

সাদা সিমেন্ট, মোজাইক, সিংক ও পাড়ল
আকর্ষণীয় ও কমমূল্যে
সাদা সিমেন্ট: জাপান, মালয়েশিয়া -
মার্বেল চিপস: পাকিস্তান, চায়না, ভারত -
কিচেন সিলিং সিংক: স্পেন, সুইজারল্যান্ড -
বোসেম, পাড়ল: ইংল্যান্ড -
মার্বেল ও ব্রোকেন মার্বেল: পাকিস্তান ও মালয়েশিয়া -
যাবতীয় মোজাইক ও স্যানিটেরী সমগ্রীর একমাত্র বিক্রেতা প্রতিষ্ঠান
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Inside Today

- Sport**
Abahani sign Wasim Akram Page 7
- Article**
Corruption by Yards
Column: Between the Lines by Kuldip Nayyar Page 4
- International**
France asks UN, NATO to prepare plans for pullout from Bosnia
Kaifu elected leader of new Japanese party Page 5
- Business**
Key textile exporters clash with Western powers over WTO body Page 6
- Weekend Magazine**
People and Places: Homeward Bound—after Twenty Years; ATM Walie Ashraf: Alive for a Dream; The Boyhood Vow that Turned into a Lifetime's Work; Tarabibi's Virile Son; Distant Drum; Asian Diary; Viewing Video; Living, Weekend Sports Weekend; Teens and Twenties; Rising Stars Pages 9-16

JS session prorogued

PM again asks Opposition to return to Parliament

By Staff Correspondent

Leader of the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has once again called upon the boycotting parliamentary opposition to return to the House and resolve the present political impasse through discussion.

The Prime Minister gave the call in her 77-minute speech in the House before the prorogation of the 17th session of the present Parliament yesterday evening.

The Opposition has the right to agitate to press home any logical demand, the Leader of the House noted and urged them to refrain from 'disruptive programmes' like hartals, sieges and work stoppages for the sake of a better future of the nation.

'Let us unitedly resolve the political impasse within the framework of the Constitution—the country's supreme law, let us solve the problems by ourselves', the Prime Minister appealed. 'We have fought the liberation war unitedly and by ourselves, we have ousted an autocratic regime from power unitedly and by ourselves, we have even switched over to parliamentary democracy unitedly and by ourselves, then why not we resolve the present crisis by ourselves', the Leader of the House said.

See Page 8 Col 7



Leader of the House and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia delivering her winding up speech at the 17th session of the Jatiya Sangsad before its prorogation yesterday. —PID photo.

