

AL, BNP leaders

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Stating that the charter is not something to be imposed upon, Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) Chairman Prof Muzaffer Ahmad said it would be better if political parties could hammer out such a charter through discussions.
BNP leader ASM Hannan Shah called on the government to hand over power to an elected government after holding elections soon, saying, "We don't need any national charter in our national life."
He asked to know under which authority the chief adviser is talking about formulating the charter, adding that his party would not sign such a charter.
Hannan said the Awami League and the BNP-Jamaat alliance governments were much better than the present caretaker government as they looked after the need of the people.
He, however, admitted that the political governments were not immune from mistakes.
On the National Security Council (NSC), he said, "I don't deny the necessity of forming the National Security Council, but this is not necessary at the moment."
Awami League Organising Secretary Mahmudul Rahman Mannan said his party could take part in the elections even without participating in the government.

sponsored dialogue. He, however, said they would take decision in this regard later.
Terming the proposed National Security Council a hidden agenda, he called on the government to hold a referendum on whether people want the presence of the detained two former prime ministers in the ongoing dialogue.
He wondered what the fate of the government would be if the Awami League and the BNP turn against the government.
Jatiya Party president member GM Quader, BNP Joint Secretary General Goyeshwar Chandra Roy, among others, spoke at the meeting.
In his concept paper, Advocate Zenabul Islam Babu of Pro-People's Movement proposed a 15-member National Security Council, comprising, among others, the president (chairperson), the army chief (member secretary), Sheikh Hasina, Khaleda Zia, Dr Muhammad Yunus, Dr Kamal Hossain, Justice Habibur Rahman, Prof Muzaffer Ahmad, Prof Muhammad Yunis, Dr Akbar Ali Khan and the navy and the air chiefs.

Tk 25,600cr ADP

FROM PAGE 1
Special allocations for creating food security, development of ICT sector and eradication of regional disparity in development works in the next ADP, sources said.
According to the planning ministry proposal, foreign finances make up Tk 14,590 crore or 57 percent of the next fiscal year's ADP funding while the rest Tk 11,010 crore will come from internal sources.
Foreign funding comprised 49 percent of the original ADP of 25,600 crore for the current fiscal year (FY 2007-08).
The revised ADP of FY 2007-08 later downsized the allocation to Tk 22,500 crore with 64 percent foreign funding and 36 percent internal funds.
The foreign funding was raised in the revised ADP following budgetary supports from foreign donors in the wake of cyclone Sidr and back-to-back floods, planning ministry sources said.
According to the draft ADP for FY 2008-09, Tk 6,120 crore (23.91 percent) has been proposed for agriculture, rural development and water resources management.
In addition to a special allocation of Tk 123 crore, a major chunk of the outlay would be spent for creating food security, sources said.
Meanwhile, Tk 4,310 crore (16.84 percent) would be allocated for development of power and mineral resources sectors in the next fiscal year while education and religion sector would get Tk 3,519 crore or 13.75 percent of the ADP.
In addition, the transport sector will receive Tk 3,470 crore (13.56 percent) and the health sector Tk 2,584 crore (10.10 percent).
Tk 704 crore will be provided to 11 ministries for development of ICT sector.
Besides, the government plans to provide a special allocation of Tk 40 crore to remove regional disparity in development works in certain areas.
Tk 2,841 crore (11 percent of the ADP) is going to be provided for another special programme in Barisal and Khulna areas as a survey identified these areas the most poverty-stricken.
The ADP will put forward a total of 902 proposals for the next fiscal year, of which 103 are new projects.

