Silayev appointed Soviet PM Yeltsin suffers

heart attack

Silayev, who was overseen the Soviet economy since the collapse of last month's coup, was appointed Soviet Prime Minister today and given a month to set up a ministerial team, report agencies.

Silayev, was named to head the inter-republican economic committee, in effect the government under new transitional institutions set up by the Soviet Parliament this month.

His appointment was announced two days after President Mikhail Gorbachev and leaders of 10 Soviet republics agreed on a programme to coordinate economic reform within the country's proposed new confederal structures.

AL

From Page 1 Col. 4

The meeting regretted that the government had taken no ection against those involved in the incident and said that even a person caught on the spot with arms was released.

It noted with regret the growing violence in the educational arena and said the education of lakhs of students became uncertain following closure of over 100 educational institutions including three universities. The meeting demanded the reopening of all educational institutions and restoration of academic atmosphere there.

The meeting alleged that the workers of Awami League its front organisations were being harassed through false cases and arrests.

The meeting criticised the government for not taking measures to provide succour to the flood-hit people in the country and demanded immediate supply of relief materials including medicines and housebuilding materials for those affected people.

Russian President Boris N Yeltsin left work Wednesday suffering from chest pains that were described as a 'minor heart attack' by his office and several news agencies.

the offenders of the Dr Milan

murder case.

Clarifying the actual position of the police regarding the raid, the DMP said, receiving secret information that the killers of Dr Milan had taken shelter at Jagannath Hall, a police team led by senior DMP officials entered the hall premises to arrest the offend-

At that moment, the DMF aged to make a good escape.

police from the very beginning tackled the situation with utmost patience and tried to convince the students about the motive of the presence of police there. Paying no heed to the version of the police, the unruly students encircled the police from all sides and intensified their attack.

Besides hurling brickbats, the students threw a number of cocktails towards the police resulting in injury to six police personnel including two O.Cs. means police resorted to mild lathicharge and open tear gas

New challenges

From Page 1 Col. 3 Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed though its de facto entity cannot be denied. The post-referendum government of the BNP will be enjoying absolute state power and will alone be accountable to the people for all government activities.

The seven-month rule of the BNP as the de facto government is marked by spectacular successes and failures. Its successes have been appreciated and its failures have irritated the people. What the BNP has gained during all these seven months is the experience of running the administration and the scope for preparing itself to shoulder the greater responsibility.

At the same time, Begum Zia as Prime Minister has been able by this time to assess and evaluate the performance of her ministers and state ministers and the bureaucratic administration. Enriched by all these experiences, she is expected to reshuffle her postreferendum Council of Ministers, reallocate portfolios, recast the administration and prepare the new Rules of Business to suit the needs of

the new system. The BNP government was often criticised for its lack of effectiveness, inability to manocuvre things politically, untimely and unwise handling of the issues, getting more dependent on the bureaucrats, failure to build rapport and maintain relations with political and social forces and above all, for lack of political vision and planning.

Even some leading members of the BNP are not happy about many decisions of the party high command. They complained that the Council of Ministers that Begum Zia formed immediately after the parliamentary elections comprised persons never actively associated with the party, not only that, some of them had been made full ministers.

On the other hand, they maintained, those who played an active role in the organisational matters all through and also in the nine- year anti-autocracy movement were not included in the Council of

It is also complained that some influential ministers are giving indulgence to sycophants, once beneficiaries of the Ershad government. They said, lack of commitment on part of these ministers

Ministers.

was one of the causes of the

failure of the BNP government

in some areas. The post-referendum government of the BNP will see a different situation in the country. In a Third World country like ours, food and order demand priority treatment from the government and the success of a government depends mainly on how effectively it maintains the prices of essentials and its law and order. Apart from that, the immediate challenge awaiting the BNP government is the cancerous campus problem, which as a very sensitive issue, needs careful but effective

handling. In the changed situation, the opposition political parties, particularly its arch rival the Awami League, will also change their strategies and attitudes towards the BNP government. Obviously, their strategy and attitude will be more hostile and offensive in nature and they will try to put the ruling party on the defence both inside and outside the House. Other forces will also be unleashed in different areas

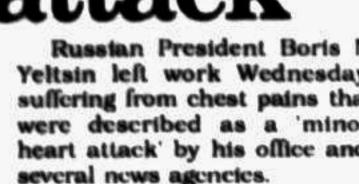
to destabilise the situation.

