

Police action condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) and Bangladesh Ganatantrik Ainjibi Samity yesterday strongly condemned the police action on pro-hartal processions across the country, saying that such actions are clear violations of the right to freedom of expression.

They said Muzahidul Islam Selim, general secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), was injured when police swooped on a procession in Dhaka during Tuesday's hartal and police also clubbed Awami League leader Mohammad Nasim and others

during a pro-hartal procession.

In a statement, the ASK said: A democratic government should not prevent people from holding rallies and processions as these are constitutional rights. Otherwise, there remains no difference between a democratic and an autocratic government, it added.

The Gonotantrik Ainjibi Samity also protested the police atrocities on women activists and demanded stern action against the persons responsible.



PHOTO: STAR

Awami Swechchhasebak League takes out a procession in the city yesterday to mourn the death of Awami League leader Ivy Rahman.

Ctg mayor threatens hartal on Sept 4

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Mayor and Awami League leader ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury yesterday demanded formation of a parliamentary committee to probe Saturday's grenade attack on an AL rally in Dhaka.

He also demanded release of ward commissioner Tarek Solaiman Salim

and 52 AL men, and threatened to enforce a 24-hour general strike in Chittagong on September 4 if the demand goes unheeded.

The mayor was speaking at a protest rally at Laldighi Maidan, organised by the Chattagram Sammilita Rajnaitik Dal, a combined platform for Awami League, progressive political parties and various professional, cultural and social organisations.

Mohiuddin called on the government to form a 10-member parliamentary committee -- five members each from the ruling and opposition parties and headed by the Speaker -- to probe into the horrific attack on the AL rally.

He also demanded withdrawal of cases against leaders and activists of AL and its front organisations and some prominent lawyers, including Advocate Rana Dasgupta. Cases were filed against them on charge of damaging vehicles and shops in the city during the protest against the grenade attack.

Presided over by district (north) Awami League President and former minister Mosharraf Hossain, the rally was also addressed by City AL Vice-President Nurul Islam B.Sc., BSD leader Shah Alam, Chittagong University Teachers' Association General Secretary Dr Gazi Saleh Uddin, Chittagong Bar Association General Secretary Monotosh Barua, Greater Chittagong Development Action Committee Chairman SM Jamal Uddin and Islamic Front central Vice-President Prof Momtaz Uddin.

Later, a 'gayebana janaza' was held for those killed in the grenade attack. About one thousand people took part in the janaza.

2 injured ATN newsmen sent to Bangkok for treatment

BSS, Dhaka

Private television channel ATN has sent its two journalists Syed Riaz and Zakir Hossain, injured in Saturday's grenade attack on Awami League rally, to Bangkok for treatment yesterday.

The two journalists were sent to Bangkok by Thai Airways flight where they would undergo surgery at Bumrungrad hospital.

Earlier, Riaz with 50 splinters in his right leg, waist, and abdomen and Zakir with wounds in the head were treated at Salvation Hospital in the city.

Meanwhile, condition of photojournalist of the Daily Jugantar SM Gorki, presently undergoing treatment in the South East Hospital here has been improving gradually.

Condition of Ashraful Alam Khokon of Channel-I, is also improving.

The other three injured newsmen -- photojournalist of the Daily Ittefaq Mohammad Alam, reporter of the Daily Bhorer Kagoj Mamun Abedin and freelance journalist Ratan Gomez -- are being treated at their residences.

Obituary

BSS, Dhaka

Engineer Mizanur Rahman Khan, member of the trustee board of Bangladesh University and social worker, died of a heart attack at Sikdar Medical College and Hospital on Tuesday at the age of 64.

He is survived by his three sons, a daughter and a large number of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

His namaz-e-janaza will be held at 11:00am today at Lalmatia Bibi Mosque.

Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh University Kazi Azahar Ali in a statement condoled the death of Engineer Mizan.

Qulkhwani

BSS, Faridpur

Qulkhwani of Ferdousi Begum, mother of Food and Disaster Management Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, will be held after Asr prayers on August 27 at Moez Manzil here.

Ferdousi, wife of late Yusuf Ali Chowdhury Mohon Mia, died on August 17 at Birdem Hospital in Dhaka after a prolonged illness.

Special prayers will be held at Moez Manzil of Friday for the salvation of the departed soul. Admirers and friends have been requested to attend the Qulkhwani.

Chehlum



Chehlum of Maya Karim, wife of former foreign secretary Ataul Karim, will be held tomorrow, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at her ancestral home, House No-89, Road No-7A, Dhanmondi residential area in the city after Asr prayers.

Relatives and friends have been requested to attend the milad.

GRENADE ATTACK ON AL RALLY

BCL demands int'l probe

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday demanded international investigation into the deadly grenade attack on Awami League rally in the capital on Saturday.

The BCL, student wing of the opposition Awami League, made the demand at a rally on the Dhaka University (DU) campus.

Addressing the rally, the BCL leaders said they will give tougher programmes if the government does not take initiatives for international probe and bring the culprits to justice.

BCL President Liaqat Sikder said they will continue their movement until the BNP-Jamaat coalition government quits.

He urged the student community to continue their strike in all educational institutions across the country.

Presided over by DU unit BCL President Delwar Hossain, the rally was also addressed by Rafiqul Islam Kotowal, DU unit General Secretary Hemayet Uddin Khan Himu, Jahir Uddin Mahmud Lipton, Asit Baran Biswas, Biswanath Sarker Bitu, Abdul Alim and Masud Hossain Khan.

Earlier, the BCL brought out a procession in support of the strike.

Meanwhile Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of BNP, will bring out a procession on the campus today in protest against the strike.