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Bystander killed, 4 others shot

JCD factions trade fire on DU campus



Ali Hossain who was shot on DU campus during JCD factional clash yesterday is now under treatment at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital. —Star photo

Two factions of the pro-government Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal fought a gunbattle at Dhaka University yesterday, killing a lunatic bystander and injuring several student activists, four with bullet, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the insane man, aged about 30, was standing at the foot of a Krishnachura flower tree, unconcerned about the campus battle, when he was shot down at about 1:15 pm.

He lay dead on the spot in front of Suryasen Hall of the university for about half an hour before being removed by some ones to DMCH morgue.

A university press release, however, said the deadman was a former student of the university.

Zahidur Rahman, a sophomore of Physics, Ali Hossain, 1st part M A in History, and Fariduzzaman, M A final year examinee in Islamic Studies, were hit by bullets near Suryasen Hall. Chapal, a 2nd year student of Statistics, got bullet in front of Ziaur Rahman Hall.

A single shot hit Zabidur, a resident of Suryasen Hall, in the chest. He was admitted into the Mohakhali Chest Diseases Hospital. Ali Hossain was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Chapal was admitted into a private clinic with bullet in his leg. Fariduzzaman, who was to sit for the final examination today was also taken to a city clinic.

Campus sources said more than 150 rounds of gunfire were traded during an hour-long clash that ensued around 1 pm at the Arts Faculty building and then scattered through the campus.

JCD sources said the feud in the ruling BNP's students wing

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PM leaves for Jakarta today

NAM defers decision on Yugoslavia

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia leaves for Jakarta today leading a 16-member delegation to attend the tenth summit of Non-Aligned Movement, reports UNB.

The 6-day conference of the heads of state and government of NAM member countries begins in the Indonesian capital on Tuesday.

The Jakarta meet will mainly deal with political, economic and social problems of the third-world countries against the backdrop of changes in Europe and in the global scenario.

The Bangladesh delegation includes Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman, State Minister for Environment and Forests Gayeswar Chandra Roy, Begum Farida Rahman, MP, and tribal leader Samiran Dewan.

The Foreign Minister and the Foreign Secretary are already in Jakarta to attend pre-summit meetings.

Begum Zia is expected to return home on September 5.

JAKARTA, Aug 30: Foreign Ministers meeting here ahead of the 10th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit agreed today on a final compromise to defer a decision on the continued membership of Yugoslavia, reports AFP.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said that the final decision was 'decided by consensus and without prejudice to the issue' and that Yugoslavia's Status in the movement would be considered at its forthcoming ministerial meeting during the 47th session of the UN General Assembly in September.

Alatas added the final decision at the New York meeting would take in to account any developments between then and now.

During the General Assembly session the world body is expected to decide whether the federation will continue to hold Yugoslavia's seat in the United Nations.

Nigerian Foreign Minister Major General Ike Nwachukwu said.

The final document was to be put before the heads of state or government of NAM whose summit runs September 1-6.

The need for a compromise was important because the final statement from the summit must show the unity of purpose.

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Chakmas, locals in Mizoram clash: 100 houses set afire

NEW DELHI, Aug 30: At least 100 houses were burned during overnight clashes between Chakmas and local residents of the tiny Indian state of Mizoram, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Sunday, according to AFP.

PTI said the rioting occurred in Mirpara, 150 kilometres (72 miles) from Aizawl, the northeastern state's capital.

It said two local residents were reported missing and that many Chakma tribes people from Bangladesh's rugged Chittagong Hill Tracts escaped back to their country after the clash.

Menon enters hospital in UK

Star Report

Rashed Khan Menon was admitted to a London hospital yesterday (Sunday) for advanced treatment of the lacerated wounds in his liver.

After a 15-hour journey abroad a scheduled Bangladesh Biman flight with a one-hour stoppage at Dubai, Menon reached the Heathrow Airport on time, and was driven straight to the King's College Hospital in South London. He was admitted at 1.30 pm London time (6.30 pm BST). He will under the treatment of Prof. Roger Williams, a liver specialist.

Accompanied by his wife, younger brother, sister-in-law and a CMH doctor, Menon fared well in the long journey, according to a message received from London last night.

"He has been in the best

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Workers' Party leader Rashed Khan Menon on his way from Combined Military Hospital (CMH) to airport at 3.20 am Sunday. —Star photo

5-party nipped movement over Menon: Azad Mrs General took over thru' rigging: Hasina

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina Sunday accused the government of patronising terrorism and pledged that her party would work to end it.

"The people want to get rid of the demon of terrorism. Our commitment to the nation is that we shall do everything possible to uproot it from the society," Hasina said in a speech at a discussion meeting at her party's central office.

