

Demonstration against Castro in Cuba

HAVANA, Aug 6: Pro-government militia sealed off the Havana waterfront today after thousands of Cubans clashed with police in unprecedented demonstrations against Fidel Castro's hold-out communist regime, reports AFP.

The riots erupted Friday after several thousands people crowded into a slum area near the entrance to Havana bay on news that Cubans trying to flee to the United States had hijacked a ferry Thursday for the third time in 10 days.

Neither officials nor the press reported the number of casualties or arrests during the two hours of violence, during which witnesses said police opened fire on demonstrators who hurled rocks at them and several hundred protesters marched down a main street chanting "freedom, freedom."

It was the first time the Cuban capital had witnessed such violence since the Castro regime took power 35 years ago.

Unlike past incidents, demonstrators attacked police when they tried to clear out the waterfront area and smashed windows in central Havana and the old town instead of obeying orders to disperse, witnesses said.

Pro-Castro militants rushed to the scene to aid police and

stayed to applaud Castro when he turned up later at the protest site.

Late Friday, Castro went on television and threatened to allow a mass exodus of Cubans to the United States.

Non-govt primary school teachers begin sit-in

By Staff Correspondent

Thousands of teachers of non-government primary schools began a two-day dawn-to-dusk sit-in in front of the National Press Club yesterday. The Bangladesh Non-Government Primary Teachers Association gave the call for the sit-in to press home their four-point demands.

The demands include nationalisation of all registered non-government primary schools and recognition to the non-registered but functioning primary schools.

The organisers claimed that around 10,000 teachers took part in the sit-in. They alleged that police resorted to lathicharge and injured several teachers.

The organisers have threatened to go on an indefinite hunger strike if their demands were not met by today.

Students storm Press Club

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of their agitation in front of the office of the Principal demanding shifting of examination dates.

In the face of agitating Fourth Year students, Tengku assured the students that he would not print the picture and even offered to destroy the film. But the DMC students did not pay heed to his appeal. Rather they attacked him, injuring him seriously.

Coincidentally, a little later the homeopathic medical students reached in front of the Press Club to hold a scheduled meeting to press home their demand for including two homeo doctors in the proposed committee to finalise the new national health policy.

At the same time Tengku returned from the DMC and narrated the incident to his fellow photographers who became a bit agitated and, upon seeing aproned students nearby, they attacked some of the demonstrating homeo students.

But the matter was soon resolved after the lensmen learned the identity of the students and realised their mistake.

But the matter again came to a head when three other groups of homeo students

reached the spot from Mirpur and heard of the previous incident there. Reinforced in number, they attacked and broke down the main gate of the Press Club and some windows. The unruly homeo students also damaged a number of motor-bikes of the photographers parked inside the club compound.

The photographers retaliated and chased the students, forcing them to beat a hasty retreat. Nearly a dozen people from both sides were injured during the hour-long clash amid heavy downpour.

Five of the injured, all homeo students, were admitted to the DMCH.

Police intervened after the clashes were over and picked up three students, including the general secretary of the Homeopathic College Students Union Arifur Rahman. They were released later.

Meanwhile, the Dhaka Medical College Students Union, in a press release yesterday evening, regretted the incident, which they said occurred due to misunderstanding.

The press release signed by the VP and GS of the union hoped the good relations among journalists, doctors and students would be maintained.

Tongi model polls

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engaged for data collection of the voters. Their work would be supervised by another 269 youths. A 56-member steering committee consisting of the local elite also has been formed to make the whole programme a success.

Held at the Tongi Pourasava auditorium, the inaugural function of the programme was presided over by Election Commissioner Justice M Abdul Jalil. It was also addressed by Election Commission Secretary A Z M Shamsul Alam, Joint Secretary S M Zakaria, Tongi Pourasava administrator Shamsur Rahman Khan and chief executive M Waseq.

Justice Rauf said under the new system an eligible voter would have a registration number for the whole of his life. He would be able to vote for only one parliamentary polls but in case of local government elections he would be able to vote in more than one places if he is eligible for that.

He said it was the primary responsibility of the local people to ensure correct entry of

data regarding a voter because it would be preserved by the government for any future use.

