

Violence in Bangalore continues: Death toll 17

BANGALORE, Oct 8: The government on Saturday suspended a controversial news broadcast in Urdu language to quell a communal clash in a southern state that has left 17 people dead so far, reports AP.

Violence spread to new areas of Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka state after Hindu and Muslim mobs fought each other with knives and clubs and attacked police with stones.

Seventeen people have died and an estimated 150 people have been injured in two days of violence, Chief Minister Veerappa Moily told a news conference Saturday night.

The Urdu news broadcasts will be suspended until further notice "in view of the prevailing situation," Moily said.

Urdu is spoken mainly by Muslims, who are a minority in India. The main language of Karnataka state is Kannada. For more than 10 years, pro-Kannada activists have promoted a campaign for more use of Kannada at the expense of English and a dozen other tongues spoken by people in the state.

Reuter adds: Police said the violence continued today despite a round-the-clock curfew in the old parts of the city where the trouble erupted and orders that anyone on the streets should be shot on sight, there was no immediate word of casualties.

They said Hindu mobs were fighting police in Hindu areas and Muslim mobs were attacking police in Muslim areas, where Hindu and Muslim localities joined, activists from the two religions were fighting each other.

The trouble began when a large number of Muslims gathered for the Friday prayer at a local mosque, hurled stones at a rally protesting against news broadcasts on state-run Doordarshan television, police said.

The senior police official

BCS psychological test Nov 4

Written psychological test of the candidates who came out successful in the written part of the 15th BCS Examination will be held in Dhaka on November 4, reports UNB.

Admit cards for the written psychological examination are being sent to the candidates, according to the Bangladesh Public Service Commission secretariat.

Candidates failing to receive the admit cards will have to contact the Commission's head office in Dhaka from October 31 to November 2 in person along with application indicating the roll number.

The candidates who will not appear in the psychological test will not be allowed to appear in the test further and they will also not be eligible for the viva-voce.

The sitting arrangements and schedule for the test will be notified through the national dailies in due course, an official handout said.

Join efforts: Khaleda

From Page 1 Col 7 talks. We assure you of continued service and uplift, she said as the crowd responded with full-throated slogans.

She said the prime need of the nation is to educate the people as it is not possible to ensure development without education.

Begum Zia said the government had introduced compulsory free primary education and Food for Education Programme to ensure education for all, particularly for the poor people's children, and called upon the guardians to send their wards to school.

The Prime Minister said her government attached more importance to women's education and was now providing free schooling up to Class Ten outside pourashavas. The government also introduced stipend for the girls students.

If the girls are educated, their families will be educated and contribute to overall development of the country.

Begum Zia urged the rural women to borrow loans and set up poultry and dairy farms, small cottage industries and buy sewing machines for their self-reliance.

The people want peace and stability. They are in favour of development and democracy. They don't want anarchy and destruction," she said.

Describing the people's support as the BNP's strength, the Prime Minister said her party always relied on the people. "They are very much with us and will remain so in future too, because the BNP has established people's right to vote and food," she asserted, apparently refuting opposition charges.

The Prime Minister urged all to work unitedly for strengthening the democratic process.

Presided over by Beraid union President MA Quaiyur, the meeting was also addressed by Home Minister

said there was no immediate prospect of the curfew being lifted. "We are worried that the violence might spread," he said.

Paramilitary police reinforcements were sent into Bangalore, one of the centres of India's high-technology industry, on Friday.

"We may have to call in the army if things get any worse," the police officer said.

Bangalore is the capital of Karnataka state which votes for an assembly in two-stage elections on November 26 and December 1.

It is currently ruled by Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao's Congress party and is a major target of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) which sees a good chance of winning power against a bitterly divided Congress.

The rapidly approaching election seems to have inflamed passions as the BJP increase the political pressure on Congress.

Karnataka has gone through bouts of religious tension since, BJP inspired zealots demolished the Ayodhya Mosque in December 1992.

Kazi Zafar's condition deteriorates

Jatiya Party leader Kazi Zafar Ahmed, who is suffering from heart ailment, was advised by a medical board to remain under intensive care at hospital, reports UNB.

His condition has deteriorated. The medical board comprising Prof Abu Zafar, Prof Jalal Ahmed, Dr Hasina Banu, Dr M A Hakim and Dr Mahub Ali examined him yesterday morning.

Zafar is undergoing treatment at a city clinic in Gulshan.

Brave groom!

LONDON, Oct 8: A British bridegroom made it to his wedding despite a road crash in which he broke his arm and leg, newspapers reported today, reports Reuter.

Tim Williams was taken to hospital after the accident, but he refused to stay and doctors gave him painkilling injections to help him get through the marriage ceremony.

Williams, 31, arrived at the registry office in Sunderland, northeast England, in a wheelchair, covered in blood and without his trousers, which had been cut off by nurses.

