

# US rejects idea of carving up Bosnia

WASHINGTON, July 14: The United States firmly rejected Tuesday the idea of carving up Bosnia as a political solution to be implemented by force, reports AFP.

"We are not at all neutral on the question of partition," said State Department spokesman Michael McCurry. He was referring to the Serbs and Croats' idea of creating a federation of three independent states, which would do away with the country in its current form.

"That's not something that is consistent with existing United Nations resolutions as they pertain to the status of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and we are quite clear that there should not be rewards for the practice of ethnic cleansing," McCurry said.

The spokesman also stressed US concern over the conditions under which the Muslim-led Bosnian government was negotiating the future of the country. "It would not be a negotiation in good faith if one of the parties felt under duress to sign something that represented the dismembering of a nation," he said.

"In no way do we believe that electricity and water should be used as bargaining chips in the negotiations on the future of Bosnia," McCurry said, alluding to the harsh conditions prompted by Serb attacks.

"If, clearly, one of the three parties rejects categorically the contours of a solution, our position is quite clear: That we would consider that to be a non-viable agreement," the spokesman said.

The tough line taken by the State Department contrasts with the more uncertain tone taken by the US administration on the issue in the past.

## Modhyapara

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annum over a period of 30 years. At the rate of 20 US dollars per ton, annual production will be worth 33 million US dollars which means it will be over one billion US dollars after 30 years, the sources added. Besides hard rock, precious granite stone will also be extracted from the mine.

The hard rock will be used by the Water Development Board and the Roads and Highways department for construction of coastal and town protection embankment, bridges, roads and highways.

The mode of repayment of the North Korean credit is on the down payment basis spanning over 15 years, with an interest rate of four per cent.

Yesterday's ECNEC meeting also approved eight other projects including the Rehabilitation Project for the Small and Marginal Farmers affected by natural disaster of April 1991 in Chittagong. The Italian aided project involving three thanas of Chittagong will be undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture. The meeting approved pisciculture extension project to be undertaken by the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock involving an expenditure of Tk 37 crore with a foreign exchange component of Tk 35 crore.

Ministers, members of Planning Commission and concerned secretaries attended the meeting.

# Sharif seeks Army help

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world.

Previous marches have been foiled by Sharif's government but Friday's will be 'the last nail in the coffin of the crumbling government', Niazi said, predicting Sharif would resign later this month and that fresh elections would be held in October.

But the government spokesman said the opposition would not be able to muster a large crowd and the attempt to lay siege to Islamabad would fail, as did an aborted march organised by main opposition leader Benazir Bhutto last November.

The public response 'will be poorer' than the last time, he said.

Analysts said that if the opposition did reach its target for the number of marchers, however, it could pose a serious threat to Sharif.

In addition to his ongoing feud with the President — who sacked him in April, until a court ordered his reinstatement — Sharif faces hostile governments in the country's most important province, Punjab, as well as the NWFP.

Both provincial assemblies have been dissolved over the prime minister's objections, with control held by executives loyal to Ishaq Khan who are backing the march.

The High Court in Lahore,

Washington has come under fire from some sectors in the press for failing to match its rhetoric with action in the form of a bigger troop commitment on the ground.

Reuter adds: NATO said today it would use more than 60 planes from the United States, France, the Netherlands and Britain to protect Muslim safe areas in Bosnia and that the aircraft had begun deploying to Italy.

A spokesman for the 16-nation alliance said the mission due to start July 22, would be called "Operation Disciplined Guard."

The spokesman said the operation — which will offer air cover to all UN forces in Bosnia as well as to troops in the Muslim enclaves — would run in parallel with a NATO mission to enforce a no-fly zone over Bosnia, running since April.

Another report says: A fresh round of negotiations on war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina could take place next week in Geneva, UN mediator Thorvald Stoltenberg said.

## Two ROK Gens sacked for corruption

SEOUL, July 14: South Korean President Kim Young-Sam today sacked two top generals allegedly involved in the web of corruption surrounding recent arms purchases, a Defence Ministry spokesman said, reports Reuter.

General Cho Nam-Pung, Commander of the country's three field armies, and Lt General Park Woong, the Assistant Defence Minister, would be replaced.

## One dies, 30 hurt in Baushia bus plunge

By Staff Correspondent

One person was killed and another 30 were injured when a Chittagong-bound night coach travelling at high speed hit a bridge and plunged into a canal in the early hours of Wednesday.

The bust hit the railing of the 25-feet high bridge at Baushia under Munshiganj district and met with the accident.

The identity of the deceased person, aged about 25, could not be immediately known.

Among the injured, 15 were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital in critical condition.

