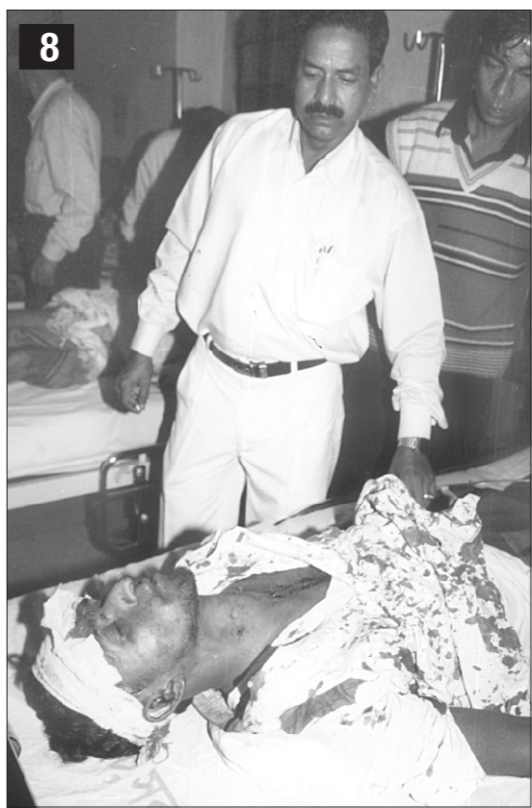
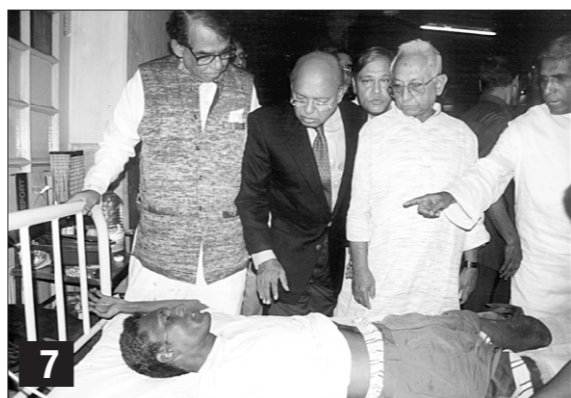
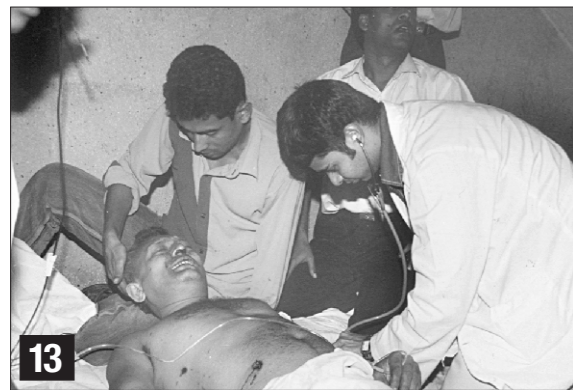


Bomb incidents in picture



1) Tears roll down the face of a policeman as he stands close to the firearms of his colleagues killed in Chittagong bomb blast yesterday. 2) An youth tries to identify the victims of the bomb blast at Gazipur Hospital. 3) Relatives attend to a victim of a bomb blast at Gazipur Hospital. 4) Many people throng the Gazipur Hospital to identify the persons killed in the bomb blast. 5) BNP Secretary General and LGRD Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and Law Minister Moudud Ahmed visit the injured people at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). 6) A nurse attends to a lawyer injured in a bomb blast at Gazipur Hospital. 7) Leaders of 14-party opposition combine visit the injured people at the DMCH. 8) A person injured in Gazipur bomb blast lies in a hospital bed at the DMCH. 9) Supreme Court Bar Association observes one minute's silence for those killed in yesterday's bomb blasts. 10) Relatives of the victims of Gazipur bomb blast wail at the DMCH. 11) Ainjibi Samannaya Parishad takes out a procession on the Chittagong Court premises to protest the bomb attacks. 12) Sammilita Ainjibi Samannaya Parishad takes out a procession on the Judge Court premises in Dhaka to protest the bomb attacks. 13) A doctor attends to a victim of Gazipur bomb blast at the DMCH. 14) Part of the uniform of Rajib Barua, a policeman killed in the bomb attack in Chittagong, lies at the place of bomb blast.

