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Opposition plans agitation on caretaker government reforms next month

SHAMEEM MAHMUD

The post-Eid politics is set to generate much heat as the mainstream opposition parties are now working out the issues and finalise the next course of agitation to intensify the movement against the BNP-led coalition government.

Senior leaders of the opposition are now holding discussions to launch a combined street agitation next month over a number of issues including reforms of the caretaker government system to ensure a free and fair next general election, sources said.

The leaders of the main opposition Awami League (AL), left leaning parties under the 11-Party Alliance and the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) sat twice last week to discuss the issues to be highlighted during the post-Eid movement.

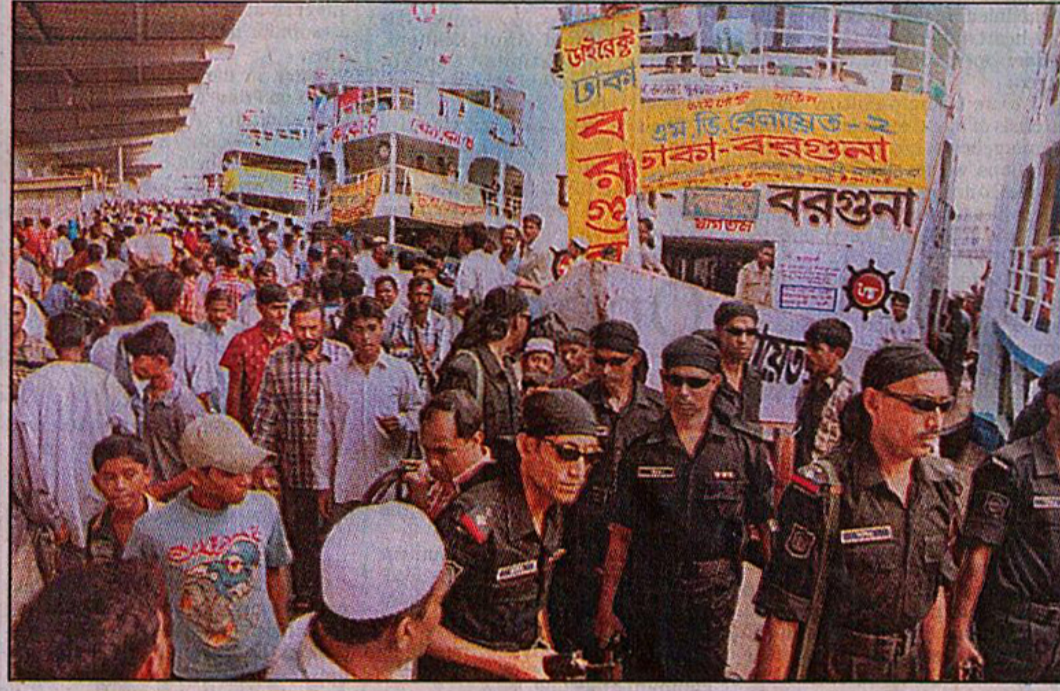
Sources said the opposition leaders meet again today at Gono Forum General Secretary Safuddin Ahmed Manik's residence with concrete proposals from the parties concerned about reforms of the caretaker government system.

The meeting may also finalise the planned agitation for the next month, a source said.

Apart from the caretaker government reform, the parties will highlight three major issues -- law and order downside, price spiral of essentials and corruption by the ruling alliance loyalists -- in their out-governments movement.

About possible programmes after the Eid, the opposition camp sources hinted they may form a human chain across the country -- from Teknaf to Tentulia -- to prove what they said were people's 'no-confidence' in the government.

The opposition leaders in their November 2 and 7 meetings discussed the proposal to form such a human chain as the opposition's 50km human chain from Gazipur to



As holidaymakers crowd Sadarghat launch terminal, a Rapid Action Battalion team patrols the area to prevent any hassle to passengers yesterday.

Errant GPO staff hold pensioners hostage

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pension-seeking retired officials and employees of Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BT&T) and Postal Department and their relatives are apparently held hostage by the staff of General Post Office (GPO) who disburse the pension.