But the BNP appears to be least prepared to face the situation in the changed political context. Administratively, the BNP government is yet to consolidate its position and organisationally the party is still loose and weak. Since its installation in power, it has not given due attention to organising the party and its front organisations. It has neither any hard-core caucus nor "think tank" to monitor activities of the government functionaries opposition political parties and other forces and prepare guidelines and policies for the government. It is also not decided whether the parliament will be taken into confidence on all current major national issues for their solutions and in that case, the parliament will have to be in session for a longer time than the amended constitutional provision pro-

vides for. Some political circles believe that it would be wise for the BNP government to keep the parliament in session for a longer time and seek solutions of the current major issues through discussions in parliament. It may create some insurmountable problems for the BNP government if it wants to resolve all such issues only through administrative measures, they say.

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Police

From Page 1 Col. 8

In a press release issued in Dhaka Wednesday night the DMP said, the facts relating to Tuesday night's police raid on Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University were not reflected, in many cases, in various dailies which carried the news

said, some students started throwing brickbats towards the police and interfered in the lawful duty of the police personnel. They raised provocative slogans to encourage the other students. In the meantime the accused persons of Dr Millan's killing case man-

The press release said, the

high command with Dr Chowdhury was continuing till writing of this report late last DMP. Finding no other

Matin Chowdhury, Zahiruddin Khan, Brig (Retd) Hannan Shah, Jahanara Begum or Sarwari Rahman as Ministers Gayeswar Roy, Mosharraf Hossain Shahjahan was tipped as State Ministers among others. The State Ministers likely

residence on Wednesday.

From Page 1 Col. 4

Minster Dr Badruddoza

Chowdhury who expressed his

unwillingness to continue as a

Minister and remain confined

to the job of the Deputy Leader

of the parliament called on

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda

a cabinet meeting held at the

Bangabhaban on Wednesday

night, He looked cheerful. The

BNP high command was per-

suading him to continue as a

member of the cabinet holding

either the Health or the Edu

According to sources Dr

Chowdhury was an aspirant for

the post of Deputy Prime Min-

ister, but the post was abol-

ished through the 12th

Amendment Act. He was also

looking for the Foreign Affairs

The meeting of the BNP

The sources tipped Abdul

cation portfolio.

portfolio.

Dr Chowdhury also attended

Zia at 4 pm on Wednesday.

to be elevated to the rank of full Minister are: Barrister Rafigul Islam Mia, Tarigul Islam, Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain, Shamsul Islam, Bar rister Zamiruddin Sircar, Barrister Nazmul Huda, Abdul

US preparing for new attack on Iraq

NEW YORK, Sept 18: The Inited States is prepared to attack Iraq, possibly within days, if President Saddam Hossein does not agree to full and complete inspection of weapons sites, NBC-TV News reported carly today, reports agencies.

Thousands of US troops have been told to prepare to return to Saudi Arabia for a possible attack on Iraq.

Cabinet today Mannan Bhuiyan and Abdullah

Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina talking to Dhaka University

Vice-Chancellor Prof Moniruzzaman Miah who along with others concerned met her at her Dhanmondi

Al-Noman. Sources said that State Ministers Osman Chani Khan and

Ansar Ali Siddiqui are likely to The Council of Ministers in power till today had 12 full

Ministers.

in today's swearing-in of a new cabinet, reallocation of some portfolios is likely. The Prime Minister is likely to retain the Ministry of Home Affairs, and A S M Mustafizur Rahman is likely to continue as Foreign Minister.

