Countrywide hartal observed

rom Page 1 Col 4 attack a brick fell on Tareg's head injuring him seriously.

Near the Ittefaq Bhaban, at 1 pm. a journalist of the Dainik Lal Sabuj. Kibria Chowdhury. received bomb injuries in the lower part of his body when some miscreants hurled cocktails at random

Another clash took place between the activists of JCD and BCL at around 12.15 noon at the Litumir College premises. None was however. unnued

At around 9 am handbombs were hurled at a group of pro-hartal demonstrators at Farm Gate. Witnesses said that the bombs were thrown from a running minibus which was carrying a group of armed vouths.

AL leaders Begum Matia Chowdhury and Shahjahan Khan were present among the demonstrators at the spot.

Pro-hartal and anti-hartal activists also clashed at Rampura at 7.30 am leaving at least three persons injured.

A young man, identified as Enamul Huq. was seriously injured when a bomb exploded at Topkhana crossing at about I pm while a procession of Jativa Party was passing through the area.

Motor vehicles were off the roads in the capital during hartal hours except a few minibuses and BRTC double deckers which were seen plying in an 'unusual route' under police escort.

Rickshaws were seen plying freely in the city in the afternoon since the hartal organisers exempted those from 12

Government offices were open, but attendance was thin. Private offices, business enterprises, shops, and educational institutions remained closed during the hartal.

The AL. the JP and the Jamaat brought out separate processions in the city yesterday chanting anti-government slogans.

Our DMCH Correspondent reports: At least 16 people injured in different incidents during the hartal were admitted to the DMCH. Two of the injured suffered bullet injuries while 6 were hit by splinters of crackers, one was stabbed and the rest were injured in brick batting.

BCL leader Mehdi Hasan Shawkat was also admitted to the DMCH.

The injured people are: Jahangir, Amir Hossain, Anamul. Kibria Chowdhury, Shawkat. Tareq Ibne Shams. Sattar. Saiful Bachchu, Ruhul Amin. Delwar Hossain, Babul, Yusuf, Amal and Ruhul Amin.

Our correspondent in Narayanganj reports: A dawn to dusk hartal was observed peacefully in all the seven thanas of the district. In Narayangani town, some crackers were exploded injuring one person. Production in the industrial areas was af-

fected. The authorities of the Adamjee Jute Mills however, aimed that the mills operated normally

Our staff correspondent in Chittagong adds: Yesterday's dawn-to-dusk hartal paralysed normal life in this port city and surrounding areas. There were Sporadic blasts of cock-

Most of the vehicles, including rickshaws, were off the roads. Only after 12 noon. rickshaws were allowed to ply. Railway sources said, train service here was normal.

City markets and shopping centres remained closed Offices and banks could not function because of thin atten-

dance. Mills and factories at Nasi rabad, Kalurghat, Sitakunda and Patenga could not operate causing loss of production.

Chittagong port sources said, delivery of goods to and from the port was suspended though cargo handling was as usual inside the jetties.

Rallies were also organised by opposition parties.

Our staff correspondent in Sylhet reports: A hartal was observed in all the four districts of greater Sylhet region yesterday. Five Persons were injured during chase and counter chase between the activists of the Awami League and the BNP at Biswanath thana headquarters.

All shops and offices were closed in Sylhet town. No classes were held in the educational institutions.

All the trains, including the express and inter-city ones. moved in time. Railway official

The District Awami League held a meeting its president Syed Abu Nosor in the chair. The district Jatiya Party also hold a meeting.

Hartal was also observed peacefully in Sunamganj Habiganj and Moulvibazar districts. There was no report of any untoward incident.

Our staff correspondent in Rajshahi adds: A full-day hartal was observed in the city peacefully.

No classes or examinations were held at the Rajshahi University. The AL backed Chhatra League and the Islami Chhatra Shibir brought out processions in support of the

The Jativatabadi Chhatra Dal also brought out a procession opposing the hartal.

UNB reports from Manikganj: At least 50 gun shots were fired and several crackers exploded injuring more than 20 people in a clash between BNP and Awami League supporters in the town vesterday evening.

