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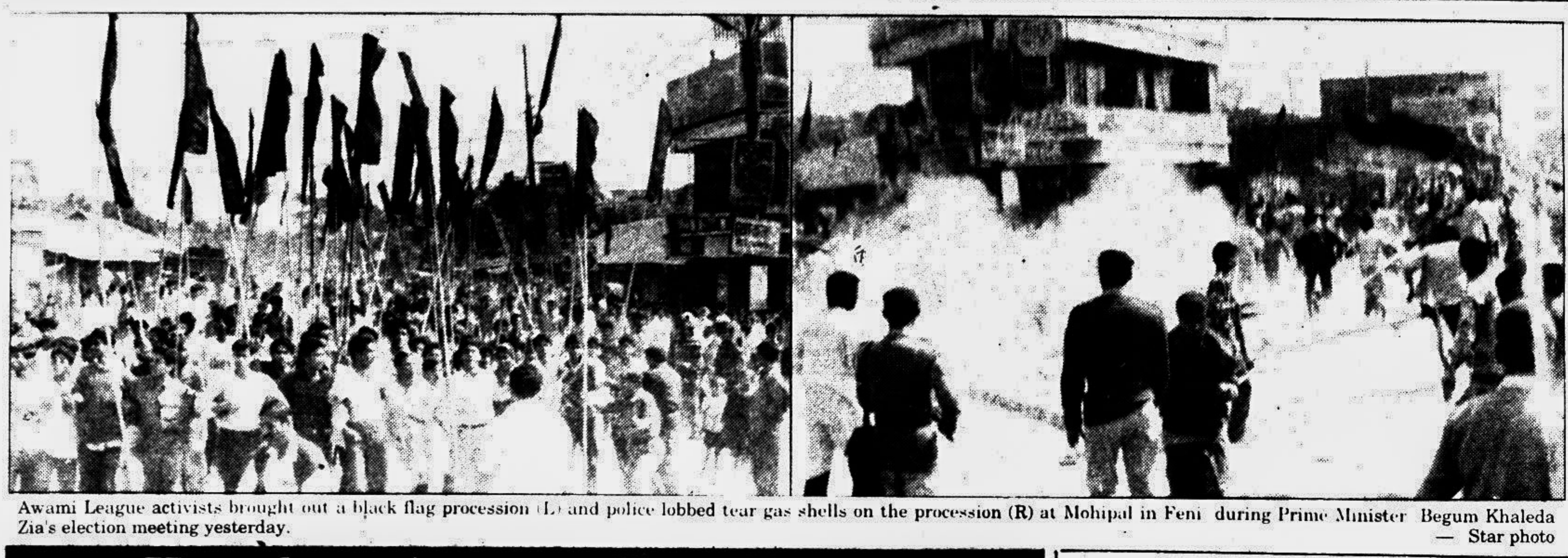
Transactions in volume 119652

Transactions in value Tk 1.54 cr

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Hartal Hazards Page 3



Hartals can't stop polls, rally told

PM faces black flag demos, cancels Dagonbhuiya meet

From Nazmul Ashraf

Anti-election violence

Dist EC, BNP offices burnt, 37 including magistrate hurt

By Staff Correspondent

FENI, Feb 7: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today cancelled a public meeting at Dagonbhuiya amid opposition agitation and faced black flag demonstrations at Mohipal on the first day of her two-day polls campaign in the hartal-bound district.

"None can stop the polls," a visibly irritated prime minister said amid cracker explosions and black flag demonstrations during her meeting at Mohipal, one of the seven she addressed on the day.

There were a series of opposition demonstrations and black flags were seen atop houses and shops at Dagonbhuiya where a young man reportedly a Chhatra League activist was killed on Monday last in a clash with the BNP-backed Chhatra Dal.

The BNP chairperson who is contesting from Feni-1 and Feni-2 constituencies in the February 15 parliamentary polls addressed six other meetings at Lalpur, Lashkarpur, Pathan Nagar, Kuresh Munshirhat, Ranirhat and Barapur.

Two crackers were also exploded at her Lalpur meeting and another went off at Trunk Road when her motorcade was going from the Circuit House to Lashkarhat about 6-km off the town. None was injured.

