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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina consoling the mother of Rezaul Karim Ratan yesterday. Ratan was killed during clashes in Bogra on Saturday. - PID photo

Fiery debate in JS

the salvation of the departed souls of those killed in Bogra Moulana Delwar Hossain Saidee led the prayer, aban-

Initiating the debate. BNP lawmaker Abu Yusuf Mohammad Khalilur Rahman accused the Speaker of denying the opposition's right to speak in parliament.

The House plunged into chaos when Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury warned that he would not allow the member to speak if there was any further unpleasant remark towards the chair.

At this stage, young BNP member Mashiur Rahman took the floor and alleged that as many as 50 workers of BNP and its front organisations were killed by the Awami League

regime in last two months. Nine people were killed in Bogra, of whom two buried without proper funeral rites while automatic LMG was being demonstrated by pro-government students in Dhaka Uni-

versity, he said. Alamgir Kabir said the situation has deteriorated to such an extent that the daughter of late Awami League leader Tajuddin Ahmed filed a case of repression against her husband who was arrested recently.

The BNP member demanded resignation of the Home Minister and said the hands of the Prime Minister are stained

with blood K M Obaidur Rahman said the government failed to take any pragmatic steps to deal with the situation. Rather, the home minister's provocative remarks further deteriorated

the situation, he added. Moulana Delwar Hossain Saidee quoted newspaper reports on recent incidents of violence and terrorism, and said there is no doubt that law and order has aggravated. He said it needs the sincerity of the two

leaders in combating terrorism. In a sharp rebuttal to the opposition allegations, Awami League organising secretary and Telecommunication Minister Mohammad Nasim came out with full fury and straightway blamed BNP and JCD for the

situation in Bogra. He alleged that the situation was created to provoke police to open fire. In a planned way, JCD and Jubo Dal had let loose terrorism throughout the coun-

Referring to the resignation of DU vice chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, the Awami League leader said it was de-

signed to destabilise the situa-He accused the former VC of patronising the armed terror-

ism by JCD and giving them shelter during the last four He wondered why the former

VC did not submit resignation when police staged atrocities on students at the Jagannath Hall during Begum Khaleda Zia's

Nasim said an enquiry should be made to see how many houses Prof Emajuddin owns in Dhaka city and how his jobs in the Dhaka University.

daughter and son-in-law got Former DUCSU VP Akhtaruzzaman accused BNP of creating a planned situation to

fish in the troubled water. Before staging the walkout at about 5:55pm, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury said Vice-Chancellor Prof Emajud-

din Ahmed, Proctor Nazrul Islam and nine provosts had resigned in the wake of an explosive situation on the DU cam-Prof Chowdhury quoted the

VC's statement on resignation and said such an event at the highest seat of learning is un-

precedented in the annals of

As some Treasury bench members raised a hue and cry in the middle of his comment. doned by the ruling party MPs. he said there is no scope of undermining this incident which will only bring disaster for the

> nation. "The administration of Dhaka University has collapsed, armed hoodlums are moving scot-free letting loose anarchy and shedding blood on the campus," the BNP leader told the House.

Chowdhury alleged the government demonstrated a "mindless cruelty and irresponsibility" by turning a blind eye to the DU situation while the Education Minister and the Home Minister failed to carry out their duties

Rebutting the walkout Deputy Leader of the House Zillur Rahman accused the opposition of trying to fish in the troubled water as BNP could not accept its electoral defeat.

He said they staged walkout frequently on different pretexts from the first day of this maiden session of the new Par-

Zillur alleged that Prof Chowdhury made untrue and provocative remarks to find a plea for walkout, and denounced the reasons for Opposi-

tion walkout as ludicrous. Education Minister ASHK Sadek said he was amazed at the statement of the Deputy Opposition Leader on the resigna-

tion of the DU Vice-Chancellor. "If we try to find out the causes behind the DU situation. then we will have to speak against the Vice-Chancellor. The last few days' incidents in Dhaka University are nothing new. In last five years, many more tragic incidents have oc-

curred there." Even students were killed on the open stage on the campus and general students fled the horrible scene. "What that famous VC had done at that time? I don't want to speak against him in his absence ..." the Education Minister said.

Sadek said he had conversations with the Vice-Chancellor and that he requested him to continue in office so that the situation does not worsen.

But he (VC) issued the statement all on a sudden, the Education Minister told the House. Sadek pointed out the VC's political affiliation and said he had always worked in favour of Janyatabadi Chhatra Dal and instigated students in last four years.

