

Sarajevo marketplace shelled : 15 killed

SARAJEVO, Aug 30: A howitzer shell crashed into a crowded Sarajevo marketplace Sunday, killing 15 people and wounding dozens more, reports AP.

The force of the explosions scattered human remains among concrete market stalls. Estimates from Sarajevo officials on the number of wounded ranged from 31 to more than 100.

Rescue workers slung bodies into pickup trucks parked on blood-stained ground. Officials said many of the wounded were not likely to survive.

Wounded survivors screamed out for family and friends as they milled around the stalls.

Based on the casualty report, the marketplace bombing was the worst single tragedy to befall Sarajevo's civilians since May 28, when mortar rounds killed at least 20 people and wounded another 100.

The tragedy cast a pall over cautious hopes that agreements reached last week in London at a two-day international peace conference would reduce the violence of the 6-month-old Bosnian war.

It also diluted optimism over reports that the siege of Gorazde had ended. If true, the end of Gorazde's ordeal meant relief for as many as 100,000 people who have been trapped in the city 60 kilometers (40 miles) southeast of Sarajevo.

In Sarajevo, UN spokesman Fred Eckhardt, who appeared weary and upset, was asked what the United Nations could do. He seemed to suggest the 105-mm round was fired from Serb positions in the hillsides surrounding the city.

"It would be nice if we could turn ourselves into a police force and run up into the hills and grab those people and arrest them and bring them to justice," he said.



Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina addressing a discussion on August 15 at the party central office yesterday.

Indian, Vietnamese Foreign Ministers meet Mostafiz

JAKARTA, Aug 30: Indian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs RL Bhatia called on Bangladesh Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman here yesterday and held discussions on wide range of subjects concerning bilateral, regional and international issues, reports BSS.

The Indian Minister briefed Bangladesh Foreign Minister about the recent positive developments in India-Pakistan relations and the outcome of recently held Foreign Secretary level meetings in New Delhi.

Bhatia also expressed his country's sincere desire to strengthen relations with all the neighbouring countries through continued mutual consultations.

Mostafizur Rahman also met the Foreign Minister of Vietnam Nguyen Mant Cam and discussed bilateral and regional matters, expressing the hope for strengthening economic co-operation between the two countries.

The Vietnamese Foreign Minister while expressing his government's sincere desire to establish close and meaningful economic co-operation with Bangladesh hoped that the existing relations would be further strengthened for the mutual benefit of both the countries.

The Bangladesh Foreign Minister also attended a special meeting of the OIC Foreign Ministers to discuss the tragedy in Bosnia-Herzegovina where he also reiterated Bangladesh's principled position on the issue. He also attended the dinner hosted by Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas.

Hasina : Mrs General

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Abdur Razzak accused the governing party of breaking its own commitment to repeal black laws like the Special Powers Act.

Hasina and other speakers also alleged that the BNP government was pushing the nation to a state of confrontation.

"Where are the nation and its politics heading? The country is being plunged into chaos and confrontation," Hasina said accusing the government of harassing opposition political leaders. She said that it was sad that opposition political leaders were getting threats over telephone.

UNB adds: Hasina said the ruling party is sponsoring political killings on one hand to consolidate its power and on the other, trying to shift the blame on the Opposition.

In this context, she also mentioned the recent killing and counter-killing at the Tejgaon Polytechnic Institute due to internal conflict in the Chhatra Dal.

"There is no room for massians in my party... We won't mind if you arrest any massian who belongs to my party," Hasina declared.

She said Menon came under attack after the "provocative speech" of the Prime Minister in Parliament.

Menon, one of the movers of no-confidence motion against the government, spoke in support of the motion with logic exposing the government's failure in curbing terrorism, Hasina said.

"The government apparently knew about the attack on Menon beforehand... the head of the government was so nervous that defying all medical restrictions, she entered the operation theatre with TV



Unidentified victim —Star photo

The JCD faction called upon police to nab the troublemakers staying in Jashimuddin and Ziaur Rahman halls and also demanded of the DU authorities to take action against those involved in terrorism.

