

Palestinian self-rule talks run into trouble

CAIRO, Apr 5: Efforts to launch Palestinian self-rule run into trouble here today because of Israel's footdragging over army withdrawal plans and its tough stand on Palestinian prisoners, PLO officials charged, reports AFP.

On the ground, the return of a group of 26 Palestinian exiles made a false start after the Israeli authorities on the West Bank refused to allow in several of their relatives.

General Nasr Youssef, the future police commander in the self-rule areas, accused Israel of refusing to set a date for handing over authority to the Palestinian police force to be deployed in Jericho and Gaza.

"We are ready to take over immediately our responsibilities," but "the Israelis are not being serious," he told journalists on the third day of negotiations which started amid optimism from both sides.

"Until now they refuse to set a precise date for the start of their withdrawal," he said.

"They have proposed a calendar for completing this pull-out in three weeks but haven't set a date for the start of the operation," he said.

"They also refuse to agree on a timetable for the arrival of the Palestinian police force in Gaza and Jericho."

Chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath complained meanwhile that Israel's refusal to free members of Palestinian groups hostile to the peace process, including the Islamic militants of Hamas, was "creating a problem."

The Palestine Liberation Organisation cannot accept "discrimination between one group and another" as it must "assume responsibility for all the Palestinians," Shaath said.

But he added that the two sides would still try to settle the problem within two days.

Israel has released more than 1,000 prisoners out of some 10,000 since the autonomy accord was signed last September in Washington, but those arrested since then exceed the number released, Palestinian sources say.

In Jerusalem, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin cooled speculation of an imminent meeting with Yasser Arafat saying he wanted to be sure of sealing an accord before seeing the PLO leader again.

"It is preferable to prepare for such a meeting to make sure it is not a failure and ends in an agreement," Rabin told state radio.

"Those who think that in two or three days we can work a trick to wrap up everything are wrong or do not know the real position."



The Prokrichi-BCS Central Action Council brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding implementation of their 17-point demands. — Star photo

Prokrichi-BCS

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attended by the officials and other people concerned at the thana level including teachers, doctors, engineers, lawyers, farmers, traders and women representatives. The time-frame of the next plan will be fixed on the basis of the people's opinions.

Begum Zia said her government believed that the attainment of overall development of the country was not possible without the participation of the people in the process of plan formulation.

"People are the source of all power. Therefore, we want to ensure the implementation of the hopes and aspirations of the people by reflecting those in the development planning," she said.

The Prime Minister regretted that no step was taken any time during pre-and post-independence periods to assess their demands by going down to the doorsteps of the common men.

Giving details about the idea of participatory planning, she said the main basement of a plan would be constructed from the village, union, thana and district levels. Begum Zia said the objectives, priorities and strategies of the development plan would be determined at the local level while the plan would be formulated in the light of local problems and resources.

Because, she argued, the problems, demands and resources of different places were not alike and the production facilities were also different in different places.

"That is why we have given so much importance to this aspect of local level planning process. As a result the opinion of the people will be reflected in the plan. Their attachment to it will increase. The participation of the common people in the implementation process will be ensured. Therefore, people will become the active force for the formulation and implementation of a plan," she said.

Begum Zia said the objective of this local-level-oriented planning was to create awareness among the rural people, engage their consciousness and intelligence in judging their own good and bad, increase their capabilities to analyse their own condition and raise confidence in their work skill.

She said all these capabilities and ideas of the people organised through the local institutions would be assimilated in the national plan.

This process, the Prime Minister said was the grassroots people's participatory or 'bottom up' plan.

Planning process

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Terming economic and social justice as people's constitutional rights, Begum Zia regretted development targets could not be realised in the past due to the lack of political stability, failure in determining priorities, dependence on foreign assistance and absence of participatory system despite three five-year plans and a two-year plan had already been implemented in the country after independence and Fourth Five-Year Plan was now in its final year of implementation to realise that right and attain national development.

"You are aware, when we took office the Fourth Five-Year Plan had already started. Our political commitments were not reflected in it. We have put our efforts to reflect our political commitments through each year's national budget within that plan," she pointed out.

