The Daily Star

DHAKA THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1998

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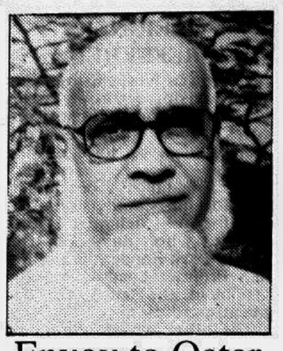

Envoy to Qatar dead

Bangladesh Ambassador to Qatar Abdul Aziz died in Doha on Tuesday night. He was 61, reports UNB.

Aziz suffered a heart attack when he was returning to Doha after performing the holy Hajj.

Born in 1937 in Comilla district, Aziz joined the Foreign Ministry on contract basis on April 7, 1997.

Before joining the Foreign Service, he had served in various colleges, Education Ministry, UNICEF and private organisation in various capacities.

His body will arrive in Dhaka by Bangladesh Biman at 8 am on Saturday. He will be buried on the same day at the Mirpur Intellectuals' Graveyard after namaj-e-janaza at Eidgah mosque at Satmasjid Road.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed profound shock at the sudden death of Abdul Aziz.

Abdul Aziz was an honest, hardworking, dutiful and amiable person, she said.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Labour and Man Power Minister Abdul Mannan and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury expressed their deep shock at the sudden demise of Abdul Aziz.

3 young men

From Page 1

ing to his uncle's house at Tekerhat at about 7 pm Tuesday. He died at the Suhrawardy Hospital early yesterday, police said. He was the son of one Jinnah Mia.

An 18-year-old welder, Selim, was fatally injured when a group of miscreants hacked him at Bughbari in North Jatrabari area at about 10:30 pm Tuesday. He died at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital at about 10:30 am yesterday.

A resident of Dhalpur, Selim was the son of late Joynal Abedin. The killing was sequel to a previous enmity, police said.

PM: BNP conspiring

From Page 1

liament is also a part of their (BNP's) conspiracy to make parliament ineffective, she said.

She said that by damaging electric poles and raising the prices of essentials in a preplanned way, they (BNP) are trying to make an issue. They are also opposing the peace accord on CHT.

The Prime Minister said the BNP did not believe in parliamentary democracy and pointed out the party's constitution which, she said, is yet to change its policy of presidential form of government even after running the country for five years in the parliamentary form.

Making a call for maintaining discipline in Parliament, the Leader of the House urged the Speaker to take action against the unruly members as per the Rules of Procedure.

Tolerance is needed in practising democracy, she said adding that the Awami League had shown it after assuming power by not arresting the corrupt BNP people for the 'greater interest of democracy.'

Hasina told the Speaker, "It is now up to you, it is totally your discretion what steps are to be taken against them (the unruly members). If you want, you can pardon them or take action against them."

"We hoped that the Leader of the Opposition will seek apology for the incident," the Prime Minister said and regretted her (Begum Zia's) attitude.

After Hasina's statement when Begum Zia stood up the Speaker refused to give her the floor saying that "I've repeatedly requested you to speak. But I can't allow you now after the statement of the Leader of the House."

At this stage, as the Speaker started to give his ruling on yesterday's incident in the House, the BNP lawmakers, led by Begum Zia, staged walkout for the third time on the day at about 9:55 pm.

In a briefing later, the ruling Awami League has condemned the BNP's rowydism in the House yesterday saying the Parliament had seen an 'unprecedented heinous incident' with the madding attitude of BNP members.

"It's a pre-planned evil design of BNP to make the Parliament inoperative and ineffective," Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed said in press briefing at the Prime Minister's office in Parliament.

SSC, Dakhil exams

From Page 1

tres including five overseas centres. Of the total candidates, 1,29,985 are regular candidates and 86,759 are irregular candidates. The five overseas centres are in Riyadh, Jeddah, Doha (Qatar), Dubai and Tripoli. In Dhaka city, examinations will hold in 82 centres.

Under Rajshahi Board, 2,08,801 students — 1,27,666 male and 81,135 female — will sit for the examinations. Of the total examinees 1,30,859 are regular. Examinations under this board will be held in 221 centres.

