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# Down to Earth

## Post-flood Waste Management in City

By A S M Nurunnabi

In Dhaka city, waste management through effective and efficient means have always remained a serious issue. In the post-flood situation in the city, the problem of garbage disposal has assumed stupendous proportions. After the deluge, it's now the refuse. The long-standing flood waters have receded, but the streets of the capital city localities now remain flooded with garbage. To all city dwellers, it has been quite plain that the problem of accumulation of garbage in the city has been compounded by the ubiquitous presence of polythene bags which are piling up daily in seemingly unending tide. This considerably slowed down the pace of recession of flood waters from many areas in the city.

When there were flood waters, piles of garbage remained hidden under them. With the recession of the flood waters, those garbage piles came out with all their ugliness and slush. In many localities, many houses, when freed from submersion, are confronted with accumulated garbage at their door steps as soon as their residents open their doors. The first priority for the ground floor residents in such localities has been to bring some order in the arrangement for the various household items fallen under disarray with the rise of flood waters.

The Dhaka City Corporation has since launched special drive for clearing the garbage. The City Corporation at the moment has confined its cleansing operations to the main roads in different localities. Areas such as Khilgaon, Malibagh, Rampura have been slowly coming under the ambit of such operations. But in those and other areas, garbage piles accumulated in narrow lanes and on both sides, are awaiting clearance, giving rise to nauseating environment. The

## Hasina

From Page 1

ers were present. Addressing the development coordination meeting, the Prime Minister asked the officials to strictly maintain law and order, and expedite the development work to recoup the losses caused by flood.

On distribution of VGF cards and implementation of other post-flood programmes, she warned that no corruption or irregularities in this regard will be tolerated.

Hasina said: "We've increased the number of VGF cards to four million from two million to ensure food for the distressed."

You will have to ensure that these cards reach the real distressed and flood affected people, she told the officials.

Everyone will have to remain alert so that none can grab the food meant for the poor, the Prime Minister said reiterating stern action against any incident of misappropriation of relief goods.

Responding to local problems, the Prime Minister said the government has taken steps to build the infrastructure of Sylhet division and also for its overall development.

She said the government has already announced to develop Sylhet as a city corporation and is continuing works for the development of airport and other sectors of the division.

The government has also a plan for 'haor' development, a prospective sector for fisheries and cultivation, Hasina added.

Later, in the afternoon, the Prime Minister met the local press and talked to them about various problems of the division. She assured all possible help for rapid development of the region.

She also announced a donation of Tk 2 lakh for the local press club. Press club president Abdul Malik Chowdhury and general secretary Bashir Uddin Ahmed, among others, took part in the discussion.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presiding over a meeting of development coordination committee of Sylhet division at Circuit House yesterday. —PID photo

## Kazi Bahauddin Ahmed dead

Kazi Bahauddin Ahmed, a leading sports organiser, died of old-age complications in the early hours of yesterday at his Dharmad residence at the age of 72, reports BSS.

He was buried at the Banani graveyard in the afternoon after the namaz-e-janaza at the Baitul Mokarram National Mosque.

Kazi Bahauddin, founding Director General of the Passport and Immigration Department, was the Treasurer of the National Sports Council (NSC) for more than 12 years.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed deep shock at the death of Kazi Bahauddin Ahmed.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Culture Obaidul Quader also condoled his death.

Officials and members of NSC have expressed their deep shock at the sudden death of Kazi Bahauddin and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

Flag of the NSC was hoisted half-mast as a mark of respect. NSC will hold a condolence meeting at 11 am at its auditorium on Sunday.

## One electrocuted during attack on city slum

By Staff Correspondent

One person was electrocuted and at least eight others were injured when a gang of hoodlums attacked a slum at Agargaon under Mohammadpur thana in the city yesterday.

Police identified the dead as Abdul Rahman Khan, 35, owner of a grocery shop in the area. Rahman died when he came in contact with an electric wire allegedly snapped by the attackers. He was running for safety following explosion of crackers, witnesses said.

Of the injured, four were identified as Abdul Gani, Kamal, Rauf and Alam. They were released after first aid in local clinics, police said.

Witnesses said a gang of about 25 youngmen, equipped with sticks and explosives launched the attack to take control of the Gani Miar Slum at about 11:30 am.

