

Invasion of Haiti looms large as US gets ready

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, Sept 14: A US warship steamed within sight of the capital Wednesday and planes dropped propaganda leaflets before dawn as President Clinton increased the pressure on Haiti's military rulers to leave, reports AP.

The American planes flew low over the Port-au-Prince area at about 2:45 am (0645 GMT), dropping Creole-language fliers that showed a picture of elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and announced he is returning.

In one area, a plane flew so low it shook houses and threw people into a panic. Leaflets

also were dropped on La Plaine, north of the capital. Pro-army militiamen roughed up people trying to pick up the leaflets in the Delmas section of the capital, local radio reported.

Offshore from Port-au-Prince, a gray US-flagged cutter was visible, heading rapidly northward in the Caribbean. At the same time, two US Army Blackhawk helicopters flew over the capital.

"The sound of invasion is already in our ears," said ultra-nationalist politician Vladimir Jeanty, who heard the planes fly over his roof in Delmas.

He predicted Wednesday that 300,000 people will die if the United States invades, and insisted that US soldiers would not distinguish between soldiers and civilians when they attack.

The United States has intensified its psychological warfare in recent weeks, warning the military to get out and moving several warships ominously close to Haiti's shores.

AFP from Washington says, President Bill Clinton will make a nationally broadcast address late Thursday on US policy toward Haiti, the White House announced Tuesday.

Jamalpur

On page 1 Col 5

tion organised on the occasion of inaugurating gas distribution system in Jamalpur.

The Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company has installed a 33,928-metre gas pipeline in the district at a cost of Tk 7.93 crore.

It will provide gas to 1319 domestic, commercial and industrial consumers in the first year. On completion of the project, gas connections will be provided to 14,089 consumers.

Begum Zia mentioned the ongoing negotiations with foreign companies on production-sharing basis to intensify oil and gas exploration. Seven new wells would be dug and six old ones would be worked upon under the 10.7 crore US dollar third natural gas development project which will improve the gas transmission and distribution system.

Stressing the need for improvement of the management, she said like power and water supply, system loss also existed in the gas sector which she called for reducing through everyone's sincerity in duty. "The people also have to be motivated in this regard".

Cricket clash

From Page 1 Col 8

tory against Pakistan's none and a run rate of 4.9 runs per over against Pakistan's 3.6. If India win today, they will earn themselves a chance to settle the score with the hosts, who beat them in the preliminary round.

On the other hand, Pakistan have a Herculean task, not only needing to win, but also to score almost 7.5 runs per over to ensure their place in the final. A modest victory will only pave the way for their arch-rivals to the final.

Australia, the other participants with one win and a run-rate of 4.1, will be eagerly hoping for a Pakistani victory by a margin big enough to let them through to Saturday's final at the expense of the Indians.

ballot. They will give verdict in the next election," she said and claimed that her government had already fulfilled 80 per cent of its election commitments.

She said her party programmes and policies are aimed at the people's welfare, increasing production and rendering service to the nation and called upon the people to work for improving their own condition and bringing about overall development of the country.

Begum Zia said Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman had first initiated the trend of development in the country but was killed in a conspiracy when the country was moving ahead.

Presided over by district BNP President Khairul Bashar Chisty, the meeting was also addressed by LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharrif Hossain, Deputy Minister for Health Sirajul Haq, Fazlul Haq MP, Rahima Khandaker MP, Principal Harunur Rashid Bhuiyan, Abdul Khaleque, Firoza Talukder, Shariful Islam Talukder and Moinul Haq.

Local leaders of the BNP put forward various demands and urged the Prime Minister to realise those soon.

Begum Zia assured that a bridge would be constructed over the river Jhenai, 100-bed sadar hospital would be upgraded to 250-bed one, Jamalpur-Islampur-Dewanganj road be metalled and educational institutions given additional financial support.



Supporters of Opposition leader Nawaz Sharif (L) shower petals during his address at the Rawalpindi railway station, 15km from Islamabad Thursday. Sharif started his train march part of his campaign to oust Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government, from the port city of Karachi and travelled to the north-western city of Peshawar. —AFP photo

Prices of rice, oil

From Page 1 Col 5

Similarly, the prices of the finer Lata and Nazirshahi varieties have shot up to Tk 15 from a steady Tk 12.50 per kg and Kataribhog to Tk 20-21 from Tk 17-18 per kg.

"I have a feeling this price hike will continue for the next one month," forecast a rice wholesaler in Kawan Bazar.

The price of soyabean oil has also shot up by Tk 2 to 4 per litre at the retail level. Some shopkeepers blamed the strikes of the past few days for the price hike while others fault profiteering by greedy wholesalers in Moulvi Bazar — the city's main wholesale market.

