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# The Daily Star

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## BNP to expel non-students from Chhatra Dal

**By Staff Correspondent**

In a bid to tide over the situation arising out of the dissolution of the central committee of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) high command is expected to expel non-students from the JCD.

No non-student would also be allowed to hold any leadership position in the JCD, according to authoritative sources.

Sources further said that measures would be heightened to stop entry of outsiders into residential halls of the Dhaka University and that the government would extend all possible cooperation to the university authorities to clear the campus of terrorists.

Incidentally, the government believes that such measures are applicable under the provisions of the Dhaka University Ordinance of 1973 but that the Ordinance is not followed in spirit.

The JCD central committee was dissolved and the organisation's activities at the Dhaka University campus were suspended Sunday night by BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia following armed clashes between two feuding groups in the JCD Friday. Two students were killed and one injured in the clash.

Talking to The Daily Star, Abdus Salam Talukder, BNP secretary general, said that they were evaluating the situation and future decisions would be taken upholding the interest of the nation and the organisation.

Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia, Minister for Works, said that the BNP chairperson was more concerned about eliminating terrorism from the campuses. To her, Rafiq added, "measures to eliminate terrorism were more important than the immediate reconstitution of the JCD central committee."

Meanwhile, members of the now dissolved JCD central committee were conspicuous by their absence on campus during the day yesterday.

The JCD, however, arranged a milad mahfil at its central office yesterday after Asar prayers to pray for the departed souls of Ashrafal Azam Mamun and Mahmud Hossain.

The milad mahfil was attended by JCD leaders including

## SAARC opposition leaders meet in Karachi today

**Star Report**

Five South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) opposition leaders including Sheikh Hasina reached Karachi yesterday to take part in today's seminar on their role in South Asian societies.

The seminar begins at 9:30 this morning at the Ramada Renaissance hotel in the city. Pakistan Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Benazir Bhutto will inaugurate. Bhutan and Maldives have no legislatures and as such are not represented.

Reports from the Pakistan city suggested that the leaders would talk issues forbidden at SAARC meetings attended by their government leaders.

An AFP report from Karachi quoted the former Indian Prime Minister VP Singh as saying that he would speak on the vexed Kashmir issue, a trouble spot for India and Pakistan since their independence from Britain in 1947.

Sheikh Hasina told reporters at the Karachi Press Club that the first-ever conference of the opposition leaders was expected to formulate policies and guidelines to implement.

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## Cabinet okays privatisation of BSRS

The cabinet has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Finance regarding steps for facilitating the process of privatisation of Bangladesh Shipha Rin Sangstha (BSRS), reports BSS.

The approval was given yesterday at the regular weekly meeting of the cabinet held at Bangabhaban with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair.

The steps include restructuring of the capital of BSRS on the basis of its net worth already ascertained and sell-out of two-thirds of the shares of BSRS to public and private institutions.

The proposals for amendment of the BSRS Order-1972 is also aiming at enabling the private company which will take over the business of BSRS after privatisation to involve in the activities of a scheduled bank along with the function of a development finance institution.



Dhaka University classes resumed yesterday after a three day-closure. — Star photo

## A tense peace prevails in DU

**By DU Correspondent**

All classes and examinations at Dhaka University were held peacefully yesterday, the first day after a two-day suspension of all academic activities following a bloody gun battle Friday that left two students dead.

Meanwhile, police raided the Jasimuddin Hall of the university in the early hours of yesterday.

They entered the hall with the hall Provost and Tutors at about 4.15 am yesterday, hall sources said.

In the three-hour raid police failed to recover any arms or ammunition and did not arrest anybody, hall sources added.

Police again entered the hall library yesterday noon, sources said.

Paramilitary BDR and helmeted police have been guarding the flash spots to ward off further untoward incidents.

Meanwhile, hall officials distributed copies of the resolution adopted at the meeting of hall Provosts and Proctors with the Vice-Chancellor Professor Maniruzzaman Miah Sunday.

The university authorities, at Sunday's meeting, issued an ultimatum to outsiders and terrorists to quit the campus ahead of a crusade against the trouble-mongers.

The resolution said that the authorities would take stern action against anyone found trying to obstruct administrative steps and entry of law-enforcing agencies into the halls whenever necessary.

Shahidullah Hall Provost, talking to this correspondent, said that they had distributed the copies of the resolution to the students and the Tutors.

