

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 of 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 to the scene to aid police and

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

Later 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 a group of 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.

Wahid was held with 1.9 kilogrammes 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 Hosni Ara, hailed from Matlab thana of Chandpur and Mehdiganj 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.

Parvin 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

police.

Referring to continuous ter-

rors 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 Dapuria 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.

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 Pousarava 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 Pousarava 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.

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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.

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 interior Minister S B Chavan told a news conference.

All the roads leading to the DU campus were closed.

At about 10:15 in the morn-



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 kilogrammes 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.

Christopher hopeful of ME talks progress

By Staff Correspondent

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 Reuter.

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.

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

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."

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.

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

Those who joined the Awami League yesterday include Rupganj thana JSD general secretary Shahjahan Bhuiyan, BNP's Nizamuddin Master, Abul Barkat Master, Sabed Ali Master, Abdul Quddus Bhuiyan, Mahbubur Rahman, Awal Mia, JCD leader Khorshed Alam and Jatiya Party's Mazam Ali Sikdar and Qari Joynal Abedin.

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

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 Yousef 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 Abul Fazal Haq of Political Science and Prof Kaysar 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.

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

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