

Violence erupts

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were identified as Antara Ahmed Chowdhury, daughter of noted journalist Jaglal Ahmed Chowdhury, their chauffeur Abul Khair, and Sarwar Bari.

They were injured near DU mosque as the demonstrating JCD activists, who were holding a meeting at Oporajeyo Bangla memorial on the campus, vandalised around 10 vehicles and set a taxicab ablaze there.

Antara, a master's final year student of the English department at DU, was later shifted to Holy Family Hospital as she remained unconscious due to a severe head injury.

The violence left the city streets with long traffic jams as police blocked vehicular movement on all roads in and around DU, Dhaka College and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet).

Jail authorities and Tarique's physicians said the detained BNP senior joint secretary general injured his head with swellings and abrasions, slipping on a bathroom floor in Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), where he is being treated for ailments in detention.

DU CAMPUS
Our DU correspondent reported that JCD leaders and activists, who were in a protest rally under Bot Tola on the campus, demanding immediate release of detained BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and her son Tarique, started to march towards BSMMU around 12:30pm.

As the protest march led by top JCD leaders including Azizul Bari Helal and Sultan Salauddin Tuku reached the fine arts faculty, some activists started vandalising vehicles while senior leaders tried to stop them in vain.

The protesters set a black taxicab on fire near Rokeya Hall and vandalised 10 vehicles including two pick-up vans of police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab). Some private cars and auto-rickshaws were also damaged.

The JCD activists also attacked police who put up a barricade on the road in front of the Public Library. The demonstrators pelted police with bricks, but the law enforcers did not retaliate.

Police took position at all entry points of the university restricting entry of outsiders.

Assistant Commissioner of Ramna Zone Police Hamida Parveen told The Daily Star that they will take action if owners of vandalised and torched vehicles press charges, and if anybody tries to damage public property.

Meanwhile, a rumour was floating around town that Dhaka University will be declared closed for three months with its residential halls vacated.

DU Proctor Prof AK Feroz however told The Daily Star that the university authorities do not have any plan for declaring any unscheduled closure of the university.

He also said they were observing the overall situation very carefully and were in constant communication with police high ups and students.

DHAKA COLLEGE, BUET
Witnesses said around 100 JCD activists from Dhaka College came out on Mirpur Road around 1:40pm and started vandalising vehicles and roadside establishments, forcing shop owners to bring their shutters down.

The rioters damaged over 15 motorised vehicles and set ablaze a microbus that kept burning for over 35 minutes before its CNG cylinder exploded amid several hundred onlookers.

Jahangir, owner of New Rafin Fashion situated in Golden Gate Shopping Centre opposite Dhaka College, was hit in the chest by a splinter from the exploded cylinder when he was walking through the area. He died afterwards.

Jahangir and his friend Sanaulah, owner of Newaz Garments, were on their way to the market from Lalbagh. Being caught in the traffic jam, they got down from a rickshaw at Nikhet crossing and were walking.

Shamimul Haq, a social science department student of Dhaka College, told The Daily Star, "The microbus was burning for over half an hour. But neither any firefighter arrived, nor any police tried to put out the fire."

"At one stage, the cylinder exploded with a big bang injuring at least three persons," he said adding, "Firefighters came after the explosion, but by that time the vehicle was burnt to ashes."

Syed Hossain, mobilising officer of the Fire Service and Civil Defence, said they reached the spot about 15 minutes after the explosion due to a severe traffic jam on the way. He also alleged that police did not help them to reach the spot on time.

During the rioting, vehicles were barred from entering the road stretching from Science Laboratory to Nikhet. All markets and other establishments in the area remained closed for several hours while vehicular traffic on Mirpur Road remained suspended for over three hours.

Meanwhile, JCD activists of Buet also damaged about five vehicles and blocked roads in the area for about half an hour from 2:00pm.

JCD was still demonstrating on DU campus around 8:00pm demanding immediate unconditional release of Khaleda and Tarique. Its activists brought out a protest march and held a brief rally in front of DU Central Library.

JCD's DU Unit General Secretary Saiful Islam Feroz told The Daily Star that they will forge a countrywide tough movement soon if their demands go unheeded. JCD will stage demonstrations on DU campus today around 12:00pm, Feroz added.

