# Plea to pass Amendment Bills without any further delay

The Jatiya Sangsad resumed its sitting at 10-30 am Monday with the Speaker, Abdur Rahman Biswas, in the chair, reports BSS.

Recitation from the Holy Quran over, the Speaker disposed of the privilege notices given by different members.

## Tofael Ahmed

Tofael Ahmed (AL-Bhola) taking the floor drew the attention of the chair to the situation in the Chittagong University. He said it was reported in Monday's press that the residence of the Vice-Chancellor of the University was gheraoed by a particular student organisation.

He wanted to know why the government was stient about it. The Speaker said the Education Minister, Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury, might make a statement on it when he comes to the House.

#### Abdur Razzak

The Speaker then gave the floor to Abdur Razzak (BKSAL-Shariatpur) to complete his speech which he began on Sunday.

Razzak suggested making constitutional provisions for the establishment of democracy on a sound footing so that the people are not deprived of their rights again and again.

Referring to the method of election of the President as proposed in the 12 Amendment Bill, he said it should be made more clear so that there could be no scope for further controversy in this regard.

He said to make the Parliament really sovereign the non-member minister should be elected within six months.

Referring to the provision for vacancy of a seat of a member if he remains absent from the House, Razzak said more

Sheikh Hasina

proceedings

explanation in this regard should be there mentioning the reasons for which the membership would go. He said this was necessary so that no unfair action is taken against

any member. Criticising Bangladeshi Nationalism, Razzak said the Bengali nation fought the Liberation War inspired by Bengali nationalism. He said only Bengalee nationalism could keep the nation together.

He also suggested that the definition of socialism given in Article 8 of the Constitution should be further clarified.

He said Article 12 which was deleted from the Constitution in 1977 should again be incorporated in this sacred document so that polities could be free from communal influence. He said this was necessary to eradicate communalism so that nobody could make politics in the name of religion.

He said as Articles 11, 27 and 31 of the Constitution ensuring democracy and human rights, equality before law and right to protection of law, are in operation, the politics of killing should be stopped to establish rule of law.

Pointing to Article 93 of the Constitution providing the President's power for making ordinance as and when necessary he said care should be taken so that powers of the Parliament are not curbed.

## Moulana Sobhan

Participating in the discus-

sion on the 12th Constitution Amendment Bill, Moulana Abdus Sobhan (Jamaat-Pabna) paid tributes to both the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition for their inspirations in bringing the bill in the House. He also

thanked Law and Justice Minister Mirza Gholam Haftz for his hard work as Chairman of the Select Committee which processed the bill.

He said amendment of Constitution was a continuous process, and cautioned the members to see to it that "by trying to do everything we do not lose everything."

He said the 1972 Constitution had provided for parliamentary form of government but this was changed into the presidential form in 1975. He said from the bitter experience of the presidential system we are now going back to the parliamentary form of

government. Referring to the 8th of Amendment Constitution which made Islam the state religion, he said no member had brought any bill to change it. But after the 12th Constitution Amendment Bill was brought to the House by the Select Committee, some members are talking about on the 8th Amendment.

Speaking about socialism, he said after bloodshed of lakhs of people socialism failed and is now non-functioning in the countries where it was born. He wondered how it is possible to introduce it in our country.

He said establishment of a welfare society in the country was the responsibility of the government and this should be done by realising money from the rich people as provided in the Holy Quran. He said if the directives of Allah are followed and his laws are implemented then the basic needs of all would be ensured and peace

## Khan Tipu Sultan

Khan Tipu Sultan (AL-Jessore) said the Select Committee on the 12th

Constitution Amendment Bill should have placed matters concerning fundamental rights in a more appropriate way before the House.

He said the world was looking at us to see whether the Jatiya Sangsad was taking initiative to establish the basic rights and institutionalise democracy in the country.

Referring to the situation after the Liberation War, Khan Tipu Sultan said once the late Major Jalil, the then leader of the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal. had threatened to unseat Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with the help of tanks and aircraft.

He said the JSD had let loose a reign of terror in the country through killings and arson. He said a member of Parliament from Kumarkhali was killed during an Eid congregation.

He said Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman introduced presidential system of government as a transitional arrangement to meet the anarchic situation prevailing then. He said Awami League would have eventually established parliamentary form of government in the country.