The Ministry of Education is likely to be allocated to Barrister Zamiruddin Sircar and the Ministry of Information may be given to a full cabinet Minister. Similarly the Ministry of licalth may be reallo-

There was a heavy rush of members of parliament at the office of the Prime Minister on Wednesday. Most of them were trying to advocate their own names or candidates for inclusion in the new cabinet.

Exchange of ideas among the members of the BNP leadcrship was continuing till late at night about the final shape of the cabinet which will take oath today.

Besides Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and the eight State Ministers who are likely to be made full Ministers, the full members of the cabinet are expected to be Mirza Golam Hafiz, Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury, Maj Gen (Retd) Majidul Huq, A S M Mustafizur Rahman, Saifur Rahman, Abdus Salam Talukdar. Col (Retd) Oli Ahmed, M Kcramat Ali, M K Anwar, Shamsul Islam Khan and Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf.

Besides the new State Ministers who are likely to be inducted, the State Ministers of the existing Council of Ministers who are likely to continue are: Maj(Retd) Abdul Mannan, Abdul Mannan, Md Kabir Hossain, Majibur Rahman, Princi pal Md Yunus Khan, Md Nurul Huda, Lutfar Rahman Khan, Prof M A Mannan and Sadeque Hossain Khoka.

Students ransack

From Page 1 Col. 8

The rally addressed by Fazlul Hug Milon, Elius Ali, Habibunnabi Sohel and Ali Akkas Nadim accused the Awami League student front of creating anarchy through-out

It said that the JCD alone was enough to treat the miscreants to restore congenial academic atmosphere on the campus.

The rally said that they were involved in hatching a conspiracy to prove the BNP incompetent in ruling the country being jealous of its popularity.

Meanwhile, a tense situation was prevailing on the Dhaka University campus following the incidents.

Presence of students in the classes on the second day after resumption yesterday was significantly less then on the previous day.

Campus sources said that armed hoodlums were found in some of the residential halls again. A shot was fired Wednesday afternoon from the TSC compound creating panic among the general students.

Witnesses said that four armed hoodlums came to the snack bar Wednesday at about 3 pm and fired a round in the air. Frightened male and female students waiting for the University bus rushed helterskelter to safety.

Jagannath Hall Students Union at a press conference Wednesday evening at its office demanded resignation of the ministers for Education and Home Affairs for their failure to provide security to the general students and restore normalcy on the cam-

The press conference attended by Quamaruzzaman Ansari, Pankaz Nath, Sujit Kumar Nandi and other office bearers of the hall students union alleged that a group of armed hoodlums of the JCD with the cooperation of police attacked the innocent students of the hall.

It was also pointed out at the press conference that Manik of Ziaur Rahman Hall and Safu of Dhaka College were found with arms during the massive attack on the students of the Jagannath Hall.

Speakers at the press conference resented the role of the Vice-Chancellor Prof Maniruzzaman Miah and said the he did not even go to the hospital to see the condition of the injured students. They demanded arrest of all armed

Police launched a sudden raid on the Jagannath Hal Tuesday night in a bid to arrest the alleged killers of Di Shamsul Alam Khan Milon learnt to be staying in the hall that night.

Around 20 students includ-

ing the Vice-President and the General Secretary of the hall students union were injured in the baton charge of the police. Agitated students instantly

protesting the incident damaged a number of vehicles at Palassey crossing. Paresh Chandra Mondal,

Provost of the hall and all House Tutor's resigned their posts protesting the incident. Their resignation letters were not accepted till Wednesday Meanwhile, various political

parties and student organisations in separate statements resented police action on the innocent students of Jagannath

The Five-Party alliance in a statement expressed grave concern over the incidents on the first day of reopening and accused the student fronts of the Awami League, the BNP and the Jammat-e-Islami of being involved in terrorism in the educational institutions. The statement pointed out

the failure of the law enforcing agencies in controlling the situation and said that if the situation continued the future of the nation would be threat-

Bangladesh Chhatra Federation, Samajtantrik Chhatra Front and Biplobi Chhatra Sangha in scparate statements condemned the police action on the innocent students.

