



Pakistani para-military rangers patrol the street in Karachi following overnight attack on mosque which left eight people dead yesterday. —AFP photo

### Sanskritik Jote's victory festival begins tomorrow

**By Staff Correspondent**  
The Sanmilita Sanskritik Jote is preparing for its week long festival '94 to mark the Victory Day on December 16. The festival, scheduled to begin tomorrow (Saturday), will be celebrated with a new slogan — "The dream of the martyrs-free society of the free Bengalees".  
At the Rayer Bazar mass grave site of the martyr of the Liberation War Dr Murtuza, Sayeda Murtuza would inaugurate the festival at 3 pm tomorrow.  
After the inauguration, members of the Jote would march in a procession to the Central Shaheed Minar to place wreaths.  
From December 11 to 13, the Jote activists across the country would identify graves of the martyrs, take steps to preserve these and hold rallies.  
From December 14 to 16, a festival will be held in the Dhaka University area covering the Shahbagh Crossing, TSC, Doyel Chattar, Central Shaheed Minar and Bahadur Shah Park.  
The festival would be enhanced with plays, poetry recitals, programmes by the artists of Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra, book fair on the Liberation War, exhibition on the documents and photograph of the war cinema show, and various other shows.  
At 10 am on December 16, the Jote will bring out a colourful procession from the Central Shaheed Minar.  
Other cultural programmes will be held at the following stages which will be set up on the festival site: Plays will be staged on Micheal Mudhusudhan Mancha, poetry recital and folk programmes on Haralal Roy Mancha, cinema shows on Ashish Kumar Loha Mancha and others on the Sheikh Lutful Rahman Mancha.

### Beaten up student dies

**By DMCH Correspondent**  
A student beaten up severely by his college mates at Matuail under Demra thana last Saturday succumbed to his injuries at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday.  
The victim Mohammad Mohsin, 18, a first year student of the Dhonia Degree College was seriously injured and admitted to the DMCH where he died early yesterday.  
Mohsin was son of one Mohanunur Abdul Matin Khan of Matuail.  
Police said a group of students numbering about 10 led by Chandan, Mohsin's class mate attacked the victim at about 11:30 am Saturday with hockey sticks and sharp weapons.  
Sources said Mohsin and Chandan last Thursday quarrelled over occupation of a seat in the bench in their class room.  
Police arrested four persons including Mahub Morshed Chandan early yesterday.

### Hasina

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Jaina Hazari at Feni, Sheikh Hasina said privilege and rights of a Parliamentarian were encroached upon through the act.  
The Awami League chief claimed "armed activists of BNP" opened fire and police lobbed tear-gas on the Awami League procession at Gulshan injuring the thana AL General Secretary, Osman Ali, Dr Shahjada and BCL leader Babu.  
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## 14 more gunned down in Karachi

**KARACHI, Dec 8:** A judge and 13 other people were gunned down Thursday in several attacks that marked the latest escalation of political and sectarian violence in this sprawling port city, reports AP.  
The judge, Arshad Mogul, was shot and killed as he drove home from the courthouse in central Karachi.  
"He (Mogul) was coming from the court when gunmen ambushed his car. He died immediately," said Abdul Sadar, a police officer at the scene.  
No one immediately claimed responsibility for the killings.  
Other victims included a soldier on an early morning patrol and five members of the provincial police chief's extended family, police said.  
Gunmen on motorcycles ambushed paramilitary soldiers patrolling a western suburb, killing one and injuring several others, police said.  
In Karachi's central district gunmen opened fire on the family of Sindh police chief Alzal Shigri, killing five of his relatives, police said.  
Another seven people were killed by snipers on rooftops in the city's congested central and western districts, police said.  
Police fear the shooting deaths of Shigri's family members may have been retaliation for Wednesday's shooting in a Sunni Muslim mosque that left nine people dead.  
Several people were in hospital in serious condition. Sunni leaders blamed their Shi'ite Muslim rivals.