Khan Tipu Sultan said killing has been institution alised through the Constitution by not holding the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mutibur Rahman.

He said about 40 people had so far been killed in his area after the present government came to power. He said if the trial of the killers was not held, democracy could never be institutionalised.

## Shajahan Siraj

After Tipu Sultan had finished his speech, Shajahan Siraj stood up and referred to

certain portion of Tipu's speech. He said Tipu might have forgotten by now that he (Tipu) had killed the first Vice-President of the then JSD, Mosharraf Hossain, in broad day light. This evoked strong protest from members belonging to the Awami

Replying to Shajahan Siraj's remark, Tipu Sultan said he did not say anything about Straj but about his party. He said although Sirai was like an elder brother to him, he (Strat) had made a personal attack on him.

Tipu Sultan said Mosharrai Hossain was killed as a result of factional feud within the

He said an enquiry made into the matter after BNP had taken over the reins of government, it was revealed that Mosharraf was killed due to internal feud of the party. He said Tarioul Islam, a BNP leader then gave an interview to the weekly Bichitra in the

He said in the course of doing politics, he had spent many days together with Shajahan Straj. He said if Stra was a witness to any killing o Mosharraf Hossain, why did he not file a case against me in this regard? He said 'even if he files a case now, I will defend myself keeping Almighty Allah as a witness."

#### Azia Lama

Speaking next, Masud Ibne Azia Lama (JP-Sylhet) said the Jattya Party had not yet taken any decision on the system of government. He said it would be convenient for them to take a decision on the matter if the former President Ershad was released on parole to sit in the

He said the members of the

Jatiya Party in the House wanted to use their right to vote on the 12th Constitution Amendment Bill along with

## M Shamshuddoha

former President Ershad.

Participating in the discus sion, M Shamshuddoha (CPB Nilphamari) called for passing the 11th and 12th Constitution Amendment Bills without further delay. He said if we make delay our adversaries will not remain idle.

He said both the presidential and parliamentary forms of government had good and bad aspects and there was no single model in either form which was applicable to every

He said each individual country has adopted either the presidential or the parliamentary forms according to its convenience and so Bangladesh also should do the

Referring to the system of social-democratic government, he said this could not flourish in those countries where it was introduced. It had only established authoritative rule. This was why these countries are now changing their form of government reflecting the aspiration of the people. Coming back to the 12th

Amendment Bill, he said it had not made clear the system of electing the President. He also suggested deletion of the Article saying that a member would lose his seat if he disobliges the directive of the party. He said culture of free thinking and difference of opinion nurtures democracy in a country. It is so also in case of a party. He said difference of opinion does not mean disobliging the party directives. He also suggested holding of parliamentary polls under impartial government. Dhirendra Nath

Dhirendra Nath (AL-Narail) said the 1972 Constitution had undergone many changes during the last 16 years, much to the detriment of the nation. Even many undemocratic provisions had been incorporated into the Constitution blocking the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and encouraging the politics of coup and conspir-

acy, he added. He said the present Sangsad was the result of a long-drawn struggle against autocracy. The people of the country are looking forward to this Sangsad for the fulfilment of their hopes and aspirations, he added.

The Awami League member opposed the provision of referendum saying that this Sangsad was elected by the people through fair and free elections.

Referring to the report submitted by the Select Committee on the Constitution Amendment Bills, he said even by passing these bills we could discuss and dissect various aspects of them in the interest of democracy and the nation.

He supported the proposal for holding election under a caretaker government.

#### Akhtaruzzaman

Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury (AL-Chittagong) said the bill tabled by the Select Committee in an amended form must have to be passed. This bill seeking country's reversion to parliamentary system of government represented the victory of Awami League. It is Awami League which has been struggling for the last 16 years for the establishment of parliamentary democracy, he said and thanked the BNP for agreeing with his party on this issue.

said there was no scope of misunderstanding about this bill or for Awami League to op-

Elaborating, he said the quarters opposing parliamens tary system of government were creating confusion in the country. After the Select Committee had submitted its report nothing happened in the House to say that Awami League would oppose the Constitution Amendment Bills.

He regretted that reports in some newspapers and utterances of some people outside the Sangsad had created an impression that Awami League would oppose the Constitution Amendment Bills as many could not tolerate the victory of Awami League in taking the country back to the parliamentary system. A well-planned conspiracy was now on to malign the party and its leader Sheikh Hasina, he added.