IGP rules out

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Adviser Maj Gen (ret'd) MA Matin at the home ministry.
The police chief's comment contradicted with that of the home adviser, who on Monday defended the ongoing countryside arrests as an operation to check deterioration of law and order ahead of the elections.
"The crackdown has been ordered to control the operations of the criminals as the situation was worsening," he had said while briefing the newsmen at his ministry. The home adviser had also observed that the incidents of murder and other criminal activities had increased in number and frequency.
IGP Nur Mohammad yesterday, however, termed the current drive across the country a regular one and said that it was launched with a view to further improve the situation.
The police chief had a long meeting with Matin that started at 11 in the morning.
Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Naim Ahmed and Director General of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) Hasan Mahmud Khan were also present at the meeting.
More than 10,000 people were arrested in just six days, including 1,750 yesterday, since the countryside crackdown has been launched.
Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, DMP Commissioner Naim Ahmed also echoed the IGP saying that some random murders have taken place in the city recently, but that does not mean a slide in overall law and order.
The meeting discussed other issues, including the media reports on the ongoing drives and blanket arrest, he added.
"Police in their regular drives usually arrest 1,300 to 1,500 people across the country daily from that perspective, only 100 to 150 extra people are being nabbed daily at present," the DMP commissioner explained.

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Business leaders

FROM PAGE 1
Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) President Anisul Huq at a post dialogue joint news briefing at the Chief Adviser's Office.
"We want a return of a democratically elected government through meaningful elections," said Anis.
Meanwhile, at an earlier news briefing, Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) President Anwar-ul Chowdhury Parvez said, "If the next election is not held, we are likely to lose a large chunk of export orders."
Commerce Adviser Hossain Zillur Rahman said the government is trying its hardest to bring all parties to the dialogue, but it is also up to the political parties to do their part.
He said there is no room for doubts regarding the elections, but the government will also try to address economic concerns simultaneously.
The dialogue was attended by at least 300 business leaders from across the country, representing a cross-section of business groups, who met the chief adviser at the International Conference Centre in the capital.
Annis said business leaders do not want elections, but they do not want to go back to a chaotic and confrontational political climate.
"We are not here to represent the government or the political parties, but we are businessmen, we are here to protect the economy and the people," Anis said at the briefing, adding that release of detained Awami League and BNP chiefs was not discussed.
"We don't want politicians to only speak about elections, but also about what they can and want to do in the country," Anis added.
The business leaders also urged the government not to hold the election 'for the sake of election'.

but to hold one that will be meaningful and ensure a smooth transition of power.
They also discussed political reforms stressing the need for it, especially the issues of disclosure of election spending, ending the practice of political parties having students and workers wings, intra-party reforms, and creation of a bicameral parliament.
Moreover, business leaders urged the government to look into the legal aspects of banning strikes and hartals.
They also put out a call to foreign missions not to publicly state their opinions because the practice 'violates the sovereignty of Bangladesh'.
Body formed
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convener of the committee while Rezauddin Ahmed, editor of the News Today, and Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, editor of the Bangladesh Observer, are made joint convenors.
Jatiya Press Club President Shawkat Mahmud is the member-secretary of the committee. The members of the committee are Toab Khan, advisory editor of the Janakantha, Matur Rahman, editor of the Prothom Alo, Matur Rahman Chowdhury, editor of the Manabzamin, Nurul Kabir, editor of the New Age, Mozammel Haque Lal, editor of the Koronto, Shykh Shiraj, director (News), Channel-i, BFUI President Mozammel Haque, Khairul Anwar, chief news editor of ntv, Kamaluddin Shabuj, general secretary of the Jatiya Press Club and Elias Khan, general secretary of Dhaka Reporters' Unity.
The new committee also hailed the initiative taken by the four veteran journalists to protect the interest of the journalist community and urged the journalists to work unitedly to protect the freedom of the press.

