

Tension mounts in DU

Campus police stoned

By Staff Correspondent

Tension mounted in the Dhaka University campus Wednesday after occurrence of several untoward incidents amid the electioneering for the DUCSU and Hall union polls scheduled for July 31.

Groups of students stoned police deployed on campus, ransacked the office of the Salmullah Hall Provost and agitated in front of the Vice-Chancellor's office, witnesses said.

A section of processionists belonging to the JSD (Inu)-backed Chhatra League (N-S) stoned policemen posted near the DUCSU building, while passing through the area.

The processionists were raising different slogans against police inaction on the killers of Dr. Milton. The killers have reportedly been active on the campus since the past few days.

Police did not take any action during the pelting. But the general students and activists of different student organisations engaged in polls discussions at the Madhus Canteen started running for safety.

Panic gripped the entire Arts Faculty building area for a while. All these incidents occurred around 1 pm.

Earlier at 10.30 am some activists of the BCL (S-A) stormed the SM Hall Provost's office in protest against a search for the killers of Dr. Milton in the Hall by plainclothes police. The unruly activists damaged the window panes of the office and shouted slogans against the Hall authorities. They also demanded resignation of the Provost. The Provost, however, was absent during the incident, Hall sources said.

Plainclothes policemen had entered the Hall in search of the killers of Dr. Milton on receiving information that they were in the Hall.

On Monday, the BCL (S-A) activists burnt five vehicles in and around the DU campus protesting a room-to-room search by police at the SM Hall to nab the killers.

Meanwhile, a group of examinees agitated in front of the Vice-Chancellor's office at 11 am demanding shifting of the Degree (Hons) and Masters Degree examination till after the DUCSU polls.

In reply, the VC ordered the examinations, scheduled to begin today, postponed.

Concerned circles including student leaders and students in general fear that repeated occurrences of untoward incidents and the free movement of identified terrorists including the killers of Dr. Milton might mar a peaceful DUCSU and halls union election.

JCD appeal

BSS adds: Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Wednesday appealed to the President and Chancellor of the universities to withdraw the expulsion order on its three leaders.

The appeal was made in a

rally held yesterday at the Aparajevo Bangla of the University.

Organised by the JCD Central Committee, the rally was attended by a large number of JCD followers from different parts of the city.

The rally was addressed, among others, by DUCSU GS Khairul Kabir Khokan, AGS Nazimuddin Alam, Moniruzzaman Munir and Mosharraf Ahmed Thakur. JCD Joint Convener Fazul Haq Milon was in the chair.

Recalling the contribution of the three expelled leaders — Kamruzzaman Ratan, Elias Ali and Abdul Malek — the JCD leaders said these student leaders had played an important role during the nine-year anti-autocratic movement and students' struggle in late November 1990.

After the rally, the JCD submitted a memorandum to the VC of the University demanding withdrawal of the expulsion order served in 1987.

The VC Prof M Moniruzzaman Miah urged the JCD members to show restraint in view of the coming DUCSU polls and assured that their demand would be considered properly.

Papers related to the expulsion order have been sent to the Chancellor of the universities, the VC informed them.

BCL rally

Meanwhile, the Chhatra League (S-A) Wednesday said it would resist any step regarding rehabilitation of terrorists on the Dhaka University campus.

This declaration came in a rally held at the Science Cafeteria of the Dhaka University, which was addressed by BCL (S-A) DU Unit President and General Secretary Golam Mustafa Sujon and Kamruzzaman Ansari.

Speakers at the rally called upon the students of the University to resist the conspiracy being hatched by some vested quarters to foil the forthcoming DUCSU polls.

BCL leaders demanded of the government and the University authorities to take necessary steps to bring to book the "culprits" who, they said have been expelled earlier from the University.

They also alleged that armed hoodlums were staying in different halls of the University. They demanded immediate release of their detained activists including one Moazzem and withdrawal of "false cases" against their activists.

Earlier the BCL brought out a procession in the campus.

Meanwhile Chhatra League (N-S) Wednesday met the Vice-Chancellor and urged him to take necessary steps to bring to book the suspected killers of Dr. Milton and Mahbubur Rahman Mahbub, a DU student.

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Sheikh Hasina addressing members of JSD (Inu)-backed Chhatra League (N-S) and Chhatra Union workers who joined the Chhatra League (S-A) at Bangabandhu Bhaban Wednesday.

