

Impeachment move

From Page 1 Col 4
Outside the Russian "White House" where the Supreme Soviet was meeting, thousands of ordinary Russians were demonstrating for and against Yeltsin.

About 3,000 pro-Communist, anti-Yeltsin protesters waved red flags at the back of the building. A very heavy police contingent, with about 100 police vehicles, separated them from about 2,000 pro-Yeltsin protesters in front of the 19-story white marble building.

No violence was reported. As night fell, some of the demonstrators lit bonfires and prepared for an all-night vigil, the first since Yeltsin's supporters flocked to the building to oppose the August 1991 hard-line coup.

Yeltsin declared emergency rule Saturday and said he would hold a referendum on who should govern the country, the president or the hard-line legislature made up largely of Communists.

He scheduled the referendum for April 25 and said emergency rule would be in effect until then.

In opening the legislative session, parliament Speaker Khasbulatov said: "Pushed by his inner circle, the President has chosen the path of direct, tough confrontation with legislative and judicial bodies — the path of extreme measures, which put him outside of the constitutional framework."

"It's an attempt to establish arbitrary rule," Khasbulatov said.

Yeltsin told the nation during a television address Saturday that the parliament was trying to restore the old Communist "nomenklatura" to power.

Khasbulatov said the President's speech was "an attempt to usurp power veiled by rhetoric about fighting the Communist hydra. Playing the Communist card is a straight path toward breaking up society and civil war."

Defence Minister Pavel Grachev called for a political compromise and said the army would stay out of the dispute. But he warned that in some units, "Temperatures are running high," especially in the Moscow Military District.

Security Minister Viktor Barannikov also pledged to keep his troops, the former KGB's forces, out of the fray.

Vice-President Alexander Rutskoy spoke after Khasbulatov and also denounced Yeltsin's declaration as unconstitutional.

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, whose appointment was forced on Yeltsin by the parliament in December, gave Yeltsin only a half-hearted, partial defence.

He said the president, as the nation's popularly elected leader, "had a right to appeal to the people." Whether Yeltsin's declaration was unconstitutional or not "is another question," Chernomyrdin

said, without expressing an opinion on the matter.

Chernomyrdin promised the government would maintain order and try to keep the economy running.

Russia's chief justice and prosecutor general denounced the declaration. But Yeltsin won immediate backing from some world leaders, including President Clinton.

Both the 250-member Supreme Soviet and its parent body, the 1,033-member Congress of Peoples' Deputies, have opposed Yeltsin's economic reforms and sought to curb his powers.

Yeltsin went on nationwide television Saturday to respond to his humiliating defeat earlier this month by the Congress, the nation's highest legislative body. The lawmakers had stripped his power to issue decrees without their approval and cancelled his plan for a referendum to decide whether the president or parliament should wield supreme power.

Yeltsin told the nation that the Congress had "arrogantly denied the people the right to determine their own future" and he called for a national vote of confidence in the president on April 25.



Two Bosnian soldiers and a UN soldier carrying away a Bosnian wounded woman upon her arrival in Tuzla Saturday. She was a part of some 100 wounded and 500 women and children who were evacuated from Srebrenica. — AFP photo



A N Hussain new DMP commissioner

DIG of Police (Headquarters) A N Hussain yesterday took over the charge of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner, reports UNB.

The new DMP Commissioner with 25 years' experience earlier served as Police Super in Noakhali, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Dhaka and Rangamati Hill district, DC Police, Dhaka (North), DC (Detective Branch) and Additional Police Commissioner of DMP.

A N Hussain visited a number of countries and participated in different courses and conferences there.

Armed Forces team leaves for Mozambique

A group of 42 staff officers of Bangladesh Armed Forces left here Sunday for Mozambique to join the United Nations Operations in Mozambique, reports UNB.

LCol Mohammad Ali is leading the group which includes 40 officers from Bangladesh Army and two from Bangladesh Air Force.

Meanwhile, another contingent of 1,320 army personnel is ready for airlift.

The contingent includes an infantry battalion, an engineers company, a logistics company and medical elements.

Donors

From Page 1 Col 5
focal point of the system while unions and pourashavas be administrative units, the minister said.

The local government will comprise Union Parishads, Zila Parishads, Pourashavas and City Corporations. The bodies will be strengthened to be truly self-governing, he told the representatives of donors.

Emphasis will be given on local resource mobilization, proper training of local leaders and officials.

The new system will facilitate growth of responsible local-level leadership, the LGRD Minister said, adding the local authorities will be given responsibilities for local planning which will be reflected in the national plans.

Provision will be made to make the local bodies more accountable. The system of matching grant in local resource mobilisation will be introduced.

Hundreds of refugees leave Srebrenica

TUZLA, Mar 21: UN trucks packed with jubilant refugees from besieged Srebrenica have arrived in this eastern Bosnian town after crossing the most contested battle lines in Bosnia, reports AP.

The 17 trucks with 673 people on board rolled in at dusk to Tuzla, the closest government-controlled city to Srebrenica, 72 kilometers (45 miles) to the southeast. The mostly wounded refugees were brought out by a long-awaited UN convoy that a day earlier had entered Srebrenica, where refugees live outdoors under Serb shelling.