Delwar

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from the clutches of the repressive government," he said addressing a discussion organised by JASAS, cultural wing of BNP.
The discussion was organised to mark the death anniversary of president Ziaur Rahman, founder of BNP, at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.
Criticising Awami League acting General Secretary Syed Ashrafur Islam for his recent remark about a united movement, he asked Ashraf to refrain from making such rash remarks for the sake of democracy and the country.
Demanding release of all political detainees, he said, "The dialogue may succeed if you (the government) hold it with an open mind after releasing political leaders."
Taking part in the discussion BNP leaders Brig Gen (ret'd) Hannan Shah and Gayeshwar Chandra Ray expressed their annoyance at the activities in the party.
Hannan Shah said, "Many leaders have come into the spot light using this bad time of the party as an opportunity but only Gayeshwar Ray and I had contact with the chairperson till the moment of her arrest... all the other leaders were silent."
There are many sycophants in the party who are trying to use the name of secretary general... Those used the name of Tarique Rahman and that of Hawa Bhaban to disgrace him," said Hannan Shah, an adviser to the BNP chairperson.
BNP Joint Secretary General Gayeshwar Ray alleged that the party is being run in an autocratic manner and some party leaders are having promotions taking the opportunity of the party's present state.
Meanwhile, Delwar, in a statement, condemned the arrest of political activists. He said the authorities are taking this step only to thwart a possible movement, but this will only worsen the crisis.
The statement, signed by acting Official Secretary Rizvi Ahmed, said, "Even though the government talks about restoration of democracy, its actions do not prove what it says." He said the steps the government is taking will not bring any positive outcome.

Two advisers

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the dialogue.
"We hope that the dialogue will be successful," he told the reporters coming out of a meeting with a team from Chittagong University at the ministry.
"People from all walks of life have taken interest on the dialogue. We have to tackle the issue with patience," Zillur Rahman said.
Meanwhile, Local Government and Rural Development Adviser Anwarul Iqbal expressed hope that the major political parties, which have decided not to participate in the dialogue, would reconsider their decisions.
"It was the political parties that wanted the dialogue. We hope they will attend it," he said during a meeting with the local government representatives at the ministry. "We are not in opposition of the political parties."
Anwarul Iqbal said the government will hold dialogue with grass-roots level people, including farmers, workers and trade unions at divisional, district and even at upazila levels to better understand their demands.
Education Adviser Hossain Zillur also told the reporters that the government is now focusing on upgrading the standard of higher education.
"Until now, we have concentrated more on the primary education. Now we are trying to look at upgrading the standard of higher education," he added.

Mojahid

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Chowdhury heard the petition and passed the order.
Mojahid, who appeared before the HC bench, told newsmen on the court premises that he would face the case legally and politically. "We believe in law and fair politics. This case was filed with political and conspiratorial motives to harass me," he said.
The Jamaat leader later filed an appeal with the SC against the HC order.
His counsel barrister Abdur Razzak said hearing of the appeal would be held in the court of the SC chamber judge today.
The HC in its order yesterday said the grounds mentioned in an SC judgement allowing it (HC) to consider such bail petitions were not found in the petition filed by the Jamaat leader.
"Though this case was not directly under the Emergency Power Rules (EPR), as per Section 5(2) of the Corruption Prevention Act 1947 and Section 409 of the Penal Code the case is automatically under the EPR. Section 19(D) of the EPR has curtailed the right to bail in such cases," the HC said.
The court pointed out that final report on this case is yet to be submitted, and without seeing the final report, it cannot be said whether the case is mala fide or without lawful authority.
On February 26, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed this case against former prime minister Khaleda Zia and 15 others, including Mojahid and Jamaat Ameer and former minister Motiur Rahman Nizami, for corruption in awarding contract for Barapukuria coalmine project to a Chinese company.
Mojahid filed the anticipatory bail petition on May 25. The following day an HC bench comprising Justice Nozul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Ataur Rahman Khan refused to take up the petition. The bench however permitted the Jamaat leader to move to another bench of the HC.
On June 1, he submitted the petition to the HC bench comprising Justice Musa and Justice Moyeenul. The bench concluded hearing of arguments on Monday.
Advocate Khurshid Alam Khan appeared for the ACC.

