

Rao for tension-free ties with Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Sept 8: Indian Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, has underlined the need for building a tension-free and cooperating relationship with Pakistan on the basis of the Simla agreement, reports PTI.

The interests of the people of our two countries and of peace and stability in the region lies in such a relationship," he stated and said the Simla agreement offered a basis for such relationship.

In an interview published today in "The Muslim," Rao hoped that Pakistan would also work towards creating the right climate for improving bilateral ties.

Reiterating that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India, he said India had made it clear to Pakistan that Islamabad's support to terrorist and secessionist forces in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir must cease if there was to be a genuine and sustained improvement in relations between the two countries.

Replying to question on the Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's recent proposal for a

five-nation conference on nuclear issue in South Asia, Rao said the proposal was a tactic to ease pressure in US Congress to suspend military and economic aid to Pakistan because of mounting evidence that it had assembled nuclear weapons.

Last October, the US administration had suspended military and economic aid to Islamabad on President Bush's failure to certify that Pakistan did not possess nukes.

The Indian Prime Minister said he had Sharif had spoken to each other on the telephone. There were a number of official level meetings scheduled in the coming weeks between the two countries.

"We are, of course, ready for a dialogue at any level, which is likely to produce results and after necessary preparations have been made."

On China Rao said India was confident of resolving the complex border issue so that the two countries could devote more time on extending cooperation as the world's largest developing countries."



Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina in her last-minute campaign in the by-election addressing a public meeting at Mohammadpur in the city on Sunday.

Hasina

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lected from two seats in Dhaka city did not solve any of the problems there. If Awami League candidates could win the by-elections, her party would compel the government to solve the local problems, she said.

Due to inefficiency of the BNP government, sufferings of the people multiplied and law and order deteriorated threatening the newly-born democracy, she said.

She was critical of the VAT and demanded that the prices of essentials and agricultural inputs including fertilizer be brought within the buying capacity of the common people.

She said her party fulfilled its commitment to the nation through forcing the ruling party to revert to the parliamentary form of government which was accountable to the people.

She also accused the BNP government of using administrative power for its party candidates in the by-election and said the administration belongs to the republic not to any political party. She urged the administration to remain neutral during the polls.

Referring to the Indemnity Repeal Bill, Sheikh Hasina said: "who is also Leader of the Opposition in the Parliament what crime I have committed that I would not be able to demand the trial of those who had killed by father, mother, brothers and other family members."

She pointed out that the Awami League had extended its helping hand to the BNP but those were not reciprocated.

Left front

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The draft was earlier circulated among the components of Five-Party Alliance, United Communist League and Oikya Prokriya who are also expected to join the front.

The meeting decided to announce the combine's programmes on September 12 to deal with urgent issues like price-hike, terrorism, agricultural loan and jute price.

Last-minute campaign

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330-member 5th Jatiya Sangsad.

The BNP chief, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia who was elected in five seats in the February 27 elections vacated four seats—two in Dhaka city (Dhaka five and nine), and one each in Chittagong and Bogra. She has retained the Feni seat.

Out of remaining seven seats, four were vacated by ousted President H M Ershad in Rangpur district. He was also elected from five seats in Rangpur.

One seat each was vacated by Tofael Ahmed (Awami League) in Bhola and Abdur Razzak (AL) in Madaripur both of them were elected from two

Ban

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Any person, who contravenes the above provision of law shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall not be less than two years and also with fine.

By-elections to the 11 Jatiya Sangsad seats will be held on Wednesday in 19 Rangpur-1, 20 Rangpur-2, 23 Rangpur-5, 24 Rangpur-6, 42 Bogra-7, 118 Bhola-2, 184 Dhaka-5, 188 Dhaka-9, 217 Madaripur-1, 218 Madaripur-2 and 286 Chittagong-8.

Zardari

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murder his wife's political foes.

Zardari has been in jail since being arrested last October, two months after Benazir was ousted as Prime Minister by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan on disputed charges of misuse and abuse of power.

Senator Iqbal Haider, a Karachi leader of Benazir's Pakistan People's Party, called Siddiqi's death "God's wrath."

Siddiqi, a special judge of an anti-terrorist court, was trying Zardari on charges of extorting money during his wife's 20-month rule. The case was due for hearing today.

Ershad's trial

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you say anything when the prices of those mats were being calculated?

