

Mostafiz meets Mitterrand's adviser

Equal ODA for South, new European democracies: Paris

PARIS, July 30: Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman has expressed the hope that the relations between Bangladesh and France would be strengthened for the mutual benefit of the two friendly countries, reports BSS.

The Foreign Minister said this during a meeting with Madame Anne Lauvegeon, Special Adviser to the French President on International Affairs at Elysee Palace here last night.

Rahman, while discussing the bilateral economic cooperation programme, explained to Madame Lauvegeon the economic adjustment programmes undertaken by the government of Prime Minister Begum Zia and the priority attached by her in the field of development activities.

During the meeting the Special Adviser conveyed Rahman that the French government would invite Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to visit France some time in the middle of next year. She said President Francois Mitterrand would be happy to receive the Bangladesh Prime Minister at the French capital. It was agreed at the meeting that the date of Begum Zia's visit would be fixed at a mutually convenient time.

The Foreign Minister also conveyed an invitation extended by Prime Minister Begum Zia to President Francois

Mitterrand to visit Bangladesh. Madame Lauvegeon informed the Foreign Minister of the keen interest shown by President Mitterrand regarding the progress of implementation of the flood action programme in Bangladesh and projects under humanitarian assistance programme.

Rahman thanked the French government for providing continued support to Bangladesh for its economic development and at the same time underlined the need for increasing the quantum of assistance and for effective utilization of the same.

Madame Lauvegeon reiterated that France would continue to pursue policies favourable for Bangladesh.

Referring to the French commitment to the uplift of the Third World countries, she mentioned the stand taken by her country in pursuance of past policies at the Munich meeting of G-7 and at the Earth Summit with regard to providing the Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) to the least developed countries.

Madame Lauvegeon, who represents President Mitterrand at the G-7 meetings, categorically said that the new democracies of the Europe as well as those of the South would be treated on equal footing in respect of disbursement of the French ODA.

Reciprocating the Foreign Minister thanked Madame Lauvegeon saying "It is one of

the specificity of France that it advocated universal concern."

She hoped that with the conclusion of the current GATT round of trade talks Bangladesh along with many other LDCs would be benefited.

On the Myanmar refugee issue, Rahman informed the Special Adviser that Bangladesh was trying to make operative the bilateral agreement in this regard with Yangon.

But, he said, the refugees were not yet convinced that situation on the outside of the border was favourable for them.

Both the Foreign Minister and the Special Adviser agreed that the UN should be involved for confidence building among the refugees.

Additional Foreign Secretary A H Mahmood Ali, and Bangladesh Ambassador to France K M Shehabuddin were present.

Leaves Paris for Madrid

Mostafiz left Paris Thursday afternoon for Madrid on a three-day official visit to Spain.

Rahman, during his stay in the Spanish capital, will hold talks on bilateral matters with Foreign Minister Javier Solana Madariaga.

The minister's delegation includes Additional Foreign Secretary A H Mahmood Ali and Bangladesh Ambassador to France K M Shehabuddin, who is also concurrently accredited to Spain.



Motiuur Rahman Nizami, Secretary General of Jamaat-e-Islami addressing a rally in the city yesterday. — Star photo

3 killed, 38 hurt in road mishaps

By Staff Correspondent

Three persons were killed and 38 others injured in three separate road accidents in Manikganj and Savar yesterday.

Our Manikganj correspondent reports: Two persons were killed and 30 others injured in two separate bus accidents today on the Dhaka-Aricha highway.

At 6 pm, a minibus coming from Dhaka towards Aricha fell into a ditch as it lost control near Barbari. One Suman, 22, died on the spot, while 30 persons received injuries.

Among the injured condition of 12 persons was critical. All of them were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Another accident took place near Savar Cantonment area. An unidentified person of 25

years of age died on the spot as a minibus ran over him.

Two separate cases have been lodged with Savar and Dhamrai police stations in this connection.

Yet in another accident eight students of the Jahangirnagar University were injured as two buses collided on the Dhaka-Aricha highway near Radio Colony, Savar.

The accident took place at 3.40 pm.

Among the injured persons, condition of five persons was critical. They are: Nasima Nasrin, 21, Maniruzzaman, 22, Abdul Barez, 22, Khokan, 23, and Zakir Hossain, 20.

