Shutdown in Pakistan to back Kashmiris

ISLAMABAD, Feb 5: Pakistan was shown today by a government called general strike to support a separatist revolt in the Indian-ruled part of Kashmir, reports Reuter.

Anti-India rallies were held across the country and in Pakistan-controlled Azad (free) Kashmir. Protesters burned effigies of Indian Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao in Islamabad and some other towns.

Officials in the Azad Kashmir capital Muzaffarabad said Indian troops fired across a United Nations-monitored ceasefire line at Athmuqam in Azad Kashmir's Neelum Valley this morning.

wounding a young man. Today's strike, an annual feature in Pakistan for the past several years, follows heightened tensions between the two neighbours after an alleged Indian rocket attack on a border town in Azad Kashmir 10 days ago that killed 20 people.

All government and private offices, markets, industries and ports were shut and there was no public transport on roads as a mark of solidarity with Kashmiri militants fighting for independence or union with Pakistan, witnesses said. The country's three stock exchanges were also shut.

in Islamabad hundreds of demonstrators gathered outside parliament, carrying banners reading: "Kashmir will become Pakistan" and "stop cruelties in Kashmir."

5 killed

From Page 1

injuries while being taken to Purnimagati Health Complex. Abdur Rahman was admitted to the health complex.

Police seized the lorry. UNB says, a man was killed and 16 others were in jured in separate road accidents in Comilla district yes-

terday. An unidentified passenger died on the spot and seven others were injured when a Dhaka-bound bus fell into a road-side ditch at Miabazar in Chouddagram thana at about

2.30 pm. Five of the injured wereadmitted to Kalikapur Rural Health Centre while one each to Chouddagram Thana Health Complex and Comilla

Sadar Hospital. In another mishap, eight BDR personnel of 17-rifle Battalion of Comilla were injured as their van dashed against a road-side tree at Dayarampur in Burichang thana early in the morning. The mishap occurred as the driver lost visibility due to

thick fog. Of the injured, sepoy Towahai Marma was admitted to the BDR Hospital in Dhaka, Abu Syeed to Comilla 250bed Hospital and six others to a local BDR medical unit.

Besides, a teen-aged cycle rider was seriously injured when a truck hit him at Suagani in Sadar thana on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at about 9

HC rule

From Page 1

stay of all further proceedings of the case till February

A division bench of the HC comprising Justice Badrul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Mohammad Asaduzzaman also called for the records of the trial court and comments from Abdus Salam, District and Session Judge, Dhaka on the allegations and the averments made in the petition field by Major (Rtd) Kazi Emdadul Haque, under Section 526 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The rule was fixed for hearing on February 26. Advocate Mahbubur Rahman, counsel for the petitioner, submitted that the orders passed and actions taken on August 16. January 13 and January 25 last by the District and Session Judge, Dhaka created. genuine feeling and apprehension in the mind of the

petitioner that he would not get fair and impartial trial and justice from the present The defence counsel also submitted that the trial court on January 25 framed charge against his client and former president H M Ershad and others without sufficient hearing and without affording

consultation with his client for which order was passed by the judge himself on January 13.

He also submitted that the charge was framed in absence of the defence counsels who left the court while their prayer on behalf of the accused persons for adjournment of the hearing even on the grounds of the petition under Section 526 of the Code of Criminal Procedure was rejected.

The defence counsel further submitted that the trial court framed the charge under Section 302/109/201 and 34 of the Penal Code by hearing the Public Prosecutor only and with the help of a typed paper which he brought to the court along with him.

The crowd burnt Rao's effigies and tried to break through a police barricade. but riot police prevented them from surging towards the Indian High Commission in the nearby diplomatic en-

A small delegation led by Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan. chairman of a parliamentary committee on Kashmir, was allowed to deliver a protest note to the Indian mission.

