

Govt, Opposition MPs talk

From Page 1 Col 5

The caretaker formula proposed by Rashed Khan Menon, Workers Party leader and Sheikh Anser Ali because "we thought that an elected government would not rig election."

"We struggled for nine years against an autocratic ruler who rigged several elections to be in power," Tofael said. "But I was the first victim of BNP government during a bye-election in Bholia."

The Information Minister said democracy should be re-defined if they accept the demands of the opposition parties.

"Democracy does not permit minority rule. It suggests that the majority party should rule the country for a certain period," Nazmul Huda said. "Democracy does not mean creating a crisis in Parliament."

He said that strengthening of the Election Commission could ensure free and fair polls. No caretaker government is needed for this, he added.

The perspective has changed. Now a democratically elected government is in power. The idea of a caretaker government is in contradicts democratic norms," the Information Minister said.

Besides, the caretaker government itself can create a constitutional crisis in the changed political situation, he noted.

The Information Minister already threatened us that those who would agitate for unseating the government would face trial, Tofael said.

He said mere strengthening of the Election Commission would not ensure free and fair polls.

The 1991 election was fair, under this Election Commission because there was an interim caretaker government, he added.

"Any election under a party government can never be free and fair. So we demand a caretaker government," Tofael said.

At the beginning of his speech, the AL leader asked whether the discussion would be impartially reported by the Television.

The Information Minister said that if they wanted, he would ask the TV authorities to drop the item. Later, both the sides reached a consensus that the TV would only report that a roundtable on caretaker issue was held.

He alleged that the opposition parties now want a weak government because they have already realised that rigging is not possible under the BNP government.

He said that the constitutional amendment sought by the opposition parties was not

possible without the endorsement of the people.

The Information Minister regretted that a third party had organised the roundtable enabling them to debate on the issue although "We have a place to sit and debate," meaning the Jatiya Sangsad.

He said: "We had reached a consensus during the 12th Amendment and now, I hope, we would be able to reach similar consensus to ensure free and fair elections."

"The government of Begum Zia is ready to do everything to ensure free and fair elections in the country."

Maulana Abdus Sobhan of the Jamaat said that by ignoring the opposition demands the ruling party had pushed the country into a crisis.

He suggested the senior leaders of the ruling and opposition parties resolve the matter before the next JS session, scheduled in September.

Barrister Ziaur Rahman Khan of the BNP said the minority cannot impose anything in a parliamentary democracy, they can only propose.

"Where is your authority to boycott Parliament?" he questioned.

"A caretaker administration is an alien graft. It goes against the constitutional spirit," he said.

Salahuddin Yousuf of the AL said: "We can enter into a process (in Parliament) if the ruling party tables a bill on a caretaker government."

Shamsuddoha of the Gana Forum urged the two major opposition parties to hold discussions to resolve the issue.

SAMS Kibria, member of the AL advisory committee, said "Stability is a must for the development of a country."

He said that an unstable situation was now prevailing in the country. Stability would not be restored if this government holds any election keeping the opposition parties away, he said.

Abul Hasan Chowdhury said the AL would also follow the caretaker provision if it comes to power. He said the opposition parties are fighting to ensure fair elections, not to topple the government.

Lutfar Rahman Shafiqhan said solution of the matter lay in a consensus among the leaders of the major political parties.

Sheikh Anser Ali of the Jamaat said "It will be a collective failure of the political parties if they fail to resolve the crisis."

SC Bar Association secretary Ozair Farooq said his organisation had already proposed holding the next four general elections under caretaker governments.

He claimed that the idea of forming a caretaker government first came from the Supreme Court Bar in 1991.

Ansar Ali Siddiki of the BNP said the people are now frustrated. They are questioning whether Parliament would survive the prevailing crisis.

Mahfuz Anam, who moderated the roundtable, said "It is evident that there is a great degree of mistrust between the two major parties and we the people are the victims."

The bitterness between the parties is increasing day by day.

"We appeal of them to resolve the matter immediately," he concluded.

Campus peace

From Page 1 Col 8

The VC along with Proctor Dr Nazrul Islam led a peace procession of the students. The processionists pledged to work unitedly for normalcy on the campus.

