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# The Daily Star

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## Inside Today

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Gulag  
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Dhaka Day by Day



Instead of promoting  
our rich and varied  
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we go for the concoction  
which goes by the  
name of Chinese  
food  
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### Business

Chinese assistance  
sought to modernise  
textile sector  
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### Tomorrow

Syeduzzaman, former  
Finance Minister and  
guest columnist of The  
Daily Star, will write  
on the just-concluded  
World Bank - IMF  
meeting in Bangkok  
which he  
attended

## NEWS BRIEFS

### New Information Secy to PM

The Government has ap-  
pointed Principal Information  
Officer of PID Abdus Sobhan as  
Information Secretary to the  
Prime Minister, an official  
handout said Monday.

### Lal Mian dead

From Our Correspondent  
MYMENSINGH, Oct 28 :  
Anti-British movement veteran  
and president of Ganatantri  
Party Mir Kafiluddin Lal Mian  
(71), died of brain haemorrhage  
on Monday at a four-day  
visit to Bangladesh, reports  
BBS.

### UK minister due Oct 31

British Minister for  
Overseas Development Mrs  
Lynda Chalker arrives here on  
November 31 on a four-day  
visit to Bangladesh, reports  
BBS.

Dawn-to-dusk barricade by workers : 100 injured in sporadic violence : Vehicles, train engines damaged

## Communications snapped for 12 hrs

By Staff Correspondent

Road and railway communi-  
cations were severely dis-  
rupted throughout the country  
Monday amid sporadic violence  
at different places due to a  
dawn-to-dusk barricade of  
highways and tracks by jute  
and textile mills workers.

At least 100 persons were  
injured in violent incidents  
around the country as two  
train engines and a number of  
vehicles were damaged by the  
agitating workers during the  
12-hour barricade programme  
which began at 6 am.

The barricade was jointly  
called by the Jute Mills  
Workers and Employees Action  
Council and the Nationalised  
Textile and Spinning Mills  
Workers and Employees  
Federation to press home their  
respective 8-point and 6-point

charter of demands. The de-  
mands include a stop to dis-  
investment of nationalised mills  
and fixation of minimum Taka  
1400 wages for the workers.  
Railway services were  
severely affected and inter-dis-  
trict truck and bus services on  
all major routes were also sus-  
pended throughout the coun-  
try. Movement of traffic was  
also disrupted in many towns,  
however, it remained normal  
in the capital.

Agitating workers set up  
barricades and staged sit-in on  
railway tracks and major high-  
ways near their respective  
factories around the country.

The workers damaged the  
engines and compartments of  
at least two passenger trains  
and the driver of one passen-  
ger train was injured when it

came under attack near the  
Tongi Station, railway sources  
said.

Barricades were set up in  
Bhawal, Gazipur, Joydebpur,  
Pubail, Arikhola and  
Kishoreganj near Dhaka and at  
Rhatlari and Kumira in  
Chittagong in the eastern rail-  
way zone while barricades  
were also set up in Daulatpur  
and Fultala in Khulna, the  
sources added.

Thousands of passengers  
were stranded at various rail-  
way and bus stations in the  
country as movement of trains  
and inter-district transports  
came to a virtual standstill on  
the day.

All the trains scheduled to  
leave Dhaka were cancelled  
and none of the trains could  
See Page 12 Col. 2



UNREST NOW STIRS LABOUR FRONT : Workers blocking movement of trains by putting up barricades on rail tracks at Tongi on Monday. —Star photo

Violence spreads after DU gunbattle

## Clashes in two universities, two colleges closed sine die

By Staff Correspondent

Sunday's gunbattle on the  
Dhaka University campus  
sparked off violence in differ-  
ent educational institutions in  
and outside the city where  
over 10 student activists were  
injured, shots fired, bombs ex-  
ploded and hall rooms burnt.  
The pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi  
Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the  
Awami League-backed Chhatra  
League (S-A) fought a two and a  
half hour long fierce gunbattle  
on the DU campus Sunday  
leaving two JCD workers killed  
and over a dozen others  
wounded. Of the critically in-  
jured, one 'tokai' (street

urchin) succumbed to his bul-  
let wounds in a hospital  
Monday.

According to our Rajshahi  
correspondent, four students  
of the Rajshahi University were  
injured when armed youths  
fired on a JCD procession on  
the campus Monday morning.  
The JCD brought out the  
procession to mourn the death  
of their two fellow workers in  
the DU Sunday.

Of the injured, Shah Ahmed  
Shamim, a first year student of  
the Law Department, was ad-  
mitted to the Rajshahi Medical  
College Hospital (RMCH) with

bullet wounds in the waist.  
Other injured persons could  
not be identified.

Witnesses said that the BCL  
activists fired a shot at the JCD  
procession as it was parading  
campus. Later both the JCD  
and the BCL locked in clashes  
when three more shots were  
fired.

The rival student groups  
were also engaged in chase  
and counter-chase on the  
campus where tension  
mounted.

