

Inside Today

Article

Devaluation and Export: The Core Needs More

Column: Beneath the Surface by Abdul Bayes Page 4

Focus

Relaxing Under the Caretaker Government Page 5

International

Fresh offensive against LTTE in Jaffna under cover of curfew

Europeans against any new US sanctions on Iran, Libya Page 8

Business

20 BCIC units produce goods worth Tk 1043cr in 9 months

1176 illegal workers held in US Pages 6, 7

Dhaka Day by Day

I think Devipriya is doing the same thing as my mother did in the 1970s.

The Growing Dish Culture Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Dhaka condemns attack on Lebanon

Bangladesh has condemned the recent Israeli attacks on Lebanon that left at least 94 people killed. A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday said that Bangladesh government demanded immediate end to the hostility in the area and called upon the United Nations to take effective measures in this regard. 'The attack is the violation of sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon', the spokesman said, reports UNB.

Indian envoy meets Hasina

By Staff Correspondent Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh Dev Mukherjee made a courtesy call on Awami League president Sheikh Hasina yesterday at the latter's Dhanmondi residence in the city. During the meeting they discussed matters relating to mutual interests between the two neighbouring countries and international issues, says an AL press release.

JP rally at Manik Mia Avenue Apr 23

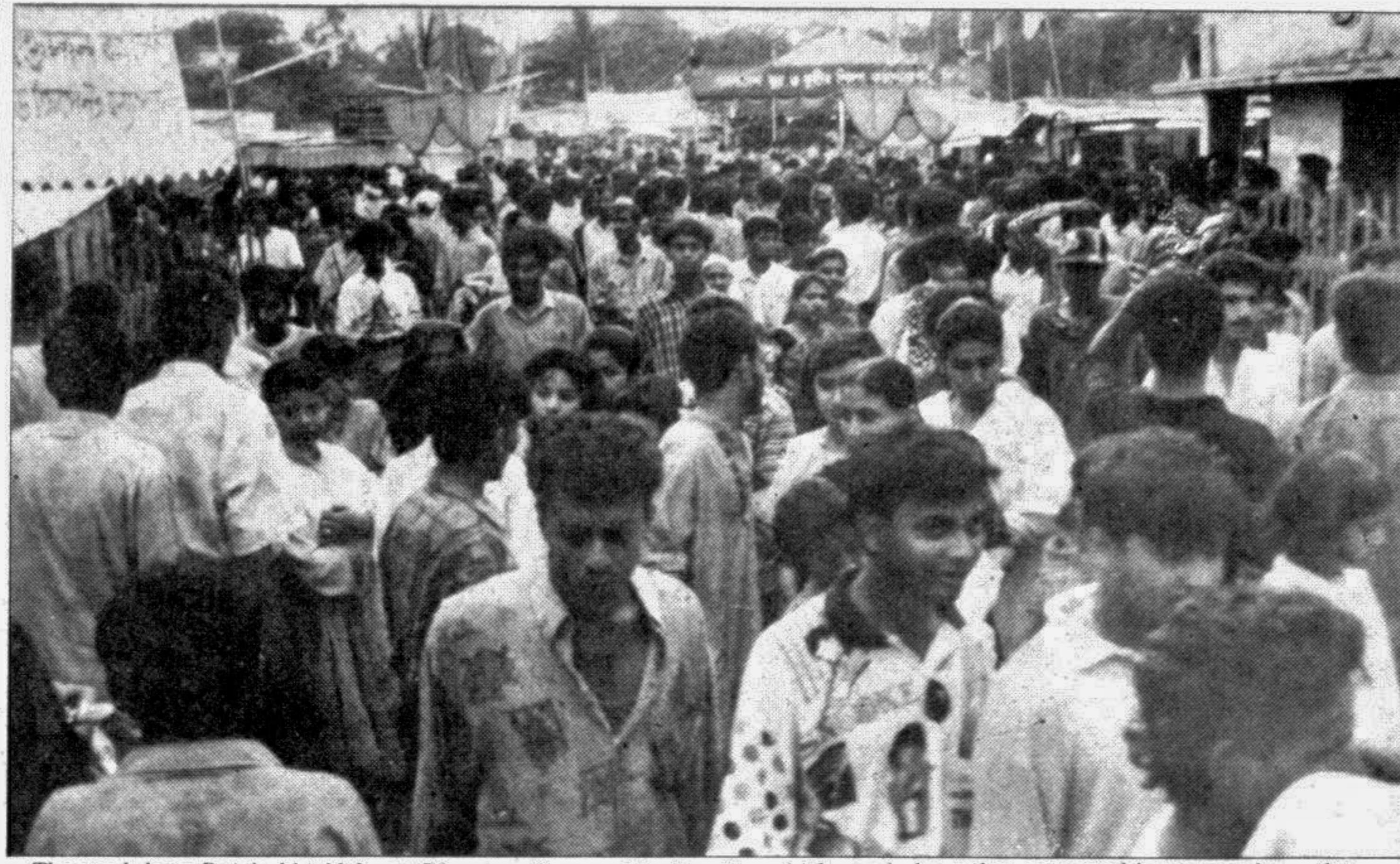
The Jatiya Party will hold a public rally on April 23 at the Manik Mia Avenue. Central leaders of the party will address the rally, a Jatiya Party press release said yesterday. reports BSS.