The celebration at Madhu's canteen was attended by among others, JCD leaders Fazlul Huq Milon, Nazimuddin Alam, Shahiduddin Chowdhury Annie and Mosharef Hossain, the Awami League-backed Chhatra League (M-L) leaders Moinuddin Hasan Chowdhury, Iqbalur Rahim, Pankaj Deb Nath and GCO leaders Belal Chowdhury, Ragib Ahsan Munna.

After a week-long ban on political activities on the campus imposed on August 6 following violence on August 4, pro-BNP Jatiyatibadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) brought out a procession and held a rally at the Aparajeo Bangla yesterday morning. The Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) also held a rally.

The JCD leaders at its rally urged all student bodies to see that the 'consensus' among the student bodies reached Friday lasts long.

The rally was addressed by JCD President Fazlul Huq Milon, Nazimuddin Alam, Shahiduddin Chowdhury Annie, Nasriddin Pintu, Sujon, Moniruzzaman Monir, Munir Hossain.

Meanwhile, some BCL leaders told this correspondent that they would start their organisational activities on the campus today.

The general students, however, seemed not so enthusiastic about the consensus among the student bodies. Many of them said the question is how long will this consensus last.

Meanwhile, sources in the student organisations said that they would adopt a code of conduct for the student bodies and it would be circulated by the university authorities.

The authorities would take immediate steps to bring back the students 'ousted' from the residential halls following the August 4 violence sources said.

Huda's remarks

From Page 1 Col 4

the affairs of the state," he said.

All sections of the society including the doctors, engineers, teacher, students, labourers and the political activists were now protesting the government's misuse, he added.

"The whole nation is now experiencing a total crisis under the BNP rule," he said. "We will continue our systematic and legitimate agitation until its logical end. We are not afraid of any threat of imprisonment."

Zillur Rahman maintained that the minister had attempted to create anarchy at a time when normalcy was restored at the Dhaka University and the Jamaat-Shibir-fundamentalist group became sick and tired. "The minister has been assigned to do the job," the AL leader remarked.

Jatiya Party leader Moudud Ahmed, in his reaction, said, "It's not worthy of any comment."

Referring to Section 124A of the Penal Code, he said, "It's a misreading of the law, the purpose of which is completely different than what the Information Minister has tried to imply."

Jamaat-e-Islami leader Sheikh Anser Ali termed the minister's statement 'illegal and illogical' and said section, 124A of the BPC was not applicable to what the minister said.

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: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia distributing relief materials among the people affected by a flash flood in Fulgazi thana of Feni district yesterday. —PID photo

Jute geotextile

From Page 1 Col 4

overseas demand of the new product would increase manifold because of its environment-friendly and pollution-free nature.

Terminology of the innovation of the technology as a milestone in the quest for agro-diversity, she said the International Geotextile Society had already recognised the product.

"Realistic programmes have been taken up to increase diversified uses of jute for revival of jute and the jute industry," Begum Zia said, referring to the steps taken by her government to revitalise the ruined economy it had inherited.

Technology for producing pulp from green jute has been developed in the country and already applied in producing industrial grade paper, she pointed out. Items like quality jute clothes, bags, curtains, chadars, wallcovers, nursery pots and garbage bags have also been evolved from jute.

"I think commercial production of these products will cut import and boost export. We'll get back the tradition and lost glory of the golden fibre," she said, adding "it is estimated that local consumption of jute will increase by 50 per cent. The jute mills will utilise their maximum capacity."

The Prime Minister also stressed the need for the best application of innovative faculty and creativity to reach the desired goal of development.

Agriulture and Irrigation Minister Majid-ul Huq appreciated the innovation and lauded the success achieved in diversification of jute in the three years since this government took over.

Dr Zahid Hossain Prodhan, in his keynote paper, said the soil of Bangladesh is ideal for application of geotextile which is designed as biodegradable and hydrophobic in nature, friendly to the environment and even usable by our unskilled labour.

It has been proved that jute geotextile can definitely be used in various earthen structures such as fibre-drain, separators, filter and reinforced material in roads and highways, embankments, dams, barrages, railway tracks and defence constructions, said Prodhan, who has gleaned 15 years of experience in the field of geotextile-related erection engineering in European countries.