ARM: No. I did not say anything. Prices were fixed up by the persons other than the members of inventory committee.

DL: My client says that the accounting of prices of the Quran and the prayer mats have hurt his religious sentiment.

ARM: The committee did not fix up the prices of the Quran and the mats. So, the question of hurting anyone's religious sentiment is not true.

DL: Even you accounted the price of an old petticoat.

ARM: That was done by the persons who calculated the prices.

Attorney General: All these questions are relevant to the persons who calculated the prices but irrelevant to the persons who were members of the inventory committee.

After that, the defence counsels also asked several questions on some items which were supposed to be received as gifts by Ershad when he was the chief of the Armed Forces.

DL: Ershad served in the Armed Forces for 34 years. The case has been brought against Ershad to malign him and belittle the Armed Forces.

ARM: Yes. Two distinct entities.

AG: These are not relevant questions.

DL: President Ershad and Mr Ershad are two distinct entities. So this case against Ershad is mala fide.

ARM: President Ershad and Mr Ershad are two distinct entities but I don't know whether it is mala fide.

The Attorney General who, during Saturday's hearing had mentioned a report in the London Observer newspaper, yesterday tendered the clipping of the paper under Evidence Act 57.

Chief Defence Counsel Sirajul Haque raised objection quoting Evidence Act Clause 53 and 54 saying the report published outside the country could not be included as an evidence or exhibit in this case. He further said that bad evidence could not be produced against an accused under Clause 53 and 54 of the Evidence Act, only good instances could be tendered as evidence against the accused.

The Attorney General countered by saying that a newspaper report could be a proof adding that the "London Observer" tried to malign our President. He said the paper alleged that Ershad had transferred 150 million dollars outside Bangladesh.

The Attorney General said the former Indian Prime Minister Mr Morarji Desai, filed a libel suit when allegations were brought against him. But the accused Ershad did not do anything like that, he added.

Gunbattle

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League (A-A) leader Arifur Rahman Parag died after being beaten by rivals. BCL blamed JCD workers for the death.

A day-long hartal was observed in the town today at the call of Chhatra League protesting the killing of Parag. Police confirmed the fighting but would not give details.

Salam condemns killing

BNP Secretary General Bartrister Abdus Salam Talukder Sunday condemned the killing of a Chhatra Dal leader by armed miscreants belonging to Mujibbadi Chhatra League at Pabna, adds BSS.

In a statement Talukder alleged that the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leader Serajul Hossain Shahid of Pabna city was critically injured by the armed miscreants on September 2. Later Shahid died at Pabna Hospital on the following day.

Salam Talukder conveyed his deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

Talukder also condemned the attack and ransacking of the houses of BNP Pabna city branch General Secretary Taufig Habib by the same group of miscreants.

Besides, the Commission will discuss ways of expanding cultural, educational and technical cooperation between the two SAARC countries.

Finance Ministers of both the countries are the co-chairmen of the Bangla-Nepal JEC, set up on January 14 in 1978 for promote economic ties between the two countries.

Trade balance between the two South Asian neighbours has largely been in favour of Dhaka.

In 1989-90 fiscal, Bangladesh export to Nepal stood at Tk 37 crore while its import from the Himalayan Kingdom amounted to only Tk 8.22 crore.

Dhaka usually exports urea, tea, jute manufactures, PVC pipe and vegetable while its imports include fruit and vegetable.

Saifur

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particularly in the field of trade, industry, joint venture, transit traffic, agriculture, fisheries and telecommunication, will come up for discussions.

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The Midnight File

Fresh violence claims 19 in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 8: Violence flared anew in South Africa today, claiming at least 19 lives and marring a delicate peace drive under which black and white leaders are due to sign a pact next Saturday. Police said 18 people were killed when a crowd of some 300 followers of the Zulubased Inkatha Freedom Party was attacked on its way to a rally in the black township of Thokoza, east of Johannesburg, reports Reuter.

Israelis seal occupied lands

JERUSALEM, Sept 8: The army on Sunday sealed the occupied lands to prevent attacks on Israelis during the Jewish New Year, and three Palestinians were found slain, apparently by Arab militants. Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip were barred from entering Israel during the two-day Rosh Hashana holiday, said an army official. The holiday ends at sundown Tuesday, but the closure is in effect until Wednesday morning, he said, reports AP.

