

Sporadic clashes continue Algeria's Islamic Front splits

ALGIERS, June 30: Algeria's main fundamentalist opposition, which has plunged the country into violence, was hit by a fresh split when a senior official attacked the leadership of Abassi Madani, reports Reuters.

Sheikh Mohammad Iman, a member of the policy-making body of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), accused Madani on Algerian television yesterday of creating a "personality cult" and ignoring his top advisers.

Iman urged FIS members not to follow personality cult and he criticised a threat by Madani, made to 20,000 hard-line supporters on Friday, to call a jihad (holy war) if they did not leave the streets and the state of siege lifted.

Such a jihad, Madani said, would be foisted by those who seek "fratricide and war".

He said he had opposed last month's political strike called by Madani because he knew it would bring out the army.

The strike hardened into violent protests calling for an Islamic state. Officials say 42 people have been killed in the violence this month. Diplomats put the figure at nearer 70.

On June 5, President Chadli Benjedid imposed a state of siege, replaced the government and cancelled general elections due to be held last Thursday.

The new government is due to present its programme committed to preparing fair general elections later this year, to Parliament tomorrow.

Three other members of FIS's policy-making body -- the Madjlis Echoura -- have also criticised Madani. One of

Explosion in JCD procession

By Staff Correspondent

Several crackers were exploded when the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) workers of Jagannath College brought out a procession at the college area demanding arrest of the killers of Moniruzzaman Monir, a JCD leader.

None was injured in the explosion.

Monir and Manab Kanti Dey alias Swapna of Awami League-backed Chhatra League (S-A) were killed and over 100 others injured in a night-long gunfight between the activists of JCD and BCL at Dr Milon Hall of the college on June 15 last.

According to witnesses, the procession started from in front of the Victoria Park and terminated at the Jatiya Press Club premises with a rally and handing over of a memorandum to the Home Ministry, addressed to the Prime Minister.

JCD leaders including Ilias Ali, Sagir Ahmed, Kazi Qiyum, Abu Rashid Montu, Shamsul Huq Tonu and Mukut addressed it.

The speakers demanded immediate legal action against the terrorists alleged and better medicare to the JCD leaders and workers injured in the June 15 clash now in hospital.

The memorandum alleged that the killers of Monir were still active on the college campus and urged flushing them out before reopening of the college, closed sine die since June 15.

Shantibahini

From Page 1 Col. 4
arms and ammunition, according to an official source in Chittagong.

The surrendered arms and ammunition included one 9 mm SMC, four magazines of 9 mm SMC and 79 rounds of 9 mm SMC ammunition.

While surrendering, Nai Chakma said that the Shantibahini was facing acute financial crisis, strong dissensions and uncertainty.

Basic rights

From Page 1 Col. 7
was known to everybody that it was the BNP government which had restored the multi-party democracy in the country. She said everybody knew who had killed democracy and introduced undemocratic one-party rule, she added.

She said her government had accomplished many tasks like restoration of multi-party democracy in the past and it would achieve many historical feats in the future also.

Brushing aside the allegation of undemocratic steps by her government, the Prime Minister said the democratic practice of BNP was an established fact and shedding of tears for democracy by those who had killed it looked like a silly joke.

them, Fakir Bachir, said on television yesterday that Madani was "a danger to Islam."

The FIS expelled two of the trio but pardoned the most influential, Hachemi Sahnouni, saying he had been misled.

In the latest violence, three people were killed in Algiers when militants defied the 11 pm to 3.30 am curfew on Friday night.

The traditional protest of sauceman-banging could be heard from the FIS bastion, El-Biar, on Saturday night, along with occasional gunfire. The rest of the city appeared quiet.

Heavy shooting erupted early today in curfew-bound Algiers where Islamic militants are defying the army enforcing a state of siege.

Tracer bullets lit the night in the Mediterranean capital and the sound of sustained gunfire could be heard.

Automatic weapons fire echoed through the streets the disturbances were apparently focused in the Belcourt district, a stronghold of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS).

Dull red tracer flares ripped across the sea front and near the martyrs' monument a memorial to the dead in the 1954-62 war of independence against France.

Three people were killed in clashes in Friday night curfew violations.

The outbreak of shooting early today appeared much more serious.

Ershad's trial resumes today

By Staff Correspondent

The trial of Ershad in the second case on amassing wealth and property from beyond has known sources of income resumes today at 10 am at the old jail warden barracks at the Nazimuddin Road.

Earlier the Prosecution made a plea to the Special District Judge, Mohammad Ali Khan to shift the venue of the court from Gulshan to Nazimuddin Road.

