

Jamaat quits IJI over Afghan issue

ISLAMABAD, May 5: The rightwing fundamentalist Jamaat-i-Islami party Tuesday quit Pakistan's ruling alliance blaming Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif for mishandling the Afghan issue and delaying the process of Islamisation in Pakistan, reports AFP.

The Head of the Jamaat, Qazi Hussain Ahmad, a staunch supporter of radical Afghan Mujahideen leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, has alleged that Hekmatyar was deprived of his rightful share in the week-old interim Afghan government.

"The Afghan issue cannot be solved by imposing the will of any particular group or ignoring any important factions in Afghanistan," a Jamaat spokesman, Liaquat Baboch, told a news conference here.

Explaining the party's decision, he said that as Sharif had failed to hold an election in his Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI) due February 1992, the alliance had become "automatically invalid".

He said his party would ask the Speaker for separate seats

for its eight MPs in the National Assembly (lower house), to disassociate it from the IJI.

"Our group will play an active role in criticising the wrong policies" of the government and oppose any move to continue the interest-based economy or slow down the process of Islamisation of the country's laws.

Jamaat's exit is unlikely to pose any threat to Sharif's parliamentary strength derived from his dominant Pakistan Muslim League (PML) party.

However, the Jamaat enjoys religious and political influence in the urban middle class and runs a chain of religious schools. Its youth wing is active among the educational institutions in some bigger cities.

The Jamaat has been at odds with Sharif over most policies since he came to power in November 1990 after the Islamic Democratic Alliance routed former Premier Benazir Bhutto's party in general elections.

Myanmar junta softens tone

YANGON, May 5: Myanmar's ruling junta appealed today to the warring ethnic groups to lay down their arms and instead join the regime to bring about national reunification, reports AFP.

It invited the factions, which have been battling Yangon for over 40 years, to take bold and positive steps and seize a golden opportunity towards national unity.

The peace call, which was made in an editorial in the state-run Working People's Daily, is the latest in a series of sudden peace offerings made to the pro-democracy movement since the ousting of junta head General Saw Maung.

Since General Than Shwe took over from Saw Maung late last month the military has begun releasing political prisoners and accepted to take back thousands of Muslims who fled over the border into Bangladesh.

It has also eased the restrictions on imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi and called a ceasefire in the war with ethnic Karen rebels.

Indian minister fired at in Srinagar

JAMMU, May 5: An Indian federal minister escaped narrowly Tuesday when Muslim separatists fired at his convoy in Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar, officials here said, reports AFP.

At least four of the attackers were shot dead by Minister of State for Telecommunications Rajesh Pilot's guards, who returned fire after the ambush in Nowpora area, an official spokesman said.



Ne Win wants his portrait down

YANGON, May 5: Former President Ne Win wants to remove his portraits from civil administration organs of government and military offices, reports Xinhua.

This announcement signed by Ne Win himself on May 4 was carried in the government Myanmar language newspaper the 'Working People's Daily' Tuesday.

He also asks the personnel concerned not to hang his portrait in the future.

This followed the change in the leadership of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) on April 23 when General Than Shwe had taken the posts of the SLORC Chairman and Commander-in-Chief of the defense services.

General Than Shwe is also the Prime Minister and Minister for Defense of the Myanmar military government.

Ne Win had been the President of the country from 1962 to 1981.

The portraits of late national hero General Aung San and Ne Win have been hung in the civil administration organs of the Myanmar government and military offices since 1962.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a huge gathering of farmers at the Thakurgaon Zila School ground yesterday. Story on Page 1 — PID photo

Lebanese mob burns Minister's house as currency plunges

SIDON, May 5: Demonstrators burned down the Finance Minister's house in south Lebanon on Tuesday and ransacked money exchange shops in protest against the country's worst economic crisis since independence 48 years ago, reports AP.

The Lebanese currency, once the soundest in the Middle East, plunged to a record low Tuesday. The pound, which rated 2.5 to the US dollar before the 1975-1990 civil war, was trading Tuesday for 2,100 to the dollar.

The 350,000-strong General Federation of Labour Unions called for a four-day nationwide strike to begin Wednesday. It demanded the resignation of Prime Minister Omar Karami's Cabinet to make way for a new government capable of protecting the national currency.

The economic decline has been blamed on government mismanagement, overspending and civil war damage estimated at \$125 billion. Lebanon imports more than 85 per cent of its basic needs.

Karami travelled to

Damascus for consultations. Syria is the main power broker in Lebanon with 40,000 troops backing the government's drive to restore stability to the country after the end of the civil war.

