

Control over NGOs

From Page 1 Col 7
working at the Rohingya refugee camps at Cox's Bazar were engaged in any activities detrimental to the national interest of the country.

Brushing aside these allegations, the LORD Minister said that the present government has full control over the activities of the NGOs in the country.

He, however, did not reply to Azam as the question did not involve his ministries. The minister replied as minister in-charge of the Prime Minister's Secretariat.

Talukder informed the House that the NGOs are duly registered with the government under certain rules for operating inside the country. The minister said that the 632 registered NGOs of the country spent a total of Tk 486 crore 65 lakh 80 thousand 914 during last (1991-92) fiscal year.

The amount, spent by the NGOs working in the country was received as donation from

abroad, he said.

Replying to a written question by Mirza Azam of Awami League (AL), the LORD Minister told the House that these NGOs had spent the money in the integrated rural development, poverty alleviation, health, education, family planning, relief and rehabilitation, women development, welfare for physically handicapped and mentally retarded, legal aid, child development, agriculture, fisheries and livestock, environment and afforestation and public health and sanitation sectors.

In response to another written query by Md Shamsuddoha of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) the Minister informed the Parliament that the NGOs have spent Tk 448 crore 12 lakh 55 thousand 706 during the fiscal 1990-91.

Talukder said that according to the existing project profile, there was no provision for NGOs to produce their district-wise accounts of expenditure to the government.



President Abdur Rahman Biswas addressing the President's Guard Regiment at PGR headquarters in the city yesterday. — PID photo

Suranjit feels insecure as 'wife robbed'

By Staff Correspondent
Wife of Suranjit Sengupta MP was mugged yesterday at 12-30 pm at Dhanmandi in the capital.

Informing the house yesterday, Suranjit Sengupta said that he was suffering from a sense of insecurity.

Criticising the country's law and order situation, Suranjit said wife of Shamsuddoha, an opposition MP, was also mugged three days back. He also referred to the mugging of the daughter of Rashed Mosharraf, another opposition MP and Mamaching, a treasury bench.

Suranjit said the muggers riding two motor bikes stopped his wife and daughter and snatched away two gold bangles.

When his wife, went to the Dhanmandi police station to lodge a complaint she met four other women having the same story to tell, added Sengupta.

He observed, as long as the present commissioner of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police would be there, the law and order situation would not improve.

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury, in his reply, told the House that he would order a special police squad to nab the culprits.

Biswas asks PGR men to work with sincerity

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Sunday called upon the members of the President's Guard Regiment (PGR) to discharge their responsibility with sincerity and dedication, reports BSS.

The President said, "You have to further consolidate the glaring instance that you have set in sincerely performing your duties by facing many odds."

He was addressing an assembly of the Guard Regiment on the occasion of its 17th Raising Day at the PGR headquarters in the Cantonment here.

The President said the country has manifold problems but it is marching ahead with the commitment of strengthening its economic structure.

He expressed the hope that the country would be a happy and prosperous one with the concerted efforts of all and through discharging respective duties properly.

Referring to the glorious past of the PGR, President Biswas said the regiment had commenced its journey 17 years back and it got completeness later on under the patronisation of shaheed President Ziaur Rahman.

This regiment, constituted with the selected members of the army, has build up a tradition in performing its respon-

sibility in the highest state protocol as a true representative of the country's disciplined army, he said.

Earlier, on his arrival at the PGR headquarters, the President was received by the Chief of Army Staff, Lt. General Mohammad Noor Uddin Khan.

The President was given a guard of honour by the PGR. He took the salute and inspected the guard.

The President was presented with the crest of the Guard Regiment by the Commander of the PGR.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia also attended the function organised to observe the 17th Raising Day of the PGR at unit headquarters here Sunday.

Addressing the officers and men of the PGR the Prime Minister called upon them to put in hard labour in their respective fields for solving the multifarious problems of the poverty-stricken masses.

Appreciating the discipline, responsibility and professional skill pursued by the PGR she said "the sound of your firm march echoes a happy, prosperous future of Bangladesh."

She said "we have to remember that the country belongs to us all and its development and prosperity will bring welfare to all of us."

Flood situation in Sylhet worsens

From Our Correspondent
SYLHET, July 5: Flood situation in the district deteriorated further today with inflow of flood water from the hilly regions across the border and heavy rainfall for the last three days.