Witnesses said the clash ensued when BNP supporters attacked the local Awami League office after a cracker was hurled on a BNP procession near Uttara Bank.

The BNP brought out the procession to protest Monday's

2 missing as boat BNP plans sinks in Meghna

CHANDPUR, Sept 13: Two fishermen were missing when a fishing boat sank into the river Meghna near Mohonpur Bazar. 20 kilometers from here on Sunday, police said today, reports UNB.

The missing fishermen are: Delwar Hossain, 50, and Md Shahidullah, 55, both hailed village the Mohammadpur in Matlab thana of Chandpur.

The boat carrying four fishrimen sank into the river when a Barisal bound passenger launch from Dhaka hit the boat at 11 pm on Sunday.

Two inmates of the boat swam ashore while the rest of them are still missing, police

Turkish troops kill 36 Kurds

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey, Sept 13: Turkish troops killed 36 Kurdish rebels in a series of clashes in the southeast Tuesday, the regional governor's office said. Three soldiers were also reported killed. The guerillas belong to the Kurdistan Workers' Party.

Barricade

From Page 1 Col 8 The programmes also include demonstrations and mass contact tours by party leaders from September 18 to 26 and rallies in Dhaka on Sept 28.

The Opposition will announce future programmes from their respective rallies on that day.

Leaders of the three opposition parties, who have been boycotting Parliament since March 1 demanding that future national elections be held under a caretaker government. threatened the government with an all-out, campaign if their demands were not met.

From Page 1 Col 8 the government during its three-and-a-half-year tenure in office will also be highlighted through the state-controlled media and seminars and symposia, party sources said.

According to the programmes, the ruling party would organise public meetings and processions in all the 90 wards of the city from September 16 to 22. From September 23 to 30 the party leaders would address rallies in the other cities and towns.

The Prime Minister will address a number of rallies outside Dhaka.

The meeting held yesterday at the Tejgaon office of the Prime Minister also reviewed the situation in the wake of the Opposition agitation during the past four days.

The BNP leaders resolved that the door would remain open for a dialogue but the "opposition parties should not be given any walkover in the political field.

According to a BNP source the ruling party would still try to bring the Opposition to the negotiating table.

"Side by side, we would gear up our organisational aclivities," the source, who attended yesterday's 'meeting, told The Daily Star.

The meeting was attended by BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukder, Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury, Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman, Finance Minister Saifur Rahman, Irrigation Minister M Majid-ul Huq. Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz, Works Minister Raffqul Islam Miah * and Khandaker Belwar Hossain. Besides, the above & standing committee members. Labour Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and Commerce Minister Shamsul Islam were also present.

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, Dhanmand Hos Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fak No. 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA

incident in which Awami League supporters ransacked the BNP office and allegedly looted a shop.

Police fired two rounds of tear gas shells to disperse the rival groups.

Organising Secretary of local BNP Advocate Azad Hossain Khan in a statement said 12 BNP workers were injured in the clash.

In Pabna, at least 15 people were injured in a clash between supporters of BNP and Awami League at South Raghabpur at about 11 am. Five of them were admitted to Pabna Sadar Hospital.

Those admitted to the hospital were identified as Shamim (25) and Asad (27) of AL and Mamun (30), Azad (25) and Shamsuzzaman Manir (32) of BNP.

About 30 rounds of gunshots were fired and 10 handmade bombs exploded during the clash that continued until police intervened and brought the situation under control.

Shops, banks and educational institutions were closed during the hartal. All modes of transports except a few rickshaws were off the roads.

The Awami League and the BNP brought out processions in the town for and against the

Our correspondents in Brahmanbaria, Kishoreganj and Sherpur also reported obserwance of the hartal in the dis-

Troops to Haiti From Page 1 Col 4

Chowdhury, MP, said over telephone, that his party was not, opposed to sending the

"But it is ironic that while the government was sending troops to restore democracy in Haiti, it was suppressing pro-democracy agitations at home." Chowdhury said.

