

Janata Tower case

HC rejects all six prayers for relief

With the rejection of the prayers of Begum Raushan Ershad and three others who sought relief from allegations of their involvement in the Janata Tower case by the High Court yesterday all the six petitions filed in this connection have been rejected, reports BSS.

Those petitions which were rejected yesterday the third day of judgement by the special vacation bench included that of former Minister MA Sattar, Abdur Sukkur Pradhan and Aftara Begum. The two-member bench consisted of Justice Habibur Rahman Khan and Justice MA Mannan.

The bench earlier on September 23 had rejected the criminal revision petition of former President HM Ershad and that of Rahmatullah, former Chairman of RAJUK on Thursday.

After rejecting the prayers, the High Court directed that the trial court can now proceed with the case. A total of 21 persons, including former President Ershad and his wife Raushan, are implicated in the Janata Tower case. While Ershad was charged with possessing wealth disproportionate to his income, abetment charge was brought against Raushan Ershad.

Meanwhile it was learnt that provisional criminal petitions for leave to appeal against the verdict of the High Court have already been filed on behalf of Ershads and Rahmatullah. While the petition of Ershad was filed Saturday, the appeals of Raushan Ershad and Rahmatullah were filed yesterday.

The appeal petitions are scheduled to be heard today in the singleman bench of Justice Latifur Rahman.

In rejecting their petitions, the court said that since material evidence was found against Ershad and all the co-accused in the case in the FIR (First Information Report), CS (Charge Sheet) and 161 (the statements of prosecution witness before Magistrate), there could not be any quashment. Hence "all rules discharged", the judgement said. The court opined that the "trial should proceed".

Moudud Ahmed pleaded for Ershads, Abdur Sukkur Pradhan and Aftara Begum. The counsels for MA Sattar and Rahmatullah were Khan Saifur Rahman and MA Malek respectively.

Attorney General Aminul Haq, assisted by Amirul Kabir Chowdhury, Deputy Attorney General, and Sharif Uddin Chaklader moved on behalf of the state.

PM: Anti-terrorism

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visional Commissioner, Deputy Commissioners, Police Superintendents, area commanders of BDR and other high officials.

Begum Zia also today called upon the Jubadal members to strengthen the party and uproot terrorism and anarchy for furthering the country's development activities.

"We have to resist the elements who have resorted to anarchy and terrorism finding no other issues to tarnish the image of the present democratic government by obstructing its development activities," Begum Zia said.

The Prime Minister was addressing the first ever conference of the office bearers of Khulna division of Jubadal at the newly-inaugurated Zia Hall here.

Begum Zia said despite opposition from vested quarters, BNP and all its front organisations were determined to carry forward the politics of production. "We do not believe in the politics of slogans, we want to continue our trend of development initiated by our democratic government at any cost," she said.

Criticising the statement of the leader of a certain political party that they could have stopped terrorism in an hour if they were in power, Begum Zia said it seems that the terrorists are in their pocket and terrorists will go back to their own houses whenever they will tell them. She said her government was determined to resist the elements who were resorting to terrorism by joining hands with the identified autocrats to destabilise the democratic government.

Begum Zia called upon the Jubadal members to organise the party at the grass-root level and initiate movement against anarchy which disrupts the uplift of the country.

Referring to the demand for the passage of Indemnity Bill, she said it would have been in the concerned party's election, manifesto if it had any popular support.

The Prime Minister said the Jubadal should bring back momentum in its organisational activities. She said it is now the responsibility of the Jubadal to help the popular government to function smoothly to ameliorate the condition of the teeming millions.

The function was also addressed by BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukder, Social Welfare Minister Tarikul Islam, Jubadal President and Dhaka City Mayor Mirza Abbas, Secretary General of Jubadal Gayswar Chandra Roy, Barkatullah Bhulu MP, Mohammad Ashraf Hossain Whip, Sheikh Tayebur Rahman, Khulna City Mayor and Jubadal Leader Nuruzzaman Khokon, the conference was presided over by Jubadal Vice President Moazzem Hossain Alal.

Earlier, the Prime Minister inaugurated the Zia Hall, built at a cost of over Taka three crore. The Prime Minister unveiled the plaque and offered munajat. The building houses library, seminar room and conference room.