Data entry would be made in three identical forms bearing a voter's name, father's or husband's name, profession, designation, professional address, date of birth, height, educational qualification, marital status, identification mark, permanent address, present address and telephone number (if any), voter number (if any) and the places where he wants to vote.

One of the forms will be used by the Election Commission Secretariat, one will be preserved at the district election office while the third one will be kept at the thana headquarters for use at the election centre.

A Z M Shamsul Alam said, in Dapunia the election was conducted by the people themselves without the presence of police or magistrate. He said cooperation of the people in making proper voters' list was a *sine qua non* for holding an ideal election.

No classes held at DU

From Page 1 Col 4

DU campus as both teachers and students feared outbreak of fresh violence. No untoward incident, however, took place yesterday. A huge contingent of police and plain cloth detectives were posted on the campus.

Many campus insiders said that the imposition of ban on processions and rallies on the DU campus was a welcome step. The ban will remain in force till August 12.

During the strike period yesterday, most of the administrative offices also remained closed or did not function. The university library remained closed.

The Arts Faculty building, Madhu's canteen, Lecture Theatre building and Central Library areas remained 'under control' of the JCD activists yesterday.

The BCL activists were seen near the Rokeya Hall, Jagannath Hall and TSC areas.

All the roads leading to the DU campus were closed. At about 10:15 in the morn-

ing a group of youths burnt a wall magazine in front of the main gate of the Arts building. The magazine contained some sketches of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and some slogans on the spirit of independence, campus residents said.

Later, at about noon, Chhatra League held a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club. It condemned the role of the police and the university authorities on Thursday.

The leaders of the BCL demanded arrest and trial of the 'terrorists' involved in Thursday's violence on the DU campus. They also demanded of the university authorities to take steps to 'rehabilitate' the BCL activists 'ousted' from different residential halls.

Rwanda faces famine

KIGALI, Aug 6: After tribal slaughter, civil war and the flight of millions of frightened people from their homes, and farms, Rwanda faces another nightmare — famine, reports Reuters.



A Cuban woman (L) watches as her husband (R) is arrested during anti-government demonstrations Friday on the waterfront in Havana. Protesters hurled stones at police and attacked businesses in clashes that left an unspecified number of people injured. — AFP photo

Heroin haul at ZIA

Pak national being questioned

By Staff Correspondent

Pakistani national Wahid Ahmad told investigating agents yesterday that he was merely a courier of the seized heroin and was assigned to hand it over at ZIA to a man who would show him his (Wahid's) photograph.

While being interrogated at the city's Narcotics Control Department (NCD) office yesterday, Wahid said he did not know his contact in Dhaka.

Wahid was held with 1.9 kilograms of heroin worth about Tk 2 crore at ZIA after he had landed from Karachi by a PIA flight on August 4.

Wahid was detained under the Narcotics Control Act '90 and later on Friday he was taken on a three-day remand for questioning.

The NCD investigators said Wahid's passport was issued only last month and it was his first visit to Bangladesh.

A source said the NCD investigators are yet to trace the local dealers who were supposed to collect the heroin at the ZIA on Thursday.

2 underaged girls recovered from Tanbazar brothel

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Aug 6: Two underaged girls were rescued from the Tanbazar brothel in a police raid in the small hours of today.

Police also arrested 93 pimps and customers from the notorious brothel and sent 40 of them to court. Others were released from the thana after interrogation.

The two girls, Halima, 12, and Mukta, 15, whose real names are Zahura and Hosne Ara, hailed from Matlab thana of Chandpur and Mehendiganj thana of Barisal district respectively.

Zahura left her village home following a brawl with her step-mother two years ago. Shortly after her arrival in Dhaka she was lured by an unknown person at the Sadarghat launch terminal. The man assured her of a job, but sold her to one Parvin, a madam of the Tanbazar brothel for Tk 10,000.

Hosne Ara was living in a slum at Jigatola in the city along with her five brothers. She was kidnapped by one Badshah, a resident of the slum a few months ago and sold to the same Parvin, also for Tk 10,000.

Acting on a tip, police made the surprise raid on the brothel and found the two girls hiding under the cot of Parvin's room.

Parvin, however, managed to escape arrest. A kidnapping case was lodged with the local thana.