The JP leader also recalled that the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) had observed a general strike to protest the then JP government's decision to send troops to Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War in 1991.

Matiur Rahman Nizami, MP of the Jamaat-e-Islami observed: "Without taking a position either for or against the decision, we feel the parliamentary Opposition should have been consulted. "At least, the government

could have discussed the issue in Parliament despite the fact that the Opposition is boycotting the Jatiya Sangsad proceedings," the Jamaat leader Gano Forum (GF) leader Shamsuddoha, MP, felt that as

long as the UN was to pursuing uniform policies to help democracy-loving people overthrow autocratic regimes in any part of the world, his party had no objection to sending troops to join such UN mis-

"In the present case, the government should have discussed the issue in Parliament," Shamsuddoha said.

Rashed Khan Menon, MP, of the Left Democratic Front. however, opposed the government decision, arguing that it was violative of the Constitution.

Referring to Article 25, Menon said, 'The government is obliged to pursue a foreign policy based on 'principles of respect for national sovereignty and equality, noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries' and strive for the renunciation of the use of force in international relations.

The LDF leader also feared that the United States, by planning to invade Haiti under the cover of a UN resolution. was actually paving its way for further invasion of recalcitrant Latin American countries.

Suranjit Sengupta, MP, of the Ganatantri Party (GP), echoing the LDF position, said the UN had resolved to apply force in Haiti.

"But Bangladesh, according to its Constitution, is supposed to oppose any such military approach to resolving disputes at the international level." Sengupta said.

The Ganatantrik Biplobi Jote, an alliance of some Leftleaning organisations, also opposed the decision to send troops, arguing that the action was nothing but subservience to the United States which plans to invade Haiti for its own ends.

Jatiya Party

From Page 1 Col 8

Hossain Maju MP, Sardar Amjad Hossain MP, Monirul Huq Chowdhury MP, Khaledur Rahman Tito. Anisul Islam Mahmud and Ziauddin Ahmed Bablu, * . .

On the BNP's elaim that the opposition's demand for a caretaker government is unconstitutional, Mizan Chowdhury said then it was also unconstitutional in 1990 when the opposition parties, including the BNP, demanded the same.

binding on the nations



The Baily Star

Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina yesterday visited injured Mehdi Hasan, president of the Motijheel thana BCL (S-P) at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital. - Star photo

are being used by the govern-From Page 1 Col 7

to government mefficiency and rorruption

The AL chief alleged that the ministers and ruling party MPs were misappropriating public funds and demanded the formation of a commission to investigate the matter. "The commission should

investigate what assets the ministers had and how much they possess now after three years in power," she said. Sheikh Hasina alleged that hired hoodlums of the gov-

ernment had opened fire upon and injured a number of leaders and workers of the AL during yesterday's hartal. She thanked the people for "resisting the hoodlums and

The Leaders of the Opposition urged the people to make the future programmes equally successful. Sheikh Hasina plans to

making the hartal a success."

travel by train from Khulna to Syedpur on September 23 and from Dhaka to Chittagong on September 25 as part of her mass contact programme before the rail-road barricade on September 27. In reply to a question re-

garding the state-run radio and television, she said "Radio-TV

ment as their paternal prop-

Replying to another question regarding the prudence or propriety of any Opposition MF accompanying official Bangladesh parliamentary del egation abroad at this juncture of national politics. Sheikh Hasina said, "The trip is not financed by the government; the invitation came from the International Parliamentary Union.

The question was in reference to the inclusion of AL MF Mohiuddin Ahmed and Jatiya Party MP Fazle Rabbi in the five-member Bangladesh delegation to the Congress of the IPU now being held in the Danish capital Copenhagen. Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali is heading the team.

Among others, party gen eral secretary Zillur Rahman. deputy leader of the Parliament. Abdus Samad Azad Tofael Ahmed, Amir Hossain Amu, Mativa Chowdhury, Rahmat Ali, Abdul Mannan Sudhangshu Shekhar Halder Nurul Islam Nahid, KM Jahangir, Sahera Khatun, Kamruzzaman were present at the press conference.