City AL extended meet today

By Staff Correspondent An extended meeting of the Dhaka City unit of the Awami League will be held at a city community centre today, said party sources. AL chief Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to address the meeting beginning at 10 in the morning while City unit president and Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Mohammad Hanif will preside over.

LDF March Apr 25

The Left Democratic Front (LDF) will organise a march across the country on April 25 to press home their demand for stopping use of black money and recovery of illegal arms, a press release of the Front said yesterday. This was announced at a rally of the Front held at JSD-BSD office premises in the city. Leader of the Front Dilip Barua and APM Mahbubul Haq, addressed the rally, reports BSS.



The week-long Baishakhi Mela at Dhanmondi ground in the city, which concludes today, attracted huge crowd on the weekly holiday yesterday.

— Star photo

Polls manifesto to focus on women, youths

BNP may pledge to set up elected local bodies

By Nazmul Ashraf

BNP's manifesto for the forthcoming parliamentary elections is likely to give special emphasis on plans for the welfare of women, youths and students, whom the party considers its vote banks, according to sources in the party.

The plans may include expansion of the development programmes adopted while the party was in power and new programmes for creation of more employment opportunities for women and youths and increased facilities for students, especially the female ones, the sources added.

The most significant aspect of the BNP manifesto is likely to include a pledge that the Zila and Thana Parishads would be run by elected representatives.

The manifesto will also promise not to renew the 25-year Bangladesh-India Friendship Treaty, separate the judiciary from the executive and autonomy to the Radio and TV.

The manifesto is also expected to highlight BNP's commitment to maintain democratic and constitutional process in the country at any cost, a top party leader involved in its preparation said adding, 'Our singular contribution towards making constitutional provisions for holding of all future national elections under non-party caretaker government will be mentioned.

We're working on the manifesto and receiving various proposals in this regard,' party secretary general Abdus Salam Talukdar told The Daily Star.

Another influential leader of the party on condition of anonymity said, 'Major changes are unlikely in the party's economic, administrative, educational, socio-cultural and foreign policies, which were declared by the Election Commission.

Today's presidium meeting may also discuss formation of the party's parliamentary board. Earlier a list of 11 members were sent to party chairman H M Ershad for selection of the board, said the sources.

According to some insiders Ershad has chosen an eight-member parliamentary board for the upcoming elections. The members of the board are H M Ershad, Mizan Chowdhury, Begum Roushan Ershad, Moudud Ahmad, Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Shah Moazzem Hossain, Anwar Hossain Manju and Nazir Rahman (Advocate Hu-

mayun).

See Page 12 col 8

in this context.'

The BNP, in its manifesto, will also highlight the 'achievements' in various sectors during its rule and renew its commitment to carry forward all those development projects if returned to power.

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See Page 12 col 8

Golam Azam won't contest polls

'Make caretaker govt system a success'

By Staff Correspondent

The political parties which had fought for general elections under a caretaker government should make this system a success, said Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami Golam Azam

had said.

Those who were forced to accept the caretaker formula under public pressure might try to subvert the system, but those who fought for it should work for its success, Golam Azam said while addressing a public meeting at Manik Mia Avenue in the city yesterday.

Urging the people to elect the Jamaat in the coming elections Golam Azam said that his party would contest in all the 300 seats of the Jatiya Sangsad to ensure establishment of the rule of Quranic law and honest people in the country.

Golam Azam said after 25 years of rule by three parties, this time people have the chance to choose a party which believed in Quranic law and justice. Quranic law never

I am not against any party

and will not contest the elections,' he said adding that 'I will pursue all other parties to implement Quranic law and go for administration of honest people.'

The Jamaat equipment with efficient and honest people to run the administration of the country, he said.

The meeting was organised by the city unit of Jamaat and was chaired by its chief ATM Azhar. Party supporters were seen carrying traditional election symbol of the Jamaat — balance — besides banners and festoons with slogans for Quranic law and justice.

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2 college students rescued, 8 held in Netrokona

NETROKONA. Apr 19: A special armed police squad, following a secret information, rescued tonight two college students — Jamal Uddin and Mohammad Shamim — from the residence of Jalaluddin Talukdar, a former Awami League MP, reports BSS.

Police sources said, eight persons, including Talukdar, were arrested in this connection. One revolver and a country-made gun were also recovered from Talukdar's residence.

Jalaluddin, son of Advocate Abdul Karim, a former BNP whip, and Mohammed Shamim, son of Abu Chand, chairman of Chandigarh Union Parishad of Durgapur thana, were allegedly abducted by unidentified armed men this afternoon from the busy shopping centre of Boro Bazar of Netrokona town, police said adding that section 144 was imposed in Durgapur to maintain law and order.

A case has been registered with Netrokona Kotwali thana.

See Page 12 col 6

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