

### 7 rooms of Moitree set afire at Jhenidah College

JHENIDAH, Sept 6: At least seven hostel rooms of Chhatra Moitree activists were ransacked and later set ablaze, allegedly by Jatjyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) workers, in KC Government College here today, reports UNB.

None of the hostel boarders was present during the attack, apparently a sequel to Wednesday's clashes between the activists of two student organisations.

Principal Abdur Rahim visited the hostel at about 11 am and informed the DC and the SP about the incident in the morning.

Police picked up two persons for their alleged involvement in the incident but their identity could not be immediately known.

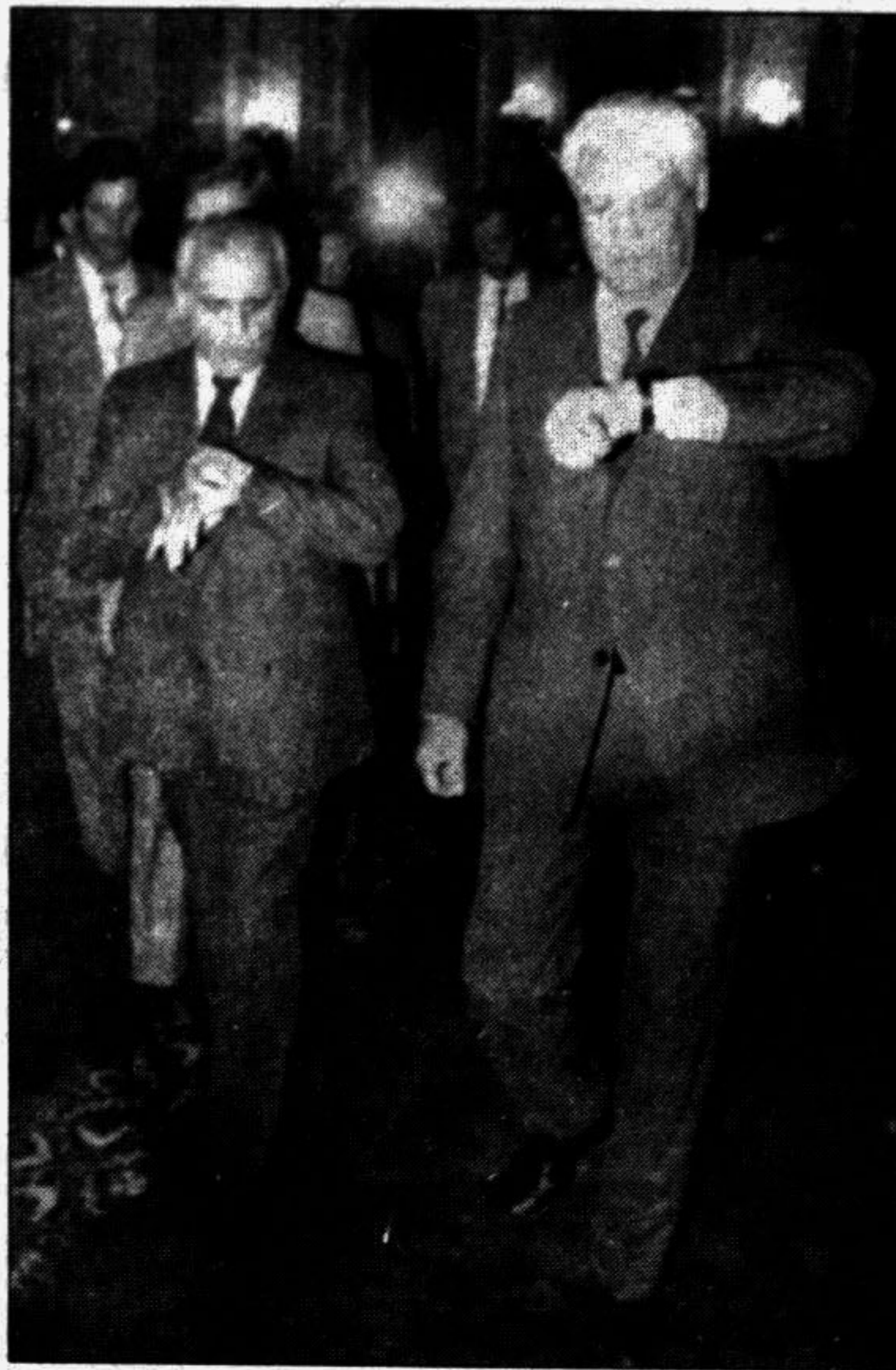
The JCD activists also al-

legedly ransacked and set fire to houses of five Moitree supporters in Beparipara, Adarshapara and Chaklapara in the town. The houses belonged to Moitree central committee members Sabuj, Manik, Lion, Peter and Prince.