Almost all the rivers passing through the district are flowing above danger levels. The river Surma at Sylhet was flowing 28 cm above the danger level.

Standing crops on about 5000 acres of land were submerged during the last three days at Goainghat, Companyganj, Kanaighat and Sylhet Sadar thana.

However, the extent of damage to crop could not be estimated immediately.

Local Met office informed 278 mm rainfall in Sylhet during the last 36 hours till 6 pm today.

In Sunamganj district, several acres of land were inundated by the flood water of Jamalganj, Tahirpur, Dharampasha and Sunamganj Sadar thana.

Water level of Shurma at Sunamganj is also flowing 33 cm above danger level.

The Midnight File

BAU extends admission form distribution date

MYMENSINGH, July 5: Bangladesh Agricultural University has extended the schedule for distribution and submission of application forms for admission into the Bachelor level Part 1 classes under six faculties for 1991-92 session. According to the extended schedule, a University press release today said, the admission application forms will be distributed among the intending candidates upto July 15, reports UNB.

19 killed in Lankan military plane crash

COLOMBO (Sri Lanka), July 5: A military plane carrying explosives and fuel crashed and blew up Sunday in a rebel held territory in northern Sri Lanka, killing all 19 people on board, the military said. The Chinese-built plane was carrying the cargo, which included weapons and ammunition, from Colombo to Palay air base in the Jaffna Peninsula, said a statement by the military headquarters, reports AP.

Rivals clash in AJM

From Page 1 Col 7
Winning yesterday's gunbattle, BNP's Kashem group established its dominance over the colony.

The Kashem group workers aided by the hired hoodlums were now guarding the colony, mills sources said, adding that the general workers of the AJM had already started leaving the colony as a tense situation persisted in the area.

The ousted Siddiq Sardar and his followers of Sramik League could not return to the mills area till Saturday night.

Heavy contingents of police are still guarding the AJM and its surrounding areas apprehending outbreak of fresh troubles.

The Assistant Superintendent of Police (Circle-A) of Narayanganj District told The Daily Star that the situation at AJM was under their control. However, the on duty police officials called the situation still explosive.

No arrest was made in connection with Saturday's incidents.

Meanwhile, Selim, a student of class ten of Adamjee High School who was shot dead in yesterday's gunfight, was buried at Kadamtal graveyard of Siddirganj Thana (this morning, Selim's father Shamsul Haque filed a case with Siddirganj police accusing the Sramik Dal leaders for the killing.

Talking to The Daily Star correspondent, the Executive Director of the AJM said that the fresh troubles at the mills was hampering its production

Ctg tense

From Page 1 Col 8
the situation under control by dispersing the clashing people. No arrest was, however, reported.

The Jubo League leader Jaahim Uddin Kajal succumbed to his injuries at Chittagong Medical College Hospital Saturday night. Kajal was admitted with bullet wounds into the hospital on Friday immediately after being shot at by some alleged miscreants. Jubo League and Chhatra League leaders blamed the activists of Jaityabadi Chhatradal for the killing. The leaders demanded immediate arrest of the alleged killers of Kajal.

Meanwhile, the Namaz-e-Janaza of Kajal was held at Laidhigi Maidan at 2 pm today and buried at Sabujbag.

Jute workers BPSC selects 1709 candidates, JS told

By Staff Correspondent
State Minister for Establishment Md Nurul Huda Sunday informed the parliament that Bangladesh Public Service Commission (BPSC) during 1991-92 selected 1709 candidates for appointments under various cadres.

Replying to a question by Tabibor Rahman Sarder (Jessor-1), Huda told the House that highest 663 appointments were approved by BPSC for different entry points under the government's health cadre.

explained their demands to them.

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the House was not present in parliament during the time.

The demonstrating workers waited until the return of their leaders who briefed the workers at around 8 pm about their parliament visit.

Earlier, the march started from the Press Club at around 5-30 pm following a rally addressed by Abul Bashar.

Bashar said that 14 of the 31 public sector jute mills were on the process of denationalisation and the workers should stop this move by the government at any cost.

He said that if the government followed World Bank prescriptions Bangladesh would have to lose its world jute market to India and the sector would virtually perish.