A former dweller of the slum, Babul, accused in a number of cases, allegedly led the attack. A few months ago Babul was driven out of the slum due to his involvement in anti-social activities, police said.

Babul and his accomplices yesterday came to the slum and started hitting the power supply wires with sticks. As a result a number of wires snapped. When some slum dwellers tried to resist them from doing so, the gang exploded crackers creating panic in the area.

Many panicked residents fled the slum. Rahman, son of

## Birendra renews divine strength as monarch

KATHMANDU, Oct 2: King Birendra of Nepal renewed his divine strength as monarch on Thursday night in an ancient ceremony that takes place once every 12 years in the Himalayan Kingdom, reports Reuter.

Thousands of Kathmandu residents lined the streets just before midnight to watch the 52-year-old monarch being driven by limousine to the capital's palace square.

On arrival, the monarch presented a sword to masked men representing various deities, who then handed him a sword believed to belong to the Hindu god Panchal Bhairab.

The colourful ceremony was accompanied by musical bands and religious dances.

The exchange of swords, which was repeated three times, takes place every 12 years as part of a centuries-old tradition to renew the King's strength.

In Nepal, the world's only Hindu Kingdom, the sword is a symbol of power as well as of knowledge, and the King is honoured as the incarnation of Lord Vishnu, the Hindu god of protection.

"The exchange of swords represents bestowing the divine power on the King to protect virtues and good forces of the country and the people," said Mukunda Raj Aryal, who teaches Nepali culture at the Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu.

King Birendra's popularity has soared since he shed absolute power in 1990 to become a constitutional monarch.

## 5 Indian troops killed in Kashmir gunbattle

SRINAGAR, India, Oct 2: Five separatist guerrillas were killed in a gunbattle with Indian security forces in the troubled Jammu and Kashmir state, police said today, reports Reuters.

"Security forces... killed five militants in Guru Sarkari area on Thursday evening," a police spokesman said.

Guru Sarkari lies in the border district of Rajouri, which is 459 km (286 miles) southwest of Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir.

Today, an Indian paramilitary trooper was killed when a security patrol ran over a landmine at Keri on the outskirts of Srinagar, police said.

## Fuel distributors go on strike in Jessore today

JESSORE, Oct 2: Oil Distributors' Association (ODA) here will go for an indefinite strike from tomorrow in protest against looting of a petrol pump, reports UNB.

The decision was taken at a meeting of district unit of ODA yesterday as police failed to nab anybody in this connection even after filing a case with the respective thana.

Sources said, a group of armed terrorists numbering about 10 swooped on Tofazzal Hossain Petrol Pump at Garikhana Road in the town on Wednesday and took away petrol and Tk 28,000 from the employees of the filling station at gun point.

## Five more shot dead in Karachi

KARACHI, Oct 2: Groups of armed men today shot dead five people, including a political activist, in three daily killings in Pakistan's biggest city of Karachi, police said, reports AFP.

Gunmen entered a cattle pan in southern Sheerin Jinnah colony and shot dead two milk sellers, police said, adding that the motive of the attackers could not be immediately known.

Police found the bullet-riddled body of a young man, believed to be a political activist, in the eastern Korangi district. The man was kidnapped and tortured before being shot dead by unidentified assailants.

Around 450 people have been killed since a fresh wave of violence began in June.

The dead include several provincial government officials, but most of the victims are said to be activists and supporters of influential ethnic party, the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) and its breakaway, MQM-Haqiqi faction.

Police said the unrest stemmed from rivalry between political factions and hundreds of criminal groups operating in the city.

Karachi has a history of political, ethnic and sectarian violence that has claimed more than 3,000 lives during last three years.

## Four foreign-made bombs recovered in Khulna

KHULNA, Oct 2: Police recovered four foreign-made bombs from Mongla port area today, reports UNB.

Two people fled away leaving behind a polythene bag when police challenged them on suspicion at the number one jetty this afternoon.

Police found four bombs inside the bag.

Officer-in-charge of Mongla police said the bombs were made in England and the word 'rocket' was inscribed on them.

Police could not trace the two men.

