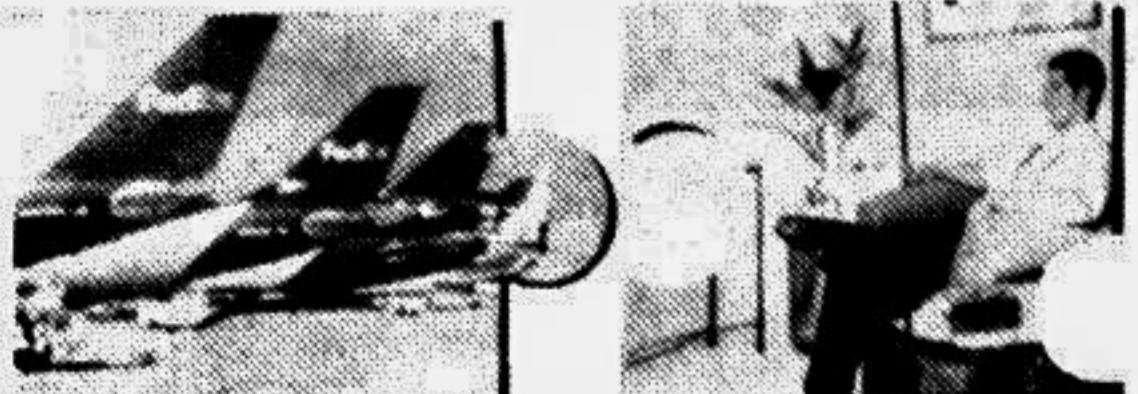
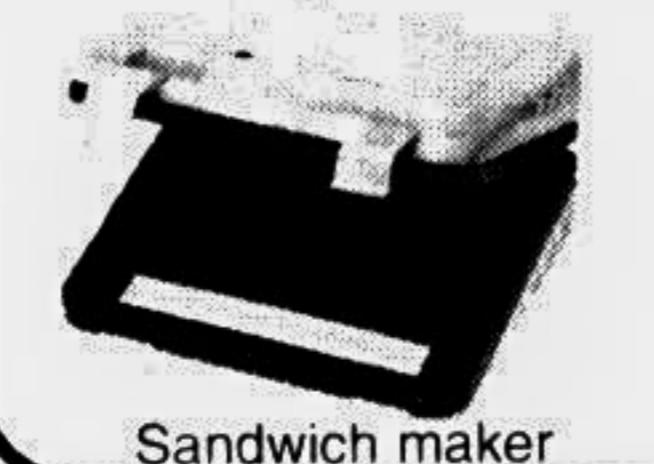


