

Ratan Sen cremated

# Hartal observed in Khulna

By Staff Correspondent

**KHULNA, Aug 1:** A half-day hartal called by the combined opposition political parties in protest against the killing of Comrade Ratan Sen was observed here peacefully.

Educational institutions, shops, private offices, business establishments, banks and insurance companies remained closed during the hartal hours.

Vehicular traffic including the rickshaws were off the road. Inter-district coach services to and from the city were also off during the period.

Industries and factories in Khalishpur and Daulatpur industrial belt however remained open.

Meanwhile, a big procession was brought out in the city with the body from Kalibari this morning.

The body was kept for three hours at Khulna Shahid Haidis Park where hundreds of people thronged to pay last respects to the late leader.

Leaders of various political parties including BNP also went to the park to pay their respect.

A big procession also followed the coffin covered with party flag and flowers upto Rupaha crematorium where he was cremated in the afternoon.

CPB President Saifuddin Ahmed Manik was among those who led the mourning procession. He also attended the cremation ceremony.

UNB adds: Police arrested six people for picketing but later released them. However, they could not yet arrest the killers.

A tense situation was prevailing in the town.

District Jamaat-e-Islami and Chhatra Shibir meanwhile, in a joint statement here refuted allegation of CPB that they were involved in the killing.

They condemned the killing of the CPB leader.

## Hasina demands punishment to Sen's killers

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in parliament Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed profound shock and strong resentment at the killing of Ratan Sen, a veteran leader of the Communist Party of Bangladesh.

In her message of condolence, release here, Hasina said that the killers belonging to the anti-liberation camp dared to murder the dedicated elderly leader Sen as she alleged, the ruling party was indifferent to the terrorism recent let loose by that circle in different parts of the country.

The brutal killing of Sen in broad daylight right in front of the local authorities proved that the country had no law and order, the opposition leader remarked.

She demanded exemplary punishment to Sen's killers and called to build-up stiff resistance against the Jamaat-Shibir group and the self-confessed killers of 1975.

Meanwhile, the CPB yesterday hoisted black flags and kept the party flag at half-mast atop its central office as a mark of respect to its leader Ratan Sen, stabbed to death in Khulna Friday.

Party leaders in the capital met at the party central office to discuss the situation and plan fresh programmes in this regard.

Meanwhile more statements were issued last night protesting the murder of the CPB leader and demanding punishment to the murderers.

Parties and organisations that issued statements were: JSD (Inu), the combine of four student bodies, Mukti Jodher Chetona Bastabayan Committee, Jatiya Sramik Jote, Krishak Sramik Mukti Andolon, Samyabadi Dal, Bangladesh Krishak Federation, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and Bangladesh Jubo Oikya.

## Uneasy calm at RU

From Our Correspondent

**RAJSHAHI, Aug 1:** An uneasy calm prevailed at the Rajshahi University today with most of the residential students still out of the campus for security reasons.

Campus dwellers said that the presence of students in all the male dormitories excluding the Syed Amir Ali Hall and the Shahid Dr Shamsuzohra Hall was poor.

Almost all the third year Honours examinees of different departments of the university have not yet returned to their halls. The examinations begin August 10.

No classes were held today as the University authorities decided not to hold them because of Thursday's violence on the campus.

More than 100 students were injured in a violent clash between the activists of the Islami Chhatra Shibir and the Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya on the Rajshahi University campus Thursday.

Police in a raid on four halls of the university recovered a large quantity of weapons and ammunition the following morning.

UNB adds: Vice Chancellor of Rajshahi University Prof Ansur Rahman had an emergency meeting tonight with the university administration and student leaders to review the campus situation.

The meeting expressed the view that extra police presence should continue for the time being to maintain peace in the campus.

Proctor Prof Nazrul Islam, Registrar Omar Faruque, Rajshahi University Teachers Association President Prof Shamsur Rahman and General Secretary Prof Saiful Islam Farooqi and the leaders of three student organisations — Awami League-backed Chhatra League, Jatiyatobadi Chhatra Dal and Chhatra Moitree — attended.

## Exert pressure on Iraq, Kuwait urges world community

By Staff Correspondent

Kuwait has called upon the international community to exert pressure on Iraq to free more than 850 civilians who the former says have been detained by the latter defying the UN Security Council resolution.

