

# AL to face Opposition politically: Zillur

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman said yesterday that Awami League would create public opinion against the destructive programmes of the opposition to face them politically.

The whole exercise of the BNP and its maverick political allies is to create obstruction in the legal steps taken to try the self-confessed killers of August 15 and the November 3 Jail Killing in 1975 and the ongoing post-flood rehabilitation programmes," he said in an interview with the BSS.

Zillur, who is also the general secretary of Awami League, said after discussion in the party forum, political programmes will be announced if BNP and its allies continue their movement taking to the path of violence and destruction.

He said, people have been demanding trial of the killers of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the four national leaders for the past 23 years.

Besides, Awami League was committed to the people to try

the killers of Bangabandhu and the four national leaders as an election pledge, he added.

Zillur said when the trial process of the August 15 killings is at the final stage, and legal steps have been taken to try the killers of the four national leaders, the BNP-led opposition is staging demonstrations to protect the self-confessed killers and their patrons.

"Nobody is above the law and the law will take its own course," the minister said, adding that it would not be possible for BNP to achieve its policies of vengeance by issuing threats of agitation.

Zillur said the BNP after failing to capitalise on any political issue has launched the agitation movement to divert the people's attention only to mislead them.

"They have taken to the streets at a time when a congenial political atmosphere is needed to carry forward the massive rehabilitation programme undertaken by the government," he said.

## Tk 13.38 lakh donated to PM's Relief Fund

Different organisations and individuals yesterday donated Tk 13.38 lakh to the Prime Minister's Relief and Welfare Fund for the flood victims, reports UNB.

Of them, Bangladesh Olympic Association donated Tk five lakh, Department of Technical Education Tk 3.98 lakh, Karen L. Casper, Representative of Asia Foundation in Bangladesh Tk 1.73 lakh, Sadhinata Chikitsak Parishad Tk 50,000 and Railway Muktiyodha Shaheed Paribar Punar-bashan Kalyan Samity, Chittagong, Tk 30,000.

Besides, Sonali Bank Employees Union CBA, Sylhet and Bangladesh Sachibalaya Sarkari Chakurjibi Puja Ud-japan O Kalyan Parishad donated Tk 10,000 each.

## Donations to BNP relief fund

Different units of BNP and other business and social organisations yesterday donated relief materials, including cash and cheques, to the party relief fund, reports UNB.

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia received the donations at her 29 Minto Road Official residence yesterday evening.

Nurul Alam handed over a draft for Tk 1.8 lakh on behalf of Dupal BNP unit, BNP's Talef unit of Saudi Arabia gave a draft of Tk 1.70 lakh, Dr Azizur Rahman a cheque for Tk one lakh on behalf of Doctors' Association of Bangladesh while Cargo Association of Bangladesh gave a cheque for Tk 70,000.

Poly Cables Industry donated a cheque for Tk 30,000 and Zia Forum Chittagong University unit gave Tk 10,000 in cash in addition to rice and clothes.

BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Morshed Khan, Ehsanul Kabir and Shamsuzzaman Mintu were present on the occasion.

## 2 policemen hurt in Comilla gunfight

COMILLA, Oct 7: Two policemen, including a sub-inspector, suffered bullet wounds in a gunfight between police and armed men in the BISIC industrial area early today, reports UNB.

The gunbattle took place when police, acting on a tip-off, raided the Rocket Flour Mills of the area to arrest the accused of the sensational Shankar and Kalu murder case at about 3 am.

Police also recovered a large quantity of arms from the scene, but the miscreants managed to escape.

The recovered arms included two country made pipe guns, one revolver, one pistol, two cartridges and some lethal weapons.

The injured policemen were identified as SI Nurul Islam and constable Giasuddin.

## PDB employee killed in Khulna

KHULNA, Oct 7: An employee of Power Development Board (PDB) office at Goalpara in Khalishpur thana was killed by some assassants at his office on Tuesday, reports UNB.

Police said a group of local terrorists beat Ramzan Ali Khan, 22, over previous enmity cases against him in Khulna Medical College Hospital but succumbed to his injuries while he was being shifted to Dhaka.

A case was filed with Khalishpur police.



Makeshift arrangement has been made to ward off the threat posed by the worn-out roof of Certificate Section of the DU's administrative building. — Star photo

## Dilapidated DU bldg posing threat to officials, employees

**By DU Correspondent**

The dilapidated administrative building of Dhaka University is posing a threat to its officials, employees and the users of the building.