PHOTO: STAR

Security issues discussed

British HC meets Hasina

UNB, Dhaka British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury yesterday met opposition leader Sheikh Hasina and discussed the security issues and the latest situation arising out of the bomb explosions in Gazipur and Chittagong.

the opposition leader in the morning, but the time was rescheduled in the afternoon following the bomb blasts. "Obviously their security concerns came up for discussion," an Awami League leader told the news agency. The leader, who asked not to be named, said the overall political development and the latest bomb blasts were discussed.

Govt has no control over law and order Says B Chowdhury

STAFF CORRESPONDENT The government has no right to stay in power any longer as it has totally failed to ensure security of the people, said President of Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday. The latest bombings in Gazipur and Chittagong have proved that the government has no control over the law and order situation, he added. The BDB president was speaking at a ceremony at the party office where a leader of the Jatiyatabadi Mahila Dal, women's wing of BNP, joined the BDB. Badruddoza said there might be a connection between the government and the militants as many arrested militants admitted their link with Jamaat, a partner of the ruling coalition.

secretary of Bikalpa Dhara, said the ruling party leaders are busy amassing wealth instead of giving attention to the people's security. He called for unity of the people to get rid of the prevailing situation. Ajmeri Begum Chhanda, convener of Munshiganj Mahila Dal and former vice-president of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal at Eden College, joined the Bikalpa Dhara at the programme. CU students' ultimatum CU CORRESPONDENT Students of Chittagong University (CU) yesterday gave a 24-hour ultimatum to the CU authorities demanding steps to release two students arrested at Sholoshahr Railway Station in the port city on Monday. Police arrested two students - Shariful Huq and Zakul Kaiser - when angry students were demonstrating against Sunday night's police assault on a fellow student - Hedayet Ullah Sabuz. The students at a press conference at the Chittagong Press Club said police arrested Sariful and Zakul without any provocation.

Bomb blasts condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bomb blasts in Gazipur and Chittagong, which left nine people, including two lawyers and one police constable, dead sent shock waves through the country yesterday as grief and widespread condemnations poured in. Different political, socio-cultural, human rights, lawyers' associations, trade bodies and business organisations strongly condemned the deadly blast that also injured 78 people. Leaders and workers of these organisations also brought out protest processions at different places across the country, including the capital, just after spreading out of the news of the incident. They also demanded proper investigation into the blast as well as all other similar incidents to mete out punishment to the culprits. Blaming the Jamaatul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) for the bomb blasts, leaders also demanded resignation of the home minister for his failure to capture militants including the JMB Chief Shaykh Abdur Rahman and Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (JMJB) Operation Commander Siddiqur Rahman alias Bangla Bhai. They said that the government's indifference to the earlier attacks has contributed to the recurrence of attacks on court premises, rallies and functions of different political and cultural organisations throughout the country. They also demanded compensation for the families of the victims and the injured. At an emergency meeting after the incident, Sammilita Ainjibi Samannoy Parishad called country-wide down to dusk hartal protesting bomb blasts on court premises. Lawyers will also observe condolence day tomorrow. Eminent jurist and Jatiya Oikya Mancha Convenor Dr Kamal Hossain said bomb attacks were a deadly blow on the state, judiciary and national security. In his instant reaction to the media, he said all should get united on the question of national security sidelining party politics. Bangladesh Bar Council Vice-Chairman Barrister Rokanuddin Mahmud said it appeared that due to lack of commitment on the part of the government, the militants continued their bombing operations unabated. "Even after arrest of the operatives, (police) are compelled to let them off at somebody's instruction," he said. President of Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury in a statement expressed concern over the repeated bomb explosions on court premises. He demanded a judicial probe into the incident. Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon and General Secretary Bimal Biswas in a statement said that the BNP-Jamaat alliance government must bear the responsibility for the planned attacks to wipe out the opposition.

Project Citizen training course concludes

The Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh (CDRB) organised a Training of Trainers under its Project Citizen Bangladesh in the city recently, says a press release. The Project Citizen, an innovative programme for junior secondary school students for participatory civic education, is now being implemented in 20 schools in Dhaka and Gazipur districts. "Participatory civic education for the young is the need for our challenging times when peaceful conflict resolution deserves highest consideration," said Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley, chairman of the CDRB at the concluding ceremony of the Training of Trainers at BIAM on November 25. Education Secretary Md Abdul Aziz inaugurated the training programme on November 21. Teachers from 20 secondary schools and four officers of the Directorate of the Secondary and Higher Education took part in the training programme conducted by Dr Tom Vontz from the USA and Zafarullah Khan from Pakistan. Dr Shelley distributed certificates among the participants at the closing ceremony. Mohammad Enayet Karim and Dr (Capt.) Maswoodur Rahman Prince, directors of CDRB, and Azizul Haq, in-country director of Project Citizen, were also present.