The demonstrators later went to Islamabad's sister city of Rawalpindi in trucks and buses to attend a public

Police said small groups of people burnt tyres on main roads in Lahore, the capital of Punjab province, where an alliance of Religious parties mounted an anti-Indian

Eight suspected militants held in Delhi

NEW DELHI, Feb 5: Indian police said today they had arrested eight suspected militants in the capital New Delhi and seized 59 Chinese-made pistols and six kg (13 lbs) of

A senior police official told Reuters the eight, including four Pakistani nationals, were arrested at a guest house. He said the other four were from the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh.

source of supply (of weapons and drugs)... We are looking at all options," the official told Reuters. A series of bombs have exploded in the Indian capital over the past six months.

"We are investigating the

wounding nearly 100. Bomb blasts near Bangla Academy

killing seven people and

Several crude bombs exploded near the Bangla Academy yesterday evening. police said, reports UNB.

The bombs exploded on the road in front of the Academy just after iftar, creating panic among the visitors in the book fair.

Sandhani celebrates 19th anniversary

By Staff Correspondent The Sandhani Blood Transfusion Society, a leading organisation campaigning for voluntary blood donation. celebrated its 19th founding anniversary yesterday. A discussion meeting was organised on the occasion by the

Dhaka Medical College. It was addressed by Dr Kamrul Hasan Khan, Ruhul Amin Mojumder, Dr Hasan Shaheed Prof Dr Md Taher. Zuhur Islam Baiji, Khondokar

Sandhani Central Committee

yesterday afternoon at the

Nurul Samad, Mahfuz Anam and others. Sandhani, founded and run by student volunteers.

has branches in medical colleges across the country. Its dedicated activists collect blood from voluntary donors through various donation All donated units of blood

are preserved and distributed for transfusion free of charge. However, a nominal fee is charged for screening of blood against transmittable disease; such as hepatitis B. Malaria, AIDS and other

Last year, the Society made available 30,000 bags of blood for transfusion. The figure, however, falls

far short of the amount required for transfusion annually, according to Dr Kamrul Hasan Khan.

"About one and a half lakh bags of blood are the annual requirement. Currently, we are unable to meet that demand due to lack of blood bags," Dr Khan told the meet-

Meanwhile, the Society's sister organisation, Sandhani Eye Donation Society, was founded in 1984 with the objective of promoting posthumous corneal donation. It. too, has branches in all the medical colleges and is voluntarily run by medical stu-

dents and doctors. Since its inception, the society has collected some 764 corneas and registered more than 24,000 future donors, said its president. Ruhul Amin Mojumder.