Besides the officials and employees, a number of teachers and students visit the place for various reasons everyday.

The plaster of the roof is peeling off. To prevent its collapse, the authorities have tried to reinforce the roof with bamboo and CI sheets.

If there is a strong wind, the fragile support would not be able to withstand the pressure, said an employee at the Certificate section at the second floor of the three-storied building.

The second floor of the building is the severely affected part where a number of DU students go everyday to collect their marksheets and certificates.

The marksheet and certificate sections and the office of the controller of examinations at the administrative building remained closed for few days several months ago as plasters started peeling off suddenly.

A deputy controller of examinations who sits in his office room under the CI sheet support at the second floor said that the tin-support at the roof was a temporary arrangement. He could not tell when the permanent arrangement would be made.

The Vice Chancellor of the university whose office is housed in the ground floor at the administrative building could not be reached for comment despite repeated attempts yesterday.

## Scouts projects for flood victims

Bangladesh Scouts has started several projects to help the flood affected people of Dhaka and other parts of the country. These are ORS Project, Alum Distribution Project, Sanitation and Fumigation Project, says a press release.

Bangladesh Scouts has embarked on production of two lakh fifty thousand oral rehydration saline packets through its ORS Project. Eighty Scouts and Rovers are actively participating in this project in 4 shifts and manufacturing eight thousand ORS packets per day.

Under the Alum Distribution Project, a total of 72,550 packets of alum has been produced so far and distributed to 51,885 families.

Under the Sanitation and Fumigation project, the Scouts and Rovers are actively taking part by spreading bleaching powder and insecticides at the toilets and most unhygienic sewerage system in different Schools and relief centers of Dhaka and other parts of the Country.

Bangladesh Scouts has also distributed towels and nappings to 37 new-born babies in different flood shelters with the assistance of Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.



An oral saline project of the Bangladesh Scouts.



Participants of the Annual English Debate Competition that was held recently at Bangladesh International School (BIS) at DOHS, Mohakhali.

## 100 bottles of phensidyl seized

Police seized 100 bottles of Indian Phensidyl and arrested two people in this connection from Narinda Road in the city early yesterday, reports UNB.

Police said they seized an auto-rickshaw and recovered the contraband from the possession of Zakir Hossain Chandra and Mozaherul Islam.

## 3 die in road accidents

Two people were run over by speeding vehicles at the city's Jatrabari and Gullistan areas and a young woman died after being hit by a train at Banani area yesterday, reports APB.

Police and hospital sources said an unidentified young woman received fatal injuries when a train hit her at Banani Staff Road. She was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where she died at about 9:30 am.

A teenager, Chanchal, was critically injured when a speeding truck hit him while crossing the road at Jatrabari crossing at about 9 pm on Tuesday night. Chanchal was admitted to DMCH where he succumbed to his injuries in the early hours yesterday.

In another incident, an unidentified old man, who was hit by a speeding bus at Gullistan crossing at 7:30 pm Tuesday, succumbed to his injuries at the DMCH yesterday.

# CPI(M) offers support to Congress

From Pallab Bhattacharya

NEW DELHI, Oct 7: Veering away from its posture in the past, the CPI(M), one of India's leading opposition groups in parliament, has announced issues-based support to Congress party in forming an alternative government if Prime Minister AB Vajpayee's ministry falls and favours including Sonia Gandhi's party in a broad alliance of secular parties to counter the BJP.

The announcement of support, made by CPI(M) General Secretary Harkishen Singh Surjeet at the opening of the party's 16th Congress in Calcutta, is in sharp contrast to the Marxist party's consistent espousal during the last three years to maintaining an equidistance from Congress and BJP.

The stand of equidistance was adopted by CPI(M) at its previous party congress nearly three and a half years ago when Congress party headed by PV Narosimha Rao was in power. Today, CPI(M) views BJP's ascent to power as a "culmination of a right-wing shift" and a "threat" to national unity.

Surjeet's offer of support to Congress is being debated at the CPI(M)'s week-long congress — a section of the Marxist party still nurtures strong reservations about Congress and favours continuance of equidistance policy — but there are indications that the party is poised to endorse the line of latest stand formulated by the General Secretary and West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu.

In fact, CPI(M)'s softening of stand towards Congress party has been increasingly pronounced ever since Jyoti Basu expressed his party's readiness to back Sonia Gandhi's party forming an alternative government in June this year.

