

BNP standing
body grills
Akhtaruzzaman

By Nazmul Ashraf
The BNP standing committee yesterday forced a rebel lawmaker to abandon his campaign for the party's joining parliament, threatening him with "dire consequences" unless he withdrew.

The committee grilled M Akhtaruzzaman, MP, for two hours and compelled him to apologise in writing that he was wrong in taking the move.

He had circulated a "letter" among all party MPs arguing in favour of returning to parliament, which ran contrary to the party stand on the issue. A copy of the "letter" was obtained by The Daily Star.

"I humbly state that I am sorry for having circulated the letter and it was not right on my

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Board employees
resume work

By Staff Correspondent

Employees of the eight education boards resumed work yesterday. Amjad Hossain Bakshi, President of the Inter-education Board Employees Federation, told The Daily Star.

The Federation on Saturday had announced postponement of the indefinite strike by the boards' employees from Monday yesterday in view of the education minister's assurance of further talks on its four-point demand, Bakshi said.

He replied in the negative when asked whether the week-long strike would affect the SSC and HSC examinations, scheduled to begin from April 16 and May 29 respectively. Registration forms of the SSC examinees have already been received by the boards and those of the HSC examinees were in the process, he added.

Setting up of
int'l migration
office okayed

A meeting of the council of ministers yesterday approved the proposal for setting up a sub-regional office of the International Organisation for Migration in Bangladesh, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina chaired the meeting at her office.

Dec 11, 17 incidents

JUTA demands
judicial body

By Staff Correspondent

Jahangirnagar University Teachers' Association (JUTA) has rejected the probe committee headed by a police official to investigate the incidents of attack on JU students by truckers at Aminbazar near the city on December 11 and on the students and teachers by police on the JU campus on December 17.

The JUTA executive committee at a meeting yesterday demanded formation of a judicial probe body headed by a judge of the Supreme Court within seven days for the sake of proper investigation into the incidents. The committee should submit its report within one month, it said.

The teachers of JU are wearing black badges since yesterday protesting the incidents of attack.

The meeting decided that fresh programmes would be announced if the demands were not met within the stipulated time.

Bangladesh
beat Namibia
by 4 wickets

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 12: Bangladesh beat Namibia by four wickets in their under-19 World Cup Cricket encounter today, reports AFP.

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Sehri, Iftar timings			
Ramadan	Jan	Sehri	Iftar
13	13	5-20	5-35
14	14	5-20	5-35
15	15	5-20	5-36

Pakistan meet India in first final tomorrow
Hosts put up poor show



TIMBRE: Pakistan leggie Mushtaq Ahmed exults after having Bangladesh opener Javed Omar Belim bowled round his legs during the Coca-Cola Independence Cup match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Sports Reporter
After an adrenaline-pumping display against India on Saturday, Bangladesh yesterday abjectly surrendered to Pakistan, allowing the former world champions to storm into the final of the Independence Cup.

One of the two favourites in the tri-nation meet, Pakistan steamrolled the hosts at the Dhaka Stadium by nine wickets to set up the three-match finals against arch-rivals India beginning from Wednesday.

Rest day today
Today is the rest day of the tournament. The first final between arch-rivals Pakistan and India will be held tomorrow. BTV will telecast the match live. The other two finals will take place on Jan 16 and 18.

Although the result was quite in keeping with the form book, for the expectant exuberant home crowd it was the realisation of their worst fear — the fear of seeing their side running out of gas after a spirited display. Indeed Bangladesh cricketers, notorious for their temperamental fickleness, truly ran out of gas yesterday negating the 'gains' of their match against India where they fought all the way before going down by four wickets.

It was the same old story at the outset. Overs were curtailed due to insufficient light, making it a 41 over-a-side affair and Bangladesh were asked to make the first use of the wicket after skipper Akram Khan lost the toss for the second and last time in this meet. Upper-order batsmen showed that at least conceptually they are light years away from the one-day cricket.

Openers Javed Omar Belim and Habibul Bashar, who replaced an out-of-form Shahriar, hung around in the middle without any purpose till the 13th over before the latter departed for a struggling 15 off 36 balls, leaving Bangladesh at 33 for one. Javed made a sedate 17 before he was bowled round the wicket by Pakistan leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed.

One-down Sanwar fell for 13 and vice-captain Aminul Islam, who scored a brilliant half-century against India, scored only 13. See Page 12 Col 1

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