Ex-MP Salahuddin

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statement he submitted to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).
The court ordered the authorities concerned to confiscate his illegally earned assets.
ACC Deputy Director Shaiful Islam lodged the case with Gulshan Police Station on June 14 last year, stating that Salahuddin made a fortune of Tk 4.05 crore through illegal means and concealed information on his wealth worth Tk 29.02 lakh.
His wife was indicted for abetting her husband in the said offences.
Earlier on January 10 this year, Salahuddin was given a seven-year jail sentence for taking Tk 1 crore in bribe. The court confiscated the money.
Meanwhile, Judge Mohammad Shaiful Azam at the Sixth Assistant Sessions Judge's Court delivered the judgment against MAH Salim and fined him Tk 50,000, defaulting on which will earn him two more months in jail.
Earlier, the prosecution and the defence had completed arguments and the court recorded the statements of 18 prosecution witnesses.
The ex-Bagerhat lawmaker, who is also the chairman of private television station Channel i, was given seven years' RI late last month in another case filed for extorting Tk 12 lakh from the same person in the same year.

Dutch envoy

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criticised for a number of things which we did not like, but we accept each other's comment and from that we can learn from each other," the ambassador said, responding to a question at a meet the press function organised by the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.
The question cropped up as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs took exception to recent statements by foreign missions in Dhaka, which a ministry spokesman said "may construe as interference in internal affairs of Bangladesh."
Ambassador Beate Tusscher said Bangladesh as a member of the UN Human Rights Council will also scrutinise the human-rights situation next year, and it may be "exciting".
She said as friend of Bangladesh they show the ideas on various issues, which may or may not be useful for this country. "It is up to you to pick and choose from these ideas," she said, adding that Bangladesh is very much in the driving seat to shape her own destiny.
The ambassador noted that suggestions or ideas from the international community may make Bangladesh very much capable of handling the situation without outside guidance.
Solicitation from the international community on issues is not the 'sign of weakness', rather it is the 'sign of strength', she said.
Asked her comment on restrictions facing journalists in performing their duties freely, Tusscher said she is aware that the journalists are working under strains and the matter was raised with the caretaker government. She said it is important to allow the press to function freely for a functioning democracy.
About the ongoing crackdown reportedly on political activists, the envoy said she has no specific knowledge about it but said they generally believe that both the parties will have to contribute to making the next election successful through allowing people to get the opportunity of electing their government.

Attorney dept

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issued on Monday as per provision of the Government Attorney Service Ordinance 2008.
Joint Secretary Ismail Hossain of the law, justice and parliamentary affairs ministry has been appointed director general of the department on deputation.
The Government Attorney Service Ordinance was formulated on May 18 this year.

Arrest figure

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and 36 respectively.
Among the latest detainees, 1,070 were arrested on warrants, 623 on various other charges, 13 were arrested under the Arms Act, 14 had been convicted fugitives, while 9 were listed criminals.
Our Kushtia correspondent reported that the joint forces arrested Jamaat-e-Islami secretary of Mirpur upazila unit, Abdul Gafur, who is also the chairman of Amla union parishad.
The forces raided Gafur's house around 11:30pm on Monday, and after interrogation handed him over to Mirpur police, who later produced him before a court.
The court sent him to the district jail after he was shown arrested under Emergency Power Rules.
According to sources, Gafur is also one of the patrons of outlawed armed groups.
In Meherpur, the joint forces arrested 14 people including a listed criminal.
The listed criminal, Abdul Kuddus, is accused in four cases

Zahidul Islam Faruq, proprietor of Faruq Construction Firm Ltd, filed the two cases against Salim with Gulshan Police Station on June 10 last year, stating that the former MP had demanded Tk 50 lakh and Tk 12 lakh from him as he was a work order for a LGED project.
He said he had no option but to give in to the then lawmaker's mounting pressure and paid him cheques for Tk 10 lakh and Tk 12 lakh.
Salim, also the former president of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira), was arrested on March 7 last year under Section 16(2) of the Emergency Power Rules.
He has since been accused in nine criminal cases filed in Bagerhat while two extortion, one tax evasion and one graft cases have been filed against him with Gulshan Police Station in the city.