On the eve of the second anniversary of Baghdad's occupation of Kuwait, a press release issued yesterday by the Kuwait Embassy in Dhaka expressed concern over what it said Iraq's "reiterated intentions to repeat the aggressive design against the State of Kuwait under imaginary and fictitious pretexts."

On August 2, 1990, President Saddam Hussein sent his troops to swallow Kuwait. Months later, a US-led multinational force liberated the tiny Gulf Kingdom.

The Kuwait Embassy thanked the people and government of Bangladesh, the political parties, the news media, human rights bodies and others for supporting the cause of Kuwait during the crisis.

## Tongi clash

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and attacked the factory.

When male workers of the factory tried to obstruct them the students became violent and set the security room of the factory on fire, the management added.

Later, speakers at a Chhatra Sangsad meeting of the college, which was presided over by the Sangsad Vice President Sherifat Hossain and held at the local Cherag Ali Market Square, accused the factory workers of inciting the clashes.

They alleged that when a group of students went to the factory to seek advertisements for a college magazine, they were harassed and two of them were beaten up.

When news of the incident reached the college, agitated students marched in a procession towards the factory, which was blocked by the workers, they added.

Police were deployed at the garments factory following the incident and the situation remained calm.

## MMC closed

From Page 1 Col 4

to the Prime Minister.

The JCD supporters tore the painting on July 30 as the students union dominated by the BCL, reportedly ignored their request to remove the picture from the stage. The incident created tension in the college.

According to latest reports, police entered the college compound in the evening and took up positions in the hostel as well as in the college areas.

## BCL factions clash

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At the start of the rally, the BCL (M-I) group brought out a procession chanting slogans for a terrorism-free campus, sources said.

Witnesses said that Montu supporters seeing the procession of their rival in front of the Arts Building, stopped the rally and took up positions near the Mall area leaving the Arts Building boundary.

The BCL (M-I) then came the Aparajeo Bangla and tried to hold a rally but could not do so as the Montu supporters opened fire on them from the Arts Building gate witnesses said.

The BCL activists then left the Aparajeo Bangla and took up positions in the Arts Building and the Lecture Theatre Building areas, sources said.

Both sides continued firing with a variety of firearms including some sawed-off rifles, sten gun and some other automatic weapons, sources mentioned. The police used teargas to stop the battle.

After the hour-long fight ended at around 12.30 pm, the Montu activists left the Mall area and moved towards the Zahurul Huq Hall, witnesses said.

At the time the BCL ac-



Foreign Minister Mostafizur Rahman talking to his Spanish counterpart Javier Solana at the latter's office at Palacio de Viana in Madrid Saturday. — AFP photo

## Trade talks with Delhi tomorrow

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

**DHAKA AND NEW DELHI** will review the bilateral trade relations and discuss expansion of two-way trade when the commerce ministers of the two countries hold a four-day discussion beginning Monday in the Indian capital.

Commerce Minister M K Anwar leaves for New Delhi today to take part in what the officials say the Trade Review Talks. The talks take place as per an understanding reached at the summit level when Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia visited India late last May.

The ministers will also discuss the renewal of the bilateral trade agreement that expires October next year, official sources said.

They said that the two ministers would also strive to sort out ways for "achieving equilibrium" in the bilateral trade. Imports from India for outweight exports to the country.

Meanwhile, Jute Minister A S Hannan Shah also goes to India later this month to discuss bilateral cooperation in jute sector.

According to the joint communique issued after Begum Zia's visit, the two prime ministers also suggested that the Joint Economic Commission between the two countries meet in October this year.

# Dhaka, Madrid to strengthen ties

**MADRID, Aug 1:** Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman Friday met Spanish Foreign Minister Javier Solana Madariaga at his office here. He was accompanied by A H Mahmood Ali, Additional Foreign Secretary and K M Shehabuddin, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Spain, reports BSS.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality and friendship.

The visit is the first by the Bangladesh Foreign Minister after the assumption of the office by the new democratically elected government under the leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

During the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on bilateral, regional and international issues of common concern. They agreed to further strengthen the existing friendly relations in various fields including trade, economy and culture.

The Spanish Foreign Minister conveyed the warm invitation of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez Marquez to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to visit Spain sometime next year. He said Prime Minister Gonzalez Marquez and the people of the Spain were looking forward to welcome Prime Minister Begum



A group of agitated students attacking vehicles in Purana Paltan area in the city yesterday. — Star photo

## MMC closed

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to the Prime Minister.