White House plane crash a suicide?

PERRY POINT, Maryland, Sept 13: His marriage had just fallen apart, his father had died of cancer and he had problems with drugs and alcohol - and he had talked of suicide.

These circumstances caused Frank Corder's relatives to say it was not politics but a determination to end his life that motivated him to steal a small plane in the middle of the night, fly it to Washington and crash it on the White House lawn, reports AP.

"He did this to destroy himself," said an aunt, Edith Dishman.

"Frank has been down on drugs and alcohol before. He told me that sometimes ... he just wished he had a gun," added a cousin. Dee George.

Corder, 38, who worked as self-employed freight truck driver and had a student pilot licence, died in the crash. John Corder, of Aberdeen

Maryland, said his brother may have been trying to emulate Mathias Rust, a 19-year-old German pilot who landed a small plane in Red Square in Moscow on May 28, 1987.

"One time he mentioned about the guy that landed in Red Square and how that guy made a big thing for himself and everything landing in Red Square, and the Kremlin, John Corder said.

On the other hand, the Washington Post quoted John Corder as saying his brother had spoken in a phone call a year ago of a desire to crash a plane into the White House.

Hartals cause export loss of Tk 450cr'

Hartals for three days have dealt a severe blow to the country's exports - particularly garments exports causing a loss of about Tk 450 crore, reports UNB

Giving this estimate of losses in a statement yesterday, Redwan Ahmed MP, president of the Exporters' Association of Bangladesh (EAB). cautioned frequent strikes would hit hard the exports upsetting the objectives of export-led growth in the country.

"Readymade garments sector alone is sitting on a finished products of Tk 156 crore," the statement said with a note of warning that foreign buyers who once shifted from Sri Lanka to Bangladesh would divert again to other countries in Africa and Latin America

Shipment of a large volume of finished leather worth about Tk 25 crore is also being delayed, said the statement. Other export sub-sectors too are having similar problems, it added.

Redwan said that the unrest would 'tarnish' the national image abroad, scaring away the foreign investment.

The EAB president appealed to the political parties to settle political issues through negotiations, so that the production and exports could go uninterrupted.

Mostafiz's retori Did any one hear President

Clinton and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia speak over telephone? Did Kibria hear their conversation? Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman has asked.

The foreign minister said this when his attention was drawn to a clarification issued by SAMS Kibria, a senior advisor to the Awami League president, reports UNB. The minister also urged

that quarters concerned should refrain from implicating the US President in the internal political polemics in Bangladesh. He parried a question con cerning a US Embassy official's

assertion that President Clinton's call was in no way concerned with the events of September 10 in Dhaka. In reply to a question from the UNB. Mostafiz asked did

the official concerned hear the

conversation between the two

Invasion of Haiti will set dangerous precedent: Gaddafi

TUNIS. Sept 13: Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi. who fears the West may attack Libya over Lockerbte, said today a US invasion of Haiti would set a dangerous precedent, reports

"If the invasion of Haiti is carried out... it will confirm what we have already said about the United States, its tyranny, its dangerousness for the whole of humanity, and will confirm also that the United States is a state without conscience nor morality. Gaddafi said in a statement

Jamaat

From Page 1 Col 5

not be taken lightly because it was proved in 1991 that a fair and impartial election was possible only under a neutral caretaker government and not

under the party in power. He hoped that without wasting time the government would initiate a bill on a caretaker government.

The press briefing was also attended among others by Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mujahid, Mohammad Qamaruzzaman and Sheikh Ansar Ali MP.

Cairo confce okays plan

From Page 1 Col 4 for extra-marital relations, which are against Islamic law. Other Muslim countries that boycotted the IPCD include Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Sudan

and Lebanon.

Delegates said the Vatican won many concessions, especially in the area of reproductive health. But conference Secretary

General Nafis Sadik described the forum as a success. 'All the revisions, they really don't change the sense of any of it, and I believe that the spirit for implementing it is very much there,' she told a

press conference. The UN International Conference on Population and Development had a mandate to find ways of curbing world population, which is growing at a record rate of more than 90 million people a year.