Smiling children poked their heads through holes in tarpaulins and refugees flashed victory signs with their fingers as they arrived in Tuzla.

UN officials on Sunday tried to get a second aid convoy and a field hospital into besieged Srebrenica.

Gen Philippe Morillon of France, commander of UN forces in Bosnia, was also to meet with Serb commanders near Srebrenica to discuss deployment of UN observers in the area.

As he worked to capitalize on the successful relief mission in eastern Bosnia, the UN airlift to the Bosnian capital, Sarajevo, remained suspended because of heavy fighting near the airport.

The airlift was stopped Friday after a British plane was shot at. It was not hit.

On Sunday, Serb infantry attacked the Butmir suburb near the airport and a shell hit the runway, said Maj Pepe Gallegos, a UN spokesman in Sarajevo.

Much of the capital was "showered with shells," and streets were nearly empty despite mild, spring-like weather, Sarajevo radio said.

20 more die: Diarrhoea continues onslaught

Some 20 more patients succumbed to diarrhoea while 2,081 people were infected by its vicious bacteria yesterday in the 14 affected districts, reports UNB.

The Diarrhoea Control Room sources here Sunday said the overall situation in the affected districts continued to be critical as the epidemic so far claimed a total of 1,304 lives and attacked over 89,928 people despite government and non-government efforts to contain the disease.

Since its outbreak in early January, a large number of people of the 14 districts, particularly in Laxmipur and eight southern districts, are being infected by the vicious new diarrhoea bacteria every day, the control room sources added.

Unofficial sources however believe that the death figure and the number of people attacked could be much higher as many cases of diarrhoea were not reported from remote areas.

Of the fresh deaths, five were in Barisal, four in Patuakhali, three in Laxmipur, another three in Pirojpur, one in Khulna, one in Bagerhat and three in Jhalukati.

So far, the highest number of 256 people died in Pirojpur district, followed by 205 in Laxmipur, 172 in Bargana and 170 in Patuakhali districts.

Road, rail link with Ctg disrupted as workers put up barricades

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Mar 21: Road and rail communication between Chittagong and other parts of the country was disrupted for 12 hours today when several hundreds of agitating jute mill workers put up barricades at Barabkunda area under Sitakunda thana, 25 miles off the city, police and witnesses said.

The workers of Anwara Jute Mill uprooted the fish-plates and put up barricades at Barabkunda point on Chittagong-Dhaka route at 5 am to press home their demands for wages and Eid bonus, police said. As a result the Dhaka and Chittagong bound trains and other transports remained stranded in both the sides of Barabkunda, police and witnesses added.

However, the communication was restored after 5 pm today when the barricades were withdrawn following the intervention of local administration.

Farm labourers call off strike

By Staff Correspondent

The striking workers of 72 public sector agricultural farms and centres have postponed their work stoppage with immediate effect.

Bangladesh Krishi Farm Sramik Federation in a press release Sunday asked all workers to join their jobs from Monday (March 22).

The announcement came after 27 days of strike by the workers against retrenchment of workers from different farms of Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC).

The federation said the strike had been called off because of the Eid festival. The federation also asked the authorities to meet its demands.

Further decision on the strike would be taken after Eid, the press release said.

Child labour

From Page 1 Col 7

In his Senate speech, the senator from US state of Iowa termed the global child labour scenario "deplorable as it is enormous."

In many developing countries children represent a substantial part of the work force and could be found in such industries as glass, metalworks, textiles, mining and fire-works manufacturing, Harkin said. They are poor, malnourished, and often work 60-hour weeks for little or no pay.

The child labour situation in Bangladesh occupied a good part of Harkin's Senate speech where he pointed out that some 60,000 children were working in the garment industry.

He referred to a report published in a newsletter by a former Catholic sister after her visit to the Saraka Garment Industry at Mirpur, Dhaka.

The sister said that 60 per cent of the 500 workers in the factory were boys and girls under 13 and she was informed that if a child was sick and was absent for one day without notification, they were docked three days' pay.

US accounts for more than 30 per cent of the total Tk 5302 crore in export earnings of Bangladesh.

However, Tom Harkin mentioned the corrective actions by the foreign government, manufacturers, and by the US importers following the first introduction of the bill.

He pointed out that the Bangladesh Government and the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) had warned the country's garment industries of dire consequences of violating law and employing children.

The Midnight File

Lightning claims 6
BAIGAL, Mar 21: Six persons were killed and ten others injured by lightning in three thanas of Barguna district today. Besides, the lightning caused damage to standing crops including water melons, pumpkins, pulses and chillies, reports BSS.

Conservatives may win French polls
PARIS, Mar 21: French voters, fed up with political scandal and high unemployment, were expected to thrash the ruling socialists and give conservatives an overwhelming victory Sunday in the first round of elections for a new National Assembly. French television to project results after polls closed at 8:00 pm (1900 GMT), reports AP.