Guardians of the Moitree activists claimed that the JCD workers decamped with gold and other valuables like TV and cassette recorder after ransacking the houses.

The Deputy Commissioner held a meeting with politicians and elite of the town this afternoon to discuss the deteriorating law and order situation and find out ways to tackle it. Police officials were also present.

Tense situation was prevailing in the town.



Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Russian President Boris Yeltsin glance at their watch as they enter the Kremlin on Friday to be interviewed live on 'Town Meeting', an ABC Television talk show. — AFP photo

### Baltics independence

From Page 1 Col. 5  
Soviet Union in the spring of 1988 with the creation of new 'popular fronts.'

But despite declarations of sovereignty and independence passed by parliaments in each of the three republics, their drive for independence had made little concrete progress prior to the coup d'etat of August 19-21.

The government of Lithuania, followed by Latvia and Estonia proclaimed their independence again as the coup failed and ordered Soviet troops to withdraw from their territory.

'Today is very important day to the new status of our state,' said Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis, who read of the decision on the Tass news wire.

The fact that this discussion has been made is a very joyful and positive act in all aspects not only to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, but also to the Soviet Union itself and the whole world,' Landsbergis told reporters in Vilnius.

The attendance of Estonian Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar at the State Council session was a surprise. It was not clear whether he voted or merely was an observer.

Earlier Friday, Gorbachev and Yeltsin declared in a joint television appearance that more than 70 years of Communist rule was a failure.

This experiment which was conducted on our soil was a tragedy for our people and it was too bad that it happened on our territory,' Yeltsin said.

European Community  
European Community for-

ign ministers, meeting Friday with their counterparts from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, were expected to look favourably on greater links with the Baltic states.

As the meeting began, reports from Moscow said the Kremlin's new leadership body recognised the independence of the three Baltic republics, more than 50 years after they were annexed by the Soviet Union.

EC officials said the Baltic ministers would be given a sympathetic hearing.

The EC has already begun association accords with Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland.

The Baltic ministers said Thursday they would seek close economic cooperation not only with the West but also with a remodelled Soviet Union.

On Thursday, Belgium said it would advocate immediate membership for the three Baltic states in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, a 35-nation group of European countries and the Vatican plus the United States and Canada.

Belgium also pledged to use its position as temporary member of the UN Security Council to help the three gain admission to the United Nations.

Leningrad's name changed  
Russian leaders on Friday approved a Leningrad referendum last spring that restores their city's pre-revolutionary name to St Petersburg, the independent Interfax news agency said.

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Former Speaker of the Soviet Parliament Anatoly Lukyanov has been charged with treason for failed coup. — AFP photo

### Treason charge against Lukyanov

MOSCOW, Sept 6: The ousted chairman of the Supreme Soviet legislature has been charged with treason for helping the foiled coup, a Russian prosecutor said Friday, reports AP.

Anatoly Lukyanov was charged Thursday, one day after he was formally fired by the Congress of People's Deputies, Russian prosecutor Valentin Stepankov told reporters.

Stepankov said Gorbachev might be called to testify. He

said the court would decide which hearings would be closed or open.

Lukyanov has repeatedly and vehemently denied any involvement in the August 18-21 coup against Soviet President Mikhail S Gorbachev, his friend since law school. But he made no effort to call the legislature into session to overturn the coup.

Stepankov, whose office is leading the investigation into the coup, gave no details of the criminal case against Lukyanov.

### Hasina warns Govt

From Page 1 Col. 4

massive support for AL candidates was witnessed everywhere. 'The people have lost confidence in this Government', she added.

The AL chief alleged that the workers of her party were harassed by police at many places and many of them had already been arrested. 'This attitude of the BNP Government towards the Opposition was not expected', said Hasina adding, 'They talk democracy, but I do not find it in their practice and attitude, rather they behave like autocrat Ershad.'

Sheikh Hasina mentioned that her party was showing utmost patience and tolerance. She warned BNP to refrain from doing anything which would compel Awami League to launch a mass movement.

She said that her party had fulfilled the election pledge by passing the Constitution 11th and 12th Amendment Bills. She called upon the people to cast 'Yes' votes in the Sept. 15 referendum for establishing parliamentary system in the country.

Hasina referred to the Opposition's cooperation in passing the Constitution Amendment Bills and said that AL had submitted the Indemnity (Repeal) Bill aimed at trying the killers of Bangabandhu.