Citing her government's successes attained during the past three years with the fullest cooperation of the people of the country, Begum Zia said the rate of inflation and revenue deficit had now been on the lowest level while one-third of the annual development programme is now being financed by our own resources.

The Prime Minister said her government was now active to attain a high rate of growth utilising the current stable and accountable economic environment of the country.

She termed rural economy as the base of our economic power, saying we have a promising agricultural sector and our economic base could be strengthened by formulating a proper plan and financing method to best utilise this vital sector.

Begum Zia observed that through its best utilisation, the savings rate of the rural people could be increased while the rate of unemployment could be reduced and that was why it was necessary to involve the rural labour force into the production process.

She called upon the local people to highlight their problems and suggest the ways to resolve those, saying: "Tell the means to mobilise resources and take the responsibilities of your development."

The Prime Minister said her government could materialise the dream of the people to build a poverty free self-reliant Bangladesh if all, especially, the rural people actively took part in the process of development planning and its implementation.

"We have begun that initiative. Let us put all our efforts to attain that cherished target," she said.

12 hurt as CU shuttle train derails

CHITTAGONG, Apr 5: At least 12 students were injured when two compartments of a shuttle train of the Chittagong University derailed at Bibirhat, 8 km from Chittagong railway station, this afternoon, reports BSS.

University and railway sources said the shuttle train carrying students from the university was proceeding towards Chittagong. Suddenly last two compartments of the train derailed at Bibirhat at around 4.15 pm.

As a result, 12 occupants of the compartments including some female passengers were injured. Some panic-stricken students jumped from the train. As the train was running at a slow speed, a serious accident was averted, the sources said.

The train communications between Chittagong and Nazirhat was snapped till filing of this report. The front compartments of the train were brought to Sholoshahar railway junction.

The Midnight File

Pakistan blames Indian troops for systematic torture in Kashmir

LONDON, Apr 5: A Pakistani delegation today accused Indian troops of systematic rape and torture in Kashmir and demanded observance of a UN resolution calling for a referendum on self-determination in the disputed province. "Thousands of Kashmiris are taken to torture cells and... maimed," said Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Chairman of the Pakistani National Assembly's special committee on Kashmir. "There are shameless acts of gang rape committed by Indian soldiers," he told a press conference at the Pakistani High Commission here, reports AFP.

Israel begins transferring army HQ from Gaza

GAZA CITY, Apr 5: Israel began today transferring its military headquarters from Gaza city ahead of the redeployment of combat troops upon completion of an accord to implement Palestinian self-rule. Minor violence flared in different parts of the Gaza Strip. Seven Palestinians wounded by Israeli gunfire in Jabalia refugee camp were hospitalized, doctors said, reports AFP.

Music competition '94 awards presented

Winners of the national-level music competition 1994 were awarded yesterday at a function at the Shilpakala Academy, reports UNB.

Cultural Affairs Secretary Islam Uddin Malik distributed awards among the winners. Director General of the Academy Mobarak Hossain Khan and Director of Training Begum Hamida Huq also addressed the function.

The competition was organised as part of the programme to say good-bye to Bengali 14th century and welcome 15th century for students of district Shilpakala Academy Training Centres on seven events.

These are classical music, Nazrul song, Tagore song, folk song, classical dance, general dance and instrument (Tabla).

Following are the winners: Classical music: 1st — Zannatul Ferdous Tumpa (Chittagong), 2nd — Pappya Biswas (Tangail) and 3rd — Parveen Akhter (Manikganj).

Nazrul song: 1st — Samir Kumar Majumder (Chuadanga), 2nd — Parveen Akhter (Manikganj) and 3rd — Mariam Khatun (Jessore).

Tagore song: 1st — Chhaya Rani Karmakar (Rajbari), 2nd — Moushumi Sarkar (Netrakona) and 3rd — Niamul Azim Khan (Kushtia).

Folk song: 1st — Pankaj Dev (Sylhet), 2nd — Shahinur Rahman Hira (Dinajpur) and 3rd — Khadiza Khatun Bithi (Khulna).