Sadek said he would come up with full details about the Vice-Chancellor today. Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim

of Awami League said Vice-Chancellor Prof Emazuddin Ahmed was the President of Zia Parishad and helped JCD in launching terrorist acts.

"The drama of resignation was to cover up his misdeeds for last five years," he said in a bitter criticism of the VC who tendered resignation on Saturday amidst a wave of violence at the university.

WB support

From page 1 the privatisation programmes, participation of women in development activities and the need to attract foreign invest-

The measures for strengthening the implementation capacity also came up during the meeting, said a PID handout.

The Finance Minister ap-

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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BNP wants Education Minister to quit

Opposition BNP vesterday demanded resignation of the Education Minister for his reluctance to restore normal academic atmosphere in the Dhaka University, reports

Earlier, on Saturday, the BNP asked the Home Minister to resign for his 'complete failure to maintain law and order in the country.

Briefing newsmen at the Sangsad Bhaban yesterday evening, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof AQM Badrud-doza Chowdhury blamed negligence of the government, particularly of Home and Education ministers, for destroying the academic atmosphere and causing unprecedented deterioration of the law and order."

The government has shown limitless cruelty and acted quite irresponsibly in dealing with the situation, he alleged. saying the education minister remained silent despite the resignation of vice-chancellor. proctor, nine provosts and

Soccer fans clash with police in Barisal: 18 hurt

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Aug 25: At least 18 persons were injured in a clash between police and spectators at the Patarhat RC College playground at Mehendiganj this afternoon. Three policemen were among the injured.

Witnesses and police said football match was being played between the Andhar manik Secondary School and the Patarhat Muslim High School. When the play was hallway, some unruly spectators tried to enter the playground and the clash started when the police on duty resisted

The injured policemen include Sub-Inspector Iftekhar Uddin Ahmed, 28.

Police arrested Md Selim Khairul Bashar, 16, Sirajul Haq. 20. Rafigul Islam. 20 and Reazuddin Ahmed 20 and Ripan. 18, in this connection.

Appointments

Additional Director General of Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training Mustafizur Rahman and Member of Bangladesh Handloom Board Sheikh Shafiqul Islam have been appointed as Directors of Bureau of Anti Corruption, said an official handout yesterday. reports UNB.

The entire administration of the Dhaka University has collapsed due to their resignation.

the BNP leader said Prof B Chowdhury quoted the VC's statement of resignation and said that such an event in the highest seat of learning was unprecedented in the his-

The government has undermined the Dhaka University, he said adding there is no scope of undermining this inci dent, which will only bring more disaster for the nation.

He alleged that armed hood lums were moving scot-free creating anarchy and shedding bloods on the campus. He said the Education Minister and the Home Minister have

failed to carry out their responsibilities Prof B Chowdhury went on: When the valuable academic life of 28,000 students has become uncertain, we can't sit idle in the House. We've to raise the point before the nation, but the ruling party is not allowing us

He accused the Home Minis ter of using the police against the innoc at students and helping the terrorists to evict the general students

to discuss the issue in Parlia

BNP central leaders and MPs were present at the press brief

T & T College student shot

By DMC Correspondent

A student of T&T college was injured when a group of unidentified youths shot him near the T&T colony under Motifheel thana yesterday evening.

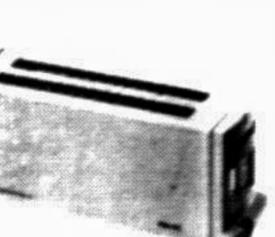
Bashir Ahmed, 22, who received bullet wounds in his waist was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospi tal (DMCH), hospital sources

Relatives alleged that Bashir, son of one Shamsuddin, suddenly came under attack when he was going to Aram bagh. Previous enmity was re portedly the cause of the attack In another incident, a busi-

nessman was injured when a group of alleged extortionists stabbed him at Jatra Bari under Demra thana yesterday evening. The victim Matin Chowd-

hury, 42, Managing Director of Rupganj Property, received injuries in his face. He was admit ted to the DMCH. Matin alleged that the toll

collectors stabbed him when he refused to pay them money.



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PHILIPS

Ties with China to grow further, PM tells PLA team

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said Bangladesh's endeavours to build cordial and friendly ties with all the countries in the region including China would continue in the interest of ensuring economic development as well as peace and tranquillity of the region, reports BSS.

She was talking to the visit-

ing delegation of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, led by its Deputy Chief of General Staff Lieutenant General Kui Fulin, which called on the Prime Minister at her office.

Expressing the hope that the visit of PLA team would further strengthen the existing friendly relations The Prime Minister said that bilateral cooperations in various fields would be further accelerated in the days ahead

Kui Fulin expressed his deep gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation by the people of Bangladesh. He said that the friendship between the two neighbouring countries is tested. He also stressed diversilying the economic cooperation between the two countries.

