



Shahjalal varsity

APSU calls indefinite strike

SYLHET, Dec 6: BNP-Jamaat backed student fronts have called a student strike for an indefinite period from tomorrow at Shahjalal Science and Technology University, reports BSS.

In a statement, general students today expressed grave concern over the prevailing situation and urged the university authorities to bring back normalcy on the campus at the earliest.

A volatile situation is prevailing on the campus since December 3 when All Party Students Unity (APSU) locked the main gate of the university demanding renaming of dormitories after local noted personalities and saints.

Opposition announces countrywide programme

By Staff Correspondent

The BNP-led opposition alliance yesterday announced a 13-day mass contact, public rally and workers meeting programme across the country, beginning tomorrow, to mobilise support for the one-point movement.

Announcing the programmes at a post-hartal briefing at 29 Mint Road official residence of the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament in the evening, BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said people of the country had once again expressed their confidence against the government through the two days' hartal.

See Page 12 Col 1

Nasim asks AL men to make list of terrorists

By Staff Correspondent

Home Minister Mohammad Nasim has asked Awami League workers in the capital to list terrorists, extortionists and bomb makers and users in their respective areas and submit the lists to law enforcers for necessary action.

Addressing a public rally in the city yesterday, Nasim also instructed them to organise anti-terrorism rallies and processions in every ward of Dhaka City Corporation, even in the month of Ramadan.

Accusing the BNP and some other parties of resorting to terrorism in the name of agita-

Criticising BNP chief Khaleda Zia's 'understanding'

See Page 12 Col 1

tion, he asked the AL workers to rise against terrorists, find them out, list them wherever they are and help the administration contain terrorism. "If necessary, we'll go for a commanding operation to nab the terrorists in the city," he said.

"They can sit for photo sessions but cannot wage a successful movement ... We know how to face them and contain their terrorist activities ... We'll complete our term."

He went on, "People will not forgive Khaleda Zia as she has shaken hands with autocrats and razakars in the Month of Victory."

See Page 12 Col 1

Y2K: Only health sector unsafe

The Cabinet was informed yesterday that except for health sector, the millennium-bug problem would not affect other fields in the country because of precautionary measures, reports UNB.

"All the major areas adopting high-tech computer technology have been made Y2K compliant 90 or 90 plus per cent of their respective sector," it was told.

But the meeting was further informed that in the health sector so far only 70 per cent was made Y2K compliant, official sources said quoting the cabinet discussion.

The hazards for the remaining 30 per cent, specially in case of medical equipment in the hospitals, might be disastrous, the Cabinet was apprised.

Official sources said that the disclosures came as the Cabinet held detailed discussion on preparedness to face apprehended Y2K technological calamity at the dawn of year 2000.

The major sectors in the country related to sophisticated information technology are financial, energy, telecommunications, information, transport, industry, medical equipment and health sector and defence.

Science and Technology Minister Lt Gen (retd) Noor Uddin Khan presented a report prepared by the Bangladesh Computer Council.

Sources said the Health Ministry was asked to take immediate measures to make the