"The Moulvi Bazar wholesalers, despite having a good stock of soyabean oil maintain that the supply from Chittagong has remained suspended due to the strikes," a New Market shopkeeper said.

While soyabean oil is being sold at Tk 50-51 per litre, a 4-litre can of the Postman brand is being sold at Tk 198, a 5-litre can of Phoolcopi brand at Tk 255 and a 5-kg can of Tripti brand at Tk 290.

The retailers added that the price of other types of edible oil had also gone up by Tk one to three per litre. A litre of mustard oil now sells at Tk 55 to 64, butter oil at Tk 70 to 115 and palm oil at Tk 42 to 44.

The price of onion has also jumped by Tk four per kilo. Now it sells at Tk 12.

India's rejection of Ghali's offer hurts Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Sept 14: Pakistan said today it was disappointed by India's rejection of an offer by United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Ghali to mediate in the dispute over Kashmir, reports Reuters.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Pakistan had accepted the offer, which Boutros Ghali renewed during a visit to Islamabad last week.

Arafat

Washington of the historic agreement quickly evaporated amid Norwegian optimism.

The new document returned the two sides to the language of cooperation, agreeing to set aside "political issues," a reference to Jerusalem, and called for an emergency donor meeting as soon as possible in Paris.

The declaration urged donors to "make an immediate effort to meet the recurrent costs of the Palestinian authority and the early empowerment."

The latter involves granting the Palestinians control over their daily lives on the West Bank and was one of the main reasons for calling the aborted donor talks.

Israel won another vow from Arafat to halt violence, the importance of which cannot be underestimated in the Jewish state.

Kibria invites clarification from Mostafiz

SAMS Kibria, advisor to the Awami League President, has invited the Foreign Minister to clearly say if President Clinton's phone call to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was made to talk Bangladesh's domestic political affairs, reports UNB.

In a statement yesterday, Kibria asked: "Does he (Foreign Minister) wish to suggest that the US President did in fact make the telephone call to the Prime Minister to discuss our internal political questions?"

He said that instead of making "cryptic comments and insinuations, Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman should come up with a clear statement as to what the phone call was all about.

"I have seen the question addressed to me by the Foreign Minister, Mr Mostafizur Rahman, in response to the clarification issued by me on the basis of my discussions with US Embassy officials."

Kibria said that since it was felt that the newspaper speculations "implicated the US President in the internal polemics of Bangladesh, the government should have issued the clarification in order to dispel any confusion or misunderstanding on the matter."

"Instead, the government, by its silence, fuelled these speculations."

Kibria, a former foreign secretary, suggested that by posing his loaded question to me as well as to the US Embassy officials, the Foreign Minister once again gave substance to the speculations.

Some political circles, the Awami League advisor said, are obviously seeking to make political capital out of the telephone call. "But responsible people ought to avoid these tactics."

The war of words between the Awami League advisor and the Foreign Minister ensued over the phone call President Clinton made to Prime Minister Begum Zia in Friday morning.

UK keen to invest in telecom sector

British government has showed interest to invest in the Telecommunication sector of Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The offer came from British Parliament member of the ruling conservative party N Deva Aditya during a meeting with Post and Telecommunications Minister Tariqul Islam at his office yesterday.

C'wealth

From Page 1 Col 5

next Commonwealth Heads of government meeting scheduled to be held in Auckland, New Zealand, in 1995, a Foreign Office press release said yesterday.

The Commonwealth Secretary General, during his stay in Dhaka, is expected to call on the President and the Prime Minister. He will also meet with the Leader of the Opposition, the Foreign Minister, the Chief Election Commissioner and the Foreign Secretary.

Anyako will also visit the Grameen Bank and BRAC projects around Dhaka.

The Secretary General is scheduled to leave Dhaka on September 19.

The Midnight File

Five political activists killed in Karachi

KARACHI, Sept 14: At least five political activists were killed in violence in Pakistan's biggest city of Karachi today, police said. The violence erupted after the bullet-riddled body of a teenage boy was found in a Karachi suburb called new Karachi, the police said. The body's recovery set off clashes between two groups of Mohajir National Movement (MQM), one police officials said, reports Reuters.

Yemeni forces foil mid-air hijack attempt

SANAA, Sept 14: Yemeni security forces foiled a mid-air hijack attempt today, overpowering a man armed with a grenade on board an airliner of the national carrier Layemda on a flight from Aden to Sanaa, witnesses said. Saleh Ahmed Hassan, a 30-year-old Yemeni man, tried to enter the flight deck of the Boeing-737 with a grenade in his hand, but security forces stopped him hijacking the plane, passengers said after arriving in Sanaa, reports AFP.