Protesting the violence,  
Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya, and  
See Page 12 Col. 8

Gunbattle victim 'Tokai' dies in hospital

## Panicky students leave DU halls



LAST GLIMPSE : Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and her cabinet colleagues having a look at the bodies of Mirza and Liton at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday. —Star photo

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University cam-  
pus wore a desolate look  
Monday after seven days of re-  
opening as most of the resi-  
dent students left halls follow-  
ing three-day suspension of  
classes.

The DU Syndicate, after an  
emergency meeting, announ-  
ced the decision due to 'uneasy'  
campus situation after Sun-  
day's gunbattle that left two  
JCD activists killed and over a  
dozen others injured.

Three days' class suspen-  
sion does not normally warrant  
leaving residential halls, but  
general students said they felt  
insecure.

Meanwhile, the death toll  
rose to three after the uniden-  
tified street urchin who re-  
ceived bullet in Sunday's gun-  
battle, succumbed to his injury  
at the Dhaka Medical College  
Hospital early Monday.

Of the other injured, condi-  
tion of Mizanur Rahman Mizan  
of Chhatra League (S-A) now  
under intensive care at the  
DMCH was stated to be critical.

The curfew that was  
clamped on the university  
campus from 4.30 pm Sunday  
was lifted at 12 noon Monday  
but heavy contingents of BDR  
and armed police remained  
deployed.

Two gunshots were fired  
around noon when a JCD  
mourning procession was pas-  
sing by the Jagannath Hall.  
Police raided the hall earlier in  
the morning, but found no  
arms.  
See Page 12 Col. 5

## 'BNP, AL not sincere in containing terrorism'

By Staff Correspondent

More political parties and  
organisations Monday con-  
demned Sunday's gunbattle on  
the Dhaka University campus.

They blamed the ruling BNP  
and the opposition Awami  
League for allowing terrorism  
in the educational institutions  
and reiterated their call to  
both the parties to be sincere  
in rooting out terrorism.

Four left political parties —  
the CPB, NAP, Gana Azadi  
League and Samyabadi Dal in a  
joint statement regretted that  
although all the small political  
parties were abiding by a code  
See Page 12 Col. 6

## Angry JCD students greet ministers at DMCH

Shock turned into rage  
when the ruling party leaders  
went to the hospital on  
Monday to see the bodies of  
two Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal  
leaders killed on Sunday in a  
gunbattle on the Dhaka  
University campus, reports  
UNB.

As Prime Minister Begum  
Khaleda Zia accompanied by  
Ministers arrived at Dhaka  
Medical College Hospital  
(DMCH) at about 1.45 pm,  
hundreds of grief-stricken JCD  
activists became agitated and  
started hurling abuses toward  
the Home Minister and the  
See Page 12 Col. 1

## DUCSU, JCD leaders threaten hunger strike

By DU Correspondent

Dhaka University Central  
Students Union (DUCSU) and  
Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD)  
on Monday decided to go for  
hunger strike unto death  
jointly from October 31 if the  
government failed to arrest the  
alleged killers of Dr Shamsul  
Alam Khan Milon by October  
30.

DUCSU and JCD in a joint  
rally held Monday in front of  
the National Press Club ac-  
cused the alleged killers of Dr  
Milon of killing Mirza and  
Liton too.  
The rally organised to  
See Page 12 Col. 7

Limited autonomy for varsities proposed to curb terrorism

## Campus issue sent to special JS body for recommendations

By Staff Correspondent

The Jatiya Sangsad  
(Parliament) on Monday dis-  
cussed the gunbattle that took  
place on the Dhaka University  
campus Sunday and referred  
the proceedings of the discus-  
sion to the Special  
Parliamentary Committee on  
campus violence for immediate  
recommendation.

The issue was discussed  
keeping pending the ongoing  
general discussion on the  
situation in the northern dis-  
tricts initiated Sunday follow-  
ing an adjournment motion  
brought by Workers Party MP

Rashed Khan Menon and 21  
other MPs of parliament.

Earlier in the morning the  
Business Advisory Committee  
took a decision in this regard  
and requested the Speaker to  
discuss the campus violence  
issue keeping all other busi-  
ness of the House pending.

A total of 24 MPs both from  
the Treasury and the  
Opposition benches partici-  
pated in the discussion which  
continued for about two hours  
and 45 minutes till 10.30 pm  
last night.

During the discussion the

BNP, Jamaat, Jatiya Party and  
NDP members proposed con-  
sidering measures limiting the  
autonomous status of the uni-  
versities in view of growing  
terrorism in the campus while  
the Awami League MP, Abdur  
Razzak opposed the proposal  
saying that the autonomous  
status of the universities was a  
democratic one and the status  
should not be curtailed.