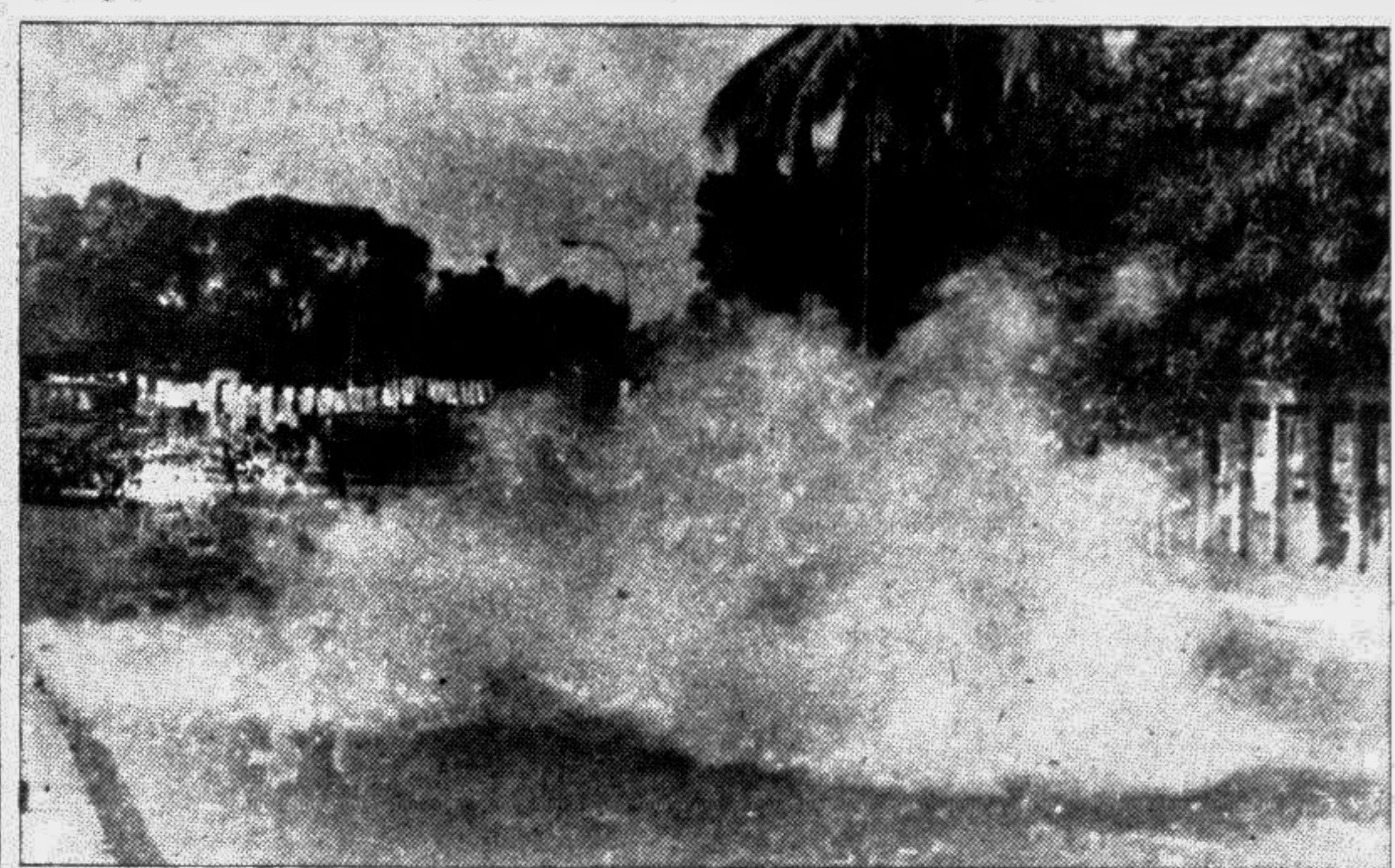
Coast Guard Bill 1994 passed

The Jatiya Sangsad (JS) yesterday unanimously passed the Coast Guard Bill, 1994 for creation of an organised and well-equipped coast guard force for preservation of national interest in the territorial waters of the country, reports BSS.

No amendment was brought on the Bill as the opposition parties continued to abstain themselves from the Sangsad proceedings.

Piloting the Bill, Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury who introduced the Bill in the House on December 6 last underlined the need for creation of a coast guard force for protecting national interest in the country's maritime zones and checking trafficking of narcotics in the territorial waters.

The coast guard will ensure security of the country's high sea and estuarine fishermen by curbing the increasing activities of pirates and checking the intrusion of foreign fishing trawlers in the vast coastal areas and the maritime zones of the country.



A home-made bomb exploded near the Foreign Ministry in the city during yesterday's hartal. —Star photo

One killed, 100 injured on second day of hartal

By Staff Correspondent

One person was killed and about 100 were injured on the second day of the 32-hour opposition-called countrywide hartal marked by bomb blasts and violence at different places yesterday.

The Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami called the hartal from 6am Wednesday to 12am Thursday with a four-hour break on the first day to press home their demand for general elections under a neutral caretaker administration.

An 18-year old unidentified youth was killed and about 50 others were injured when police and BDR allegedly opened fire on agitated pickets at Feni town during the hartal hours yesterday.

Our Feni correspondent reported that violence broke out when police intercepted a procession of Awami League supporters on the Trunk Road. The AL activists then threw stones and hand-made bombs at the police.

Police lobbed several tear gas shells and fired rubber bullets to disperse the agitated processionists, most of whom are students of the Feni Government Degree College.

At one stage BDR personnel joined the police and allegedly opened fire.

The youth killed on the spot in the firing could not be identified. Two other persons received bullet injury at the time. The others were injured when hit by rubber bullets and tear gas shells.

More than 30 people were later arrested from the Feni Degree College area.

In the capital, hartal was observed by and large peacefully barring some stray incidents of bomb blast in which at least 30 people.

According to eye-witnesses, a photographer of the Dainik Sangram, Firoz Khan, and two other persons were injured when some bombs were exploded in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the morning.

Patrol police picked up two persons from the area after the incident and sent them to Ramna thana.

A bomb was hurled at a procession of Awami League at Jatrabari, injuring one Din Mohammad seriously.