"We are not going to occupy the parliament but it is a movement for our existence," Bashar said adding "if the government fails to meet the demands the movement may turn to a one-point demand."

He also criticised the role of the opposition parties which he alleged were not backing the demands of the jute and textile workers.

Bashar also warned that if the authorities failed to take measures against the terrorist at Adamjee, the jute workers might announce further action programmes.

It was earlier announced that the action council would observe a rail and road barricade programme on July 28 to realise the eight-point and six-point demands of the jute and textile workers respectively.

UNB adds: The demands include: all jute mills be allowed to import commodities against 100 per cent of their foreign exchange earnings, a central cell be formed with Jute Minister, BJMC, BJMA and leaders of labour unions for controlling the foreign exchange earned through export of raw jute, segregation of loss fund of BJMC and BJO, immediate release of subsidy, implementation of all conditions in the agreement signed between Paikal Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad and BJMC on December 19, 1991, and resumption of all closed jute mills.

The memorandum said that no worker should be re-trenched by stopping the production process.

Munir

From Page 1 Col 5
sive. The Court observed that this statement cannot be construed to have instigated Munir to murder Rima. The Court further observed that the learned Attorney General appearing for the State felt it difficult to establish Mrs Nizam's statement as an instigation for the murder.

The Court observed that Khuku, an old married lady has no regard for moral and social values and she maintained her illicit connection with Munir even after his marriage with Rima. But, the Court further observed, the criminal proceeding has no business to investigate into the morality or immorality of the accused.

Whether the offence comes within the definition of Penal Code is to be seen. We do not find Khuku responsible for instigating the murder of Rima, the Court observed.

Khuku will be set free if not wanted in connection with any other case.

The Court referred to the observations of the learned Sessions Judge with regard to Dr Mehrunnessa, mother of Munir that she was the root of all evils from the date of marriage to the date of murder. The Court found the observation un-warranted, and expunged the observation.

Amirul Huq, Attorney General, A F M Shaheed, Deputy Attorney General, Amirul Kabir Chowdhury, DAG, Obaidur Rahman Mostafa, Asstt Attorney General and A Q Rashed Ahmed appeared for the State while M A Malek, Sirajul Huq and Zulmat Ali Khan appeared for Munir and Gazul Huq, Abdul Mannan Khan appeared for Hosne Ara Khuku.

20 injured in Narayanganj bus mishap

From Our Correspondent
NARAYANGANJ, July 5: At least 20 people were wounded, six of them seriously, when a passenger bus plunged into a road side ditch at Godnail Sunday afternoon.

Of the injured, Nurul Islam, 42, Abul Hossain, 55, Abdus Selim, 37, Alamgir, 18, Ayub, 15, and Nur Jahan, 42, were sent to Dhaka with serious injuries while the others were treated at the Narayanganj Sadar Hospital.

Scores of 'illegal' Bangladeshis held in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, July 5: A senior Malaysian Minister Sunday said an ongoing swoop on illegal immigrants launched last week could help authorities uncover rackets involved in forging identity cards and travel documents, reports AFP.

More than 1,200 illegal foreign workers, most of whom were Indonesians and Bangladeshis, have been detained over the past five days, police said.

From the Gallery

From Page 1 Col 8
party the other day that Abdus Samad Azad, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, was flying the national flag on his car bonnet.

Not allowed, he said, according to rules governing use of the flag. Unfortunately for the Treasury Bench, he did not stop there.

The minister, then listed four things which could have led Azad to use the flag.

"Am I a bakkol (idiot)? Or have I gone crazy? Or am I above the law? Or have I become the Leader of the Opposition, so that I can use the flag?" the minister went on, turning to face the government benches.

The reaction from the Opposition was predictable, instantaneous and venomous.

"He must apologise, he is absolutely rude, he is a bakkol minister", shouted A S M Firoz of the Awami League, known for his loud voice.

With the elderly Azad sitting back into his chair looking slightly bemused, Tofael Ahmed took the floor and immediately tore into all the irregularities Prime Minister Khaleda Zia had committed, including use of the state emblem on her car, having aide-camps, military secretary etc.

All of those, Tofael said, were the privileges of the President as head of state, and not the prime minister's.

Badruddoza Chowdhury's brief attempt to come to the rescue of his beleaguered colleague fell apart as the Chief Whip of the Opposition Mohammad Nasim placed an awkward question to the Treasury front bench.

