

Gallery

From Page 1 Col 8
BNP and AL four Jamaat members, without their parliamentary party chief Matur Rahman Nizami, and a solitary Jatiya Party member Ebadur Rahman Chowdhury were present.

The 29-seat front row was almost vacant where only four ministers and two senior AL members were seen at the end of the discussion.

Although only 61 members were present until the end of the discussion on poverty alleviation, some 32 members including three ministers spoke on the subject. The discussion began at 8:15 pm.

The BNP has 172, the AL 92, the JP 35 and the Jamaat 20 members in the 330-member House.

Newly-inducted State Minister for Planning Dr Moyeen Khan made his debut in the House yesterday by taking part in a discussion on poverty alleviation.

Earlier criticising the bill, opposition members said benefits and privileges of the ministers sanctioned by Parliament evoked a lot of criticism from the people as their sufferings had increased.

He started his brief speech conveying thanks to the Deputy Speaker, his Treasury bench colleagues, and also to Opposition MPs and said that by the grace of Almighty Allah he is making his first statement to the House as a minister.

He outlined his government's plan on poverty alleviation and called for a national consensus to eradicate it.

Perhaps in no other language is the word 'brother-in-law' deemed to be an 'unparliamentary' term. But the word often raises questions when pronounced in Bangla.

A Treasury bench member yesterday sought a ruling from the Deputy Speaker on whether the word 'brother-in-law' is an unparliamentary word or not.

Ruling party whip Mahbubul Alam Tara raised the point just after the speech of the Ganmantri Party leader Suranjit Sengupta who used the word during his speech on poverty alleviation.

In an oblique reference to a minister, Sengupta said the brother-in-law syndicate will do nothing for the country.

"Please translate it into Bangla", Tara urged the Deputy Speaker.

The chair did not give a ruling but cautioned the next speaker Rashed Khan Menon of the Workers' Party by saying 'don't use the word brother-in-law'.

Minister for Industries AM Zahiruddin Khan prefers English to Bangla while speaking in Parliament.

He sought the Speaker's permission to speak in English on poverty alleviation last night.

During his 15-minute speech Khan, a non-MP who was recently transferred from the Ministry of Planning, gave a vivid description of the government's performance, future plans and Bangladesh's economic position in the South Asian region.

Russian trade team's visit puts off

A seven-member Russian trade delegation's scheduled visit to Bangladesh has been postponed amidst the power struggle now shaking Moscow, reports UNB.

The delegation, led by the Deputy Minister for External Economic Relation Mikhail E Frakov, was due here today on a week-long visit.

A fresh date for the visit will be set at a mutually convenient time, an official said yesterday.

Two students to accompany PM

From Page 1 Col 8
Kathmandu.

Describing the existing bilateral relations between the two friendly countries as excellent, Dhungana said, "we are looking forward to further expand the areas of cooperation."

Replies to a question on the prospect of SAARC Parliament, the visiting speaker said, "In the course of time the idea may take a concrete shape as the countries of the region have many things in common."

Other members of the delegation are: Mrs Bhavan Dhungana, wife of Dhungana, Mahendra Kumar Mishra, MP, Khalil Mia Ansari, MP, Mrs Mina Pande, MP, Mahesh Chowdhury, MP Shiva Bahadur Deuja, MP, Barman Budha, MP, Dr. Prakash Chandra Lohani, MP, Javeen Lal Satyal and Krishna Prasad Pande (Delegation).

During its stay in Bangladesh the delegation will call on President Abdur Rahman Biswas, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Mirza Golam Hafiz.

Obituary

Abdul Barek, a former Ambassador to Kuwait and Advocate of the Supreme Court, died here last night of cardiac arrest at the Suhrawardy Hospital. He was 55, reports BSS.

He left behind his wife, one son and two daughters.

The body of late Barek will be kept at BIRDEM till his wife and daughter, now staying in New York, arrive, family sources said.

A large number of people including leaders of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) visited the Dhanmondi residence of the deceased to pay their respect.

Ironies

From Page 1 Col 2
Tuesday, had elected him its Chairman in May 1990.

It elected Khasbulatov, then a protege of Yeltsin, to succeed him in 1991 at the strong urging of the President.

Rutskov was elected in partnership with Yeltsin in June 1991 and toured the country campaigning for their joint ticket.

Lawyer Nikolai Ryabov, who was one of the main opponents in Parliament of Yeltsin's proposed constitutional amendments, has been appointed to head the President's Central Election Commission after resigning as Deputy Chairman of Parliament.

Alexander Pochinok, who was a strong parliamentary critic of radical market reform, becomes a Deputy Finance Minister after resigning as head of the legislature's budget and finance committee. Former acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar, target of much of Pochinok's criticism, is acting Economics Minister.



All-Party Students' Unity (APSU) activists rounded up an outsider allegedly an Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) supporter and (bottom) a police officer escorted an ICS activist, carrying a bottle, at the Sir Salimullah Medical College in the city yesterday.

— Star photo

Return of Chakmas

From Page 1 Col 7

'dismantle apartheid.'