The injured persons were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Jamaat demands

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'Ghatak' (killer), 'Dalal' (collaborator) and 'Nirmul' (annihilation) was provocative and said it was creating tension in the country's politics.

Provocation in the politics must be avoided for the interest of country's nascent democracy, he said.

Commenting on terrorism by the professional culprits, Nizami called upon the political parties not to back up or shelter them and demanded an administrative system, free from influence and corruption.

It's the primary job of the government to ensure security to the public life, the Jamaat leader said adding that the opposition parties should also cooperate with the government in this regard.

He held the Communist forces responsible for unleashing terrorism taking advantage of the democratic atmosphere. Even after the failure of communism in the former Soviet Union, these forces were still active in destabilising democracy, he alleged.

Chaired by city Jamaat Ameer, A T M Azharul Islam, the rally was also addressed by the Party's Publicity Secretary Abdul Kader Mollah, Mujibur Rahman, Jastmuddin Sarkar and others.

Muktijoddha

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The Prime Minister directed them to constitute the Muktijoddha Sangsad at different tiers through fair elections on the basis of the approved voters list.

The members of the delegation urged Begum Zia to involve all freedom fighters in the development programmes taken by her government. They assured their whole-hearted support and cooperation to all national programmes.

UZ Ordinance

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habuddin Ahmed, the Chief Justice, and Justice M H Rahman, Justice A T M Afzal, Justice Mustafa Kamal and Justice Latifur Rahman.

The judgement however recommended updating Articles 59 and 60 with effect from 18 September, 1991 in conformity with Articles 59 and 60, read with Article 152(1) for the lawful functioning of the local bodies, which are constituted by, and functioning, under different statutes.

Articles 59 and 60 reappeared on 18 September, 1991 on which the Twelfth Amendment of the Constitution was made.

These local bodies, other than the zilla parishad, shall have to be designated as administrative units by amending these statutes, the verdict said in its recommendation.

Designation afresh of the unions and municipalities is also necessary in view of the fact that Act No IX of 1973, along with the President's Order No 22 of 1973, was itself repealed by Ordinance No XC of 1976 — Local Government Ordinance 1976, it said.

Required designations by amending the relevant statutes with effect from the date on which the Twelfth Amendment of the Constitution was made should be provided as soon as possible, in any case within a period not exceeding four months from date.

According to the judgement, other constitutional requirement for local bodies is that they shall be entrusted to bodies "composed or persons elected in accordance with law."

The existing local bodies required to be brought in line with Article 59 by replacing the non-elected persons by election keeping in view the provision for special representation under Article 9, it said adding necessary action in this respect should be taken as soon as possible — in any case within a period not exceeding six months from date.

In the suggested amending statutes, all actions taken by the local bodies concerned since 18 September, 1991 should be ratified, the verdict said.

Asset sharing

From Page 1 Col 8

official sources said.

Earlier, the foreign secretaries of the two countries had reached accord on this point when they met in Dhaka in October 1980. The proposed committee was to report back to the foreign secretaries. No word came from Islamabad later, however.

Nine years later, in 1989, Benazir Bhutto, the then Pakistan Prime Minister, gave consent, in principle, to a Bangladesh proposal that a Council similar to the Partition Council of 1947 be constituted or, as an alternative, both the countries accept an international arbitration on the issue.

But when the talks began, Iqbal Akhund, a senior Benazir aide with cabinet rank, backed out from his prime minister's position.

According to Dhaka's estimates, Islamabad should reimburse a sum of Tk 2446 crore at the 1971 price level. Dhaka says that the amount is equivalent to its contribution to united Pakistan's development budget and investments spent for the western part, now Pakistan, when the two were one country from 1947 to 1971.

Bangladesh also claims Tk 3240 crore as reparations for damages caused by Pakistan's brutal military offensive during the nine-month Liberation War in 1971.

On the repatriation of the stranded Pakistanis, Dhaka will insist that Islamabad promise a specific time-frame, official sources, said.

According to the sources, two agreements are set to be signed during the visit — one

on bilateral cooperation in science and technology and the other on exchange of lands for construction of diplomatic complexes in respective capitals on a reciprocal basis.