What Surjeet did in his opening remarks at the party congress now was only to cement the CPI(M)'s changed attitude towards Congress party.

Surjeet took pains to draw a distinction between Congress and BJP to show why the former is acceptable to counter the saffron party.

He did recognise that economic policies of Congress and

BJP were almost same and also admitted that Congress often "compromised" with communal forces. But at the same time, he asked Congress to change its economic policies and asserted that the Congress still retained a "vast secular base."

Besides, both Surjeet and Basu identified BJP as CPI(M)'s "main enemy, struggle against which was of utmost importance."

Despite this, the draft political resolution placed by Surjeet at the ongoing party congress, does speak of the relevance of a third political alternative to fight Congress and BJP. Political observers say this will be retained in the final declaration mainly to placate possible criticism from both within a powerful section of CPI(M) as well as left parties like RSP and Forward Bloc which have been reluctant to back Congress.

Jyoti Basu himself indicated his scepticism about a third alternative when he told the party congress two days ago that the campaigning by non-Congress and non-BJP parties on projecting a third alternative in

the form of United Front "lacked credibility" which gave advantage to BJP in the 1998 general elections early this year.

Meanwhile, Congress welcomed CPI(M)'s offer of support to it but made it clear that time for forming an alternative government was not yet ripe. In fact, Congress has so far been cool to offers of support not only from CPI(M) and some other parties like Samajwadi Party of Mulayam Singh Yadav and Rashtriya Janata Dal of Laloo Prasad Yadav in forming an alternative government.

Senior Congress leader Pranab Mukherjee last night ruled out his party taking support of the left parties to form a government. He said as the Congress was opposing Left Front in West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura, any track between his party and left parties is "out of question."

Mukherjee pointed out that there is a "huge divide" in economic policies pursued by Congress and left parties and said that to have any kind of an association with each other, one of the two would have to compromise. It is not possible for Congress to compromise on its economic policies, he added.

## Corrigendum Notice

- Tender Notice No : EE, B'baria-10 of 1998-99.
- Memo No : 1323, dated 27.8.98.
- Last date of selling : 13.10.98 instead of 21.9.98.
- Tender receiving : 14.10.98 instead of 22.9.98. date
- Date of lottery : 27.10.98 instead of 6.10.98.
- Tender schedule whose estimated cost Tk 10.00 (Tk. ten lac) or above will be available for purchases from PWD, Dhaka/Chittagong/Rajshahi/Khulna Zone and all PWD Divisions under PWD Chittagong Zone.
- This Corrigendum Notice will be part and parcel of this tender.
- All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.

**Md Abu Taher**  
Executive Engineer  
B'baria PWD Division  
B'baria

DFP-20863-4/10 G-2231



Leaders of Sangbadpatra Hawkers Kalyan Bahumukhi Samabaya Samity at a press conference held at the National Press Club yesterday.

## BNP factions to hold separate rallies in Jessore

**From Our Correspondent**

JESSORE, Oct 7: Two rival groups of local district unit of BNP led by two ex-ministers will hold two separate protest rallies as part of the Central Committee's programme at two different places simultaneously in the town tomorrow.

One group led by Tariqul Islam will hold the rally at Chourashta Square at 4 pm while the other group led by Khaledur Rahman Tito will hold the rally at Jessore bus terminal.

When contacted, Kotwali thana OC told The Daily Star that they have stepped up security measures to avert any clash. He also told that any attempt by either group to create law and order situation will be dealt with seriously.

## SHKBSSL blames rival body for attacks on its members

**By Staff Correspondent**

Sangbadpatra Hawkers Kalyan Bahumukhi Samabaya Samity Ltd (SHKBSSL) yesterday condemned attacks on its members and filing of false cases against them.

Addressing a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday, the Samity leaders alleged that a rival organisation, Dhaka Sangbadpatra Hawkers Bahumukhi Samabaya Samity Ltd, has filed false cases against its members in a bid to prevent them from performing their duties.

Referring to a recent incident at Pallabi in Mirpur, the leaders also alleged that the rival organisation is resorting to frequent attacks on SHKBSSL members to stop them from discharging their responsibilities.

They also urged the police and concerned authorities not to arrest any of its members without investigating the cases filed against them by the rival organisation.

Among others, SHKBSSL president Mohammad Ishak, general secretary Nurul Huda Abdullah, Saeed Mollah, Mohammad Hasan, Nurul Amin and Fazlur Rahman were present at the press conference.