The meeting was organised by Bangladesh Awami Jubo League, the youth front of the Awami League, to mark the August 15 assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman 17 years ago.

It was also addressed by Awami League leaders Abdus Samad Azad, Sajeda Chowdhury, Abdur Razzak and Amir Hossain Amu. Referring to this month's attempt on Workers' Party leader Rashed Khan Menon by unknown gunmen, Hasina said "How could such a daring attack on an opposition leader like Menon take place unless it was inspired by the government?"

Samad Azad in his speech said that the way the government was running the administration had raised the question in the public mind if it really believed in democracy.

He said that the Awami League tried to launch a united movement following the attack on Menon, but neither the Five-party Alliance nor the Workers' Party showed interest.

Hasina, also the Leader of the Opposition in parliament, termed the government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia a failure and said "The people want to know the record of the BNP government."

The BNP, she charged, did not believe in democracy. The BNP wants to remain in power through terrorism.

Hasina again criticised the government for what she said imposing taxes on various consumer items used by poor people on the one hand and reducing taxes on luxury goods on the other.

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Owners of sick industries hold confce today

By Inam Ahmed

The sick industries' owners will hold a grand conference today in the city against the backdrop of adoption of recommendations by the Sick Industries Revival and Rehabilitation Cell for revamping the units.

The recommendations were adopted on August 25.

Those are likely to be placed before the Prime Minister for approval of the cabinet meeting next month.

Meanwhile, the Inter-Associations Sick Industries Rehabilitation parishad said that the recent decision for collateral security against fresh loans for the problem projects went against the recommendations of the cell. The cell was formed on June last year at the direction of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

The cell has already pointed out 30 reasons which had made these industries go sick.

Setting up of units without testing viability of projects, non-availability and untimely supply of working capital, lack of modernisation programme and frequent load-shedding were identified as some of the

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Govt firm to weed out terrorism Bureaucracy now free from political pressure: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday made it absolutely clear that her government would go all out in curbing terrorism to restore law and order in the country.

"We are determined to bring to book all persons engaged in criminal and terrorist activities irrespective of their political affiliations," she told the United News of Bangladesh (UNB) in an exclusive interview here yesterday.

The Prime Minister hoped that all political parties would come forward to actively cooperate with the government in restoring peace and order in the society.

She said, "The government is well seized with the situation. We have attached top priority to this issue and geared up all the law enforcing agencies to bring about desired improvement in the situation."

In an hour-long interview with a panel of UNB editors at her office, the Prime Minister exuded confidence and firm resolve in tackling the problems bedeviling the nation.

When her attention was drawn to the unabated campus violence, Begum Zia said efforts were underway to contain the situation which she said was the legacy of the past autocratic regime that patronised terrorism for illegally perpetrating in power.

"I hope the situation will improve as a result of the steps taken by the government as well as with the sincere cooperation of the political parties on this vital issue," she said.

Replying to a question on the performance of her government, the Prime Minister asserted that political command over bureaucracy is now firmly established and administrative directives are clear and unambiguous.

"We want a professionally efficient, dedicated and honest bureaucracy capable of implementing our socio-economic programmes."

She said directives have been given to bureaucracy to work impartially and within the bounds of law. "They are now free from political pressure and undue harassment."

The Prime Minister pointed out that the new-found democratic environment has reassured bureaucracy to cast off past lethargy and indecisiveness and take up responsibility with renewed vigour.

She referred to the dismal state of economy that her government inherited from the past autocratic regime and said the signs of improvement are visible since the new democratic government started to take pragmatic steps to restore financial discipline and stabilise the economy.

Those steps as well as the incentives provided to the local and foreign investors have already started to yield positive and encouraging results, she said.

Listing the steps taken on the economic plan, Begum Zia said a number of industrial projects are being implemented in the Export Processing Zone in Chittagong with foreign investment. Local entrepreneurs also are coming

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Fresh clash at Adamjee: 15 injured

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Aug 30: At least 15 persons were injured when rival groups of workers at Adamjee Jute Mills clashed this afternoon.

According to witnesses, the clash between the BNP-backed Kashem group and the Awami League-backed Rehan group outside the mill premises at around 4 pm continued for more than an hour.

Numerous cracker blasts were heard during the clash which took place around the Moonlight cinema hall and the Sonam Market area.

Police resorted to lath-charge and fired six shotgun rounds to bring the situation under control. Fifteen persons were injured during the clashes.

Police have been deployed in the area.

Iraq won't be provoked into war

ABOARD THE USS INDEPENDENCE, Aug 30: US pilots protecting Shi'ite Muslims from aerial attack said they detected Iraqi aircraft near the "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq, but reported no attempts to enter the embargoed area, reports AP.

