



Two villagers protest outside a polling station before Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten turns out to cast his ballot yesterday. The two Hong Kong residents who leave in remote areas lost their rights to vote in the last legislative elections under British rule since their addresses were not recognised by the polling authority.

Question paper leakage : VC's clarification

The Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University yesterday issued a rejoinder to a news item published in the September 17 issue of The Daily Star under the headline 'Question paper leakage'. Some DU teachers involved.

The rejoinder, signed by the Public Relations Officer of DU, said the VC did not say that some teachers of Dhaka University were involved in the recent leakage of admission test question papers.

Humiliation

From Page 1 they said. BCS (Admin) This is total abuse of human rights. It is an unfortunate and condemnable act, said M Asafuddin, president of the BCS (Admin) Association.

Govt employees

Convener and member-secretary of Bangladesh Government Employees Coordination and Solidarity Council Syed Mohiuddin and Salehuddin demanded of the government to ensure security of the government employees during the hartal hours.

Secretariat Staff

President and joint secretary of Bangladesh Class Fourth Government Employees Association Fazal Mia and M A Awal called upon all concerned to repeat the incident. They condemned the incident of humiliation of the government employees, reminding all that the government employees and officers are servants of the people, and they are always respectful to laws.

Govt Employees Assoc

Secretary general of Krishibid Institution of Bangladesh Mr Javed Iqbal strongly condemned the inhuman acts and demanded exemplary punishment to the persons involved in the incident.

DU Teachers

We are very much mortified to see in several dailies today (Sunday) the news and picture of stripping of aged pedestrians as well as assault on women and other indecent and uncivilised activities during the hartal on Saturday, said a statement signed by 39 teachers of Dhaka University yesterday.

They said obstructing people from leading their social life in the name of hartal is against democracy and human rights. We feel, in our democratic society, hartal does not mean curbing people's democratic right, oppression on people, nor making their life miserable and insecure, the statement said.

Hartal is an important means of placing political programmes before the people, the teachers said. But it is desirable that such hartals are observed spontaneously through people's support, and not through any form of coercion.

Signatories to the statement, included Prof A F M Yusuf Haroon, Prof Anwar Hossain, Mohammad Asadzaman, Prof Mustafizur Rahman, Prof Abu Yusuf, Prof Anisur Rahman, Dil Roushan Zinnat Ara Naznin, Dr Mizanur Rahman, Dr A K M Nazrul Islam, Farida Begum, Dr Anwarul Islam, Belayet Hossain, Dr Moslehuddin Tareq, Mohammad Nurul Amin, Ferdous Hossain, Arif Billah, Lutfar Rahman, Yarul Kabir and B R Barua.



An ambulance (Above) of the PG Hospital was set on fire by a group of agitated people in College Gate area of the city yesterday after the driver of the ambulance turned down their request to take the child (in the arms left) who was run over by another ambulance in front of the Pangu Hospital minutes earlier.



Chandra Swamy's arrest protested. NEW DELHI, Sept 17: Scores of sadhus and saints, supporters of controversial godman Chandra Swamy, staged a demonstration here today protesting against former minister of state for home, Rajesh Pilot's decision to order the arrest of Chandra Swamy, reports PTI.

Second day of hartal

From Page 1 the injured boy to a hospital. As he refused, the angry people set fire to the vehicle, witnesses said. None was, however, injured in the incident. Another ambulance was also damaged by pickets at the same spot later. Faisal (13) was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

In Narayanganj, 20 persons were injured in some incidents yesterday. In one incident, some unidentified youths hurled cocktails on two processions of the JP-backed Juba Sanghati and Chhatra Samaj in Kalkibazar area near BB Road at around 10 am. The attack left 18 processionists injured. Of them six were taken to different clinics and hospitals in serious condition.

In Pirojpur district, 50 persons including three policemen were injured, nine of them seriously when AL and JP activists and supporters clashed with BNP activists and police in Inderhat bazar area under Swarupkathi thana.

Police said, the clashes began when BNP activists tried to forcibly open some shops in the bazar and AL and JP activists resist them. Over 50 cocktails were exploded and 10 guns shots fired during the clashes. The three policemen were injured while they tried to disperse the clashing groups.

In Rajbari, clashes between pro-hartal and anti-hartal activists left 12 persons injured in the last two days. The authorities imposed Section 144 at Pangsha thana sadar yesterday afternoon. The AL office in Pangsha came under attack by BNP activists Saturday night.

In Courtchandpur thana in Jhenidah, eight persons were injured in a clash between activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and BNP yesterday evening.

Later, the AL, JP and Jamaat activists brought out a joint procession at 8:30 pm. Three vehicles and five shops were damaged by the processionists.

According to reports, hartal was observed peacefully in Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Sylhet and Jessore. There was no report of any untoward incident.



This old man (right) was manhandled by pickets near the north gate of Baitul Mukarram mosque in the city for going by rickshaw at about 4:00 pm yesterday.

The Midnight File

NATO, UN still undecided over airstrikes on Serbs

ZAGREB, Sept 17: NATO and the United Nations have not yet decided whether to order more airstrikes on Bosnian Serb positions, the United Nations said late today. The decision has not been made yet, said UN spokesman Philip Arnold, reports AFP.