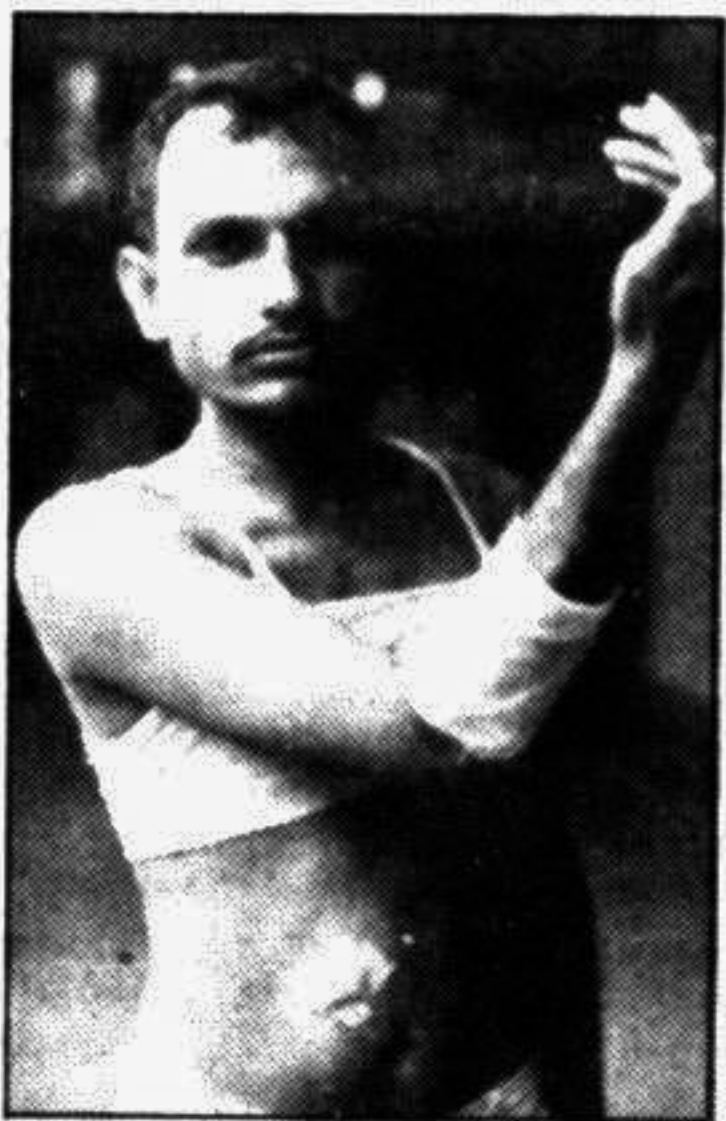
Police officers

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from on top of a four-storied building in the area, the sources added.

After the police team reached the spot near 66, Free School Street, a group of about 25 musclemen attacked them with 'ram daos' (machetes), knives, hockey sticks and other weapons, police sources said.

The OC and the ASI were both attacked with 'ram daos'. The ASI managed to take shelter in the nearby Dhal mosque. But the OC was severely wounded and later rescued by



Injured police sub-inspector Rafiqul Islam. —Star photo

a contingent of armed police. Police said, four persons were arrested from the area with crackers in their possession on Wednesday night.

Police said, infighting between two groups of musclemen at Kathalagan was the cause of trouble in the area. Allegedly led by two known musclemen, Moti Mia and Tenu Mia, the two rival groups are fighting over land disputes and other matters, the police sources added. Police is suspecting that members of the two groups were involved in the attack.

Tk 300 cr earth station

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cases of gross irregularities were detected by the probe team.

The interim government decided to suspend the work on the project but reserved the right to its cancellation by the elected government.

The report said that loss amounting to Tk 10,000 crore could be incurred by the government for leasing out the station to a private company for 30 years.

In a major decision, the government cancelled the deal and asked the T&T Board to prepare another project to build the proposed satellite station at Mahakhali at a minimum cost.

A T&T source said that the Board has already sent a Project Concept Paper (PCP) to the Planning Commission and its subsequent approval by the ECNEC.

The project prepared by the Board is expected to cost Tk 70 to 80 crore only, the sources said. Construction of necessary infrastructures including some building in under process.