One of President Saddam Hussein's Cabinet Ministers said Saturday that Iraq will not be provoked into a military conflict, although the government has described US President George Bush's flight ban as an aggressive act that could lead to war.

The government will "choose its own time and method for retaliation," said the state radio, after reporting the Cabinet had met under Iraqi Prime Minister to discuss the two-day-old prohibition on Iraqi flights below the 32nd parallel.

On Sunday, the official Iraqi News Agency announced that Saddam would deliver "a historic message" to the nation at 9 pm (1700 GMT).

The statement, Saddam's first since the "no fly" ban went into effect on Thursday, will be broadcast on state-run radio and television.

NEWS BRIEFS

- Hasina visits Farhad's residence**
Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina Sunday visited the residence of Farhad Hossain Mollah, a Dhaka College student who was killed Tuesday in the city. Parents, brothers and sisters of Farhad burst into tears when Hasina visited the house of the deceased at South Kafrul. Hasina stayed there for some time and consoled the members of the bereaved family. She demanded punishment of the culprits, reports UNB.
- Harirampur BNP observes hartal**
MANIKGONJ, Aug 30: A half-day hartal was observed today (Sunday) in Harirampur thana at the call of local BNP protesting the attempt on the life of district BNP General Secretary Mohammad Abdur Razzak. Abdur Razzak was assaulted by some armed miscreants near Jhatika Bazar in Harirampur thana on Friday while going in his car to attend a local function, reports UNB.
- AL constitution body meets**
A meeting of the constitution and manifesto sub-committee of Awami League was held at 29 Mintoo Road with deputy opposition leader Abdus Samad Azad in the chair. Party leader Abdul Jalil said the sub-committee will meet again at Mintoo Road at 11 am on September 2, reports UNB.
- Arms recovered in Khulna**
KHULNA, Aug 30: Police recovered huge arms and ammunition and arrested five people in this connection from Graikhal village in Pikegacha thana early this morning, reports UNB.

Pak Defence Minister may come next month to talk military cooperation

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

The visit of Ghausa Ali Shah is likely to visit Bangladesh sometime in September to discuss military cooperation between the two countries, according to a Pakistani newspaper available in Dhaka Sunday.

Bangladesh officials neither denied nor confirmed the report published in the Aug 16 issue of the Islamabad-based weekly, The News.

"The visit of Ghausa Ali is not unlikely, but it is yet to be finalised," said an official, preferring anonymity.

A diplomat at the Pakistan High Commission parried The Daily Star queries on the report saying "I don't have a clue." But he hastened to add: "I have heard something about

gation, said that the issue had not been raised at the official (delegation level) talks. The official declined being named.

Shah was part of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's team at the official talks with Begum Zia's delegation during her visit. The Bangladesh team did not include representative of the Defence Ministry which is, however, looked after by Begum Zia herself.

Giving a resume of the 'growing' Dhaka-Islamabad 'military connections', the paper in its August 16 issue reported: "A regular level contact is maintained between the defence establishments of the two countries."

Elaborating, the paper re-

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Businessman commits suicide

A middle aged businessman allegedly committed suicide by jumping from the rooftop of an 18-storied building in the capital yesterday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Sultan Ahmed (45), a resident of 2/1304 Eastern Tower in Eskaton at 5-30 pm died instantly after falling from the rooftop of the tower building.

He was found in a pool of blood immediately after the incident.

Friends and neighbours said Sultan might commit suicide as he was suffering from deep frustration because of business loss.

Sultan, father of three children, was a founder director of National Bank Limited. His wife Rehana Ahmed is a teacher of Tejgaon College.

Ceasefire holds in Afghanistan

KABUL, Aug 30: The ceasefire in Kabul agreed between Afghan government forces and rebel Mujahideen has survived its first 24 hours with one peace delegation casualty but few serious violations, reports AFP.

The one confirmed casualty in the first few hours of the ceasefire was a driver of the visiting Pakistani peace delegation, who was returning from talks with Hezb-i-Islami rebel leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, at his Charasiab headquarters, South of the capital, late Saturday night.

The driver, whose vehicle was the last in a convoy of eight, missed a turning, got lost and then failed to stop when challenged by unknown

gunmen on a night patrol and was shot dead, said Pakistani Ambassador to Kabul, Amir Usman.

The ceasefire agreement was announced in Kabul on Saturday following 10 days of negotiations by a delegation of Afghan Mujahideen headed by Commander Mohammed Shomali Khan.

Meanwhile, a security post of Jamiat-i-Islami Mujahideen based near the Bala Hissar fortress that guards the southeastern approaches to Kabul, reported receiving light machine gun fire early this morning from Hezb Mujahideen.

About the same time, at least one rocket fell near the Prime Ministry building, according to reports.

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