Arafat, Peres fail to agree on Hebron

TABA (Egypt), Sept 17: Israel offered today to share control of Hebron with the Palestinians, but the PLO held out for a deal that would grant it complete sovereignty over the tense West Bank town, reports AP.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO leader Yasser Arafat met for eight hours in this Red Sea resort, but failed to agree on who would rule Hebron.

29 die in Pak bus accidents

ISLAMABAD, Sept 17: At least 29 people were killed, including 18 members of a wedding party, in two separate bus accidents in Pakistan today, police officials and hospital sources said, reports AFP.

Mother, son

From Page 1 juries later. A neighbour, Zainob Bibi, was also seriously injured when she tried to prevent Bashir. She was admitted at the Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

Bashir was apprehended local police and was handed over to the police. The police also recovered two daos from the spot. A case was filed with the Fulbaria thana. Police said Bashir admitted that he had committed the murders.

N'ganj clash

From Page 1 Eyewitnesses said, the clash started at about 11 am as sequel to a long-standing dispute over establishing domination in the area.

The first round of clashes continued upto 12:30 pm. The rival groups again clashed from 2 to 4 pm, and lastly from 6:15 to 7:30 pm.

Both groups used cut-rifles, pistols, bombs, hockey sticks and other lethal weapons.

Police rushed to the spot at about 3 pm, but were forced to retreat following stiff resistance of the warring groups.

Pabna: 2 held

From Page 1 A tense situation is prevailing in the Naynamati area where activists of the rival JCD groups were allegedly roaming around in search of opponents.

Meanwhile, two other youths - Abdul Mannan and Amin Uddin, were arrested from Bharara, six miles from the town, in connection with another clash that also took place on Friday.

Rain comes

From Page 1 yesterday of the 72-hour hartal but the rainfall also interrupted picketing by the opposition activists. In many areas pickets were seen to be taking shelter under the shades of trees and roadside buildings.

The sky was overcast with clouds from Saturday morning, but the rain began in yesterday morning.

Rainfall in the city, according to the Met office was 31 mm. The highest temperature was 29.2 degrees Celsius and the lowest 26.2 degrees. In the morning, humidity was 86 per cent and in the evening 94 per cent.

The highest rainfall, the Met office said, was recorded to be 45 mm at Bhowa, followed by 37 mm at Rajshahi.

Teknaf recorded a rainfall of 22 mm, Chittagong 12 mm, Sitakunda 13 mm, Sylhet 12 mm, Chandpur 27 mm, Mymensingh 20 mm, Tangail 31 mm, Patuakhali 14 mm, Khulna 18 mm, Sathkhira 15 mm, Iswardi 25 mm, Bogra 27 mm, Dinajpur 14 mm.

Some other district towns recorded rainfall below 10 mm.

The Met office forecast that under the influence of active monsoon over the country, occasional moderate to moderately heavy rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty and squally wind are likely to occur at most places in Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions and at many places in Chittagong and Sylhet divisions.

China vows to annul Hong Kong polls

HONG KONG, Sept 17: Young and old, Chinese and foreigners, men and women - for many voters - Hong Kong's last election under British rule today was a last chance to be heard before China takes over in 1997, reports AP.

It's the last chance before Salam Talukdar

From Page 1 how to run the state through constitutional process and hold proper elections after the prime minister resigns. He said the government would not hesitate to accept legal and logical suggestions and recommendations of the Opposition. But they are not ready to talk, he alleged. The BNP secretary general asked whether the Opposition wanted a solution when they make a precondition that they would only discuss the issue if their demand was met.

Refuting the Opposition claim of a successful hartal, the BNP Secretary General wanted to know whether it was the first successful hartal in Bangladesh as cars, baby taxis, and trucks did not ply in big cities and towns and most of the shops remained closed.

Talukdar in another statement also condemned the stripping off clothes of government officials and employees during hartal. We have no words to condemn the perverted mentality of stripping the government officials and employees in broad day light by the supporters of the hartals in front of many people, he said.

Dinajpur outbursts

From Page 1 The body was then placed on top of a rickshaw van, uncovered, and constables Akram and Anjad followed it through the town to the Sadar Medical College for the so-called autopsy.

At the hospital, the autopsy was done exactly according to the police specification and at a surprising speed, medical sources said. What has been happening traditionally is that the police, whenever they want us to carry out an autopsy, would specify the nature of it. For example, in case of rape, accident, suicide, murder or any other unnatural death, police would come a tell us what had occurred. In Yamin's case we just did the autopsy of an unnatural death according to police specification, said Deputy Civil Surgeon of the Sadar hospital. It was learnt that one Dr Mohsin carried out the autopsy on Yamin.

That day the SP had to attend the monthly Police-Magistrate meeting at the court area. A magistrate who attended the meeting up to 4:00 pm reported to this correspondent that the SP never mentioned the incident to anyone during the nearly day-long meeting.

But things were boiling at Dosh-Mile. In the morning of August 25, the people there brought out a procession accusing police of rape and murder. The news spread quickly in the town. (Tomorrow - Part II)

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