Hundreds of retired government employees and their relatives who have been gathering at the GPO for the last few days to collect their pension ahead of Eid were harassed in many ways by the GPO staff, the victims alleged.

"This is the fourth day I have come to receive the pension and only today I see some hope to get it," said a 55-year-old woman standing in a long queue. "But I had to give Tk 100 to one clerk to get the serial first," said the widow of an official.

The aged persons suffered the most as there is not enough space to sit there while waiting for receiving the pension. Moreover, they had to come several times.

The GPO staff are supposed to disburse both pension and bonus but they are giving only bonus another woman alleged. "None is getting serial without paying bribe," Mohammad Dulal who came to

Trader shot dead in Pallabi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unknown criminals shot dead a trader and wounded a boy who along with a crowd was chasing the killers at a crowded Rupnagar market under Pallabi Police Station in the capital yesterday.

Three youths went to a wholesale rice shop at Rupnagar Abashik Kenderio Market at about 10:45am in the guise of customers and sprayed its owner Haji Delwar

KERANIGANJ DOUBLE MURDER 2 to die, 3 get life

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday handed down death sentence to two people, put three others behind bars for life and acquitted ruling BNP lawmaker Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu's brother for the sensational Keraniganj double murder.

Chandu alias Chand Miah and Talim alias Talila are to walk the gallows and Mohammad Mehub, Mohammad Motaleb and Zahidul Islam Saju to serve out life sentences.

Talim was tried in absentia while Chand Miah, the MP's brother Reaz Uddin Ahmed Moni and others were present in the dock when Judge AR Masud of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-4 gave the verdict at a jam-packed

PSC puts off action against ex-DG DFP for graft since Jul

REZAUL KARIM

A file seeking final opinion of Public Service Commission (PSC) on compulsory retirement of a high official of the Information cadre for proven corruption has been put on in cold storage for the last four months raising many an eyebrow.

Several inquiries found former director general of Department of Films and Publications (DFP) Syed

Opposition cries foul in dev funds allocation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Opposition lawmakers yesterday accused the government of discrimination in allocation of development funds for their constituencies while a parliamentary body termed the allocation for rural development insufficient and asked the government to increase it.

The parliamentary standing committee on food and disaster management ministry was told the government allocated 1.50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for test relief, 1.95 lakh tonnes for Food for Work Programme and Tk 168 crore in cash for the two programmes in the current fiscal year.

The committee at a meeting observed the allocation is insufficient to develop rural infrastructure badly damaged by the recent floods. It recommended increased allocation and decided to take up the issue with the prime minister and the finance minister.

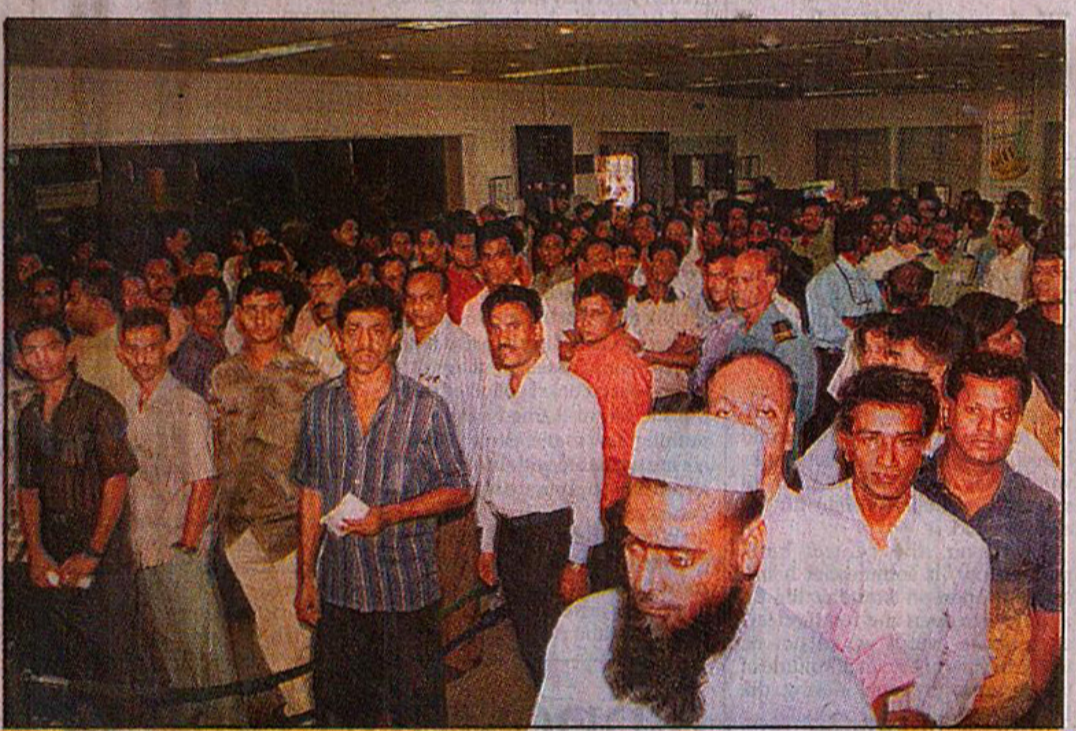
Outlaw killed in 'crossfire', farmer slaughtered

