

## 4 killed, 300 injured

**FROM PAGE 1** The city's Shaheb Bazar, Kumarpara, Ganakpara, Mianpara, Sona Dighi square, and Hatim Khan areas turned into battlefields in the afternoon.

The battling parties traded around 50 shots and exploded 20 crude bombs. They also vandalised over 50 shops, offices and banks at Shaheb Bazar area. Law enforcers lobbed 70 tear-gas canisters and resorted to charging truncheons on them to quell the situation.

The clashes erupted when Shibir cadres hurled two crude bombs on a Workers' Party, a coalition partner of 14-party, procession near a police barricade set up to protect a Shibir rally at Shaheb Bazar Zero Point.

Workers' Party Politburo Member Fazle Hossain Badsha, who was leading the procession from Ganakpara, received splinter injuries in his arm.

Awami League (AL) activists rushed to the scene with oars in their hands following the attack. Shibir cadres then fled towards the Sona Dighi intersection area.

The Shibir cadres returned a little later and attacked the 14-party workers there. A large number of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) men rushed to the spot and charged truncheons indiscriminately. Photojournalist Rumi and Rajshahi Bureau Reporter of Dainik Inqilab Adil were injured during the truncheon charge.

Over 100 Rab members and several hundred policemen cordoned off the area. They raided houses, shops, hotels and even the Rajshahi Metropolitan Press Club following the clash.

Badsha told reporters that the Shibir attack on them was pre-planned.

Shibir Publicity Secretary Emajuddin Mondol, however, claimed that 14-party men attacked the Shibir men and around 20 Shibir activists were injured in the incident.

Swechchhasebak League Publicity Secretary Subhas Sarkar, Rajpara Maitree President Alfaz and Bangladesh Chhatra League worker Babu were treated at a city clinic while 15 people were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Additional forces of Rab and police were patrolling the city following the clash.

**KISHOREGANJ** One Jubo League leader was shot dead while 100 others were injured, eight critically, during a gun-battle between AL and BNP activists at Bajitpur upazila in Kishoreganj last evening.

Around 200 BNP men attacked the residences of AL men leading to the clash that left Arman, the Jubo League leader, spot dead.

At least 30 AL and BNP activists were injured in a clash between the two parties at Koliarchar upazila in the district after BNP men attacked and looted about 30 more residences and establishments belonging to the AL and people of the minority communities.

In another incident, AL activists tried to attack the house of former education minister M Osman Faruk at Karimganj upazila and ransacked three shops owned by BNP men.

Meanwhile, villagers detained a former BNP lawmaker Mojibur Rahman Monji's cadre with firearms and foiled his attempt to kill an AL leader in Bajitpur early yesterday.

**SATKHIRA** Awami League (AL) activists allegedly murdered a Jamaat leader at Ashashuni upazila in Satkhira Sunday

night, our Satkhira correspondent reports.

The dead was identified as Zobe Ali, 55, of village Kapsanda and Jamaat president of the Khazura union of the same upazila.

Quoting locals, police said the assailants attacked Zobe and his son Abu Bakar in front of Gadaipur Primary School as they were returning from a party meeting in Ashashuni on a motorbike. The miscreants hacked them indiscriminately and left the scene. Zobe was severely injured.

He was taken to Satkhira Sadar Hospital where on-duty doctor declared him dead around 12:30am.

Contacted, Ashashuni Upazila Jamaat leader Prof Abdus Sabur accused the AL activists of the murder and demanded arrest and punishment to the killers.

However, Ashashuni upazila AL president and former lawmaker Mokhesur Rahman and General Secretary Shahidul Islam Pintu refuted the allegation and demanded punishment to the killers after a fair investigation.

Meanwhile, the incident triggered widespread violence in the town yesterday when Jamaat activists ransacked local AL office at Katia Bazar and several shops at new market.

Section 144 was imposed in Parulia Bazar in Debhata upazila for an indefinite period after the BNP activists attacked and torched the Parulia union AL office. At least 30 AL activists were also injured in the attack.

Local AL unit held a meeting at Katia Bazar yesterday afternoon to protest the vandalism by the Jamaat activists.

**KUSHITIA** Unknown men called Jamirul out of his house over phone and asked him to come to a place known as Nishan Crossing, where they gunned him down around 9:00pm last night.

AL claimed BNP men killed him for his role in the 14-party programmes during the last three days agitation.

**NETRAKONA** At least 30 AL and BNP activists were injured in sporadic clashes between the parties at Durgapur upazila in the district from Sunday night to yesterday midday.

AL activists on Sunday night vandalised and looted at least 20 houses and 15 business centres owned by BNP leaders and its activists at different places of Durgapur upazila.

