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Cabinet okays new pay scale

Scale	Current Pay Scale	New Pay Scale
1.	Tk 10000 (Fixed)	Tk 15000 (Fixed)
2.	Tk 8600-225x4-9500	Tk. 12900-350x4 14300
3.	Tk 7800-200x6-9000	Tk 11700-300x6-13500
4.	Tk. 7100-200x8-8700	Tk 10700-300x8-13100
5.	Tk. 6300-175x10-8050	Tk. 9500-260x10-12100
6.	Tk. 4800-175x14-7250	Tk. 7200-260x14-10840
7.	Tk. 4100-150x16-6500	Tk. 6150-225x16-9750
8.	Tk. 3200-140x16-5440	Tk. 4800-210x16-8160
9.	Tk. 2850-125x7-3735-EB-130x11-5155	Tk. 4300-185x7-5595-EB-195x11-7740
10.	Tk. 2300-115x7-3105-EB-125x11-4480	Tk. 3400-170x7-4590-EB-185x11-6625
11.	Tk. 1725-105x7-2460-EB-115x11-3725	Tk. 2550-155x7-3635-EB-170x11-5505
12.	Tk. 1550-100x7-2250-EB-105x11-3405	Tk. 2375-150x7-3425-EB-155x11-5130
13.	Tk. 1475-90x7-2105-EB-95x11-3150	Tk. 2250-135x7-3195-EB-140x11-4735
14.	Tk. 1375-80x7-1935-EB-85x11-2870	Tk. 2100-120x7-2940-EB-125x11-4315
15.	Tk. 1300-70x7-1790-EB-75x11-2615	Tk. 1975-105x7-2710-EB-110x11-3920
16.	Tk. 1200-60x7-1620-EB-65x11-2335	Tk. 1875-90x7-2505-EB-100x11-3605
17.	Tk. 1125-55x7-1510-EB-60x11-2170	Tk. 1750-80x7-2310-EB-90x11-3300
18.	Tk. 1050-45x7-1365-EB-50x11-1915	Tk. 1625-65x7-2080-EB-75x11-2905
19.	Tk. 975-40x7-1255-EB-45x11-1750	Tk. 1560-60x7-1920-EB-65x11-2695
20.	Tk. 900-35x18-1530	Tk. 1500-50x18-2400

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In 1984, the lowest salary was fixed at 75.75 per cent of the pay recommended by the 3rd Pay Commission, while it was 75 per cent of the lowest pay recommended by the 4th Pay Commission.

Under the 5th Pay Commission, decision has been taken to fix the lowest pay (including tiffin allowance) at 86.48 per cent of the recommended amount. As a result, the lowest salary under the new pay commission has been fixed at a more liberal rate compared with the previous lowest salaries.

The cabinet further decided that the present procedure of fixing salary, time scale, selection grade and bonus would remain unchanged.

The process of implementing the new pay scale and the pay allowance benefit will be equally applicable for officials and employees of all classes of military, civil, autonomous bodies, bank and financial institutions etc. and the grants being made for the teachers of non-government educational institutions.

It has also been decided to increase 10 per cent of the net pension for the pensioner officials and employees during the fiscal 1997-98 and 5 per cent in 1998-99 considering their problems.

The cabinet decided to settle all anomalies regarding the pay and allowances by the cabinet committee dealing with the fixation of salary.

While fixing the new pay scale the Cabinet considered the resource position of the government and felt it would be possible to implement the new pay scale in phases within the budget structure of the current fiscal year.

The Cabinet has also taken up the following decisions to contain the vicious cycle of inflation with the increase in pay. The arrears from July 1 to September 30 this year will be given through savings certificates. These certificates will be eligible for encashment as per the existing rules.

According to a reliable estimate, at least Tk 815 crore would be needed in the current fiscal year (1997-98) to implement the new pay scale.

54 massacred in Algeria

ALGIERS, Oct 6: Algeria's almost daily insurgent violence claimed another 54 lives, as assailants slit the throats of 48 adults and six children in three separate attacks, witnesses and hospital sources said today, reports AP.

On Saturday night in three villages south of Algiers and near the Moroccan border, assailants slit their victims' throats and burned their bodies, witnesses and hospital sources said.

Ad-hoc body of Mahila Samabaya Samity formed

The government has constituted a five-member ad-hoc committee of Bangladesh Jatiya Mahila Samabaya Samity Limited with Ashrafun Moazzam as its president for six months, reports BSS.

The government took the decision to make the samity dynamic, effective and profitable, a government notification said Sunday. Other members of the ad-hoc committee are Rasheda Amin, Fatema Siddiqui Chaudhri, Hasina Mannan and Ferdous Ara Runa.

According to the same notification the government dissolved the previous committee on charges of illegal activities, misuse of power, irregularities and mismanagement.

JS session

The Notice Department of the parliament will start receiving notices of different kinds on the forthcoming session on all working days, beginning from today at 9 am, the handout added.

The last session of the Jatiya Sangsad was prorogued on September 4, with the main opposition BNP continuing its abstention from that session.