Wife allowed to visit Chen

BEIJING, Sept 8: For the first time since two leading dissidents began hunger strikes last month, Chinese authorities have allowed a family member to visit, sources said Sunday. The wife of Chen Ziming was allowed to visit him in prison last week, said the sources. They spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of official punishment. They had no other details, reports AP.

Pakistan recognises Baltic states

ISLAMABAD, Sept 8: Pakistan recognised today the Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania as independent states. A two paragraph Foreign Ministry announcement noted that the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council had already recognised the independence of the three republics, reports AFP.

DU reopens Sept 17

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During the closure of the university, the VC on several occasions sought cooperation of the government and the political parties containing terrorism on the campus. He was determined not to reopen the university unless he was assured of campus security. But he did not get the 'expected response' from the concerned quarters and was finally compelled to take the reopening decision under 'pressure'.

Addressing a group of students, pressing for immediate reopening of the university, he justified his reopening decision by saying that nobody could fully guarantee a violence-free campus. He told the students agitating in front of his office that campus violence was a long standing problem and it would take time to be eliminated.

Police carried out no special drive against the campus terrorists. A few campus terrorists were arrested under the country wide Operation Doorbar but the majority remained active on the campuses, police said.

Meanwhile, formation of a parliamentary committee with both treasury and opposition bench members, proposed on June 12 to find out ways for checking campus violence is yet to take shape. Besides, the grand conference of government and political leaders had forged a consensus on the urgency of containing campus

Amnesty

NEW DELHI, Sept 8: Tribal rebels fighting for the independence of Assam shot dead today a member of the north-eastern state chapter of Amnesty International after the overnight murder of a captive Indian petroleum officer, reports AFP.

violence, but no action followed.

The DU authorities are planning measures to check fresh entrance of armed activists to the residential halls before reopening them to students.

The 14 halls were vacated by the students on July 31 and entrance will be permitted from September 16.

The hall authorities would take strict measures against outsiders residing in the halls, a hall provost said. The VC will call a joint meeting of the hall provosts to launch the measures before their reopening, the provost said.

The Vice-Chancellor could not be contacted to comment on the issue.

President of the DU Teachers Association Prof Anwarullah Choudhury commenting on the reopening said the university could not be remained closed for an indefinite period. The DUTA asked the concerned authorities for effective steps for campus security before reopening, he said.

Fourth Plan

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ernment has followed the course of a three-year 'rolling investment programme' initiated in 1990-91. The programme has been developed as an 'expenditure priority exercise', based on a smaller and more realistic projection of resources than indicated in the FFYP. The Planning Commission has sought to translate the objectives of the fourth plan into this three year prioritised investment programme for the period, 1990-93. However, this rolling development expenditure programme is not a substitute for any medium-term plan, the sources said.

Shantibahiniman held after gunbattle

RANGAMATI, Sept 8: Security forces captured a tribal insurgent and arms and ammunition after an hour-long gunbattle with the outlawed Shantibahini early today, officials said, reports UNB.

The encounter occurred when security forces, acting on a tip, cordoned village Hatimura in Naniarchar upazila.

The insurgents fled leaving behind arms and ammunition after heavy exchange of fire.

Shantimoy Chakma, of the Shantibahini was caught.

OP-1 winners' memo to Acting President, PM

By Staff Correspondent

Several hundred OP-1 US immigration lottery winners who failed to get visas due to early suspension of the programme, brought out a procession in the city and submitted memoranda to the Acting President, Prime Minister and Foreign Ministry urging them to help get visas.

In the memoranda, they said the US embassy here on August 21 declared the programme closed after issuing 6,324 visas to Bangladeshis but many of the lottery winners were yet get visas.

It said according to the terms and conditions of OP-1 Immigration Programme, the winners, his or her wife or husband and the children below 21 were supposed to get visas.

A total of 4,900 people won the lottery from Bangladesh out of 20,000 worldwide.

Y'slav air raid on Croatia

ZAGREB (Yugoslavia), Sept 8: Yugoslav military aircraft used rockets and machineguns in an attack today on the airport in the Croatian town of Ostjek, Croatian television reported, reports AFP.

APSU

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flushing out of "terrorists" from the balls and creating a congenial atmosphere for the examinees. Farooq was killed in campus violence on December 22.