The statements also condemned the ransacking of the VC's office.

BSS adds: DUCSU Vice-President Amanullah Aman, MP, and General Secretary Khairul Kabir Khokon yesterday strongly condemned the anarchist activities by the Mujibbadi Chhatra League' in the Dhaka University campus.

In a joint statement, they alleged that the Chhatra League has been continuing a planned terrorism in the campus as the associate of autocracy to subvert the infant democracy at a time when the nation was marching toward parliamentary democracy.

They alleged that the League workers tried to close down the university after it was opened only yesterday after remaining closed for a month and a half. They said the Mujibbadi Chhatra League today ransacked the office of the Vice Chancellor and caused extensive damage to

the administrative building. The DUCSU leaders also said due to the continuing "anarchist activities" of this particular group, the academic atmosphere has been vitiated and the lives of the teachers, students and employees of the University have been threatened. The University can no longer remain hostage in the hands of such a terrorist group isolated from the people, they observed.

They also vowed to resist the terrorist group in the campus. The DUCSU leaders also called for creating united resistance to such terrorism and appealed to the law-enforcing agencies to arrest the killers of Dr Milon.

Editorial on Page 4

DU probe body formed

An emergency meeting of the Dhaka University Syndicate held Wednesday night constituted a committee to investigate all the incidents which took place in the eampus from 9-30 Tuesday night to 10-30 am Wednesday including entry of police into Jagannath Hall premises, reports BSS.

The Midnight File

Baker-Assad talk ME peace

DAMASCUS, Sept 18: US Secretary of State James A. Baker met with President Hafez Assad on Wednesday to discuss prospects for a Middle East peace conference amid a US-Israeli spat and Syrian pessimism, reports AP.

Mujahideen down govt jet

ISLAMABAD, Sept 18: Afghan Mujahideen gunners shot down a jet while it was bombing rebel positions in the Paghman district of Kabul province today, the resistance news agency Midia said, reports AFP.

UNSC planning military action in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 18: The Security Council has drawn up plans to use warplanes and military escorts to back up UN weapons inspectors in Iraq if Baghdad continues to refuse to cooperate with them, the U.N. Secretary-General said Wednesday, reports AP.

Hasina wants raid

The refuted AL's student

wing's involvement in armed

acts, saying "we don't need

arms and don't have the ability

to acquire arms. Only the rul-

ing party has such ability," she

casion, the Vice-Chancellor

sought cooperation from

Hasina to restore normalcy in

the DU campus. "It is a politi-

cal problem and needs a polit-

companying the VC said, only

two or three student organisa-

tions were responsible for the

campus violence and sought

Hasina's help to remove vio-

Opposition said terrorism in

the country's politics began

through the killing of

Bangabandhu in 1975 and

since then, political changes

were made through terrorism.

whether politics will dominate

terrorism or terrorism will

dominate politics", Hastria said

adding "I am always against

terrorism in politics because !

the political parties to give up

the practice of establishing

supremacy on the campus,

President Sheikh Hasina

Wednesday night visited the

Dhaka Medical College

Hospital to see the condition

of the students who were in-

jured in Tuesday's police ac-

the Opposition in Parliament,

stayed at the hospital for

sometime and enquired about

the treatment of the injured

Begum Sajeda Chowdhury MP

was among others to accom-

4 killed, 10 hurt

in road mishap

at Tongi

DMCH Correspondent

and ten others injured in a

road mishap on Wednesday at

spot when a Dhaka-bound

minibus coming from Sripur

ran over a few by-standers,

mostly labourers, on the

Station Road at about 8-30 am.

identified. The bodies were in

the Tongi police station till the

The bodies could not be

Four persons were killed

Two persons died on the

Party General Secretary

Hasina, also the Leader of

UNB adds: Awami League

Hasina also called upon all

am the worst victim of it."

through armed politics.

tion at Jagannath Hall.

students.

pany Hasina.

