He said that he went to the Sena Bhavan along with other members of the Committee constituted for locking and sealing of the house.

Nurul Alam said that he saw the mother-in-law of Ershad, wife of Ershad's representative Mustafizur Rahman and his daughter at the Sena Bhavan. They left the house at the instruction of the Committee on December 13.

The eight arms produced before the Court included three double barrel guns, one point 22 bore rifle, one point 38 bore revolver, one point 22 bore pistol, one point 7.62 mm pistol along with ammunition.

The Defence lawyer said that the prosecution witness would be cross-examined later.

Judge of the Special Court Mohammad Ali Khan then adjourned the Court till 10 am June 19.

Attorney General Aminul Haque, Deputy Attorney General Hasan Arif and Amrul Kabir Chowdhury, Public Prosecutors Abdur Razzak Khan and Farid Ahmed appeared for the state.

On the other side Defence Counsel Sirajul Haque was assisted by Barrister Kazi Shahadat Hossain, Mufizur Rahman Mazumdar, Yusuf Hossain Humayun, Sharif Ahmed and Rezaul Karim.

Gallery

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her "government would give highest honour to the people's representatives." Beaming members greeted the announcement by thumping tables. "It is a unique event," said Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas.

The impact of the gain by the MPs on the opening day was well demonstrated by good understanding among them.

RIME Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was looking very confident in the House. She came a little late but stayed for the entire proceedings.

The overall atmosphere on the opening day was cordial and hearty. The ruling party had probably successfully taken the wind out of the Opposition sail.

Awami League MP Tofael Ahmed said the news about the ruling party's decision on the form of government has raised the hope for an atmosphere of understanding in the House.

URANJIT Sengupta wanted to know from the Prime Minister the time and date the constitution amendment bill would be moved. The Prime Minister did not reply.

Unlike the scene in the first session where opposition members invariably referred to the Joint Declaration, the members did not even once mention it Tuesday.

Suranjit Sengupta entered the House amidst cheers from the Treasury Bench members. He reciprocated with a broad smile. It was not known why the Treasury Bench members greeted him.

Suranjit Sengupta who belongs to the eight-party alliance might have earned the applause for accusing the Awami League of the attack on his house. Suranjit was unusually sombre in the House on Tuesday.

LEADER of the Opposition L Sheikh Hasina did not attend the opening session of Tuesday. She returned from Singapore Monday night after undergoing treatment there.

40 injured in road mishap at Aricha

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Party sources said that despite doctors' advice for rest, Sheikh Hasina is expected to attend today's session of Parliament when the national budget will be placed.

Awami League leaders Abdus Samad Azad, Amir Hussain Amu, Tofael Ahmed, Motia Chowdhury, Rahmat Ali and other leaders were present at the airport Monday night to receive Sheikh Hasina.

Police and witnesses said the Khulna-bound night-coach from Dhaka with about 70 passengers aboard plunged into the roadside ditch at Pukuria in Ghior upazila at about 11-45 last night.

Fire Brigade men and police from Ghior and Shiblalaya

upazilas rescued the passengers and sent the injured to sadar hospital.

Eight passengers in critical condition were admitted into the hospital. Others were released after first aid.

Some passengers on the spot said the driver of the "Rupsa Paribahan" coach lost control over the steering as he was sleeping. He fled the scene.

A case was lodged with Ghior Thana.

JCD

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the Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU) addressed a rally in the premises of Madhu's Canteen before going to the parliament.

The JCD leaders said if the government failed to arrest the killers of Dr Milon immediately JCD would be compelled to go for a greater movement.

The leaders also demanded arrest of the armed hoodlums who were destroying the congenial academic atmosphere of the educational institutions including Dhaka University, Chittagong University and Agricultural University.

The JCD will hold a demonstration today (Wednesday) on the Dhaka University campus demanding the hanging of toppled President Ershad.

AL, BKSAL

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for appointing non-MPs as ministers was made during the Awami League rule. However, there was a condition that such ministers should become members of parliament within six months of appointment.

Constitutional experts of BNP, till Tuesday, were in favour of retaining the existing provision. The party was learnt to have finalised the draft of their proposed bill.

No objection

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liament would decide the party's stand on the form of government. "I would have no objection if Parliament decides to switch over to the parliamentary system," he said.

He was talking to journalists after the day's proceedings of the second case, charging him with possessing money beyond known sources of income.

Ershad said that he was not in a position to give decision on behalf of his party. Barrister Moudud Ahmed now running the party, would take decision whether it would give support to the bill to be introduced by BNP proposing parliamentary system, he said.

Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, who took over the party leadership after Ershad's arrest had said after the February 27 parliamentary polls that they would resist the parliamentary form of government.