AMANUR AMAN from Kushtia

A top outlaw was killed in 'crossfire' with police in Chuadanga, while outlaws slaughtered a farmer in Meherpur on Tuesday.

Criminals hurled bombs on the compound of Meherpur Deputy Commissioner's (DC) residence.

Police arrested Sahidul Islam alias 'Kata Sahi', a top criminal of



Banks witnessed a heavy rush of clients yesterday as the financial institutions go on a six-day Eid holiday from today. This picture was taken from the Motijheel branch of a foreign bank.

Shantu Larma warns of taking up arms again

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

President of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) Jotirindriya Bodhipriya Larma alias Shantu Larma yesterday cautioned that Jumma people would take arms again if their rights are not established.

"Even after seven years of signing the peace treaty, the government is yet to implement it. They are setting up new army camps in the area in violation of the treaty," said Larma, addressing a public gathering at Bandarban, organised to mark the 21st death anniversary of M.N. Larma, founder of PCJSS.

The PCJSS leader also alleged that the government is trying to evict indigenous people from their land through allowing settlers in the area.

Larma also accused the government of instigating the United

ADB okays \$68m teaching reforms

UNB, Dhaka

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a loan amounting to \$68.9 million to reform the country's teachers' training system.

ADB's loan, which covers 63 percent of the total project cost of \$108.7 million, comes from its concessional Asian Development Fund, said an ADB release yesterday.

The loan carries a 32-year term, including a grace period of eight years. Interest is set at 1 percent per annum during the grace period and 1.5 percent per annum thereafter.

The Canadian International Development Agency intends to provide joint grant co-financing of \$18 million under ADB administration, and the government of Bangladesh will contribute \$21.7 million.

The Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education under the Ministry of Education will execute the project, which is due for completion in March 2011.

An acute shortage of trained secondary school teachers is hampering the provision of quality secondary education in Bangladesh. As a result, dropout rates are high and students who manage to complete secondary education are unprepared to enter the workforce or to continue with their education.

Dropout rates average 44 percent for secondary grades 6-10, and 38 percent for higher secondary grades 11-12.

Jouko Sarvi, an ADB senior education specialist, said: "The high failure rates together with high dropout rates represent a huge wastage of resources--financial and human."