Later, a large contingent of helmeted police raided Jashimuddin and Suryasen halls, but failed to net anything.

JCD's internet fight defused another brawl in the offing. A group of armed youths, allegedly belonging to Chhatra League, Gopalganj group, started rampaging in Proctor's office area.

Five rounds of gunshot were fired there at about 12 noon, but the eruption was silenced by the rattles of guns in the other camp.

Despite the gunfight, Honours and Masters final examinations were held uninterrupted, but behind the schedule. M A and MSS examinations started at 2 instead of 1.30 pm with tight police guard.

Tension was prevailing in the entire campus as militants returned to their respective sanctuaries after police raids. Police patrols were reinforced on the campus.

On Saturday, the DU authorities vented apprehension about such eruptions.

Rahmat Ali MP injured in road mishap

Rahmat Ali, an Awami League member of the Parliament, was injured in a road accident at Tongi Sunday.

He has been admitted to the BIRDEM Hospital with leg injuries.

Relatives of Ali said that his baby taxi overturned on the Dhaka-Gazipur Highway near Board bazar at Tongi Sunday afternoon after it was hit by a tempo.

Rahmat Ali was on way to his constituency Gazipur to address a public meeting.

The left leg of the MP had seriously been bruised, according to relatives.

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12 militants shot dead in Kashmir

JAMMU (India), Aug 30: Army soldiers shot dead 12 suspected Muslim militants overnight when they tried to enter Indian-administered Kashmir from the Pakistani section of the divided province, officials here said today, reports AFP.

India has offered places in its armed forces academies for trainees from Bangladesh — an offer not yet taken up, the paper went on to suggest: "This cooperation in the defence area acquires a strategic significance given Indo-Pak relations. To some extent it helps it to offset the Indian menace in the region".



Bangladesh Foreign Minister Mostafizur Rahman (left) and Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Manh Cam share a light moment during the second day of preparatory ministerial meetings at the NAM summit in Jakarta yesterday.

Bureaucracy now free, says PM

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up to invest, particularly in the field of small and cottage industries.

The Prime Minister pointed out that internal resource mobilisation has been geared up to finance development programmes. More than 27 per cent of the expenditure of the current fiscal year's (1992-93) Annual Development Programme (ADP) will be met from domestic resources as against 25 per cent in 1991-92 and only 8 per cent in 1990-91.

Begum Zia said the national economy already started showing recovery and it has been possible due to realistic fiscal policies and macro-economic management undertaken by the democratic government.

About the foreign policy of her government, the Prime Minister said the policies of an elected government are always different from those of an autocratic one. Strategies have been taken to face the new challenges of disarmament, terrorism, environment degradation, drug abuse and human rights.

Begum Zia said the present

government has been working consistently on the fundamental principles of the Constitution to build up ties of friendship and cooperation with all countries of the world and consolidate international peace, cooperation and amity.

She said endeavours are being taken to consolidate the ties and cooperation among the Muslim countries on the basis of Islamic solidarity.

The Prime Minister expressed her deep concern over the developments in the Balkans, particularly the brutal persecution of the Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina. She said she will raise the issue at this week's NAM summit in Jakarta.

She said the country's foreign policy is directed toward elimination of poverty, attainment of economic emancipation and, above all, earning a place of dignity as a self-reliant country in the comity of nations. "Political independence becomes meaningless without economic emancipation," she pointed out.

She referred to her visit to different countries and representation in different interna-

BAPA president resigns

By Staff Correspondent

The president of Bangladesh Airline Pilots' Association (BAPA) Captain Monwar Hossain has resigned in the backdrop of a stalemate between the Association and the Biman management over the signing of a new agreement, BAPA sources said Sunday.

Captain Monwar, five times President of BAPA, stated "family ground" as the cause of his resignation but a reliable Biman source said that "Stalemate over the signing of new agreement between BAPA and the Biman management prompted him to resign" The source did not elaborate.