However, Deputy Leader of  
the Opposition Abdus Samad  
Azad clearly proposed that the  
government spell out its atti-  
See Page 12 Col. 5

## BNP has betrayed its pledges : Hasina

GAIBANDHA, Oct 28 :  
Awami League President and  
Leader of the Opposition in  
Parliament Sheikh Hasina to-  
day alleged that the BNP gov-  
ernment has betrayed its own  
commitment to the people and  
said its every step is auto-  
cratic, reports UNB.

Addressing a big public  
gathering at the Public Library  
Maidan here this evening on  
the last day of her four-day  
tour to the northern districts,  
Hasina charged the ruling  
party with failure to formulate  
specific programme to ensure  
people's fundamental rights to  
food, work and shelter.

Hasina said the BNP gov-  
ernment is trying to stifle the  
voice of opposition in the par-  
liament when people in north-  
ern districts are "leading a sub  
human life and facing death in  
absence of food and work."

She said that after the fall  
of the autocratic regime, peo-  
ple expected that steps would  
be taken for ameliorating  
their condition but their hopes  
and aspiration were dashed to  
the ground seeing the un-  
democratic attitude of the  
BNP government.

Hasina said that despite  
objection by the ruling party,  
Awami League had forced it to  
discuss in parliament the  
"famine situation in the north-  
ern region." She rebuked  
Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-  
Islami for joining their hands  
with the treasury bench  
against Awami League.  
The Awami League chief

said people elected the  
sovereign parliament to make  
the government accountable to  
it. "If we are not allowed to  
talk about people's misery and  
find out solutions in the House  
then what is the use of this  
parliament?"

She said people in the  
northern districts have virtu-  
ally turned into paupers losing  
all their crops, property and  
dwellings in the flood and ero-  
sion of the rivers Brahmaputra  
and Jamuna and Teesta.

Hasina alleged that people  
are still dying in the northern  
See Page 12 Col. 1

## Hasina, Amu term it as BNP's own conflict

GAIBANDHA, Oct 28 :  
Sheikh Hasina today described  
the Sunday's incident on  
Dhaka University campus an  
outburst of armed conflict be-  
tween two factions of BNP's  
student wing and said it must  
be stopped for the interest of  
healthy academic atmosphere,  
reports UNB.

"We do not believe in poli-  
tics of arms and terrorism  
.....we want a healthy at-  
mosphere on the campus", the  
Awami League President told a  
rally at Public Library Maidan  
See Page 12 Col. 3

## Temple-Masjid dispute : Faizabad sealed off

FAIZABAD, Oct 28:  
Authorities in the Bharatiya  
Janata Party-ruled Uttar  
Pradesh sealed off all the five  
entry points on the borders of  
Faizabad ahead of an anti-tem-  
ple construction protest today,  
reports PTI and AFP.

The protest was announced  
in the weekend by former  
prime minister Vishwanath  
Pratap Singh who said he and  
fellow politicians would stage  
sit-in there Tuesday.  
Police sources indicated that  
the Janata Dal leader

might be refused entry to  
Faizabad.

The Hindu-revivalist BJP is  
committed to the construction  
of a temple on a holy site  
claimed by both Hindus and  
Muslims in the northern  
Indian town of Ayodhya, a party  
leader said today.

But the BJP would try to  
avoid confrontation with the  
central government over con-  
struction of the controversial  
Ram Temple, BJP leader LK  
Advani said.  
Advani's comments, made

to journalists in the western  
state of Maharashtra, came as  
authorities beefed up security  
in Ayodhya, in BJP-ruled Uttar  
Pradesh state.

Activists of the Hindu-fun-  
damentalist Vishwa Hindu  
Parishad (VHP) spearheading  
the temple construction drive  
in Ayodhya have vowed to stop  
Singh, who was prime minis-  
ter for 11 months until  
November 1990, from enter-  
ing the town.  
The group claims that a  
mosque in Ayodhya, legendary

birth place of Ram, was built  
during India's early Islamic  
era after demolishing a Rama  
shrine. Muslims say the land  
was vacant.

Newspapers today quoted  
senior police superintendent  
Brij Mohan Saraswat as saying  
he would give "foolproof secu-  
rity" to Singh if he went ahead  
with his protest.

He also said he was confi-  
dent that the 17 companies of  
Central Reserve Police on  
standby in Ayodhya, could  
maintain the peace there.

But residents said Ayodhya's  
minority Muslim population  
was taking no chances and  
had already started sending  
their women and children out  
of the city fearing a resurgence  
Hindu-Muslim riots.

Jai Shankar Pandey, presi-  
dent of the local unit of the  
Samajwadi Janata Party (SJP)  
and a former MLA from  
Ayodhya, said the National  
Front-left Front combine  
would go ahead with its  
planned dharna and satyagraha.  
Related story on page 5

## Change of Telephone Numbers

We are pleased to announce the  
change in telephone numbers of our  
office at Hadi Mansion, 2-Dilkusha  
Commercial Area, Dhaka - 1000  
As under :

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235026	862393
235027	862394
235028	862395
235226	862396
230225	862397

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