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## Sink differences, PM tells FFs

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Saturday directed the freedom fighters to work unitedly sinking all differences for welfare of the commonman and development of the country, reports UNB.

The direction came when a delegation of Bangladesh Mukti Joddha Sangsad including its chief adviser Col. (Retd) Akbar Hossain, MP, Chairman Mahfuzur Rahman, Secretary Kabir Ahmed Khan and Vice Chairman Abu Said Khan called on the Prime Minister at her office yesterday.

Begum Zia, who is the chief patron of the Sangsad, asked the leaders to constitute the Mukti Joddha Sangsad at different tiers through fair elections on the basis of the approved voters list which she said should be prepared with utmost care and caution.

She advised them to keep the existing district and thana command as it is to achieve the purpose.

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

The members of the delegation expressed their gratitude to the Prime Minister for becoming the chief patron of the Sangsad and nominating Col (Retd) Akbar Hossain, Bir Pratik, MP, as its chief advisor for smooth functioning of the organisation.

## Breastfeeding Day observed

World Breastfeeding Day was observed in the country Saturday with a call for fighting bottle milk and the companies promoting it, reports UNB.

Campaign for the Protection and Promotion of Breastfeeding, Bangladesh (CPPB) organised the discussion in the Shisu Academy auditorium here yesterday morning in observance of the day.

The health Minister was chief guest at the function while Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda and Deputy Health Minister Sirajul Huq addressed it as special guests. ABM Siddiq, Deputy Secretary for Health, presided.

Dr SK Ray and Dr Shamim Ahmed read out the messages from the President and the Prime Minister.

The world Breastfeeding Day was observed worldwide for the first time yesterday. On this day in 1990, "Innocent Declaration of Protection, Promotion and Support of Breastfeeding" was signed in Florence in Italy by 32 governments and 10 UN agencies. Bangladesh was one of the countries which have signed it.

On the occasion, the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) has announced August 1-7 as Breastfeeding Week to be observed nationally by its member-countries. Different government and non-government organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes to make it a success.

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## Exporters

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The Federation mentioned that the export incentives in the export policy like 100 per cent income tax rebate on export earnings, reintroduction of export performance benefits, restructuring of export credit guarantee scheme, and the keeping of the rate of interest on export credit at its minimum have not been implemented. It demanded implementation of these provisions.

The federation demanded formation of a high-powered national export council headed by the Prime Minister in view of the administrative bottlenecks the exporter faced.

It proposed that this council include representatives of concerned ministries, directorates and export-led industries and trading houses.

It also proposed an "export bank" that would disburse loans on easy terms to the exporters.

The federation also demanded formation of an independent ministry named "external trade and investment ministry" for the rapid development of export.

It observed that this was more needed in view of the emergence of future free trade world system through the Uruguay round talks.

The Federation was critical of the role of the Bangladesh missions abroad in export promotion. It said the Missions should be directed in tapping markets for Bangladesh goods.

Those present at the briefing included: Chairman of the Bangladesh Finished Leather Exporters' Association AKM Rahmatullah, Acting Chairman of Bangladesh Terry Towel and Linen Manufacturing and Exporters' Association M Anisuzzaman and President of Bangladesh Garment Accessories Manufacturing Association Yahya Khan.

# The Midnight File

## Chinese worker to die for shooting boss

**BEIJING, Aug 1:** A factory worker in the central Chinese province of Henan has been sentenced to death for shooting his boss in the head in an act of revenge, the People's Daily said today. The worker was among four cases of worker reprisal against managers in the province since last year, the official newspaper said. Two workers were sentenced to death and one given a suspended death sentence, reports AFP.

## Honecker psychologically stable

**BERLIN, Aug 1:** Erich Honecker, the former Communist leader of east Germany, is psychologically 'stable' in prison, where he is now being held alone in a hospital cell, one of his lawyers said today. A Berlin Justice Ministry spokesman said meanwhile that Honecker, who was flown from Moscow to Berlin's Moabit prison on Wednesday, is not creating difficulties for his jailers, reports AFP.