"Jute geotextile is most important because jute can be used in bulk internally due to flexible and drapable properties of the fibre... it can easily take the shape of contours under any condition," he added.

WB loans

From Page 1 Col 7

tal plans; setting up of a special court for dealing with disputes of the affected people; payment of compensation to the affected people in Tangail; appointment of necessary consultants; execution of the subsidiary loan agreement between the government and the JMBA; and approval of the revised project proforma by the ECNEC.

The government on Thursday informed the WB it had successfully fulfilled the conditions and requested the loan be made effective.

The declaration of effectiveness of respective credit agreements by the co-financiers will now enable the government to draw funds from the donor sources. This will also facilitate reimbursement by the co-financiers to the government of the advance loans paid to the contractors.

"The declaration of credit effectiveness by the financiers is a very important event in the process of project implementation because this completes and ensures the financing arrangements," said the JMBA press release.

The main works of the Jamuna bridge project will now start in full swing from September/October with dredging of the eastern bank of the river Jamuna, said the JMBA.

Murders in city

From Page 1 Col 5

state. The killer fled the scene immediately.

The deceased is a brother of film actor Alamgir. Ramna thana informed that a case has been filed by Alamgir against one Mamun of the same locality, and a friend of the victim, accusing him of the murder.

In another incident, Noorjahan Begum, 35, a garments worker was reportedly hacked by her husband at 1 pm yesterday at their residence at Tamalcourt under Cantonment thana.

Noorjahan was attacked with a 'boti' by her husband Taslim, a day-labourer, after she reportedly refused to give him a hundred taka.

Police arrested Taslim and a case has been filed with the Cantonment thana. The deceased, who hailed from Sunamganj, is survived by three daughters.

BNP patronising: Hasina

From Page 1 Col 5

feated forces of 1971 are now in power and have been controlling the state machinery since the killing of Bangabandhu in 1975," the Awami League president said.

Referring to the present politics, she said the Awami League has announced a one-point programme and demanded parliamentary polls under a caretaker government after examining the overall political and economic situation, which she termed "alarming."

"Everyone knows well what will be the election result under the BNP government," said the opposition leader who feared that if elections were held under the BNP, it would capture two-thirds of the seats by rigging and then amend the Constitution to revert to a presidential system.

Describing the political and socio-economic condition of the post-75 era, Hasina said misrule, corruption and terrorism have crippled the national economy, leaving an adverse impact on every sector of national life.

"The present situation is rather alarming because of the last 19 years' rule," she told the meeting organised by the Bangabandhu Parishad.

Presided over by Sufia Kamal, the discussion was addressed by Prof Zillur Rahman Siddique, Dr Nilima Ibrahim and Dr SA Malek.

Accusing late president Ziaur Rahman for amending the Constitution, reviving fundamentalist politics and rehabilitating the 'war criminals' in his government, Hasina lamented the division among the pro-liberation forces because of petty interests and inferiority complexes.

Referring to the indemnity Ordinance which gives legal protection to the killers of Bangabandhu, Hasina said Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali,

Ban on Bosnia

Bangladesh has welcomed the US initiative on lifting the arms embargo against the Bosnian Muslims, reports UNB.

"Bangladesh considers the US initiative as a timely and effective step," said a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry yesterday commenting about US President Clinton's announcement on lifting the arms

Bangladeshi killed

From Page 1 Col 6

The injured man has been discharged.

The killing of the Bangladeshi warrant officer was the first violent incident reported along the border for months. The two other casualties were also Bangladeshis.

About 775 armed Bangladeshi troops arrived in December 1993 and January 1994 to reinforce 250 unarmed observers who had been deployed along the border for over two years.

PM assures allout help to flood-hit Fulgazi people

Feni, Aug 13: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today visited the areas in Fulgazi thana of the district hit by flash floods on Friday, assuring the local people of allout assistance in time of their distress, reports UNB.

She talked to the local people, distributed some relief materials and assured that her government would always stand beside them during all crises.

Later, the local official briefed the Prime Minister about the flood losses and informed her of the steps taken in this regard. Nearly 6070 acres of crops were inundated by water of river Muburi amidst incessant rain.