Bombay blast: Yakub Memon accuses brother

NEW DELHI, Aug 6: An alleged conspirator in bomb blasts that killed 260 people in Bombay last year who was arrested by Indian authorities on Friday said he was innocent but accused his brother of masterminding the blasts.

The Memon family is not involved in this hideous crime except Tiger; Yakub Abdul Razak Memon told Reuters after appearing before a Delhi judge. He was referring to his brother Tiger Memon, who has been accused of organising the bomb blasts.

Tiger Memon and two other brothers are being sought by Indian authorities for the blasts on March 12, 1993. They fled the country the day before the bombs rocked the heart of the nation's financial capital.

Yakub Memon, 33, was arrested at the New Delhi train station on Friday morning. Interior Minister S B Chavan told a news conference.

Christopher hopeful of ME talks progress

TEL AVIV, Aug 6: US Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived in Israel today on his second Middle East peace shuttle in less than a month, witnesses said, reports Reuters.

Christopher, keen to secure progress in deadlocked talks between Syria and Israel, came from Alexandria, Egypt, where he met President Hosni Mubarak and PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Officials said he was due to meet Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Jerusalem later in the evening.

Christopher was also scheduled to travel to Syria and Jordan during his trip.

Earlier report says, Christopher said Israel and Syria were negotiating with unprecedented seriousness and progress was possible.

Speaking in the Egyptian port of Alexandria after talks with President Hosni Mubarak and PLO Leader Yasser Arafat, he also said he wrote to donors on Friday urging them to hurry up and send funds to the Palestinian self-rule areas.

"I've come back because I think there is an opportunity for the parties to make

progress. There are very tough issues but they (Israel and Syria) are addressing them with a seriousness that they never had before," he added.

AP adds: Christopher rebuffed a move Saturday by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to put Jerusalem's future on the negotiating table, calling it "a future status issue."

Donor states have promised some 2.4 billion dollar to help the Palestinians, but the money has been slow to arrive since the donors want assurances of how it will be used.

In Saturday's meeting, Arafat told Christopher the Palestinians "had some concerns about Jerusalem," said a US official who participated in the 80-minute session.

Arafat did not provide any details, but is expected to make his case with the United States later.

Christopher, asked at a news conference where the United States stood on the issue, said, "It is not the US position that governs here."

Rather, he said, Israel and the PLO themselves had agreed to defer discussion of Jerusalem's future until a final round of negotiations.

Hasina slates BNP tactics

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vitate the political arena," she said.

Hasina, also Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, accused the government of arranging the public meeting of 'war criminal' Golam Azam under police-BDR protection in Chittagong on one hand and of killing the pro-liberation forces on the other.

She further alleged that terrorists of the JCD had launched unprecedented armed terrorism in the Dhaka University, a day after BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukdar told a rally at Gulistan that the JCD alone is enough to tackle the Opposition agitation.