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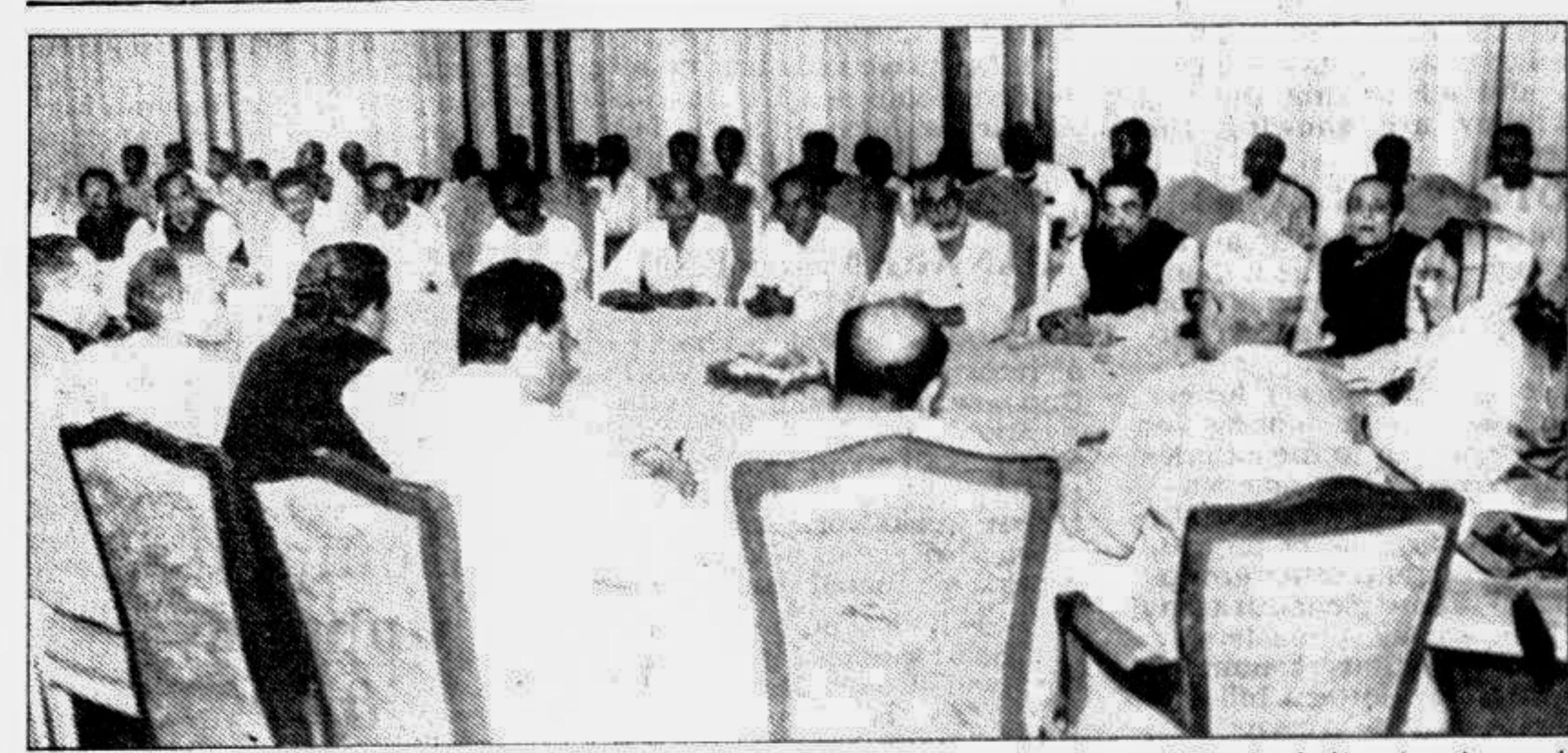


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PHILIPS



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina exchanging views with the leaders of Barisal district Awami League who met her at the Ganabhaban yesterday.

— PID photo

Hasina tells Barisal AL leaders

Strengthen party to foil conspiracies

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the party leaders and workers to foil the conspiracies of the Opposition by accelerating the party activities and strengthening the organisation, reports UNB.

"The real source of power is the people ... you will have to strengthen the party by organising the people," she said while addressing the leaders of Barisal district Awami League in the city.

Leaders of Barisal district Awami League and its front organisations, led by district President Mohiuddin Ahmed and General Secretary Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdulla, met the Prime Minister to discuss various aspects of the organisation.

The Prime Minister said the Awami League workers made great sacrifices for establishing democratic rights of the people in the country. "You will have to be ready for more sacrifices for building up the nation."

She also asked the party leaders to draw attention of the new generation to the party by accelerating the people-oriented activities and involve them in nation-building activities.

DU halls

From Page 1
dental students and those with doubling permission will be allowed to enter the halls, said a DU press release.

But, it said, in case of organisational activities, only presidents and general secretaries of central and DU units of different student groups along with three other workers will be allowed to enter the guest rooms.

The meeting warned that stern action would be taken against the outsiders, terrorists and wanted criminals by the law enforcing agencies.

Meanwhile, a leader of BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) yesterday alleged that a number of outsiders were now staying in four halls of the university where some of their workers were rehabilitated by the authorities on Thursday.