## Opposition spurns offer

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right. For that matter a permanent constitutional provision could also be made, he added.  
Reacting to the Prime Minister's statement in Parliament yesterday that an individual cannot be above the interest of a country, he said it is the individual which is the most important to the BNP and the Prime Minister on the issue of a caretaker government.  
"The present government has not only made Parliament and parliamentary democracy ineffective but its fate has been made uncertain due to waywardness and stubbornness of the Prime Minister," he said.  
He hoped that the ruling party would not push the nation towards a disaster rather concede to the demand for a caretaker government. "We hope the government will not compel us to take the crucial decision of resignation on December 28."  
If the demand is not met before the deadline, the Opposition will go for tougher agitation against the government, he warned.  
In a pointed reference to a Parliament boycott case in the High Court, Nasim observed a "court has no jurisdiction to interfere in the proceedings of a parliament" and said walkout is a fundamental right of the

## Bangladeshi troops

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But the few concessions did not appear to signal a break in the Serbs new aggressiveness toward the United Nations. They continued to hold 356 peacekeepers hostage and have virtually shut down all UN movement pending assurances from the United Nations that there will be no more NATO airstrikes.  
Meanwhile a missile apparently fired by Serb forces landed just short of the Bosnian presidency building in Sarajevo today, eye-witnesses said.  
A Reuters photographer who saw the incident said the wire-guided missile exploded at the rear of the presidency, which faces Serb positions on Mount Trebevic overlooking the capital.  
Serbs forces have installed missile batteries covering at least 40 per cent of Bosnia to blunt NATO air power, a further blow to the viability of the

## Concede to people's demand: AL

Leaders of the Awami League yesterday warned that they would launch the final onslaught to oust the BNP government if the demand for a caretaker government is not met by December 27, reports UNB.

Addressing a post-hartal rally in front of the National Press club in the afternoon, they asked the government to concede to the people's demand for election under a non-partisan neutral caretaker government before the deadline.  
"People will not only realise the caretaker government, they'll also try Begum Zia's government in the 'public court' for its corruption and misrule," Tofael Ahmed MP told the rally.  
Rejecting the Prime Minister's proposal for power sharing, he said, "AL Chief Sheikh Hasina does not want share of power, she wants people's right to vote."  
He said Ershad had opposed the caretaker government but people's agitation compelled him not only to accept the demand but also to quit power.

Congratulating the people for making yesterday's hartal a success, Tofael called for observing "allout blockade" on December 24 and other Opposition programmes.  
Abdul Jalil, Suranjit Sen Gupta MP, Mozaffar Hossain Paltu, Matia Chowdhury and Nurul Islam Nahid also addressed the rally presided over by City AL general secretary Mozaffal Hossain Chowdhury Moaya.

## Human Rights Day tomorrow

**By Staff Correspondent**  
The Coordinating Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRB), will observe the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Day tomorrow (Saturday).  
On December 10, 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the universal declaration of human rights.  
The CCHRB will hold an essay competition in different educational institutions tomorrow.

## Four stabbed in separate incidents

**By DMCH Correspondent**  
At least four persons were injured in separate incidents in the city and Gajipur yesterday. A group of muggers stabbed one Delwar, 18, and snatched Tk 1200 and a wrist watch from him at Shanir Akhra in the city yesterday morning.  
He received stab injuries in his neck and was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).  
In another incident, a motor mechanic was injured when muggers stabbed him at Golapbagh Bishwa Road at about 1 pm yesterday after failing to snatch a gold chain from him.  
The victim Rajab, 28, was admitted to the DMCH with stab injuries in his abdomen.  
Mostafa, 32, was injured when a group of miscreants stabbed him at Konabari, Gazipur, yesterday afternoon.  
He received injuries in his face and head and was admitted to the DMCH. The victim alleged that he was attacked by his enemies.  
In another incident Babul, 35, was injured when a friend stabbed him in his throat at Gabtoli bus terminal at about 12 pm yesterday.  
He was admitted to the DMCH in a critical condition.  
Sources said at the time of the attack both were drunk.