Jasimuddin Hall Provost told this correspondent that they had also informed the hall residents not to invite any guest without informing the hall authorities.

The Provost also said that they were trying to allocate seats to eligible students.

## No decision yet to write off coop farmers' debts

**By Inam Ahmed**

Despite a public commitment by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to write off agricultural loans including interests up to Taka 5000 of the cooperative farmers, there has not been any decision yet to implement it.

The Prime Minister addressing a conference of Bangladesh National Co-operative Union July 5 made the exemption announcement for the 'welfare of small farmers'.

However, official sources said the international donors took exception to the PM's commitment.

They said the World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) observed that the decision was not in commensurate with the government's efforts in bringing about discipline in the financial sector.

On the other hand, the government's intention to write off the loans would place cooperative farmers on an equal footing with the small farmers who had earlier been exempted from pay back loans and interests up to Taka 5000.

According to preliminary estimates, the exemption to the co-operative farmers, if implemented, would cost the government over Taka 100 crore. There are now over 50000 cooperative associations, according to the estimate.

The donors, sources said, felt that the financial burden involved in the process was too much for the nation at this moment. As a result, the proposal is now lying at the PM's secretariat.

Meanwhile, authoritative sources said the government was contemplating to implement the PM's commitment by mobilising internal resources.

However, the plan may not be put into action until next year due to poor internal resource accumulation and new fiscal allotment will have to be earmarked for this purpose in the Annual Development Programme (ADP).

When contacted, Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD) Minister Abdus Salam Talukder told The Daily Star that the government was trying to channelise new loans to the cooperative farmers for their greater contribution to the agricultural output.

## Menon likely to undergo another operation

**By Staff Correspondent**

Ailing Workers Party leader Rashed Khan Menon is likely to undergo another surgery, a statement of the party said Monday.

Menon, now being treated at the King's College Hospital in London, UK, was first operated upon on August 17 at the Combined Military Hospital in Dhaka.

Doctors of the hospital operated upon Menon for the

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## Literacy Day today

**By Staff Correspondent**

The International Literacy Day will be observed today (Tuesday) in the country as elsewhere in the world.

The day corresponds to the date of opening of the first World Congress on the eradication of illiteracy held in Tehran in 1965.

In Dhaka, the Education Ministry and the Primary and Mass Education Division have jointly organised a discussion on "Education for All" at the National Museum auditorium in the morning.

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar will be the chief guest at the seminar which will be attended by State Minister for Education Principal Eunus Khan and Education Secretary Shafiqul Alam

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## Contempt petition against Saifur

**By Supreme Court Correspondent**

A Criminal Contempt Petition was filed in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court on Monday against Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman for his alleged contempt of the Supreme Court.

The petition was filed for what the prosecution termed his contempt of the Supreme Court in his speech at the Bangladesh Institute of International Strategic Studies in Dhaka on 23.8.92.

His statement was published in a section of the press August 24.

The contempt petition has been brought by Muhammad

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## China rejects US explanations on F-16 sale to Taiwan

BEIJING, Sept 7: China today blasted President George Bush's decision to sell F-16 jets to Taiwan and rejected the explanations of a US special envoy sent to Beijing as "unjustifiable," reports Reuter.

Wan Li, chairman of China's parliament, the National People's Congress (NPC), said the sale was unacceptable, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

"Under no circumstances can China agree to it," Wan was quoted as telling Kyodo news service president Yasuhiko Inukai of Japan.

## Shantibahini-govt talks Sept 12 likely

CHITTAGONG, Sept 7: The leaders of the outlawed Shantibahini are likely to start dialogue with Bangladesh government at Rangamati on September 12 in order to find a solution to the long-drawn Chittagong Hill Tracts problem, reports BSS.

According to official sources in Dhaka the liaison committee which maintains link between Bangladesh government and the Jana Sanghati Samity, the mother organisation of the Shantibahini, recently received a letter from the Shantibahini leaders to the effect that they were ready to start dialogue with Bangladesh government on Chittagong Hill Tracts issue. The liaison committee had communicated the decision of the Shantibahini to Bangladesh government. The Shantibahini leaders have reportedly set one condition — they would have dialogue with the civilian representatives of Bangladesh

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Two Shoor-e-Nazar soldiers pull out the table from condemned men to hang them in Kabul Monday. Three young Afghans were hanged in front of thousands of people for multiple crimes. — AFP photo

## Rafsanjani tells Pak NA, Senate Kabul playing into hands of West

ISLAMABAD, Sept 7: In a blistering attack on Afghanistan's warring factions, Iranian President Hashmi Rafsanjani on Monday accused the new Islamic leadership of playing into the hands of an "arrogant west" that wants to keep Muslim nations weak and divided, reports AP.