Earlier, experts from the Asian Pacific Telecommunity (APT) carried out a feasibility study on the Mahakhali earth station project and suggested building of a high capacity A-type station in an area of six acres of land of the T&T Board at Mahakhali.

The APT expert said the old Bethunia Station in Chittagong had become obsolete and even after BMRE, it was becoming non-functioning due to non-availability of spare-parts.

Talibabad Satellite Station was set up in the early '80s as a 'satellite change-over' and has since then even serving as a B-type station. Need for another satellite station (A-Type) was urgently felt by the APT experts.

The proposed project prepared by the T&T Board is likely to be funded by the World Bank, France, Saudi

Pandemonium

From Page 1 Col. 4

both the Treasury and the Opposition benches moved to console him.

Mirza Golam Hafiz tried in vain to draw the attention of the Chair, as shouts and counter shouts filled the House.

In no time some members belonging to the Awami League and the BNP got engaged in a scuffle near the seats of the MPs belonging to the Jamaat and the Independents.

Jamaat MPs, and older MPs of the Awami League and the BNP came forward to restrain Sultanul Kabir Chowdhury of the AL, Shahidul Islam of the BNP and some other members of the two parties.

The situation became calm after five minutes with the Deputy Leader of the House Dr. Badruddoza Chowdhury and the Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina's entering the House.

Taking the floor Sheikh Hasina alleged that Opposition members could not speak due to repeated intervention from the Chair. She said that she was surprised at this because as an elected representative of the people every MP had the right to speak.

The Speaker tried to explain what had led to the situation. Sheikh Hasina insisted that he listen to her first.

She said that the Speaker had every right to intervene under the Rules of Procedure, but he should not make remarks which affected the honour and dignity of members. She said that this was unexpected.

Sheikh Hasina said that only a few Opposition members had decided to speak on the bill in keeping with a request from the Treasury Bench and the Chair.

Even then Sengupta was not allowed to make references to the past in discussing the bill. How could a bill be discussed in such a manner she asked. She alleged that the Treasury Bench members had the free-

dom to say anything against the Opposition. Opposition members faced obstruction when they tried to speak, she said.

The Leader of the Opposition said that if the government wanted to pass the bill by the force of majority, the Opposition should rather not come to the House, or else resign en masse.

She said that her MPs were getting the same kind of treatment they had got from the Treasury Bench in the 1986 Parliament.

The Deputy Leader of the House Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury said that the People's expectations from parliament was very high, since it was not an ordinary House but one elected after a successful movement of the three alliances.

Expressing his regret over the incident, Prof. Chowdhury said all MPs had the right to express themselves. But the Speaker also had the right to make decisions in running the House in an orderly fashion, and all members should abide by his rulings.

He said that the government stood for such an atmosphere in Parliament where there could be criticisms and counter-criticisms without any noise or indiscipline.

He hoped that the issue would be resolved in keeping with the Rules of Procedure of the House, and that unparliamentary remarks, if any, made during the heated exchanges be expunged.

Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas said that the incident was unexpected and deplorable and urged all to end it there.

He said that his intention was to get the bill passed in the shortest possible time since there was little opposition to it, and enable a maximum number of members to take part in the general discussion on the budget.

He said that AL members Sudhansu Sekhar Haldar and Salahuddin Yusuf had welcomed the bill and withdrawn their amendments.

He said Sengupta sought to speak at a stage when he was about to close the discussion. But then it appeared to him that the way Sengupta had started speaking would have cost the House much time.

However, the Speaker later allowed Sengupta to speak again.

The latter said it was a good bill, but the provision made for appeal with the Supreme Court against decisions of the Appellate Administrative Tribunal was limited.

Those who lost jobs between 1971 and 1990 would not have the right to make appeals in the Supreme Court.

In reply Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz said that the bill was intended to ensure welfare of the government employees, as it would enable them to file appeals against decisions of the Administrative Appellate Tribunal.

Workers Party MP Rashed Khan Menon called for granting the right of such an appeal also to those government employees who lost their jobs under President's Order 9, and Martial Law Regulations.

The House then passed the Bill by a voice vote.

Meanwhile, Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz said as the oldest member of the House he had no hesitation to apologize to the Speaker for the unwanted incident that took place over the discussion of the Bill.