After being cleaned up and marrying Karen Ethells, also 31, he was taken to the reception where the painkilling drugs wore off and Williams passed out. He was rushed back to hospital.

"He was very brave. It proves he must really love me," bride Karen told the newspapers.



Students of the Home Economics College brought out a mourning procession in the city yesterday carrying banners calling for punishment to the killer/s of their teacher Prof. Nilufar Chowdhury and her daughter Shoma who were murdered Sunday last.— Star photo

Senators expand amnesty law for Haitian coup leaders

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Oct 8: Senators have expanded Haiti's amnesty law, but it is unclear whether it went far enough to induce the nation's military rulers to resign—and let Jean-Bertrand Aristide reclaim his presidency, reports AP.

Army-related violence continued, meanwhile, as the October 15 deadline for the military to relinquish power approaches. Civilian gunmen backed by the military killed at least seven people when they ploughed their white Mercedes pickup truck into a pro-democracy rally on Friday.

Reporters counted seven dead in the attack in Port-au-Prince, but witnesses said 11 people were killed.

And US officials said Saturday that they were concerned about reports that brutal sheriffs were beating up democracy supporters and intimidating them with gunfire in rural areas where US troops have not deployed.

The amnesty was approved, Friday as a provision of the September 18 agreement between the United States and Haiti that is to culminate with the resignation of the army chief, Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras.

Cedras had pledged to relinquish power by October 15, the date of Aristide's expected return, if a general amnesty was approved. He made no comment on the new legislation, but a source close to him said on condition of anonymity that he did not believe it met the terms of the general amnesty Cedras had sought.

The law would let Aristide pardon political crimes by the generals who overthrew him in 1991 and their collaborators. It does not expressly cover the thousands of killings, kidnappings and beatings of civilians since the coup.

It remains unclear, however, whether Aristide will honour the amnesty or whether anyone will be prosecuted for these crimes.

The United States also had wanted an amnesty despite concern that Aristide might not enact it. Aristide's supporters have called for 'justice' for political and human rights crimes by the military.

"What this bill does... is throw the ball back to President Aristide."

US, British warships move

From Page 1 Col 5 markets reported very few outbreaks of panic buying, there was no mass exodus to the safe haven of Saudi Arabia and travel agents reported no dramatic rise in bookings.

Some Kuwaitis crowded around bank machines withdrawing cash in case of emergency. Jitters affected the stock exchange but volume was average and the index fell a modest one per cent.

Iraq's troop movements followed a warning by Baghdad that it would retaliate if the crippling UN ban on its oil exports was not eased immediately.

The Iraq government has refused to recognise the 207-km (130-mile) land border or the sovereignty of Kuwait, Security Council members insist on this before allowing Iraq to resume normal crude oil exports.

UN observers reported the border quiet. However, they have no mandate to report on events beyond the demilitarized zone, which on the Iraqi side is 10 km (six miles)



In this 1992 US Department of Defence file photo, the aircraft carrier USS George Washington is shown during sea trials off the Virginia Capes. The USS George Washington was dispatched to the Persian Gulf by US President Bill Clinton following reports Friday of Iraqi troops movements towards the Kuwaiti border.

wide, and said they were seeking a briefing from the Iraqs.

One military analyst said some Iraqi units were believed to be within 30 km of the frontier.

The Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, noted at the cabinet meeting that Iraq's compliance with UN Gulf War resolutions would strengthen regional security and end the Iraqi people's suffering, the official Kuwait news agency reported.

Kuwait has long wanted Iraq to give authoritative and explicit recognition of its sovereignty and the borders newly demarcated by the UN, return hundreds of Kuwaitis believed still held captive since the 1990-91 occupation and complete its disarmament of weapons of mass destruction.

US President Bill Clinton, warning Iraqis President Saddam Hussein not to try a repeat invasion, on Friday ordered the George Washington to sail to the Gulf and sent four warships with

situation "hadn't improved." He would not elaborate.

On Friday, US Ambassador Madeleine Albright threatened Iraq with punitive air strikes if Baghdad invaded Kuwait.

Let it be absolutely clear to the Iraqi government that a repetition of its past mistakes will be met by my government with the same resolve as before," Albright told the General Assembly.

3 die in city incidents

By DMCH Correspondent At least two persons were killed, another six injured and one reportedly committed suicide in separate incidents in the city yesterday.

One person was killed and six were injured when a speeding minibuss collided head on with a truck at Khejurbagan at about 12 noon.

The deceased could not be identified immediately. The injured were sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Of the injured, Mohammad Abdu Salam, 45, was admitted to hospital while Mohammad Nurul Islam, 25, Selim-al-Hassani, 45, a staff reporter of The Daily Meilat, Nurul Islam, 40, a staff reporter of The Daily Dinkal, Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, 27 and Kuti Miah, 25 were given first aid.