According to sources, the bus (Dhaka-Metro Ba-02-0313) broke the railing on the right side of the bridge and plunged 14-feet into the water fifteen minutes past midnight Tuesday.

Baushia, under Gazaria thana, is about 35 kilometres from Dhaka on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway.

Fire Service and Civil Defence divers rushed to the spot from Dhaka and rescued some trapped passengers from the sunken bus.

The bus was salvaged yesterday morning.

The injured persons were first taken to the Gazaria Health Complex.

# 208 killed in Indian floods

NEW DELHI, July 14: Army helicopters dropped food parcels to flood victims and engineers battled rain-swollen rivers today after devastating floods which left more than 208 people dead in northern India, officials said, reports AFP.

Army engineers were strengthening the embankment of the Jhelum river in Kashmir and repairing wrecked bridges in the neighbouring states of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, federal officials here said.

Army boats and helicopters rescued thousands of marooned people, including more than 6,500 train and bus passengers in Punjab, large parts of which are under flood waters.

The helicopters also dropped food to people stranded on rooftops and out in the open, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

Newspapers said more than 170 people had died in the floods caused by days of torrential monsoon rains. Most deaths occurred by drowning or when houses collapsed.

Tens of thousands of people have been displaced by the floods. In Punjab's Patiala town, two thirds of which has been flooded, people have fled their homes in large numbers for higher ground.

Nearly 4,000 most poor people fled their mud-and-brick huts on the banks of the Jamuna here



A woman carries a child to safety as two children try to catch fish in the flood waters that have inundated their homes on the banks of the Jamuna river in New Delhi yesterday. — AFP photo

## Floods in Pak Punjab

ISLAMABAD, July 14: Hundreds of villages were inundated as three rivers flooded in the past three days in the central province of Punjab, press reports said today, according to AFP.

No casualties have been reported.

Thousands of people took refuge in higher places as waters of the Sutlej river rose and washed five bunds away in Kasur district, 300 kilometres (185 miles) south of here, the reports said.

Over 150 villages have been inundated in Muzaffargarh and Multan districts, some 600 kilometres south of here, as the Ravi and Chenab rivers flooded, they said.

# 14 Islamic NGOs asked to quit Pakistan

PESHAWAR, (Pakistan), July 14: In a drive to expel Arab extremists, Islamabad has ordered all Egyptians, Tunisians and Algerians working for aid organisations for Afghan refugees to leave Pakistan, officials said today, reports Reuter.

The government also told 14 Islamic non-governmental organisations, including one set up by pop singer Cat Stevens, to close, said officials in the North-West Frontier province bordering Afghanistan.

"The Afghan war is over, these NGOs (Non-governmental Organisations) have no reason to stay here," said Sher Gul Khan, Secretary of the Afghan

Refugees Commission in the North West Frontier Province of Peshawar.

"They have lost their usefulness and are no longer performing in a satisfactory manner," he said. About half of the estimated three million refugees who fled to Pakistan during the Afghan civil war have returned home in the last year.

Pakistan has been under pressure since early this year from several Arab countries, particularly Egypt, Algeria and Saudi Arabia, which say Islamic extremists have been using the country as a haven to plan operations elsewhere.



The city unit of the Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, yesterday brought out a procession demanding immediate release of Golam Azam. — Star photo

## Quake death toll rises to 100 in Japan

TOKYO, July 14: The death toll following the strongest earthquake to hit Japan in 25 years topped the 100 mark today and scores more victims had still to be found, alive or dead, reports Reuter.

At least 100 bodies had been recovered, police said, adding that 151 were injured and 93 still missing after Monday night's fierce tremor off Japan's northern coast that unleashed destructive tidal waves and fires.

NHK television said the known death toll had reached 102.

The earthquake, measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale, was centred beneath the seabed off the main northern island of Hokkaido, but its effects onshore were devastating.

## Hannan Shah

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According to the handout, the leaders told the minister that the workers would maintain production and good working atmosphere in the industry.

The meeting was addressed among others, by Abul Khair of the Adamjee Jute Mills, Kazi Abdul Qudus of the QMC Jute Mills, Syed Shamsul Alam of the Platinum Jute Mills, M A Gafur of Hafiz Jute Mills, M A Malek from People's Jute Mills, Sirajul Islam Siraj of Latif Bawan, Aminul Islam Khan from BJMC and Fariduddin of the Bangladesh Jute Mills.

# Azam's detention

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during and after the Liberation War.

A government appeal against the verdict restoring the citizenship is pending before the Appellate Division, hearing on which will begin on July 25.