The protests were spontaneous. Citizens in Sidon, provincial capital of south Lebanon, the inland market town of Nabatieh, and the port city of Tyre took to the streets after morning radio newscasts reported the dramatic slide in the value of the pound.

Police said some 300 people, mostly students and labourers, stoned the house of Finance Minister Ali Khalil in Tyre, sending seven guards posted outside running for cover.

Chanting "Down with a government that starves its people," they stormed the residence, broke the furniture, stripped off wooden window frames and set fire to the couches, a police spokesman said.

A group outside flung burning frames, tree branches and pieces of wood at the residence before 25 soldiers in four armoured personnel carriers arrived to disperse the

crowd. One demonstrator was slightly injured while throwing a burning log, the spokesman said. He could not be named under standing regulations.

Khalil was in Beirut at the time of the attack. Another group ransacked four exchange shops in downtown Tyre and smashed their neon signs, the spokesman said.

Hundreds of other protesters blocked roads with burning rubber tires, turned back motorists and ordered businesses closed in Sidon, Nabatieh and Tyre, the main population centers in south Lebanon.

In the fishermen's village of Sarafand, just south of Sidon, protesters beat up a Lebanese army officer and smashed the windshields of his car because he tried to remove a road-block.

The officer, a first lieutenant whose name was withheld, was rescued by elders in the village. He was not seriously hurt, the spokesman said.

Army troops opened some of the blocked roads in late afternoon.

BARC signs MOU with Canada

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed here yesterday between the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) and the Potash and Phosphate Institute of Canada, reports BSS.

The MOU was signed by Dr M Sujayet Ullah Chowdhury, Executive Vice-Chairman, BARC and Dr J D Beaton, President of the Potash and Phosphate Institute, Canada.

Under the MOU, Bangladesh will receive cooperation for strengthening research on soil-fertility and inputs management for maximum economic yields, soil conservation for the high yield sustainable agricultural development in Bangladesh for the years.

It also provides for training local scientists through research grants and will help in improving knowledge in soil management practices at the farmers' level through demonstrations, training and publications, etc.

Dr Z Karim, Member-Director (Soils and Irrigation), BARC, was present during signing of the MOU.

Biman men

From Page 1 Col 8

Under the mass transfer order, 25 marketing staff from Dhaka office have been transferred to Chittagong Station while 13 from Chittagong transferred to Dhaka.

Another 17 employees from Dhaka Station have also been transferred to Sylhet, Khulna, Jessore and Cox's Bazar while seven from those local stations to Dhaka.

Official sources said that these transfers had no connection with last week's scandal over ticket reservations in the Dhaka office in which nine employees were suspended. Investigation was on about the matter. The transfer orders had been issued in mid-March, the source added.

Meanwhile, the transfer orders which were issued on three employees of Chittagong Station on April 29 were not carried out until Tuesday.

Allegation of helping a local travel agency was brought against them and was investigated in November 1990 by a probe body that suggested their immediate transfer.

Another Biman employee of Chittagong who spent more than 11 years in the station and against whom similar allegations were brought, has recently been transferred to the Calcutta Station of Biman. An employee termed it a promotion transfer.

A Biman official said that the authorities were trying to eradicate alleged corruption from different departments of Biman but a section of Biman employees was trying to resist it.

Khmer Rouge launches fresh attack

PHNOM PENH, May 5: Khmer Rouge guerrillas have launched a series of attacks which UN peace-keepers said today were the worst violations to date of a peace agreement ending the Cambodian civil war, reports Reuters.

The coordinated attacks were against areas held by the Phnom Penh government in the central Cambodian province of Kompong Thom.

BFUJ, DUJ concerned at Times, Dainik Bangla issue

The Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) Tuesday said that the void created by constitution and re-constitution of the Dainik Bangla-Bangladesh Times Trust has created a sense of anxiety among the journalists and other employees of the two newspapers, reports BSS.

In a statement in Dhaka, Reazuddin Ahmed and Amanullah Kabir, President and Secretary General of the BFUJ, and Shahjahan Mian and Altaf Mamud, President and General Secretary of the DUJ, also expressed concern at the stalemate in financial dealings and payment of salaries of the journalists and employees in addition to the uncertainty caused by the Trust issue.

The demand of the journalists and employees is to make the two dailies financially sound and otherwise viable and vibrant through reconstitution of the Trust they said and warned that the union would resist any move to bypass government's responsibility about the two newspapers by handing over the dailies and their properties to individuals or a group.

They called for overcoming the financial difficulties of the two dailies and their professional embellishment for creating greater credibility for the two newspapers.

Steps must be taken to meet other problems like payment of salaries on the 1st of every month, as well as the arrears and creation of a healthy condition.