BNP walked out of the House on the opening day of the sixth session alleging that the party was not allowed to speak on the floor of the House on issues of public interests.

Shortly after the walkout, the BNP raised a 14-point charter of demands and announced to continue the abstention from attending the parliament proceedings until the demands were accepted by the government.

Later, several rounds of negotiations between the two sides on the demands, including one mediated by the Speaker, failed to resolve the impasse.

The demands included proportionate representation of the BNP in the JS standing committees, neutral coverage of the Opposition by the state-run electronic media, punishment for the alleged attacks on some 20 BNP MPs and withdrawal of the government decision increasing fuel prices.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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The Daily Star

Free all leaders without delay, demands BNP

By Staff Correspondent

BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday demanded immediate release of all the party leaders and workers arrested during Sunday's rail-road barricade.

In a press statement, Mannan Bhuiyan blamed the government for arresting "numerous" leaders and workers of his party across the country during the barricade programme "out of vindictiveness".

Mannan Bhuiyan named some of the arrested leaders he demanded release for - Ilias Ali, Quamruzzaman Ratan, Taranga Anwar, Golam Mostafa, GM Nazrul Islam, Mohammad Farid, Md Hanif, Akkel Ali Howladar and Quamrul Islam.

"At places, the Awami terrorists assaulted the arrested. Many of them were subjected to inhuman torture after being taken into police custody. The political activists were not only maltreated but also denied of their democratic and human rights," he said.

The BNP leader also criticised the government for its "inaction" against the "armed activists of the ruling party who were engaged in terrorist activities during the blockade" and whose pictures were published in all the major dailies.

"It appears that the government has established a reign of the ruling party terrorists and the public life and property have been surrendered to them," he commented.

troops to be pulled out of major Kashmir towns

NEW DELHI, Oct 6: The Indian army is to withdraw from major towns in Kashmir following "significant improvement" in the law and order situation in the disputed Himalayan state, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported today, says AFP.

US scientist wins Nobel Prize for medicine

STOCKHOLM, Oct 6: Stanley Prusiner, a US scientist whose discovery has provided key insights into dementia-related diseases, won the 1997 Nobel Medicine Prize, Sweden's Karolinska Institute said today, reports Reuters.

The Institute said Prusiner's work helped the world to understand more about Alzheimer's and mad cow disease through his discovery of the prion, a disease-causing agent like bacteria or viruses.

The delegation members visited the sites for the proposed bridge at Labanchora-Jaisha on the river Rupsha. Shironoi Barakpur on the river Bhairab, Chandanimahal-Bashokhal on the river Atrai and Nandanpur-Rahinagar on the river Atharabaki.

JICA team visits proposed Rupsha Bridge sites

A seven-member delegation of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) yesterday visited the probable sites for construction of Rupsha Bridge in Khulna, reports BSS.

Whip of the Jatiya Sangsad S M Mustafa Rashidi Suja received the delegation at the Rupsha ferry ghat.

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Plan for the homeless

Thousands of slumdwellers thronged the national parade square to join the grand rally on the occasion of World Habitat Day.

Working women, slumdwellers and children streamed into the venue with placards, posters and banners to join the rally and voice their demands for housing and improved life.

"We want food and shelter, we want water and electricity, we want a better life," the slumpeople chanted in the meeting waving banners inscribed with their demands for not evicting them from the slums without arranging alternative shelters.

Bangladesh Habitat Council organised the rally at the green square which was addressed by slum leaders Abdul Wadud, Wazid Ali Julliqar and Abul Basar.

All students of the university have been asked to carry their respective identity cards which could be shown to any teacher and member of the law enforcing agencies if necessary.

The police administration have been entrusted with maximum power to take drastic action against "terrorist and other trouble-makers who disrupt normal peace and order on the campus," it said.

The university authorities also sought all-out cooperation from all political parties, their student fronts, university administration, students and guardians to help maintain academic atmosphere on the campus.

Khaleda

protesters also attacked pickets during the hartal yesterday, she alleged. Anwar was killed and 10 BNP leaders including Zahurul Islam MP and Advocate Hafizur Rahman were injured in those attacks. She accused the government of creating a situation of "total uncertainty" in national life.

There were "massive killings" while AL ruled the country during "72-75. The 'autocratic' government won't succeed in consolidating power through killings.

"The people now want to get rid of this fascist and stooge government," she said calling upon the people to resist the government's "tyranny."

SSC students

procession to the Shikkha Bhaban.

Representatives of the students also met some senior officials at the Shikkha Bhaban and submitted a memorandum.

Police halted the processionists at different points and tried to convince them not to create any trouble. But many of them pulled bricks at police.

Ramna police arrested 40 students on charge of damaging motor vehicles while Kotwali police arrested five under Section 54 of the Penal Code.

Our Rajshahi Correspondent adds: About 200 SSC examinees brought out a procession in the city this morning protesting the reported decision of the Education Ministry to complete the next SSC examination within seven days of starting.

The angry processionists also damaged two Rajshahi-bound minibuses near Katakhal Bazar on Dhaka-Rajshahi highway and ransacked classrooms and window panes of PN High School and Helenabad Government Girls School.