List of 18 more

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against some others and notices were served to some asking them to submit wealth statements.

On August 14, ACC sent another list of 17 suspects to Tar for considering their applications for clemency. The list comprised names of former and incumbent government officials of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority and some of their wives, a chief engineer of the roads and highways department, a forest officer, and a sub-registrar.

Replying to a query, Col Hanif said names of the absolution seekers are being sent to Tar.

A special investigation team of ACC is also investigating activities related to appointments, promotions, and dismissals at BSMMU, and also installation of a washing plant.

Meanwhile, a writ petition was filed with the High Court (HC) yesterday challenging the legality of Truth and Accountability Commission Ordinance 2008.

The government formed Tac under the ordinance, paving the way for the corrupt to walk free after voluntarily confessing to their corruption and handing the ill-gotten wealth back to the state exchequer.

The petitioners said the ordinance which brings the truth commission into being is unconstitutional because no authorities other than the lawful courts have the jurisdiction to try and mete out penalties to criminal offenders.

They said though the ordinance has not declared the Tac a court, it provides for the commission to confiscate individuals' property which goes against the basic tenets of the country's constitution.

The petition argued that the president cannot promulgate such an ordinance other than the ones related to elections or emergencies during the tenure of a caretaker government.

The president promulgated the ordinance on June 8.

The petitioners appealed to the court to stay the operation of the ordinance and issue a rule upon the government to explain why the decree should not be declared illegal and unconstitutional.

The president's secretary, cabinet secretary, home secretary, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) chairman and Tac chairman were made respondents in the writ petition.

Supreme Court lawyer Adilur Rahman Khan Shubbro, Ubining, an NGO, executive director Farida Akhter, the Awami League's women affairs secretary Dipu Moni and rights group Odhikar's acting director Nasiruddin Ekan filed the petition as public interest litigation (PIL).

The HC bench of justices Khademul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Masuque Hossain Ahmed may hear the petition today.

Pak ruling

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withdrawal support." Sharif named former judge Saeed uz Zaman Siddiqui as his party's candidate for presidential polls scheduled for September 6.

Sharif had set a Monday deadline for some 60 judges to be reinstated, but Zardari's party - the largest in the coalition - had refused to give a time frame on when that would happen.

Musharraf sacked the judges last year under emergency rule to ensure there would be no legal challenges to his re-election as president while holding the dual role as head of the powerful military.

Critics say the PPP may not want to restore the judges out of fear that they could overturn an amnesty on corruption charges that allowed Zardari to return to Pakistan last year.

Zardari's party had refused to give a time frame on when the judges would get their jobs back. Sharif accused Zardari, who took over the PPP after his wife and former premier Benazir Bhutto was assassinated in December, of repeatedly breaking promises over reinstating the judges.

"The PPP also violated the latest agreement reached earlier this month that the judges will be restored 24 hours after the resignation of Musharraf," he said.

The US-backed Musharraf resigned amid growing pressure from the coalition, which said it would attempt to impeach him.

Sharif vowed to continue the "struggle for restoration of the judges and genuine democracy in Pakistan" and said his party had chosen a retired Supreme Court chief justice to challenge Zardari in the September 6 presidential poll.

"We have requested Saeed uz Zaman Siddiqui to accept our offer to become presidential candidate," Sharif said. "He is a good Pakistani who is a non-partisan person."

The PPP had earlier said that Sharif's party should look towards other issues faced by the majority of Pakistanis, rather than pressing for the return of the judges.

The PPP has enough allies in parliament to hold the government together, but analysts say governing in the long term would be difficult with Sharif in the opposition.

The political bickering has underlined concerns for Pakistan's stability as the country battles Islamic militants in a troubled tribal region near the Afghan border.

Nearly 100 people were killed in suicide bombings last week. Pakistani Taliban say the attacks were carried out in response to a military campaign against them - and have threatened more were to come.

The government said Monday it had banned the main Taliban militant umbrella group Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan and frozen its bank accounts and assets in Pakistan.