IMF-WB meeting

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Indeed, the industrialised countries came in for criticisms on many issues, especially for avoiding their obligations in maintaining the orderly currency markets. This reprimand came from none other than Michael Camdessus, the Managing Director of the IMF. He did not also miss the opportunity of reminding them of the need to co-operate with the IMF on the exchange rate issue, which they had not apparently done.

When the heads of the two organisations took up the cause of the developing world, their message was clear and, at times, strong.

They both urged upon the industrialised West and Japan to be mindful of the impact of their national and international policies on the economic destinies of Third World nations.

In this context, officials of the World Bank showed their concern of the adverse impact of the upheaval of the currency crisis on developing countries. Some fears were also expressed that the changing exchange rates would reduce the funds available under the 10th IDA replenishment.

Yet another surprise was that a large number of Finance Ministers expressed themselves strongly in favour of "an appropriate mix" of public and private sector roles in economic reforms and structural changes. This was in sharp contrast to the almost unanimous voice for fast dismantling of the public sector heard in recent meetings.

As the curtain came down on what many of us regarded as a "meeting with a difference", all eyes scanned the horizon and studied the future prospects.

Will the industrialised countries listen to the warnings from these two organisations and will both the IMF and the World Bank maintain the pressure on the West and Japan to take a truly global view of problems and challenges which lie ahead? Answers are yet to come to these questions.

(Detail report on the IMF-World Bank meeting—Page 4)

Editor: S. M. Ali
Executive Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Sheikh Hasina addressing a meeting arranged by Dhaka City unit of Awami League to mark the death anniversary of Moyezuddin Ahmed at the party central office in city yesterday.

Govt instigating fundamentalists, says Zillur

By Staff Correspondent

KALIGANJ (Gazipur), Sept 27: Zillur Rahman, the newly elected General Secretary of Awami League Sunday urged the people to come under the banner of AL with new leadership to fight against terrorism, violence and anti-liberation forces.

He was addressing his first meeting since assuming the post here at Kaliganj Sramik College in observance of the 8th death anniversary of veteran AL leader Moyezuddin Ahmed.

"I am chosen as the Secretary at a trying moment of the country and I will try my best to liberate the people from all pervasive crisis with the help of my partymen," Rahman told the gathering in a large hall room of the college, some 45 km away from Dhaka.

He said that a deep conspiracy was being hatched against the pro-liberation forces and alleged that the present government was instigating the fundamentalist groups.

Chaired by Thana AL President SM Nazrul Islam, the meeting was also addressed among other by Joint Secretary Abdul Jalil, Organising Secretary Mohamad Nasim MP, local leader A FM Moazzem Huq and former DUCSU VP Aktaruzzaman.

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The "evil designs" of BNP during the democratic movement. Recalling different phases of the nine-year anti-autocracy mass movement, Hasina said "BNP never believes in the strength of the people and always wanted a change either through untoward incidents or military coup."

The BNP leadership had staged many 'hide and seek' dramas in course of the movement to pave the way for taking over state power by a new military junta, she said, when Awami League along with the people fought the anti-autocracy movement for democracy in a way so that a new military junta cannot come to power after Ershad.

Hasina said the Awami League, as a party of the people, believes in the strength of the people. "BNP resorted to supplying arms to youngsters as they believe in the strength of guns."

She said after assuming power, the BNP patronised those armed youngsters who were involved in terrorism in different fields starting from campus to bus terminal.

"It is the BNP government who is to be accused of present lawlessness in society", Hasina said and asked the people to build up resistance against the terrorist government.

The discussion was organised by the City Awami League in observance of the 8th death anniversary of party leader Moyezuddin Ahmed.

