



## Stalemate in JS

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Maudud Ahmed described BNP as a government without leadership and a government non-governance and said its activities and indecisions especially after BNP's debacle in the city elections demonstrate its ineptitude and inefficiency.

Referring to contradictory statements by BNP Ministers and MPs, Maudud asked to know whether Deputy Leader of the House Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury represents the government party in parliament.

The JP leader mentioned the Information Minister's interview with Ittefaq and said the "inner crisis of the government party will further deepen" if the matter is not solved immediately.

He said the Prime Minister has sanction whatever Huda said in the interview. The information minister has created new issues through his statement to divert people's eyes from the main issue. The Prime Minister should take an active role in resolving the crisis, he added.

Tofael Ahmed pointed out the conflict in the government party. "Nazmul Huda says question does not arise of his seeking apology when Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury tells the House that Huda has already regretted his utterances."

"This is nothing but a blueprint prepared by the

## Huda for party decision

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very angry on me over my Tuesday's statement in Parliament, and in reply I said "no" She did not tell me anything."

The statement was my personal feeling, it is in no way the opinion of the Prime Minister," he added.

"It is very unfair for the opposition to involve the Prime Minister in the issue," the Information Minister added.

In reply to a question on why he made several press statements which subsequently made the situation more complicated, Huda said "I wanted to clear my position to the nation. My speech was not clearly heard in the noisy House on that day."

Huda defending his position said that the opposition bench was always making issues one after another to disrupt the normal business of the House.

"Problems may be created in the House but it should be resolved in the House," he said adding that "we are learning the role of the opposition from the present opposition parties."

BSS adds: Works Minister Rafiqul Islam Miah yesterday expressed the hope that the opposition would return to the House by Sunday.

After emerging from a meeting with the combined opposition at the Sangsad Bhaban, the Works Minister.

## PM asks partymen

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Huda were present at the meeting which began at 3:30 pm and continued until the evening.

The Prime Minister, while discussing the present crisis arising out of the opposition boycott of Parliament observed that there was lack of coordination among the treasury bench leaders in Parliament, a cabinet minister who attended the meeting told The Daily Star last night.

The BNP chief asked the leaders not to make any statement in the House which might create further controversies, meeting sources said.

She also advised her party colleagues to have consultations with the Deputy Leader of the House, Professor Badruddoza Chowdhury, in

### Super 301

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that Clinton had indicated his desire to reinstate Super 301 by executive order. The congressional source said the announcement could come as soon as today while the administration source said it was expected before the end of the week.

US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor left no doubt Wednesday that the administration clearly favoured reviving the expired Super 301 provisions. He noted that Clinton has repeatedly voiced his support for the lapsed law, dating back to his campaign for the presidency.

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A fire gutted 20 shacks in a slum at Paikpara, Mirpur in the city Wednesday. — Star photo

## Over 20 city shacks gutted

By Staff Correspondent

Over 20 shacks were gutted leaving some 100 people under the open sky at a slum at West Rampura in the city yesterday afternoon.

It was the second fire incident in the capital in two days. Another 20 thatched houses were gutted in a fire that broke out at Mirpur Paikpara Wednesday afternoon.

Yesterday's fire broke out around 3:15 pm and burned the huts into ashes within half an hour.

Witnesses said that local people doused the flame before the fire service personnel reached the scene.

A fire service spokesman in the headquarters said that their vehicles from Tejgaon and Khilgaon were trapped in a massive traffic jam at Malibagh which barred them from reaching the spot on time.

However, the cause of the fire and the extent of loss could not be estimated immediately.

No injury was reported in the incident, said Gulshan police.

## Hasina

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has not been any development and welfare of the people. Those who came to power after '75 ruled the country aimlessly and made fortune through corruption, Hasina said.

The Opposition leader said after the fall of Ershad, the people had the expectation that democracy would function and demands of different classes be realised. "But in reality it was reverse. The BNP betrayed with its commitment made to the people in last three years."

Those who joined the party include Raipura thana Jatiya Party President and former upazila chairman Tozammel Hossain Chowdhury Dulal, CBA President of Noakhali Textile Mills Nasiruddin Patwary and General Secretary Abbasuddin Patwary, Raipura thana Jubo Sanghati Acting President Farhad Hossain Milon and Harun-ur Rasid, Alamgir Hossain and Jasim Mahmud of the BNP.

When asked if the opposition had raised the statement of the Information Minister, the Works Minister replied in the affirmative and refused to make any comment on the issue.

BSS adds: Hasina yesterday called upon the party workers to consolidate the party's victory in the recently-held city corporation polls for bringing the welfare of the people.

In her brief speech at an iftar party organised by Mohanagar Awami League at a city community centre Sheikh Hasina said that the dream of Bangabandhu was to build up an exploitation free Sonar Bangla. She urged upon the partymen, to be more dedicated and disciplined for reaching the cherished goal.

Some of the ministers, attending the meeting, observed that the opposition was now out to make anything a political issue even at the cost of national interests. The government should not entertain all these opposition 'whims', the ministers told the meeting.

According to sources, the meeting felt that when the treasury bench had no objection to a general discussion on the Hebron massacre and the adoption of a resolution condemning the incident, the opposition should no longer stay outside the House.

Expressing regret for a 'controversial' remark as well as expunction of the statement are always acceptable by the opposition in the parliamentary practices throughout the world, some of the ministers observed.

The Prime Minister is learnt to have made no comment on this particular issue.

## JS discusses Hasina's letter to school authorities

The issue centering the letter to school authorities by the Leader of Opposition claiming her credit for development of educational institutions aided by the World Bank and the ADB came up for discussion once again in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

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their own passport with them.

They should not have any other

passport with them, the handout further said.

To ensure this, the airport

custom checking authorities

will check their luggage.

## WHO tuberculosis unit chief in city

Dr A Kochi, chief of the tuberculosis unit of the World Health Organisation (WHO), arrived here yesterday on a three-day visit to Bangladesh.

During his stay here, Dr Kochi will acquaint himself with the progress of integrated tuberculosis control programme run jointly by the government and the National Anti-tuberculosis Association of Bangladesh.

He will visit the Centre of Mycobacterial Diseases Control (MBDC) at Shaymali, Dhaka, and meet the high government officials and leaders of the NATAF.

The question hour over,

Whip Abdul Karim, on a point of order wanted to know whether he represents his constituency or the Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina.

Karim said the Leader of the Opposition had claimed that she was responsible for the development of the school in his area through a letter addressed to the headmaster of the institution.

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