

Demand for caretaker govt absurd'

Speakers at a discussion yesterday described the demand for a caretaker government as an absurd proposition sure to disrupt the present democratic process, reports BSS.

Organised by the Nationalist Lawyers' Forum, the function was chaired by its convenor Justice TH Khan.

Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed, former president of the Supreme Court Bar Association, Dr. Mahbubullah, Vice-chancellor, National University, Dr. M Ershadul Bari, Dean, Faculty of Law, Dhaka University, Mahbub Anam, Editor, the Bangladesh Times and Abdul Wadud Khandaker, member-secretary of the Forum spoke on the occasion.

Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed said the demand for a caretaker government was a political stunt, a ploy to undermine the elected government. He said the prime responsibility of the political parties was to uphold country's Constitution. The present Constitution did not have any provision for a caretaker government.

He suggested that the four main political parties should convene an extra-ordinary session of Parliament and thrash out the current stalemate.

Dr. Mahbubullah ruled out the possibility of forming a caretaker government and said it was unfortunate that the

Campus

From Page 1 Col 4

At least eight rounds of gunshots were heard and six crackers were exploded during the clash.

Earlier, in the morning, agitated youths damaged at least ten vehicles near the Curzon Hall area protesting the role of Golam Azam during the Liberation War in 1971.

In the afternoon, trouble erupted on the DU campus after a rally of the Sampradaikota Birodh Chhatra Samaj, an alliance of pro-liberation student bodies.

Police chased the demonstrators when they pelted stones at a police van.

Later police entered the TSC and abused the students engaged in various activities, creating panic among them.

The Sammilita Sangskritik Jote, condemning the police's 'atrocities' said that more than 50 cultural activists were attacked and injured by the police inside the TSC. The jote also urged the government to disassociate itself from the 'razakars'.

The Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) condemned the action of police on the students.

Our JU Correspondent adds: The Jahangirnagar University unit of the Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee put up a barricade on Dhaka-Aricha highway for one hour from 8 pm demanding trial of Golam Azam as 'war criminal'.

The committee activists also brought out procession and held rally on the campus protesting the activities of extremist circle in the country.

Germany hold Spain

From Page 1 Col 7

repeating the feat they did at Chicago's Soldier Field.

A large German contingent in the 63,113 crowd was silenced for most of the first half as the Spanish took the game to the world champions.

Golkoetxea was a constant danger down the right wing in the early stages. Twice Illgner had to turn the ball around his left-hand post to keep out shots from Sergi and Josep Guardiola in the 10th and 13th minutes.

The Germans were restricted to one chance in the first half when midfielder Stefan Effenberg headed a free kick over the bar in the 30th minute.

They looked much more determined in the second half but the inventive Spaniard continued to pose them problems.

Jose Luis Caminero was a constant danger in midfield and sweeper Fernando Hierro, who marshalled the defence well, was also dangerous when he got forward.

Illgner had to make another fine save to his left to stop Hierro for scoring from a long-range free kick in the 70th minute.

But four minutes from time Klinsmann had great chance to steal victory for the Germans. After breaking clear the Monaco striker pulled his shot fractionally wide of the right-hand post.

Klinsmann was by far Germany's most dangerous player. Midfielder Andy Moeller failed to impress beside him and Vogts brought on veteran Rudi

demands was being raised by a political party which had a long tradition of struggle for the establishment of democracy in the country.

He said the political parties had only expressed no-confidence in themselves by demanding the formation of a caretaker government to hold polls. It clearly shows that they have no confidence in themselves to hold free and fair elections," he said.

Dr. Ershadul Bari said the Opposition demand for a caretaker administration during the present democratic government was not tenable.

He said the context of a caretaker government in 1991 and now was totally different. The opposition parties had virtually expressed their no-confidence in the Election Commission, which tantamounts to a violation of the Constitution provision, he said.

Mahbub Anam said it seemed that the entire nation had become hostage at the present moment. He said the demand was uncalled for and was designed only to belittle the democratic government.

Giving statistics of the various by-elections held under the present government, Anam said out of 18 by-elections, opposition candidates won in 10 seats while the ruling party bagged eight seats. This clearly shows how free and fair the pollings had been, he added.