Select Committee for its report on the Constitution Amendment Bills. But we wanted more improvements in these bills, he said adding each and every MP has the right to put forward his suggestions to

improve these bills. Turning to the provision of floor crossing, he said a member should be given the opportunity of self-defence to explain his position for remaining absent from the House on

self in favour of secret voting on any issue in the House.

duction of multi-party democ-

## AL opposes Presidential polls: Hasina Following is the remaining part of Sunday's Jatiya Sangsad

Taking the floor, the Leader of the Opposition, Sheikh Hasina said she could not come to the House Saturday as she had to attend her party's extended committee meeting. She told the House that a report circulated by a particular news agency on her statement appeared in a section of the press Saturday. She said, due to the way her statement was reported she had become a victim of "willful act" . The daily newspaper 'Dainik Bangla" carried the news agency report, she said adding, this newspaper had always

served as the mouthpiece of those in power. Sheikh Hasina said that while BSS news agency gave an incorrect version of her statement the Staff Reporter of "Al-Amin", a Bengali daily newspaper, covered her speech correctly. She said BSS, BBC and

VOA distorted her statement. She said circulation of her statement by BSS and Prime Minister's meeting with the Acting President appeared to give an impression that it was an 'arranged game". Now the question arose for what purpose this drama was being en-

acted, she asked. The Leader of the Opposition said she did not understand the reason why a particular quarter was afraid before the initiation of discussion on the 12th Constitution Amendment Bill. She said, the rules of procedure clearly provided the scope for de-

tailed discussion on the bill. She told the House that the Awami League Parliamentary party held a meeting after the Select Committee had submitted the Constitution Amendment Bills before the Sangsad. But the BNP Parliamentary Party, she said, did not hold any meeting. Her comment was protested by many of the Treasury Bench members.

Sheikh Hasina asserted that she believed in democracy. She said the last session of the Sangsad sat for 41 days. We expected that during this period the ruling party would take such steps as would ensure the sovereignty of Parliament, freedom of press, fundamental rights of the people and autonomy of television and radio. We also expected such measures as would end the politics of killing, coup and conspiracy

for ever, she added. She told the Sangsad that during the movement against autocracy we had pledged to the nation to realise these cherished objective. It was her party which promised the parliamentary system of govern-

ment to the people, she added. She further said, though in Opposition, her party submitted a bill on April 14 for the establishment of the parliamentary system of government. The bill was prepared in a way so that it could be unanimously accepted. She regretted that after the submission of the bill nobody cared to take

the follow-up actions. Finally, she went on to add, the Treasury Bench tabled two Constitution Amendment Bills in the House on July 2. And

### the Constitution Amendment Bill of the Awami League was tabled before the House on July 4. Later seven bills including the one submitted by her

party were sent to the Select Committee, she said. She said these bills needed threadbare discussion in the House for universal acceptance by the people. Her party also submitted two others bills, one seeking the separation of the judiciary from the executive and the other aiming at repealing the Indemnity Act of 1975 for ending the politics of coup

and conspiracy, she said. She said we had struggled with the pledge to give autonomy to the government controlled media. But she regretted that the government had taken no steps in this regard and deplored the willful use of BSS news agency, which she described as a despicable act.

The Leader of the Opposition said her party did not want the residential election because it had already taken a decision for the establishment of the parliamentary system of government.

She said the history of the country for the last 15 years was dotted with coups, killings conspiracies through which power was transferred from one hand to the other. We condemn the violent means and always believe in constitutional means for the transfer of power, she stated.

She said the strongly expressed herself in favour of transferring power through the constitutional means when President Ziaur Rahman was killed on May 30, 1981. We protested when the then President Sattar handed over power to General Ershad, she said. This comment of Sheikh Hasina evoked sharp reaction from most of the Treasury Bench members who stood up to disagree with the claim of Sheikh Hasina.

The Leader of the Opposition described how she and 40 other leaders of her party were arrested and taken to the cantonment blindfolded by the Ershad government in February 1983. Recalling the torture perpetrated on her and her party members, she said she came across none from the other side, meaning the BNP, when her party struggled against the Ershad government at that time.