Bombs and cocktails were also exploded in Mohammadpur, Mirpur, Bangabandhu Avenue, Maniknagar and Tikatuly areas. The persons injured in the blasts included Mizanur Rahman, Shaheen and Papon.

See Page 8 Col 5

By-elections to 3 JS seats January 25

The Election Commission yesterday announced that by-elections to the vacant seats of Bakerganj-6, Sherpur-3 and Brahmanbaria-6 will be held on January 25, reports BSS.

The commission through a gazette notification also announced the election schedules.

According to the schedules, the nomination papers will have to be submitted to respective returning officers or assistant returning officers on January 1.

The returning officers will scrutinise the nomination papers on January 2.

The last date for withdrawal of nomination papers is January 9 and the elections will be held on January 25.

See Page 8 Col 3

Repression can't stop agitation, says Hasina

Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina claimed two of her party workers were killed during yesterday's hartal and warned the ruling BNP would have the same fate as of the ousted autocratic regime for such acts, reports UNB.

She alleged two Awami League workers were killed and more than 200 injured in attacks by police and armed pro-government activists in Feni and other places across the country during the hartal hours.

"The ongoing people's agitation cannot be stopped by killing, arrest and terrorism," the Awami League president said in a statement after the countrywide hartal ended 12 noon yesterday.

Condemning the 'siege' laid by law enforcing agencies to the house of her party MP

See Page 8 Col 1

New accreditation guidelines suspended

By Staff Correspondent

The Ministry of Information has decided to suspend implementation of the recently approved press accreditation guidelines.

The news media were informed that the operation of accreditation guidelines of 1994 will remain suspended till further orders, says a PID handout on Wednesday.

The Daily Star in its issue of November 27 carried a report under the headline "New accreditation policy causes concern". The report mentioned that the newly formulated policy was likely to restrict journalists' access to public information, particularly related to government bodies and institutions.

NEWS BRIEFS

AL sect meet today

A meeting of the Awami League secretariat will be held today at 10:30 am at its party office. Acting general secretary of Awami League Abdul Jalil has requested all members of the body to attend the meeting, reports UNB.

Pullout attempt fails as Serbs turn back Bangladeshi troops

SARAJEVO, Dec 7: The first batch of Bangladeshi peacekeepers who tried to pullout from a town north of Bihaq were Wednesday turned back by the Serb forces. UN officials said, report AP, Reuters.

It was not immediately clear if the attempt was part of a UN pullout.

The United Nations was reportedly preparing to withdraw hundreds of its stranded peacekeepers from Serb-besieged northwestern Bosnia.

With the UN's mission nearly paralysed the situation has intensified calls for a complete withdrawal of peacekeepers from Bosnia. NATO nations on Wednesday ordered their military experts to speed up planning for a withdrawal.

NATO's supreme allied commander in Europe, US General George Joulwan, confirmed today that the Atlantic alliance was drawing up contingency plans for a possible UN withdrawal from Bosnia.

Extra ground troops would be needed to cover the withdrawal, French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said Wednesday. Sending more troops raises the possibility of further entanglement in the morass.

The decision to withdraw about 400 of the 1,200

BGMEA welcomes Opposition's step in Ctg

Manufacturers and exporters of garments welcomed opposition leaders' steps in Chittagong for keeping the garment sector outside hartal in the port city yesterday, reports UNB.

Chittagong Awami League and other Opposition leaders through local newspapers had earlier announced exemption of the export-oriented garment industries, including movement of vehicles engaged in the sector, from the last day of hartal.

"It's a trendsetting step to see Page 8 Col 8

Opposition spurns PM's offer for dialogue

The Opposition instantly spurned the Prime Minister's offer for dialogue, saying it can be held only when the government accepts the demand for a neutral caretaker government to hold elections, reports UNB.

Briefing newsmen on Begum Zia's speech in the House last night, Opposition Chief Whip Mohammad Nasim said they always wanted to resolve the present problem through dialogue but could not succeed due to non-cooperation and intransigence of the BNP and the Prime Minister.

The Opposition's return to Parliament was sealed by proroguing the session without introducing constitutional amendment bill for a caretaker government, he told newsmen after a meeting of the opposition parties with Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Nasim said the present agitation is not directed against any individual or for unseating any government but Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina had repeatedly said it was aimed at ensuring the people's voting

See Page 8 Col 2

Begum Rokeya Day today

Begum Rokeya Day will be observed throughout the country today in a befitting manner to commemorate her life and works, reports BSS.