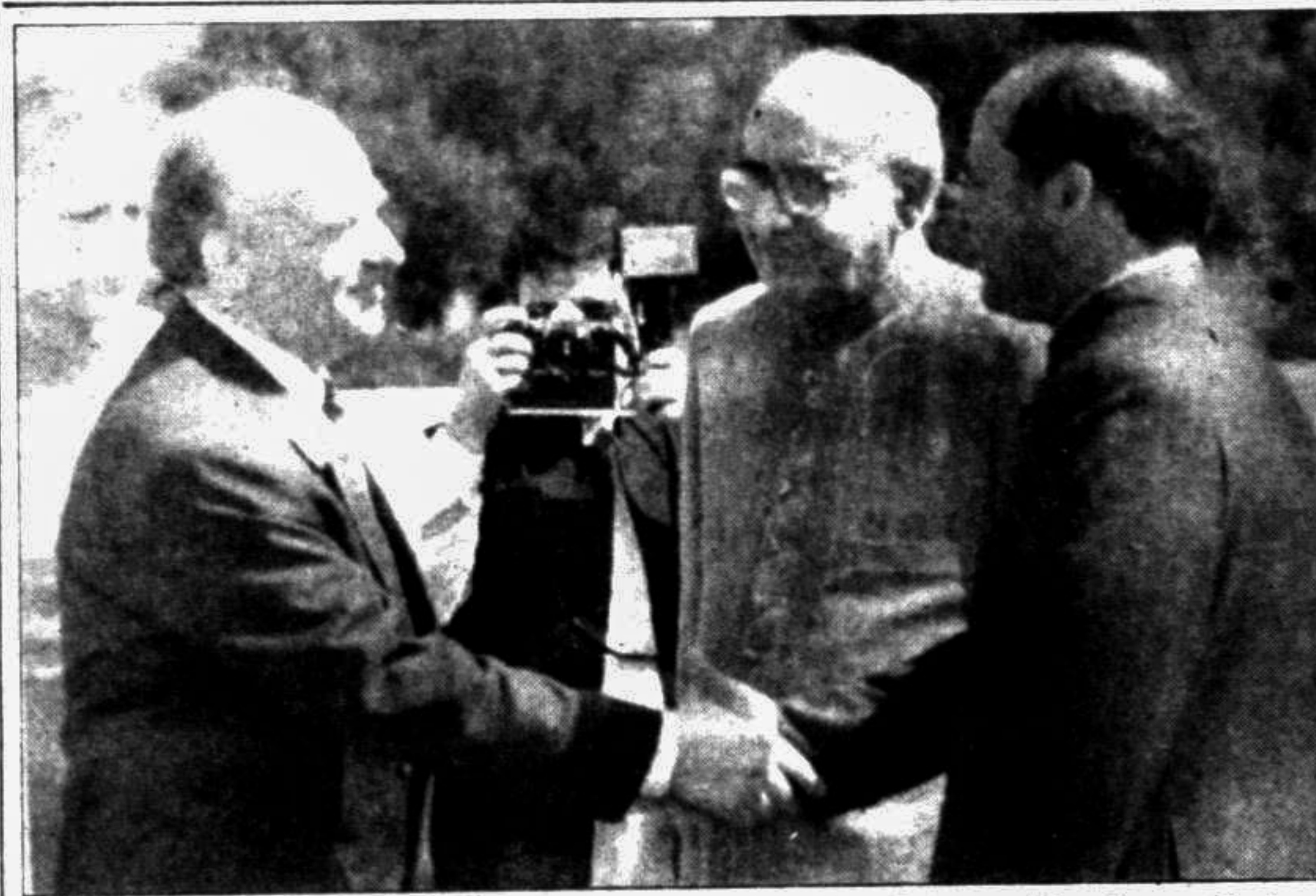
Senior party leaders Abdul Mannan, Abdul Momen, Begum Sajeda Chowdhury, Dr Mohammad Selim, Montaz Hossain, Jy Rahman, Advocate Sahara Khatun and Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya also addressed the discussion meeting. Moazzar Hossain Paltu presided.

Meanwhile, BSS adds: Information Minister Bariar Nazmul Huda yesterday denied the reports published in a section of newspapers quoting his remarks about arms in the hands of younger generation to dislodge Ershad's autocracy.

According to a PID handout issued last night the Information Minister contradicted the reports with a view to removing possible misgivings and doubts in the minds of the people.

The PID handout said the actual remarks made by the Information Minister while speaking as the chief guest at a seminar on "role of young people in building terrorism-free society" were as follows: "The young student as youths took up arms to dislodge autocracy to meet the needs of time and history. Their role in establishing the present democratic government by dislodging autocracy is undeniable. The present democratic government has a duty to rehabilitate them socially."

The Information Minister urged the youths and students to come forward in building a society free from terrorism, the handout added.



Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic (left) is greeted by Pakistan President Ghulam Ishaq Khan (centre) and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif (right) at Islamabad airport yesterday.

'World Muslims must back Bosnia'

ISLAMABAD, Sept 27: President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia-Herzegovina said Sunday that Muslims worldwide must support his countrymen's rights to defend themselves and be free, reports AP.

"The Serbians have launched a prolonged, brutal and inhuman aggression against Muslims. The Bosnians have to be saved from annihilation. There is no time to waste," Izetbegovic said on his arrival in the Pakistani capital.