An earlier bid to sign accord on exchange of land did not materialise as Dhaka found the piece of land offered by Islamabad "inadequate" and "not suitable."

UNB adds: Under the agreement, Bangladesh will be given 16 bighas of land at diplomatic enclave-2 in Islamabad to shift its mission there from its present site and in exchange Pakistan will be provided with 10 bighas of land at the diplomatic enclave of Baridhara.

RU

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tivists was not a new phenomenon on the Rajshahi university campus.

According to observers, the Shibir attack dates back to April 18 1989 when a Shibir activist, Shafiqul Islam, was killed in a gunbattle between two rival groups. Following the incident a case was filed against 14 student leaders including RUCSU VP Ragib Ahsan Munna.

On March 17 of this year, the activists of the Shibir in an armed attack killed one GCO activist and left at least 50 others injured and three residential halls including the Sher-e-Bangla Hall damaged. A month-long closure of the university followed.

On Monday last, the court acquitted the 14 accused persons. The verdict made the Shibir unhappy.

Azam admitted

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with political cover prompted India to extend support to the cause of liberation war which culminated into the emergence of Bangladesh.

The Attorney General said the law to confer citizenship to Bangladeshi people became effective from March 26, 1971. Golam Azam, at that time in Pakistan and with his allegiance to the authorities there, could never be treated as a citizen of Bangladesh, he pleaded.

Referring to the argument advanced by defence lawyer Barrister A R Yusuf that Article-3 of PO 149/72 is devoid of any guideline because it provides uncontrolled, unguided and unfettered power in the hand of government to disqualify a citizen, the Attorney General said it was not correct.

He mentioned that Article-4 of the Citizenship Act provides an opportunity to prefer appeal or application to the government for attaining citizenship.

Article-4 of the Citizenship Act said: The government may, upon an application made in the manner prescribed, grant citizenship to any person.

Despite such provision, the Attorney said, Golam Azam did not apply for citizenship as he owed his allegiance to a foreign state namely Pakistan.

Golam Azam also registered himself as a foreigner in Bangladesh, he told the court.

Courts at former UZs to be shifted to district hqs

State Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Aminul Islam yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that all courts at the erstwhile upazila — both Dewan and Fouzdar — would be shifted to district headquarters in phases as follow-up of abolition of the upazila system, reports BSS.

3 swimmers set world records

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were announced by the British Olympic Association.

"Let me make it absolutely clear, there will be no hiding in plain sight for British sportsmen or women who resort to drugs in sport," Britain's Sports Minister Robert Key said. "It is quite simply cheating."

None had competed here; the suspensions stem from drug tests taken before the Games opened last Saturday. Saxton denied he did anything wrong. He suffers from asthma and told team officials he had taken Clenbuterol to relieve the condition.

"I am innocent," Saxton said, adding he would appeal the lifetime ban on competition that automatically goes with the suspension. "I have done nothing wrong... I love my sport and would do nothing to damage its reputation."

Livingston requested a second drug test be taken. That was done Tuesday and it, too, was positive, according to the London-based Sports Council that governs British athletics.

day was the high point of their careers.

Lauri Meili of the United States won the gold medal in women's three-position small bore rifle. Her final-round score of 97.3, and overall total of 684.3, set Olympic records.

An Han-Bong of South Korea won his gold medal in bantamweight (57-kilogram) wrestling in a 6-5 decision over Alexander Ignatenko of the Unified Team.

Peter Farkas of Hungary beat Piotr Stepien of Poland 6-1 to take the gold in the middleweight (82-kilogram) class of Greco-Roman wrestling. Malk Bullmann of Germany decisively Hakkı Basar of Turkey 5-0 to win the gold in the Greco-Roman light heavy-weight (90-kilogram) class.

Going into the fifth day of competition, the Unified Team led with 26 medals in all, including 15 gold.

The United States followed with seven gold and 21 in all, followed by China's six gold and 17 total.

At the tennis courts, Jim Courier of the United States won 14 consecutive games and routed Gilad Bloom of Israel 6-2, 6-0 and 6-0 in a second-

round match.