JCD General Secretary Habibul Nabi Sohel alleged that the outsiders belong to pro-Awami League Chhatra League.

They are staying in these halls with active support from the university authorities, he told newsmen.

He threatened to announce tougher programmes if the authorities failed to take necessary measures to free the campus from the outsiders.

Gulshan Lake

From Page 1
Authorised section of Rajuk were yet to take any step to execute the minister's order. Rajuk officials claimed the two sections were too poorly manned to carry out such a work. "But a notice was being prepared to be sent to every developer in the area," said an official.

Following one ministerial directive, Rajuk formed a four-member committee comprising officials of its Engineering, Land, Town Planning and the Authorised Actions. The committee would carry out door-to-door survey to determine how much land had been encroached upon.

Rajuk officials said an influential quarter extended their boundaries 'at will' and encroached upon the public land. Asked when the committee report would be made available, they said that the committee members were yet to start their work because they were still not officially notified.

"We had a long weekend," replied an official, when asked why it was taking so long.

Rajuk sources said that Mohammad Nasim also asked Rajuk to identify officials who approved plans for high-rise buildings in the lake area.

Prof Mahmud

From Page 1
with the Prime Minister, who is also the Chancellor of the university, would help resolve the deadlock.

Prof Mahmud resigned following intervention from higher authorities for reversal of a Syndicate decision regarding resignation of 13 teachers of the BUET. His resignation was followed by resignation of 71 teachers from their administrative post. The strike by the teachers was supported by the BUET Officers Association and students.

Meanwhile, a spokesman of the 13 teachers said that 12 of them have received letters from the Syndicate that they should apply to the Syndicate individually through separate letters (not jointly), regarding reconsideration of its April 26 decision on withdrawal of their resignation.

"We will wait till all the letters are received and send reply through separate letters individually as per the Syndicate instructions," the spokesman said.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Fresh violence feared

From Page 1
hended fresh violence today (Sunday).

Deputy Commissioner Md Rafiqul Islam told The Daily Star yesterday that two platoons of BDR and additional police force were kept on alert to check violent activities like dismantling fish-plates on rail tracks.

Officer-in-charge of Kotwala thana Md Jahurul Haq, when asked, said "there is fear of fresh violence in the town as protesting students had earlier given an ultimatum for release of Ruhil by Sunday".

Local leaders of Awami League, however, brushed aside the impression that the administration was being pressurised. But they alleged that police baton-charged students when they went to the DC's office on Tuesday to hand over a memorandum.

Shamsul Haq, a ruling party lawmaker from Phulipur constituency in Mymensingh, along with some local party leaders were waiting at the local Circuit House yesterday afternoon for a meeting with the district administration. Talking to The Daily Star, he denied exerting any pressure on the administration. "Rather we're here to help cool down the abnormal situation in the town", said one leader.

Shamsul Haq did not participate in the proceedings of the Jatiya Sangsads last week when four bills on the CHT were passed. Yes, it is true that I could not attend the session. I am suffering from teeth ache," said one leader.

A gang of about six led by Uzzal started an altercation with Masud and his friends. At one stage, Uzzal stabbed Masud around his neck, police said.

Masud was taken to Suhrabardi Hospital where the doctors declared him dead, police added.

Police arrested Uzzal in this connection yesterday. The body was sent to Mitford Hospital for autopsy.

Jainal Abedin, elder brother of the victim, filed a murder case with Keraniganj thana on the same night.

Decomposed body of teenage boy recovered

By Staff Correspondent

Police recovered a partially decomposed body of a teenaged boy from a ditch near the Sweeper Colony at Gopibagh under Shabujbagh thana in the city yesterday morning.

The unidentified body of the boy, aged about 13, bore injury marks on its face, according to police.

The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately. Police suspected killers threw the body into the ditch at the South end of the colony after killing him within the last couple of days.