Earlier, during the hearing of the petition, Attorney General Aminul Huq, on behalf of the state, argued that the petitioner should be considered a foreigner until he is proved to be a citizen of Bangladesh.

He noted that Golam Azam was detained after a critical law and order situation evolved throughout the country as soon as he was elected the Ameer of Jamaat.

The counsel for the petitioner argued that the detention order under Article 3 of the Foreigners' Act of 1946 was itself illegal.

He noted the government's failure to show any specific reason for the detention which is mandated by the Constitution. As such, Yusuf said, the detention order is unconstitutional.

Saying that the detention order was issued not on legal grounds but on political considerations, he asserted that the petitioner became a stateless person after he surrendered his Pakistani passport.

Only foreign nationals can be tried under the Foreigners' Act, it cannot be used against stateless persons Yusuf argued.

Referring to the role of the petitioner during and after the Liberation War, Attorney

General Huq said that Azam never expressed his loyalty towards Bangladesh and failed to accept the reality of the creation of an independent and sovereign country.

Azam had returned to Bangladesh, after leaving for Pakistan towards the end of 1971, from London in November 1978 on a Pakistani passport and has since been living with his family at his Maghbar residence. All along a de facto leader of the Jamaat, he was elected Ameer of the party early last year, raising a lot of protests from various political quarters.

## Jamaat hails HC verdict

By Staff Correspondent

The Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh at an emergency meeting of its Working Committee yesterday hailed the verdict of the High Court Division of the Bangladesh Supreme Court

## AL demands

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ple to put pressure on the government for constituting similar parliamentary committees to probe "unbridled corruption" in other ministries.

It called upon the people to observe the countrywide hartal on July 19 from 6 am to 2 pm and a "Corruption, Terrorism and Repression Resistance Day" on July 22.

# PM approves executive body of Zia Parishad

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia who is also the chief adviser of Zia Parishad has approved the 101 member Executive Committee of the Parishad for 1993-96, a Parishad press release said yesterday, reports BSS.

Besides, a 20-member Advisory Committee of the Parishad has also been approved, the press release said.

The members of the Advisory Committee include Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury, Chairman of Bangla Academy, Prof M Anisur Rahman, Vice-Chancellor, Rajshahi University and Prof M A Hamid, Vice-Chancellor of the Islamic University.

Kabir Murad and Taranga Anwar will be Chairman and Secretary General respectively of the Executive Committee of Zia Parishad.

A constitutional amendment was brought for renaming president as chairman and general secretary as secretary general, the press release said.

## Case against Works Minister dismissed

CHITTAGONG, July 14: A case accusing Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia of instigating communalism was dismissed by the CMM court after a hearing today, reports UNB.

The case was filed on Monday by Advocate Rana Das Gupta, a local leader of Hindu-Buddha-Christian Oikyo Parishad, alleging that the minister had made provocative remarks at a seminar in Dhaka attempting to disrupt communal harmony.

Metropolitan Magistrate Wahidunnabi Chowdhury dismissed the case under Section 203 of CrPC.

The magistrate in his judgement said: No court has the jurisdiction to accept such a case unless filed under Section 196 of CrPC by government order or by an official authorised by the government.

## JS session

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Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) the authority to issue licences, orders, directives and adopt necessary rules and by-laws to control all sorts of activities related to the use, production, import, export, carrying, stockpiling, processing and transfer of all types of nuclear and radioactive materials and equipment for generation of radioactive rays.

The bill provides for the establishment of necessary laboratories and formation of expert committees for proper implementation of the law and provisions for charging appropriate fees for issuing licences and permits.

The bill provides power to the BAEC and the courts to award jail terms between a minimum of three years and a maximum of 7 years to violators of the act.

Barrister Sircar said uncontrolled use and misuse of radioactive rays-generating equipment, nuclear and radioactive materials could have adverse effects on public health, the environment and resources and cause immediate, short and long-term, somatic and genetic effects.

That is why, he pointed out, necessary laws for proper and effective control of all sorts of activities in these regards have been promulgated in all the developed and neighbouring developing countries long before.

Barrister Sircar regretted that no such provision was made in the Presidential Order No 15, 1973 which had created the Atomic Energy Commission for the effective control of the related activities.

No such law exists in Bangladesh even for the safety and control of nuclear activities, he added.

The minister said a 3-megawatt nuclear research reactor was in operation at the Atomic Energy research establishment at Savar since 1986 and a large number of X-ray machines that generated radioactive rays were in operation in the country.

Besides, he said, radioactive materials were being used in nuclear medical centres, industries, construction, gas and oil exploration, agriculture and research.

The House also disposed of three call attention motions.