Warrant of arrest against Ajker Kagoj editor

RANGAMATI, Sept 14: A magistrate's court at Rangamati issued a warrant of arrest against the Ajker Kagoj editor Kazi Shahed Ahmed today, reports UNB.

The warrant was issued after a case was filed by Abdul Kader, a member of Banglakhali Union Parishad in Rajshahi thana against Kazi Shahed and reporter of the paper Motahar Hossain.

The case under section 295 (KA)/500 of Bangladesh Penal Code has been filed for hurting his religious feeling by a report published in Ajker Kagoj on August 7.

Reporter Motahar Hossain appeared before the court on September 7 and was granted bail.

The court issued warrant of arrest against Kazi Shahed as the editor failed to appear before the court today the last date for his appearance.

Badruddoza

From Page 1 Col 3

treasury bill-backed bill seeking strengthening of the Election Commission.

"I once again urge the Opposition to join a dialogue on the issue because, in a democracy, there is no alternative to discussions among the opposing camps for resolving any problem," the deputy leader of the House said.

On the Opposition agitations, Prof Chowdhury said that people did not respond to those positively. "But the siege and general strikes have caused enormous suffering to the people," he added.

"We should practise politics with a mind ready to sacrifice our petty interests for the sake of our people", Chowdhury said urged the Opposition to follow "democratic paths" for resolving all political problems.

Referring to leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina's remarks on the British parliamentary delegation which visited Bangladesh recently, Chowdhury said, it was not proper for such an important leader like her.

The deputy leader of the House also said that the treasury bench had felt the absence of the Opposition during the session. Had the Opposition been in the House, it could have made remarkable contribution in the process of various decisions, he added.

AL-BNP clash leaves 20 hurt in Pabna

PABNA, Sept 14: At least 20 people were injured, six critically, in a gunbattle between Awami League and BNP activists here this evening, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said the six were rushed to the Sadar Hospital with bullet wounds where their conditions were stated to be critical by the attending doctors.

Among them, Ahmed Hossain, Masum and Shamiruddin were identified as AL activists while three others — Zafar, Amjad and Giasuddin — were said to be workers of the BNP.

Sources said the clash occurred when a group of Awami League activists attacked the BNP office at Hattiani in the town at 7:45 pm. They believed the attack was against some AL men who had defected to the BNP a week ago.

The violence lasted half an hour until police intervened.

Mao pins exceed earthlings!

BEIJING, Sept 14: China made 4.8 billion Mao pins — more than the earth's population at the time — during the decade long cult honouring the chairman, a local newspaper reported, says Reuters.

The pins, a standard article of dress for Chinese during the radical 1966-1967 Cultural Revolution, used up aluminium that could have built 39,600 MIG jet fighters, the Guizhou daily said.

Opposition

From Page 1 Col 4

to meet the constitutional obligations," the Opposition leader claimed.

The people expected that the Prime Minister would state her position to help resolve the present impasse but she did not do so before the prorogation of Parliament session, he said.

Samad Azad alleged that the government had forced the Opposition parties to take to the streets by ignoring the demand for a caretaker government which, he said, had now turned into a people's demand.

Only one party which is afraid of fair elections is now opposing the caretaker government issue, he said.



The Awami League-backed Chhatra League (S-P) brought out a procession led by its newly-elected office-bearers on the Dhaka University campus yesterday. —Star photo

Major parties on campus violence

From Page 1 Col 4

dents, their guardians and teachers must be integrated with the process of curbing terrorism.

In this connection, the BNP leader said "The DU Teachers Association (DUTA) must give up its partisan attitude and stop provoking violence." About the recent acts of terrorism on the DU campus, the BNP leader denied that his party's student front was involved in the incidents.

Referring to the DU VC's move for a dialogue, he said the issue had not yet been discussed by the party leadership.

When contacted, Awami League General Secretary Zillur Rahman said that his party was ready to extend all cooperation to the DU VC in containing terrorist activities on the campus. But, he noted, political support to any anti-terrorism move was not enough. Cooperation of the teachers, students, guardians and the people of all walks of life was to be solicited, he added.

The AL leader alleged the government was "Encouraging violence on the campuses in a bid to prolong its stay in power. If it was sincere, it could easily contain campus violence."

About the DU administration's efforts in this regard, Zillur Rahman said, "Its role is not justified. It is just appeasing the government."

Talking to this correspondent, Jatiya Party acting chief Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury said "We had repeatedly urged all parties to take back the arms and ammunition they had supplied to their student fronts. We will participate in any meeting, if convened by the DU VC, and repeat the same."