Old gas pipelines

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enclosed space, an electrical spark can trigger an explosion. "It is quite a serious matter and many people are not conscious about this safety hazard," he said.
He added that the Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Ltd has not been procuring safety and other equipment like leak clamp or compressor coupling for the last 18 months.
"This is happening because Titas is cutting its expenditure to demonstrate the efficiency of its management. But this is dangerous," the source pointed out. Some pipelines like that of the Bangabandhu Bridge Approach Road pipeline lack protective coating, which is posing serious dangers, the source added.
"To save costs, Titas did not even procure adequate meters in recent times. When we need to repair pipelines or install meters, we borrow repair materials from one office to another. We often resort to shutting down the valve of a pipeline to seal a leakage. Whereas, a leak clamp can be installed instantly without shutting down a line," the source added.
However, a highly placed Titas official claimed that the company was duly procuring safety and repair materials through a process. "The fact is our pipelines are getting too old and that is why we need more maintenance," the official said.

67.5pc land

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Key Point Installation or Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh height-restricted area would be able to use all the land after leaving the minimum space around the building. The ground coverage rule of constructing buildings will not be applicable for them.
The One-window Cell, that allowed people to have all permits from one place under the Building Construction Rules-2007, has been removed. A special cell similar to the One-window Cell will be set up for special building projects only.
Land owners, who want to construct high-rise buildings, would have to get all the permits from different government agencies, said an official of Rajuk.
The amendment has been made in line with suggestions of the sub-committee of Urban Development Committee of Rajuk, formed on September 26, 2007 to review the rules, said sources in the committee.

Bashundhara case

FROM PAGE 16
Judge Shahed Noor Uddin of Special Court-3, set up on the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban premises, fixed the date as Tarique, the eldest son of detained BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, was not produced before the court due to his "illness".
As the court went into session around 11:15am, the defence said Tarique is sick and he is having treatment in Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University. The defence said doctors recommended that he should not be allowed to move for two weeks.
Among the eight accused, only Babar and Abu Sufian, director of East-West Property Development Ltd, a concern of the Bashundhara Group, was produced before the court to stand trial in the case.
The defence yesterday appealed to the court to see the case documents. Babar's lawyers appealed for the permission to talk to their client for 20 minutes to discuss the case. The court granted the pleas.
On October 4 last year, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Deputy Assistant Director Abul Kashem filed the bribery case, involving the murder of Bashundhara Group Director Humayun Kabir Sabbir, with Ramna Police Station accusing six people including Babar.
Tarique and former BNP lawmaker Qazi Saleemul Huq Kamal were named as the other two defendants after investigation found their involvement.
Bashundhara Group Chairman Ahmed Akbar Sobhan alias Shah Alam and his two sons Shafiq Sobhan Sanvir and Sadaat Sobhan, and Tarique's personal secretary Mia Nur Uddin Apu are the other charge-sheeted accused.
The ACC said the eight were involved in receiving and giving the bribe to ensure that Sanvir did not face charges for killing Humayun Kabir Sabbir. Sabbir's body was found outside a building in Bashundhara residential area on July 5, 2006.
Tarique was arrested on March 7 last year on extortion charges while Babar was arrested on May 29 last year.

US team

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A number of officials were critical of the issue saying a foreign team should not be allowed such a visit.
Earlier, the United States sought permission from the Bangladesh government in this regard. Meeting sources said the government would extend all kinds of cooperation to the team during the visit.
"They are saying they would come to see the operations of the ports. But there may be some other reasons which we don't know," said a home ministry official present at the meeting.
The home ministry officials were tight-lipped about the visit of the US team.
Asked about the purpose of the visit, Abdul Karim told The Daily Star last night: "They will verify the existing facilities of the ports and see whether they can help improve the overall situation."
He however declined to elaborate on the issue.