"I feel pretty adjusted right now," said Courier, the world's top-ranked player. "It was tough at first. But I've tried to settle into a rhythm and make this feel like a regular tournament."

Seventh-seeded Guy Forget became the third top-10 seed eliminated in men's singles when he lost to Magnus Larsson of Sweden, 6-3, 6-3, 6-1.

Boris Becker, who needed nearly five hours to beat the world's 312th-ranked player in the opening round, this time struggled against No 310. The fifth-seeded German finally prevailed over Younes El Aynaoui of Morocco, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-0.

Steffi Graf also struggled at the Games — mainly with her concentration — although the results don't show it. The German beat Brenda Schultz of Holland in 47 minutes 6-1, 6-0.

"I haven't had a week off since the end of January, and I really feel it in my head," Graf said. "I'd love to have some time off. But I think it's worth it; otherwise I wouldn't be here."

Pry teachers' allowance may be raised

Education Minister Barrister Jamruddin Sircar yesterday assured the parliament that the government is contemplating to provide grants to secondary schools of the country, reports UNB.

Speaking on a private member's resolution in the House, the Minister said the government is also considering to enhance the monthly allowance to Tk 1000 from Tk 500 for the primary school teachers.

Sircar said the BNP government has attached priority to education sector and allocated the highest fund for this sector as "we believe a nation can not make progress without proper education."

Giving a brief resume on educational institutions in the public and private sectors as well as the government's incentives, the minister said the government is taking all possible measures within its limited resources to remove the curse of illiteracy in next 10 years.

Earlier, Awami League member Mirza Azam in his resolution, demanded nationalisation of non-government secondary education to improve the standard of education as well as financial conditions of teachers.

Azam referred to the difference between the private and the government education system and said a teacher of non-government school faces severe economic hardship on his retirement.

"At the lag end of his life, a non-government teacher re-

turns home with no savings but a Quran and an umbrella," he said.

In support of Azam's resolution, Rahmat Ali, Shajahan Khan, Sheikh Haroon ur Rashid and Aminul Islam of AL and Mazhar Hossain of CFB spoke on the resolution.

They said the AL government of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman gave special priority to education sector, set up 33,000 primary schools of which 11,000 were nationalised.

Foreign missions

From Page 1 Col 8

Besides, there were plans to construct permanent road check posts on all the entrance and to fence off the enclave for better protection of the foreign missions, they said.

The government has already designated Baridhara, Gulshan, Banani and parts of Dhanmondi as special security zones to ensure safety of foreign diplomats and their families.

Talking to The Daily Star, a senior official in the Home Ministry pointed out that it was difficult for the government with the present strength of police personnel to ensure complete security to the missions scattered all over the city.

It was better if all the missions were in a single zone, the official said adding that government had already allotted plots at Baridhara from them.

BL College reopens Saturday

From Staff Correspondent KHULNA, July 30: The classes of Government BL College will resume on August 1 (Saturday).

The decision was taken at a joint meeting of the teachers and students of the college with the Principal in the chair. The college was closed since die on July 28 following a clash between activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Awami League backed Chhatra League (BCL).

Meanwhile the college authorities formed a nine-member inquiry commission to probe into the incident.

Another report adds: At least five members of Islami Chhatra Shibir were injured including their local unit president in a clash at Sundarban College here today.

The Shibir president Rezaul Islam, a third year student of the college was admitted to Khulna Sadar Hospital with serious injuries.

The clash ensued when some activists of rival groups attacked the procession of Islami Chhatra Shibir on College campus this morning.

The JCD and BCL were also holding procession on the campus. Shibir, JCD and BCL filed separate cases with local police in this connection.

Review report on local govt structure okayed

Information Minister Nazmul Huda yesterday approved the final report of Local Government Structure Review Commission by putting his signature on it, reports BSS.

The approval was given at the 19th and last meeting of the Commission held at the Information Ministry with Chairman of the Commission Information Minister Nazmul Huda in the chair.