Anam said if the government had wanted to influence the polling, it could have done so during the mayoral polls. He said there was no short cut to power.

Justice T H Khan said the country was being divided by some people who were making an issue out of a non-issue.

He said a caretaker government cannot be an alternative to an elected government.

Press Council

From Page 1 Col 8

Journalists (BFUJ) resented the recent attacks on some newspaper offices.

The speakers demanded amendment to the Printing Press and Publications Act for ensuring appointment of professional journalists as editors. A responsible editorial institution can emerge only under the leadership of a professional editor.

Presided over by BFUJ President Gias Kamal Chowdhury, the meeting was addressed by, among others, Editor of the Ittefaq Anwar Hossain, Inqilab Editor A M M Bahaudin, Editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam, Dainik Bangla Editor Ahmed Humayun, Dainik Dinakar Editor Sanaujali Noori, Chief Editor and Editor of the Financial Express Reazuddin Ahmed and Moazzam Hossain, Bangladesh Times Editor Mahbub Anam, Dainik Meelat Editor Chowdhury Mohammad Faruq, Banglar Bani Joint Editor Aziz Misir, New Nation Editor Alamgir Mohiuddin, senior journalists AMB Musa, Syed Zafar and Fazlul Karim, BFUJ Secretary General Amanullah Kabir, DUJ President Zahurul Hug and General Secretary Ruhul Amin Gazi.

Comprising Justice Anwarul Huq Choudhury, the single bench was constituted by the Chief Justice after a division bench consisting of Justice Ismail Uddin Sarker and Justice BA Choudhury had given a split verdict on the writ in 1992.

The government notification cancelling the citizenship of Golam Azam was issued on April, 1972. After staying abroad since November, 1971, when he went to Pakistan, he returned to Bangladesh in 1978 on a Pakistani passport.

Azam was earlier detained under the Foreigners' Act on March 24, 1992 and was released on July 15, 1993 when the Appellate Division rejected a provisional stay petition filed by the government seeking stay of operation of the High Court judgement which declared his detention illegal and ordered his immediate release.

It was a tough match and both teams should be happy with the draw," Vogts said. "The Spanish goal was a bit lucky... but I can't blame Bodo Illgner. He made two great saves."

Spanish coach Javier Clemente said that with three points being awarded for a win his team needed to win their last group match against Bolivia to be sure of a place in the second round.

"We had two or three chances to win it but we did not take advantage if them," Clemente said. "In the old system we might have qualified already. A draw could be enough against Bolivia but we need a victory."

MATCH STAT

Match statistics for Tuesday's Germany v Spain World Cup, Group C game:

	Germany	Spain
Goals	1	1
Shots on goal	13	16
Fouls	12	18
Corners	6	5
Offsides	2	2
Yellow cards	1	1
Red cards	0	0

STANDINGS

World Cup, Group C standings after Tuesday's Germany v Spain match (tabulate under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against points):

Germany	2	1	1	0	2	1
Spain	2	0	2	0	3	2
South Korea	1	0	1	0	2	1
Bolivia	1	0	1	0	1	0

Editor : Mahfuz Anam

Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 5000924, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA.



Bangladesh Mukti Joddha Sangsads brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding Golam Azam's trial for war crimes.

— Star photo



The Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh brought out a procession in the city celebrating the verdict on Golam Azam's citizenship yesterday.

— Star photo

Golam Azam

From Page 1 Col 4

file a petition for a review of the decision.

Attorney General Aminul Huq, who represented the government in the case, declined to give his reactions on the judgement. Asked if the government was contemplating filing a review petition, he said, "I would not like to comment about the review petition without seeing the copy of the judgement."

Both he and Yusuf said that they would file applications for copies of the judgement today.

Last year, a single bench of the High Court Division restored the citizenship of the Jamaat leader following a writ challenging the government order cancelling his citizenship.

Akbar Seth, a prominent businessman of old city was murdered on the night of August 13, 1991 at Armanitola area of the city while he was returning from his office at a

Akbar Seth murder: 3 get life terms

Three persons were awarded life term yesterday in the judgement of the sensational Akbar Seth Murder Case, reports BSS.