# AL seeks PM's help to pass indemnity repeal bill

By Staff Correspondent

Acting President of Awami League Abdu Samad Azad yesterday urged the government to repeal the Indemnity Ordinance to fulfil the ruling BNP's commitment made in the Joint Declaration to establish the rule of law in the country.

Termining it a black law the Awami League leader said, "The government of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia has no right to speak about rule of law unless it annuls the Bill."

"Ninety per cent of the people voted for implementation of the joint declaration framed by the three former political alliances of which BNP was a component", he added.

Samad Azad who is also the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad was addressing a rally organised by Joy Bangla Sangskritik Oikya-jote at Bangabandhu Avenue in the capital demanding scrapping of Indemnity Ordinance to pave the way for trial of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib's killers.

The rally was a part of the Jote's 15-day programme begun yesterday to observe August 15, the day of Mujib's assassination.

The AL leader sought Prime Minister's help to pass the bill in the Sangsad through consensus in order to free politics from killing, coup and terrorism of all kinds.

Poet Shamsur Rahman, addressing the rally, observed that democracy could not be saved, keeping the killers of '71 and '75 untried.

Scrapping of Indemnity Ordinance that barred the trial of Bangabandhu's killers would help the nation march one step forward and put democracy on firm footing and uphold the spirit of the Liberation War, he said.

Chaired by Oikya-jote Chief Salahuddin Badal, the rally was also addressed by Dr SA Malek Mostafa Ameen, Syed Hassan Imam, Dr Mohammad Selim and Mozaffar Hossain Chowdhury Maya. The rally was "rounded off with a cultural function."

## Wazed's body sent to Rajbari for burial

The body of Abdul Wazed Chowdhury MP and a central leader of Bangladesh Awami League, was sent to Rajbari yesterday for burial at his family graveyard, reports BSS.

Early his body was taken to the Jatiya Sangsad plaza covered by party flag.

Wreaths on behalf of Prime Minister and leader of the Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia and Speaker Shaikh Razzaque Ali, Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Pannil, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdu Salam Talukdar and State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof. Jahannara Begum also placed wreaths on the body of the departed Awami League leader.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdu Samad Azad, Sheikh Abdul Aziz, Begum Sajeda Chowdhury MP, Tofael Ahmed MP and a large number of Awami League MPs and leaders placed wreaths on the coffin.

Namaz-e-Janaza was held at Sangsad South Plaza which was attended by leaders of different political parties.

Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina expressed her deep grief at the death of Abdul Wazed Chowdhury.

# Olympics: 100m golds

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in a major race, was fifth.

Ottey, 32, has dominated women's sprinting for years but has never won a major race. She has captured three Olympic bronze medals.

Cuthbert, 23 was seventh in the 100 at Seoul.

Ben Johnson, whose drug scandal tarnished the 1988 Seoul Olympics, failed to reach the men's 100 final. He stumbled out of the starting blocks and finished last in his semifinal heat in 10.70 seconds.

Mark Witherspoon also failed to reach the final. He collapsed to the track after about 30 meters, apparently with a muscle pull. He covered his face with his hands as he was taken off the track on a stretcher.

In the women's 100, four-time Olympian Evelyn Ashford of the United States missed qualifying for the final by a hundredth of a second. Ashford finished fifth in her semifinal heat.

In the heptathlon, 1988 Olympic champion Jackie Joyner-Kersey held a slim lead over Sabine Braun of Germany after three of the seven events.

Joyner-Kersey had the fastest time in the 100-meter hurdles and placed second to Braun in the high jump, but was only 11th in the shot put — again one place behind Braun. After the three events, Joyner-Kersey had 3,069 points to 3,064 for Braun.

In the men's 400, Derek Redmon of Britain led the field with the fastest time in first-round qualifying with a 45.03. Cuban Roberto Hernandez was second fastest only four hundredths behind.

Defending champion Steve Lewis of the United States had the third-fastest time of the round with 45.21 seconds.

## Corruption case against four NBL officers

A corruption case has been filed against four officers and one current account holder for alleged misappropriation of Taka 18 lakh by means of forged signature at the Bangal Branch of the National Bank Ltd, an official handout said yesterday, reports BSS.

The case was instituted with Kotwali Thana on July 30.

The complaint said an amount of Taka 18 lakh was transferred to the account of one Hlal Chowdhury holding current account No 54 through a davit voucher. The money was transferred from the current account of one SM Hussein. His account No was 117.