Hartal observed

From page 1

DIG. Rajshahi Range, however urged the agitated people to give him the names of policemen responsible for the killings.

Meanwhile, the BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders today declared at a meeting at Satmatha that if anybody could bring any police officer, responsible for firing in the JCD office he would be awarded Tk 2 lakh

UNB adds: In the afternoon a series of action programmes were announced from a rally of All-Party Student Unity at the Satmatha Crossing.

The programmes include hoisting of black flag in all educational institutions in the northern region tomorrow (Monday), barricade at Satmatha crossing on August 28 and a dawn-to-dusk hartal in the town on August 29.

Move to oust Benazir

8 Pak opposition MPs submit resignations

PESHAWAR, Pakistan Aug 25: Eight Pakistani opposition MPs, joined by 20 province legislators, today announced their resignations at a mass rally against Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, reports AFP.

The resignations, which were presented to opposition leader Nawaz Sharif amid chanting of anti-government slogans by a crowd of 30,000. can take effect only after they are submitted to Speakers of the respective assemblies.

But the move was seen giving a symbolic push to an uncertain opposition plan for mass resignations from parliament and provincial legislatures to pres sure Benazir to step down.

The 28 legislators, 20 of whom are members of North West Frontier privincial assembly, belong to Awami Na tional Party, a key group in a 14 party anti Benazir opposition front led by Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League (PML).

At the federal level, the combined opposition parties have a total of 42 deputies in the 87 member Senate and 86 out of the 217-member National Assembly. Most are from the PML "If Benazir does not resign,

Gazipur EPZ

From page 1 be 500 million US dollars, 11 per cent of the country's total export earnings during this fiscal year, said Moazzem Hossain Khan, Chairman of the BEPZA.

He also told a visiting group of Dhaka-based diplomats at the DEPZ yesterday that the government was planning to set up two more EPZs - Khulna and North Bengal — to meet the increasing demand for establishing export-oriented industries by the investors from both home and abroad.

"We not only develop the required infrastructure, the authority also offers numerous facilities, incentives and benefits, which enables the units to recoup their investment in a very short span of time." he

He informed the diplomats of the various facilities and fiscal and non-fiscal incentives provided by the BEPZA to the foreign investors, making the EPZs "Asia's low cost manufacturing base." He requested the members of

the diplomatic corps to convey to the investors in their respective countries the investment opportunities Bangladesh of-Diplomats, including some ambassadors and high commissioners, representing 26

countries - Australia, Bhutan, Brazil, Egypt, Germany, India Indonesia, Japan, North Korea South Korea, Malaysia, Morocco, Nepal, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland Qatar, Rumania, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, UK, USA and EU — constituted the members of the en-

Khaleda

From page 1

and accused it of establishing a reign of terror at various places of the country including Bogra.

She alleged that three persons were still missing in Bogra. Begum Zia said at least six people were killed in police firing here since August 22. Begum Zia further alleged that police resorted to baton charge even when entering into mosques and harassed women entering into peoples residences in the

Referring to the demands raised by students, lawyers and professionals she said, "I express my total support to these demands". The demands include, punishment of police personnel responsible for the incidents and instituting a judicial probe.

Replying to a question, Begum Zia.said she has doubt that if the 'government-sponsored terrorists activities' continues the upcoming by-polls will not be a fair and free.

Responding to another ques tion, the former prime minister said, "We will resist any move to give transit facility to India at any cost".

Begum Zia alleged that after having encouraged by the Prime Minister, the district and police administration resorted to baton charge on lawyers and students on August 24. She referred to last Friday's meeting at Uttara Gonobhaban at Natore where the PM, according to Begum Zia, had appreciated the role played by the government officers in restoring peace and at the improvement of the law

and order situation. Rajshahi City Corporation Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu. Bogra district BNP president Mahbubur Rahman and secretary Rezaul Karim Badsha were also present at the press confer-

residences of Akhtar Ali Moon and Rezaul Karim Ratan, two students who were killed in the recent police firing. She also visited Mohammad Ali Hospital have to see the injured per-

people from the four provinces will march on Islamabad and force her to quit," Sharif

warned, addressing the rally. The opposition front has planned similar rallies in other parts of the country to gear up its current campaign to oust

Qazi Hussain Ahmed, the damentalist party, the Jamaati-Islami, has already sent his resignation to the chairman of the Senate, of which he is a

The fundamentalist party has said its three other deputies in the National Assembly would resign when all opposition legislators resign en

Benazir has rejected the option as undemocratic, and said her government would complete its five year term and organise

Home Minister to maintain law & order

lam has sought cooperation from opposition BNP to maintain law and order and curb terrorism unitedly, reports UNB.

