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Nine-point charge against govt

7 parties submit notices of no-confidence

By Staff Correspondent

Seven out of 10 opposition parties in Parliament yesterday submitted identical but separate notices of no-confidence against the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Khaleda Zia.

The parties are: Awami League (AL), Jatiya Party (JP), Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), Workers Party, Ganatantri Party, National Awami Party (NAP) and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Straj).

While the Jamaat-e-Islami is meeting today to decide its course of action, the Islamic Otkeya Jote (IOJ) represented by Maulana Obaidul Huq and the National Democratic Party (NDP) represented by Salahuddin Qader Chowdhury were expected to join the race soon.

The notice, after being processed by the Parliament Sec-

retariat, is expected to be sent today to the Speaker, who would then bring it to the notice of the Prime Minister.

The draft of the notice was earlier approved by Sheikh Hasina, the Leader of the Opposition in parliament after her return from the trip abroad yesterday morning.

Opposition sources said that submission of the notice to the Secretariat was delayed to secure support of the NDP and the IOJ.

Salahuddin Qader Chowdhury, back from abroad yesterday, reportedly differed with one of the clauses of the notice that alleged 'the government has failed to suppress the activities of anti-independence and anti-liberation forces.

While a section of the oppo-

sition parties was ready to accommodate Salahuddin Qader, sources said that the move failed because of the intransigence by Rashed Khan Menon. Salahuddin Qader, according to sources, also insisted on bringing in the Jamaat to the Opposition fold but was advised to take the initiative himself.

The IOJ leader, while expressing moral solidarity with the move, said that he needed time to discuss the issue in his own party forum.

The Opposition, in its notices, referred to 9 areas of concern and sought leave to move the motion during the current session of the House.

Incidentally, such a notice of no-confidence has been

Text of the notice

Following is the full text of the notice of no-confidence submitted to the Parliament Secretariat yesterday:

Whereas there has been an extreme deterioration in the law and order situation in the country and the government's having failed to take appropriate measures to protect the citizens;

Whereas the government has failed to control terrorism in the educational institutions, including ensuring security to school children;

Whereas all industrial units and business enterprises are becoming hostage in the hands of hoodlums and ex-



South Korean Bang Soo-Hyun wipes her eyes after receiving the silver medal of the women's badminton singles Tuesday. She lost the gold medal match to Indonesian top seed Susi Susanti.

Sensation
 MEDAL TABLE

BARCELONA, Aug 5: Olympics medals table at midday on the 11th day of competition on Wednesday (tabulated - Gold, Silver, Bronze):

CIS	36	28	20
US	20	27	23
Germany	16	13	22
China	15	19	14
Hungary	10	7	2
Spain	10	1	0
South Korea	9	3	9
France	7	5	13
Australia	6	8	9
Canada	6	1	6
Italy	5	5	7
Romania	4	4	7
Britain	5	3	6
Cuba	4	2	7
Japan	3	7	8
Poland	3	4	6
Netherlands	2	3	6
Czechoslovakia	2	2	1
Indonesia	2	2	1
Norway	2	2	0
Turkey	2	1	1
North Korea	2	0	2
Bulgaria	1	5	2
New Zealand	1	4	4
Brazil	1	1	0
Denmark	1	0	3
Estonia	1	0	1
Greece	1	0	0
Morocco	1	0	0

Hot favourite Johnson gets cold feet

BARCELONA, Aug 5: US sprinter Michael Johnson, one of the hottest gold medal favourites, crashed to defeat today on a day when drug scandals cast new shadows over the Olympic Games, reports Reuter.

Johnson, looking sluggish and out of sports, trailed in sixth in the second semifinal of the 200 metres in a race won by Frankie Fredericks of Namibia.

In the other semifinal, Mike Marsh of the United States destroyed a field including Britain's 100 metres champion Linford Christie with a scorching 19.73 seconds. But he slowed just before the line and finished one-hundredth of a second outside the oldest

track record in the book. Sally Gunnell restored British pride by storming home to gold in the women's 400 metres hurdles, pushing Sandra Farmer-Patrick of the United States into second place.

In the women's 200 metres semifinals, American Gwen Torrence became the fifth fastest woman in history with a blistering 21.72 run, the first time she had broken the 22-second barrier.

Torrence, with plenty to prove after starting the 100 metres final as favourite and finishing only fourth, edged out Juliet Cuthbert of Jamaica in a close tussle on the home straight.

Time for use of Tinbigha corridor extended

LALMONIRHAT, Aug 5: Bangladeshis living in the country's two enclaves of Dahagram and Angarpota will be able to use the Tinbigha corridor for six hours from today, reports UNB.

The corridor was opened for three hours during the first nine days after formal opening of the corridor on July 26. Later, the time was extended to four hours.