**TANGAIL** Around 15 activists were injured, one motorcycle torched, 17 shops vandalised and burned, during clashes between AL and BNP supporters at different places in Tangail.

**NOAKHALI** Around 10 activists of 14-party and four-party were injured in a clash which triggered after AL leaders beat up a BNP activist at Chatkhil yesterday.

**THAKURGAON** At least 10 people were injured in Pirganj upazila in Thakurgaon following a clash between BNP and Jatitya Party when BNP former minister Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir appeared to inaugurate a bridge in Pirganj.

## Graft case

**FROM PAGE 16** the same ground.

On the other hand, the prosecution could not produce witnesses except one since the charges were framed against Ershad on April 3, 1995 and on April 18, 2003, court sources said.

In the first case filed with Tejaon Police Station, it was alleged that Ershad, while in power, directed the authorities concerned to purchase Electronic News Gathering (ENG) equipment worth about Tk 2.93 crore to be used by Ershad and his wife Rawshan despite all broadcasting facilities available in his secretariat.

Later, Ershad directed the authorities to set up these equipment in his secretariat and create eight new posts for the purpose, the prosecution said.

An official of the now defunct Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAC) filed the case against Ershad on February 29, 1992 and the investigation officer (IO) pressed charges against him on September 15, 1994.

In the second case filed with the same police station, it was alleged that a decision was passed to accept the donation from Finland for setting up 'Microwave Telephone Lines' in 49 upazilas in 1989. But due to delay in receiving the donation, Ershad directed the authorities to accept the donation from France.

However, the work of setting up 'Microwave Telephone Lines' was not implemented. As a result, the government had to pay Tk 28 crore in interest to France from the date of receipt of the money.

Upendra Chandra Das, an official of BAC, filed the case against Ershad and two others on September 5, 1992. The IO pressed charges against Ershad and six others on July 31, 1995.

Earlier, Ershad was acquitted in four graft cases in a month, after his announcement to join the four-party alliance.

## Two bodies

**FROM PAGE 16** The body with lungi and fatua on, was sent to the Sir Salimullah College Morgue, police sources said.

The man might have been strangled to death, the morgue sources said adding that there were numerous signs of beating all over the body.

## US embassy

**FROM PAGE 16** the statement said.

Welcoming the relative return of calm to the streets of Dhaka, the embassy urged political party leaders to "exercise maximum restraint and take effective action to prevent any resumption of political violence".

## Ctg port

**FROM PAGE 1** The loading and unloading activities at Chittagong port started at 3:30pm shortly after the declaration of withdrawal of agitation programme by Chittagong City Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury at a rally at Laldighi Maidan, sources said.

The premier seaport resumed operation on October 26 after the Eid holidays, but handling of goods remained suspended since October 27 due to volatile political situation.

Suspension of releasing goods added to the congestion at the port with around 20,000 containers stockpiled at the port yard.

Now six ships are anchored at different port jetties while 17 others are waiting at the outer anchorage for berthing permission.

The port chairman held a meeting with the shipping agents and all other stakeholders yesterday noon and discussed the way of the port's smooth operation.

Port sources expressed hope that the congestion would soon ease as the releasing of goods is now going on in full swing.

**B**angladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) thanked the political leaders and all other stakeholders for quickly resolving the crisis that enabled resumption of operation at Chittagong port.

The BGMEA also urged the administration to ensure safety on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway for smooth transportation of goods and requested its members to start export and import activities through the port as usual.

## SC Bar urges

**FROM PAGE 16** Vice-President ATM Mizanur Rahman in the chair.

The meeting demanded cancellation of the appointments of public prosecutors (PPs), government pleaders (GPs) at district courts and law officers, including the Attorney General, at the Supreme Court as they were "chosen on political considerations".

The meeting also demanded bringing to justice those "corrupt people, including the ministers and bureaucrats, who served under the alliance government.

The other demands include maintaining neutrality with regard to airing news through state-run radio and BTV, and removing all political appointees.

The meeting, however, termed President Iajuddin Ahmed's assumption of the office of chief adviser "violating the constitution" very unfortunate and unwarranted.

AM Amin Uddin, Khandaker Mahbub Hossain, Abdul Matin Khasru, M Enayetur Rahim, M Mahbub Ali, Bashir Ahmed, Motaahar Hossain Sajju and KM Saifuddin Ahmed, among others, spoke at the meeting.

## Hasina's 11 major

**FROM PAGE 1** upazila election officials will have to be cancelled.

**VOTER LIST** Voter list will have to be corrected and revised in line with the Supreme Court directives and with photographs. Updated voter list and its printing will have to be cancelled.