## Clinton

From Page 1

AP adds: House Democrats are drafting a proposal for a brief impeachment review restricted to President Clinton's affair with Lewinsky, effectively dropping an attempt to head off a formal investigation with a swift censure, officials say.

Several officials said the Democratic proposal, designed as an alternative to the open-ended inquiry envisioned by Republicans, may raise the possibility of alternative sanctions — presumably including censure — as an eventual resolution of the case against Clinton. But this would come into play only after a formal investigation.

Under the proposal, which is certain to be rejected by the Republican-controlled House, the entire episode could be wrapped up by Thanksgiving, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity. They added that no final decisions have been made.

## One killed over family feud in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Oct 2: A person was killed allegedly by his younger brother, over family feud at Alakuli village of Sitakundu thana here today, police said, reports UNB.

They said victim Sakender Hossain, 46, died after his brother Motaleb hit him indiscriminately with lethal weapon at 11 am. Motaleb escaped the scene after the killing.

Police sent the body to hospital for autopsy.

## UNGA call

From Page 1

habilitation and reconstruction of the damaged infrastructure in the country. It also called for strengthening the capacity of the government to seek long-term solutions to the problems caused by the floods and other natural disasters.

Indonesia, as the chairman of the Group 77 and China introduced the resolution which was co-sponsored by the 15-member European Union (EU) as well as Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, the United States and Ukraine.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad put forward the proposal for co-sponsorship of the resolution at the G-77 ministerial meeting on September 25. He also consulted the President of the General Assembly and Foreign Minister of Uruguay Didier Operatti for its early passage in the assembly.

## 2 beaten up

From Page 1

snatch money from the passenger, police said.

When the rickshaw passenger cried for help, local people rushed to the spot and caught two of the snatchers while the rest one managed to escape.

A case was filed with Shuhrapur thana in this regard yesterday.

## Zardari's counsel arrested

KARACHI, Oct 2: A counsel for Asif Ali Zardari, jailed husband of former Pakistani premier Benazir Bhutto, was arrested by police today in the city of Hyderabad, political sources said, reports AFP.

Plainclothed police picked up Abu Bakr Zardari, no relation to Benazir's husband, outside a court building in Hyderabad, 160 kilometers from here, as he arrived to attend the hearing of a murder case, they said.

Benazir's spouse is co-accused along with several others in the case involving charges of murdering a bureaucrat Alam Baloch, who killed in September last year.

## CHT situation

From Page 1

leaders. The delegation members also visited different development projects.

Officials said they had separate meetings with Shantu Larma, District Council Chairman Samiran Dewan, DC A K M Jafrul Hossain, tribal refugee leader Upendra Lal Chakma, Liaison Committee Convenor Hangshadhaja Chakma.

## Khaleda

From Page 1

Probably her arthritis complication in her leg caused the illness, her blood pressure was also low. Even she did not take any food except a cup of tea on her way to the capital, a member of her entourage told UNB yesterday.

During her 3-day visit to the three northern districts, Begum Zia addressed and distributed relief at over 20 places.

## Power supply

From Page 1

A five-member enquiry committee has been formed in this regard and it will start its work tomorrow.

Power supply at the Bangabhaban and the other affected areas was restored at about 3.20 in the afternoon.

Fire fighters and DESA officials and employees had rushed to spot after the explosion at the sub-station. The firemen took about one and a half hours to extinguish the blaze, sources said.