## 40 hurt as JCD, BCL clash in Sirajganj

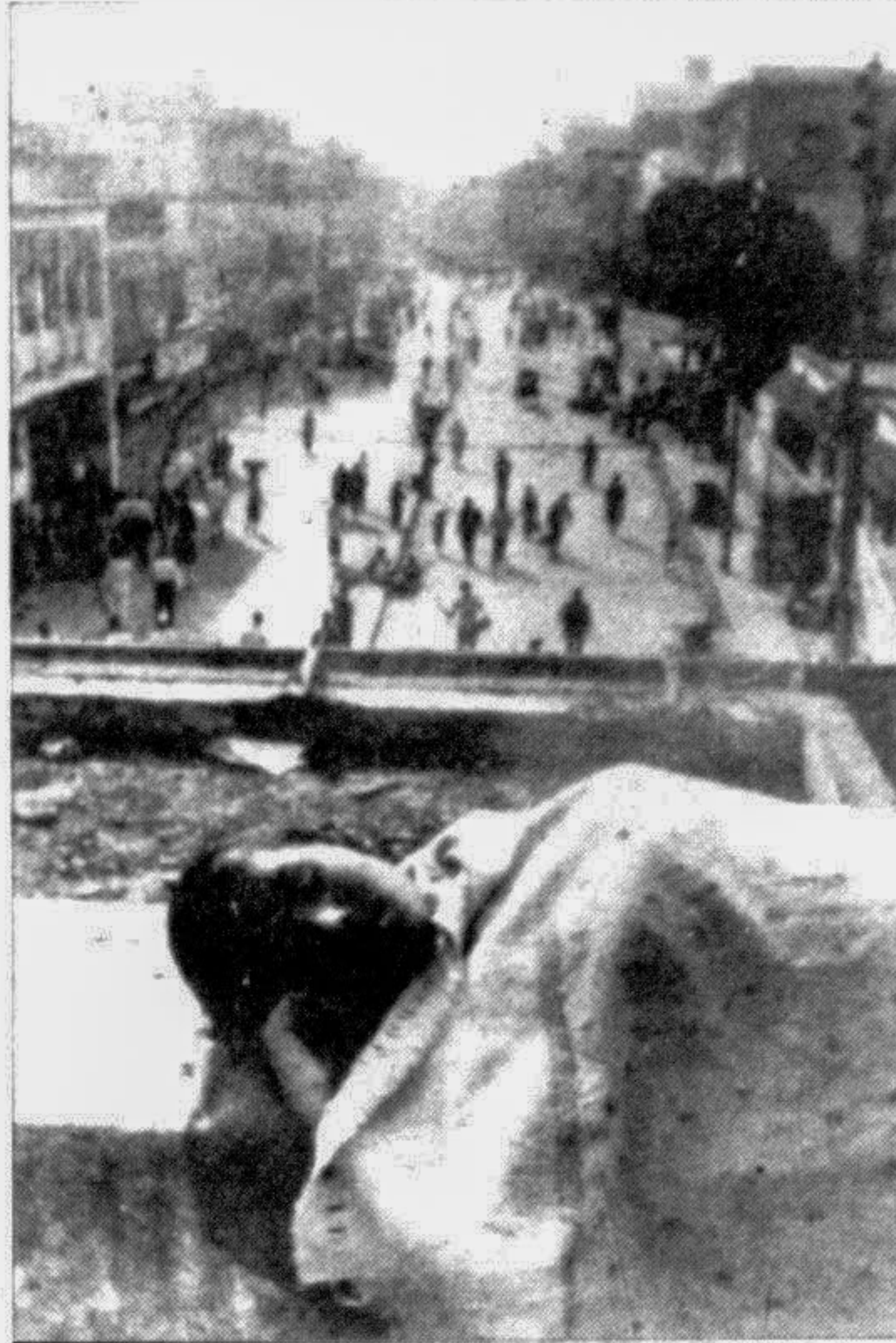
**SIRAJGANJ, Dec 8:** At least 40 people were injured, three seriously, in a series of clashes between the activists of Chhara Dal and Jubadal and Chhara League and Juba League in the town today, reports UNB.