**ADMINISTRATION** All appointment, promotion and retirement orders issued since July 1, 2006 will have to be nullified. All contractual appointments must be cancelled and officials appointed to sensitive posts withdrawn immediately. (List will be given later).

Officials loyal to BNP-Jamaat and beneficiaries of the alliance government will have to be withdrawn and should not be given any new post-ings. (List will be given later).

The attorney general will have to be replaced right now with a person on the basis of consensus.

**POLICE** Corrupt and torturer officers loyal to BNP and Jamaat will have to be withdrawn. (List will be given later). Changes must be brought in all sensitive posts in the police.

**MEDIA** Bangladesh Television, Bangladesh Betar and all state-run news and publicity media should be asked to give the 14-party, LDP and Awami League proper coverage.

Broadcasting of all private radio and television channels set up in the last five years will have to be stopped and sources of money of their owners will have to be investigated.

**POLITICAL HARASSMENT** All false cases filed after October 4 this year will have to be withdrawn and those who were arrested in this connection will have to be released.

**CURBING MILITANCY** Identified militants will have to be arrested. Fresh investigations must be made to curb bomb blasts, use of firearms and militancy which have been established in last five years.

**CONTROL OF FIREARMS**

All firearms licences given in last two years will have to be cancelled. Initiatives will have to be taken across the country to recover firearms and destroy them.

**CURBING CORRUPTION** Directives will have to be issued to the authorities of all airports, land ports and seaports so that the alliance government's corrupt former ministers and lawmakers, leaders of BNP and Jamaat, businessmen, and godfathers of criminals cannot flee the country.

**LOOTING IN THE NAME OF DEVELOPMENT**

All decisions related to development, including approval of projects, block allocations, project contracts and related fund releases, will have to be cancelled.

**PORTRAIT OF KHALEDAZIA** Portraits of former prime minister Khaleda Zia are still hung at the offices of government, non-government and autonomous institutions, tarnishing the neutrality of the caretaker government. Directives will have to be issued right now to remove these portraits.

## Jamaat sues

**FROM PAGE 16** Following the case, Paltan police arrested two accused — Titu alias Shahin and Omar Faruque — whose names were on the FIR. The arrested were placed on a one-day remand for interrogation.

The other prominent leaders accused of the charges are Tofael Ahmed, Mohammad Nasim, Abdur Razzak, Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Advocate Sahara Khatun, Haji Selim, Dr HBM Iqbal.

In the case filed with Paltan Police Station, ATM Sirajul Haq, Paltan thana Jamaat Amir, alleged that as per direction of Jalil, Menon and Inu, the other accused killed their (Jamaat) six activists and injured several others.

## AL takes time

**FROM PAGE 1** AL will propose the names, party insiders said adding that they are preparing several names to propose.

Immediately after taking oath as the chief adviser to the caretaker government on Sunday night, President Iajuddin Ahmed sought cooperation from all political parties for forming the interim government.

President's Press Secretary Mokhesur Rahman Chowdhury told reporters yesterday that Hasina requested the president not to bring in former advisers again in the new caretaker government. He also said other parties already submitted lists of their proposed names.

Meanwhile, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia is scheduled to meet the chief adviser today. BNP sources say they already gave the chief adviser a list of 10 names immediately after the oath-taking ceremony in Bangabhaban on Sunday night. They said they will finalise the list before the party chairperson meets Iajuddin today.

Jatiya Party (JP-Earshad) and Jamaat-e-Islami also proposed to the president several names. Talking to The Daily Star a JP leader said they proposed three names.

Talking to The Daily Star last night Jamaat's Assistant General Secretary Abdul Quader Molla said they also proposed names for advisers already. He however declined to disclose the

## Legal notice

**FROM PAGE 1** presidential responsibilities.

Challenging his action, Advocate Manzil Morshid said the president has violated the constitution by assuming himself as chief adviser without exhausting the options laid down in article 58 C (3, 4 and 5).

He urged the president to appoint a chief adviser to the non-party caretaker government in accordance with the constitution within three days, failing which he will move the High Court to protect the integrity of the constitution and rule of law.

He termed Iajuddin's taking over the office of chief adviser unlawful and in disregard to the constitution. Soon after president's oath as chief adviser on Sunday night, legal experts including Dr Kamal Hossain, Barrister Amir ul Islam and Barrister Rafique ul Huq accused him of violating the constitution.

## Preparatory work

**FROM PAGE 16** Asked about the declaration of election schedule, Sarker said the EC will decide about it, but "I do think the election schedule will be declared either at the end of November or beginning of December."