The motions included construction of a bridge in Kishoreganj, government relief measures to mitigate sufferings of the flood affected areas of greater Sylhet and re-examination of the river Bhubaneswar in Faridpur district.

The House was adjourned at 10:35 last night to resume at four this afternoon.

Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni chaired yesterday's sitting of the Jatiya Sangsad.

# The Midnight File

## Serb-held territory bombed

BELGRADE, July 14: Three planes dropped bombs on Serb-held territory in central Bosnia today, the Belgrade-based Tanjug news agency reported. Tanjug, quoting Bosnian Serb army headquarters, said the planes that bombed Olovo, north-east of Sarajevo, were presumed to be Muslim. If true, it would be the first reported case of the Muslim-led government forces using planes in an offensive capacity in the 15-month civil war, reports Reuter.

## Croats detain 3000 Muslims

ZAGREB, July 14: Bosnian Croat forces have detained about 3,000 Muslim civilian males in the battle-torn southwestern city of Mostar since Tuesday, a spokesman for the Croatian defence council (HVO) said today. "We don't want our neighbours to shoot at our backs... once the storm is over, we'll let them (go) free," said HVO spokesman Vesko Gevarover telephone from Mostar as fighting between Muslims and Croats raged to the south of the city for the second day, reports Reuter.

## Probe body on ZIA incident formed

The Ministry of Home Affairs constituted a four-member enquiry committee yesterday to investigate the unpleasant incident between drivers of micro-bus and private taxi and Ansars on duty outside the terminal building of Zia International Airport on Tuesday, an official handout said, reports BSS.

The committee which will be headed by Deputy Secretary of the Home Ministry (Ansar) Asaduzzaman Bhuiyan will submit its report to the ministry within seven days.

## Embarrassing errata

By Staff Correspondent  
An oversight by officials of the Foreign Ministry reportedly led the Prime Minister to sign a message of felicitations addressed to a dead foreign premier.

The inadvertent error crept in the message of felicitations sent by the Bangladesh Prime Minister to the French Prime Minister on the occasion of the country's National Day on July 14.

National news agency BSS creeded the news Tuesday evening mentioning that Prime Minister Khaleda Zia greeted French Prime Minister Pierre Berégovoy of the Republic of France.

The actual fact is that the present Prime Minister of France is Edouard Balladur and not Pierre Berégovoy.

Berégovoy was defeated in the elections held in France last March. He resigned from the party and later committed suicide. The news of the death of the former French premier was published across the world including Bangladesh. Incidentally, Berégovoy was the last Prime Minister belonging to President Mitterrand's Socialist Party.

A spokesman in the Prime Minister's Office described the error as 'unfortunate' and said the message was prepared by the concerned desk of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

While officials at the desk were unavailable for comment, a leading spokesman of the Foreign Ministry said, it was an inadvertent error.

Officials at the BSS and PID said, they released the message just the way it was received from the Foreign Office.

We, at The Daily Star, apologise to our readers for failing to notice the error.

## Special Kuwaiti envoy due today

A special envoy of first Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed of Kuwait arrives here today on a three-day visit, reports UNB.

Officials said yesterday the Kuwaiti Ambassador in New Delhi would carry a message from Sabah Al-Ahmed, who is in charge of the Gulf country's Foreign Ministry, for Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman.

## Rohingyas

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few of them have been provided with some financial help, far from adequate.

The exodus of the Rohingyas from the Arakan province in Myanmar began in the summer of 1991 and as many as 265,000 refugees took shelter in Bangladesh to escape the atrocities perpetrated by the military junta in Yangon.

Besides Bangladesh and Malaysia, Rohingyas are believed to have taken refuge in some other countries, including Thailand, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.

## Tokyo accord

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Tokyo package. The programme covers a broad range of services sectors such as insurance, banking, securities, construction, distribution, tourism, software and computer services, professional and business services, including consulting, engineering, accounting and legal services. Possessing, as they do, only a nascent services sector, many among the developing countries may encounter difficulties in meeting a strict *pro quo* criteria in this area, too.

There is no denying the fact that the principle of reciprocity forms a cornerstone of the GATT framework itself. However, there are exceptions too. GATT has accepted non-reciprocity as a mode for tackling the special problems of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). For a country like Bangladesh, this concession is of crucial importance in the context of the Uruguay Round of negotiations. It is in the interest of all countries that the move for a truly meaningful liberalisation of world trade proceeds ahead, culminating in a global trade pact.

Let us hope that in the ongoing negotiations, the participating nations will recognise each other's needs, including the special needs of the least developed countries, and bring the talks to a successful conclusion by the end of the year.

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