Parties must apply

FROM PAGE 1
themselves off from overseas chapters, and fixing a ceiling of up to Tk 15 lakh on a candidate's election expenditure (depending on the number of voters).

Talking about the political parties' displeasure at the time limit for registration, he said if they push a little harder they would be through with the preparations in time.

According to the electoral roadmap announced on July 15 last year, laws seeking electoral reforms were supposed to take effect by February and registration of the parties completed by June this year.

But the ordinance with amendments to the RPO was promulgated on August 19.

Huda said, "It's unfortunate that we couldn't follow the electoral roadmap with regard to registration."

Replying to another query, he said he thinks the state of emergency will not deter the parties from holding national councils to amend their constitutions.

"If needed, we'll ask the government to ensure an atmosphere conducive to organising councils. Any political party can inform us if they still face any difficulties," he added.

At yesterday's news briefing, the CEC explained the rationale for some of the new provisions.

About laws barring the loan and utility bill defaulters from election, he said: "We want our lawmakers to be the role models. How will a government ask people not to default on loans or utility bills if the country's legislators are defaulters?"

Lotus Kamal

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concealed information of wealth worth about Tk 4 crore in his wealth statement submitted to the NBR.

Moreover, Lotus Kamal, an accused in more than 10 cases, had repeatedly given false information to the income tax department about his real income and expenditure, the complainant said.

No foreign troops

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There is an agreement between the two sides that there will be no foreign soldiers in Iraq after 2011," Malik said in a statement issued by his office.

Washington and Baghdad have for months been negotiating a controversial military security pact to decide the future of US-led foreign troops in Iraq once a UN mandate expires in December.

On Friday, the chief Iraqi negotiator Mohammed al-Haj Hammoud told AFP that the security pact had been finalised by both the sides and already approved by US President George W. Bush.

He said that under the 27-point deal all American combat troops will be withdrawn from Iraqi cities by next June ahead of a complete withdrawal by 2011.

Bush and Malik had agreed last November to formalise such an agreement by July 31.

The arrangement was delayed by strong opposition from Iraqi leaders over issues such as a timetable for withdrawal, how many bases Washington would retain and whether US troops would be

11 kids rescued

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Police arrested Khokon and seized his auto-rickshaw.

The rescued children are Faisal, 8, Mansura, 6, Seema, 6, Meem, 6, eight-month-old Asif, Sajib, 7, Sagar, 10, nine-month-old Rabbi, Suman, 4, Sujan, 7, and Johnnie, 9. Seema, Meem, and Asif are siblings.

Police said Khokon convinced the children playing at Muslim Camp, a slum in Pallabi, to go with him after alluring them with the prospect of getting chocolates and other delicious foods around 6:30pm.

As the children agreed Khokon asked them to get in his three-wheeler and they followed his instruction.

When the three-wheeler reached Baitul Quddus Jam-e-Mosque area, around half a kilometre away from the slum, a child fell from the auto-rickshaw alarming local residents about the unusual incident.

The local people stopped the three-wheeler and wanted to know what was going on, and Khokon failed to give a satisfactory answer.

The mob then beat Khokon up and handed him over to police. Police later handed over the children to their guardians.

A case was filed with Mirpur police station in connection with the incident.

"Khokon told us that he was giving the children a ride," Officer-in-charge of Mirpur Police Station Mohiuddin Mahmood told The Daily Star.

Death of youth

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Tk 300 from Mehdi Hassan, a representative of the hostel.

As Mehdi and other students residing in the rooms refused to pay Murad the rest of the amount, he locked in an altercation with them and at one stage, the students beat him up, resulting in his death on the spot.

On information, the law enforcers went to the spot, rescued Murad from the drain of the hostel in a critical condition and sent him to the medical college hospital where he died at around 5:00pm.

Murad's body was handed over to his family after autopsy yesterday morning.

Local people, carrying the body, brought out a procession. They chanted slogans demanding capital punishment to the killers. Later, they handed over a memorandum to the deputy commissioner demanding immediate arrest of the killers.

After namaj-e-janaza, Murad was buried at Barisal Muslim Graveyard yesterday evening under police protection.

Dr Zahid Hossain, principal of the college, told The Daily Star that the authorities closed the college to avert any unwanted incident.