The JP leader said, "I fully endorse the VC's observation that a national consensus is needed to combat campus violence." But the government must be sincere in recovering the illegal arms and check the further supply of illegal arms to uproot terrorism of all kinds, he said.

Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Matur Rahman Nizami told "The Daily Star" a national consensus could greatly help contain campus terrorism. But mere announcement in this regard would not serve the purpose, he added.

The political parties must act in accordance with their commitment to combat terrorism," he said.

In this regard, Nizami pointed out that an all-party meeting in 1991 adopted a seven-point resolution to curb campus terrorism. But, he

said, those did not work due to lack of sincerity of the parties involved.

"Disarming the student bodies must begin with disarming the ruling party student front," Nizami said, adding if the party in power started the process, others would be forced to do the same.

The Jamaat leader also stressed the need for a peaceful co-existence of the political parties. "If the political leaders practise tolerance, their student activists would automatically follow them."

About the measures to free the campuses from violence he said, "We are ready to accept a ban on student politics for the next five to 10 years provided the two big parties — the BNP and the Awami League — agree to such a proposal."

Workers' Party General Secretary Rashed Khan Menon said the ruling BNP and the Awami League could play a pivotal role in curbing terrorism on the campuses.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) general secretary Hasanul Haq Inu said his party would obviously cooperate with the DU authorities in curbing terrorism on the campus. "But the VC must spell out what kind of cooperation he needs," Inu said.

Resist politics of hartal

From Page 1 Col 7

The Prime Minister sought cooperation from the people for ensuring development of the country to lead the nation towards a prosperous future and called upon them to raise their voice against hartal, blockade and anarchy.

It is not possible to do welfare and change the lot of commonman through hartal, siege and confining he people inside their homes, she said.

Begum Zia told them that the "conspirators" wanted poverty to prevail in the country for ever and to paralyse the economy. "In fact, they do not want welfare of the country and the people and this is why they are creating chaos," she said in a blistering criticism of the opposition parties who are also boycotting Parliament on the same demand.

The Prime Minister, in her 27-minute speech, further alleged that the parties which had been in power earlier, had ruined the country's economy, looted a lot, committed crimes, illegal activities and caused the masses to starve. "They have again hatched conspiracy to snatch the people's rights."

Refuting the Opposition charge of failure of the BNP government, Begum Zia said they called it failure as "we can't loot, we can't snatch the food of poor people."

She asked the Opposition to shun the politics of destruction and concentrate on nation building activities together with the government.

"The people have given us the mandate for running the country for five years through

ঢাকা ওয়াসা বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন মানহোলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন

লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, জুলাই ও আগস্ট মাসে বিলিং সাইকেলে অনেক সম্মানিত গ্রাহক পানি ও পয়ঃবিল পরিশোধ করতে পারেননি বলে বকেয়ার পরিমাণ বৃদ্ধি পেয়েছে। এ ব্যাপারে তাৎক্ষণিক সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নকরাসহ ঢাকা ওয়াসার ভ্রাম্যমান আদালত পিডিআর এ্যাক্টের অধীনে খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের বিরুদ্ধে যথাযথ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করছে। তাছাড়াও সংযোগের বৈধতা এবং বিল নিয়মিত পরিশোধ করা হচ্ছে কিনা তা যাচাইয়ের লক্ষ্যে ৪টি ডিজিটেলস টিম গঠনের মাধ্যমে বাড়ি বাড়ি পরিদর্শন কার্যক্রম শুরু করা হয়েছে।

সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন ও পিডিআর এ্যাক্টের অধীনে শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা এড়ানোর জন্য নির্দিষ্ট সময়ের মধ্যে আপনার পানি ও পয়ঃবিল পরিশোধ করুন এবং ডিজিটেলস টিমকে সংশ্লিষ্ট কাগজপত্র প্রদর্শনসহ সার্বিক সহযোগিতা প্রদান করুন।

বিল না পেয়ে থাকলে সংশ্লিষ্ট রাজস্ব আঞ্চলিক অফিস অথবা কাওরান বাজারস্থ ওয়াসা ভবনে প্রদান রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তা (টেলিফোনঃ ৩২৫২৪০), বাণিজ্যিক ব্যবস্থাপক (টেলিফোনঃ ৩২৭২৪৫) বা সদস্য (অর্থ) (ফোনঃ ৮১৬৭৯৯) এর সহিত ব্যক্তিগতভাবে/টেলিফোনে যোগাযোগ করুন।

সেবাই আমাদের লক্ষ্য
ঢাকা ওয়াসা