One dies

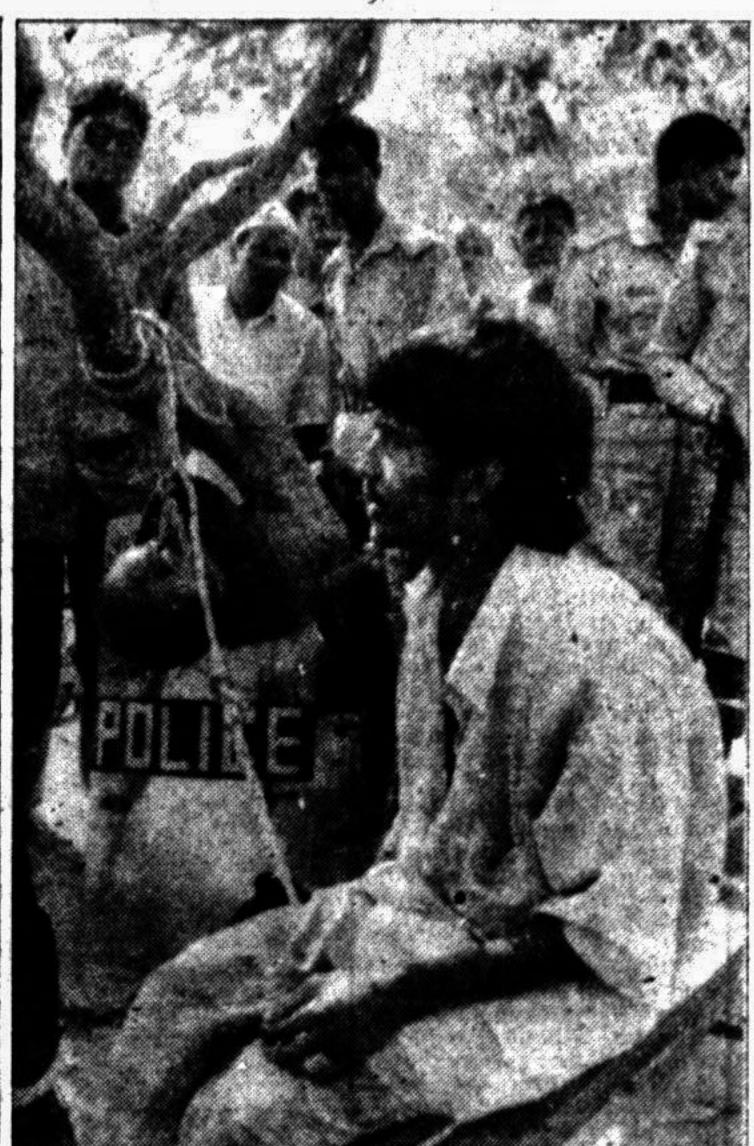
From Page 1

son-in-law died. Meanwhile, chairman Abul Hashim in a statement alleged that army and police were conducting raids on Kumarpara, his village, everyday since February 2 and terrorising the area.

Hashim, who is also a local Awami League leader, further complained that "some goons" unleashed by SA Khaleque, a BNP nominee for February 15 election from Mirpur constituency, were also terrorising the local

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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PUNISHMENT INDEED: A baby taxi driver was tied to a tree near the Zero Point in the city by the traffic police for violating traffic signals yesterday. The taxi driver was humiliated in front of hundreds of curious onlookers for hours and later released. - Star photo

Villagers beaten up

From Page 1

Star yesterday, said he was not aware of the Char Syedpur incidents. The OC Narayangani thana, Nurul Alam, was also unaware of the incidents.

However, an official of the Narayangani thana, on condition of anonymity, admitted that he came to know about the incidents.

When contacted, two officials of the army brigade headquarters in Narayangani. advised this correspondent to contact the ISPR in Dhaka. But no statement from the ISPR was available till Monday night.

During visits to the Char Syedpur village today, a group of newsmen, including this correspondent, found the entire village wore a deserted look as most of the panicstricken villagers left their homes for unknown destinations. Only a few old men and women were found guarding their ransacked homes.

The Daily Star correspondent also talked to a crosssection of the villagers who narrated the stormy operation by the security forces.

According to the villagers: as part of the arms recovery drive, a security team in plainclothes raided the house of one Amanullah alias Gedu Mia in the village to nab a suspected terrorist at around 3:30 pm on Saturday.

They alleged that the securitymen beat up some villagers and, at one stage, some security personnel

were manhandled. The villagers alleged that in the early hours of Sunday the securitymen came in a convoy of 23 vehicles stormed Char Syedpur and conducted raids for five hours from 3.30 am. During the early morning swoop, vil-

From Page 1

Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-ls-

lami have called for the shut-

down from 6 am to 3 pm as

the Prime Minister is sched-

uled to arrive here on a two-

day visit for election cam-

the ensuing parliament elec-

tion from Feni-1 and Feni-2

League Chhatra League ac-

tivists brought out a proces-

sion in the Feni town carry-

ing black flags to protest the

Prime Minister's planned

the capital said that Alhaj

Michbahur Rahman Chowd-

hury, President of Young

Muslim Society and a candi-

date from Dhaka-6 con-

stituency, was assaulted by

the city yesterday.

the evening.

Rahman.

vesterday.

anti-election campaigners in

tion campaigners attacked a

meeting of the Society near

WAPDA gate at Mugdapara in

managed to escape from the

coming parliament election

from Moulvibazar-3 against

Finance Minister, M Saifur

reported from Sylhet: An

election projection meeting

of Shehabuddin, an indepen-

dent candidate from Sylhet-5

constituency (Jakigan)-

Kanighat) was foiled by ac-

tivists of opposition parties at

Chotul Bazar in Kanaighat

the public meeting, a group

of Opposition workers asked

him to stop. But he tried to

continue. They then snatched

When Shihabuddin began

Our Staff Correspondent

venue with head injuries.