The rule is that the Deputy Leader of the House should sit on chair No 2, next to the Leader's, but why does Badruddoza sit on the third chair?," he asked after assuring the Speaker "I never make inflammatory speeches."

The sitting arrangement on the government front bench has been a touchy matter, as Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz sits on the deputy leader's chair next to the prime minister's.

The whole affair was summed up by a fellow journalist in poker parlance thus: "Huda threw a Jack thinking he was doing well; then Tofael produced a Queen; Badruddoza thought he had it wrapped up with his King, until Nasim pulled up an Ace."

WITH the front benches obviously having a field day, backbenches were as usual having a torrid time attracting the attention of the Speaker.

Awami League's youthful

Abu Hasan Chowdhury got lucky, or rather made his own luck by persisting with his demands that he be given the floor to make a point after Home Minister Abul Matin Chowdhury had given a statement on the law and order situation in the country.

Chowdhury of AL, who said "5,000 people could not have simply materialised out of thin air" to attack the Chinese embassy last Thursday, was extremely lucky. The minister's statement was made under Article 300 of the rules of procedure which prohibits any discussion afterwards.

Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina played it more cleverly. She took the floor merely to suggest to the Speaker that he should set aside a day for discussion on "all the serious law and order problems facing the country at present."

Then, with the Prime Minister sitting directly in front of her, Hasina gave a lengthy but well-articulated run-down of the problems as she saw them in a measured tone. It virtually amounted to a reply to the Home Minister's statement, but she had managed to skirt around the restrictions imposed under Article 300, and the Speaker was helpless.

Khaleda Zia, who came into the House at 8.21 pm, meanwhile had to divide her attention between her rivals' speech and her Foreign Minister Mostafizur Rahman who chose that moment to give her a lengthy briefing on some point or other.

HASINA managed to cheer the session up by her own angle or reference to the muggings suffered by the wives of Suranjit Sengupta and Shamsuddoha who had their bangles snatched by thugs.

"If the Home Minister had someone to buy a bangle for, then he would have realised the agony of losing a bangle", Hasina said, advising Matin Chowdhury that he should arrange to have someone for whom he could buy bangles.

The home minister is still a bachelor.

HAD Hasina been in the House at around 4 pm, she would have been well-assured of her own security. The security man in charge of "sweeping" the House with a metal detector made double-sure by sitting on her chair before running the detector over it. Had there been a bomb underneath, that poor fellow from whatever intelligence branch of the police would have been history within seconds.

SAARC officials' meet begins in Colombo

COLOMBO, July 5: Foreign secretaries of seven South Asian nations opened talks here today ahead of a ministerial meeting that will discuss ways to make the fledgling organisation more businesslike, officials said, reports AFP.

BNP MPs

From Page 1 Col 8
the party.

The Minister for Industries, according to insiders, explained the situation and said that their comments were not correctly reported by newspapers.

Later, talking to The Daily Star, a senior leader of the party said that the ministers would publicly clarify their position. Insiders said, participating in the discussion, the MPs differed with the proposed tariffs and requested the party leadership to review the situation.

Minister for Education, Jamiruddin Sircar, was also blamed for failure to allocate funds for development activities. The minister, in his reply, explained the situation and said non-availability of funds was the reason for delay in implementing development programmes.

The prevailing law and order situation of the country was also discussed in the meeting.

Attended by about 130 MPs, the meeting lasted for about 50 minutes with six members participating in the discussion.

Govt-SKOP talks

From Page 1 Col 2
at Tejgaon Industrial Area to express solidarity with the strike-call.

Presided over by Kohinor Chemicals Workers Union President Jaiul Abedin, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Dr. Wazedul Islam Khan and Abdul Kader. Later, they brought out a procession which paraded main streets.

In support of strike call, Collective Bargaining Agents (CBA) union of Bangladesh Bimam organised a gate rally in front of Biman's head office at Motijheel at 9 am Sunday.

Motijheel unit of SKOP will hold a rally and procession today (Monday) at 11 am in front of BADC office. SKOP will also bring out a torch procession this evening.

Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad which also called the 48-hour strike coinciding the SKOP strike, held a rally at Danik Bangla Square to press home the demands.