The Defence Counsel opposed the shifting of the venue on the plea that the place was not suitable for holding the trial as the place was difficult to reach by any means of transportation.

Indemnity Act

From Page 1 Col. 7

structures of the Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina and in consultation with all other opposition parties including the Jatiya Party, the Jamaat-e-Islami, the Workers Party, the CPB, Ganatantri Party, the JSD, and the IOJ.

Nasim said that there has been a qualitative change in the country's political arena with the installation of the democratically elected government.

He said that the Awami League would also seek cooperation of the ruling BNP to pass the bill. He, however, made it clear that the bill was not notified as a supplementary to the bill for changing the form of government.

He also said that if time does not permit the introduction of the bill in the current session then it may be introduced during the next session.

Md Nasim said that in no way would the newly notified bill create any sort of impediment to the passage of the bill for introducing a parliamentary form of government in the country.

Nasim said that all other opposition parties who met Saturday evening had given their support to the bill seeking a repeal of the indemnity Act.

Repeating to another question Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad claimed that the repeal of the Indemnity Act would not require two-thirds votes of the total Parliament members. Rather it can be passed by a simple majority.

But NDP leader Salauddin Quadri Chowdhury, when asked, said that whether the bill would require a two-thirds support of the House could only be decided if and when the bill is introduced in Parliament.

When contacted, Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party Secretary Munirul Haque Chowdhury said that it was a question whether the Awami League itself sincerely wants to pass the bill. He said that if the Awami Leaguers had played an honest role, the bill could have been passed much earlier.

Sheikh Hasina recalled that the Awami League government did not impose any new tax burden in 1972-73 when the needs for mobilisation of domestic resources were much more pressing in a war-devastated economy.

She termed the budget for 1991-92 as "directionless." The dependence on external assistance will increase following its implementation, she added.



A soldier of the Slovenian Defence Forces flashes a V-sign as he guards a Yugoslav army tank hit Saturday by an anti-tank missile. The Slovenian flag flutters atop the tank. — AFP photo

Police to be posted at DU hall gates

By Staff Correspondent

Police will be deployed at all the hall gates of the Dhaka University from July 5, the day of the reopening of halls.

Resident students vacated the halls on June 20 as directed by the authorities.

The decision on the deployment of police was taken at a joint meeting of the hall authorities with the Vice-Chancellor Prof Moniruzzaman Miah Sunday afternoon.

The VC convened the meeting to discuss the campus situation and take steps to ensure peace on the campus after the halls reopen following a 15-day Eid vacation.

The date was earlier shifted from June 29 to July 5.

The student leaders included Pankaj Nath of Jatiya will resume on July 6.

The meeting also took several other decisions to maintain normal law and order situation on the campus after reopening of the institution.

Resident students would be allowed to enter the halls amid tight police guard after having their identity cards checked so that no non-residents, outsiders or outsiders or armed men could enter the campus.

Among other decisions, the hall authorities would keep vigilance on the entrance and stay of outsiders or troublemakers.

The meeting was also unanimously of the opinion that the members of the law enforcing agencies must take action against terrorists on the campus and carry out their duties there sincerely.

Chairing the VC the meeting was attended by the Provosts, House Tutors, and Assistant House Tutors of all the 14 halls of the University. Offices of the University will reopen today.

According to DU sources, the VC would soon meet the leaders of the student organi-

Hasina

From Page 1 Col. 7

tion said that tax proposals on items like paper and ball point-pen, ink would lead to price hike of educational inputs when the government claimed that the education sector received the priority attention under the budgetary allocation.

She claimed that the poor would become poorer and the rich richer under the impact of the new budget. The people, she added, expected a much better deal under the new budget from the government which came to power after an arduous struggle against autocracy and which "also claims itself to be democratic."

Sheikh Hasina recalled that the Awami League government did not impose any new tax burden in 1972-73 when the needs for mobilisation of domestic resources were much more pressing in a war-devastated economy.

She termed the budget for 1991-92 as "directionless." The dependence on external assistance will increase following its implementation, she added.

Yugoslav army fighter jets

Indian swoop on Kashmir militants: 15 killed

NEW DELHI, June 30: Indian troops have shot dead 15 Muslim militants in the northern state of Kashmir, were security forces launched a massive crackdown after a gunbattle between Israeli tourists and the rebels, reports AFP.

An Indian government spokesman in New Delhi said the 15 secessionists were gunned down in the frontier state's Uri sector when they tried to cross the border and escape into the Pakistan-administered area of Kashmir.

The shooting occurred late Friday, a few hours after the Indian army joined the unprecedented security operation in the troubled state where Muslim militants are spearheading a secessionist drive.