Commentary

No-confidence move serves a signal at right time, on right issue

By S. M. Ali

With the stage set for the first 'no-confidence' motion against the government of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) in the Jatiya Sangsad, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will be well advised to see the move as a signal that she must set her house in order.

With its comfortable majority in Parliament, the ruling party should easily pass the BNP politicians gloating over the victory. But the message behind the no-confidence motion — one or seven make little

difference — represents almost an overwhelming sentiment shared by a cross section of our people.

In this respect, the Opposition led by the Awami League (AL) is serving only as a catalytic agent. The defeat of the no-confidence motion will neither be a humiliating blow on AL nor a setback for the message behind the move.

In essence, the message concerns the alarming law and order situation in the country, which, in recent days, has developed a number of new di-

mensions, such as the feared kidnapping of children, the brutal murder of a veteran ageing political leader in Khulna and the spread of campus violence to educational institutions which had so long been spared from lawlessness.

An equally important part of the message relates to the refusal of the administration, especially of the Home Minister, to view the situation with a sense of urgency, and, instead, to suggest that it has 'improved' in recent months. Far

JS passes 2 bills on CHT

The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday passed two bills — Khagrachhari Hill District Local Government Council (Amendment) Bill, 1992 and Bandarban Hill District Local Government Council (Amendment) Bill, 1992, reports BSS.

The bills provide holding elections of the local government council in the hill districts of Khagrachhari and Bandarban by 180 days after the expiry of the tenure of the present council on July 9. The present provision of the act enacted in 1989 prescribed that such elections should be held within 60 days on the expiry of the tenure of the council.

Over 100 members belonging to Awami League, Jatiya

No all-party committee on CHT yet, says Hasina

Leader of the Opposition in parliament Sheikh Hasina yesterday demanded constitution of 'an all-party parliamentary committee' to deal with the problems of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), reports BSS.

Participating in the discussion on two bills relating to the extension of time limit for holding elections to the local government council of Khagrachhari and Bandarban hill districts, she said mere passage of bills by a brute majority was unlikely to resolve the problems of CHT. Therefore, the Leader of the Opposition pleaded for withdrawal of the two bills to discuss in detail in the proposed committee to

suggest the appropriate steps to restore peace and order in the CHT.

Sheikh Hasina explained the situation in the Chittagong Hill Tracts and alleged violation of human rights quoting reports of Amnesty International. In this context, she referred to a recent monitored report and said, 'This indicates that there were violation of human rights'.

The Leader of the Opposition said the entire country had come hostage to the terrorists and the situation deteriorated because of the government's attitude to politicise everything and to establish its

sphere of influence in all places with the help of terrorists. Sheikh Hasina said the inefficiency and incapability of those on whom the responsibility of nurturing the nascent democracy was vested had made it (democracy) crippled.

Sheikh Hasina alleged that 'untrue statement' was made by a Minister with regard to the formation of a committee on CHT. In this context, she drew the attention of the Chair to a press report published yesterday on a meeting between Commerce Minister M K Anwar and Indian Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao in New Delhi.

See Page 12 Col 4



by Sabir Mustafa

Who is handsome? Or, at the risk of planting the deadly seed of jealousy in the pasture-green carpet of the House, who is the most handsome parliamentarian of them all?

Yesterday, Speaker Shaikh Razaque Ali positively identified at least one, when Awami League member Nazrul Islam rose to enquire about the fate of the bill to establish an independent parliament secretariat.

See Page 12 Col 3

Saifur tells Rotarians Law and order situation hampering investment

By Staff Correspondent

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman Wednesday said that all the development efforts of the government would go in vain unless law and order was restored in the country.

He said that the money supply and foreign exchange position was excellent at this moment but that people were not coming forward with projects because of the deterioration of the law and order situation.

The government was determined to improve law and order, he said, adding that the cooperation of all was a must to achieve success.

He also stressed the need to maintain neutrality in executing efforts in this regard, and said that otherwise they would not meet success.

The Finance Minister was addressing as chief guest the 17th installation ceremony of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West held Wednesday at Hotel Sonargaon.

Regarding the unabated frustration in various sectors of the country, the Minister said that this was because of the accumulated lapses and irregularities for which things were not improving despite all-out



Anniversary of Tagore's death today

By Staff Correspondent

The 51st death anniversary of poet Rabindranath Tagore will be observed today (Thursday) throughout the country.

Different socio-cultural organisations will arrange discussion, musical soiree and poetry recitation programmes to observe the day.

Bangla Academy will hold a programme at the Batamul of the academy at 5 pm. The programme includes discussion on Tagore, recitation and a musical soiree.

Dr Ahmed Rafiq will present a paper on the occasion. The discussion will be participated by journalist Rahat Khan, Dr Golam Murshid and Prof Mohammad Abu Zafar. Hasnat Abdul Haq will preside over the function.