He said, Dhaka was thinking of establishing some sort of ties with Pretoria, particularly after the recent speech of Nelson Mandela, but added, "It would be short of diplomatic recognition."

The Foreign Secretary said the Prime Minister is likely to raise the Farakka issue at the current session of the UNGA during her address on October 1.

Pressed further, if the issue would be actually raised, the Foreign Secretary said, the final decision will be made by the Prime Minister.

"I don't want to pre-empt her speech," he added.

However, speaking on the Farakka issue, Reaz said the Indian Prime Minister had given a personal assurance that there would be no hardship for the people of Bangladesh. "But we had the lowest flow, below 10,000 cusecs, during the last dry season."

Giving an overview of the Prime Minister's forthcoming visit to the UN, he said, the PM would highlight the achievements made during the mid-point of her mandate.

Answering reporters' questions, he said, there were no plans for her to meet the US President or to visit Washington. However, the Prime Minister is expected to include anyone she chooses.

The Prime Minister will leave for the UN on September 29

Moves for compromise in Russia

From Page 1 Col 2
agreement in St. Petersburg without Yeltsin's assent.

Yeltsin, in tandem with his shock dissolution of the parliament last Tuesday, ordered snap parliamentary elections for December and Thursday agreed to hold early presidential elections next June.

He said, however, that he opposed a simultaneous ballot as it would create a 'dangerous' power vacuum.

Earlier, regional council leaders met in the northern city of St. Petersburg today to consider setting up a parallel power structure to challenge Russian President Boris Yeltsin, sources at the meeting said.

They said 60 regional leaders, most of them strongly opposed to Yeltsin's dissolution of Russia's national parliament, were debating a proposal to set up a form of National Assembly in St. Petersburg. The body would attempt to control the country's budget from their regional power bases.

But as the Kremlin appeared to have struck a preliminary deal with executive and legislative leaders from Russia's farflung regions, the leaders of the self-proclaimed rival government that remains holed up in the parliament building stuck to a hard line that seemed to exclude compromise.

The plan was said to notable call for a return to the status quo prior to last Tuesday with several key provisions, among them the dissolution of the fullscale parliament and simultaneous elections in December.

Rutskoi's call

Alexander Rutskoi, proclaimed President by Russia's rebel parliament, urged restoration of the Soviet Union today and called on Russia's armed forces to abandon Boris Yeltsin.

Rutskoi said in a statement

issued inside parliament's White House headquarters the three major military districts — Volga, Siberia and Leningrad — were supporting parliament. There was no independent confirmation.

He denounced deputies seeking compromise talks with the Kremlin, but Ramazan Abdalatipov, chairman of the parliament's chamber of nationalities, attended the St. Petersburg meeting and also favoured simultaneous elections.

MOSCOW, Sept 26: President Yeltsin remains opposed to holding simultaneous presidential and legislative elections after regional leaders proposed the plan today, chief of staff Sergei Filatov said, reports AFP.

The compromise talks in St. Petersburg and Moscow centered on a plan known as the 'zero option', first put forth by constitutional court Chief Justice Valery Zorkin, news agencies said before the report that compromise agreement had been reached.

The plan was said to notable call for a return to the status quo prior to last Tuesday with several key provisions, among them the dissolution of the fullscale parliament and simultaneous elections in December.

Rutskoi's call

Alexander Rutskoi, proclaimed President by Russia's rebel parliament, urged restoration of the Soviet Union today and called on Russia's armed forces to abandon Boris Yeltsin.

Rutskoi said in a statement

issued inside parliament's White House headquarters the three major military districts — Volga, Siberia and Leningrad — were supporting parliament. There was no independent confirmation.

He denounced deputies seeking compromise talks with the Kremlin, but Ramazan Abdalatipov, chairman of the parliament's chamber of nationalities, attended the St. Petersburg meeting and also favoured simultaneous elections.

MOSCOW, Sept 26: President Yeltsin remains opposed to holding simultaneous presidential and legislative elections after regional leaders proposed the plan today, chief of staff Sergei Filatov said, reports AFP.

The compromise talks in St. Petersburg and Moscow centered on a plan known as the 'zero option', first put forth by constitutional court Chief Justice Valery Zorkin, news agencies said before the report that compromise agreement had been reached.

The plan was said to notable call for a return to the status quo prior to last Tuesday with several key provisions, among them the dissolution of the fullscale parliament and simultaneous elections in December.

Rutskoi's call

Alexander Rutskoi, proclaimed President by Russia's rebel parliament, urged restoration of the Soviet Union today and called on Russia's armed forces to abandon Boris Yeltsin.

Rutskoi said in a statement

issued inside parliament's White House headquarters the three major military districts — Volga, Siberia and Leningrad — were supporting parliament. There was no independent confirmation.

He denounced deputies seeking compromise talks with the Kremlin, but Ramazan Abdalatipov, chairman of the parliament's chamber of nationalities, attended the St. Petersburg meeting and also favoured simultaneous elections.