The statement urged the government to take steps for reconstitution of the Trust in consultation with the union and also measures on an emergency basis to remove the confusion and concern caused by Trust issue centering on two traditional dailies of the country.

Crimea declares independence

SIMFEROPOL (Ukraine), May 5: The parliament of the Crimean Peninsula passed an "act of independence" from Ukraine today reports Reuters.

Dholai sewer

From Page 1 Col 8

ter will be made at Narinda, the source said.

For discharge of storm waters 1.6 kilometers of RCC box culvert from the Dayaganj bridge to Lohar Pool will be constructed, while the old canal will be re-excavated, 2.65 kilometres of the canal will be relined with concrete, the source informed.

Construction of the box culvert will be followed by construction of a 1.1 km four-lane road and a 7 km two-lane road over the culvert. The construction of these roads also aim at resolving the existing traffic jam problems of old Dhaka, the source said.

Meanwhile acquisition of six acres of land at Dholaihal to implement the project is now under process by the municipality corporation.

The project approved in 1988-89 by the World Bank will be implemented with the consultancy and technical assistance of the World Bank and the UNDP.

Scandal

From Page 1 Col 5

Tuesday.

The ruling came after charges that the company was illegally favoured by Luiz Octavio Themudo, the former head of a Brazilian government task force in charge of preparing the conference site.

Themudo quit under fire on Mar 25, although he denied any wrongdoing.

However, Judge Wanderley de Andrade Monteiro said there was evidence of a "spider-like plot" to benefit Certame, which is owned by former associates of Themudo.

Themudo picked Certame to hire construction companies to prepare Riocentro, without the normally required public bidding.

Themudo also has been accused of taking \$220,000 to put on a conference of liquefied gas producers last year, after he had sold his interest in the organising company.

"It is impossible that the government did not know of Luiz Octavio Themudo's past and his involvement in illicit acts of all kinds," Monteiro wrote in his decision.

The convention center was to be ready by May 15. Organisers said work was ahead of schedule.

Seventy heads of state and government have confirmed they will attend the meeting to discuss world environmental goals.

Workers Party talks action programme

The first meeting of the central committee of the Workers Party of Bangladesh was held in Dhaka Tuesday with its president Amal Sen in the chair, reports UNB.

Party general secretary Rashed Khan Menon, MP, submitted a report outlining the party's line of action in view of the prevailing political and economic situation as well as various problems facing the people.

The central committee constituted an 11-member Standing Committee and allocated responsibilities among the members.

Those who participated in discussion at the meeting, held at the party central office, included Shardinu Dasidhar, Haider Akbar Khan Rono, Bimal Biswas, Tipu Biswas, Shah Alam Molla, Fazle Hossain Badsha, Momin, Nurul Alam, Nurul Anwar, Paresh Chandra Saha and Anwar.

The meeting demanded withdrawal of 'false' case against Ali Newaz, former chairman of Rajbari Poura shava, and another 'false' case filed by Islami Chhatra Shibir against 24 persons in Khulna.

A resolution of the meeting condemned the alleged move to politicise the administration in Jhenidah.

400 Bangladeshi

From Page 1 Col 5

labour shortage in the country.

He, however, mentioned that the importation of workers by employers would be allowed only for the plantation and construction sectors.

He added that the government would monitor the recruitment of foreign workers to ensure that they get the same payment as the local workers.

About the Bangladeshi workers in Malaysia's jails concerned sources said that they were free to return home if they could procure air tickets.

"Seven or eight Bangladeshi workers, who were in custody, are now going back home each week in this way," said the source.

An official of the Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur said that it was in touch with the imprisoned workers and in contact with their homes or Malaysian employers to arrange their air tickets.

BCI documents

From Page 1 Col 7

during the crisis period.

A high official of the Bangladesh Bank told The Daily Star that the Bank had not yet received the audit report on the NCL's (National Credit Limited) financial dealings and papers. The three-day audit into the NCL, however, concluded Tuesday.

The NCL also could not meet the demand of the depositors on Tuesday. The depositors, as usual, crowded the branches in the hope of recovering their deposits. The employees of NCL told them to wait till the company became a bank. They also said that the crisis would soon be over.

Meanwhile, the BCI Employees and Workers Coordination Council in a meeting once again urged the government to take steps to provide security to the inspection team of the Bangladesh Bank.

On the other hand, the depositors of the BCI urged the government to attach the property of the people who took loans from the company and meet the deposits.

Hekmatyar

From Page 1 Col 4

armed confrontation would soon end.