APSU leader and Vice-President of Chittagong University Students Union (CUCSU), Nazimuddin at a press conference at the Chittagong Press Club urged the government to accept the ten-point demand and said its "mysterious" silence on the CM incident was causing loss of valuable time of the students.

Kushtia town

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river Jamuna.

In Sirajganj three miles of road between Simantabazar and Khulksha in Kazipur upazila have gone knee-deep water.

Overflowing Padma, Mahananda and Punarbhaba rivers have also Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj districts flooded.

Several thousand people were reported marooned in low-lying and char areas in the two districts, where crops and houses were also extensively damaged.

In Manikganj, about 10,000 people were affected by flood coupled with incessant rainfall in Daulatpur and Harirampur upazilas of the district and in Nagarpur upazila of Tangail district.

The Jamuna rose 15 cm at Aricha point and was flowing 3 cm above the danger mark Sunday. Water Development

Security Council

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Western diplomat said.

The declaration also hit out at double standards in implementing UN decisions.

"Had the international community, represented by the Security Council, applied the same criteria, the same political will and the same standards of international legitimacy as they did in the Gulf War, the question of Palestine could have been resolved," it said, calling for full implementation of all UN resolutions.

NAM, which opted not to change its name despite the end of the Cold War, applauded a world groundswell towards multi-party reforms in what diplomats saw as a sign of growing moderation in a former bastion of anti-Western thought.

Noting the "wish of people all over the world for political pluralism," it said non-aligned governments should sustain the trend "within the context of their cultural and human traditions and heritage."

Diplomats said the title of the main declaration, "A World In Transition: From Diminishing Confrontation Towards Increasing Cooperation," showed NAM's

new resolve to increase dialogue with the rich world as well as between developing countries.

The movement, set up in 1961 to tread an independent path between two superpowers, has always been a major forum for articulating Third World concerns.

The report said political stability could not survive in conditions of poverty and vowed to strengthen international economic cooperation to aid growth in developing countries.

It also stressed the need for action on human rights, global disarmament, environmental protection and drug abuse.

Noting that most regional conflicts were found in the developing world as a legacy of colonialism and superpower rivalry, NAM encouraged peaceful settlements in a range of trouble spots from Cyprus to Afghanistan.

It reaffirmed support for the Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied territories and said sanctions should continue against South Africa to keep the Pretoria government at the negotiating table.

Editorial on page 4

ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ওয়াসার পানির লাইনের সাথে সরাসরি হস্তচালিত/বিদ্যুৎ চালিত পাম্প সংযোজন না করার জন্য সম্মানিত গ্রাহক সাধারণকে বিভিন্ন পত্র-পত্রিকা ও গণ প্রচার মাধ্যম মারফত অনুরোধ করা সত্ত্বেও ওয়াসার পানির লাইনে এই ধরনের অবৈধ হস্তক্ষেপ অব্যাহত রয়েছে।

উল্লেখ্য যে, ব্যক্তিগত উদ্যোগে পানির লাইনে অবৈধভাবে এ ধরনের পাম্প সংযোজনের ফলে সংযোগস্থলে লিকেজ থেকে যায় এবং সংযোগস্থলের ছিদ্র পথে বাইরের ময়লা/দূষিত পানি সরবরাহ লাইনে প্রবেশ করে তা সিস্টেমের পানি দূষিত করে ফেলে। এ দূষিত পানি পান করে জনসাধারণ পেটের বিভিন্ন পীড়ায় আক্রান্ত হতে পারেন। এছাড়া ওয়াসার সরবরাহ লাইনের সাথে সরাসরি হস্তচালিত/বিদ্যুৎ চালিত পাম্প সংযোগের ফলে সংশ্লিষ্ট এলাকার বহু সংখ্যক গ্রাহক প্রয়োজনীয় পরিমাণ পানি প্রাপ্তি হতে বাধিত হন। ওয়াসার পানির লাইন হতে ময়লা পানি আসার অভিযোগের এও একটি অন্যতম কারণ।

কাজেই সার্বিক জনস্বার্থে ঢাকা ওয়াসার পানি সরবরাহ লাইনের সাথে কোন প্রকার পাম্প সংযোগ না করার জন্য পুনরায় সম্মানিত গ্রাহক-সাধারণকে সতর্কতা অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।



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