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JS committee

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peatedly requested him to call a meeting to sort out problems arising out of his decisions but he allegedly ignored those.

The committee members yesterday made some queries to top officials of two ministries — the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources and the Ministry of Food. Secretaries of the two ministries, Tawfiq Elahi Chowdhury and Abdul Hamid Chowdhury respectively, were present at the meetings held separately.

The committee members wanted to know from energy ministry officials the reasons behind shortfall of power and steps to make it up.

The members wanted to know from food ministry officials steps taken for food management and procurement of foodgrains. The food secretary replied to queries.

Dr Mizanul Huq chaired the meetings while Akhtaruzzaman and Sultan Mohammad Mansur, both AL MPs, were present.

Procurement drive begins today

Paddy price Tk 7 per kg, rice Tk 10.70

The government has announced the guidelines for domestic procurement of foodgrains, setting a purchase target of total 3.90 lakh metric tons of rice and paddy for the 1997-98 fiscal year, reports UNB.

The procurement drive starts today and will continue till February 7 next, the Food Department said in an official circular yesterday.

It said the decision to locally procure 'aman' paddy and rice was taken to keep the prices of foodgrains stable, encourage the farmers and build up a contingency stock.

Government's procurement price of paddy has been fixed at Tk 7 per kg and Tk 700 per quintal while rice Tk 10.70 per kg and Tk 1070 per quintal.

Some 1.20 lakh metric tons of paddy and 2.70 lakh tons of rice will be procured during the three-month long drive.

14 DAGs & AAGs appointed

President Shahabuddin Ahmed has appointed 14 advocates as deputy attorneys general and assistant attorneys general, an official handout said last night, reports BSS.

The four newly appointed deputy attorneys general are Abdul Quayyum, Barrister A K M Saifuddin, Md Altaf Hossain Khan and Obaidur Rahman Mostafa.

The assistant attorneys general are Md Sajjadul Haq, Khandkar Mehbul Alam, Md Musfiqur Rahman Khan, Alhaj Md Mahmud Hossain, Md Abul Hossain Azadi, Soab Ahmed Chowdhury, F K M Ahsan Mahbub, Prabir Neogi, A K M Zahurul Haq and Mohammad Mostafa.

The authorities, in the meantime, has accepted the resignation of Assistant Attorney General Masul Ahmed Chowdhury. The appointments of deputy attorneys general Kaisar Uddin Ahmed and Laskar Fakhrudin Ahmed and Assistant attorneys general Serajul Haq and Surjya Begum have been terminated, the handout added.

Fresh harta

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Addressing the news conference, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan MP also announced some other agitation programmes.

The programmes are: Demonstrations and torch processions on December 10 and 11 across the country, excepting the CHT and Chittagong, exchange of views with the professionals in Dhaka and all other districts on December 12 and 13, countrywide mass contact from December 17 to 21 and the opposition MP's procession wearing black badge in the city on December 21.

Kazi Zafar Ahmed of Jatiya Party (Z-M), Kamruzzaman of Jamaat-e-Islami, Oli Ahad of Democratic League and Shahul Alam Prodhan of Jagga also spoke at the press conference.

Mannan Bhuiyan said that the people had rejected the 'black and illegal' accord on the CHT by 'spontaneously observing' harta yesterday.

"We hope the government will now cancel the agreement and move for a fresh one on the basis of consensus", said the BNP secretary general.

He also alleged government repression on opposition leaders and activists during yesterday's harta and said four of the party lawmakers — Lutfar Rahman Khan Azad, Joynal Abedin Faruk, A N M Ehsanul Haq Milon and Nazimuddin Alam — were injured in attacks by police and ruling party goons.

Alam was admitted to hospital, he said, adding they also received reports of similar incidents in Chittagong and Rajshahi.

City BNP chief Sadek Hosain Khoka MP alleged that police stormed the party's city office at Naya Bazar, ousted the partymen from there and kept it under their control during the harta hours yesterday. He further alleged attacks by police and Awami League activists on BNP men in different parts of the city.

Sonargaon thana

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normal at about 5 pm.

Tuhin was buried later in the evening.

A three-member committee has been formed to probe into all the acts of violence at the thana complex.

Five cases were filed in connection with the attacks. However, none was arrested till last night.

OIC summit

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added.

"The need to refrain from any interference in Iraq was adopted without any reservation," said Zarif.

Among the issues featured in the resolutions are the conflicts in Afghanistan and Kashmir, and the Middle East peace process.

PM: Tehran

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During his four-day stay in Tehran, the Prime Minister is also expected to visit the Islamic World Trade Exhibition and the Islamic Handloom Exhibition in the Iranian capital.

She will attend a luncheon to be hosted by Iranian President Mohammad Khatami tomorrow and a dinner likely to be hosted by the D-8 members on Wednesday.

NID programme to continue today

By Staff Correspondent

The first phase of the fourth National Immunisation Day (NID) was observed yesterday across the country.

