

Arson attack on bus condemned

Judicial inquiry demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different political and socio-cultural organisations yesterday strongly condemned Friday's arson attack on a double-decker bus that left nine passengers killed.

Fifteen others were also injured when unknown assailants carried out the arson attack on a state-owned BRTC bus in front of Dhaka Sheraton Hotel on Friday night.

The Workers Party of Bangladesh (WPB) demanded immediate arrest of and exemplary punishment to the attackers through proper investigation.

The government would have to bear the responsibility if the attackers go unpunished, said WPB President Rashed Khan Menon and General Secretary Bimal Biswas in a statement.

Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, gen-

eral secretary of the Gono Forum, demanded judicial inquiry into the incident.

"The arson attack on bus is not an unexceptional incident as the criminals used gunpowder which is not available for general use," said Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal President Hasanul Haque Inu.

Such attacks are taking place across the country frequently in recent times because the attackers were not brought to justice, said CPB President Monzurul Ahsan Khan and General Secretary Muzahidul Islam Selim in a statement.

Sammilita Nagorik Samaj, Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum, Bangladesh Samyabadi Dal and Sylhet Division Development Action Council also condemned the arson attack on the double-decker.

Acid attack on 3 of a family

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three members of a family suffered burns in an acid attack at Daribhasani in Homna, Comilla, in the early hours of yesterday.

Asma Begum, 20, her daughter Tanzil, 5, and niece Swapna Akhtar, 17, were sleeping in a room when unknown attackers threw acid on them through a window at around 1.15am.

The victims are now undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Asma has 50 percent burns on her body, Tanzil suffered burns in chest, thigh, face and stomach and Swapna has burns in left hand and left thigh, said the doctors.

Asma and her daughter had been staying at her father's home at Daribhasani since May 1 and Swapna, who appeared in the SSC examination from Khaled Haider Memorial High School in Rampura, Dhaka, went there on May 1.

"We have no idea about who carried out the attack as we do not have enmity with others in the locality," said Mohammad Ali, brother of Asma.

Christian Welfare Trust formed

UNB, Dhaka

A religious welfare trust has been formed for the welfare of the Christian community.

The trust, Christian Religious Welfare Trust, was formed at a meeting of the leaders of the Christian Religious Association with State Minister for Religious

Affairs Mosharraf Hossain Shahjahan in the city yesterday.

The members of the trust are Chitta Francis Riberu, Albert P Costa, Alfred C Mondal, Arun Gomez, Henry Mondal and Eloisas Milon Khan.

The state minister for religious affairs will always remain ex-officio president of the trust.