About the printing of voter list, he said the commission has chosen 38 firms to print the voter list and already signed agreement with them.

A total of 83 district election offices of the country have been divided into 38 zones, Sarker said, adding that some 40 offices have already begun the task of data entry.

Asked if the task of printing would complete by November 18, the target set by him earlier, he admitted that it would not be completed by November 18.

Sarker said there will not be a problem if the task of printing the voter list gets done one or two days after the declaration of election schedule.

names and the number.

Eminent journalist Ataus Samad, Dr Zafarullah Chowdhury, human rights activist Sultana Kamal, Barrister Mainul Hossain, former secretary MM Sawkat Ali, Maj Gen (ret'd) Moinal Hossain Chowdhury, banker Ibrahim Khaled, Lt Gen (ret'd) Islam Mashud Chowdhury, Air Vice-marshal (ret'd) FM Jami Uddin, Yasmeen Murshid, Prof Razia Banu, and Barrister Shafiq Ahmed's names among others' are being discussed widely for the posts of advisers.

Sources said the president also the chief adviser will select 10 names from the list of proposals and he himself might also include a few advisers from outside the list.

## Tension continues

**FROM PAGE 16** establishment secretary and informed him of the matter.

"A group of officers led by Shamsul Alam instigated the fourth class employees to misbehave with these officers," Abu Alam Shaheed told reporters.

During the five-year regime of the BNP, these officers were made OSD, harassed and deprived of promotions and postings, he said, adding that they will appeal to the chief of the caretaker government to get promotions and postings.

"I went to the ministry to join after discharging my duty as APS to the opposition leader. But fourth class employees misbehaved with us," said Alauddin Ahmed Chowdhury.

Little work was done in different sections of the secretariat yesterday.

It is taking time to start normal routine work at the secretariat as the names of the advisers to the caretaker government are yet to be announced, an officer at the secretariat said yesterday.

Police were on alert at the secretariat yesterday.

## LDP to watch

**FROM PAGE 16** At the party presidium office at Baridhara. The briefing was arranged in a short notice after cancelling their scheduled agitation programme at Muktangan.

Iajuddin Ahmed has to prove himself a neutral person by taking some actions," the LDP president said adding that they would provide the chief of caretaker government with a list of politically appointed DCs, TNOs and other officials. "If he takes actions against them, we will judge him as a neutral person," he added.

Iajuddin Ahmed's role as the chief of caretaker government would come under question if he does not take actions against the corruption of the former prime minister, her son and others related, Badruddoza noted.

He also demanded that the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) MA Aziz and other controversial election commissioners be removed and all political appointments in the government services and the police administration be cancelled.

Badruddoza also criticised the role of Bangabhaban regarding distortion of information, saying that Hamidul Haq did not decline to be the chief of caretaker government.

He also said that the president did not explore all possible options for selecting a neutral person for the caretaker government chief as per the constitution.

LDP Executive President Col (ret'd) Oli Ahmad, former state minister Major General (ret'd) Anwarul Kabir Talukder, Alamgir Kabir, former speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali were present among others during the briefing.

## Essentials

**FROM PAGE 16** selling buffalo meat in the name of beef at Tk 150. "As the supplies from bordering areas were disrupted due to the political situation, its prices increased," a beef trader at East Razabazar said.

Per kg broiler chicken is being sold at Tk 110 in retail markets that was Tk 90 before the Eid, said the retailers.

Prices of apple, malta and orange have gone up too. For this price hike, retailers blamed the restructuring of tariffs by the customs only two days before the Eid.

The retail price of apple is now Tk 100 per kg that was sold at Tk 80 before the Eid. A dozen orange (large) is now selling at Tk 150 that was Tk 120 before the price hike.

"Before the tax restructuring, we used to pay Tk 1,80,000 to customs against every 12 ton capacity fruit-laden truck which has been increased to Tk 3 lakh at present," said Muhammad Muslim, owner of a wholesale fruit store at Badamtoli market.

The rice wholesalers at Badamtoli wholesale market said though the prices of rice are still stable in the city markets, its prices may rise from tomorrow as the prices of rice already increased by Tk 10 to 15 per mound in the supplying areas.

Rice retailers said the imported essential items could not be unloaded at the two ports of the country as they have been inoperative for the last few days due to the opposition's siege programme creating a supply shortfall.

"The truck drivers are not interested to take the risk of transporting goods amid the volatile political situation - which is contributing to the crisis," said a wholesaler at Karwanbazar kitchen market in Dhaka.