Barring a few scattered in cidents, the overall situation is completely under the control of the government," he said last night, winding up a short dis-

was injected into the incident with an ulterior motive. "The enquiry committee has

ment. The Home Minister ex-

pressed his surprise over a new development in Bogra after the visit of BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday and said that a move for an all-party peace meeting was hampered due to BNP's absence.

Tidbits

ing those frequently."

At one stage of the shouts, Morshed Khan sat down by suspending his speech on the proposed budget. The House returned to silence and the BNP MP resumed his speech after the Speaker assured him that any objectionable remark would be expunged from the proceedings. Abul Kalam Azad of the rul-

ing party, who was given floor

to speak on the budget, after

Morshed Khan, castigated the BNP lawmaker without mentioning his name for "roaming

Morshed Khan sought floor on personal explanation, the Speaker said, "So far I've heard, your name has not been mentioned. Even then I'll examine the proceedings." Major (retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed of BNP was insisting on

allotted for him expired. Hafiz was given five minutes extra time after an AL MP spoke. Taking the floor, Hafiz told the Chair, "Maybe I am the first

sion speech and it's a new

A smiling Speaker replied, "It's better to create new records

WB for action

From page 1

report pointed out that rural financial markets in Bangladesh are fragmented and inadequate to meet the demand for financial services.

ment should extend financial sector reforms to the rural financial sub-sector to make financial and institutional policies consistent across all sub-

The primary objective of rural financial reforms should be to create a strong and efficient system of financial intermediation, and to develop such a system, important policy and institutional reforms are necessary.

These reforms should be part

ment in Bangladesh.

prised the World Bank Vice President of the government's main thrust of economic policy which emphasises poverty alleviation through high growth rate with equity and social justice, including strengthening the local government institu-

DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Email: dstar@bangla.net

Drastic action

From page 1 Mentioning the compensation for the families of those killed. Hasina said a life could never be compensated. The shock of death cannot be overcome by money or anything

"I know the depth of shock for losing the near and dear ones," said Hasina, who lost her parents and other members of the Mujib family in the August 15, 1975 coup. "What is the benefit of those

terioration of law and order." she questioned She directed the police and district administration to be more active and sincere in restoring peace in the besieged

Later, the Prime Minister

talked to father and mother of

who are trying to create a law-

and-order situation, who will

be much benefited from the de-

school Rezaul Karim, killed on Saturday, and consoled them. She took bullet-struck Alamgir Hossain in the helicopter and brought him to Dhaka for better treatment. Home Minister Rafigul Islam, Inspector General of Police

Divisional Commissioner were present at the meeting. The Prime Minister later handed over a cheque for Tk 100,000 to the parents of Rezaul Karim.

Azizul Haq and the Rajshahi

BNP gheraoes Chuadanga DC s office

From Our Correspondent CHUADANGA, Aug 25: The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) workers gheraoed the office of the Deputy Commissioner here today demanding immediate release of a party activist. Nur Ali, secretary of Sankar Chandra union BNP. was arrested about two weeks ago for his alleged involvement

in the killing of an Awami Jubo League worker. The BNP workers staged a sit-in in front of the DC's office from 11 am to 5 pm and did not allow anybody to enter the of-

UNSC seat From page 1

claims to the seat and there is already strong international lobbying for the position. While Japan is the second major financial contributor to the United Nations after the United States, India as a leader of the Non-Aligned group commands support of a large number of UN

members. However, informed diplomatic observers feel that there would be a tough contest between Japan and India for one of the ten non-permanent seats broadly belonging to the Asian geographical region. The election to these ten non-permanent seats are held in a stag-

gered manner in alternate years. India was last elected to a non-permanent seat for 1991-1992 while Japan was a member of the Security Council in

Bangladesh is still to decide as to whom to vote in the secret balloting for the Security Council seat. Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad addressing a press briefing had earlier said, "Bangladesh will decide on the subject when time comes."

Both Tokyo and New Delhi are learnt to be very active to secure Dhaka's support for the prestigious position. "It will be difficult to arrive at a decision. said an informed observer. "Both countries are important to us. While India is our closest neighbour, Japan is one of the largest donors," the same source pointed out. Japan, sources said, has be-

come more keen to get elected to

the non-permanent seat since

moves for increasing the num-

ber of permanent seats in the

Security Council by incorpating

the two big economic powers,

Germany and Japan, are yet to

be mooted firmly.