The action plan sets an agenda for the next two decades and calls for annual spending of 17 billion dollars by the year 2000 for population control and development, The Constitution is for the or about triple the current exor about triple the current ex-

to it. But delegates

say it carries a 'moral weight' and gives new ammunition to politicians and private groups to lobby for change.

The approved 14-chapter Cairo Document will now be placed before the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) for consideration.

The ICPD Plenary over, the mood in the corridors at the Cairo International Conference Centre was light with members of some delegations and women activists seen warmly hugging each other after Chairman of the Plenary, Egypt's Health Minister Dr Maher Mahran announced the Conference closed.

'It's been a great victory for the women, said a beaming woman activist, the conference has been successful in charting a women-centred agenda." "Women have been the

engine of this document," said

Bella Abzug, a doyen of the

Women's Caucus Group at the ICPD. However, a cautious reaction came from M Fazlur Rahman, who was leading the Bangladesh delegation to the

"It is a great experience for us, he said as The Daily Star approached him for his immediate reaction on the Third Population Conference. The Health and Family

Welfare Minister, who led the Bangladesh team in the opening session of the conference as well as the Health Secretary had already left Cairo for home. Dr Halida Hanum Akhter, a member of the delegation, said

commodate diverse views and the objectives were defined to cover a wide-range of women's Sandra Kabir, another member and one of the leading women activist of the country. commented that the ICPD has been a breakthrough because

"the women have achieved

that the Cairo Document was

very comprehensive to ac-

what they wanted to achieve... to a large extent. She explained that now Bangladesh can also have a reproductive health policy in its national programme — a shift from the demographer's attitude towards the country's population problem.

Kabir said that the success of this Conference would largely depend on how the government charts a comprehensive population programme for the country and allocate and rearrange resources.

The Midnight File

Israel arrests 11 Palestinian security agents

JERUSALEM, Sept 13: Israel has arrested 11 Palestinian security agents in Jerusalem and the West Bank, according to Jibrii Rajoub, preventive security chief in Jericho. "This is a blow below the belt aimed at creating a state of depression among the Palestinian Nation," Rajoub told Tuesday's Al Quds newspaper, reports AFP.

Abiola appears in court

ABUJA. Sept 13: Nigerian opposition leader Moshood Abiola, looking frail, appeared in court for the first time in almost a month today as his treason trial resumed. His lawyer Gabriel Ajayi told the court that Abiola, who is widely believed to have won last year's annulled presidential poll, was being held in unhealthy conditions bound to worsen his health. Justice Chris Senlong adjourned the hearing to September 21, reports Reuter.

Japan won't give in to US demands for trade pact

TOKYO, Sept 13: Japan won't give in to American demands at the last moment before a US-imposed September 30 deadline for a trade pact. despite Washington's expectation it will do so, a senior Japanese official said Tuesday, reports AP.

The official said Japan will continue to refuse US efforts to include numerical targets for greater foreign penetration

of Japan's market. countries on a collision course as the deadline for the trade "framework" talks nears Washington has said it will consider sanctions if the two nations don't reach agreement

by the end of September.

Last week, negotiators made some progress in highlevel talks in the United States, but there was no break through, the senior Japanese official said.

The official, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity, said the US side appeared to agree to Japanese proposal that they

polls in Quebec

of this French speaking Canadian province reports AP Official results showed Jacques Parizeau's Parti Que becois winning 77 seats Mond

Party. Parizeau. 64. has promised that his government would hold a referendum within a

Canada. held power in Quebec for nine years, warned that independence would lead to upheaval

"This evening we have just been given a mandate for which we should show ourselves worthy," an exultant Parizeau told supporters in Quebec City.

