



PHOTO: STAR

Dhaka University students (left) stage a sit-in in front of the Rokeya Hall yesterday, protesting Wednesday's police raid on the Shamsunnahar Hall; and police and agitating students maintain a safe distance. The overnight raid has sparked bursts of demonstration on the campus over the last few days.

Agitation flickers on

Students vacate DU halls; verbal order to police to keep journalists off campus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) students continued their agitation on the campus despite being asked by the authorities to leave their halls of residence by 8:00 yesterday morning.

Most of the students left the halls yesterday while quite a few stayed back to agitate for the removal of the vice-chancellor (VC) and the proctor who they blame for Wednesday's police atrocities in the Shamsunnahar Hall at the university.

The country's highest seat of learning was closed indefinitely Saturday night following a student unrest on the campus.

Meanwhile, the university campus was made off-limits to all but the

campus residents from yesterday evening. Police restricted entry into the campus from noon, letting only journalists in. However, restriction was also imposed on journalists in the evening.

Home ministry sources said only the residents of the campus would be allowed in.

The home ministry sources claimed that the government had information that some 'elements' were trying to deteriorate further the campus situation.

Unfazed by the developments, students continued agitating on the campus throughout the day yesterday. They have called for a 'grand' rally at 9:00am today on the campus and urged the general students of the city's

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

VC calls 'em garment workers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University Vice-chancellor Prof Anwarullah Chowdhury told the BBC yesterday that most of the participants in the rally on the campus who demanded resignation of him and the Proctor were 'outsiders'.

They included garments workers, school and college students and 'terrorists' belonging to political parties, he claimed.

He also claimed that general students in the rally were far less in

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

Musharraf flies in today

Dhaka-Islamabad talks tomorrow

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf arrives in the capital today on a three-day official visit.

Accompanied by his wife and a 60-strong delegation, Musharraf will be received at the Zia International Airport by Acting President Jamiruddin Sircar and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia. A 21-gun salute will herald the Pakistan president's arrival at 4:30pm.

Musharraf will be the fourth head of state after British, Chinese and Thai prime ministers on a visit to Bangladesh since the Bangladesh Nationalist Party-led alliance took office.

Increased economic cooperation is likely to dominate the official talks between Bangladesh and Pakistan on Tuesday morning.

Dhaka and Islamabad are expected to sign at least two agreements on enhanced cultural cooperation and regular consultations.

Increased defence cooperation could also be on the agenda besides a host of issues related to bilateral, regional and international significance.

Dhaka may ask for duty-free access to some of its traditional products and raise such thorny issues as division of assets and liabilities to the tune of \$4.5 billion and repatriation of stranded Pakistanis.

Musharraf and Khaleda will lead their respective delegations to the talks.

Commerce Minister Abdul Razzaq Daud, Information Minister Nisar Memon, Local Government and Environment Minister Shaheda Jamil, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Enamul Haq and High Commissioner to Bangladesh Iqbal Ahmed Khan will be on the Pakistani delegation at the talks.

The Bangladesh delegation will feature Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan, State Minister Reaz Rahman,



Pervez Musharraf

Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury and Foreign Secretary Shamsheer Mobin Chowdhury among others.

Itinerary
Immediately after his arrival, Musharraf will go to the National Memorial at Savar. Then he will

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

Biman in fuel fix

SHAHIDUL ISLAM, Chittagong

Bangladesh Biman is likely to face serious problems in its operation of regular flight from August 1 (Thursday) because of the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation's (BPC) decision to stop supplying of jet fuel to the national flag carrier unless it pays its Tk 437 crore overdue.

The top officials of Biman are scheduled to sit in an emergency meeting yesterday with high officials of BPC to discuss the issue as well as to reach an amicable solution, sources concerned said.

The meeting will be held at the liaison office of BPC in Dhaka this afternoon.

Both domestic and international flight schedules of Biman will come to a halt if today's meeting fails to reach a mutual understanding, sources said.

It is learnt Padma Oil Company alone supplies jet fuel on behalf of BPC to Bangladesh Biman. The national flag carrier procures jet fuel worth about Tk 15 crore each month. In the face of acute financial crisis, Biman, however, fails to make regular payment of its dues.

BPC's constant reminders to address the outstanding bills of jet fuel were not entertained by Bangladesh Biman. BPC sent a letter on July 17 informing the Biman authority about its decision to stop supplying of jet fuel to Biman

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Commercial deals to be signed

RAFIQ HASAN

Dhaka and Islamabad may sign a number of commercial agreements during Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf's three-day visit, which begins today.

