

Bandartila-Halishar incidents Publication of probe report demanded

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, January 1: The enquiry report on the Bandartila-Halishar incidents that took place here on January 2-3, 1993, has not yet been published even one year after the incident.

The Bandartila-Halishar incidents left, according to official sources, 11 persons killed and 200 injured while unofficial sources pegged the death figure at 18.

The incidents occurred when an angry mob, protesting the alleged raping of two girls, was locked in clashes with a section of Navymen in the Bandartila-Halishar areas of the port city on January 2 and 3 in 1993.

According to witnesses, a section of the sailors were involved in the violent incidents, over two days, dubbed as the nation's worst tragedy. They indulged in widespread violence which was marked by indiscriminate shooting, arson and looting.

Meanwhile, the people of

Govt orders austerity

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entertainment expenses. "Expenses on account of entertaining foreign guests will have to be kept within budget any allocations and as such, the number of local guests have to be kept at a minimum," the decision outlined in the letter said.

"All-out efforts" will have to be made to keep expenses on account of government telephone bills at a minimum, the government directive added. "Attention has to be paid so that false bills are not imposed unscrupulously on the government telephones. If such anomalies are detected, then appropriate measure should be taken by informing the T&T Department."

The government decision imposed a 20 per cent penalty for failing to adjust the advances taken on account of travel and transfer.

Advances, on which the time limit has already expired, have to be adjusted within one month of this decision in case of travel and within three months in case of transfer without any penalty.

The authorities have been asked to initiate disciplinary measures against government officials and employees not abiding by the above decisions.

The government circular issued earlier noted that under the country's present economic condition, the revenue expenditure has to be contained while it also has to be reduced in possible areas. "But in reality, this expenditure is gradually increasing. With limited resources, there remains no other way to meet these additional expenses than to reduce the development expenditure," it said.

The circular laid down that all government departments and organisations, which have been merged, will have to abolish excess posts by providing financial benefits to the officers and employees concerned or have them included in other departments or organisations. "However, those officers and employees who have completed 25 years of service can be im-

Tk-\$ rate refixed

By Staff Correspondent

In a new adjustment of rates, the dollar would be .22 paisa costlier against the Taka from today.

Bangladesh Bank yesterday after the close of banking hours fixed the new buying rate of dollar at Taka 39.97 against the previous rate of Tk 39.75.

The selling rate of the dollar would be Tk 40.17 against the earlier rate of Tk 39.95.

The new rates would be effective from today.

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Correspondent

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