She said that the Indemnity Ordinance was promulgated by Khondaker Mushtaque in 1975, and later it was incorporated in the 5th Amendment of the Constitution by Ziaur Rahman.

'This Indemnity Ordinance led to the politics of killings, coup and conspiracy during the last 15 years due to which about 2500 army officers and soldiers and a number of political workers and leaders had to die,' she said and mentioned that Ershad grabbed power through this politics of conspiracy.

The AL chief said that the passage of Indemnity (Repeal) Bill would bring an end to the politics of killings and conspiracies. She alleged that the ruling party had adopted a dilly-dallying tactics in passing this bill and said that the efforts to save the killers of Bangabandhu would not be successful.

'People will try the killers on this soil,' she declared.

About the prevailing situation in the educational institutions, Sheikh Hasina held the ruling party responsible for campus terrorism. She said that the BNP Government was trying to avoid the responsibility and blaming the Opposition for all the campus incidents. She demanded immediate re-opening of all the educational institutions to create a congenial academic atmosphere.

As regards economic situa-

tion in the country, the AL chief said that a silent famine was prevailing in many areas including the northern region and there were some cases of death from starvation. She mentioned that certain provisions in the budget including VAT had increased the prices of essentials. 'Moreover, prices of some other commodities were raised later bypassing the Parliament', she said and demanded withdrawal of the VAT system and necessary steps to reduce the prices of essentials.

The Leader of the Opposition blamed the Government for its failure to check smuggling and alleged that one woman — a girl from Bangladesh was being sold out to the neighbouring country in exchange of six cows from the other side. 'What else can be more shameful for us,' said Sheikh Hasina adding 'trafficking of our girls to India and Pakistan cannot be tolerated.' She deplored the silence of the government in this regard.

About the jute market, the AL chief said that the Government failed to provide fair prices to the growers. She demanded fixation of minimum jute price at Taka 500 per maund and opening of purchasing centres.

She also supported the five-point demand of the SKOP and fixation of a worker's minimum monthly wage at Tk 1400.

The Awami League president told her audience that her party would continue the struggle for the economic emancipation of the people and said, 'We will not allow anybody to play with our independence.'

Despite inclement weather and rains, Manik Mia Avenue was packed with people who joined the meeting from different parts of the city and suburbs in processions.

AL General Secretary Sajeda Chowdhury deplored non-broadcast of any programme on Radio and TV on the anniversary of Bangabandhu's death and demanded autonomy for the electronic media. She warned that the people would gear up the TV and the Radio stations again if special programmes on Bangabandhu were not broadcast.

She demanded resignation of the Education Minister for his failure in tackling the campus situation that led to the closure of a large number of institutions.

AL presidium member Abdus Samad Azad called upon the people to make the referendum a success by casting votes in favour of the constitutional amendment.

Abdul Mannan, another presidium member, urged the Acting President and the Chief Election Commissioner to ensure neutrality in the coming by-elections.

### The Midnight File

#### Guatemala recognises Belize

GUATEMALA CITY (Guatemala), Sept 6: Guatemala officially recognised on Thursday the independence of neighbouring Belize but officials said it had not dropped its territorial claim to part of the former British colony. A Guatemalan government statement referred to 'the independent state of Belize' while calling for renewed negotiations over its centuries-old dispute with the Caribbean nation that gained independence from Britain in 1981, reports Reuter.

#### 'Via Baltica' reopened

HELSINKI, Sept 6: A highway route, blocked for decades, has apparently reopened through the Baltic republics to Warsaw and other European cities. The 'Via Baltica' overland route became a reality again when Lithuania told Finland its border with Poland has been opened, reports Reuter.

#### Worst flood across Indo-China

BANGKOK, Sept 6: The worst flooding in decades continues to devastate Southeast Asia, destroying entire towns and inundating vast areas, according to news reports Friday. At least 30 people were reported missing, and reports described widespread crop damage, reports AP.

#### Cuba rations cooking fuel

MEXICO CITY, Sept 6: Cuba, already reeling from deep cuts in Soviet aid, is switching from fertilizer to compost and plans to ration yet another basic staple — cooking oil — as Moscow indicates further aid reductions are ahead. In yet another blow to Fidel Castro, Russian President Boris Yeltsin said Friday he believed Soviet troops would be gradually removed from Cuba. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said ties with Cuba should be changed in a way to aid both countries, reports AP.

#### Baker to talk US aid to Baltic states

WASHINGTON, Sept 6: Secretary of State James A Baker will be ready to discuss a wide range of US assistance during his visits to the three newly independent Baltic states next week. This could include direct aid, the State Department implied in a statement issued late Thursday, reports AP.