None, however, was arrested in this connection till filing of this report last night. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

A total of about 1000 samples of soil from various spots

leisure. Advocate Wajedul Islam, Vice President of Mymensingh district unit of AL, said that bail prayer for Ruhil would be moved on Sunday. He, however, ruled out fresh violence even if bail was not granted.

Meanwhile, this correspondent also visited the disputed plot of land at Gohalkandi. Tk 50,000 was demanded as toll from its owner allegedly by Mukul, a BCL district unit leader. Munni, daughter of a martyr in the Liberation War was overseeing construction work on that plot late yesterday afternoon.

Munni and her husband Mostafizur Rahman, who had lodged a case against Mukul, said that if they did not get redress from the local authorities "We'll write open letters to the Prime Minister and the Home Minister for justice."

Mostafizur Rahman said, they were under constant threat from Mukul and his accomplices. The gang has grabbed plots adjacent to my one, claiming those to be property of a graveyard and now it targeted our plot."

9 policemen posted at Daudkandi bridge closed

COMILLA, May 9: Nine police personnel, including a havilder, posted at the Daudkandi bridge toll plaza, were closed to the district police lines today for their alleged negligence of duty, reports BSS.

Magurjhara disaster

From Page 1
small span of time."

An environmentalist of the company working at the site said "Climatic situation around the area is now being monitored and we hope to be in a position to comment on the issue by the end of this year."

"We are planting cyto nyla, boga media and some other plants that will help regenerate the soil," the environmentalist said, adding that stacks of grass are also being laid on slopes of the hills to protect it from erosion. "We are happy that the plants are growing."

Asked about trees, he said, "That will take some time."

BTRI officials told The Daily Star that they had suggested Occidental to take immediate measures for regeneration of soil.

Land within a radius of 100 metres of the explosion site was severely affected, compared to other areas of the locality, an official pointed out.

A total of about 1000 samples of soil from various spots

around the blow-out site were collected and tested in the BTRI laboratory, he said. The tests were done in collaboration with Occidental.

The findings of the tests conducted recently showed that organic matter and nitrogen in soil in that area have been reduced substantially.

Within a 100-metre radius of the explosion, site both organic matter and nitrogen content of soil were found to be half and two third respectively of the normal condition.

With the increase in distance from the blow-out site, presence of these two substances in soil were found to be increasing and almost nearing the normal condition, the experts said.

The presence of micro organic substance at a distance of 300 metres was nine tenth and that of nitrogen was half the normal condition, they pointed out.



IIEB President MA Hannan presenting a crest to Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsads Begum Khaleda Zia at the institute's golden jubilee celebration in the city yesterday.

— Star photo

Khaleda seeks engineers' opinion on gas policy

BNP condemns filing of 'false cases' against its 35 leaders

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan has strongly condemned the filing of "false cases" against 35 leaders.

In a statement yesterday, he demanded immediate withdrawal of the cases against the leaders, including Jibro Dal President Mirza Abbas, BNP city unit convenor Sadeq Hosain Khoka and Jibro Dal leader Mirza Khokon.

"We have enough gas and oil. Money is also needed for uplift of the people. But will it be logical to exploit the natural resources at a time," she said while addressing the concluding ceremony of golden jubilee celebration of the Institution of Engineers.

The BNP Chairperson apprehended that the policy pursued by the government may lead the country to a crisis like the oil-rich Nigeria.

Begum Zia sought expert opinion and suggestions from the engineers in this regard.

She reminded the national organisation of the engineers of its responsibility to react to socio-economic condition and come out with appropriate suggestion.

The well-trained engineers cannot adapt themselves to the newer technology in the absence of proper logistic support, she added.

"If it continues, the engineers will abandon like old machinery and we have to import trained engineers from abroad," the former Prime Minister said. "This can't be accepted by any means."

Begum Zia said the engineers will be given the authority of the government on the resources of the hill districts which infringes the sovereign power of the government.



— Star photo

Notice served

From Page 1
would create regionalism, which is opposed to the very spirit of nationalism as enshrined in the Constitution.

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