After the arrest of Mizan Chowdhury, Barrister Moudud Ahmed has been working as Acting Chairmen of the party. Talking to The Daily Star Moudud Ahmed said that he did not know what type of bill would be placed by the BNP. The Jatiya Party would take decision after scrutinising it, he said and denied that some BNP official had talked to him on the form of government.

The Midnight File

Mount Pinatubo spewing ash

MANILA, June 11: Ash rained down Tuesday on the western flank of rumbling Mount Pinatubo, and scientists warned that a US air base and an adjacent city could be endangered if a major eruption occurs. Thousands of Filipinos and US servicemen have been evacuated, but no warning had been issued to residents of a town of 380,000 that scientists say could be in the path of a fast-moving lava flow if the volcano erupts.

17 shot dead in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, June 11: Indian security forces shot dead 17 civilians, including an elderly woman and a 10-year-old boy, in central Srinagar today soon after an attack by secessionist militants, witnesses said. They said the security forces indiscriminately fired at people on the streets and inside shops in the crowded Nawab Bazar where militants struck at security post.

Kuwait resumes oil production

MANAMA (Bahrain), June 11: Kuwait has resumed oil production for the first time since its oilwells were set ablaze and its industry devastated by the Gulf War, a senior official said today. "We have begun pumping oil at a rate of 25,000 barrels per day (BPD) — the crude is being stored, said the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) official contacted by telephone.

A pro-Western made new Pak Army chief

ISLAMABAD, June 11: President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, apparently moving to patch up ties with the United States, named a new army commander on Tuesday who is considered to be pro-Western, reports AP.

Ishaq Khan appointed Lt Gen Asif Nawaz as the next army chief of staff and promoted him to full General. Nawaz will replace Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg, who is to retire August 16.

Nawaz, a career soldier, is said to believe the army has no place in politics. Diplomats say his appointment appears to be part of the government's effort to strengthen ties with Washington.

Relations between Pakistan and the United States have been hurt by Pakistan's controversial nuclear programmes the cut off of hundreds of millions of dollars in US economic and military aid and Beg's anti-Western statements during the Gulf war. Pakistan sent 11,000 troops to Saudi Arabia as part of the allied forces.

In appointing Nawaz, the president bypassed Lt. Gen. Shamim Alam Khan, who was first in line for the post and who is a close associate of Beg's. Shamim was instead

appointed as the joint chief of staff, a ceremonial post.

Since its creation as a Muslim homeland in the 1947 partition of the Indian sub-continent, Pakistan has been ruled for more than 25 years by the army. But even in times of civilian rule, the army still casts a long shadow.

The last round of military rule ended on Aug 17, 1988.

Rains

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The rainfall and subsequent waterlogging paralysed normal life for several hours.

Low lying areas of Shantinagar, Rajarbag, Khilgaon, Mouchak, Sobhanbag, Indira Road, Purba Rajabazar, Lalmatia and Motijheel went under knee-deep water.

Met Office said that 69 mm of rainfall was recorded in Dhaka in 12 hours on the day. It has also forecast more rain during the next 24 hours.

Staff Correspondent adds from Chittagong : Torrential rains in the port city and its suburbs Tuesday added to the misery of people affected by April 29 cyclone and inundated low lying areas paralysing normal life till the afternoon.

The rains caused water logging in Patenga, Halishahar, Agrabad, Katalganj, Chawkabazar, Bakulia and Chaktak areas and hampered rehabilitation efforts and affected people living in makeshift camps.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources
Office of the Electrical Adviser & Chief Electric Inspector
115 New Elephant Road, 2nd & 3rd floors, Dhaka 1205

SPECIAL NOTICE

It has been complained on different occasions that in spite of there being sufficient number of different category licenced contractors/contractor firms in the country, the works of electrical installation are offered to unlicenced contractors at some government/semi-government/autonomous/private organisations. This being contradictory to Rule 48 (1) of Power Rules 1937 is punishable offence under Rule 123.

Therefore it is notified for the information of all concerned that in accordance with the above Rule 48 (1) and the Regulations formed under it any electrical installation work, its renovation/extension and repair, should get done by contractors holding valid licence from Electric Licencing Board of Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and written permission from this office should be obtained for electric connection otherwise permission will not be given for electric connection to such installations.

Power Supply Stations and Associations of Bangladesh Power Development Board and Rural Electrification Board respectively are being advised to provide electric connection to electrical installations only subject to compliance of the above Rule.

The undermentioned different classes of contractors licences are issued and authority for class wise works thereof is provided by the Electric Licencing Board :

Class "C" —	authorised for electrical installation works up to 250 volts maximum.
Class "B, C" —	authorised for electrical installation works up to 650 volts maximum
Class "A, B & C" —	authorised for all electrical installation works above 650 volts.

Engineer Badar Uddin Mandal

Electrical Adviser & Chief Electric Inspector and Chairman