Vice-President Captain Doza took over as the acting President of the Association.

The Biman-BAPA agreement expired June 1991 but a new agreement submitted by BAPA in March last year, was yet to be signed.

Meanwhile, a meeting between the management and the BAPA representatives was held at the Biman Bhaban Sunday initiating discussions on the new agreement.

"It was just an introductory meeting, no remarkable progress was made in it," an executive member of BAPA present at the meeting said.

The meeting was presided over by the Managing Director of Biman, he added.

The second round of talks are scheduled for Thursday.

Pak minister

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ferred to the recent exchange of visits by top military officials of the two countries, and disclosed the existence of a bilateral accord on military hardware transfer.

In the area of defence Pakistan and Bangladesh are signatories to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on transfer of equipment primarily from the Pakistan Ordnance Factories.

Bangladesh Defence Ministry officials were not available for committee. According to the newspaper, the MOU expires 1995.

The News made special mention of the January visit to Bangladesh of the Pakistan Army Chief of Staff General Asif Nawaz Janjua "within six months of his taking over".

Janjua's week-long trip was reportedly followed by the Pakistan Defence Secretary's visit, an event that did not receive media attention.

Trainees from Bangladesh armed forces already attend courses at Pakistan's army, naval and air force academies. Bangladesh is keen to increase the number of trainees," the report said.

India has offered places in its armed forces academies for trainees from Bangladesh — an offer not yet taken up, the paper went on to suggest: "This cooperation in the defence area acquires a strategic significance given Indo-Pak relations. To some extent it helps it to offset the Indian menace in the region".

Sick industries

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reasons for sickness.

The cell also attributed problems in marketing facilities, high rate of interest, shrinking of the export market and lack of inter-ministerial co-ordination to have been the main reasons for sickness.

The recommendations for revamping the units by the cell highlighted financial packages of measures.

It said the total amount of penalty interest and general interest on the units should be waived while arrangements should be made for payment of loans in easy installments.

The cell further said adequate working capital should be given to the units after testing viability. It also called for withdrawal of cases filed for realisation of the loan money against the units.

According to the cell, the total investment in the country's 1555 sick units stand at Taka 1920.42 crore with Taka 1293 crore outstanding bank loans.

The cell viewed that if these units could be reactivated, about one lakh workers would be provided with jobs and the contribution of industrial sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) would definitely go up. It said that these units would provide Taka 200 crore annually to the national exchequer as revenue.

These sick units include 360 from steel and engineering sector, 132 from chemical sector, 361 from food, 371 from textile, 24 from medicine, 24 from jute, 19 from rubber, 55 from service, 73 from handloom and 136 from other sectors.

655 more held

Police in their countrywide anti-crime drive during 24 hours ending Sunday afternoon arrested 655 people on various charges and recovered 45 illegal arms.

The Midnight File

Bus plunge leaves 70 dead in Madhya Pradesh

NEW DELHI, Aug 30: Seventy people were killed when a bus with 83 people aboard plunged off a temporary bridge into a flooded river in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, state television said today. The broadcast said the driver of the packed private bus had ignored warnings not to sue the bridge over the Jamni River. Earlier the Press Trust of India citing initial reports reaching the city of Bhopal from the accident site near Orichha said 19 people had been rescued from the river and that army divers were trying to recover the bodies of the missing. The agency had put the death toll at 46 and said the accident occurred Saturday, reports AFP.

53 killed in Turkish battle

DIYARBAKIR, Aug 30: Forty-three rebel Kurds and 10 Turkish soldiers were killed in a battle in southeastern Turkey today when separatists attacked a gendarmerie post, security officials said. A statement from the Diyarbakir regional governor's office said guerrillas of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) who crossed into Turkey from Iran attacked the border post near Semdinli town in the province of Hakkari. The statement carried by the Anatolian news agency said 12 soldiers were also wounded in clashes that started after dawn on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Menon enters hospital

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Ten minutes before, wife Lutfunnesha Khan Beauty, younger brother Shahidullah Khan Badal, Badal's wife Dr Nafila Khan had left the CMH for the airport to receive Menon there.