"We should now decide

The Leader of the

lence from the campus.

The student leaders ac-

ical solution", he told I lasina.

Earlier, speaking on the oc-

From Page 1 Col. 7 and the DU authorities from herself and her party.

Held in a cordial atmosphere, the meeting was also attended by the President of the DU Teachers' Association Dr. Anwarullah Chowdhury. General Secretary Shahadat Hossain, Proctor Shahjahan Mina, Hall Provosts, Members of the Syndicate, senior teachers, leaders of the student organisations, all members of the DUEAC. AL leaders including Begum Sajeda Choudhury MP. Tofael Ahmed MP. Matia Choudhury MP and Mesbahuddin Khan MP were also

Giving a patient hearing during about two-hour deliberations Hasina said, "It is government's responsibility first to take legal action against the terrorists and the opposition parties can extend their cooperations to it. Government has the prime responsibility.

I am always against terror ism and my parties are ready to help the government", Hasina pledged. Hasina demanded probe

into all the violent acts that took place at the DU including Wednesday's police raid in JN hall and also ransacking of VC's office by some unruly students. The AL leader viewed that

to stop campus terrorism, all the killings and violent incidents on DU campus during last nine years' anti-autocracy movement should be probed into and those responsible must be tried. In this context, she mentioned that the attackers of four ex-VCs of the DU and killers of Basunia, Munna, Kanak and others during Ershad regime should not go untried.

She also demanded reopening of all the closed educational institutions, steps to eradicate session jam, withdrawal of 'false' cases filed by the autocratic government, release of all those jailed by Ershad and neutral inquiry into the armed incidents in last six months.

Referring to the alleged

killers of Dr Milon, some of whom later joined the AL's student wing, Hasina asked: "Why the government was delaying their trial ?" "The killers, even after being identified, were yet to be arrested. Ten months had already passed since the case against the killers were lodged. The ruling party only chargesheeted the killers and did not start the trial even after six months of its assumption of power. Law should take its own course" she said.

Obhi

From Page 1 Col. 4

linked to the murder in a

rival group in the Jatiyatabadi

Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the jeal-

ous leaders of some other stu-

dent organisations", Obhi

the sun and it cannot be hid-

den by anything. We must be

proved innocent in the Court."

rorism on the campus Obhi

said educational institutions

were not islands isolated from

the whole country. The politi-

cal unrest, deterioration of law

and order and the shattered

economy have contributed to a

names of the student organisa-

tions that provide shelter to

armed hoodlums and said the

names were not unknown to

armed hoodlums in the stu-

dent organisations he said that

some of the most familiar ter-

rorists were playing the main

role in some of the student or-

rorism can be rooted out by

the united understanding of

the people and the political

parties. Besides, independent

administration, vibrant econ-

omy and development of

morality can help the rooting

out of terrorism from the

join the Awami League student

front Chhatra League (S-A)

Obhi said that he was a real pa-

triot and nationalist. It was not

necessary for him to take on

an identity of any political

When asked why he did not

campuses, he said.

party, he added.

Obhi, however, felt that ter-

Regarding the status of the

Obhi refused to give the

restive campus, he added.

When asked about the ter-

He said, "The truth is like

pointed out.

the people.

ganisations.

planned way by my longtime

Diarrhoea

From Page 1 Col. 3 fected area.

Diarrhoea claimed two lives in Panchbibi upazila of

writing of this report.

Jaipurhat. About 1000 people in the district have been affected by the disease. In Naogaon, the flood situa-

tion aggravated and the district town remained under knee-deep water. Over five lakh people in 11 upazilas have been affected by the flood.

No security From Page 1 Col. 5

Leader of the Opposition in parliament but at her own expenses for visits outside Dhaka, the sources said. But later it was informed that there would be no security for Sheikh Hasina outside the Dhaka metropolitan city.

In 1986, the sources said, Hasina was provided with alltime security as Leader of the Opposition in parliament.