Pioneer of the Muslim women renaissance, Begum Shakhawat Hossain Rokeya, popularly known as Begum Rokeya had dreamt of a society where Muslim women would enjoy equal rights as their male partners do. She revealed her idea through the book 'Naristan'.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in separate

See Page 8 Col 3



আগামী ১২ই ডিসেম্বর, সোমবার, ১৯৯৪ খ্রিস্টাব্দের নিউইয়র্ক সোনালী ব্যাংকের সাবলিডিয়ায় প্রতিষ্ঠান সোনালী এক্সচেঞ্জ কোম্পানী ইনকর্পোরেটেড-এর তত্ত্ব উদ্বোধন।
গণ-প্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় অর্থমন্ত্রী এম. সাইফুর রহমান প্রধান অতিথি হিসেবে নিউইয়র্কে এই প্রতিষ্ঠানটি উদ্বোধন করবেন। একই দিনে কোম্পানীর ঢাকা অফিস উদ্বোধন করবেন মাননীয় অর্থ প্রতিমন্ত্রী মজিবুর রহমান।

প্রতিষ্ঠানটির নিউইয়র্ক এবং ঢাকার ঠিকানাঃ

নিউইয়র্ক	ঢাকা
সোনালী এক্সচেঞ্জ কোম্পানী ইনকর্পোরেটেড ২১১ ইস্ট ৪৩ তম স্ট্রীট স্যুট নং- ১৫০৩ নিউইয়র্ক, এন ওয়াই -১০০১৭ ফোনঃ ২১২-৮০৮-০৭৯০ ফ্যাক্সঃ ২১২-৮০৮-০৭৯১	সোনালী এক্সচেঞ্জ কোম্পানী ইনকর্পোরেটেড ৬৩, পুরানা পল্টন ঢাকা-১০০০ ফোনঃ ৮৬০৩৯৬

বাংকিং ডিপার্টমেন্ট, স্টেট অব নিউইয়র্ক-এর লাইসেন্সপ্রাপ্ত হলেও অর্থ প্রোগ্রামকারী একমাত্র বাংলাদেশী এই প্রতিষ্ঠান ঢাকা-য় নিজস্ব অফিস, সোনালী ব্যাংকের ১০০০টি শাখা এবং অন্যান্য বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংকের মাধ্যমে কম্পিউটারসহ সকল আধুনিক প্রযুক্তি ব্যবহার করে দেশের প্রত্যন্ত অঞ্চলে নিরাপত্তা দ্রুততার সাথে যুক্তরাষ্ট্র প্রবাসীর অর্জিত মূল্যবান বৈদেশিক মুদ্রা অন্যান্য দেশে পৌঁছে দিতে সক্ষম।

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ক্ষুদ্র শিল্পে বিনিয়োগকারীদের জন্য ক্রেডিট গ্যারান্টি স্কীম

ক্ষুদ্র শিল্প স্থাপনে নতুন উদ্যোক্তাদের উৎসাহিত করার লক্ষ্যে ক্রেডিট গ্যারান্টি স্কীমের আওতায় ইতিপূর্বে প্রবর্তিত স্কীমটি আরও সুদৃঢ় ও উদার করা হয়েছে। আগামী নতুন উদ্যোক্তাদের কোনরূপ কোলাটারাল (Collateral) ছাড়াই এই স্কীমের আওতায় দেশের সকল তফসিলী ব্যাংক থেকে ঋণ প্রদান করা হচ্ছে।

এই কর্মসূচীর আওতায় শুধু নতুন উদ্যোক্তাগণই ঋণ পাবেন।

উদ্যোক্তাগণ যে পরিমাণ অর্থ অথবা অন্যান্য সম্পদ কোন শিল্প প্রকল্পে বিনিয়োগ করবেন তার ৪/১০ ভাগ ঋণ এর সমপরিমাণ পর্যন্ত অর্থ কোন ব্যাংক হ'তে ঋণ হিসেবে গ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক সর্বপ্রথম ব্যাংককে উদ্যোক্তার বিনিয়োগের ৩/১০ ভাগ পর্যন্ত ঋণ, সর্বোচ্চ ৩০ (ত্রিশ) লক্ষ টাকার ব্যাংককে গ্যারান্টি প্রদান করবে।