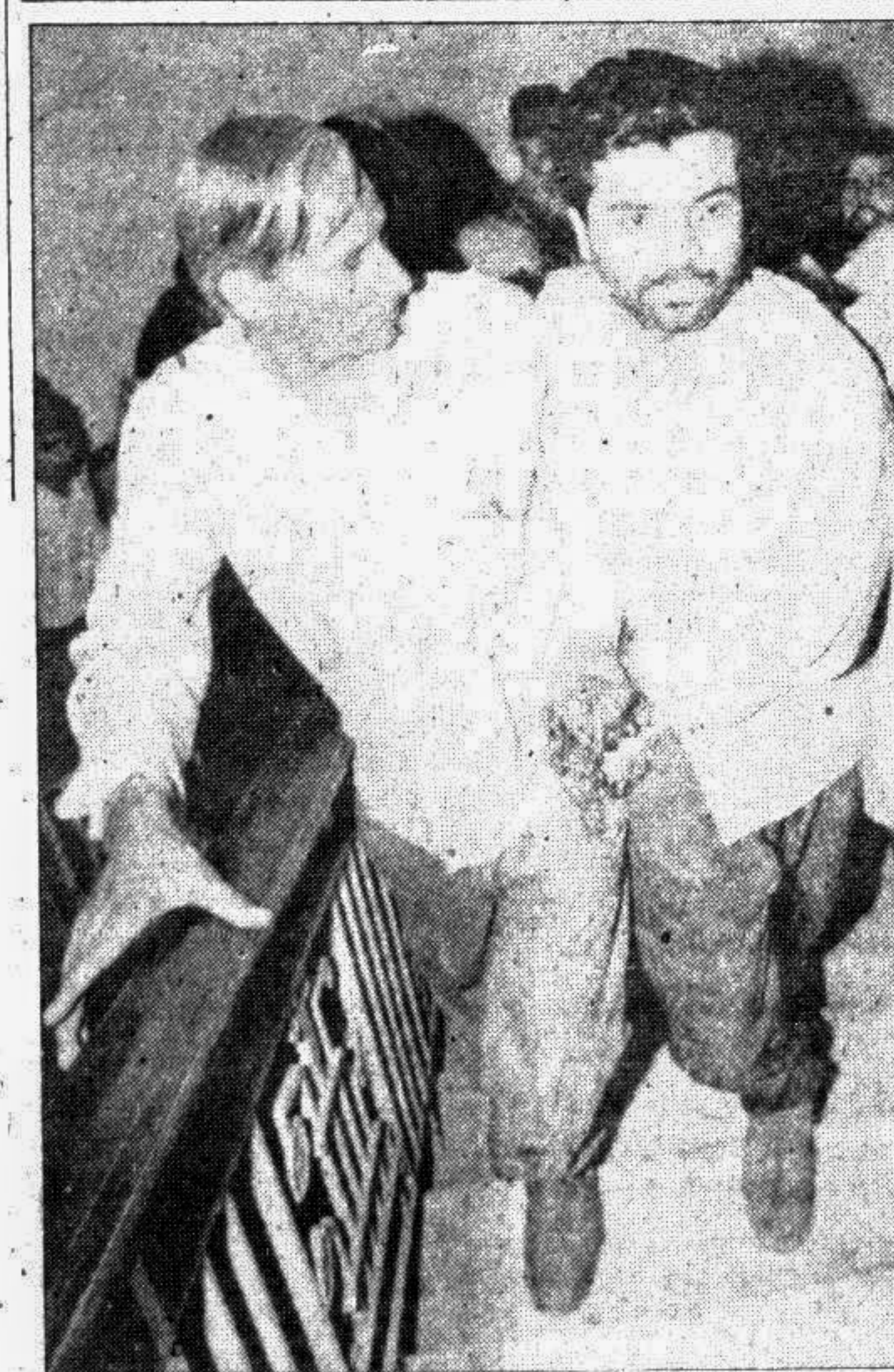
"As the government is losing ground under its feet, it is resorting to various tactics and repressive steps to perpetuate its rule," Hasina said.

Referring to continuous terrorism, unemployment, closure of mills and insecurity of public life, she said, "There can be no change in the present situation until this government is removed."

The Opposition leader called for advancing the current one-point agitation for the welfare of the nation.

The rally was addressed by the party's Social Welfare Secretary Montaz Hossain and Rugganj thana Awami League president Alhaj Abdul Motaleb.

Those who joined the Awami League yesterday include Rugganj thana JSD general secretary Shajahan Bhuiyan, BNP's Nizamuddin Master, Abul Barkat Master, Saded Ali Master, Abdul Quddus Bhuiyan, Mahbubur Rahman, Awal Mia, JCD leader Khorsheed Alam and Jatiya Party's Mazam Ali Siddik and Gari Joyal Abedin.



Yakub Abdul Razak Memon is escorted by a Central Bureau of Investigation officer at the Patiala courthouse following his arrest Friday in the Indian capital. Memon, an alleged mafia leader, is one of the key suspects in a series of blasts in Bombay in March 1993 that killed more than 300 people. — AFP photo

Tributes paid to Tagore

By Staff Correspondent

The nation paid tributes to Rabindranath Tagore on the 53rd anniversary of his death yesterday.

To mark the day, discussions and seminars on the life and works of the Nobel laureate poet and sessions of Tagore songs were organised in the capital and elsewhere in the country.

Radio and television put on air special programmes while the newspapers published articles highlighting Tagore's life and works.