Amid continuous shouts from the Treasury Bench members, Sheikh Hasina was heard saying that in 1986 also the members of the ruling party indulged in shouting like this as she was witnessing now in the House. The leader of the ruling party of that time is now passing his days in jail, she remarked caustically.

As the House plunged to near Pandemonium with the Treasury Bench members shouting at the top of their voice, Sheikh Hasina counselled them to conduct themselves saying "pride goes before destruction. . . power is not permanent . . . . too much of every thing is bad".

At this stage some young MPs of the ruling party were found rushing toward the Opposition Bench in an agitated manner. Some other members of the Treasury Bench were seen controlling their fellow members and advising them not to loose patience. Almost all sitting in the visitors' and press galleries seemed to be in confusion about the reason for the over excitement of the BNP members and their shouting in the

## Badruddoza Chowdhury

In the crescendo of notse, shouts and counter shouts by the Treasury and Opposition Bench members, Deputy Leader of the House Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury stood up and said in loud voice that one member from the Awami League Bench had exhibited his shoes, deficting the sanctity of the House." We shall no longer hear anything until and unless that particular Awami League member openly seeks apology for his conduct", Prof Chowdhury was heard saying in the melee.

**Abdur Rahman Biswas** 

As he repeatedly pressed for the apology in the midst of disturbance and stir, Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas said he would investigate the matter and see whether the sanctity of the House had been defiled The Sangsad elected by the 11 crore people of the country was not play, he said, adding, I will take action against the

member after investigation". In the midst of disturbance and chaos, the Speaker was found standing leaving his chair and advising the members from both the sides to take their seat. As the pitch of temper of the Awami League and BNP members was running high, Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury again stood up and said, "We could demand very harsh punishment for the member showing his shoes in the House. But we restrain ourselves by only seeking apology from the particular mem-

The Speaker again held out the assurance that he would investigate into the incident and take action after investigation. At this Sheikh Hasina, who was on her feet, said the mike of the opposition had been switched off while the mike of the Treasury Bench has remained live. The Speaker had a very hard time to control the situation in the House which at times appeared to go out of control. At this stage, the Speaker said,"It is a matter of shame that we are unable to restore discipline in the House"

As the noise, shouts and retorts continued unabated, the Speaker adjourned the House at 6-42 pm for the Maghreb

The House reassembled at 7-55 pm after the Magreb prayers with Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali in the chair. The Deputy Speaker said the incident that took place in

fortunate. He believed it was the outcome of a misunderstanding the Speaker he said had as-

the House earlier was most un-

sured to look into the matter. He preferred no further discussions on the incident and invited Abdul Hafiz (NAP-Nilphamari) to take part in the discussions on the Constitution Amendment Bill.

Almost none from the opposition was present in the House when it resumed after the Magreb prayers.

Rashed Khan Menon (Workers' Party), Abdur Razzak (BKSAL) and Surantit Sengupta (Gonotantree Party) seen inside the House but for sometimes also left it.

## **Abul Hafiz**

Hafiz in his speech said na tional unity was a pre-requisite for establishing unallowed democracy in the country and called for everyone's contribution towards this direction.

The opposition member stressed the need for tolerance in the quest for true democracy in the country but deplored that signs of intolerance were discernible.

About the report of the Select Committee on the Constitution Amendment Bill. he said the committee had definitely done a good job but the opinions of the smaller parties were virtually ignored.

Hafiz said opinions and comments of the smaller parties like the one he represented would have only further enriched and democratised the report.

As soon as Hafiz completed his speech, the chair gave the floor to Redwan Ahmed (Independent) for taking part in the discussions on the Constitution Amendment Bill. As Ahmed rose to his feet,

Sheikh Hasina entered the House. Sheikh Hasina said she wanted to resume her inconclusive speech and requested

the opposition members led by

the chair to give her the floor. The Deputy Speaker gladly accepted her offer and said certainly the Leader of the Opposition would get the treatment, she deserved.

Resuming her speech, Sheikh Hasina said that it was unfortunate that her positive speech was turned 'negative' Such distortion of news has

resulted in tarnishing her im-

age and also contributed to her loosing politically, she said. The Leader of the Opposition said such distortion of her statements might also affect the nation and could lead to undesirable development. She wondered how could a news agency distort

Stressing the need for continuity of constitutional government in the country, Sheikh Hasina said attempts were also made in the past to project her in the wrong perspective. The Leader of the

such news.

