

PM calls on President

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called on President Shahabuddin Ahmed and discussed with him matters of public interest, reports UNB.

After nearly hour-long talks, a brief communiqué from Bangabhaban said the Prime Minister stayed with the President for some time discussing "different matters of public interests".

The Prime Minister also apprised the President of the outcome of her recent visit to Malaysia.

The communiqué did not spell out which matters of public interest the Prime Minister discussed with the President.

It was virtually a one-to-one meeting, an aide of the Prime Minister told UNB. "What I perceive is that the discussions were good and useful," he said.

The Prime Minister went to Bangabhaban around 5 pm and stayed there nearly an hour.

The meeting between Head of the State and the Head of Government took place at a time when the country is passing through a crucial time.

Observers said matters relating to the judiciary and law and order might have come up during the consultation.

Hasina's letter to be delivered to Gen Musharraf today

ISLAMABAD, Aug 23: A special envoy of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina held talks with Pakistani Foreign Minister Abdul Sattar and senior officials here today, diplomatic sources said, reports AFP.

Foreign Secretary C M Shafi Sami called on Sattar after meeting his Pakistani counterpart Inamul Haq, they said. The details of the meetings were not immediately known.

Sami, who arrived here Tuesday on a four-day visit, is due to call on military ruler General Pervez Musharraf on Thursday to deliver a letter from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Nothing has been officially said about his visit, but it follows a recent statement by Sheikh Hasina that Bangladesh would try to reconvene a postponed summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

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Prayer Timings

August 24

Azan 5:05

Sun Rises 6:24 pm

Aug 25 5:38 am

Magrib 6:40

Asr 5:15

Esha 8:15

Sun Sets 8:45



BDR personnel guarding Dhaka District Judge's Court building during hartal hours yesterday. The court was ransacked during a demonstration by the lawyers on Sunday protesting the killing of Advocate Habibur Rahman Mondal.

— Star photo

Second petition for quashing contempt cases filed 'All three cases are aimed at realising political agenda'

By Staff Correspondent

Five hundred sixty-eight pro-government lawyers yesterday filed a petition with the High Court seeking rejection of the three contempt petitions filed against the Prime Minister recently.

Barrister Amirul Islam filed the petition with the court that is hearing admissibility of the three contempt petitions.

The three contempt petitions were filed separately by Supreme Court Bar Association President (SCBA) President Mainul Hosein, 339 pro-government lawyers and the Opposition MPs.

Yesterday's petition for rejec-

tion of the contempt petitions was the second one. A former president of SCBA, Barrister Shakunt Ali Khan, filed the first petition on Monday.

Those who filed the petition yesterday include Vice-president of SCBA Faruque Ahmed, former president of SCBA Serajul Haque, Gaziul Haque, Shudhanshu Shekhar Halder, Yusuf Hussain Faruque, Awami League Law Secretary Sahara Khatun and Office Secretary Abdul Mannan Khan.

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