University after their leader Shamim Ahmed was picked up by police. Draft bill for SEPZ

The proposed bill is the outcome of the summit meeting between the heads of governments of Bangladesh and South Korea in May 1995, wherein it was agreed that a privately managed EPZ sponsored by Youngone Corporation of Korea would be

set up in the country. Youngone Corporation, a Seoul-based company which started its operation in Bangladesh in 1980 and is now the largest manufacturer at the government managed EPZ. sought permission for setting up the Zone. The Prime Minister's Office issued a letter of permission to the company to set up the Zone in Chittagong. But the company decided to shift to an alternative site because of civil suits and other hindrances over the land, the

sources said. Now a consortium of Korean companies with Youngone as the sponsor has proposed an investment of up to one billion US dollar over 10 years to establish and administer the SEPZ on the left bank of Karnaphuli river near the Chittagong Urea Fertiliser factory site covering 2,700 acres, said Kihak Sung, President of Youn-

The Prime Minister's Office

veloping the infrastructure. He envisaged that some 100 small Korean EPZ. river to the east of the existing EPZ in Chittagong.

has asked the Land Ministry on Saturday to expedite allotment of khash land and acquisition out. The bill had proposed ban of land under private manageon import to the US commodiment since the major chunk of ties produced with child labour. the site happens to be government owned khash land. The PMO also advised the Board of Investment to coordinate the process for expeditious allotment of land, he added.

"The project is designed to generate productive employment opportunity by creating more than 100,000 direct and indirect jobs and upgrade labour and management skills through acquisition of advanced and specialized technologies," said Sung, whose company now employs more than 10,000 local workers in its eight companies in two the EPZs in Dhaka and Chittagong. He also said that his company is now constructing a shoe manufacturing complex in CEPZ with a potential employment for another 6,000 work-Sung's company would spend 200 million US dollars for de-

Chhatra League activists in a brawl with police in front of the Mohsin Hall of Dhaka

and medium-sized and 30 large scale industries would set up their industries at the proposed Meanwhile, a Japanese government survey on investment conditions in Bangladesh has also proposed an EPZ across the

BGMEA From page 1 Replying to a question Redwan said that the possibility of passage of the Harkins Bill in the US Senate could not be ruled

Responding to another question, Ahmed said, signing of the MOU has created a good image of the BGMEA and Bangladesh traders among importers in the

DU halls

- Star photo

From page 1

noon protesting his arrest sources said. Ramna thana could not give any details about Shamim and advised this correspondent to contact the DC DB. But the DC DB could not be contacted last

night despite repeated attempts.

Chhatra Dal, which has en-

UNB adds: Jatiyatabadi

forced a nonstop strike at the varsity staged demonstration on the campus as police and BDR searched the halls. The JCD activists brought out a procession and held a rally at the foot of Aparajeyo Bangla to protest what they

called violence and vandalism

let loose by the government

party-backed Chhatra League. Another UNB report said Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) has termed the resignation of Vice Chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed as politically motivated.

The DUTA executive com-

mittee at an emergency meeting

yesterday evening observed that

the resignation of the VC was

part of an evil design to intensify the present crisis in the university." The meeting said the way the resignation news of some hall provosts was publicised by the

DUTA President ATM Zahurul Huq presided over the

meeting, said a press release

signed by its General Secretary

AAMS Arefin Siddique.

VC himself was also motivated and unexpected. The meeting expressed deep pus situation and urged all concerned to help restore academic atmosphere.

Earlier, BNP chief visited sons admitted there.

Benazir chief of Pakistan's main fun-

member

position demand for snap polls under a caretaker administra-

elections in 1998. seeks BNP's help

Home Minister Rafiqul Is-

cussion on the country's law and order situation. "He called the Bogra incident unfortunate and non-political." and said that partisan politics

been set up and it will come out who is behind the scene and who was killed by whose bullet," the minister told Parlia-

From page 1 bers burst into shouts when M Morshed Khan commented, "Sleeves of the AL lawmakers" coats have become non-existent following their practice of fold-

about the AL leaders by wearing a Mujib coat once upon a time and then boot-licking Ershad and Zia. This generated fresh heat in the House where MPs of both the sides jumped on their feet and shouted at each other. As

extending his time for discussion on the budget after the time

to deliver a split budget discus-

sometimes.

It suggested that the govern-

sectors.

of a comprehensive strategy aimed at developing the rural financial markets (RFMs) as a whole, said the report which also suggested that the government should stop political interference in operation of rural financial intermediaries (RFIs).