The NID programme will also be observed today to facilitate the parents who could not reach the vaccination centres with their children under the age of five yesterday due to harta.

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GOLDEN TONES

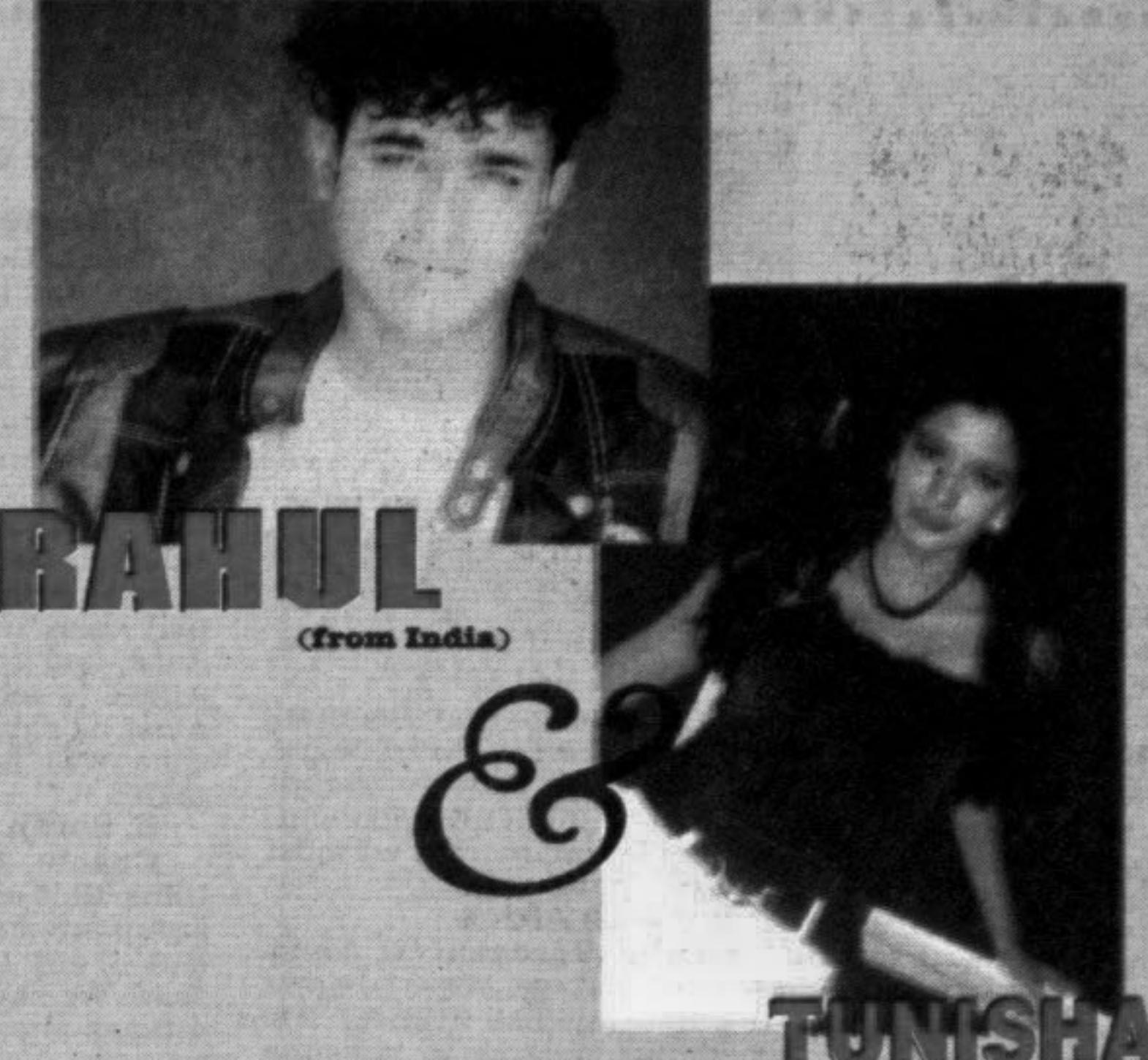
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EXTRA VAGANZA CONCERT

featuring



Feelings



RAHIL

(from India)

TUNISHA

(from India)

December 8th & 9th, 1997

Venue : Sheraton Winter Garden

Time : 6:00 pm

Tickets : 400 Taka each available from December 2nd at : Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, Swiss Plus (Bally Road), Bridgehouse Hallmark Shop (Banani), La bamba (Dhanmondi), Yum Yum (Dhanmondi), Patisserie (Elephant Road), Hot Hut (Dhanmondi), Candy Floss (Gulshan), Nilm Fair (Dhanmondi), Dolce vita, Dhaka Billiard Centre.



Organized by Sandhani National Eye Donation Society. All proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Society. No one under 18 years will be admitted.

BENSON & HEDGES