The number of examinees under Jessore Board is 1,36,618. Of them, 55,662 are female candidates. The number of regular and irregular candidates under this board is 79,599 and 57,019. Examinations will be held in 150 centres.

Under Comilla Board, a total of 1,23,322 examinees including 55,290 female candidates will appear in the examinations from 168 centres. Of the total candidates, 87,213 are regular.

Some 62,268 candidates — 33,759 male and 28,519 female — are sitting for this year's SSC examination from the Chittagong Board. Of the total examinees 44,101 are regular. Examinations will be held in 80 centres.

Meanwhile, all necessary preparations have been completed for peaceful holding of the examinations, board officials said.

Talking to The Daily Star last night, the Chairman of the Dhaka Board M Tozammel Hossain said that the board authorities have taken all possible measures for the peaceful holding of the examinations.

"All centre secretaries have been provided with necessary instructions for the security of the question papers. Instructions have also been sent to the authorities concerned so that they do not mix up the two sets of questions — old and new", he said.

Additional police forces and BDR will be deployed in the trouble-prone centres, he added.

Section 144 will be imposed within 200 yards of the examination centres during the examination hours.

Pandemonium in JS

From Page 1

and various articles at me, it's not proper... . You've also thrown books at my officials' faces... . These are not acceptable to the House and the nation. All those occurred under your leadership, Mr Deputy Leader."

He went on "I didn't expect such behaviour from a senior leader and veteran parliamentarian like you, Mr Badruddoza Chowdhury and from former Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali."

He also warned of action as per rule against those responsible for the "unexpected" and "unacceptable" incidents and asked the BNP lawmakers to sit down.

Then the House plunged into uproar as members from both the benches shouted at each other. Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed and Chief Whip of the Sangsad Abul Hasnat Abdullah advised the Speaker to inform the nation of the happenings.

The Speaker, then repeated that the BNP MPs threw papers and articles at him and books at parliament officials under the leadership of Badruddoza Chowdhury and in presence of Shaikh Razzak Ali.

"These can never be acceptable... . These are insult to the Parliament and the nation... . I'm an elected MP and you unanimously elected me the Speaker," Humayun Rashid Chowdhury said.

When the Speaker restored the order of the day at 6.05 pm, the AL MPs were calm but BNP members again started shouting as Badruddoza Choudhury's request for giving him the floor was not entertained.

"The whole nation has witnessed what you've done here today," the Speaker told the opposition deputy leader.

As BNP legislators walked out again, the Speaker told the House that he would take action as per rules after all the troublemakers were identified.

Soon after the session was adjourned for Magreb prayers at 6.12 pm, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina entered the House and looked at the damaged TV cameras, torn books and papers. She talked to her party colleagues and affected officials and TV crew.

7-party

From Page 1

The decision of the programmes was taken at a joint meeting of the seven-party alliance at the Minto Road official residence of Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia.

BNP Standing Committee member Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder presided over the meeting which was attended, among others, by Shamsul Islam MP of BNP, M Kamaruzzaman and Abdul Kader Mollah of Jamaat and Shah Shaheed Sarwar of JP (Z-M).

The meeting thanked the people for observing the countrywide hartal yesterday despite killings, terrorist acts and repression by police and "ruling party activists."

It observed that the people by observing the hartal have rejected the 'black' accord on the Chittagong Hill Tracts and demanded to immediately cancel it and withdraw the bills on the CHT.

Nobel Laureate Borlaug in city

World renowned agricultural scientist and Nobel Laureate Dr Norman E Borlaug arrived in Dhaka yesterday afternoon on a four-day visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

BARC Executive Chairman Dr Zahurul Karim received him at the airport.

He will deliver a lecture on "Food Security in South Asia" in a symposium on 'Vision for Agriculture Research and Development' at BARC auditorium at 9:30 am today.

Pahela Baishakh

From Page 1

walks of life thronged the Ramna Park at dawn as the cultural organisation "Chhayanat" rendered songs at the Ramna Batamul, welcoming the Bangla new year.

In the morning, a colourful procession was brought out from the Fine Arts Institute of Dhaka University. Wearing colourful dresses and masks, the processionists paraded through different city streets.