Tarique

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treatment, however told reporters that he hurt his forehead, back, knee and ankle.

"Tarique went to the bathroom at about 12:15 noon. As he was about to come out, he felt he could not move his right leg. He tried to walk on his left leg and fell on the sink," Dr Kazi Mazharul Islam Dolon, orthopaedic specialist at the BSMMU, said.

He said Tarique will undergo different medical examinations including CT scan and MRI.

DIG (Prisons) Major Shamsul Haider Siddiqui told reporters after visiting Tarique that he cut his forehead slightly.

"I had a conversation with Tarique. He talked with me normally and his pressure was normal," he said.

He said the chief adviser and the home affairs adviser enquired about Tarique's condition and directed the authorities to ensure proper treatment for him.

Asked whether Tarique was out of danger or not, the DIG (prisons) said he will be on observation for the next 48 hours.

"If needed, he would be sent abroad for treatment which is the matter of the government," he said.

Tarique's wife Dr Zubaida Rahman went to the hospital soon after the news. She, however, refused to talk with reporters.

After visiting Tarique, his lawyer advocate Ahmed Azam claimed that his life was at stake after the accident.

Police admin

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Police administration to facilitate the upcoming upazila and parliamentary elections in a free, fair and neutral manner.

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) commissioner (current responsibility) Md Akbar Ali has been made the commissioner of Barisal Metropolitan Police (BMP) while DIG Dhaka range Md Moniruzzaman has been made CMP commissioner.

Nazmul Haq, who was DIG of the Armed Police Battalion (APBN), was transferred to the police headquarters. He was replaced by DIG of Highway Police Mohammad Sadiqur Rahman.

AIG (police headquarters) Abdul Jalil Mondal has been transferred to CMP as additional police commissioner (current responsibility).

Special police super of Criminal Investigation Department (CID) Nawsher Ali has been sent to DMP as joint police commission (current responsibility) while SP of Chuadanga Mofizur Uddin Ahmed, SP of Brahmanbaria Atul Kibria and SP of Satkhira Mirza Abdullah Hel Baki were attached with the DMP as deputy police commissioners.

SP of Gopalganj Mahmudur Rahman and SP of Bagerhat AKM Shahidur Rahman have been appointed deputy police commissioners of CMP. SP of Chandpur Obaidur Rahman Khan has been made special police super and transferred to the CID.

SP of Dinajpur Mostafa Kamal has been made deputy police commissioner of Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP), SP of Rangpur Hasib Aziz has been made

AIG police headquarters and deputy police commissioner of DMP Abdullah Al Mahmud has been made deputy police commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP).

Deputy police commissioner of CMP Mostafa Kamal has been made commander of 9 APBN, Dhaka, SP of Kishoreganj Mizanur Rahman has been made special police super of CID while special police super of Special Branch (SB) Nazrul Islam has been attached with the police headquarters as AIG.

SP of Patuakhali Abu Kalam Siddiq has been made SP of Dinajpur, SP of Police Staff College Mosharraf Hossain has been made special police super of SB, SP of Moulvibazar Faruk Ahmed has been made SP of Kishoreganj, deputy police commissioner of RMP Mahbubur Rahman has been made SP of Kurigram and deputy police commissioner of KMP Lutfur Rahman Mondal has been made SP of Brahmanbaria.

Deputy police commissioner of DMP Morshed Alam has been made SP of Chuadanga, deputy police commissioner of CMP Abu Sufian has been made SP of Satkhira, deputy police commissioner of CMP Morshed Anwar Khan has been made SP of Netrakona and deputy police commissioner of DMP Awlad Ali Fakir has been made SP of Bagerhat.

Special police super (Rajshahi CID) Krishna Pada Roy has been made SP of Chandpur, SP of Highway Police (Bogra) Mahfuzul Islam has been made SP of Rangpur, special police super of SB, Dhaka Monirul Islam has been SP of Nilphamari while SP of Nilphamari has been made SP of Gopalganj.

death toll of eight, said police was unable to reach the site immediately because the bridge linking it with a main road had been blown up.