Izetbegovic is the third Bosnian official to visit Islamic Pakistan in a month, and his two-day visit has generated speculation he will ask the conservative coalition government for military support.

Pakistan funnelled weapons and money to Afghan Mujahideen, the Islamic warriors, in their 14-year fight against Communist rulers. Diplomatic sources say a powerful religious party in Pakistan, Jammat-e-Islami, has already sent some "volunteers" to help the Bosnian. "Pakistan has been helping us in our difficult times," Izetbegovic said.

anonymity said that such a restriction was imposed as the authorities suspected connivance of a section of outsiders including some foreign nationals working for the refugees in the anti-repatriation agitation.

He alleged that some outsiders had been misguiding the refugees from the very beginning against the government initiative for a formal and early repatriation of 2.50 lakh Rohingya refugees now sheltered in 20 camps in Cox's Bazar and Bandarban districts.

"Those people are instigating the refugees to create violence to foil the repatriation for their personal gains" the official also alleged.

Meanwhile, law enforcing personnel continued their searches inside the violence-ridden refugee camps to recover illegal weapons used by the agitators during clashes.

The government last week started the long-awaited repatriation by sending back to Myanmar 47 Rohingya refugees in the first batch.

Another batch of refugees was expected to be repatriated soon, official sources said.

Talking to the Daily Star the

DU authorities for hall seats to displaced students

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University authorities will take immediate steps to provide seats to the resident students displaced from their officially allotted seats for different reasons for a long time.

This was disclosed at a joint meeting of the Provosts, Proctors with the Vice Chancellor Maniruzzaman Miah in the chair yesterday evening.

The meeting also discussed the ways of restoring congenial atmosphere on the campus as per the resolution adopted earlier this month.

The university authorities will talk to the student leaders regarding the rehabilitation of the students who were ousted from the different halls.

Meanwhile, the hall Provosts also suggested to allocate the seats among the students according to merit list within a week.

It was also suggested that no guests or outsiders would be allowed inside the DU residential halls.

BUET to form vigilance team

Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) Prof M Shahjahan said a vigilance team would be formed soon to ensure congenial academic atmosphere on the campus, reports UNB.

He was speaking at fresh reception of the year 1990-91 at the University's auditorium Sunday.

Prof Shahjahan said the vigilance team will look after and ensure that classes are held regularly and not hampered due to political disturbance on the campus, said a press release.

Referring to the newly introduced course system, he said the students would be immensely benefitted from it and asked them to refrain from tribalism of political parties and direct participation in politics.

Deans and teachers of different faculties and departments were also present.

Mustafiz

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The Daily Rupali office at Motiheel and kept in the Motiheel Police Station for interrogation.

Mustafiz, along with 10 others, was charged with embezzling Taka 1,61,29,841.

A Joint Director of the Bangladesh Bank Harunur Rashid Chowdhury, lodged a case with Motiheel police on August 8 this year against the 11 persons.

The other accused were Moazzem Hossain, Manzurul Abedin Chowdhury (circulation manager of the weekly Swandip owned by Mustafiz), Shahabul Hossain (vice-president of BCI), Anzad Hossain (executive officer of BCI), Sagir Ahmed (BCI-Khulna), Kazi Amirul Karim (BCI-Khulna), Shah Alam Khan (cc accountant-3, Moulavi Bazar branch, BCI), Shahidul Islam Khan (cc accountant 2, Moulavi Bazar branch, BCI), and Mansur Khan Moulavi Bazar branch BCI).

None of the 10 other accused was arrested until yesterday, police said.

Polytech teachers

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Prime Minister and bring out a mourning processions across the country today (Monday), a Bangladesh Polytechnic Teachers Action Committee (BPTAC) press release said yesterday.

The teachers demands include promotion, formulation of a service structure, regularisation of those appointed on adhoc basis, payment of arrears stipends to the polytechnic students and introduction of a double shift system in these institutions.

Meanwhile, the BPTAC yesterday expressed deep concern and condemned the government for not taking any measure to meet the teachers' demands even after a week of the strike.

The BPTAC leaders in a statement yesterday said that it was unbefitting of a democratic government not to implement the demands of the teachers accepted a year ago.

The BPTAC called upon all teachers of the institutions under the Technical Education Directorate to support its movement.