Fashion models attiring traditional dresses also brought out a colourful procession on the university campus. The procession was led by world famous model Bibi Russel.

Mobile cultural functions in horse-driven carts in the city's old parts also enthralled the people. The Dhakabasee organised the functions. It also organised a kite-flying competition at Hajaribagh.

India sends back 29 trafficked children today

A group of 29 Bangladeshi children who were smuggled out of the country will be repatriated today from India, official sources said yesterday, reports BSS.

Home Minister Rafiqul Islam will receive the children who will be flown in here by a British Airways flight.

Gunshots at DU

Dhaka University was rocked by gunshots during a procession of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal of the campus last night, reports UNB.

Witnesses said some 20 rounds of gunshots were fired when the JCD procession was passing by the VC Bhaban at about 8:30 pm.

JCD brought out the procession to protest the killings during the half-day hartal.

It could not be confirmed immediately whether the shots were fired from the procession or on it. However, none was injured.

Speaker

From Page 1

tion.

But the BNP lawmakers walked out when the Speaker went on with his statement, blaming the BNP MPs including Deputy Leader of the Opposition Badruddoza Chowdhury, former Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali and Opposition Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar Hossain for the "unruly behaviour".

He said he could identify them when they were involved in the "extremely unruly behaviour" in front him, pushing a TV cameraman by his neck, damaging a camera and parliament's property, hurling a ball of rolled papers at parliament official Bazlur Rahman's face on the rostrum ahead of him.

The other members named by the Speaker are Alamgir Kabir, Ruhul Kuddus Dulu, Abul Kalam Azad, Amanullah Aman, Ehsanul Huq Milon, Gazi Shahjahan, Mashiur Rahman, Ziaul Huq Zia, Fazlur Rahman Patal and K M Obaidur Rahman.

Earlier, he had arguments with the Leader of the Opposition when she was demanding that at least three opposition MPs should be given floor since ministers were given chance to speak.

"I cannot give the floor to anyone other than you after what they have done today in your absence," he told the Leader of the Opposition.

Khaleda: Speaker's role

From Page 1

House about the hartal-hour incidents throughout the country. "Before the Home Minister gave his statement under Article 300, our legislators advanced towards the Chair to draw the Speaker's attention, but could not."

About the Speaker's possible decision regarding 14 BNP lawmakers involved in "unparliamentary behaviour", Begum Zia said, "we'll convene a meeting of our parliamentary party to take stock of the situation after his (Speaker's) decision."

She further noted that the ruling party did not want the Opposition to participate in the proceedings of the parliament as "they don't want us to speak about the miseries of the people, draining down of national economy, repression on women and children and the price hike of essentials."

She also refuted the Treasury Bench's claim that a BTV cameraman got hurt in the melee, saying that the government was telling lies.

Begum Zia, however, asserted that her party would not boycott the parliament. "We'll protests and, if necessary, we'll stage walkouts". Responding to a query, she said her party was going to join the session when the House resumes this morning.

Senior BNP leaders Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, former Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali and other MPs of the party were present at the briefing.

In an earlier briefing, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition said the afternoon sitting of the House was deliberately delayed to allow the Home Minister to give his statement before the opposition could speak on today's hartal incidents.

Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury said the Chair has abused and misused Section 300 of the Rules of Procedure.

He said the Home Minister did not take permission before making the statement. Rather, the Speaker invited the minister. It showed everything was pre-arranged.

Former speaker and a front-ranking BNP MP Shaikh Razzak Ali said, "We were on our legs to speak, as there would be no scope for us after the minister's statement under Section 300."

Opposition Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar Hossain said BNP's agreement with the government provided that the Speaker would maintain neutrality.

"This is unprecedented in parliamentary democracy. They (Awami League) do never believe in parliamentary democracy. They are conducting the House in a free style, in an autocratic way," he added.

Bank official murdered in Narayanganj

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Apr 15: Police recovered the body of a bank official today from his residence at Delpara in Pagla under Fatullah thana.

The victim was identified as Masud Khadem, 50, an officer of the Syedabad branch of Sonali Bank.

He was the lone person living in the house as other members of the family went to their village home.

Police found the body tied with a rope. The door of the house was found open. Police suspected that the incident may be due to previous enmity.