অর্থায়নকারী ব্যাংক গ্যারান্টিসহ ঋণের অতিরিক্ত হিসেবে বাধ্যতামূলকভাবে মূল্যপক্ষে গ্যারান্টিসহ পরিমাণের এক তৃতীয়াংশ এর সমপরিমাণ ঋণ নতুন উদ্যোক্তাকে নিজস্ব তহবিল হতে প্রদান করবে।

অর্থায়নকারী ব্যাংক উদ্যোক্তার প্রকল্পের জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় চলতি মূলধন প্রদান নিশ্চিত করবে। চলতি মূলধন ঋণ প্রদানের ক্ষেত্রে অর্থায়নকারী ব্যাংক প্রয়োজনবোধে গ্যারান্টিসহ ঋণের অংশ এক নিজস্ব তহবিল থেকে প্রদত্ত ঋণের অংশ উভয়ই ব্যবহার করতে পারবে।

সরকার এর এমপ্লয়ীজ সেপারেশন প্রোগ্রামের আওতায় স্বল্পায়ু অবসরগ্রহণকারীদের জন্য ঋণ সহায়তা প্রদান স্কীম

সরকারী, আধা-সরকারী, স্বায়ত্বশাসিত ও সরকারী মালিকানাধীন প্রতিষ্ঠানের যে সকল কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারী কমপক্ষে ১০ বছর সুনামের সাথে চাকুরী করার পর এক ৫২ বছর বয়স পূর্ব পর্যন্ত সরকার এর এমপ্লয়ীজ সেপারেশন প্রোগ্রামের আওতায় স্বল্পায়ু অবসরগ্রহণ করেছেন বা করবেন তারা এ স্কীমের আওতায় সকল বাংলাদেশী ব্যাংক হতে সরল ও বেয়াতী সুদের হারে ঋণের সুবিধা গ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।

যারা প্রস্তাবিত শিল্প প্রকল্প বা ব্যবসা উদ্যোগের মোট বিনিয়োগযোগ্য অর্ধের এক তৃতীয়াংশ পর্যন্ত নান্দ অর্থ বিনিয়োগ করতে সক্ষম তারা সর্বোচ্চ ২০ লক্ষ টাকা পর্যন্ত ঋণ সুবিধা গ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।

উপরোক্ত স্কীম সুনির্দিষ্ট আওতায় ঋণ পাওয়ারযোগ্য বর্ধিতপন তাদের নিম্নলিখিত ব্যাংকগুলোর সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে পারবেন

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

639 Ansars face legal action

By Staff Correspondent

Six hundred and thirty-nine Ansars were sued and eight officials detained on charges of anti-state activities yesterday.

A source, on condition of anonymity, said some eight officials of different ranks like director, deputy director and assistant director, at the Dhaka headquarters and Shafiqur Ansars Academy were detained for their alleged involvement in 'inciting the rebellion'.

All 639 Ansars arrested from the headquarters after the end of the three-day agitation Sunday were sued in the Dhaka Magistracy.

A deputy director of Ansars and VDP, Dhaka range — Mohammad Abul Kasem — lodged the case against the rebel Ansars in Dhaka.

Our Court Correspondent reports: The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka, Shahiduddin Ahmed, accepted the case and ordered the Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Sabujbagh police station to probe the incident.

The case was lodged under sections 121 (a) and 124 (a) for anti-state activities, under 147 and 148 for rioting with deadly weapons, 307 for attempt to murder, 325 for causing grievous injuries, 332 for causing hurt to deter public servants from performing duty, 342 for wrongful confinement, 353 for assault to deter public servants from discharging their duties and under 109 for abetment of the offences under the Bangladesh Penal Code (BPC).

The deputy director in his petition said Ansars in the headquarters at Khilgaon in the city held unlawful assemblies, held some officers hostage, took control of the arms and ammunition depot and revolted against the government.

The Ansars destroyed government property by rummaging in the headquarters during the agitation, said Abul Kasem in the court.

Earlier, Kasem took permission from the Home Ministry under Section 196 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) to file the case.

The Public Prosecutor (PP), Abdur Rezzak, in favour of Kasem's petition, said that Ansars, a disciplined force, had violated their rules and regulations.

An Ansars battalion in the Shafiqur Academy reacted first on December 1 and later the protest spread to the Dhaka headquarters at Khilgaon and other districts which was forcibly brought to an end on Sunday.

See Page 8 Col 5