MOSCOW, Sept 26: President Yeltsin remains opposed to holding simultaneous presidential and legislative elections after regional leaders proposed the plan today, chief of staff Sergei Filatov said, reports AFP.

The compromise talks in St. Petersburg and Moscow centered on a plan known as the 'zero option', first put forth by constitutional court Chief Justice Valery Zorkin, news agencies said before the report that compromise agreement had been reached.

The plan was said to notable call for a return to the status quo prior to last Tuesday with several key provisions, among them the dissolution of the fullscale parliament and simultaneous elections in December.

Rutskoi's call

Alexander Rutskoi, proclaimed President by Russia's rebel parliament, urged restoration of the Soviet Union today and called on Russia's armed forces to abandon Boris Yeltsin.

Rutskoi said in a statement

issued inside parliament's White House headquarters the three major military districts — Volga, Siberia and Leningrad — were supporting parliament. There was no independent confirmation.

He denounced deputies seeking compromise talks with the Kremlin, but Ramazan Abdalatipov, chairman of the parliament's chamber of nationalities, attended the St. Petersburg meeting and also favoured simultaneous elections.

MOSCOW, Sept 26: President Yeltsin remains opposed to holding simultaneous presidential and legislative elections after regional leaders proposed the plan today, chief of staff Sergei Filatov said, reports AFP.

The compromise talks in St. Petersburg and Moscow centered on a plan known as the 'zero option', first put forth by constitutional court Chief Justice Valery Zorkin, news agencies said before the report that compromise agreement had been reached.

The plan was said to notable call for a return to the status quo prior to last Tuesday with several key provisions, among them the dissolution of the fullscale parliament and simultaneous elections in December.

Rutskoi's call

Alexander Rutskoi, proclaimed President by Russia's rebel parliament, urged restoration of the Soviet Union today and called on Russia's armed forces to abandon Boris Yeltsin.

Rutskoi said in a statement

issued inside parliament's White House headquarters the three major military districts — Volga, Siberia and Leningrad — were supporting parliament. There was no independent confirmation.

He denounced deputies seeking compromise talks with the Kremlin, but Ramazan Abdalatipov, chairman of the parliament's chamber of nationalities, attended the St. Petersburg meeting and also favoured simultaneous elections.

MOSCOW, Sept 26: President Yeltsin remains opposed to holding simultaneous presidential and legislative elections after regional leaders proposed the plan today, chief of staff Sergei Filatov said, reports AFP.

The compromise talks in St. Petersburg and Moscow centered on a plan known as the 'zero option', first put forth by constitutional court Chief Justice Valery Zorkin, news agencies said before the report that compromise agreement had been reached.

The plan was said to notable call for a return to the status quo prior to last Tuesday with several key provisions, among them the dissolution of the fullscale parliament and simultaneous elections in December.

Rutskoi's call

Alexander Rutskoi, proclaimed President by Russia's rebel parliament, urged restoration of the Soviet Union today and called on Russia's armed forces to abandon Boris Yeltsin.

Rutskoi said in a statement

issued inside parliament's White House headquarters the three major military districts — Volga, Siberia and Leningrad — were supporting parliament. There was no independent confirmation.

He denounced deputies seeking compromise talks with the Kremlin, but Ramazan Abdalatipov, chairman of the parliament's chamber of nationalities, attended the St. Petersburg meeting and also favoured simultaneous elections.

MOSCOW, Sept 26: President Yeltsin remains opposed to holding simultaneous presidential and legislative elections after regional leaders proposed the plan today, chief of staff Sergei Filatov said, reports AFP.

The compromise talks in St. Petersburg and Moscow centered on a plan known as the 'zero option', first put forth by constitutional court Chief Justice Valery Zorkin, news agencies said before the report that compromise agreement had been reached.

The plan was said to notable call for a return to the status quo prior to last Tuesday with several key provisions, among them the dissolution of the fullscale parliament and simultaneous elections in December.

Rutskoi's call

Alexander Rutskoi, proclaimed President by Russia's rebel parliament, urged restoration of the Soviet Union today and called on Russia's armed forces to abandon Boris Yeltsin.

Rutskoi said in a statement

issued inside parliament's White House headquarters the three major military districts — Volga, Siberia and Leningrad — were supporting parliament. There was no independent confirmation.

He denounced deputies seeking compromise talks with the Kremlin, but Ramazan Abdalatipov, chairman of the parliament's chamber of nationalities, attended the St. Petersburg meeting and also favoured simultaneous elections.

MOSCOW, Sept 26: President Yeltsin remains opposed to holding simultaneous presidential and legislative elections after regional leaders proposed the plan today, chief of staff Sergei Filatov said, reports AFP.

The compromise talks in St. Petersburg and Moscow centered on a plan known as the 'zero option', first put forth by constitutional court Chief Justice Valery Zorkin, news agencies said before the report that compromise agreement had been reached.

The plan was said to notable call for a return to the status quo prior to last Tuesday with several key provisions, among them the dissolution of the fullscale parliament and simultaneous elections in December.

R