About Tk 7,000 in cash and ornaments worth Tk 37,000 have been missing from the house, police quoting family sources said.

The body was sent to Narayanganj General Hospital for autopsy. A case was filed with the Fatullah thana. None was arrested till today.

Crackdown

From Page 1

along with some arms and ammunitions.

The arrested included Ajit Biswas, accused in the killing of a businessman at Reazuddin Bazar, and Javed, accused in the raping of a garments worker, police said.

Police exchanged gunfire with some terrorists while raiding Nasirabad area. But no casualty was reported.

Nasir chained

From Page 1

information about his criminal activities, police sources said.

Earlier, interrogation of Nasir ended abruptly as he was sent to jail after being questioning lightly only after three days of the 5-day remand, the sources said.

During the three days of questioning, police failed to gather all the information behind his activities, the sources added.

3 raped

From Page 1

Village people recovered the unconscious girl from the field. A case was filed with Araihajar thana in this connection.

Police arrested the alleged rapist Ahasanullah yesterday.

Three killed, 100 hurt

From Page 1

accord ended decades of insurgency in the CHT while BNP, the major party in the alliance termed it a "black accord aimed at selling the country."

During the six-hour hartal, BNP activists clashed with police and anti-hartal processionists. All front organisations of Awami League brought out processions in small groups opposing those against the CHT accord. The AL processionists greatly outnumbered those of BNP on most of the city streets yesterday. All processions in the city were escorted by riot police on foot.

In the city centre, some buses and autotempos kept plying throughout the hartal period while rickshaws were seen in abundance. Officials at Kamalapur Railway station said that there was "no disruption whatsoever" in the train schedules, both departure and arrival.

Trouble gripped the Nayabazar, Bangsal areas where about two hundred BNP activists clashed with police and anti-hartal activists for over three hour. The BNP activists hurled brickbats and powerful home-made bombs at police and anti-hartal activists, leaving at least seven policemen seriously injured in bomb blasts, police said.

The activists regrouped in front of the Dhaka city BNP head office amid volleys of teargas shells hurled by police. Chase and counter-chase continued in the area well after the hartal hours.

Two separate processions of BNP and Jatiya Party (Z-M) were chased by AL processionists on the Topkhana Road at around 10 am.

A clash ensued when an AL procession, led by Haji Selim MP and another procession of BNP-backed JCD came face to face at Azimpur crossing at about 9:20 am. Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu and 13 others were picked up by police from there.

Another clash between police and JCD activists took place near Tejgaon College at Farmgate.

Some anti-hartal activists swooped on a procession of Jatiyatabadi Mahila Dal near Farmgate at about 11:45 am. Police fired teargas shells to disperse the mob.

Our Khulna Correspondent adds: Sanjay Shill was killed and several others injured when pro-hartal and anti-hartal activists were locked in an armed clash at Chuknagar under Dumuria thana. Sanjay, a barber was working in his shop when a bullet hit him in the head. He died on the spot. Police took the body in their custody.

In the morning, AL activists brought out an anti-hartal procession, led by Talukdar Abdul Khaleque, State Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation. BNP's processions were led by former Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali MP and City Mayor Sheikh Tayubur Rahman.

Cargo handling and other port activities at the Mongla Port were suspended. All modes of transport kept off the Khulna city streets during the hartal.

Our Sylhet Correspondent adds: Juba Dal activist Hafizur Rahman was shot dead by Awami League and Chhatra League activists near Habibpur Madrasha under Jagannathpur thana in Sunamganj district, police said.

The Thana Nirbahi Officer of Jagannathpur said a group of AL and BCL activists opened fire when they were resisted by pro-hartal BNP elements near Habibpur Madrasha at 9:50 am. He was rushed to the Thana Health Complex but doctors declared him dead.

Our Chittagong Correspondent reported that the hartal hours passed off almost peacefully there. Most of the motorised vehicles were off the city streets. A few rickshaws were seen plying during the hartal. Shops and market places remained closed. Delivery of goods from the port was suspended though cargo handling inside the jetties was normal, port sources said.

Meanwhile, a BNP press release yesterday said that the party Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia visited the house of Jewel at Taherbag along with other top party leaders.