Prokrichi strike on Aug 18

By Staff Correspondent

The Prokrichi-BCS Central Action Council has called a full day strike by its members on August 18 in protest against, what it termed, bureaucratic conspiracy and repression by the government.

The call was given by the council at a press conference in the capital yesterday afternoon.

The planned Prokrichi strike coincides with a 48-hour work abstinence on August 17 and August 18 by the doctors in government hospitals to press for reinstatement of 12 suspended physicians.

NATO Secy-General Woerner dead

BRUSSELS, Aug 13: NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner has died of cancer, a NATO spokesman said Saturday. He was 59, reports AP.

"He died today at 1313 Brussels time, at his home in Brussels," said NATO spokesman Francois Leblevenec.

Woerner has undergone a series of operations for colon cancer, and had taken the summer off to recover. He had planned to return to his post in September.

Woerner became secretary-general in 1988 succeeding Britain's Lord Carrington. He was the first German to hold the top executive post at NATO, and steered the alliance through the tumultuous end of the Cold War.

NATO Secy-General Woerner dead

BRUSSELS, Aug 13: NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner has died of cancer, a NATO spokesman said Saturday. He was 59, reports AP.

"He died today at 1313 Brussels time, at his home in Brussels," said NATO spokesman Francois Leblevenec.

Woerner has undergone a series of operations for colon cancer, and had taken the summer off to recover. He had planned to return to his post in September.

Woerner became secretary-general in 1988 succeeding Britain's Lord Carrington. He was the first German to hold the top executive post at NATO, and steered the alliance through the tumultuous end of the Cold War.

Prokrichi strike on Aug 18

By Staff Correspondent

The Prokrichi-BCS Central Action Council has called a full day strike by its members on August 18 in protest against, what it termed, bureaucratic conspiracy and repression by the government.

The call was given by the council at a press conference in the capital yesterday afternoon.

The planned Prokrichi strike coincides with a 48-hour work abstinence on August 17 and August 18 by the doctors in government hospitals to press for reinstatement of 12 suspended physicians.

The Midnight File

28 Iranian pilgrims killed in road accident

TEHRAN, Aug 13: At least 28 pilgrims were killed instantly and 12 other were injured when a lorry crashed head-on into a coach in central Iran, state television said today. The accident happened on the road to Meibod, north of the city of Yazd, when the lorry smashed into a coach carrying pilgrims returning from a visit to shrine of Imam Reza in the holy city of Mashhad, reports AFP.

ANC in tatters

SESHEGO (South Africa), Aug 13: President Nelson Mandela, nearing 100 days in office, conceded today that his ruling African National Congress (ANC) party was in tatters. Making the admission before 4,000 supporters, Mandela promised to take charge of rebuilding the party, saying the problem set in after it won South Africa's all-race elections in April and senior members moved into government, reports Reuters.

Power sector reform

From Page 1 Col 4

failed to endorse it due to lack of political will of the government", different official sources said.

Meanwhile, the combined collection of bills by both PDB and DESA showed about a two per cent drop in fiscal '93 against fiscal '92. From 86.2 per cent in FY'92, it dropped to 84.5 per cent.

The situation has deteriorated further since July 1993 when it reached 73.2 per cent. In January 1994, the figure was 81.8 per cent, then dropped to 76.1 per cent in February and finally plunged to 66.5 per cent.

This poor performance has resulted in an average 79.2 per cent collection during the July '93-March '94 period.

On the other hand, the collection to generation (CG) ratio, which is considered a benchmark for performance by the WB, also slumped during the July '93-March '94 period.

The combined CG ratio in FY '92 was 51.6 and improved to 54.8 in FY '93, but then dropped to 51.6 during the July '93-March '94 period.

The figure was as low as 44 in March 1994.