The opposition activists also damaged ten vehicles at Lalpur by-pass.

All the public meetings were poorly attended and the usual scene of people lining up along roads to watch the motorcade was not noticed due to hartal.

Although pickets were not seen in the town, vehicles were off the roads and shops, market and educational institutions remained closed due to a hartal called by the Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami.

A group of anti-election activists with black flags penetrated into the meeting venue and reached within 50 yards of the rostrum while Begum Zia was addressing the meeting at Mohipal in Sadar thana.

A clash took place between the protesters, identified as members of Awami League-backed Chhatra League, and activists of ruling party's student wing, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, which left eight local newsmen injured.

They are Habibur Rahman Habib of the Ajker Kagoj. See Page 12 col 8.

BARISAL, Feb 7: Opposition workers staged a stormy black-flag protest against the visit of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Justice A K M Sadeq in connection with the coming vote, reports UNB.

See Page 12 Col 2

Foreign diplomats in Bangladesh have been advised to avoid going to the city's busiest centres, like Gulistan, for security reasons, diplomatic sources in Dhaka said yesterday, reports UNB.

Palestinian Ambassador See Page 12 col 7

A district election commission office was burnt and at least 37 people including a magistrate were injured in anti-election violence at different places of the country yesterday.

Most of the voter ID cards, voter lists and other documents were burnt when some masked armed men dashed the night guard, poured petrol and torched the district Election Commission office at Chuadanga town in the early hours of yesterday.

In Khulna, hand bombs were blasted in front of the Election Commission office and the residences of five candidates.

In Chittagong, at least 20 people including a magistrate and a police man were injured in a series of bomb blasts in different parts of the port city. Bombs were also hurled at the residence of a leading BNP candidate in the city.

The district BNP office was set on fire in Myemensingh while clashes and injuries were also reported from Siraganj and Jhenidah.

Our Staff Correspondent from Chittagong reported that sporadic bomb blasts rocked the port city while about 20 persons including a magistrate and a policeman were injured yesterday, according to witnesses and police sources.

The injured persons were rushed to hospitals and clinics.

The residence of former MP and BNP candidate from Chittagong-8 constituency Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury came under bomb

See Page 12 Col 4

Fire victims unfed, no relief yet

By Staff Correspondent

Many of the fire victims remained unfed yesterday, even 24 hours after a devastating fire left more than 5,000 people homeless at Kamalbagh near Soanighat in the old city.

At the local makeshift camps, set up by volunteer youths of the locality, hundreds of victims of the fire mostly mothers with children were complaining that they had not had any food all day. Till yesterday no government aid reached the affected people, locals said adding that neither did any government official visited the place.

Meanwhile, till yesterday no casualty was reported in the big fire which gutted around 700 bamboo huts and more than 50 small scale industries in Kamalbagh area Tuesday evening, police said and organisers of the camps said.

"Although it was heard on Tuesday night that some children were missing following the fire but the parents have found them later," said Moslem Miah, one of the camp organisers, yesterday evening.

Inside one of the camps, set up in the Hafez Kamaluddin Primary School, a one room premises, women and children said that the fire had destroyed all their belongings.

"We left our homes and jumped into the Buriganga See Page 12 col 8

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বিদেশে প্রশিক্ষণ লাভের সুযোগ

জাপান বার্বিশ বাণিজ্যিক সংস্থা (JETO) জাপানী ১লা মার্চ, ১৯৯৬ইং তারিখ হতে কিছু সংখ্যক বাংলাদেশী নাগরিককে হোজাডোর কোর্সে নথীভুক্ত অবস্থিত NIPPON INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTRE-এ উৎপাদন ও ব্যবস্থাপনা এবং কারিগরী ও উৎপাদন উন্নয়ন বিষয়ে সম্ভারিত প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদান করবে।

১। উৎপাদন ব্যবস্থাপনা-বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ডিগ্রীধারী।