Richardson

From Page 1

waiving of its loans under PL-480 food aid, US Assistant Secretary of State Karl Inderfurth told a questioner they were trying to consider it sympathetically. Since it involves money, it needs congressional appropriation.

Responding to a question, Richardson said that he was going to India and Pakistan as part of the US policy to push ties with the South Asian nations and prepare for the visit of President Clinton in the region.

Richardson's companion, Bruce O'Riedel, special assistant to the President and member of National Security Council, described the visit as 'vitally important'. President Clinton believes "it is important in the 21st century. We want to have relations in political, economic and security," he added.

Richardson paid tributes to the people of Bangladesh on his fourth visit. "I come back here time and again because people are warm."

He also lauded the efforts of Grameen Bank in helping women achieve economic emancipation and Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association (BNWLA) for its efforts to help the trafficked women and children. He had visited a Grameen Bank project at Mugrapara in Sonargaon and BNWLA-run shelter for such women and children.

Richardson and his entourage were seen off by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, high officials and US Ambassador John C. Holzman.

People rejected CHT accord, says BNP

By Staff Correspondent

The main opposition BNP has demanded immediate scrapping of the CHT accord and a fresh initiative in this regard through discussion in the Jatiya Sangsad.

"People of the country today (Wednesday) expressed their no-confidence in this government through hartal. If the government fails to solve various problems faced by the people, it should quit power", BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said at a post-hartal press briefing yesterday afternoon..

Mannan Bhuiyan termed yesterday's hartal an expression of no-confidence in the CHT accord and demanded of the government immediate scrapping of it.

He alleged that the government failed to maintain law and order, check price hike of essentials and manage the national economy .

Bhuiyan briefed newsmen at the Minto Road official residence of Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia.

The BNP Secretary General claimed that three party activists were killed, over 1,000 injured and 500 arrested during yesterday's half-day countrywide hartal.

ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকাস্থিত রামপুরা এলাকার বাড়ির মালিক/বসবাসকারীগণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, মাদারটেক ও গোড়ান এলাকায় অবস্থিত পয়ঃ উত্তোলন কেন্দ্রের মাধ্যমে রামপুরা এলাকার পয়ঃ নিষ্কাশন করা হইয়া থাকে এবং উক্ত পয়ঃ উত্তোলন কেন্দ্র দুইটি বিগত ৯-১-৯৭ইং তারিখে চালু করা হইয়াছে। এই মর্মে গত এপ্রিল '৯৭ মাসে বিভিন্ন জাতীয় দৈনিক পত্রিকায় বিজ্ঞপ্তির মাধ্যমে সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে অবহিত করা হইয়াছে।

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ঢাকা ওয়াসা

জনগুরুত্বপূর্ণ আইনগত ওয়াসা বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ওয়াসা অধ্যাদেশ (অধ্যাদেশ নং ১৯) ১৯৬৩ইং-এর ২১-এ ধারা, যাহা অধ্যাদেশ নং-১০ ১৯৮৯ইং দ্বারা সংশোধিত এবং "পানি সরবরাহ ও পয়ঃ নিষ্কাশন কর্তৃপক্ষ আইন, ১৯৯৬"-এর ২৪ ধারায় পুনঃ আরোপিত বিধানমতে ঢাকা ওয়াসার এখতিয়ারাধীন এলাকায় অন্য কেহ পানি সরবরাহ/পয়ঃ নিষ্কাশনের স্থাপনা/সুবিধাদি ওয়াসার পূর্ব অনুমতি ব্যতিরেকে নির্মাণ ও সংরক্ষণ করিতে পারিবে না। ঢাকা/চট্টগ্রাম ওয়াসার পানি সংযোগ ও অভিকর আরোপ বিধি ১৯৬৬-এর ২৪-এ ধারা এবং তদসম্পৃক্ত কার্যপদ্ধতিতে উল্লিখিত পন্থায় অত্র কর্তৃপক্ষের এখতিয়ারাধীন এলাকায় বৈধভাবে গভীর নলকূপ স্থাপন, পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ করা যাইবে। উল্লিখিত আইন/বিধির লংঘন অর্থদন্ড ও কারাদন্ড আরোপযোগ্য অপরাধ।

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