## Jail Killing Case

From Page 1

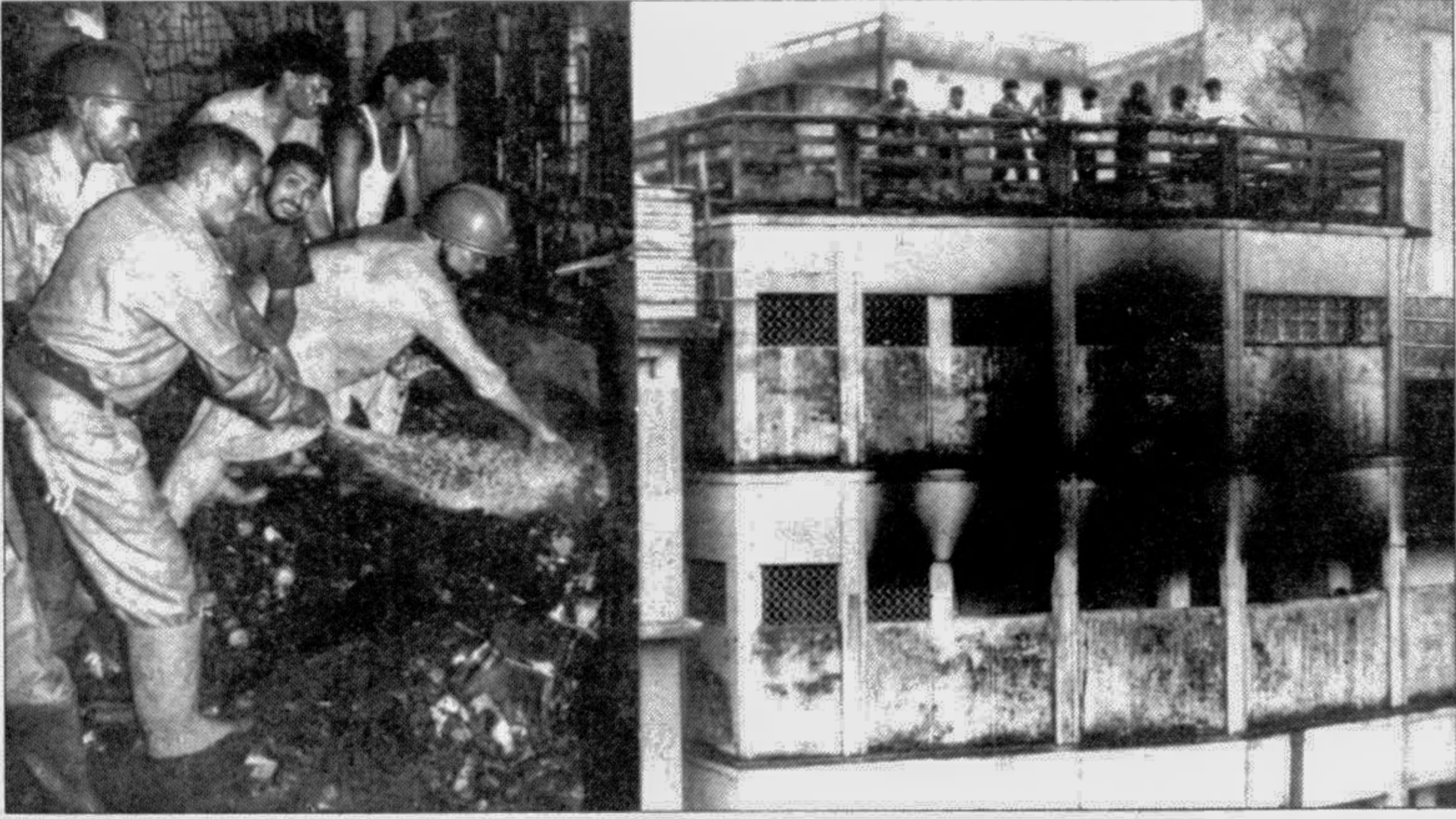
collected evidences, the official added.

Replying to a question, the CID official told BSS that all the politicians were now physically fit for interrogation.

Four national leaders — Tajuddin Ahmed, Syed Nazrul Islam, Mansur Ali and A H M Kamruzzaman — were killed inside the Dhaka Central Jail on November 3, 1975, following the change over of August 15, 1975. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman along with his family members was killed on August 15.

The jail killing case, filed on November 4, 1975 under Section 302/34 of the Penal Code, was taken up by CID on September 10, 1996. The case was lodged with Lalbagh thana by the then DIG (Prisons) Abdul Awal.

All the three arrested were state ministers in the government of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. They retained their positions in the government of Khandker Mush-taque Ahmed, which took over following the killing of Bangabandhu.



Fire fighters trying to extinguish the blaze at a shoe polish factory at Imamganj under Lalbagh Thana in the city yesterday. —Star photo

## I survived attempt on life

From Page 1

venue, the Awami League leader described the "torture" on him after the assassination of Bangabandhu on August 15, 1975.

"I was put under house arrest in the morning of August 15. The following day (Aug 16), the killers took me to the radio station and tortured me. Later that night, Army Chief General Shafiqullah and Col Shafiq Jamil rescued me."