UN for urgent

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Zoellick has said two billion people across the world are struggling with high food prices, and 100 million extra people in poor countries may be pushed into poverty by the crisis.
The summit opened amid controversy over the presence of Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe.
Britain's International Development Minister Douglas Alexander said he would snub Mugabe at the summit, telling AFP his attendance was "obscene."
UN agencies have launched appeals for more than one billion dollars to alleviate the food crisis. Saudi Arabia has already given 500 million dollars to a World Food Programme appeal.
But the charity Oxfam has accused the international community of spending a "pittance" on supporting agriculture in developing countries compared to the huge support given to farmers in rich Western countries.

Tangail jailer

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In a rejoinder dated May 25, Sagir claimed that there was no such incident of jail guards having beaten Shakil and that Shakil injured himself and got admitted to a hospital to damage the jail's reputation.
A copy of the rejoinder signed by Sagir Miah reached the Tangail Press Club by post on Sunday.
On sending a rejoinder before completion of investigation, Sagir told reporters that he had sent the letter on the basis of findings "immediately" after the incident. "The investigation is going on," he said.
On May 24, 10-12 guards of Tangail jail swooped on Shakil allegedly on orders of jailer Nazrul Islam and severely injured him while he was collecting information about irregularities and corruption of the jail authorities and guards.
Two jail guards were stand released and temporarily suspended on that day in connection with the incident. The Daily Star reporter Nazrul Islam was also transferred to Meherpur District jail later.
Deputy Inspector General (Prisons) Shamsul Haider Siddique formed a three-member probe body led by Sagir Miah. The other members are a deputy jailer and a havildar of the jail's reserve guards.
Journalists of Tangail alleged that despite being the head of the probe body himself, Sagir started circulating different misleading stories about the incident to save the jailer and his subordinates responsible.
Expressing frustration, the journalists said a neutral investigation cannot be expected from Sagir.

Obama

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commitments from delegates as well as more than a dozen private commitments. It also included a minimum number of delegates Obama was guaranteed even if he lost the final two primaries in South Dakota and Montana.
The 46-year-old first-term senator will face Sen John McCain of Arizona in the fall campaign to become the 44th president.
Clinton was ready to concede that her rival had amassed the delegates needed to triumph, according to officials in her campaign. These officials said the New York senator did not intend to suspend or end her candidacy in a speech last night in New York. She spoke on condition of anonymity because they had not been authorised to divulge her plans.
Obama's triumph was fashioned on prodigious fundraising, meticulous organising and his theme of change aimed at an electorate opposed to the Iraq war and worried about the economy all harnessed to his own innate gifts as a campaigner.
A former first lady and second-term senator, Clinton campaigned for months as the candidate of experience who is ready, she said, to take over on Day-1.
But after a year on the trail, Obama won the kickoff Iowa caucus on January 3 and the freshman senator became something of an overnight political phenomenon.
"We came together as Democrats, as Republicans and independents, to stand up and say we are one nation, we are one people and our time for change has come," he said that night in Des Moines.

RMG workers

FROM PAGE 1
Together they barricaded the Abdullahpur-DEPZ Highway and damaged over 40 vehicles on the road.
A group of angry workers also marched towards the DEPZ and tried to enter it at about 10:30am to gather more workers. But police intercepted them in front of Ashulia Police Station.
At this stage, the workers went on a rampage vandalising over 30 factories, three markets and two banks on the roadside.
They hurled stones and bricks at the windows of the roadside structures and used bamboo sticks to bludgeon windowpanes and furniture.
Markets and banks that came under the attacks are Bhuiyan National Plaza, Chowdhury Plaza, Samir Plaza Shopping Complex, South East Bank Ltd and Jamuna Bank.
The affected garment factories include Setara Group of Industries, Star Link Creation, Star Link Style, Scan Dex Knitwear, AN Design Ltd, Envoy Ltd, Design Dreams Ltd, Tisa Fashion, Nur Textile Ltd, Linda Fashion, Vertex Fashion, Universe Garments and Nasa Groups.
Over 100 people including garment employees, commuters and pedestrians were wounded during the attacks.
Many labourers, pedestrians and drivers and passengers became panicky to see the rampaging garment workers. A few drivers even left their vehicles on the road.
Hundreds of vehicles remained stranded on the road for hours.
Members of the army Rapid Action Battalion and police brought the situation under control at about 12:00 noon after persuading the agitating workers to leave the spot. The movement of transport became normal at about 1:00pm.
Ashulia police said they arrested lorry driver Abul Hossain but no case was filed as of 8:00pm.
Meanwhile, Bangladesh Garments Manufacturer and Exporters Association (BGMEA) condemned yesterday's attacks on the export-oriented garment factories by a vested quarter and said they do not know how long the garment industry could be kept alive after this incident.
A BGMEA press release issued by its Secretary Fasihur Rahman said a vested quarter ransacked around 50 garment factories after forcing out their workers and staffs by spreading the rumour that two garment workers had died after being hit by a lorry.