Jatiya Smriti Shoudha not to accept military dictatorship. She said it was again she who had given the formula of an interim government at a rally on November 6 at the Panthapath but those who

Opposition said it was the then

15-party alliance that took a

pledge on March 26 at the

were in power in those days had cast doubts about this proposal, saying no provision for neutral government existed in the Constitution.

Sheikh Hasina said in the

Panthapath rally, it was clearly

spelt out how the interim government could come into being under the relevant constitutional provisions. Tracing the events leading to the ouster of HM Ershad from power, she said the

whole nation was jubilant on

December 4 following the res-

ignation of Ershad but she had a fear if any unholy element sought to seize power. I told clearly that we want constitutional way for tackling the situation" Hasina said adding that she spent almost sleepless nights in those days so that the changes would

"We also spelt out how the transfer of power was possible like the appointment of a Vice-President who would then become the Acting President,"

continue in the desirable man-

she said Turning to the concept of parliamentary democracy, she said it was the demand of her party and the demand was contained in the election man-

About the report of the Select Committee on the Constitution Amendment Bill, Hasina said her concern was whether it could be further improved

The Leader of the Opposition said she would not have spoken Sunday evening but for the treatment given to her statement by the BSS news

She stressed the need for

making radio and television au-

tonomous and said it was necessary for the sake of free flow of information. The BSS report sought to project her in the negative perspective, Sheikh Hasina said and added what she

meant was that the report of

the Select Committee should

contain no loophole that might

obstruct the process of parlia-

mentary democracy at any future stage. She said it was necessary to institutionalise democracy and the government and the Opposition could work in con-

cert in achieving this goal.

Tolerance was necessary to make this task possible, she said adding that progress in haste could create problem and as such it was desirable that all out care was taken about the Constitution said the provision would elim-Amendment Bill. inate the chances of influenc-

#### She said her party wanted further democratisation of the Nurul Islam Moni

Nurul Islam Moni (Ind-Barguna) said whenever any party came to power it considered itself as democratic. But, he said the controversy concerning democracy still continuing. He said it would have been

recalled good if any provision judges. about the removal of the repressive laws could be incorporated in the amendment. He also expressed his reservations about the President to be

vested with the power of promulgating emergency.

Referring to referendum he said the holding of referendum at a cost of Taka 20 crore would be too expensive for a country where 66 per cent of its people were landless. He said Taka 20 crore required for the referendum should be saved by incorporation a provision for the exclusion of referendum at least this time.

## Tabibur Rahman

Tabibur Rahman Sardar (AL-Jessore) said the bill had been introduced according to the joint declaration of the three alliances. He said Law and Justice Minister submitted the government bill long after the opposition bill was submitted by the Deputy leader of the

Opposition Abdus Samad Azad. The Awami League member said there would not be any amendment to the 12th Constitution Amendment Bill Sunday if their amendments were discussed before the bill was sent to the Select Committee. He said he differed with those who stated that they could not speak on the bill as their party members

were in the committee. The Deputy Speaker then gave the floor to JSD leader Shahjahan Siraj (Tangail). But Siraj was hesitating whether he would speak or not at this

The Chief Whip of the Opposition took the floor and drew the attention of the chair saying that the list he was provided was not being followed when allowing the members to speak on the 12th Constitution Amendment Bill. He said only two members were allowed to speak Saturday while two

others Sunday. Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali told the House that he would allow all the members in the list to speak Sunday. If needed he would continue the House till 1 am.

## Latifur Rahman

Thereafter the chair gave the floor to Latifur Rahman (Jamaat-Nawabganj) Rahman thanked the Select

Committee for mentioning the

name of Jamaat-e-Islami in the

list of those who had made

contribution to the mass upsurge of 1990. Latifur Rahman referred to the bill submitted by the Jamaat with the provision for the caretaker government and

Criticising the provision of amnesty power of the President Rahman said, this provision is against the Quranic precept.

ing any election by the party in

Referring to the appointment of the judges, Rahman said the President should consult the Chief Justice in respect of appointing of all

The Jamaat member called for following the rules of procedure by members of both Treasury and Opposition

# Kazi Abdur Rashid

Participating in the discussion Kazi Abdur Rashid (AL-Gopalganj) criticised certain provisions of the 12th Amendment Bill and said holding referendum on the amendment of the Constitution was a luxury.