## Two muggers arrested

**By Staff Correspondent**

Two of a gang of muggers, which snatched Tk 4.37 lakh in cash from two car passengers at city's Uttara area on September 27, were arrested by Uttara police from Khilgaon area on Saturday.

The arrested were identified as Mujahid Hossain and Zafar Iqbal, police said, adding that the two confessed to their involvement in the incident.

Meanwhile, police recovered the motor cycle used in the snatching operation. Tk nine thousand and gold ornaments worth about Tk 20 thousand from the arrested.

## Boy drowns in Meghna river

A minor boy of Ranipur village under Betagi thana of Barisal district met a tragic death around midnight on Wednesday, as he fell into the river Meghna from a Dhaka-bound launch, reports BSS.

## Bangabandhu Murder Case

**From Page 12**

conspiracy, that was between Zia and Mustaq. "How Thakur could be involved in the conspiracy?" wondered the counsel.

Referring to prosecution witnesses, Mukul said Bangabandhu was informed by BGP chief Brig Rouf few days before the incident about a conspiracy against the government. Thakur also came to know about the killing of Bangabandhu on August 15 morning.

He said PW-43, Prof Korshed Alam, in his statement said that during a divisional conference at BARD, Comilla, Thakur was invited by Mahabubul Alam Chashi of Mustaq's room where two army officers were already there.

But during cross-examination the witness repeatedly said he had no doubt in his mind that Thakur went to Mustaq's room to talk about the conspiracy.

Quoting a Comilla-based newspaper, the counsel said the conference was held on February 27 and not at end — March as claimed by the prosecution.

Moreover, the counsel said, Maj Rashid who was said to have visited BARD and had meeting with Mustaq was in fact, not in Bangladesh at that time. Maj Rashid was in India on training purpose during that time.

He said accused Col Shafiqul Alam and Col Ferooz also denied their visit to Comilla and there was no reference to Comilla in Ferooz or Shafiq's statement.

About the Madrassah premises at Daudkandi where

prosecution claimed to have had conspiratorial meeting during June-July, 1975, the counsel quoted another newspaper and said Thakur along with Dewan Farid Gazi, Abdul Momen went there to distribute relief materials on May 6.

Even if Thakur was seen in those two places, Mukul said, there was no wrong in it. Those are public places. Citing judgements, the counsel said there can't be any conspiracy in any public place or park.

Referring to a recent statement of Commerce Minister To-fael Ahmed, the counsel said To-fael had claimed that Army Chief Gen Shafiqul Alam and Col Shafiq Jamil rescued him from the custody on August 16. But the evidence in the court showed that Gen Shafiqul Alam was confined at Bangabhaban for three days from August 15.

The counsel said General Shafiqul Alam, Col Shafiq Jamil and Brig Khaled Mosharraf distorted the history for which they should be brought under trial.

About the allegation that Thakur drafted the radio speech of Khandaker Mushtaq, the lawyer said no speech of Mushtaq was broadcast from radio on August 15 morning. So, the allegation is baseless, he contended.

Earlier, concluding argument TM Akbar, the counsel for Lt Col Muhiuddin Ahmed, told the court to overlook the contradictory statements of the witnesses.

He said Col Shafiq Jamil, in one of his interviews with press, did not say anything about cannon or firing of shells on August 15, but he said this in the court.

"Omission in statement also amounts to contradictions," he argued.

"My client is innocent," TM Akbar said and requested the court to acquit him of this case.

## Bijoya reunion on Oct 18

The Bijoya reunion of Mahanagar Sarbojanin Puja Committee will be held at the Dhakeswari Temple premises on October 18, a Puja Committee press release said last night, reports BSS.

This was decided at a meeting of the executive committee of Mahanagar Sarbojanin Puja Committee at Dhakeswari Temple yesterday.

Presided over by the committee president Bidhu Bhusan Saha, the meeting was addressed by C R Majumder, Dr Nim Chandra Bhowmik, Swapan Kumar Saha, Advocate Subrata Chowdhury, Kajol Devnath, Joanta Sen Dipu, Birech Chandra Saha, Deepen Chatterjee, Satyendra Chandra Bhokta and Monindra Kumar Nath.

The Sri Sri Kali Puja will be observed on October 17, the press release added.

## UNGA session

### Dhaka presents suggestions for social dev

Bangladesh has put forward five specific suggestions for social development as visioned in the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, reports UNB.