২। কারিগরী ও উৎপাদন — এইচ.এস.সি।

প্রশিক্ষণ গ্রহণকারীর বয়স কোন অবস্থাতেই ২২ বৎসরের অধিক হতে পারবে না। প্রশিক্ষণ চলাকালীন সময়ে থাকার-খাবার, পোশাক-পরিচ্ছদ, বই-পত্র, টিউশন ফী ও প্রশিক্ষণ যোগ দেয়ার জন্য বিমান ভাড়া ইত্যাদি স্বাধীনভাবে জাপান বার্বিশ বাণিজ্যিক সংস্থা বহন করবে।

ইহা চাড়াও প্রশিক্ষণ চলাকালীন সময়ে হাত-বাক্স বাবদ উল্লেখযোগ্য পরিমাণ অর্থের জাপানী মুদ্রা প্রশিক্ষণার্থীকে প্রদান করা হবে। প্রশিক্ষণ গ্রহণকারীর কোনরূপ টাকা-পয়সা ব্যক্তিগতভাবে ব্যয় করার প্রয়োজন নাই। প্রশিক্ষণে যোগ দেয়ার পূর্বে জাপান বার্বিশ বাণিজ্যিক সংস্থার সচিব সরকারীভাবে এই মর্মে একটি চুক্তিপত্রে স্বাক্ষর করতে হবে যে, সকলতার সহিত প্রশিক্ষণ সমাপনের পর অবতরণপক্ষে ৫ বৎসর তাহাবেরে অধীনে বিশ্ববাসী যে কোন পক্ষে আন্তর্জাতিক নিয়মানুযায়ী দেয় বেতন ও ভাতা চাকরি করতে হবে। অন্যথায় প্রশিক্ষণার্থীর পেছনে ব্যয়কৃত যাকারী অর্থ তৎক্ষণাৎ পরিশোধ করতে বাধ্য থাকবে।

আরো বিস্তারিত তথ্যাদি এক চুক্তিপত্রে শর্তাদি সর্বস্বিকৃত বৃন্দপেটাস জাপানী দূতাবাস হতে বাংলাদেশী মুদ্রা ২০০/- (দুইশত) টাকার বিনিময়ে সাধারণ ডাকযোগে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।

জাপানী যদি উপরে বর্ণিত প্রশিক্ষণ কর্মশালায় যোগ দিতে আগ্রহী হন তবে আগামী ১০-০৩-৯৬ তারিখের মধ্যে জিমনিস্কিত জাপানী দূতাবাসের ঠিকানা ২০০/- (দুইশত) টাকা মুদ্রার পোস্টাল অর্ডার/ প্রাইভেট ও নিজ ঠিকানা লিখিত একতরান ১০"x৪" সাইজের বামসহ দূতাবাসের বাণিজ্যিক সচিব দ্বাবার আবেদন করে বন্দপেটাস ও অন্যান্য তথ্যাদি সংগ্রহ করতে পারেন।

COMMERCIAL SECRETARY
G P O Box No: 3126
Dhaka-1000.

Refrain from polls, Hasina urges DCs

Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina in a letter to the Deputy Commissioners has asked them not to be a party to the contentious February 15 parliamentary election, reports BSS.

"You are not the employees of the ruling party but of the Republic. I call upon you to refrain from getting involved with the one-party farcical election being held against people's will," Hasina said in her letter, dated February 3, to the chief executives of district administration.

DCs have been customarily appointed Returning Officers in the ensuing election.

See Page 12 col 6

25 hurt as JCD workers attack police in N'ganj

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Feb 7: At least 25 people were injured when activists of pro-government JCD allegedly attacked police personnel returning to the town after arresting three JCD workers with illegal weapons.

Police said, the attack was made at about 1 pm near the Killerpur, about one kilometer from the town, after they arrested Shamsul Alam, Likan and Abdur Rahman and recovered two foreign-made revolvers and three rounds of bullets from their possession.

When the team of the detective police was returning to the city, some 20 JCD workers attacked their vehicle, they said.

The police said the attackers also set off about 15 hand bombs and fired several rounds of shots.

In return, the police fired into the air and sped off to Shiddhirganj thana.

Then, enraged JCD workers damaged 15 buses and other vehicles, and assaulted the passengers.

The road communication between Narayanganj and Demra remained suspended for three hours.

Four people were hospitalised.