Spouses of MPs can use diplomatic passport

Members of the Jatiya Sangsad and their spouses are entitled to use diplomatic passport, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Privileges decided unanimously at its fifth meeting held on July 11 last, reports BSS.

The report of the committee released yesterday said this privilege, however, would not be applicable to those members against whom charge of corruption or other explicit case or cases are pending in the court.



The Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina being greeted by partymen on her arrival at Zia International Airport from a foreign trip yesterday.

Hasina seeks cooperation of world leaders

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina yesterday said she had sought cooperation of world leaders while abroad in consolidating democracy and ensuring economic development of Bangladesh for people's welfare, reports UNB.

On return home yesterday morning, she told newsmen at the airport that government leaders and parliamentarians of the countries she toured and high officials of donor agencies during her meetings with them expressed keen interest in knowing the post-autocracy democratic structure, practice and economic situation in Bangladesh.

Narrating an incident during her meeting with World Bank Vice President Joseph Wood and US Foreign Affairs Sub Committee Chairman Pele, Hasina said she felt 'embarrassed' when they enquired about the Bangladesh Ambassador who didn't accompany her during the meeting. 'I felt really embarrassed.'

The Awami League President flew back from London ending her nearly four-week trip to the United States, United Kingdom and Canada.

Fresh clash at Adamjee : 25 hurt

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Aug 5: A fresh armed clash between rival groups of Adamjee Jute Mills (AJM) workers left at least 25 persons including a policeman injured here this morning.

The clash lasted four hours. Eight of the seriously wounded were treated at a clinic.

Police arrested three persons including the General Secretary of the Mills Collective Bargaining Agent (CBA) in connection with the incident.

The arrest of CBA leader Mohammad Ismail sparked off an agitation among several thousand AJM workers who gheraoed Siddirganj Thana in a bid to force police to free their leader.

Police baton-charged the demonstrators and promptly sent Ismail to the district headquarters from where he was produced in court.

Witnesses said that some of the protestors lay down before a police van carrying Ismail. According to mills sources, the clash started when the

Jatiya Party-backed workers stormed the Dhaka Baju Colony at around 7 am in a bid to drive away their BNP-backed rivals from the colony. At this stage, both the groups locked in an armed clash using crackers, sticks and other lethal weapons.

Dhaka Baju Colony, a stronghold of the JP-backed workers, was recently captured by the BNP-backed workers.

After the abortive bid to enter the colony, the violent JP-

See Page 12 Col 5

Ministries asked to settle audit objections in 3 months

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts, in its second report, directed each ministry to settle audit objections and give reply to all audit objections within three months, reports BSS.

The committee, which placed its second report before the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday observed that in most cases there was lack of effort on the part of the concerned ministries and their subordinate departments to settle the audit objections.

Even in many cases factual replies were not furnished to the committee. Consequently, there had been impediments in making definite recommendations at the meetings of the committee in respect of concerned objections. Such a practice resulted in the wastage of time unnecessarily, the report added.

During the discussions on adjustment accounts, the committee found that in most cases the departmental expenditures did not tally with

those shown in the adjustment accounts book. Such a problem arose due to lack of adjustment of accounts properly, it said.

The committee further said in most cases the Establishment Ministry did not place surplus fund on time and if additional fund was spent in any sector, it was regularised through readjustment and supplementary allocation.

This gave birth to indiscipline in the financial management of the government. The

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NEWS BRIEFS

Foreigner robbed

By Staff Correspondent
 A foreign national was robbed of US dollar 1100 at dagger's point near Hotel Sheraton in the city Wednesday evening.
 Edward, 35, a Liberian citizen he was going to the hotel from Motiheel by a rickshaw yesterday evening, two young men stopped him and snatched away the money.
 Ramna police on information rushed to the spot but failed to nab the snatchers.

JCD activists end hunger strike

A section of JCD leaders and activists, who Monday night began fast unto death in front of the Jatiya Press Club protesting the selection of JCD central committee, called off their programme around midnight Tuesday at the assurance of some central leaders, reports UNB.

JS body alerts secretaries

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Privileges has alerted the secretaries to different ministries to be more careful in preparing replies for the concerned ministers to be given in the House on questions raised by parliament members. The committee studied two letters of Sreepur Sadar Upazila Parishad attached with the privilege notice submitted by Rahmat Ali and opined that it was proved beyond doubt that the said ambulance was not operational on June 18, 1992, even a day before the reply was made in the House, reports BSS.

Police fire on mob: One killed in Ramu

COX'S BAZAR, Aug 5: A man was killed and two others were injured when police opened fire on a mob in village Khuntapalong of Ramu thana at midnight following Tuesday. Police said Abdul Qader (20) died on the spot as they fired in self-defence when about 80 villagers, armed with lethal weapons, attacked them, reports UNB.