Garments Sramik Karmachari Union, Ganatantrik Biplobi Jote and Samajtantrik Chhatra Front expressed their solidarity with the strike.



Inquiry Commission enrolling witnesses to give evidence on June 21 police action on journalists at National Press Club yesterday. — Star photo

Hasina : Law and order

From Page 1 Col 7
Matin Chowdhury on the law and order situation prevailing in the country began at 8 last night when Rashed Khan Menon said in the House that he expected a government statement on Thursday's mob attack on the Chinese embassy in Dhaka.

He, in this respect, accused the Home Minister of a total failure to maintain law and order.

The attack on the embassy would affect the friendly relation between Bangladesh and China, Menon apprehended.

Tofael Ahmed of AL at this stage took the floor and cited a series of incidents that have taken place in the city in the last few days to back Menon's view about law and order, that included Saturday's bloody clash between rival workers of the Adamjee jute mills, police attack on the Press Club and working journalists on June 21, mob attack on the embassy of People's Republic of China on Thursday and snatching of gold bangles of the wife of Suranjit Sen MP yesterday morning.

Tofael also mentioned that only few days back a Treasury Bench woman MP and the wife of Communist Party MP Shamsuddoha fell prey to the city muggers in the broad daylight. All these incidents were the symptoms of a severe deterioration of law and order in the country, Tofael argued.

Suranjit Sengupta and Shamsuddoha also spoke on the occasion and strongly complained against the deteriorating situation.

At this stage Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury took the floor to give a statement on both the mob attack on the Chinese embassy in Bangladesh and clash between feuding

groups of workers of the Adamjee jute mills.

On the attack on the Chinese embassy, the minister said that a rumour led the mob to create that unfortunate incident Thursday.

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman had already met the embassy officials and expressed sorrow for the incident on behalf of the Bangladesh government and assured security in future, s the Home Minister informed the House, adding that the security of the embassies in Dhaka including the Chinese one had already been strengthened by means of deploying added police contingents in front of them.

Besides, the intelligence department had already started investigation to find out whether there was any deliberate move by any civil force in attacking the Chinese embassy.

On the Adamjee issue, the minister said that the clash between the contending groups of workers in the mill was nothing new, the government however had started taking actions against persons responsible for the incident.

On the law and order situation in the city, the Home Minister referred to his visit to a hospital yesterday and said that a number of students belonging to the Dhaka University and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) indulged in drug addiction were largely responsible for muggings in the city.

He however assured Suranjit and Shamsuddoha of rescuing the ornaments of their respective wives.

Abul Hasan Chowdhury of AL at this stage stood up and said that the attack on the Chinese Embassy would frighten the foreigners to come forward

with economic assistance for the development of the country.

He accused the police of its failure to protect the embassy from the attack of unruly mob.

Sheikh Hasina at this stage took the floor and sharply contradicted the Home Minister on the law and order situation.

In this respect she referred to the minister's claim that mere drug addicts were responsible for the increase in muggings and, referring the recent incidents mentioned by the opposition MPs, she accused the government of negligence in protecting peoples lives and properties.

She then requested the Speaker to allow the MPs to have a general discussion on the issue and pave the way for rescuing the nation from the prevailing sense of insecurity.

The ministers often conceal facts while giving statement on different issue in parliament, Hasina regretted, adding, "if the government continues to do it, people would lose confidence in democracy."

The Home Minister stood again and in a bid to refute Hasina's accusations and said that the law and order situation in the country had been improved.

The minister claimed that he had been able to curb violence in the universities of Chittagong, Rajshahi and Mymensingh.

On the question of the unrest prevailing in the Dhaka University campus, the Home Minister claimed that it could not be stopped because "the student front of a particular party has been engaged in internecine armed conflict."

The minister emphatically said that only if political parties stopped backing hooliganism, there could be no violence in the educational institutions.

Editor: S. M. Ali
Executive Editor: Mahfuz Anam
Published by S. M. Ali on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at Offset Printing Dialogue Publications Ltd., 19 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: 28/1, Toynebe Circular Road, Dhaka-1000. Tel: PABX- 246023-4, 245061-2. Advertisement: 245063 & Ext. 20. Fax No. 88-02-863035. GPO Box, No. 3257. GRAM: DAILY STAR, DHAKA.