He demanded the introduction of the Indemnity Bill to stop politics of killings and hoped that it would be passed by the House on mutual understanding.

# **Abdul Majid**

Abdul Majid (JP-Sunamganj) in his discussion said the Jatiya Party did not introduce the presidential form of government. He said it was Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who had introduced the presidential system. Late Ziaur Rahman had nourished it. But none of their followers now liked it. He said if both the Awami League and the BNP opt by for the parliamentary system they (JP) had no objection to it. "But we need consult action with our leader H M Ershad to take our

decision," he added. He also supported the provision for holding referendum the Constitution

Amendment Bill. He said there were five kinds of autocrats and his party might be identified as the "weak and so-called autocrats." Calling others as "autocrats at large" he pointed out that after 1971 30,000 people were killed by the

## Khashruzzaman

Speaking next Sharif Khashruzzaman (AL-Narail) demanded the repeal of the Indemnity Ordinance to try the killers of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Sheikh Russel.

A K M Asjad

Supporting the 12th

Amendment Bill Dr AKM Asjad (Jamaat-Rajbari) called upon the members to pass the bill unanimously. He said without the inde-

who was only a little boy.

pendence of the judiciary from the executive rule of law could not be established. Claiming himself as the first freedom fighter of Bangladesh

#### he said but my 'friends' call us AL-Badars and Razakars. Abdur Razzak

BAKSAL leader Abdur Razzak said the armed forces did not take the responsibility of the act committed by Col (Rtd) Faruk and Col (Rtd) Rashid. Khaled Mosharraf who came to power through a coup also refused to take the responsibility of the acts of those two retired colonels and their

accomplishes. He accused Khondker Moshtaque Ahmed of blocking the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by promulgating an Indemnity Ordinance. It later became an act through the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution depriving people of their fundamental rights.

He said with the reintro-

Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury

Chowdhury thanked the

the occasion of voting on major constitutional issues.

Chowdhury expressed him-

Incomplete

racy in 1976 Awami League has been struggling for the establishment of the parliamentary system of government. He narrated how Awami League had been struggling to achieve this system of government enduring all types of repression and oppression and facing heavy

In this connection, he referred to the formation of the 15-party Alliance to launch the struggle against autocracy. At a later stage came the Sevenparty and Five-party Alliances to wage movement against the autocratic government of

Ershad, he added. The BAKSAL leader said many people had sacrificed their lives for achieving the democratic rule, he thanked the Select Committee for submitting its report on Constitution Amendment Bills. Though we have accepted the bill we must say that many things should have been incor-

porated into it for further democratisation, he added. Abdur Razzak pleaded for incorporating such provisions into the Constitution as would prevent martial law, coup and taking over stage power by ex-

tra constitutional means.

As Abdur Razzak was on his feet Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali drew the attention of the Opposition Chief Whip Md Nasim and said it was decided at the Business Advisory Committee meetings held on July 30 and July 31 that discussions centering felicitation of public opinion on this bill would be kept limited. The Deputy Speaker told Nasim that there are about 700 proposals from the members and it is not possible to discuss those due to the limited time. He requested Nasim either to limit the number of speakers from his side or he would ap-

#### ply his discretion. Md Nasim

Md Nasim told the Deputy Speaker that some leaders of different parties and groups would speak on the bill. He had submitted a list of 18 speakers for Sunday. He requested the chair to adjourn the House till Monday morning and said that he would inform him of the list of speakers that

The Deputy speaker said after the Select Committee had submitted its report, discussion on the bill should be kept very limited. He further said this discussion would be followed by clausewise discus-

## **Tofael Ahmed**

sions on the bill.

Taking the floor, Awami League leader Tofael Ahmed urged the Deputy Speaker to adjourn the House right now to settle this issue through discussion. Chief Whip Khandker Delwar Hossain also requested the Deputy Speaker to adjourn the House to decide how long discussions on the bill would continue.

When it was decided that the Awami League leaders would sit in the Deputy Speaker's chamber in the Sangsad' immediately after adjournment of the House to discuss this issue, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House at 10-22 pm Sunday until 10 am Monday.