On Monday, the police camp outside the Bangabandhu Bhaban was withdrawn and the house security reduced from 11 to 6.

Sources close to Sheikh Hasina said she conveyed the matter to the Acting President on Wednesday.

President she did not require any security at all for herself as the Leader of the Opposition in parliament, the sources added. "Almighty Allah is with me and he is my security. I don't

Hasina told the Acting

need any security from the government", Ifasina was quoted by the sources as saying to the Acting President over telephone.

Ershad to testify in wealth amassing case

PWs complete deposition

By Staff Correspondent

Deposition of the Prosecution Witnesses except the cross - examination of the Investigation Officer in Ershad's wealth amassing case concluded yesterday at the

Special Judge Court. A total of 48 witnesses deposing in the Court corroborated the chargesheets and ac-

cusation. The Anti-Corruption Officer of Dinajpur district Mohiuddin Ahmed was also brought to the Court yesterday as witness No

The deposition of the Investigation Officer Matiur Rahman Sardar Assistant Director of the Bureau of Anti-Corruption, prosecution witness No 34, was also completed. He is likely to be crossexamined on September 21 next Saturday.

Attorney General Aminul Haque said that 90 per cent of the proceedings has already been completed.

On the other hand Defence Lawyer Sirajul Haque said that he would name four defence witnesses in this case. Ershad himself will also be named as a defence witness in his case as it is permissible as per a given section of the corruption case.

The four other defence witnesses to be named are brother-in-law of Ershad Mostafizur Rahman, Jatiya Party MP, Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, Shah Moazzem Hossain and Tajul Islam. Deposing in the Court

Dinajpur district Anti-

Corruption Officer Mohiuddin

Ahmed said that Ershad pos-

Ranisankail thana Thakurgaon district.

He said that Ershad earned a total of Taka 11,87,690 just by supplying sugarcane to the Thakurgaon sugar mills from 1986-87 to 1989-90.

One person named Siddigur Rahman has now been appointed by Ershad to look after the land. Ershad also constructed a

three-room house on the land,

Mohiuddin Ahmed said. He

was also cross-examined by Defence Lawyer Sirajul Haque. Later Investigation Officer of the case Matiur Rahman deposing in the Court said that the prices of the items found in the Sena Bhaban were fixed on 31-1-91; 2-2-91 and 4-2-91 while on 6-2-91 the prices

Bangabhaban were calculated. The total value of the articles found in the Sena Bhaban the Bangabhaban amounted to Taka 65,37,435. He also said that Ershad

drew a total of Taka

6,19,998/- from 1973 to 1986

during the period of his ser-

of the articles found in the

vice in the Army. After the deposition of Matiur Rahman Judge Mohammad Ali Khan adjourned the Court to resume on next Saturday.

After adjournment of the Court Defence Lawyer Sirajul Haque while talking to reporters said that the offence of Ershad in this case was a cognizable offence but facts remained that none had asked Ershad about the money and from where he got it.

He said that the case would

ultimately belittle the prestige of the present government as the case was a very small one. He said that Nawab Sirajuddowla had 11 associates who ultimately betrayed him. "What happened to the associates of Ershad", he questioned Sirajul Haque said that no-

body should be condemned He said that the maximum punishment in this case is seven years rigorous imprisonment and if Ershad were convicted it may tantamount to

moral turpitude. When asked whether Ershad would lose his Parliament membership if he were convicted Sirajul Haque said that if there was any appeal in the higher Court against the judgement, that should also be treated as continuation of the case. So at that stage he should not lose his

However, when asked a government source confided to The Daily Star that the government has taken a decision in this regard. The sources said the conviction in the case would be construed as moral turpitude unless that was set aside by the higher Court.

Parliament membership.

comment of the Defence Counsel Stratul Haque on the merit of the case, the Attorney General Aminul Haque refrained from making any comments and said that talking about the merit of the case at this stage was tantamount to contempt of judicial proceed

When asked about the