The Bangladesh Polytechnic Shikhar Samity (BPSS) in another statement said that the Dhaka Polytechnic, Technical Teachers' Training College and Women's Polytechnic unit would bring out a mourning procession in the city and submit a memorandum to the Prime Minister through the Education Minister today (Monday).

The leaders in the statement said that the polytechnic teachers would continue their strike until their demands were met.

The Midnight File

BSF to undertake 'fencing' of Jammu, Kashmir border

JAMMU, Sept 27: The Border Security Force (BSF) will soon undertake 'fencing and flood lighting' of Jammu and Kashmir borders to thwart infiltration and exfiltration, the Director General of BSF, T Ananthachari, said today. The clearance of the proposal by the government was expected within weeks and the work on fencing in J and K, particularly in Jammu, would immediately be started, Ananthachari said in reply to newsmen's query on why such step had not been taken in view of militants pressure on J and K borders, reports PTI.

Roh arrives in China

BEIJING, Sept 27: South Korean President Roh Tae Woo arrived here today for a four-day visit to China seeking lucrative trade and investment opportunities and Beijing's help in promoting reconciliation with North Korea. Roh's visit is taking place a month after the two countries established diplomatic relations, reports PTI.

Scrap anti-terrorism ordn, Suranjit urges PM

Prominent parliamentarian Suranjit Sengupta has appealed to leader of the House Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to scrap the anti-terrorism ordinance by another ordinance before parliament goes into session on October 11, reports UNB.

In a statement Sunday Sengupta said the ordinance was not only violative of Constitution and fundamental and human rights, it also marred the sanctity of the sovereign parliament and threatened democracy and the independence of judiciary.

The Ganotantri Party leader said this was unprecedented to promulgate an ordinance with different nomenclature but having the same contents of a bill which is under scrutiny of a parliamentary committee?

Sengupta said the anti-terrorism ordinance, promulgated by the President on September 15, is a move to set up a parallel system of judiciary under the government denying the very concept of judiciary as envisaged in the constitution.

HC body meets Ershad again

Supreme Court Correspondent

The 3-member Commission formed by the High Court Division visited the Dhaka Central Jail on Sunday and met former President Hussain Mohammad Ershad for the second day.

Adamjee clash

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longed to the BNP-backed Khayer faction of the trade union, mills sources said.

However, Jatiyatabadi Patkal Sramik Dal General Secretary Giasuddin Kalu alleged that activists of the Rehman Group opened fire and lobbed a bomb at them.

A case was filed with Shiddhirganj Police.

Meanwhile, the Jatiyatabadi Patkal Sramik Dal which called a 24-hour strike at the mills from 6 am Sunday morning withdrew their programme after two hours.

The Dal called the hartal demanding arrest of the terrorists in the mills and recovery of the illegal weapons.

However, BSS adds: Twenty persons were injured, two of them seriously, when a clash erupted among the three warring factions of trade unions of Adamjee Jute Mills Sunday.

According to police sources, the clash began at 6 am over a token hartal call given by Adamjee Patkal Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal to press home their two-point demand.

At this the clash started at Dhaka Bajul New Colony among the supporters of Adamjee Patkal Sramik Karmochari Union (CBA), Adamjee Jute Mills Sramik Union and Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal.

Task Force

From Page 1 Col 6

listing the people better known as Biharis, and providing them with identity cards should be completed by November.

The money required to airlift and rehabilitate the returnees was the main concern for the Trust, but Saudi Arabia's recent offer to pay for the air passage has boosted the initiative.

Pakistan officials informed Bangladesh of the Saudi generosity during Begum Zia's visit, officials said.

Money was already in hand to fund the construction of the housing settlements for the 3000 families in various areas of the Punjab province. The construction work was progressing fast.

Pakistan said that it had stepped up its campaign to raise more money needed to build houses for the rest of the returnees to be taken in phases.

On the Bangladesh side, the government would bear the cost of transportation of the refugees from the camps to the airport and set up temporary camps to house them in Dhaka before they boarded the plane.

The Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) is expected to add a big sum to its coffers by carrying the refugees. The Biman Bangladesh Airlines is unlikely to get a share of the big pie, as ferrying the refugees by chartered aircraft would leave little for its purse.

The PIA, that would also have to hire planes, would however be in an advantageous position for obvious reasons.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan High Commission has requested ensuring security to the personnel taking photographs for ID cards of the refugees in the Adamjee Nagar camp. The area is troubled by clashes among workers.