#### 12 hurt in clash over possession of shrimpbud

KHULNA, Sept 6: At least 12 people were injured when miscreants opened fire on the inhabitants of Jabusha village in Rupsha upazila of the district to take possession of a shrimpbud, police said, reports UNB.

Three of them who sustained bullet injuries, were admitted to the Sadar Hospital in a critical condition. They were identified as Kamrul Islam (20), Raihan Mollah (20) and Gaffar (25) of Jabusha village.

The clash erupted when a gang of miscreants numbering about 25 tried to take possession of the Haria Shrimpbud cultivated by the villagers on a cooperative basis. They opened fire on the villagers who unitedly tried to resist the miscreants.

The gang looted shrimps worth about Tk five lakh allegedly at the instance of a local leader who had earlier demanded 25 per cent share of the shrimpbud.

#### Hasina condemns killing of RU BCL leader

Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina Friday night condemned the killing of Chhatra League leader Arfur Rahman Parag and demanded punishment to those responsible for it, reports UNB.

Parag, Publicity Secretary of Rajshahi University unit of Chhatra League, was critically injured during an attack allegedly by Chhatra Dal activists in Pabna on Thursday.

He succumbed to his injuries at about 8 pm Friday at the PG Hospital. He was brought to Dhaka and admitted to the hospital earlier Friday.

#### Abedi defends integrity

KARACHI, Sept 6: Agha Hasan Abedi, founder of the scandal-tainted Bank of Credit and Commerce International, has placed front-page ads in Pakistan's newspapers to defend his integrity and threaten to sue anyone who questioned it, reports AP.

### Development

From Page 1 Col. 7

The government would give agriculture loans to the farmers, including those whose loans were written off, Begum Zia said and asked them not to be misled by propaganda.

The Prime Minister said the government was alive to the problems of jute growers. Jute purchasing centres had already been opened in the district to give fair price to the jute growers, she added.

Begum Zia told the gathering that she had not come to seek vote but to know the problems of the people.

She called upon them to elect honest, dedicated and sincere people in the coming by-elections to represent them in the Jatjya Sangsad. The local leaders could play a significant role in promoting the cases of their respective areas in the Sangsad, she added.

Later the Prime Minister addressed a group of leaders and workers who came to join the BNP at the Circuit House in the evening.

They expressed their total faith in the leadership of Begum Zia and said they would work for the nationalist party imbued with its spirit and ideals.

Addressing them, Begum Zia said there was tradition of leaders and workers of other parties joining the party in power. 'But we want correct reflection of your joining our party through participation in various activities aimed at welfare of the masses,' she observed.

She asked them to go to the farmers and work for their welfare.

Begum Zia observed that joining of leaders and workers in BNP was a verdict in favour of development and production-oriented politics of the BNP.

UNB adds: Womenfolk in

### Khaleda visits Teesta Barrage project

LALMONIRHAT, Sept 6: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today visited the Teesta Barrage site here to see for herself the ongoing work of the project, reports UNB.

Addressing a spontaneous gathering on the bank of the river Teesta, the Prime Minister urged people to extend their all-out support to the new democratic government for expediting work on different development programmes including the Teesta Barrage project.

Irrigation, Agriculture and Water Development Minister Majedul Hoque speaking on the occasion said the project was a unique example of late President Zia's patriotism and politics of production.

The foundation stone of the Teesta Barrage, planned to cover nearly 7.5 lakh hectares of land in three upazilas of Rajshahi, Dinajpur and Bogra districts, was laid by President Zia in December, 1979.

State Minister for Women Affairs Tariqueul Islam, State Minister for LORD Kabir Hossain, a number of MPs and local BNP leaders were present during the visit.

A total of Taka 500 crore has so far been spent in the first phase of the project which will require another Taka 1,000 crore to be completed. The project was designed and being built entirely by local engineers.

Apprising the Prime Minister, Irrigation Secretary IU Malik said Taka 23 crore would be required this year in addition to Taka 50 crore allocated in the Annual Development Programme for continuation of the construction work.

The implementation of the project will help yield nearly 14.5 lakh metric tons of food-grains annually in the area, he said.

The Irrigation Secretary stressed the need for an agreement with India for sharing the waters of the common river (Teesta) on which India has also built a barrage.

### Inqilab

From Page 1 Col. 6

Two separate cases were lodged with the Kotwali police in this connection. One case, filed by AKM Bahauddin, Editor of the Daily Inqilab, complained that the workers along with a number of outsiders were causing disturbances at the Inqilab Bhaban. The other case was lodged by Abdul Hakim Khan, President of the Dainik Inqilab Sramik Union.