Karyab, who arrived in Kabul on Monday night with a convoy of Mujahideen fighters led by the leaders of several guerrilla groups in the government coalition, made clear that Hekmatyar had softened his demands.

Hekmatyar continues to demand the removal from Kabul of Uzbek and Tajik-speaking militia forces who bore the brunt of fierce fighting Hezb fighters inside Kabul last week.

But Karyab said Hezb-i-Islami was now prepared to accept that Mojaddedi should rule for two months before handing over the government to another guerrilla leader Burhanuddin Rabbani, whose main field commander Ahmad Shah Masood is credited with sparking the collapse of the former government.

Previously Hekmatyar had been demanding that the complex formula for transferring power from the old Soviet-installed government to the Mujahideen should be cut short.

"We will definitely change our position if it's in the interests of Islam and the interests of the nation. Otherwise we are committed to drive out those that endanger security," Karyab said in reference to the militiamen.

The Midnight File

Bosnia signs truce accord with Yugoslav army

SARAJEVO, May 5: The Bosnian presidency and representatives of the Yugoslav army signed a truce to take immediate effect in Sarajevo and to cover the whole of Bosnia-Herzegovina from 8 pm (1800 GMT) today, a European community mediator said, reports Reuters.

Emergency in Tajikistan

MOSCOW, May 5: Authorities declared a state of emergency in Tajikistan today as three people were killed and 11 wounded amid growing political turmoil in the central Asian republic, central television reported. Opposition demonstrators have staged protests for more than a month in the capital Dushanbe against the communist-dominated government of President Rahmon Nabyev, reports AFP.

4 blacks shot dead

JOHANNESBURG, May 5: At least four blacks were killed in South African townships and gunmen opened fire on commuters, wounding three men and a woman, police said today. Two men were shot dead in Johannesburg townships and two in Umagababa, on the eastern Natal coast during the night, reports Reuters.

Pindi supporting Sikh Kashmir terrorism: US

WASHINGTON, May 5: Pakistan is supporting Kashmiri and Sikh terrorism, says the US State Department in its annual publication 'Patterns of Global Terrorism 1991-92', reports PTI.

It says there were continuing credible reports throughout 1991 of official Pakistani support for Kashmiri militant groups engaged in terrorism in Kashmir as well as support to Sikh militant groups engaged in terrorism in Punjab. The support allegedly includes provision of weapons and training.

On Sikh terrorism, the State Department acknowledges that the base is not only in India but also abroad. It says Sikh terrorism is carried out by several domestic and international groups seeking to establish an independent state.

Groups that carry out terrorism include the Dashmesh, or 10th regiment (active in India, Western Germany and Canada), Dal Khalsa, Babbar Khalsa (operates in India, Western Germany and Canada) and the All-India Sikh students federations.

Sikh terrorism within India, ranging from kidnappings and bombings to assassinations, continues at a high level. A New York report adds: Pakistan has again accused Indian security forces of committing atrocities and violating human rights in Kashmir.

The Pakistani accusation was made by Chairman of Pakistan's Senate Wasim Sajjad during a meeting with UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday.

Sources said Sajjad also accused India of not entering into a meaningful dialogue with Pakistan on the Kashmir issues.

He said India should first recognise that a 'dispute' exists. The Indian contention that Kashmir is an integral part of India automatically shuts off any meaningful dialogue, Sajjad said.

Paura polls

From Page 1 Col 8

tivities relating to the paurashabha election continue.

The handout also referred to the demand of some quarters to postpone the elections until the existing electoral rolls are amended.

The handout said considering the above demands the commission had exchanged views with all concerned in the greater interest of holding the election in a free and fair manner. In this regard, the commission said to attain the objective the existing electoral rolls needed to be amended.

The handout said decisions in this connection would be taken very soon.

Bangladesh Shilpa Bank

Head Office : Dhaka

Assets Disposal Department

Sale Notice

Mortgaged assets of M/S

Sultan Textile Mills

Ltd, Kaliakair, Gazipur

A Project with annual capacity of

4,32,000 yards synthetic textile weaving

Mortgaged land, building and machinery of M/s Sultan Textile Mills Ltd, Kaliakair, Gazipur will be sold by the Bangladesh Shilpa Bank (BSB) on cash payment and on "as-is-where-is basis" for realising BSB's arrears loan and dues of Tk 1,25,93,000/ as on 31-12-1991 plus additional interest and other expenses until realisation of this amount from the above company and its directors as per Article 34 of BSB Order, 1972 (P.O.No 129/72) read with BSB (Direct Sale of Mortgaged Property) Rules, 1980.