The Information Minister thanked the members of the commission for their hard and sincere work.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Minister for Local Government Md Abdul Hai, Sangsad members Dr Abdul Moin Khan, ATM Alamgir, Cabinet Secretary Md Ayubur Rahman, Member of the Planning Commission, Dr Sheikh Maksud Ali, former Chairman of Bangladesh Public Service Commission, SM Al-Hossain, Secretary of Statistics, Dr Fazlul Hasan Yusuf, Vice Chairman of Export Promotion Bureau, Waliul Islam, Commissioner of Dhaka Division, Badruddin Rahman, Professor of Dhaka University, Emazuddin Ahmed, Professor of Jahangirnagar University, Dr Amirul Islam Chowdhury, Professor of Dhaka University, Dr Lutful Huq Chowdhury, Former Member Directing Staff of Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre, Dr Ali Ahmed and officials of the commission.

The Midnight File

Bush to reconsider

F-116s sale to Taiwan

WASHINGTON, July 30: In an interview Thursday with Texas state network radio stations, President Bush promised to reconsider his decision to block the sale of F-116 fighter jets to Taiwan, according to White House spokesman Judy Smith. General Dynamics, which makes the plane at a plant in Fort Worth, Texas, announced on Wednesday it was laying off 5,800 workers because of the loss of the contract. Bush has opposed the fighter sale, prompting Taiwan to look to the French Mirage fighter as an alternative, reports AP.

Democrats suffer losses in Albanian local polls

TIRANA (Albania), July 30: The renamed Communists have scored major gains against the governing Democratic Party in local elections, officials said Thursday. The results from last Sunday's elections appeared to reflect widespread disillusion with the Democrats' failure to quickly revive Albania's devastated economy, reports AP.

50 soldiers dismissed since '80 in CHT

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, July 30: Major General Azizur Rahman, GOC, 24 Infantry Division, Chittagong, disclosed today that at least 50 soldiers had been dismissed from their jobs under disciplinary action in Chittagong Hill Tracts since 1980.

Talking to local journalists at his office in the Chittagong Cantonment the General said that the authorities had taken punitive measures against the security personnel whenever any complaint was received.

"We are always on the alert to maintain peace and security in the CHT and not to allow any excesses by security people on the public," the General said.

He said that after his taking over command of the CHT as Area Commander, orders were issued to the security people not to arrest any unarmed person during operations in hill districts.

Besides, if anybody was arrested by the security force as a terrorist he would be handed over to the police to be tried as per law of the country, the General informed.

He said that the present government was making efforts to resolve the 18-year-long issue politically and peacefully. He also said that the security people were deployed by the government to ensure peace and security and not for any other purpose.

Unless ordered by the government the security forces have no intention to stay in this trouble-torn 'bleeding ground' of the CHT as they face severe hardships in the rugged hilly areas in living and fighting the insurgents, the General categorically said.

Citing an instance he said that in the month of June four members of security forces had died of cerebral malaria in the CHT.

UNB adds: About 400 members of Bangladesh Army have been killed in the insurgency-torn Chittagong Hill Tracts since 1974.

The GOC was critical of some news items published in a section of the press saying that irresponsible journalism obstructs development activities and positive steps of the government in the Hill Tracts.

Referring to the Logang incident in Khagrachari, he described as baseless the press report on the death of more than 11 people. He alleged that some political parties and newspapers had exaggerated the incident.

The Principal Staff Officer to the GCO was present.

4 DCC officials suspended

Dhaka City Mayor Mirza Abbas, MP, yesterday ordered suspension of an Assistant Engineer and three other officials of the corporation and issued show cause notice on one Executive Engineer and another Assistant Engineer for their negligence in maintaining the roads, drains and the adjacent places of Sideswar area of the city, reports BSS.

The Mayor also expressed dissatisfaction at the poor maintenance of the area during his visit there.

The corporation authorities earlier on July 26 suspended four of its officials for not maintaining standard in construction of WAPDA road in the city.

Accreditation

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Nazmul Huda added that his earlier statement in the House created misunderstanding as it was short and since then many people had commented against his remarks.

Reiterating the policy of the government, the minister said that the government of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia was totally committed to freedom of the press and in no way wanted to curtail the same.

The minister expressed the hope that with his statement any misunderstanding on the issue would be put to rest and concerned quarters would stop commenting on the issue any further.

Sale and Repurchase Price of ICB Unit Certificates Refined

Effective from : 1st August, 1992
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