"The things happening in Afghanistan, we should not allow them to happen. ... This belongs to the barbaric period, to the dark ages. These things are stupid," Rafsanjani told a joint session of Pakistan's National Assembly and Senate.

He warned that Afghanistan risked becoming another Somalia, where warring factions have destroyed the country and forced its starving population to beg for help.

"They should take a lesson from Somalia. They won their war, and now the different factions are fighting with each other and the Western countries have to give them food and security," he said.

Xinhua says, earlier president of Iran and Pakistan have said that the two countries should work together to bring peace and stability to Afghanistan.

They made the remarks during talks at the presidential palace here on Sunday evening.

Rafsanjani arrived here on Sunday afternoon on a four-day official visit to Pakistan at the invitation of President Ishaq Khan.

At the banquet in honor of the Iranian President, the Pakistan President said that as close neighbours both Pakistan and Iran have to make joint efforts to ensure the sovereignty, stability and territorial integrity of Afghanistan.

Reuter said, Pakistan's opposition leader Benazir Bhutto staged a walk-out from a joint session of parliament today after the government would not let her make a welcome speech for the visiting Iranian President.

Bhutto led her opposition People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) into the National Assembly after brief welcoming remarks by the Speaker and strode out as soon as Iranian President had finished his speech.

The walk-out was to protest against the government's refusal to allow her to make a speech welcoming Rafsanjani, said Bhutto, sacked as Prime Minister two years ago by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

"What was the harm in setting a democratic precedent?" she said later.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif addressed the House after Rafsanjani.

AP adds: Some of Afghanistan's orthodox Sunni Muslim leaders, like Yunus Khalis, chief of the breakaway Hezb-e-Islami faction, has accused Iran of fomenting violence in the capital, Kabul.

## Thousands watch public hanging in Afghanistan

KABUL, Sept 7: At least 10,000 people packed into a downtown park Monday to watch Afghanistan's first public hanging since the US backed rebel resistance ousted the Communist government last April, reports AP.

The three condemned men were tried behind closed doors, and no one would say what crimes they had committed. There are reportedly dozens more waiting on death row.

The condemned — Mohammad Rafiq, Mohammad Sikander and Mohammad Gul — arrived at the park in an armoured personnel carrier, bright orange ski masks hiding their faces and their hands crudely tied behind their backs with plastic bags.

The trio — none of them older than 25 — stood silently on a long wooden table, the nooses loosely wrapped around their necks as an unidentified cleric railed against the rampaging lawlessness that has wrecked the capital since the rebel leadership took power.

As a turbaned rebel brandishing a semi-automatic rifle kicked the table out from beneath the three condemned men, the crowd surged forward screaming "God is great."

## NEWS BRIEFS

- AL council session shifted**
- The biennial council session of Bangladesh Awami League will be held on September 19-20 instead of September 18-19 due to unavoidable reason, a party press release said last night. Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the council session on September 19 at 3:00 pm at the Institution of Engineers here, reports BSS.
- Two stabbed to death in Jessore**
- JESSORE, Sept 7: Two unknown men were stabbed and killed at Old Koshba in the town tonight. Police said the two young men were found dead at about 8:45 pm with their hands tied with rope. The two bodies were sent to morgue. No more details were available, reports UNB.
- Dr Kamal leaves for Karachi**
- Convener of Ganotantrik Forum and eminent lawyer Dr Kamal Hussain left Dhaka yesterday for Karachi to attend the first conference of the opposition leaders of SAARC countries to be held there today (Tuesday). Dr Kamal Hussain, who has been specially invited to attend the meeting, will return home on September 11, reports BSS.
- Nirmul body holds meeting in Ctg**
- CHITTAGONG, Sept 7: A meeting of the district unit of Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee today (Monday) demanded ban on the politics of Jamaat-Shibir and other fundamentalist elements. Presided over by Begum Mushtari Shaif, the meeting was addressed by Dr Hamida Banu, Dr Hasanuzzaman Choudhury, Dr A Q M Serajul Islam and A B M Mohiuddin, reports UNB.