Additional Sessions Judge Third Court Dhaka Shawkat Hossain while delivering the judgement, found Aljilan, Fazlu and one Ataur (tried in absentia) guilty of murder and awarded them life imprisonment.

The Judge also ordered them to pay a fine of Tk 10,000 each in default to suffer further two years of rigorous imprisonment.

Akbar Seth, a prominent businessman of old city was murdered on the night of August 13, 1991 at Armanitola area of the city while he was returning from his office at a

nearby paper market. Prosecution story said he was coming in a rickshaw and was inflicted with multiple gun shots and chapati (chopper) blows and died instantaneously.

Four other accused have been acquitted. However, one Ratan, a businessman of Dalmatali also charged with the murder, has recently been murdered when the case was being argued.

Prosecution in all examined 24 witnesses. Advocates T M Akbar, Ozair Farooq and others defended the accused.

Public prosecutor Abdur Razzaq Khan assisted by APP Mahbub Ahmed, stood for the state.

Janantha editors freed on bail

Advisory Editor of the Daily Jananatha Toab Khan and Executive Editor Borhan Ahmed were released on bail from the Dhaka central jail yesterday.

Khan was granted ad-interim bail on Monday by the High Court Division of the Supreme Court and Ahmed was allowed bail by the Dhaka District and Sessions Judge Court on June 15.

The two editors were arrested on June 8 on charge of having published an article in the May 12 issue of the daily and hurting the religious sentiment of the people.

Journalists, officials and employees of the paper and a large number of people received them at the jail gate.

The organisers decided to put up rail blockades at Chandpur, Comilla and Brahmanbaria. Besides, ten spots in greater Comilla district have been selected for the barricade programme. The places include Mia Bazar, Podubazar, Talsahar and Chandura.

They exploded crackers and damaged several vehicles near the Mohakhali bus terminal for half an hour beginning around 11 in the morning.

The students were protesting the alleged assault on one of their fellow students by transport workers at Mohakhali Tuesday evening.

According to the students, the transport workers earlier took Fazlul Karim inside the terminal and beat him up following an altercation over bus fare.

Speaking on the impact of the budget on the tax regime, Mushtaq Ahmed also welcomed the trend towards tax reduction and the non-intrusion of new taxes.

However, he noted that the budget deficit continues to remain in place. "May be the next elections is in the mind of the Finance Minister. I hope that the government will not resort to issuing statutory regulatory orders (SRO) to undo the budget proposals."

Rahman, however, lauded the higher allocation in the proposed budget for human resource development and the higher domestic contribution to the annual development plan. He also welcomed the fact that no new taxes were introduced in the budget while it was lowered in some areas.

He suggested the formation of a quarterly review of the payment of Value Added Tax (VAT) by different economic sectors as evasion by some sectors places others who pay at a disadvantage.

Speaking on the impact of the proposed budget on the economy, Dr. Wahiduddin Mahmud noted that this budget is a succession of the previous three budget.

He cited the positive developments as success in mobilising internal resources, keeping the current account expenditure restrained and increasing the tax rate of national savings from about five per cent to around 12 per cent in the last three years.

However, he added both the public and private sectors failed to utilise the increased resources. The investment to GDP ratio, he said, could already be around 20 per cent, without any inflationary trends, if the resources were utilised.

He identified the reasons for the poor investment climate as deteriorating law and order situation, poor utility services and political instability. "There should be a consensus developed on all major

economic issues by all political parties."

The comfortable financial position in the public sector

Dhaka refutes allegations in foreign press

Bangladesh yesterday asserted laws of the land fully protect and uphold the fundamental rights of all Bangladeshi citizens, reports UNB.

The assertion came in response to some news items appearing in a section of foreign press about the alleged denial of fundamental rights to some individuals who have been at the centre of recent public controversies.

A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry refuted the allegation and expressed disappointment about the 'selective and negative presentation of facts' by that section of foreign press.

He pointed out that some one absconding and running away from the law cannot obviously claim the legal protection.

In recent days, the spokesman said, it has been evident in this particular context that those who sought the protection of the law duly enjoyed their fundamental rights.

3 hurt as police, muggers trade fire in city