Period	PDB %	DESA %	Combined %
July '92	38.9	77.8	
Aug '92	38.9	82.6	
Sept '92	38.0	83.3	
Oct '92	37.5	76.6	
Nov '92	36.3	86.0	
Dec '92	36.7	104.4	
Jan '93	36.1	74.4	

Period	S.L (%)	Coll. (%)
July '92	38.9	77.8
Aug '92	38.9	82.6
Sept '92	38.0	83.3
Oct '92	37.5	76.6
Nov '92	36.3	86.0
Dec '92	36.7	104.4
Jan '93	36.1	74.4

Bangladesh Power Sector Key Performance Indicators

From Page 1 Col 5

party will garland the portrait of Sheikh Mujib at the Bangabandhu Bhaban at Dhanmondi in the morning, visit the Banani graveyard in the afternoon and attend a milad mahfil at the Bangabandhu Bhaban after Asr prayers. The day's programmes also include wearing of black badges, hoisting black flags, feeding the poor, discussion meetings, Qurankhuan and milad mahfils in the city and elsewhere in the country.

The Bangabandhu Parishad will hold a public gathering at the Suhrawardy Uddyan at 4 pm tomorrow and later bring out a condolence procession from there which will march upto the Bangabandhu Bhaban. At 5 pm, the parishad leaders will garland the portrait of Bangabandhu at his Dhanmondi residence.

ANNOUNCEMENT

MITA TEXTILES LTD.

ISSUE AT PAR

OPENS ON : 8TH AUGUST, 1994

CLOSES ON : 17TH AUGUST, 1994

MITA TEXTILES LIMITED

Public Company Limited by Shares

FINANCED BY : SABINCO & BSB

UNDERWRITTEN BY : SABINCO, BSB & ICB

AUTHORISED CAPITAL : TK 20,00,00,000 DIVIDED INTO 20,00,000 ORDINARY SHARES OF TK 100/- EACH

REGISTERED OFFICE : 92, KAKRAIL (GROUND FLOOR) Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh. FACTORY : SREPUR, GAZIPUR.

DETAIL OF SHARE ISSUE subscribed and fully paid up by:

1. SPONSORS	Tk. 4,50,00,000/00
2. SABINCO	Tk. 4,50,00,000/00
3. W. I. CARR (Far East Ltd.) Hongkong	Tk. 80,00,000/00
4. Regent Mogul Fund Ltd. Hongkong	Tk. 80,00,000/00
5. IS Himalayan Fund 'C' SHARES Netherlands	Tk. 2,40,00,000/00
	Tk. 4,00,00,000/00
Total:	Tk.13,00,00,000/00

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Issue of Equity Shares at par from a viable textile unit. Textile industry has been identified as thrust Sector for growth in Bangladesh.
- No gestation period since first phase just commissioned and the planned expansion to be completed in next 6/8 months assures immediate returns.
- Assured market because of quality of product.
- In addition to Sponsors equity of Tk 90 million, several foreign institutions have already invested in equity to the extent of Tk 40 million.

RISK FACTORS :

Any of the following factors might affect the profitability of the Company:

- Any changes in the prices of main raw materials viz Raw Cotton, Polyester, Viscose.
- Any imposition of duties/taxes by the Government of Bangladesh in the future.
- Any adverse fluctuation in exchange rate of the Taka will increase the foreign liability.
- FIXED ASSETS : Tk 1,81,85,352/- included in Building & Civil Works and Tk 4,37,44,825/- included in Machineries represent capitalisation of pre-operation expenses and interest & financial expenses.
- The Company has not charged interest on Long Term Loans and Partial depreciation on plant and machinery which if charged would make net profit for the year and accumulated loss different.

NOW OFFERED FOR SUBSCRIPTION IN CASH IN FULL ON APPLICATION. 500,000 Ordinary Shares at Tk. 100/- each are being hereby offered to the general public for subscription in cash in full on application 5,00,00,000/- (Including 1,00,000 ordinary shares of Tk. 100/- each amounting to Tk. 1,00,00,000/- reserved for ICB)

BANKERS TO THE ISSUE

AMERICAN EXPRESS BANK LIMITED, AMEX (Dhaka)

ARAB BANGLADESH BANK LIMITED—(Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Rajshahi, Khulna & Barisal)

BANGLADESH SHILPA BANK—(Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi & Khulna)

EASTERN BANK LIMITED—(Dhaka, Chittagong)

INVESTMENT CORPORATION OF BANGLADESH—(Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Sylhet and Barisal)

JANATA BANK—(Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Sylhet & Barisal)

MANAGER TO THE ISSUE

SABINCO