2. The following persons are the directors of the company:

(a) Mr. Nazrul Islam (b) Mr. Rafiqul Islam
(c) Mr. Masood Nazrul (d) Mr. Masum Nazrul
(e) Mr. Masuk Nazrul

3. Schedule of Property:

All that piece and parcel of land measuring an area of 1.04 acres under Mouza Saifur, P S Kaliakair, Dist. Gazipur, J L No. 421, Khata No. 283 & 300, Plot No. 387, 313, 314, 376, 381, 382, 385, 656, 390 and 378 together with all superstructures to be made thereon.

4. Tender schedule containing the details of the assets and properties (alongwith the list of machinery) may be obtained from the Assets Disposal Department BSB, Head Office, Dhaka on cash payment of Tk 250/- (Taka two hundred fifty) only (Non-refundable).

5. Intending tenderers/buyers may drop their tenders/offers in sealed cover alongwith earnest money (refundable) 5% of the quoted value in Bank Draft/Pay-Order in favour of Bangladesh Shilpa Bank in the tender box kept at the BSB Head Office on 31-05-1992 at 12-00 Noon.

6. On acceptance of offer, the successful bidders/tenderers shall have to deposit 50% of the bid or tendered money within 7 (seven) days and the balance within 30 (thirty) days from the date of acceptance of tender. In case of failure in making payment of the bid amount within stipulated time, the earnest money or the tender money (as the case may be) shall be forfeited and the mortgaged property may be resold. The project assets will be handed over to the successful bidder(s) by the bank on fulfillment of the conditions.

7. Tenders will be opened on 31-05-1992 at 12-30 P.M. at the Assets Disposal Department, BSB, Head Office in presence of the tenderers (if any). For further information, if any, the undersigned may be contacted. Bidders may purchase the above mentioned movable and immovable property in a lot or separately.

8. The BSB reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender/offers without showing any reason.

Asstt. General Manager

Phone-257427

D-256



বাংলাদেশ তৈল গ্যাস ও খনিজ সম্পদ

করপোরেশন (পেট্রোবাংলা)

প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়ন ইউনিট

বি. এস. বি ভবন (১৬ ও ১৭ তলা)

৮, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা

গ্যাস সংক্রান্ত সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়ন ইউনিট, পেট্রোবাংলার আওতাধীন নব নির্মিত উত্তর-দক্ষিণ পাইপলাইনে উচ্চ চাপ বিশিষ্ট গ্যাস সঞ্চালন করার লক্ষ্যে, ইহার প্রস্তুতিমূলক কার্যক্রম হিসাবে ১২ই মে, ১৯৯২ ইং তারিখ হইতে পল্লীকমলকভাবে গ্যাস চালু হইবে। তদনুযায়ী সিলেট জেলাধীন পোলাপাঙ্গা ও ফেঞ্চলজ উপজেলা; মৌলভীবাজার জেলাধীন রাজনগর, মৌলভীবাজার ও শ্রীমংগল উপজেলা; হবিগঞ্জ জেলাধীন বাহবল, চুনাচন্ডা, হবিগঞ্জ ও মাধবপুর উপজেলা এবং ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া জেলার ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া ও আদমপুর উপজেলা পর্যন্ত স্থাপিত পাইপলাইন পথের ও সর্বশেষ স্থাপনা ও ভাল স্টেশন সমূহের জন্য অধিগ্রহণকৃত ভূমিকে ইতিমধ্যেই সীমানা খুঁটি বারাদি চিহ্নিত করা হইয়াছে।

বাংলাদেশ গ্যাস নিরাপত্তা বিধি অনুযায়ী উক্ত গ্যাস সঞ্চালন কার্যক্রম চালু থাকা অবস্থায় ভাল স্টেশন ও অন্যান্য স্থাপনা সহ গ্যাস পাইপলাইনের উত্তর পার্শ্বে ৫০ ফুট পরিমাপ এলাকায় কোন ঘরবাড়ি বা যে কোন স্থাপনা নির্মাণ নিষিদ্ধ।

এমতাবস্থায় উপরোক্ত এলাকার সর্বস্তরের জনসাধারণকে নিরাপত্তামূলক ব্যবস্থা হিসাবে কোনরূপ দুর্ঘটনা এড়াণের উদ্দেশ্যে বর্ণিত উচ্চ চাপ বিশিষ্ট গ্যাস পাইপলাইন ও স্থাপনাসমূহ হইতে গ্যাস নিরাপত্তা বিধি মোতাবেক নিরাপদ দূরত্বে থাকিবার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

ডিএফ পি (জি) ৬৮৬-৪/৫

জি-৫১৮

-কর্তৃপক্ষ

Editor: S. M. Ali