Limited aid

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summit of the world's largest industrial democracies — a meeting shadowed by the economic troubles of an old adversary.

They said they had accepted an invitation from German Chancellor Helmut Kohl to hold the next summit in Munich in July next year.

The seven committed themselves today to achieving an "ambitious, global and balanced" outcome to the Uruguay Round of trade talks by year-

Hasina

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ruling party is trying to bluff the people by placing another bill in parliament, which consists some undemocratic provisions, she said adding the people would resist all conspiracies against democracy.

Sheikh Hasina said the government had failed to check price hike. Moreover, the imposition of Value Added Tax (VAT) has crippled the small investors, she said.

She also said the government announcement of raising the age limit to 30 years for jobs was not implemented. The government is thus cheating the people, she said.

Those who joined AL include JSD (Inu) president of Matlab thana H M Giasuddin, general secretary Humayun Kabir, BCL (N-S) leader Mohammad Ali and BCU leader Salahuddin.

Fresh clashes at SSMC : BCL activist injured

By Staff Correspondent

A Chhatra League activist was injured in a fresh round of clashes with rival Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists on the Sir Salmullah Medical College campus Wednesday.

The injured person, Golam Azam(20), a second year student of the college, sustained head injuries and was released after being treated at the Hospital.

The clashes ensued when some students entered the main hostel with the permission of the authorities to collect their belongings from their respective rooms.

A campus source said that the JCD activists, at that point, attacked the BCL activists among these students.

At least two rooms were set on fire and another five ransacked during the clashes, the source added.

Police reached the spot and brought the situation under control. A contingent of police remains stationed at the college.

However, the situation continues to remain tense around the campus, the source said.

The College was closed for an indefinite period and the hostels were vacated Tuesday following a six-hour gunbattle between the two rival student groups.

Police hunt for killer in triple murder case

By Staff Correspondent

Several police teams left Dhaka Wednesday in search of the alleged killer in the triple murder case of Mohakhali.

Sources said the teams would raid a number of probable hiding places of the killer, but did not disclose the names of the probable hiding places.

Meanwhile, police was still interrogating the relatives of Rafiq, the alleged killer. Police sources said the killer's motive was yet to be ascertained.

Tripura minister meets Hasina

Visiting state minister for animal husbandary of the Indian state of Tripura Billal Miah called on Awami League President and leader of the opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her parliamentary office Wednesday, reports UNB.

MK Anwar's new charge

Shipping Minister MK Anwar has been given the charge of the Commerce Ministry during the absence of Keramat Ali, who was holding the portfolio, says an official announcement Wednesday. Keramat Ali who was admitted to Suhrawardy Hospital with heart ailment on June 10, has been advised rest at home.

Manila airport closed

MANILA, July 17: Philippine authorities today closed Manila International Airport after another major eruption of Mount Pinatubo sent ash falling on the capital, officials said, reports AFP.

US Filipino accord on Subic base

MANILA, July 17: The Philippines and the United States today reached agreement on a new military bases treaty that will allow Washington use of Subic naval station for 10 years, officials announced, reports Reuter.

Flood

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Fresh areas of Faridpur Sadar, Gafargaon, Trisal and Gouripur upazilas have been inundated where over one lakh people were affected.

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The Midnight File

G-7 finance ministers to visit Moscow

LONDON, July 17: Finance ministers of the Group of Seven have agreed in principle to visit Moscow as soon as possible, an Italian government source said at the London summit today, reports Reuter.

Rathore released

ISLAMABAD, July 17: Authorities released the ousted Prime Minister of Pakistan-ruled Azad (free) Kashmir, Mumtaz Hussain Rathore, today state television said, reports Reuter.

Velayati to visit Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, July 17: Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati will visit Pakistan next week in a bid to forge a political settlement to the protracted Afghan war, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Wednesday, reports AP.

More amendments

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Committee on Constitution Amendment of the Jatiya Sangsad.

Law and Justice Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz, the Chairman of the Select Committee assured the group that its recommendations would be given due consideration.

Talking to newsmen informally Wednesday at Jatiya Press Club, 'Civic Watch' Chairman Muslehuddin Ahmed elaborated the suggestions of the group.

He said that the group's suggestions would ensure that Parliament itself would be "responsible to the people" and leave no scope to become "autocratic."