A contingent of police was deployed at the Inqilab Bhaban at Tikatuli and remained there till writing of this report.

The Dhaka Union of Journalists' in a statement strongly condemned the incident and demanded punishment for those found guilty after an investigation.

DUJ also urged the owners to immediately begin publication of the daily and resolve the workers demands through discussions.

Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Press Sramik Federation in a statement on Friday strongly condemned the attack on the Inqilab press workers by a group of 'musclemen' led allegedly by the Editor of daily. The statement said the police turned the press workers on duty out of the premises and allowed the 'armed musclemen' to remain inside and also condemned the act.

The leaders of the Federation demanded immediate implementation of the third and fourth Wage Board Awards for the press workers there, investigations into the incident and arrest of those involved and adequate treatment for those injured.

Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Press Sramik Federation has called for a three-hour work stoppage from 11 am to 2 pm in all newspaper and news agency offices today (Saturday). The federation will hold a rally in front of the Inqilab Bhaban at 11 am today.

### MMC to reopen on Sept 17

From BAU Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, Sept 6: The date of reopening the Mymensingh Medical College (MMC) has been shifted to September 17 from September 7 as scheduled earlier.

A meeting of the Academic Council of the college on September 4 decided that the college would be reopened only for holding of the final examinations of different years. Classes will however not resume, but the halls will be opened for the examinees only.

The college was closed since die on August 8 following a clash between the supporters of Jatjyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Chhatra League (S-A) over the results of the college students union elections. The results of the election have not yet been declared.

**কাদেরিয়া পাবলিকেশন্স এন্ড প্রোডাক্টস লিঃ**  
২/১, আর, কে, মিশন রোড, ঢাকা।

**শ্রমিক ছাটাইয়ের (RETRENCHMENT) নোটিশ**

কাদেরিয়া পাবলিকেশন্স এন্ড প্রোডাক্টস লিঃ এর পরিচালকমন্ডলী অত্যন্ত দুঃখের সহিত জানাইতেছেন যে, প্রশাসনিক, আর্থিক ও প্রযুক্তিগত অসুবিধার কারণে কোম্পানী প্রেস ও ফটোকম্পোজ এবং উহার আনুষঙ্গিক বিভাগ যথা প্রেটমেকিং, ক্যামেরা ও পেইন্টিং বিভাগসমূহ সম্পূর্ণ বন্ধ করিয়া দেওয়ার সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করিয়াছে।

এই সিদ্ধান্তের পরিপ্রেক্ষিতে উপরোক্ত বিভাগসমূহ বন্ধ করিয়া দেওয়ার কারণে উহাতে কার্যরত কর্মচারিগণের চাকরি কোম্পানীর জন্য অপ্রয়োজনীয় হইয়া পড়িয়াছে বিধায় তাহাদের চাকরি আর প্রয়োজন হইবে না। তাই এতদ্বারা তাহাদিগকে কোম্পানীর চাকরি হইতে ৫-৯-৯১ ইং সকাল ৭ ঘটিকা হইতে ছাটাই করা হইল। এই ছাটাইকৃত কর্মচারিগণকে ছাটাইয়ের জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় নোটিশ দেওয়ার সময় না থাকায় আইন মোতাবেক উহার পরিবর্তে তাহাদিগকে এক মাসের বেতন প্রদান করা হইবে। তাহাদিগকে কোম্পানীর অফিস হইতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে উক্ত টাকা গ্রহণ করার জন্য এবং তৎসহ আইন অনুযায়ী অন্যান্য কোন পাতনা থাকিলে উহাও নেওয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হইল।

এতদ্ব্যতীত সর্বশ্রমিক সকলকে আরও অবহিত করা যাইতেছে যে, যাহারা কোম্পানীর অধীন উপরোক্ত বিভাগসমূহে অনিয়মিত, ঠিকা ও দৈনিক ভিত্তিক অথবা সম্পূর্ণ সাময়িকভাবে কাজ করিয়াছেন তাহাদের কাজের কোম্পানীর আর কোন প্রয়োজন হইবে না। তাহাদের মধ্যে যদি কেহ কোম্পানীর নিকট কোন পাতনার দাবিদার থাকেন তাহা হইলে তাহাদিগকে তাহাদের পাতনা অফিস হইতে লইয়া যাওয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা গেল।

উল্লেখ্য যে, ছাটাইকৃত কর্মচারিগণের নামের তালিকা কোম্পানীর নোটিশ বোর্ডে সাঁচিয়া দেওয়া হইয়াছে।

**পরিচালক মন্ডলী**