Speakers at a discussion meeting arranged by the Bangla Academy in the city said the Bangalee nation would be ever grateful to Tagore for his unparalleled contribution to Bangla literature.

Prof Anisuzzaman chaired the meeting, held at the academy premises in the afternoon. Dr Masuduzzaman presented the keynote paper while Prof Khaliquzzaman, Ilias, Prof Biswajit Ghosh and Subrata Bhattacharya discussed it. The Director General of the academy, Prof Harun-ur-Rashid delivered the address of welcome.

Prof Harun-ur-Rashid said Tagore's works were the best fruits of the Bangla language and literature and the poet was the most powerful architect of our aesthetic sensibility.

"We need to turn to Tagore at this hour of confrontation because he spread the message of humanity and tranquility."

The discussion was followed by a session of Tagore songs presented by eminent singers of the country.

The Shilpakala Academy also organised a similar programme at its auditorium.

The Bulbul Academy, the Nazrul Academy, the Nazrul Institute and various other socio-cultural organisations also held programmes to mark the day.

Sravan song

By Staff Correspondent

The month of Sravan, unusually dry this year, was interrupted by a spell of heavy rainfall in different parts of the country yesterday.

"The capital itself had a welcome shower in the afternoon. The Met office recorded 14 mm of rainfall in the city."

Hatia recorded some 35mm of rainfall, Tangail 24mm, Faridpur 17mm and Teknaf 22mm.

2-hr strike by RUTA today

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Aug 6: The Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (RUTA) will observe a two-hour strike from 10 am to 12 pm tomorrow (Sunday).

The work stoppage was called in protest against what they called the dishonour shown to the national anthem, at the first senate session of the National University on July 19.

The RUTA will also bring out a procession on the campus at 10 am tomorrow.

Meanwhile, three groups of RU teachers have put forward three panels of candidates for election to the Vice Chancellor panel, scheduled for later this month.

The incumbent VC Prof M Anisur Rahman, Pro-VC Prof Azharuddin and Prof Altaf Hussain of Zoology are contesting from the BNP-backed White panel.

Prof M Yousuf Ali and Prof Umar Ali of Chemistry and Prof M Azharul Islam of Physics are vying from the Jamaat-backed Green panel.

The contestants in the Awami League-backed Yellow panel are Prof F R Khan of Sociology, Prof Abdul Fazal Haq of Political Science and Prof Kayes Uddin of Bio-Chemistry.

Some 93 senate members of RU will elect a 3-member panel for nomination of a new Vice Chancellor of the university for the next four years.

Varsity teachers

From Page 1 Col 5

DU from today to protest the attack on teachers of the university Thursday.

The teachers of the DU will bring out a silent procession from the Aparajeyo Bangla today at 10 am.

The DUTA press release said that all the examinations scheduled for today will be exempted from its programme.

Meanwhile, the students of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of the DU will bring out a silent procession and submit a memorandum to the Vice Chancellor protesting the attack on the Chairman of the department, Dr A M S Arefin Siddique, Thursday.

JCD factions clash

JHENIDAH, Aug 6: Six students were injured in a clash between two factions of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at Saddam Hossain Hall of the Islamic University today (Saturday), reports UNB.

The Midnight File

15 shot dead in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Aug 6: Indian troops shot and killed 15 Muslim militants in four incidents in Kashmir hours before thousands of Muslims thronged the state's holiest mosque Saturday after security troops removed bunkers around the shrine. The removal of the 16 sand bunkers around the Hazratbal Mosque in Srinagar was the focus of a rebel campaign for nearly a year. The killings were not related to the removal of the bunkers, reports AP.

Rocket attack on Kabul:

11 killed, 20 injured

ISLAMABAD, Aug 6: At least 11 people were killed and 20 injured when the Afghan capital Kabul came under a rocket attack by opposition forces today, state-run Radio Kabul reported. The broadcast, monitored here, said that some 20 rockets fired by troops loyal to Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, chief of the Hezb-i-Islami faction, and his ally, ex-Communist general Abdul Rashid Dostan, hit residential parts of the city, reports AFP.

Abiola moved to an unknown destination

LAGOS, Aug 6: Nigerian opposition leader Moshood Abiola, whose family and supporters refused his conditional release on bail, has been moved from his prison near Abuja to an unknown destination, an aide said today, reports AFP.