In another road accident, a garments worker was killed when a speeding bus ran over him in front of the Tibbet factory under Tejgaon police station in the afternoon.

The victim, Avinash Chandra Talukder, 30, died on the spot. The driver escaped with his vehicle (Dhaka ba-2019).

A case was filed with the Tejgaon police station in this connection.

One Mohammad Badsha Miah, 40, reportedly committed suicide by taking poison at his residence at the BNP slum, West Agargaon, yesterday afternoon.

The victim was sent to the DMCH in a critical condition where he succumbed to his injuries.

A rickshawpuller, 30, who was injured in the New Market area on Thursday during a clash between two rival groups succumbed to his injuries yesterday morning.

Police sent all the bodies to the DMCH morgue for autopsy.

Govt employees

From Page 1 Col 2 from 9 am to 1 pm at the offices where the office timing is 8 am to 2.30 pm. The abstention was from 11am to 3pm where the office timing is 10 am to 4.30 pm.

The Liaison Committee claimed that the programme was observed at the district and thana level offices all over the country.

At the Secretariat, the employees mostly refrained from attending their offices. According to witnesses, they also locked several rooms of senior officials and prevented them from doing their job during the strike hours.

The striking employees also held a rally in the Secretariat premises. The meeting was addressed by among others Azizur Rahman, Sayed Mahiuddin, Azizur Rahman, Mujibul Haq and Shah Alam.

Leaders of the striking government employees later held a meeting with Labour Minister Abdul Mannan Bhowani and State Minister for Establishment—Aminul-Haq.

Sources indicated that there was a positive outcome of the talks.

Respecting Kuwait's security is a condition of the Gulf War cease-fire resolution, although troops movements within Iraq are not prohibited. Under the cease-fire terms, Iraq must also destroy its weapons of mass destruction and submit to UN monitoring before an oil embargo is lifted.

Iraq has accused the United States of vindictively prolonging the sanctions, and this week threatened to block

The Midnight File

4 Polish MPs killed

WARSAW, Oct 8: Four members of the Polish parliament and a parliamentary employee were killed when their minibuss collided with a lorry, parliament said today. A spokesman for the chancellery of the Sejm, the lower house of parliament, said the mini bus collided with a lorry on Friday night on the way from Krakow to Zakopane in southern Poland, reports Reuter.

Jalpaiguri sounds red alert

JALPAIGURI, Oct 8: The Jalpaiguri district administration sounded a red alert since yesterday on both banks of the river Sankosh in Kumargramduar block of the district after a huge reservoir at Wangdifootra village in Bhutan breached its embankment. The red alert followed warnings by the police authority of the government of Bhutan and the Indian Central Water Commission. A spokesman for the district administration said that following the warnings all precautionary measures have been taken and more than 2,000 people were taken to safer places, reports PTI.

Christopher's fresh push for ME peace

JERUSALEM, Oct 8: US Secretary of State Warren Christopher launches a new push for peace in the Middle East in the coming week with Israel bidding to draw Syria into high level open talks and preferably a summit, reports AFP.

"We want to hear Christopher say that Syria is coming out into the open," one senior official told AFP. "There is no way to get down to the major issues without direct meetings."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who has offered at least a partial withdrawal in return for peace, needs to convince sceptical Israelis that Syria can be a partner.

To do so he wants face-to-face talks with Syrian president Hafez-al-Assad.

Israel has noted a series of peace overtures from Syria in recent weeks, but Foreign

Japan departs 2686 aliens

TOKYO, Oct 8: Japan departed 2,686 foreigners, most of them illegal workers from Asia, after a nationwide crackdown in July on illegal immigrants, the Justice Ministry said today, reports Reuter.

Padajatra

From Page 1 Col 8 rally. The JP's march will start at 3 pm from Mukti Smarani at Demra and will end at the Jatrabari crossing. Acting chief of the party Mizanur Rahman Choudhury will lead the marchers who will later hold a rally at the Jatrabari crossing.

The Jamaat march will start from Aminbazar at 3 pm and end at Shyamoli where a rally will be held. Senior Nayebe-Ameer of the party Abbas Ali Khan will lead the march.

The three parties have urged the people to join their marches.

The next programme of the AL is Sheikh Hasina's 'train march' from Mymensingh to Gaibandha from October 16 to 18 while the JP and Jamaat will observe mass contact programmes separately during the same period.


Capital base

From Page 1 Col 7 by Parliament, the sources pointed out.

An official of the Finance Ministry, however, said the reason for proposing the increase in the bank's capital is 'more a cosmetic one than economic.'

He said money is not a problem for any central bank since the central banks have the capacity to produce and mobilise money.

The official further said the Bangladesh Bank has been making profits of Tk 400 crore to 500 crore a year, which is being deposited with the government treasury. In case of loss, the government can again inject money into the bank in various forms, he added.



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