The 'Civic Watch' lauded the initiatives taken by various political parties to amend the Constitution for swiftness to a parliamentary form of government and said that the groups suggestions were only supplementary efforts in this regard.

The main thrust of the eight suggestions was in the areas of defense and preservation of basic human rights and building up safeguards against "misuse, abuse and usurpation of state power."

The Articles of the Constitution that are included in 'Civic Watch's' recommendations are 7.33, 39.2, 56.2, 57.2, 70.2, 76, 141B and 141C.

The suggestions include addition of a new Clause in Article 76 to enable the Parliament Standing Committee to hold public hearings on matters of public interest or public grievances raised by a citizen.

'Civic Watch' suggested deletion of the words "friendly relations with foreign states" in Clause 2 of Article 39 because it "curbs the citizens' fundamental rights."

OIC report

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Bhuiyan also apprised the OIC special envoy about future preventive measures and their progress.

Brigadier Bhuiyan also informed the special envoy that the Government has succeeded in overcoming the post-cyclone situation due to the concerted efforts and spontaneous participation of all quarters.

He told the OIC envoy that the rehabilitation work is going on in full-swing and the government had already undertaken short, medium and long term measures for the cyclone affected people.

The government plans to construct embankment and multipurpose building in the coastal areas and undertake massive afforestation in the cyclone-prone areas, Brigadier Bhuiyan told Nabika.

The special envoy, on behalf of the OIC community, sympathised with the people and the government of Bangladesh for the tragic loss of lives and colossal damage caused by the cyclone.

A Jhenidah woman gives birth to quads

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, July 17: Mazubbi, 25, wife of Abul Hossain a day labourer of village Gilarabari under Jhenidah Sadar upazila give birth to quadruplets this morning. Of the quads three are sons. Soon after the births two sons died. The mother who is in excellent health is expected to give birth to one more child, family sources said.

Two Sramik Dal activists — Rahim and Sadeq — were also reported missing after the fighting.

Kaliganj police arrested two activists of Sramik Dal, Kiron with a pipegun and Haroon with iron rod, police said.

Jatiya Sramik Party filed a case with Kaliganj police station.

Police are guarding the mills as tension mounted in and around.

Three months back, Jatiyatabadi Sramik Party headed by its central leader Anwara Begum fought Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal supporters out of the mill compound.

Newspaper strike

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different demands of the journalists and newspaper employees, the press release said.

The decision of the strike came at a joint extended meeting of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ), Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), Bangladesh Newspaper Press Workers' Federation (BNPWF) and Bangladesh Newspaper Employees' Federation (BNEF) held at the National Press Club on Wednesday.

The three federations and the DUJ will hold a joint rally at the National Press Club at 11 am today and will also observe a three-hour token strike in all newspapers and news agencies from 11 am to 2 pm.

Wednesday's meeting called for implementation of the demands for increased salary and other allowances in all the newspapers and news agencies within five days and it was decided that strike would be resorted to in other newspapers and news agencies on expiry of the ultimatum, the press release said.

The meeting criticized alleged threats on the life of union leaders by "hired masters" of some newspaper owners and called them to refrain from such "acts of cowardice".

The meeting demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of Dainik Desh management including Matdul Islam, Anwarul Islam and Taheruddin Thakur and other accused persons for at-

tacking the journalists. It also demanded reinstatement of illegally terminated journalists of the newspaper and withdrawal of its "unlawful" lay-off and lock out.

The meeting called for an end of oppression on the journalists and employees of the Bangladesh Observer and fulfilling of their demands by the management.

It also supported the 11-point demand of the Ittefaq employees.

The meeting declared Barister Mainul Hossain as an unwanted and undesirable element "spreading the net of conspiracy to create anarchy in the newspaper industry." It was also observed at the meeting that Mainul Hossain should not be invited to address any function and he should not be given any news coverage.

Presided over by BFUJ President Rezauddin Ahmed, the meeting was addressed by BFUJ General Secretary Amanullah Kabir, DUJ President Zahurul Huq, DUJ General Secretary Ruhul Amin Gazi, BNPWF President Mohsarraf Hossain, BNPWF General Secretary Bazul Rahman (Milon) and BNEF President Jahangir Kabir. BNEF General Secretary Mir Muzammel Hossain and representatives of DUJ and different units

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