"Pray to Allah... all I can say is pray for my husband so that he comes back again, alive and recovered, to Bangladesh," said Menon's wife prior to the departure.

At the airport, Minister of State for Civil Aviation Abdul Mannan and Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni were waiting at the VIP lounge to see the Workers' Party leader off, but could not meet him as he was taken to the plane by another path.

Family sources said that Menon's wife Lutfunnesha Khan Beauty would be allowed to stay at his bedside.

Col Siddiqui said that Menon's treatment was to begin last night. Prior to that, Professor William would examine the CMH reports.

Earlier, in Dhaka, a tearful small crowd of political colleagues, relatives and family friends bade Menon bye at the CMH at 3.00 in the morning. A tired, Menon, lying on a stretcher, looked blank as he waved back from inside the ambulance.

The ambulance drove Menon straight to the gangway of the 3.45 flight.

At Col Zafarullah Siddiqui, a member of the team of surgeons who did the crucial four-hour operation on the August 17 night, was seated beside Menon inside the ambulance.

Corruption case against Doha, Hamidullah

The Bureau of Anti-Corruption yesterday filed a case against former Foreign Minister and Chairman of Dialogue Publication Limited Aminur Rahman Shamsuddoha and former Executive President of Al Baraka Bank Limited AN Hamidullah on charges of corruption and abuse of power, reports BSS.

According to the FIR filed with the Motijheel Police, both Shamsuddoha and Hamidullah were charged with gaining pecuniary benefits in connivance with each other and exercising of illegal influence and criminal breach of trust in taking an amount of Taka 12,94,97,920 as loan from the Al Baraka Bank.

NAM decision

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pose in NAM, the Nigerian Foreign Minister said.

"We must forge consensus which 'the strength of our movement,' he added.

But both Saudi Arabia and Iran voiced strong reservations to the compromise.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal said his government did not recognise Yugoslavia, nor its successors, while Iran vigorously condemned atrocities against ethnic minorities in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The compromise, which was first proposed by the Nigerian minister, came after nearly two days of debate which had threatened to cause a rift among delegates, diplomats said.

Late today Foreign Minister separated in to smaller groups to thrash out the issues, including Yugoslavia.

The Nigerian Minister denied the meeting had been acrimonious, as some diplomats had suggested, saying only that different countries, expressed their views with "conviction."

"Different views were expressed with some wanting Yugoslavia in NAM and some not," he said.

Some African diplomats had expressed anger that so much time had been spent on the issue, rather than on problems on the African continent, but the Nigerian minister said Yugoslavia was a sore point which had to be discussed to preserve solidarity in the movement.

To Bosnian delegates, who had been waging a lone battle to get Yugoslavia expelled after Muslim nations abandoned their own bid to do the same, the minister suggested 'compromise, understanding and sue for peace.'

All faction (in former Yugoslavia) must be prepared to give and take, he said.

Somalian Foreign Minister Mohammed Ali Amud, however, said that too much time had been taken up when there are so many problems in front of us including problems in South Africa, Liberia and his own country.

A West African diplomat said before the meeting that African issue had been deferred because of Yugoslavia, highlighting the indifference of some member countries to the problems in that continent.

Earlier today a Yugoslav delegate had said that for most countries "It was not acceptable to depend on the UN" adding they had not wanted to dump the issues in the United Nations.

Also today it was announced that Yugoslavian federation President Dobrica Cosic would not be coming to the summit.

PTI adds: The NAM Foreign Ministers today agreed to readmit Myanmar as a member of the movement after a gap of 13 years as India reconsidered its opposition.

After objecting to Myanmar's membership request on the ground that it had left the NAM in a huff in 1979 challenging its relevance to the changed times, India took the stand that it would go by consensus at the meeting.

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