See Page 12 Col 8

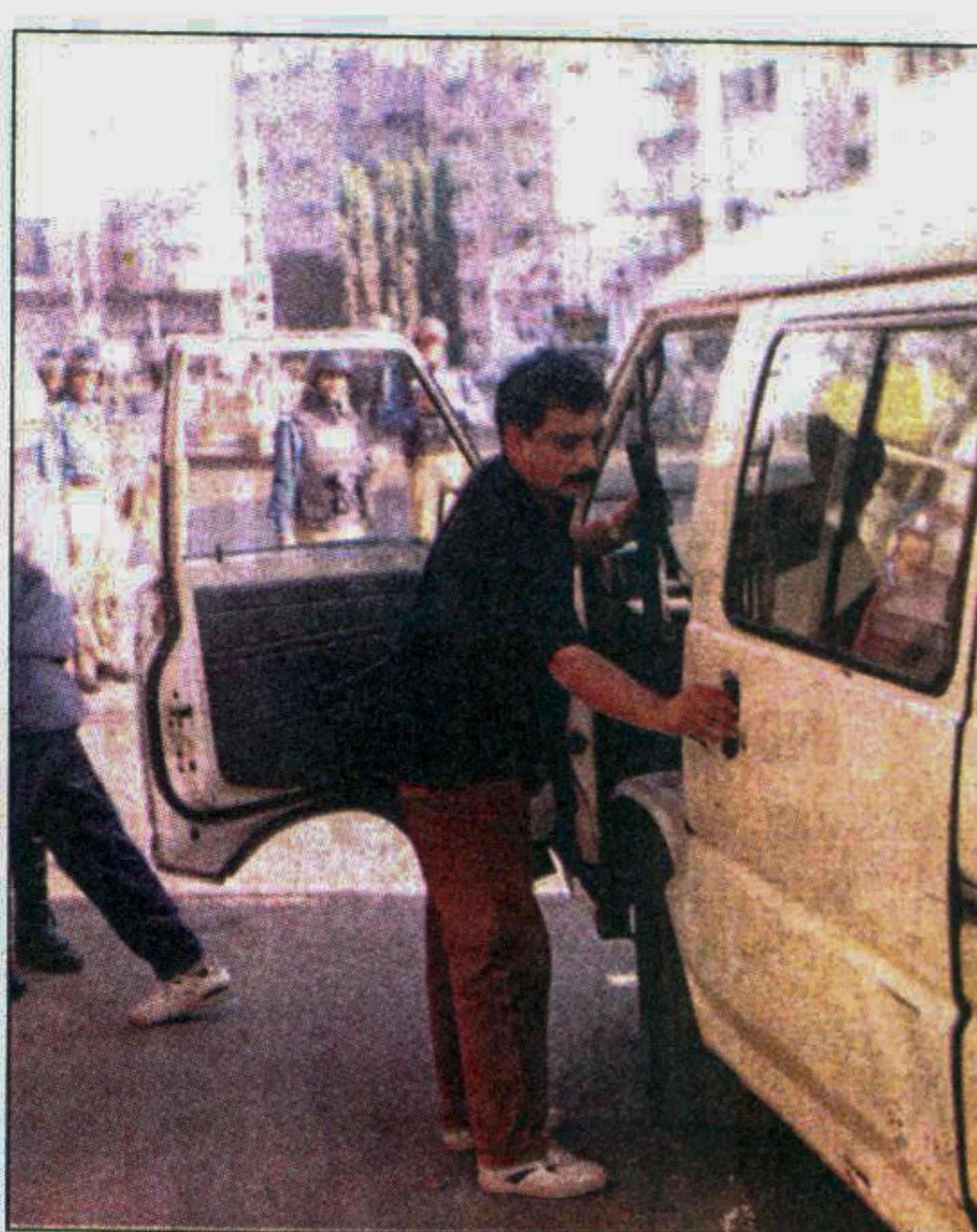
Meanwhile, the PDB Board meeting yesterday decided to give power station allowance to station managers, one of the five demands of the Association.

The Association announced the action plan to press their five-point demand which includes rescinding of the electricity reform act, halt to power theft, recovery of arrears and more allowances.

The PDB board yesterday issued letters asking officers con-

See Page 12 Col 8

100 hurt during hartal Police, pickets clash at Jatrabari



A plainclothesman does not try to hide his gun as he gets off a motor vehicle during hartal hours yesterday. Police code says one cannot show off his firearm unless in uniform. But exception to the rule apparently remains the rule.

—Star photo

By Staff Correspondent

The dawn-to-dusk hartal called by the BNP-led opposition alliance passed off by and large peacefully yesterday but paralysed normal life and business across the country.

No major incidents were reported, after a similar 12-hour shutdown enforced the day before.

There were reports of hand-made bombs exploding, sporadic clashes and about 100 injuries in different parts of the capital and elsewhere in the country.

In the capital, more than 25 people were injured while police arrested 60 pickets on charges of damaging vehicles, exploding bombs and throwing stones at

Police and pro-hartal activists clashed all day at Jatrabari, the usual trouble spot in the city, leaving at least 15, including a policeman, injured.

Witnesses said the activists exploded a large number of hand-made bombs while police responded with gunshots and teargas shells.

There were some 100 explosions and more than 50 rounds of teargas shells and 25 rounds of rubber bullets during the battle at Shaheed Faruk Sarak.

At one stage police picked up at least 10 opposition activists from the spot.

During the Jatrabari trouble, a group of unidentified mis-

See Page 12 Col 2

Officials go on 'mass leave' today Army deployed at power stations

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Army deployed at power stations

Army reinforcements were sent to important power plants and the Power Development Board took alternative measures for uninterrupted electricity generation as officials planned to go on a three-day strike from today, reports UNB.

Senior engineers of PDB were sent to important installations yesterday to monitor managerial and technical aspects to ensure smooth power generation.

Army deployment at key installations has been strength-

ened to avert any disorder and meet emergency needs, PDB officials said.

"There will be no interruption in power supply," a PDB official said.

Power Generation Officers' Association announced that they would go ahead with their "mass leave" programme as their negotiations with PDB Chairman failed on Sunday.

PDB has called a meeting with the Association leaders at 10 am today in the city in a last ditch effort to resolve the crisis.

The PDB board yesterday issued letters asking officers con-

See Page 12 Col 8

See Page 12 Col 8