"Information reaching me this morning indicates that he was moved in the night of Friday from Kuje to an unknown destination," said Fred Eno, a spokesman for the politician who is being tried for treason.

No confirmation of his transfer was immediately available.

Abiola, assumed to have won last year's presidential elections, was ordered released on bail by the federal High Court in the Abuja on Friday.

But the conditional release, headlined on all national newspapers today, was rejected by his family, political associates and the opposition as a political manoeuvre.

The court, following an application filed by a defence lawyer, Ajibola Olaipekun, ap-

proved Abiola's release on bail on condition that he would give a written undertaking not to do anything capable of undermining the peace, unity and stability of the country.

Other conditions were that he would not address a political gathering or travel outside the country without the court's permission.

Transfer and appointment

By Staff Correspondent

Additional Secretary A K M Nazmul Ahsan has been appointed Member, Planning Commission on deputation.

Jalal Uddin Ahmed, Joint Secretary, has been transferred from the Establishment Ministry to the Planning Division.

Amin Ullah, District Judge, Jessore, Khandaker Md Abu Bakr, Member, Administrative Tribunal, Dhaka and Md Hassan Amin, District Judge, Khulna have been promoted to the rank of Joint Secretary and posted at the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

LDF proposals

From Page 1 Col 7

defaulters from being candidate in the parliamentary polls. The retired or dismissed civil or military officials should not be allowed to be candidates in the elections for 5 to 7 years from the date of their retirement or dismissal.

Another LDF proposal is that legal provision for recalling a candidate should be there to ensure accountability of Parliament members to the electorate. A candidate should be recalled either by his/her party or by the electorate through a petition to the Speaker with the signature of people numbering more than one fifth of the votes he/she had obtained in the elections, in case of violation of election manifesto by the candidate, the LDF draft said.

The LDF also said that the financial interests of the MPs must be recorded in a register of members' financial interests to be kept in Parliament library for public scrutiny.

Each candidate must submit a 'wealth statement' of his or her family along with the nomination paper, it added.

The EC must be allowed to function without any undue influence from the state's executive wing.

Besides, the LDF thought it important to introduce some fresh code of conduct for both political parties and the candidates for establishing a 'real' democratic system.

The LDF also felt that the ministers must be made the executive head of their respective ministries because 'this is an essential element in a parliamentary democracy.'

The LDF is also likely to propose introduction of 'prime minister's question-hour' in Parliament because, the combine felt, it would show the government's accountability to Parliament.

The LDF proposals may be announced on August 9.

7 injured as HSC examinees, cops clash in Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Aug 6: At least seven people were injured including five cops in a clash at Mahtabuddin Degree College centre in Kaliganj thana today when unruly examinees attacked an invigilator who restrained them from adopting unfair means in the examination, reports UNB.

Of the injured five policemen two were Officers in Charge and three constables. OCS, Azam Khan and Nurul Islam, were released after first aid while the other three cops were admitted to the Kaliganj Health Complex.

Police said two candidates were also injured during the clash. Invigilator Md Alauddin was also manhandled by the examinees who stormed the Principal's room after the examination was over at around 1 pm.

The stone-throwing candidates numbering over 200 were armed with rods and hockey sticks. They damaged three police vans, one jeep of TNO and another jeep of the Pourashava.

Two separate cases were registered with Kaliganj thana under Anti-Terrorism Act.

Stock market

From Page 1 Col 7

SEC Chairman Sultan-uz-Zaman said emergence of such firms is necessary for supporting the operation of the capital market. Legal provisions are being made to help these firms operate in the market, he said and added that some codes of conduct for such firms are also being made to ensure fair trading.

He, however, said that the SEC has, in the meantime, permitted some of these firms to start operation with limited programmes.

SHAHEEN COME BACK



Your parents are bedridden because of you. Please come back home without any hesitations.

Any kind hearted person coming across 'Shaheen' (Hamidul Islam, age about 20 years) is requested to contact at the following telephones, for which we shall remain obliged.

Dhaka: 405177, 831774, 838225 & 893411
Ctg: 222585, 221153, 225073

Editor: Mahfuz Anam