The wholesalers warned that the real heat in the market as well as the effect of the political instability will be felt after two or three days from now. The essentials' markets will be fully operational two or three days after the city dwellers get back to the city after the withdrawal of siege programme yesterday.

## Dr Kamal

**FROM PAGE 1** of the Election Commission are the principal tasks of Iajuddin as the chief adviser to purge the two vital institutions of partisan influence.

"We will realise that President Iajuddin is neutral if he appoints new officials removing all politically appointed officials including the secretary to the president, his secretary of military affairs and his press secretary," Dr Kamal, president of Gono Forum, told reporters after coming out of a meeting with Awami League President Sheikh Hasina and other leaders of 14-party coalition at Sudha Sadan in the capital.

Answering to a question Dr Kamal said President Iajuddin will have to prove himself neutral through taking some initial measures in accordance with the proposals of the eminent jurist made.

"President Iajuddin did not follow the constitution. We did not expect it. He did not follow the sub-clauses 3, 4 and 5 of article 58(C) of the constitution," Kamal said.

He also said Iajuddin did not consider the alternative options offered in the constitution after KM Hasan had declined to assume the post of the caretaker government chief.

It is possible to hold a free and fair election if President Iajuddin as the chief adviser starts to take care of business, he added.

## Khaleda

**FROM PAGE 1** Khaleda was also critical of the intention of her rivals about participating in elections.

"They have no chance of going into power. That is why they are trying to foil the next election, upsetting the democratic process through anarchy," she said. "We will not allow anyone to create constitutional crisis and thwart the next election."

She alleged they (AL) conspired to occupy the Bangabhaban. "As part of foreign conspiracy, they did everything to destroy the economy," she claimed. "They are not politicians but national betrayers."

They will not even be able to retain the seats they got in the 2001 election, she teased.

"After witnessing the anarchic situation in the last few days, the people now can realise that they will victimise the people as soon as they come to the power," she said.

"People must have to decide against voting a fascist political party," said Khaleda, assuring all to protect people's life and property if her party gets another mandate.

She also urged the law enforcers to help the caretaker government properly.

The BNP will hold rallies and processions in all divisional headquarters today, in cities and district towns Wednesday and in all cities and upazilas Thursday.

Among others, BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and standing committee member Khandaker Mahbub Uddin Ahmad and Moudud Ahmad, Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami and secretary general Ali Ahsan Mujahidi, BJP chairman Abdul Matin, BJP (Nazir) secretary general Saifur Rahman, Islami Oikkyo Jote Chairman Fazul Haque Aminee also spoke.

## Climate report

**FROM PAGE 16** who led at the report's launch in central London with finance minister and likely successor Gordon Brown.

Warning of "disastrous" consequences for the planet unless action was taken swiftly, Blair said politicians had to be "bolder at home, in Europe and internationally" to tackle the problem.

"Should we fail to rise to this challenge, I don't believe we will be able to explain ourselves to future generations," he said.

The Stern review estimates that worldwide inaction could cost the equivalent of between five and 20 percent of global gross domestic product every year, forever.

By contrast, the cost of action is equivalent to one percent of GDP, the report says.

It calls for international frameworks on emissions trading, technology cooperation, deforestation and adaptation to climate change to develop a co-ordinated approach to climate change.

Brown called for a worldwide carbon market to bring about a "low-carbon global economy" and said the government would introduce a climate change bill to enshrine carbon emission reductions in domestic law.

He used the occasion to announce that former US vice-president Al Gore will advise the government on green issues.

Gore hit the headlines again earlier this year with the release of "An Inconvenient Truth", his documentary film about the effects of climate

change.

Stern indicated that economic change brought about by climate change could be on the scale of the Great Depression in a BBC radio interview earlier.

He also suggested that rich countries should pay more than poor ones to offset their higher levels of carbon emissions.

"The poor countries will be hit earliest and hardest .. It is only right that the rich countries should pay a little more," he said.

A "business as usual" attitude would push temperatures up by five degrees centigrade over the next century, he warned, comparing the impact to the effect of last year's Hurricane Katrina in the US last year "intensified many times" or the high temperatures experienced by Europe in 2003.

His report is thought to be the first heavyweight contribution to the debate on climate change by an economist rather than a scientist.

Elsewhere Monday, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change announced that greenhouse gases by the industrialised world are rising and the US remains the biggest polluter.

Excluding former Soviet bloc economies, they saw an 11 percent increase in pollution from 1990-2004. From 2000-04, the figure was two percent.

## Iraq bomb kills

**FROM PAGE 16** Doctor Aram Jurain from Baghdad's Al-Kindi hospital said, however, that two Sadr City clinics had alone received 27 corpses and 50 wounded, many of