According to commerce ministry sources, the Pakistan delegation will table at least nine proposals in this regard. One of them could be establishment of a free-trade arrangement with Bangladesh.

"The proposal for free trade is under consideration," Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

AL demands DU reopening

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lawmakers belonging to main opposition Awami League (AL) have demanded immediate reopening of the Dhaka University and legal actions against the vice chancellor and others concerned for their failure to safeguard university students from police repression.

A joint statement by 58 AL MPs yesterday condemned the police attack on students inside

SEE PAGE 11 COL 8

Students harassed for giving interviews

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders and activists of the ruling BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) allegedly harassed the Dhaka University (DU) students yesterday in a backlash against their media interviews on the ongoing demonstration at the institution.

Some students were beaten up and forced out of their halls early

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

Govt terms DU incident unfortunate

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has termed the Dhaka University (DU) incident unfortunate in its concern formally expressed yesterday.

"The incident that took place at the Dhaka University is most unfortunate and the government is concerned about it," said LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

Dengue déjà vu

Just another seasonal rise, say health officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More dengue patients have been admitted to different city hospitals in the last two days, with the situation taking a turn for the worse. The number of patients hospitalised with dengue this year rose to 96 yesterday.

According to various city diagnostic centres and clinics, there has been a dramatic rise in dengue infection. But the officials at the health directorate still maintain that there is nothing to worry and said it is 'just another seasonal rise' in dengue infection.

"We don't see any danger and it is well within control. But I advise people to take preventive measures. We need to be more conscious," said Dr Kanak Ranjan Talukdar, programme manager, disease control department of the Directorate of Health.

At the Lab Aid diagnostic centre, six patients were tested positive for dengue virus in the last two days. At the Dhaka Shishu Hospital, a two-year old girl was admitted yesterday evening with dengue in critical condition.

Fifteen children mostly under three were admitted to the Nibedita Children's Hospital at Dhanmondi yesterday, four of them in critical condition, with dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF), a potentially lethal stage of the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

Hartal begins from today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different student bodies have called for hartals on two subsequent days from today to protest last Wednesday's police attack on a female dormitory of Dhaka University.

Yesterday, the left leaning student bodies announced a half-day hartal in the capital from 6 am to 12 noon today (Monday). Bangladesh Chhatra League, the student wing of the main opposition Awami League, earlier decided to observe a daylong hartal throughout the country tomorrow (Tuesday).

BCL called the hartal protesting the recent atrocious incidents that took place at Shamsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University and denouncing the visit of Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf to Bangladesh. Dhaka City unit of AL yesterday

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

Bowlers fare better

Hosts restricted to 301-8 on first day of second Test

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh somewhat restricted Sri Lanka to 301 for eight on the first day of the second and final Test at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground in Colombo yesterday.

In a virtual test of rookies that saw Sri Lanka resting nine of their regular players and Bangladesh opting to go for five changes, it was the home side who enjoyed the day after being put into bat by visiting skipper Khaled Mashud.

The Sri Lankan total revolved around three half-centuries including a captain's knock of 85 by Sanath Jayasuriya.

Although the 33-year-old left-hander missed out on his 11th Test hundred, but Jayasuriya rescued his side after it suffered a mini collapse.

The islanders slipped from 90 for one to 133 for four after lunch.

His 127-run fifth wicket stand with Samaraweera dismissed Bangladesh's hopes of restoring some pride after their innings and 196-run thrashing inside three days in the first Test at the P Sara Stadium.

Jayasuriya struck nine fours and a six in his 94-ball innings before edging left-armed Monjurul Islam, the most successful Bangladesh bowler with three for 35 runs in 17 overs.

Samaraweera continued his remarkable Test career after a four-match absence—the right-hander hit 58, his fourth fifty in only nine Test appearances.

He eventually fell in the second last over of the day's play while chasing a wishy delivery from

Monjurul only to be caught at first slip by Habibul Bashar.

Earlier, opener Vandort gave the Sri Lankans a solid start hitting 61 off 110 balls that included ten boundaries.

He became the first Test victim of debutant leg-spinner Alok Kapali.

The 18-year-old tweaker also accounted for his opposite number Upul Chandana to finish with 2-111.

Another Test debutant paceman Taposh Baishya made an impact with the new ball when he broke the opening stand of 60 runs by removing Jehan Mubarak for 24.

Off-spinner Fahim Muntasir, who removed veteran left-hander Hassan Tillekeratne and debutant Newaz, finished with two for 46.