Eight others were arrested after the incident, which occurred when 80 suspected Muslim rebels tried to leave India through a heavily-patrolled border point, the spokesman said.

The securitymen also seized eight AK-56 rifles, machine-guns and other weapons from the guerrillas.

The spokesman said the guerrillas belonged to the Hizbul Mujahideen group, the parent organisation of a rebel group which fought a gunbattle with seven Israeli tourists Wednesday night after abducting them from a houseboat.

One tourist died and three others were injured in the shootout, another Israeli, who escaped the site, was captured and taken hostage by another militant group opposed to the kidnapper's organisation.

India, which criticised the attack on the Israelis, has assured Tel Aviv of total co-operation in tracking down those responsible.

It has deployed army and paramilitary troopers, crack commandos and helicopters to back the police hunt for the missing Israeli in Srinagar, the urban hub of Muslim secessionists which so far has left more than 2,500 dead since January 1990.

India accuses Pakistan, which disputes Kashmir's ownership and holds the northern third of the territory, of fuelling secessionist campaign. Pakistan denies the charge.

Universities have been asked to open more shifts

Education Minister Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury Sunday said the universities have been asked to open more than one shift at a time to get rid of the session jam, reports BSS.

Meanwhile, the DU unit leaders of the student organisations Saturday afternoon called on Prof Moniruzzaman Miah and urged him to take all-out measures to ensure peace on the campus and by no means shift the reopening date.

Meanwhile, a number of students are now residing in different halls including the Jagannath Hall defying the DU authorities order to vacate the halls.

Finance Bill

From Page 1 Col. 4

The Finance Minister said the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) was committed to institutionalise democracy and constitutional transfer of power and did not consider itself in terms of political power.

Elaborating on the basic economic issues, he said corruption, system loss, inefficiency and loss-making enterprises were the major challenges on the economic front. The challenges would be there irrespective of who would be in power, and the nation could not afford to ignore such issues any further, he observed.

He particularly mentioned about the problems of Bangladesh Railway, Power Development Board, Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation, and public sector jute mills. If there was no national consensus on the basic issues, the stated goals of

self-reliance would continue to delude "us all for all time", he maintained.

While welcoming the criticism of the opposition about the budget, he said that constructive and factual criticism would ensure democracy and accountability and curb corruption. He however maintained that the hard realities of the country's economic life were reflected in the national budget for 1991-92. Those who were in the opposition would certainly not be able to present a better budget, both in qualitative and quantitative terms, than what he had presented, he claimed.

The Finance Minister made a stout defence of the new fiscal measures proposed in the budget for 1991-92.

Repeating to the opposition criticism, he said that no fresh tax proposals on items like soyabean oil, fertilizer and some other items

were to be introduced.

It also asked Americans not to participate in or photograph events in Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia has protested to Austria over its deployment of troops along their border and called for their withdrawal.

At one garrison in Ljubljana, federal soldiers said they felt isolated and vulnerable. "We are practically surrounded," said Lt Col Mihajlo Terzic.

The State Department Saturday urged all US citizens and non-essential diplomatic personnel leave the breakaway Yugoslav republics of Slovenia and Croatia as soon as possible.

"US citizens in Slovenia and Croatia should consider departure from those republics at the earliest opportunity," the department said in a travel advisory.

"All US government dependents and non-essential employees have been authorised to depart the Zagreb Consulate General," it added.

Americans in other parts of Yugoslavia were directed by the State Department to remain in contact with the US embassy in Belgrade.

The State Department advised against all travel to the country because of heightened political tensions, violent clashes between authorities and demonstrators, and travel disruptions affecting roads and railways."

"This is a real military operation," the report said.

It also asked Americans not to participate in or photograph events in Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia has protested to Austria over its deployment of troops along their border and called for their withdrawal.

Austrian Defense Minister Werner Fasslabend said today.

He told Austrian radio that Austria's ambassador to Belgrade had been summoned to the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry and told to pull back the troops.

"I will not refrain from saying that, in view of the events at the border caused by the Yugoslav People's Army, I consider this demand unreasonable," Fasslabend said.

The Minister ordered troops to the border and increased aerial patrols along it after a Yugoslav jet fighter flew over Austria on Friday before attacking a road block on the Slovenian side of the border.

Vienna protested to Belgrade over the violation of its air space and said it was obliged under the terms of its neutrality to protect its territory with all available means.

Austrian Television reported that 5,000 Austrian troops with tanks prominently positioned so they could be clearly seen from the Yugoslav side, were deployed at border posts.

"This is a real military operation," the report said.

Related story on Page 5