Gunmen in Nicaraguan embassy free hostages
SAN JOSE (Costa Rica), Mar 21: Gunmen holding 11 hostages in the Nicaraguan Embassy freed their captives Sunday, but remained inside the building, police said. The break in the 13-day standoff came after negotiators agreed to allow the leader of the four gunmen to seek political asylum in the Dominican Republic, authorities said, reports AP.

Tk 4500 cr masterplan
From Page 1 Col 7
Activities of Power Development Board (PDB), Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) and Rural Electrification Board in the power sector were reviewed at the meeting.

The meeting observed with satisfaction that the World Bank had lifted suspension on rehabilitation programme of PDB for the improvement made by the board in its power supply system.

Till January, PDB had supplied about 1,720 megawatt of electricity in the current (1992-93) fiscal year to its 9,40,793 consumers who had a demand of 2,000 megawatt.

The meeting observed that the power board during the current fiscal had been able to reduce its systems loss from 30.4 per cent to 25.2 per cent through different measures.

DESA was able to bring down its systems loss to 30.21 per cent from the recorded 38.26 when it was formed in 1991.

55,902 illegal power connections have been disconnected and 476 people sent to jail for the offence.

The authorities snapped **Lunthin intrusion** against the estimated cost of taka 207 crore.

There has always been a question whether the bids would come in accordance with the estimates, said an authoritative World Bank source.

A possible option, the JMBA official said, would be to seek a re-tender on the river-training portion of the project with certain modifications and changes to reduce the price without losing time.

A senior official of the ADB resident mission said: "We have to wait for the overall cost to be clear and try to get a good cost figure as far as possible."

The Manila-based ADB is yet to announce its financial contribution towards the project. Prime Minister Begum Khaleida Zia requested ADB assistance for the Jamuna Bridge project during her recent meeting with the visiting Bank President Kimimasa Tarumizu.

The JMBA executive added that if a decision was taken to seek fresh bids for the river-training work, it would be floated along with the tender for construction of the bridge.

Technical bids for the bridge component of the project have been completed with the participation of six international firms and an evaluation is in progress, the official added. Financial bids for the bridge would be invited soon and the last date for submitting the tenders would be June 15. Work on the bridge is scheduled to begin January next.

Mugger
From Page 1 Col 8
after the boy yelled 'dacoit' — dacoit, he perhaps went away.

Kotwali police rushed to the spot immediately after the series of incidents but could not arrest any of the killers.

A case was lodged with Kotwali police station in connection with the murders and both the bodies were sent to the Mitford Hospital morgue for autopsy, said police.

Oscar tonight: Clint top favourite

LOS ANGELES, Mar 21: It's Clint's turn.

That may well be the message Oscar voters convey Monday night at the 65th annual Academy Awards, reports AP.

After 30 years of starring in and often directing and producing box-office hits without even a nod from Oscar, Clint Eastwood capsulized his unique screen persona in "Unforgiven," which he produced, directed and starred in.

A multiple Eastwood win seems likely this year, despite the presence of two widely praised independent films, "The Cryin' Game" and "Howards End."

Returnees from Malaysia advised to lodge cases

The Bangladeshi citizens repatriated from Malaysia, who had gone there illegally, have been advised to lodge cases in the Munsef Courts of their respective district headquarters against those agencies or agents who were responsible for their illegal exit, reports BSS.

According to an official handout today, they have also been requested to contact their respective district administrations, district manpower offices and Director General's office of Manpower Employment and Training Bureau in Dhaka for taking further actions.

One stabbed to death, tendons of three cut in Magura

MAGURA, Mar 21: A young man was stabbed to death and 10 other were injured in a violent clash between two rival groups of youths in the town on Sunday, reports UNB.

Tendons of three of the injured were slit in the two-hour-long fierce street battle.

Some 10 shops, a motor-bike, 5 electric metres and 2 bus ticket counters were also set afire rampage that started at 9:00 am.

Most shops were shuttered as the clash created panic. Witnesses said the clash ensued when some youths of Parla area stabbed Mahabbat Ali (25) of Parnanquali area to death.

Tendons of the legs of Munshi Mahmudul Haq (50), Jamal Mollah (20) and Yad Ali Mollah (25) were cut in a savage style.

Pakistan
From Page 1 Col 7
all movement across the mountainous border, and some militants are receiving training in Afghanistan.

CHEHLAM

Chehlam of Mr. Shafiqur Rahman, Chairman & Managing Director of Chandpur Jute Balers Ltd., and Director of Eastland Insurance Company Ltd. will be held today, (March 22, 1993).

On this occasion a Milad-Mahfil has been arranged after Asar Prayer at his Residence at 8/7, Laimatia, Block 'C' Dhaka.

Relatives, friends & well-wishers are requested to attend and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Editor: S. M. Ali
Executive Editor: Mahfuz Anam
Published by the Editor on behalf of Media World Ltd., 52 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at The Bangladesh Ltd., 36 Pirans Paltan, Dhaka. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No. 11; Road No. 3; Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 50092-4. Advertisement: 50091 (Direct) Fax No. 98-02-863036. GPO Box No. 3257. GRAM: DAILY STAR DHAKA.