

Nor' wester kills 15, injures over 500 in 4 northern dists

UNB, N-dists

Nor'wester accompanied by hailstorm killed 15 people and injured over 550 in four northern districts on Saturday and Sunday.

A nor'wester accompanied by hailstorm killed six people and injured 400 in Sundarganj upazila of Gaibandha Sunday night.

The victims were identified as Mujiron Bewa, 75, of Naohati, Chandi Das, 50, of Ghoghora, Kosiron Bibi, 65, and Dholi Bibi, 55, of Poran village and Hamida Bewa and Jamila Khatun, 25.

Local people said hundreds of houses and standing crops on 3,000 hectares of land were damaged, and an unspecified number of trees uprooted in 13 unions of the upazila.

The worst affected unions are Belka, Tarapur, Dahaband, Shantiram, Haripur, Kanchibari, Chandipur, Ramjibon, Chhaphorhati and Bamondanga.

Fifty of the injured have been hospitalised.

A report from Rangpur adds: Three people were killed and about 100 injured as nor'wester accompanied by hailstorm lashed five upazilas of the district Sunday night.

About 12,000 dwelling houses and standing crops on over 25,000 hectares of land were damaged, and huge number of trees uprooted during the storm, which struck Sadar, Gangachhara, Pirgoni, Kaunia and Pirogacha upazilas.

The district administration, however, confirmed death of one Hamida Begum, 50, who was struck by thunderbolt during the storm at her village Nagirdha in Pirogacha upazila.

The district administration distributed 20 metric tons of rice and Tk 25,000 among the victims.

In Kurigram, six people were killed and more than 50 others injured in nor'wester and boat capsizes on Saturday and Sunday.

Of them, Abul Kashem, 40, of Rajibpur and Abdur Rahim, 55, of Chilmari upazilas were killed when severe nor'wester accompanied by hailstorm swept over three upazilas Ulipur, Rajibpur and Chilmari upazilas Sunday night.

Besides, three people Zobeda, 36, Anwara Khatun, 28, and Moyna Khatun, 24, of Roumari upazila drowned in the river Sonabhorni when a boat capsized on Saturday. A child was also killed on the same day when thunderbolt struck him.

Local administration sources said hundreds of houses and educational institutions, standing crops on vast tracts of land were damaged, and over 300 livestock killed in the three upazilas.

UNB Nilphamari correspondent adds: At least eight people were injured, and 2,000 thatched houses and standing IRRI-boro crops on over 1,000 acres of land damaged in heavy rains and hailstorms Sunday night.

Kamal finds politics frustrating

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gono Forum president Dr. Kamal Hossain yesterday said people of the country were frustrated at the present political scenario, as there was no perceptible improvement in national life although they voted for a change through the last general election.

"People hoped that the politics of confrontation would give way to healthy politics and the rule of law would be established in the country. But they are frustrated as the state has taken a wrong path, prompting an outbreak of conflict and confrontation," Dr. Kamal told reporters in a press conference on the current political situation of the country.

People wanted a change, they voted for it, and wanted an end to terrorism. They wanted an end to extortion at bazaars, and launch and bus terminals by musclemen and their godfathers, and an end to robbery on the highway, he said.

He said they wanted an end to treating national resources like oil and gas or government land as if

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Hartal passes off peacefully in Rajshahi

ANWAR ALI, From Rajshahi

An eight-hour hartal was observed peacefully in the city yesterday.

The hartal was called by the Rajshahi Nagorki Committee (RNC), protesting police action on RNC activists during Sunday's Namaj-e-Janaza of Juba League worker Waj Nabi Dulu, killed in a post-polls clash between Awami League and BNP.

Earlier, a day-long hartal was also observed in the city on Sunday at the call of RNC, demanding re-election to the Rajshahi City Corporation.

During yesterday's hartal, police charged batons and foiled a pro-hartal rally in front of Rajshahi Press Club, leaving 15 people injured, but escorted an anti-hartal procession led by BNP workers at Shahabazar, witnesses said. Senior police officials were present during the police action on the RNC rally.

Those injured in the police action include Workers Party's city unit general secretary Liqat Ali Liq, Juba League's city unit president Ashraf Hossain Nabab, and Ferdous Kamal Tutul, Abul Bashar, Abul Kalam Azad and Nabab Ali. All are members of the RNC.

The prime minister accepted the resignation, Press Trust of India reported.

The four Parliament members

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.

from Paswan's Lok Janshakti (People's Power) party, one of 19 parties in Vajpayee's coalition government, will vote against the government at the end of today's debate, said party spokesman R.S. Bidhuri.

Paswan has joined in the opposition demands for the removal of Gujarat's top elected official, Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who is a member of Vajpayee's party. Paswan had also urged the imposition of federal rule in the state.

The opposition parties held up proceedings in India's Parliament for a week until the chairmen of both houses agreed to allow debates leading to a possible censure vote - on the government's handling of the situation in Gujarat.

The debate in the most powerful lower house, the Lok Sabha, begins today. The upper house, the Rajya Sabha, begins its debate Thursday.

Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party was widely expected to win the motion. Losing the censure vote would not bring down his government, but it would be an embarrassment and could expose fissures in the governing alliance.