Johnson promised the Liberal Party would still play an important role in Quebec's future.

ready belong to a great country where we are occupying a greater and greater place," he said. "We will also remind people of the advantages and the guarantees of prosperity and of improving the future of all men and women in Quebec if we

South Korea for

SEOUL. Sept 13: South Korea, in a policy change, said Tuesday it would actively pursue dialogue with rival North Korea, including holding the first-ever summit meeting, reports AP

In July, the two Koreas appeared to be heading for detente by agreeing to hold the first meeting of their presidents, but their relations suddenly chilled after the death of North Korean leader Kim II Sung.

ruled North Korea for nearly a half century, died of a heart attack on July 8, less than three weeks before he was to have met South Korean President Kim Young-sam un the first inter Korea summit.

strained, with Pyongyang openly voicing anger over Seoul's refusal to express condolences over Kim's death.

agreements in the wide-ranging negotiations. That would represent a

shift in US policy. Last spring, US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor said the United States would refuse any incomplete settlement.

accept a series of partial

The negotiations have been stalemated for most of a year by the dispute over numerical targets. Washington has insisted on having a way to mea-That could put the two sure results, while Tokyo says specific targets would violate free trade.

To restart the talks, the United States said earlier this vear it would not seek numerical goals. But the Japanese of ficial said Washington has continued to press for arrangements that are tantamount to such targets.

cussing four issues in the framework talks: autos and auto parts, insurance, government procurement of telecommunications and medical equipment, and US export competitiveness.

Separatists win

MONTREAL, Sept 13 Quebec voters took what could be a renewed thrust toward independence by giving the separatist Parti Quebecois a solid majority in the legislature

ay in the 125-seat legislature. Premier Daniel Johnson's Liberal Party won 47 and one seat was captured by the small, separatist Democratic Action

year on whether the predominantly Francophone province should split from Anglophone Johnson, 49, whose Liberals

and economic deterioration.

In his concession speech,

"We will be there ... to remind Quebecois that they al-

stay in Canada. Many Quebec voters were fed up with the sagging economy and 12.2 per cent unemployment in this province of 7 million people and wanted to turn the Liberals out. But a vote for the Parti Quebecois is not necessarily a vote for separa-

new plebiscite would fail. talks with North

A referendum on sovere-

ignty in 1980 was voted down

60 per cent to 40 per cent and

recent polls have indicated a

The 82-year-old Kim, who

Relations have subsequently

[Earlier story on page 5]

The two countries are dis-

Ghali to support Japan's bid for UNSC seat

TOKYO, Sept 13: UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali assured Japanese leaders Tuesday that he would support a bid by this economic power to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council, reports AP. Boutros-Ghali's assurances

to Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama and Foreign Minister Yohei Kono are likely to give momentum to efforts here to gain permanent membership on the council, a diplomatic prize Japan has long yearned for. "It is in the interest of the

United Nations and in the interests of Japan for it to become a permanent member of the Security Council." Boutros-Ghali told reporters. "The United Nations needs Japan, and I hope Japan needs the United Nations.

of a Japanese relief mission to Zaire to help refugees from the civil strife in Rwanda.

The UN chief also praised

the approval earlier in the day

US carrier From Page 1 Col 7 assisting American forces in the anticipated US-led invasion of Haiti, aimed at ousting · Haiti's military rulers and

They are to be followed

Tuesday with 50 more soldiers

from Trinidad and Tobago, and

restoring democracy.

another group will be arriving for training by week's end, said US Army Maj Steve Panton. The US and Caribbean officers leading training emphasised that the force would focus on peacekeeping duties rather than taking part in any

invasion or immediate policing

action thereafter. Grameen Bank

From Page 1 Col 7 need immediate new funds which we will raise through the bonds. This is also a step towards achieving self-reliancy

for the GB. The GB had lent about Tk 1200 crore last year and hopes to lend another Tk 1800 crore among the rural poor this year. The banks has very recently gone for equipment leasing programmes among its target

The GB has now about two million members who borrow from it for different projects During the last one year, its membership increased by about three lakh. GB sources

From Page 1 Col 3 where a complete shutdown

Ferozabad town and Farrukhabad district, police told the Press Trust of India (PTI) in the state capital Lucknow. More than 250 people were injured in separate clashes across the northern state of

was observed, and one each in

more than 120 million people. including an opponent of the job scheme who was stabbed in the hill station of Namital, the news agency said.