Students demo

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at a meeting on May 27 decided to curtail one-month's scholarship funds of the students who went on the vacation without proper approval.
The council also decided to make formal complaints to the guardians of the students for their disorderly conduct.
The students became rowdy and started demonstrations as they came to know about the actions intended against them.
Several hundred of the students yesterday besieged the office of the acting vice-chancellor for about an hour since noon. They also ransacked several office rooms including that of the proctor, set fire to bed sheets in the hallway of a dormitory and locked up different classrooms and the main entrance to the university.
Following the incident, the academic council of the university at an emergency meeting decided to close SAU indefinitely and vacate all four dormitories of the university.
Students said they submitted a memorandum mentioning their 7-point demands to Acting Vice-Chancellor Habib Abu Ibrahim at around 10:30am.
The students' demands include withdrawal of expulsion orders against students on various charges dating a few months back, withdrawal of the decision to curtail their scholarship funds, allowing student representatives in the academic council and allowing graduates of Degree (Hons) course for admission in MS course.
Police have been deployed on the university campus to ward off any further untoward situation.

2 ex-PMs

FROM PAGE 1
hoped that the party chief would be released soon to lead the AL in dialogue with the government.
"Sheikh Hasina was brought to Square Hospital not for treatment but for negotiations," said Ashraf, who has close contacts with some advisers actively involved in the negotiation process, and also other authorities.
Similarly, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia is likely to be taken to a city hospital soon for a 'medical check-up' to have 'unofficial talks' with her, sources said.
Deputy Inspector General of Prisons Major Shamsul Haider Siddique on Monday told journalists that the BNP chairperson would be brought to a city hospital for a medical check-up and some pathological tests, if she agrees.
"But she is yet to agree."
Talking to The Daily Star, a source close to the BNP chairperson said, "Talks have been held with the BNP chairperson for her release on bail or parole. Even she has been asked whether she would join the dialogue with the caretaker government if she is released."
During these unofficial negotiations with two leaders, representatives of the authorities placed a package of proposals and conditions before them. But they did not agree to accept the conditions, saying they want unconditional release, according to sources.
The proposals include signing the national charter as mentioned by the chief adviser, continuing the anti-corruption drive and ousting corrupt people from parties, keeping a balance of power between the president and prime minister and ratifying the caretaker government's activities, the sources said.
When contacted, one of the counsels for Hasina said the AL chief had told him about talks with government officials, and mentioned that she had already said release on parole to represent the party at the dialogue was not acceptable to her.
While a BNP source said Khaleda Zia told the authorities that she did not agree with any of their proposals. Different strategies were used to make her accept the proposals, but that did not work.
But other sources said both leaders have agreed to accept a few proposals.
Some of the senior AL leaders, who had earlier held a meeting with three officials of an influential quarter within the government, said the party chief might be released through any means within a couple of weeks.
One of the family members of the AL chief is maintaining contact with government negotiators, sources said.
A group of foreign diplomats are in close touch with the negotiation process, diplomatic sources said.