Police said the anti-elec-

Michbahur, however,

He is also contesting the

Another UNB report in

Begum Zia, is contesting

Meanwhile, pro-Awami

paign.

constituencies.

Local Awami League.

lagers alleged, the security personnel ransacked at least 40 houses, beat up the inmates and damaged house-

The villagers further alleged that the securitymen went for raiding the houses in the village indiscriminately. During the raids, they rounded up about 100 youths and put them in a queue for interrogation at the local ferry ghat.

However, all the youths. except three, were later released. The three — Abdur Rahim, 30, Yusuf Ali, 18 and Imamul Haq. 32 — were reportedly picked up.

Talking to this correspondent. Mansur Ali Matabbar said his son'Yusuf Ali was beaten up and later taken away by the securitymen. "Narayangani police did not take my complaint and I could not know the whereabouts of my son," added Matabbar.

Rashida Begum alleged that her husband, Abdur Rahim, was taken to an unknown destination after being seriously manhandled. "But I don't know the reason why my husband was taken

away". Farida Begum, a field worker of the family planning department, alleged that two of her sons - Faiz Hossain and Monir Hossain - were beaten up indiscriminately without any reason.

She said the villagers did not have any objection fo nabbing the criminals, but asked why innocent people should be victimised.

Ismail Hossain, a homeopath, said he was afraid of opening his chamber in the village due to the unusual situation now prevailing in the

One killed in Feni clash

and damaged the micro-

phones, ransacked the dais

office at Fenchugani thana

was ransacked by a group of

unidentified people. They

broke open the doors, ran-

sacked the office and dam-

unidentified people also

broke open the office of the

Assistant Commissioner

(land). Fenchugani and dam-

aged some documents and

A case has been regis-

Our correspondent re-

About 40 people including

two policemen were injured

in clashes between activists

of BNP and opposition parties

this evening at Court Bazar

One Opposition activist.

The clash broke out

Md Shahjahan, was admitted

to the Rabeta Hospital with

when an election procession

of BNP candidate Shahjahan

Chowdhury was passing by an

opposition rally to resist the

Selim and Goutam, were in-

jured when police tried to

were deployed on the spot .

independent candidate con-

testing the February 15 elec-

tion from Pabija-5 (sadar)

constituency withdrew from

press statement said he de-

cided not to contest in the

polls at the request of his

friends in opposition political

trict Returning Officer about

He also informed the Dis-

Abdul Mannan Khan, in a

the race yesterday.

UNB adds from Pabna: An

stop the clash. Later, police

The two policemen, Md

station in Ukhia thana.

head injuries.

election.

parties.

his decision.

from Cox's Bazar:

aged important documents.

The Election Commission

group of

and assaulted him.

Another

furnitures.

tered.

Polls should have been postponed: FBCCI

The business community yesterday viewed that the planned elections should have been postponed until an understanding was reached for a "fully participatory" polls to avoid confrontation in future, reports UNB.

The suggestion came from the business community leaders while exchanging views on the political situation during a meeting with the leaders of the Awami League at its office in the afternoon with party chief Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Meeting sources said the business community's obser vation followed a request by the Awami League president for resisting the "one-party. farcical elections" scheduled for February 15.

"Come, let's unitedly force the government to stop the mock elections for holding a free and fair voting under a neutral caretaker government for the interest of the people," Hasina told the businessmen.

She said there will be no peace for the business community if the election is held on February 15 without the participation of the country's

major political parties. Salman F Rahman, the President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), said the next elec tions would not ensure a political stability which is "so vital" for economic develop-

"We are convinced that the coming elections will not produce the much needed stability in the country," said

Sit-in in front of DU VC's residence *

By DU Correspondent The students of Jagannath Hall under the banner of Jagannath Hall Paribar staged a sit-in in front of the residence of the Vice Chancellor yesterday protesting the police action and demanding release of the students still in

The students later held a rally which was addressed by Priotosh Roy Bhowmick Pankaj Suraj, Proloy Joarder

UK halts export of Swedish equipment

to Pakistan STOCKHOLM, Feb 5: British officials have halted the export of Swedish equipment ordered by a Pakistani company suspected of aiding Pakistan's nuclear programme, the Daily Svenska Dagbladet reported on Sunday,

reports AFP. The laser-measuring instruments were ordered last year from a Swedish firm, whose name was not disclosed, and were exported via London's Heathrow Air-

port. According to the newspaper, British customs officials refused to allow the equipment to be carried on a Pakistan airlines aircraft after discovering they had been ordered by Pakistani firm Global Consultance.