Classical dance: 1st — Sohela Sharmeen Binte Shahid (Khulna), 2nd — Ajmeri Sultana Luthi (Manikganj) and 3rd Yasmin Siddiqua (Sylhet).

General dance: 1st — Sohela Sharmeen Binte Shahid (Khulna), 2nd — Shanta Talapatra (Chittagong) and 3rd — Sohela Ara Akhter Sheul (Tangail).

Instrument (Tabla): 1st — Syed Abu Al Mamun (Gazipur), 2nd — Pabitra Kumar Bhattacharya (Sylhet) and 3rd — Khiljee Ahsanul Huda (Rangpur).

5 die in Jessore road mishap

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Apr 5: Five people were killed and seven others injured when a bus collided head-on with a tempo on Jessore-Satkhira road at Bekeryatala under Monirampur thana in the district this afternoon.

According to police, one person died on the spot while four others succumbed to injuries at Jessore Sadar Hospital. The dead are identified as Abdur Razzak, 25, Moshem, 24, Sahabuddin, 25, and Shahidul, 21. One could not be identified immediately.

The injured were admitted to the Sadar hospital.

Police seized the bus but its driver escaped. A case has been filed.

Mizan terms ban 'unconstitutional'

Acting Chairman of the Jatiya Party Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury yesterday condemned the ban imposed on 'peaceful demonstration' in front of the Election Commission by his party tomorrow, reports UNB.

In a statement, Chowdhury described the government step as 'undemocratic and unconstitutional' and said his party's scheduled programme would remain unchanged.

"It's our constitutional and democratic right to organise meeting, rally and procession," Mizan said. He quoted Article 37 of the Constitution.

Meanwhile, an emergency meeting of the JP Presidium and Central Working Committee will be held today at 10 am at the residence of Mizan Chowdhury to review the situation arising out of the restriction on his party's Election Commission Secretariat gherao programme.

Man held for raping minor girl in city

By DMCH Correspondent

A 40-year-old man was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday for raping a minor girl in the city's Uttara area.

The alleged rapist, Abdur Razzak, was apprehended by local police and handed over to Uttara police after he had raped a seven-year-old Atiya in an empty building at Sector-4, Uttara, Monday afternoon.

Atiya, daughter of a poor rickshawpuller, Abdul Majid, was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) Monday night.

Witnesses said, Razzak picked up Atiya from a nearby pond where she was bathing and took her to the empty building.

Libya to support Pakistan on Kashmir issue

ISLAMABAD, Apr 5: Libyan foreign minister today assured Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of his country's support for Pakistan on Kashmir issue, reports AFP.

Omar Mustafa Al-Muntaser, currently visiting here, called on the premier and said that Libya would support Pakistan stand on Kashmir issue at all forums.

The premier informed Al-Muntaser about the atrocities and human rights violations committed by the Indian forces in Kashmir and the need to maintain international pressure on India to ease such repression.

Indian SC asks EC to shut up

NEW DELHI, Apr 5: An election commissioner who has launched a one-man crusade against widespread corruption in India has been told by the Supreme Court to slow down and shut up, reports AP.

In a country where hired hoods often intimidate voters on election day, and even walk away with ballot boxes when they feel opponents might win, T N Seshan is trying to clean up the polls.

He has told states to appoint honest police officers to guard polling booths and law-abiding officials to count the ballots. He has demanded that the federal government provide identity cards to all voters so that impersonators stop casting ballots.

Seshan even has ordered political parties to clean up all the posters and graffiti they spread around town during elections.

All this has caused many politicians to complain — including the federal government, which says it can't afford ID cards in a nation of 880 million people.

But the government of Andhra Pradesh state went even further, it appealed to the Supreme Court to restrain Seshan.

Giving a long list of other

Pak Attorney-Gen resigns

ISLAMABAD, Apr 5: Pakistan's Attorney-General Fakhruddin Ibrahim and his deputy have resigned over differences with the government, news papers said today, reports AFP.