## By-elections

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Under another notification, the Election Commission has appointed Deputy Commissioner of Barisal as the Returning Officer for conducting the elections of Bakerganj-6 while the Thana Nirbahi officer of Bakerganj has been made the Assistant Returning Officer.  
Deputy Commissioner of Sherpur has been made the Returning Officer for conducting the by-elections of Sherpur-3 while the Thana Nirbahi Officers of Sriabardi and Jhenigati will act as the Assistant Returning Officers for their respective areas.

## Rokeya Day

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messages recalled the services of Begum Rokeya in awakening of the Muslim women.  
In the city the Bangla Academy will hold a discussion at batamul of the academy in observance of the death anniversary of Begum Rokeya.  
A procession will be brought out from the rear of the Rokeya Hall of Dhaka University which would end at the Bangla Academy via Shaheed Minar.



A destitute woman sleeps blissfully on the overbridge near the District Court in the city while below people walk through Johnson Road during yesterday's hartal. —Star photo.

## One killed, 100 injured

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at Maniknagar, Munir Hossain and Belal Hossain at Bangabandhu Avenue, Alamgir, a rickshawpuller at Mohammadpur and Hannan and Shah Ali at the Tikatuly.  
All the markets, business centres and offices remained closed during the hartal hours yesterday. All modes of vehicles also stayed off the streets. Rickshaws piled however, in many areas of the city despite threats by the pickets.  
A bid to bring some BRTC buses on the roads under police guard early in the morning was foiled by the pickets who forced a bus to return to the garage from Shahbagh crossing.  
Our correspondents in Narayanjanj, Sirajganj and Naogaon reported that hartal was observed in the districts peacefully.  
Supporters of hartal brought out several processions at various places in the city. Some central leaders of the opposition parties were also seen in some processions.



A man injured in a bomb explosion during yesterday's hartal near the Jatiya Press Club being taken to hospital. —Star photo

## 639 Ansars sued

**From Page 1 Col 5**  
Army, paramilitary (BDR) and police came down on the Ansars at the academy and headquarters, killing two sepoys and injuring at least 20 others.  
The battalion Ansars agitated demanding regularisation of their jobs and increased pay and perks.  
A battalion Ansars sepoy now gets Tk 45 a day as wages and an additional five taka for each Eid day.  
Meanwhile, the BCS Ansars Association has condemned the detention order against the officers and termed it 'unlawful'. They also said the officers were not involved in the incident.  
UNB adds: The authorities yesterday gave one-month detention to battalion Ansars officers who were taken into the custody on Dec 4.  
Law enforcing agencies had arrested 18 Ansars officers — 15 from the Shaipur Ansars Academy and three from the Khilgaon Ansars headquarters.  
Of the 25 officers who were kept hostage by the revolting Ansars, seven were released immediately after the rebels had surrendered. The seven included Deputy Director of Ansars Captain (Retd) Munir Iqbal.  
But authorities held 18 others and they were given one-month's detention yesterday. Gazipur district official sources said. Ansars Director M Solaiman, Deputy Director M Hannan and Assistant Director Forkan were among those detained.

## Clash over drug business in city: 10 injured

**By DMCH Correspondent**  
At least ten persons were injured during clashes between two groups in the old part of the city yesterday. The clashes started over Phensidyl business.  
Three of them, who received bullet injuries were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).  
They were identified as Mizanur Rahman, 15, Shaheen, 16 and Papon, 13.  
According to sources, three clashes took place in Golapbagh and Gopibagh areas until yesterday night.  
A huge contingent of police was deployed in the area to keep the situation under control.  
Witnesses said police lobbed teargas shells to disperse the feuding groups.