বিজিএমইএ

জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিজিএমইএ'র সম্মানিত সদস্যগণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, রঞ্জানিমুখী তৈরী পোশাক শিল্পের সুবিধার্থে ঢাকা, চট্টগ্রাম ও বেনাপোল কাটমস হাউজ, আইসিডি কমলাপুর এবং ইপিজেড ঢাকা ঈদের দিন ও ঈদের পর দিন ব্যতীত অন্যান্য দিন আমদানি-রপ্তানি কার্যক্রম সম্পাদনের জন্য খোলা থাকবে। চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর শুধুমাত্র ঈদের দিন বন্ধ ও অন্যান্য দিন খোলা থাকবে। চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর ও কাটমস হাউজের সাথে সংশ্লিষ্ট বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংকগুলো ঈদের দিন ও ঈদের পর দিন ব্যতীত অন্যান্য দিন খোলা থাকবে। রপ্তানি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরো (ইপিবি'র) বন্ধ সেল এবং চট্টগ্রাম আঞ্চলিক অফিস আগামী ১২ ও ১৩ নভেম্বর ২০০৪ খোলা থাকবে। সদস্যগণকে উপরোক্ত সময়ে প্রয়োজন অনুযায়ী এসব প্রতিষ্ঠান থেকে যথাযথ সেবা গ্রহণের জন্য বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

সচিব

Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited

BOARD SECRETARIATE DIVISION, SHARE DEPARTMENT
HEAD OFFICE, 40, DILKUSHA C/A, DHAKA.

DELIVERY OF SHARE CERTIFICATES (BONUS ISSUE/2004 - STOCK DIVIDEND FOR THE YEAR/2003)

This is for kind information of all Honourable Shareholders of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited that the Share Certificates (Bonus Issue/2004 - Stock Dividend for the Year/2003) are ready for delivery. Honourable Shareholders are hereby requested to collect their Share Certificates either personally or by authorized representative (With authorization letter) from the Share Department, Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited, Head Office, 40, Dilkusha C/A, (9th Floor), Dhaka as per following tables during office hours on any working day. Share Certificate(s) may be sent by post / courier service on request at the Shareholders' own risk in case of missing in transit.

Date	Folio No.	Date	Folio No.		
From	To	From	To		
17/11/2004	1	200	18/12/2004	11501	12000
18/11/2004	1	200	19/12/2004	12001	12500
20/11/2004	201	500	20/12/2004	12501	13000
21/11/2004	501	1000	21/12/2004	13001	13500
22/11/2004	1001	1500	22/12/2004	13501	14000
23/11/2004	1501	2000	23/12/2004	14001	14500
24/11/2004	2001	2500	26/12/2004	14501	15000
25/11/2004	2501	3000	27/12/2004	15001	15500
27/11/2004	3001	3500	28/12/2004	15501	16000
28/11/2004	3501	4000	29/12/2004	16001	16500
29/11/2004	4001	4500	30/12/2004	16501	17072
30/11/2004	4501	5000	01/01/2005	20001	20500
01/12/2004	5001	5500	02/01/2005	20501	21000
02/12/2004	5501	6000	03/01/2005	21001	21500
04/12/2004	6001	6500	04/01/2005	21501	22000
05/12/2004	6501	7000	05/01/2005	22001	22500
06/12/2004	7001	7500	06/01/2005	22501	23000
07/12/2004	7501	8000	08/01/2005	23001	23500
08/12/2004	8001	8500	09/01/2005	23501	24000
09/12/2004	8501	9000	10/01/2005	24001	24500
11/12/2004	9001	9500	11/01/2005	24501	25000
12/12/2004	9501	10000	12/01/2005	25001	25500
13/12/2004	10001	10500	13/01/2005	25501	26000
14/12/2004	10501	11000	15/01/2005	26000	26125
15/12/2004	11001	11500			

Md. Shouquat Ali
EVP & Secretary

Faizee's father files another petition for revealing source

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The father of Additional Judge Faisal Mahmud Faizee yesterday filed a supplementary petition with the High Court (HC) for disclosure of the source of information of the reports that two leading Bangla dailies ran about his son's tampering with the LLB results.

Barrister Ajmalul Hossain, the counsel for the petitioner and Faizee's father, Mohammed Faiz, filed the supplementary petition with the same High Court bench where he filed a contempt petition on November 8.

Sehri-Iftar

Ramadan	Nov	Sehri	Iftar
27	11		5-18
28	12	4-48	5-18

Prayer Timing

November 11

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-48	4-54
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-18	5-26
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

On the occasion of Holy Eid

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