Ibrahim and his assistant Muntaz Ali Mirza were appointed by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto when she took office in October.

Official confirmation of the resignations was not immediately available but the reports, carried by Dawn newspaper and several other publications, said Bhutto had asked Ibrahim to withdraw his resignation.

The reports said the two quit after the government bypassed Ibrahim in a case before the Supreme Court and instead engaged Sharifuddin Pirzada, a former Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, to represent it.

The case involves a petition filed by the main opposition Pakistan Muslim League, headed by former Premier Nawaz Sharif, challenging the imposition of direct federal rule in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province.

"We have begun that initiative. Let us put all our efforts to attain that cherished target," she said.

Two Jubo Dal leaders get 5 yrs RI each

SIRAJGANJ, Apr 5: Two Jubo Dal leaders were sentenced today to five years rigorous imprisonment each for ransacking the TNO office of Shahjampur thana, reports UNB.

They are Amir Hossain alias Sabuj and A K M Habibul Huq Sabir. Seven others were acquitted of the charges.

The two convicts were also fined Tk 1,000 each or serve three months more in prison in default.

Ban on rallies, Mirpur strike

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Karotowa crossing on the Mirpur Road, Karotowa crossing to the old Ninth Division crossing and all of the Agargaon link roads and adjoining areas.

All heavy vehicles like bus, truck and minibus have been asked not to take those routes from 7 am to 7 pm on Thursday.

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several high school teachers and the local Awami League leader Kamal Majumder. However, the Mirpur thana police could not confirm if any case was filed against Kamal Majumder.

The Upashahar School authorities yesterday erected a barbed-wire fence around the disputed land strengthening its claim that the land belongs to them.

বাংলা একাডেমী
ঢাকা।
বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলা একাডেমী অধ্যাদেশের ১০(২) (ই) ধারা অনুযায়ী বাংলা একাডেমীর সম্মানিত সদস্যদের মধ্য থেকে বাংলা একাডেমীর কার্যনির্বাহী পরিষদের ৭ (সাত) জন সদস্য মনোনয়নের জন্যে আগামী ১১.০৫.১৪০১/২৬.০৮.১৯৯৪ তারিখ জুজবার সকাল ৯টা থেকে বিকেল ৪টা পর্যন্ত বাংলা একাডেমী, ৩, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম আভিদু, ঢাকা-১০০০ টিকানায় প্রত্যক্ষ ভোটারে মাধ্যমে নির্বাচন অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। ১৭ জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৪০১/০১ মে, ১৯৯৪-এর মধ্যে বৃদ্ধদের হালতুক চীটা পরিশোধ করা থাকবে কেবল তীরাই এই নির্বাচনে অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন। আসন্ন নির্বাচনে যাতে অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারেন সেজন্যে যে সকল সদস্যদের চীটা বাকি রয়েছে তাদের আগামী ১৭ জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৪০১/০১ মে, ১৯৯৪-এর মধ্যে চীটা পরিশোধ করার অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে।

ইতোমধ্যে কোন সদস্যের টিকানার পরিবর্তন হয়ে থাকলে তাও একাডেমীকে ১৭ জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৪০১/০১ মে, ১৯৯৪-এর মধ্যে লিখিতভাবে অবহিত করতে অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে। ওই তারিখের পরে কোন ফেলো/জীবন সদস্য/সদস্যের পরিবর্তিত টিকানা আসন্ন নির্বাচনের জন্যে গ্রাহ্য করা হবে না এবং টিকানা কিম্বা চীটার জন্মেও একাডেমী কোনভাবেই দায়ী হবে না।

সদস্যপত্র দেখিয়ে ভোটারপত্র সংগ্রহ করতে হবে। সদস্যপত্র হারিয়ে গেলে বা নষ্ট হয়ে গেলে ৩ তারিখ, ১৪০১/১৮ আপস্ট, ১৯৯৪ তারিখ বৃহস্পতিবারের মধ্যে লিখিত আবেদনের মাধ্যমে বিধি অনুযায়ী নির্ধারিত ফী-এর বিনিময়ে সদস্যপত্র সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।