Narrating the situation when Bangabandhu's killers picked him up, Tofael said his mother had fainted after the killers pushed her as she put her arms around me protectively as they were taking me.

"The Awami League leader said he along with Zillur Rahman and Abdur Razzak were arrested and taken to police control room on August 23 where "we were put under tremendous pressure to join the killer government," but this we rejected with hatred.

"That's why I was kept at the control room and tortured both physically and mentally everyday," said Tofael who was the political secretary to Bangabandhu.

He continued: On September 3 (3rd Ramadan), I was awakened from sleep and taken away with my hands tied and eyes blindfolded in front of Zillur Rahman, Abdur Razzak and journalist Abdur Rahman.

"They took me to the radio station. I was tied to a chair and tortured from 3 am to 5 am. Later, I was again sent to the control room in a critical condition," he said.

Describing the horrible days and nights 23 year ago, Tofael, with tears in his eyes said: "I didn't think I would be alive after the inhuman torture on that day."

"Later, I was taken to My-mensingh Jail where an attempt was made to kill me inside the prison," he said adding "after 20 months of inhuman life there I was transferred to Kushtia Jail."

The front-ranking AL leader said, none was allowed to meet me in the jail. "I was freed after a verdict by the Supreme Court Full Bench following a writ filed by my wife."

Tofael said he was arrested again on August 23, 1975, the killer-gang also arrested his APS Shafiqul Alam Mintoo and put pressure to give false witness against him (Tofael).

"Mintoo was also tortured as he refused to give false witness and since then he is missing. His wife has filed a case," the minister said, adding that trial of all the killings will be held.

He told the rally that BNP was "conspiring to create unrest in the country as the government has successfully faced the flood and now involved itself in post-flood rehabilitation programme."

"We achieved independence under the leadership of Bangabandhu," Tofael said expressing optimism to attain economic freedom under the able leadership of Sheikh Hasina.

Presided over by local UP chairman Abdul Kader, the meeting was also addressed by AL leaders Abdur Momin Tulu and Shafiqul Rahman Kiron, said an official handout.

## Fire at shoe polish factory in city

By Staff Correspondent

A fire broke out at a shoe polish factory at Imamganj under Lalbagh thana in the city yesterday afternoon.

Police said the fire originated from an electric switch board and flared up from a drum containing chemicals of the factory. HAH Chemical, housed on the second floor of a three storey building on Mahi-uddin Lane at Imamganj.

Six units of fire fighters from three city stations rushed to the spot and extinguished the blaze, fire brigade sources said.

No casualty was reported till the filing of this report last night. The extent of damage could not also be known immediately.

A general diary was filed with Lalbagh thana in this connection.

## Israel seals

From Page 1

jured, including one who was in serious condition.

Clashes erupted before and after Muslim noon prayers.

The Israeli-controlled downtown area of Hebron has been under curfew since Wednesday when two grenades were thrown at Israeli security forces, wounding 22 people. Hebron is home to 450 Jewish settlers and 130,000 Palestinians.

Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai decided after consultations with top army generals today to seal the West Bank and Gaza indefinitely. The Israeli newspaper Murriv quoted Mordechai as telling the Cabinet on Thursday that "Hamas wants to carry out a horrific, unprecedented attack in Israel."

Israeli government spokesman Moshe Fogel said the Palestinian Authority has taken sporadic steps to control Hamas, but "it's far short of what we would like."

## Kibria

From Page 1

loans were disbursed mostly on political considerations. The government has initiated a series of reforms to strengthen Central Bank supervision of the banking system and raise banking practices to international standard.

The Finance Minister said in developing countries public functionaries often receive kick-backs for speedy service.

"If better services can be ensured through administrative reforms and good governance, corruption can be reduced to a great extent," he said.

## Rape victims

From Page 1

she was earlier joyful, lively and playful," the report said.

Relationship between girls and their boyfriends also broke up following the rape incidents.

Friends, some of the victims yesterday told this correspondent that the girls were now hesitant and indecisive about returning to the university for pursuing their study.

"How they would go to the university where many students, teachers and officials know that they had been violated. They are afraid of further social repercussions if they return to the university," a female student said describing the mental state of a victim, who is her friend.