Corazon proposes Time's 'Person of the Year'

BSS, Dhaka The former Philippine president Corazon Aquino has proposed Dr Muhammad Yunus, micro economic doyen and the founder of Grameen Bank, as the "Person of the Year" for the international Time magazine. The Time recently invited opinions from some eminent people of the world to propose names of the outstanding global personalities as 'Person of the Year' for the magazine's annual issue. "I think someone like Muhammad Yunus, who founded the Grameen movement, should be the Time's Person of the Year for pioneering micro-financing for poor women, helping dramatically reduce poverty," Corazon said. Professor Yunus is credited for many innovative programmes benefiting the rural poor. A Fulbright Scholar at Vanderbilt University, he received his PhD in Economics in 1969. Later that year, he became an Assistant Professor of Economics at Middle Tennessee State University, before returning to Bangladesh where he joined the Economics Department at Chittagong University. The UN Secretary General appointed Professor Yunus to the International Advisory Group for the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing from 1993 to 1995. Besides, he also served several international and UN bodies as an expert. Yunus has received several prestigious international and national awards, including the nation's highest, The Independence Award in 1987, the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1984 and the World Food Prize by World Food Prize Foundation in 1994. Bhuiyan visits injured at DMCH BSS, Dhaka BNP Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday visited the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) to see for himself the bomb victims of Gazipur. Bhuiyan stayed sometimes at the DMCH and inquired about their treatment. He directed the hospital authorities to provide adequate treatment for the injured.

Govt has link to JMB

FROM PAGE 1 Mujahideen cadres are the associates of the ruling parties," Hasina, also president of main opposition Awami League (AL), said after an emergency meeting of 14-party opposition combine. The AL chief also alleged that the government is using the militants to destroy the country's independence, democracy, and above all, the constitution. She said the ruling BNP was prompt to take action against one of its lawmakers for making anti-militant statements, but it seems very much reluctant to go after the extremists. She said, "There was no bomb attacks in the country during the Saarc summit while they [explosions] occurred before and immediately after the summit." "It shows that the government can halt the blasts if it wants," she added. On yesterday's suicide blasts in Gazipur and Chittagong, the AL chief said the government has orchestrated the attacks, using the JMB to shift people's attention from the anti-government movement, which has gained momentum after the November 22 rally. Referring to frequent bomb attacks on the courthouses, Hasina said, "It seems the government is not sincere to root out the militants. It has failed miserably to provide security for the judges, lawyers and others in the courts." She also alleged that because of Hawa Bhaban, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) had to release Mahtab Khamaru, an aide to Bangla Bhai, within a few hours of his arrest. AL leaders Abdur Razzak, Tofail Ahmed, Suranjit Sengupta, Motia Chowdhury, Obaidul Quader, Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) President Hasanul Haq Inu were present at the opposition combine's meeting held at AL's central office on Bangabandhu Avenue. Meanwhile, different front organisations of AL brought out processions in the capital yesterday to protest the blast incidents in Gazipur and Chittagong.

End of a valiant freedom fighter

FROM PAGE 1 two daughters, Sasha and Esha, and a host of friends, relatives and admirers. The body of Shahadat Chowdhury has been preserved in the Birdem Hospital and will be taken to his house on Lake Road in New DOHS at 7:30am today. It will be kept at the Central Shaheed Minar from 11:00am to 12:00 noon to allow people of all walks of life to pay their homage. Then it will be taken to the Jatiya Press Club at 12:30pm where his colleagues will have a last glimpse of him. He edited a magazine named 'Lora' to depict the successful fights of the guerrillas during the Liberation War in 1971. He was one of the coordinators of the guerrilla war against the Pakistan occupation army in Dhaka and a major aide to Sector-2 Commander Khaled Mosharraf. He edited a magazine named 'Lora' to depict the successful fights of the guerrillas during the Liberation War where he himself was one of the architects of many operations. Following the Liberation War, Shahadat Chowdhury chose journalism as his profession. He joined the weekly Bichitra in 1972 and worked as an assistant editor, acting editor and editor until the government stopped its publication in 1997. Chowdhury joined the weekly news magazine 'Saptahik 2000' and fortnightly 'Anandodhara' under the management of Media World, which earned widespread popularity among the readers both at home and abroad. Chowdhury completed his matricu-