প্রক্রিয়া প্রকাশিত এই বিজ্ঞপ্তি হুঁড়াত বলে গণ্য হবে।

মঈনুল হাসান
রিটার্নিং অফিসার ও সচিব

১৬ এপ্রিল (শি) ০২৭৬-২/৪
১৬-০৬৬

বাংলা একাডেমী জাতির মননের পতীক

Indian SC asks No permanent JS seat

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development works undertaken by the government, Begum Zia noted with regret that some opposition parties had started boycotting Parliament in order to create unnecessary problems for the country.

Chaired by Pirganj thana BNP president Ansarul Alam Maina, the meeting was also addressed by Minister for Law and Justice Mirza Golam Hafiz, Roushan Elahi MP, Mozahar Hossain MP, local leader Dr Abdul Malek, Thakurgaon district BNP president Mirza Fakrul Islam Alamgir, Abdul Hafiz MP, Khurshid Jahan Huq MP and Pirganj thana BNP general secretary Zahidur Rahman.

Mirza Golam Hafiz said the opposition parties do not like the people of the country to live in peace. So, they try to create one problem after another.

Khurshid Jahan Huq said, "We failed to get a single seat from greater Dinajpur district during the 1991 parliamentary polls." But the development of the region did not suffer because the Prime Minister had a 'soft corner' for Dinajpur. She hoped the people of Dinajpur would vote for the BNP in the next parliamentary polls considering the development works now underway in the region.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা ওয়াসার খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের নিকট বর্তমান বকেয়ার পরিমাণ প্রায় ৪২ কোটি টাকা। খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের প্রতিটি হালনাগাদ বিলে বকেয়া অর্থ উল্লেখপূর্বক পরিশোধের নোটিশ ও তাগিদ নিয়মিত দেওয়া ছাড়াও খেলাপী গ্রাহককে পৃথক নোটিশ দেওয়া হইতেছে।

এতদসঙ্গেও বকেয়া পরিশোধ করিতেছেন না এমন গ্রাহকদের পানির সরোগ বিচ্ছিন্নকরণসহ ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটের স্বায়ী ও ড্রামামান আদালতের মাধ্যমে প্রচলিত আইনের অধীনে বকেয়া আদায়ের এবং অবৈধ কার্যকলাপ নিয়ন্ত্রণের বিশেষ ডাইট শুরু করা হইয়াছে।

বকেয়ার জন্য সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নকরণসহ পিডিআর এ্যাট্টোর অধীনে মামলার বিড়ম্বনা এড়াবার লক্ষ্যে ঢাকা ওয়াসা সম্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দকে বকেয়া পরিশোধসহ হালনাগাদ বিল নিয়মিত পরিশোধের অনুরোধ করিতেছে।

হালনাগাদ বকেয়া পরিশোধকারীকে সারচার্জ মওকুফসহ "সেল্ফ বিলের" মাধ্যমে বিল পরিশোধের সুবিধা দেওয়া হইতেছে।

ইতিমধ্যে জানুয়ারী-ফেব্রুয়ারী '৯৪ মাসের বিলও জারী করা হইয়াছে এবং আবাসিক সংযোগের "সেল্ফ বিল বহির" মাধ্যমেও বিল পরিশোধের সুবিধা প্রদান করা হইয়াছে।

সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন এড়াইবার নিমিত্ত প্রয়োজনে ঢাকা ওয়াসার সর্গষ্ট রাজস্ব আঞ্চলিক অফিস বা প্রধান রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তা (ফোনঃ ৩২৫২৪০) বা বাণিজ্যিক ব্যবস্থাপক (ফোনঃ ৩২৭২৪৫) অথবা সদস্য (অর্থ) (ফোনঃ ৮১৬৭৯৯) এর সহিত যোগাযোগ করিয়া বিল পরিশোধের ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসার সকল শ্রেণী খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

ওয়াসা জরুরী ১১১/৯৪
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ওয়াসা **ঢাকা ওয়াসা**