Addressing the 53rd session of the UNGA in New York on Tuesday, Whip M Abdus Shauhid said the international community has identified the ways and means for addressing the challenges of social development.

Elaborating the suggestions, the Whip said social issues are not overshadowed by economic ones given by the present global financial instability.

He stressed the need for innovative measures for implementing the outcome of the Copenhagen Summit at the national level.

The Whip said the UN must focus on inter-agency cooperation to address the issues and increase allocation of resources for country and regional level follow-up and implementation.

"All relevant organisations of the United Nations should also prioritise their respective programmes for speedy implementation of the outcome," he said.

The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund must also prioritise social development and allocate substantial resources for this purpose, the Whip said.

He said the grass-root approach of the civil society for complement the government's role of policy-setting, coordination and overall supervision of the implementation process.

## VGF programme begins in Khulna

KHULNA, Oct 7: Distribution of food grains through VGF cards began in 68 unions of nine thanas of the district under post-flood rehabilitation programme today, reports UNB.

Official sources said each of the selected 26,400 VGF cardholders will get 16 kgs of rice and wheat for the next three months.

The sources said 500 VGF cards are being distributed in each of 30 unions while 300 cards in each of the remaining 38 unions.

Khulna Metropolitan area will remain outside the programme.

## RHD Notice Inviting Tender

**Inviting Sealed Tender Notice in BD Form No. 2911**

1. Tender Notice No : 35/RDG of 1998-99.

2. Name of work : Construction for widening with flexible pavement work & repairing seal coat work at different KM of different road under Gazipur Road Divn. during the year 1998-99 in 6 (six) groups.

- Estimated cost : As per group list.
- Earnest money
- Time allowed
- Chargeable head
- Eligibility of contractor
- Name of offices of availability of tender documents : Offices of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Divn, Dhaka/Ex Engr, RHD Road Divn, Gazipur/Dhaka/Manikganj/Munshiganj, Narayanganj/Narsingdi/Planning & Design Divn, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Procurement Civil Divn/SDE RHD, Road Sub-Divn, Tongi/Joydebpur, Dhaka.
- Name of offices of received of tender bids : Offices of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Divn, Dhaka/Superintending Engineer, RHD, Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka/Monitoring & Evaluation Circle (P&D), Dhaka/Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Ex. Engr, RHD, Road Divn, Gazipur/SDE RHD, Road Sub-Divn, Tongi/Joydebpur.
- Last date & time of selling of tender documents : 19-10-98 during office hours.
- Last date of receipt of tender documents : Up to 12:30 PM on 20-10-98.
- Date & time of preparing list of tender received by the respective receiving offices : At 12:45 PM on 20-10-98 (the sealed envelope shall not be opened by the respective receiving offices. Those will be opened in this office after collecting all the tender papers from all the receiving offices on 22-10-98 at 10:00 AM.
- Date of lottery : At 1:30 PM on 26-10-98.

Group (No)	Name of work with location	Head of account	Estimated cost Tk	Earnest money Tk.	Time allowed	Eligibility of contr
I (one)	Construction for widening with flexible pavement work at 7th KM 2nd (P) of Joydebpur-Mouna-Mymensingh Road under Gazipur Road Divn. during 1998-99	168 RBF	12,21,627/-	24,433/-	30 (thirty) days	'A to D' class general category of RHD enlisted contr.
II (two)	Construction for widening with flexible pavement work at 8th KM 1st (P) of Joydebpur-Mouna-Mymensingh Road under Gazipur Road Divn. during 1998-99	-do-	12,21,627/-	24,433/-	-do-	-do-
III (three)	-do- -do- -do- at 8th KM 2nd (P) -do- -do- -do-	-do-	12,21,627/-	24,433/-	-do-	-do-
IV (four)	Repairing by carpeting & seal coat work at 15th KM of Joydebpur-Mouna-Mymensingh Road under Gazipur Road Divn during 1998-99	-do-	6,53,164/-	13,063/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A to E' class general category of RHD enlisted contr.
V (five)	-do- -do- -do- at 16th KM -do- -do- -do-	-do-	6,53,164/-	13,063/-	-do-	-do-
VI (six)	-do- -do- -do- at 17th KM of -do- -do- -do-	-do-	6,53,164/-	13,063/-	-do-	-do-

**Md. Firoz Khan Noon**  
Executive Engineer, RHD,  
Gazipur Road Division, Gazipur.

DFP-20873-4/10 G-2233