## The Midnight File

### Ex-Pak minister re-arrested

**LAHORE, Dec 8:** Pakistani police today re-arrested former interior minister Shujaat Hussain, now a prominent opposition member of parliament, after a banking court revoked his bail, police sources said. Hussain, a member of the Senate (upper house), was first arrested on November 22 on a charge of financial fraud but was released on bail six days later. He has denied the charge, reports Reuter.

### 8 Israeli militiamen killed

**MARJAYOUN, Lebanon, Dec 8:** Muslim guerrillas opposed to the Mideast peace process killed eight Israeli-backed militiamen and wounded five other people in two bomb attacks Thursday, security sources reported. Seven of the Lebanese militiamen died in one attack, the sources said, speaking on condition of anonymity, reports AP.

## JS session prorogued

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country.  
amidst cheers and thumping of tables by the ruling party MPs.  
"Let us not paralyse Parliament, let us rather try to make it more effective by returning to the House and upholding the voters' interests on the floor of the Jatiya Sangsad", Begum Zia said.  
The BNP has so far shown an attitude of accommodation, she said, adding "We have made maximum concessions by agreeing to Commonwealth emissary Sri Ninian Stephen's proposal for a multi-party government for holding the next general elections."  
Terming the Opposition proposal for a non-partisan caretaker government an unconstitutional demand, the Prime Minister said it was even violative of the spirit of the mass struggle of the last decade. "We all adopted the 12th amendment to the Constitution to switch over to parliamentary democracy to stop handover of power in any unconstitutional means," she said.  
The Leader of the House noted that the spirit of parliamentary democracy was the running of administration, at all levels, by the elected representatives of the people. The holding of national polls under a non-elected government was, therefore, unquestionably contradictory democratic ideals, she added.  
"Besides, a nominated government could never be an alternative to an elected one," she said.  
An independent as well as stronger Election Commission (EC) is the guarantee to free and fair elections, while identity cards for each and every voter is the guarantee to the people's free exercise of franchise," Begum Zia said and added that the ruling party had already enacted two such legislations for this.  
The Prime Minister, however, accused the Opposition that the laws, already passed, could be further amended following the Opposition's constructive suggestions.  
The bill seeking strengthening of the EC was introduced in Parliament during the 16th session, but passage of the bill was delayed so that the Opposition, on its return to the House, could participate in the discussions on the proposed law with valuable suggestion", Begum Zia told Parliament.  
"We are still ready to accommodate further amendments to the laws if the Opposition, on their return to the House, puts forward better suggestions," she said.  
The Prime Minister, without directly referring to the Awami League, suggested that the party should part with the 'autocratic organisation' against which both the BNP and the AL had fought during the last decade. "Come out of the grip of autocracy which believes neither in democracy nor in the welfare of people", she said.  
Describing December as a month of victory, she hoped that the boycotting Opposition would come forward to work together with the government to institutionalise democracy.  
The Leader of the House said that the long absence of the Opposition from the Jatiya Sangsad had disappointed the voters concerned. "You would have no answer if one day they ask whether the Opposition MPs, whom they voted to Parliament, had properly represented them in the House by projecting their problems there", she said referring to the Opposition.  
"This is the high time to develop the country, alleviate poverty, create employment opportunities and join the worldwide trade race for a better and brighter future of the people of Bangladesh", the Leader of the House said.  
She said her government has been undertaking a balanced development across the country irrespective of party line and urged the Opposition to discard the disruptive programmes like hartals, strikes and sieges as those only create problems instead of resolving them.  
The Prime Minister said Bangladesh had joined the global race for trade and commerce following the end of the Cold War. She said the present government had created opportunities for which foreign investors were being attracted to make investment in this