On Thursday, Mian Ifrikhar Hussain, the information minister for the North West Frontier Province, said the peace deal in Swat technically remained intact. Officials from the NWFP government either could not be reached nor would comment on Malik's announcement Monday.

Work unitedly

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the president said: "We must ensure food security for the global people, particularly for the people of developing countries, with collective efforts."

Raja Devasish Roy said climate change is no longer a distant disaster or only an environmental issue; it has now become an issue of overall development.

"We have been finalising an action plan for Bangladesh as a living document to face the adverse effects of climate change," he said.

Prof Ratan Lal said the problems Bangladesh and other South Asian countries are facing is a global issue.

"So it has to be addressed regionally as well as through cooperation and mutual support," he observed.

Prof Fiaz, vice-chancellor of Dhaka University, who chaired the session, suggested an increase in effective coordination and cooperation among the South Asian countries to tackle the growing threat of climate change.

Over 300 experts and policymakers from home and abroad are taking part in the symposium where nearly 65 research papers on adaptation and mitigation of climate change as well as addressing the food security issues would be presented in six days.

The sessions will take place at several venues including the Dhaka University auditorium, Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute and the Sonargaon Hotel.

Barkat Ullah Bulu

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members in a graft case. **CASE AGAINST BULU**
ACC Assistant Director Monzur Alam, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted the charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court, Dhaka, showing six people as prosecution witnesses.

The other charge-sheeted accused are Bulu's wife Shamima Akhter and son Omar Sharif Mohammad Imran.

The IO prayed for issuance of arrest warrants against the accused and the court order to attach their properties, as they have been absconding since filing of the case.

The ACC filed the graft case against the three with Ramna Police Station On January 7 this year.

In the charge sheet, the IO mentioned that Bulu amassed wealth worth Tk 3,23,60,991 through illegal means and concealed information of wealth worth Tk 3,37,14,117.

He also accused Shamima and Imran of aiding and abetting Bulu for acquiring the illegal wealth. Bulu, also the president of

Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal, in his wealth statement submitted to the ACC on July 30 last, showed that he owns wealth worth Tk 1.2 crore, while his wife owns Tk 1.23 crore and son Tk 49.41 lakh.

CASE AGAINST HARRIS
The same court issued arrest warrants against Harris, his family members and five others in a case filed for amassing wealth worth Tk 85.88 crore illegally.

The other charge-sheeted accused include Harris' wife Josne Ara Chowdhury, son Naim Shafi Chowdhury, daughter Samira Tanjil, brother Selim Chowdhury, sister-in-law Jahanara Chowdhury, nephew Tareq Shams, Harris' friend Mosharraf Hossain Thakur, and private secretary Ziaul Islam, Akhlar Nahar and Yunus Ali.

On August 19, ACC Deputy Assistant Director Abul Kashem, also IO of the case, submitted the charge sheet to the CMM's Court, showing 45 people as prosecution witnesses.

ACC Deputy Director Jibon Krishna Roy filed the case with Gulshan Police Station on October 7 last year.

On August 20, Judge Mohammad Azizul Haque of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court issued arrest warrants against Masuda and her husband Khokon on a plea submitted by the investigation officer (IO) of the case.

On August 14, ACC Assistant Director SM Sahidur Rahman, also the IO of the case, submitted the charge sheet showing them fugitives in the case.

On December 10 last year, the ACC filed the case with Motijheel Police Station on charges of amassing wealth and concealing information of wealth worth Tk 29,39,420 from the commission.

Mohammad Joydul Abedin Shibly filed the case with Mohammadpur Police Station against Alamgir and five others on November 27 last year.

According to the case statement, the state minister for planning, in collusion with others, gave a work order for printing question papers of a project on census to 'Elite Printing and Packages Ltd', a private company, ignoring the due process of the Bureau of Statistics. It caused a loss of Tk 94 lakh to the government.

CASE AGAINST KHOKON'S WIFE
Masuda Khan, wife of Mirza Khokon, was yesterday granted bail after she surrendered before the court and sought bail in a case filed against her by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) for amassing wealth worth Tk 1,54,70,318 through illegal means.

Advocate Rafiq-Ul-Huq moved the bail petition on behalf of the petitioner.

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