The company was on a list of companies covertly used by Islamabad to develop its nuclear military programme, the newspaper added.

UNB adds from Sirajganj

Opposition activists attacked

election campaigners and

broke microphones in some

places of the district yester-

candidate of Freedom Party

for Sirajganj-1 (Belkuchi-Ka-

markhand) constituency, was

chased by Opposition ac

tivists when he brought out

an election procession at

Jamtalibazar in Kamarkhand

tors reportedly broke the

microphone being used for

campaign for Ansar Siddiqui,

a former state minister and

ganj-6 seat, at Khan Kaulia

damaged microphones being

used for campaign for former

MP and BNP candidate from

Sirajganj-3 (Raiganj-Tarash),

Abdul Mannan Talukder at

Chandaikona Bazar.

ground today.

the meeting.

Opposition activists also

Meanwhile, opposition

parties have vowed to resist

the election meeting for BNP

candidate Shahidullah Khan

at Alhaj Siddiqui High School

and Environment Gayeshwar

Roy is scheduled to address

a press conference yesterday

announced a dawn-to-dusk

hartal in the town on Febru-

ary 11 to foil a planned visit

of the Prime Minister who is

a candidate from Sirajganj-2

tary Abdul Latif Mirza de-

clared the programme which

also includes black flag

demonstration and wearing

of black badges to protest the

PM's electioneering tour.

District AL general secre-

State Minister for Forest

District Awami League, in

BNP candidate from Siraj-

Bazar in Chouhali thana.

Anti-election demonstra-

Abdus Sattar Nazlee, a

custody.

also boycotted They

Keshab Chandra Shil Prosanta Bhusan Barua and Subhash Singha Roy.

jam in the land port. '

By Staff Correspondent

Chowdhury vesterday expressed his fears that the country was heading towards a state of confrontation and said that the ruling BNI would be responsible for this. He urged the people to

ing elections under a caretaker government.

through newspapers. The JP called upon the of

ficials and professionals not to participate in the election process and the Radio-TV au thorities to refrain from broadcasting results of "farcical" election. It also urged transport workers not to carry election materials.

Golam Azam for non-cooperation instead of applying force

By Staff Correspondent The Opposition parties will not resist the election with force but with the noncooperation of the people. Jamaat-e-Islami chief Prof Golam Azam said here yester-

He was amnouncing at a press conference a five-day agitation programme of his party which include a 48hour hartal on February 14 and 15 to resist the election. The Jamaat leader said

He also urged the officials and professionals to refrain from doing election duty They will be identified as "destroyers of voting rights of the people" if they do it he

The Jamaat leader appealed to the officials and employees of the radio and the TV to refrain from broad casting results of the "larcical" election

the apex trade body chief. leading the business delegation that comprised of lead ers of different chambers and

trade associations. Replying to the request by Sheikh Hasina, Salman Rahman, however, said a formal decision for resisting the general elections will require a meeting of the FBCCI.

The FBCC1 chief observed that the Opposition movement against the government failed to yield result because "its (government's) biggest strength was that it came through a free and credible elections in 1991.

Stressing the need for an amicable solution to the cri sis to save the nation. Rahman observed that the politicians themselves would have to resolve the problem as it was "their creation."

As the business community leaders were of the view that political programmes like hartal caused sufferings to them, the Awami League chief assured that no hartal would take place if the gov ernment cancels the February 15 elections.

Difaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry presi dent Ali Hossain, Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Samson H Chowdhury, FBCC vice-president Khandaker Rashiduzzaman Dudu, National Bank chairman Abdul Awal Mintoo and business leaders Abdur Razzak Khan. Sirajuddowlah, Benaji: Ahmed, M Yunus, Ali Azam Lutfar Rahman and Khan dakêr Ruhul Amin also addressed the meeting.

Plan to restore Jessore-Benapole rail link

Rail communications in the Jessore-Benapole section, cut off since the Indo-Pak war in 1965, are being planned to be restored to ease congestion in Benapole land port.

Sources in the Bangladesh Railway told UNB that the authorities were going ahead with a plan to revive the 36 kilometre section which requires an estimated cost of Tk 25 crore.

A Project Concept Paper (PCP) is being drawn up and a summary on the project would soon be sent to the Prime Minister, sources said.

The idea of reviving the once-busy Jessore-Benapole section was mooted last year during meetings of an interministerial committee on development of Benapole port The committee, headed by the then Shipping Secretary Waliul Islam, was constituted in the wake of crippling log-

Mizan holds BNP responsible for any confrontation

Jatiya Party Acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman

stay away from the polling centres and reiterated the Opposition demand for resignation of the Prime Minister to pave the way for hold

The JP leader, while announcing his party's next agitation programme to resist the February 15 elections. also urged the candidates to withdraw their candidature

Central JP leaders Roushan Ershad. Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Kazi Zafar Ahmed were also present at the press conference.

that postponement of the election was inevitable because the people would reject it and that the postponement would not create a great constitutional crisis.

The Midnight Rile

Israel to continue peace talks with Syria

JERUSALEM, Feb 5: US Secretary of State Warren Christopher and

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres pledged today to pursue peace negotiations with Syria even if Israel holds early elections this spring. "No matter what will happen in the country, we feel obliged to continue the negotiations without interruption." Peres said after two hours of talks with the US envoy, reports AFP.

Anti-Russian protest continues in Chechnya

MOSCOW, Feb 5: Russian armoured vehicles advanced towards a building in the Chechen regional capital Grozny where supporters of rebel leader Dzokhar Dudayev had been holding an anti-Russian protest today, ITAR-Tass news agency said, re-

Protesters blast cocktails around Dhaka Stadium

By Staff Correspondent

Some unidentified people hurled more than 20 cocktails while police lobbed several tear gas shells around the National Stadium creating panic in the area yesterday morning.

The violence started when a group of people was reportedly protesting the one-day exhibition match between the visiting British MCC and Bangladesh 'A' teams, witnesses said.

The chase and counterchase between the protesters and the police spread to Bangabandhu Avenue, GPO and Gulistan area, witnesses

said. Traffic movement was disrupted in the roads around the stadium for about one and a half hours.

Show cause on EC

From Page 1

the Election Commission to show cause within three days as to why the acceptance of the nomination paper of Zahir Uddin Swapan, a BNP nominee, by the Returning Officer and the order of the EC dated January 27 last refusing the review of the said acceptance should not be declared as made without lawful authority and is of no legal effect.

A division bench of the HC comprising Justice Bimalendu Bikash Roy Chowdhury and Justice Md Abdul Mannan, upon a writ petition filed by Abdus Sobhan, one of the rival candidates of Swapan, issued the rule nisi.

The respondents in the petition include the Chief Election Commissioner. Election Commissioner, Zahir Uddin Swapan, and the Deputy Commissioner of Barisal

Dr Kamal Hossain, chief counsel for the petitioner, submitted that Zahir Uddin Swapan being on admitted facts the proprietor of M/s Sun-Shine Enterprise, a construction firm under the Ministry of Education in Facilities Department, having interest in a government contract falls within the mischief of Section 12 (1) (b) of the Representation of People Order, 1972.

It was said in the petition that challenging the candidature of Zahir Uddin Swapan the petitioner filed an application before the Returning Officer, Barisal which was rejected on January 18.

Thereafter, the petitioner field a review petition before the Chief Election Commissioner on January 20 which was fixed for hearing on January 22, but though the petition was ready for hearing it was adjourned till January 27 and the petitioner received the order of rejection on January 31, the petition alleged.