The students of class nine and class ten of all schools of the city and adjacent areas have been refrained from attending their classes from last fifteen days.

Queen

From Page 1

5,000 police on duty.

The Indian government originally advised against including Amritsar in the itinerary of the Queen's October 12-18 visit to India, but the trip now has the full support of both the Punjab government and New Delhi.

Indians and Sikhs have widely accepted Queen Elizabeth's decision not to apologise for the massacre of hundreds of civilians by British forces in Amritsar in 1919 when she visits the city.

The Queen will lay a wreath at the Jallianwala Bagh memorial to the dead, "as a gesture of reconciliation and a mark of respect," British officials have said.

Traffic jam

From Page 1

In protest, a section of transport workers put up barricades on the highway compelling all long-distance buses to divert to Dhaka-Demra road, creating a heavy traffic jam.

Siddhirganj police said, following intervention by high police officials, the barricades were withdrawn at around six in the evening and the feuding bus owners agreed to sit across the table tomorrow at the office of DC (Traffic), Dhaka.

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The Shishu Academy organised a children's rally in the city yesterday to mark the World Children's Day.

Bangladesh cricketers in Nairobi

NAIROBI, Oct 6: ICC Trophy champions Bangladesh arrived here today aiming to get in some long awaited match practice in Friday's tri-nation tournament which also includes Kenya and Zimbabwe, reports AFP.

Bangladesh's West Indian coach Gordon Greenidge said rain in Dhaka had stopped them from preparing properly for the competition.

CU to reopen

From Page 1

dents on October 16 at 2 pm, a university press release said today.

As part of the directives, plying of vehicles, excepting those owned by the university and those are hired by the authorities have been banned in road number one and two for seven days after reopening of the halls, the press release said.

The resident students will be allowed to stay in only allotted rooms and doubling will by no means be allowed.

All students of the university have been asked to carry their respective identity cards which could be shown to any teacher and member of the law enforcing agencies if necessary.

The police administration have been entrusted with maximum power to take drastic action against "terrorist and other trouble-makers who disrupt normal peace and order on the campus," it said.

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Govt urged not to ignore Bangalees in CHT

By Staff Correspondent

Parbatya Zilla Bangalee Chhatra Andolan Parishad yesterday urged the government not to ignore Bangalees living in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) when it signs a peace treaty with the Parbatya Chhatragram Jana Sanghati Samity next month.

Addressing a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday, President of the Parishad Alkas Al Mamun said that the draft peace treaty did not consider coexistence of Bangalees and tribals in the hill tracts and contained clauses which were clearly in contrast with constitutional provisions.

He announced a series of programmes, which include demonstrations and rallies in Dhaka and the three CHT districts on October 13 and a grand rally of students at Paltan Maidan in the city on November 1 to press the Parishad's eight-point demand.

The demands include: A peace treaty, outlined on the basis of equal rights for both the hill people and the Bangalees, should be discussed in the Jatiya Sangsad.

Army camps must not be withdrawn from the hill tracts to safeguard the sovereignty of the country.

Bangalees cannot be evicted from the lands they have purchased or they have been rehabilitated on by the government.

Customs officials call off strike

The token work stoppage of the customs officials, scheduled for today, was postponed yesterday following the assurance of the authorities to meet their demands by Thursday (Oct 9), reports UNB.

The assurance was given at a meeting between the Customs House Authority and the Dhaka-Rajshahi Customs Excise and VAT Executive Officers' Association which called the strike.

Bogra killing

From Page 1

bandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman earlier.

Police sources said that Advocate Jahurul Islam was clubbed and stabbed inside the Government Commercial College, where he took refuge to escape attacks by Awami League supporters while leading a procession during the hartal.

Advocate Hafizur Rahman was wounded when home-made bombs were hurled on the processionists, BNP claimed.

Advocate Mahbubur Rahman, President of district BNP accused Awami League activists of attacking their procession when it reached Salmatha in the centre of the town.

He said when the armed attackers swooped on the processionists suddenly they ran helter skelter and Jahurul Islam took shelter inside the Commercial College, where he was beaten and stabbed.

A BNP leader advocating anonymity said that Advocate Islam was saved by an Awami League activist when the attackers were about to shoot him.

But Ferdous Zaman Mukul, Secretary of the District Awami League told reporters at a press conference at the party office denied the charges. He said their workers or leaders were not involved in the incidents.

He, however, expressed his sorrow at the injury of the MPs.

On tomorrow's hartal, Ferdous Zaman Mukul said that they would remain on the streets to "protect the life and property and maintain peace."

34 killed

From Page 1

were also sent to Sadar Hospital while the rest taken by the relatives of the dead.

DIG of Chittagong range Mohammad Abdul Rahim Khan, SP of Brahmanbaria Bikram Kishore Tripura also visited the spot and supervised the salvage operation.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed deep shock at the loss of lives in the bus accident at Brahmanbaria.

In a message of condolence, the Prime Minister expressed sympathy for the members of bereaved families and prayed for the peace of the departed souls. She also wished early recovery of those who were injured by the accident.