Bid to kill Guatemalan president

GUATEMALA City, Feb 5: Confusion reigned today in Guatemala after the government said a man tried to kill President Alvaro Arzu on the eve of Pope John Paul's visit but the alleged assailant's father described the incident as a tragic mistakes, reports Reuter.

Pedro Aroldo Sas. a 24year-old Guatemalan, was shot dead by presidential security men after officials said he tried to ram Arzu and his wife with a pickup truck hours before the pontiff was due to visit the central American country.

Hasina From Page 1

people's voting rights." Hasma accused the govcrument of putting the army and the law enforcing agenries face to face with the people.

She alleged that the BNP was using the army against the opposition in the name of recovering illegal arms The former Leader of the

Opposition in parliament called upon the president to pull back the army to the barracks

AL leaders Abdus Samad Azad. Abdul Mannan, General Secretary Zillur Rahman Ab dur Razzak Amir Hossam Amu Tofael Ahmed and Mo. hammad Nasım were present at the press conference

ports Reuter. "In connection with an aggravation in the situation in the Chechen capital federal forces' armoured vehicles have been moved up to the former presidential palace."

Tass said. AP adds: The large anti-Russian rally resumed today as people gathered for a second day to demand the immediate withdrawal of federal troops from their separatist

republic. Up to 5,000 people demonstrated in front of the ruined presidential palace in Grozny, the Interfax news agency said. Many had arrived in buses and cards from

other Chechen towns. Protesters have hoisted two green flags of Islam and of the republic of Ichkeria, as the separatists call Chechnya, over the building. A portrait of rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev dressed in his military uniform was hanging over the

Occasional single shots rang out and protesters shouted "Allah Akbar" and anti-Russian slogans through loudspeakers, the ITAR-Tass news agency said.

entrance.

Chechen police have not interfered and stayed 500 meters from the rally.

Slanghtered

From Page 1

four children were Swapna Rani Das. 8. Uttam Kumar Das. 6. Madhab Kumar Das. 4. and a one-month-old girl child. The neighbours broke the

door of their house open and found all the five slaughtered. Bhushan Das, husband of Rani Bala, had been missing since morning.

Police, however, said that Bhushan Das was in custody. JCD leader

From Page 1 blamed the activists of Chhatra League for killing Musa but the BCL denied. Chhatra Dal in a press release alleged that Musa was killed as part of the anti-election activities

by Awami League and Chhatra League. The Chhatra Dal held a rally this evening in protest against the killing of Musa and demanded immediate ar-

CEC fears

rest of the killers.

From Page 1 tain peace around the area. The army will, however, be kept posted at police stations. They will be given wireless sets so that they can rush in aid of civil administration as and when needed to bring situation under control. There will be mobile

force which will be patrolling

their respective areas. Justice Sadeque noted with anguish that major opposition parties were not participating in the coming poll. He said it would have been much better if they had taken part in the fray.

In reply to a question concerning mopping up of unauthorised arms, the CEC said bulk of arms had already been recovered from unauthorised possessions. He also noted with satisfaction that most of the criminals and hoodlums had fled the country for fear of being arrested by the law enforcing agencies deployed to unearth unau-

thorised arms. He thought that it was due to this operation that violence on the election day would be far less than apprehended.

In reply to a question, the CEC said nobody would be allowed to rig the poll. "If a ballot box remains empty. that empty box will be returned to the Election Commission. None will be allowed to stuff the empty boxes as

were done in the past. He made it clear the Election Commission is honest and sincere in its efforts to hold election freely without any prejudice or pressure from any quarters. He concluded with a call for all concerned to cooperate with the Election Commission for

smooth balloting. 48-hr hartal

From Page

hury called upon the candi

dates to stay away from the

Mizanur Rahman Chowd-

Golam Azam called upon the officials involved in the election process not to co operate

Later, explaining the

mass curtew". Al. Organising Secretary Mohairmad Nasim said that the crafew would be imposed by the people on the polling day so that none goes out of their homes

It actually radicates the intensity of the opposition campaign against this gov-

ernment he said