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Quick disposal of acid attack cases planned

Monitoring cell to be formed at every district, says home minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Monitoring cells would be formed at district levels for quick disposal of acid-violence cases, said Home Minister Sahara Khatun yesterday.

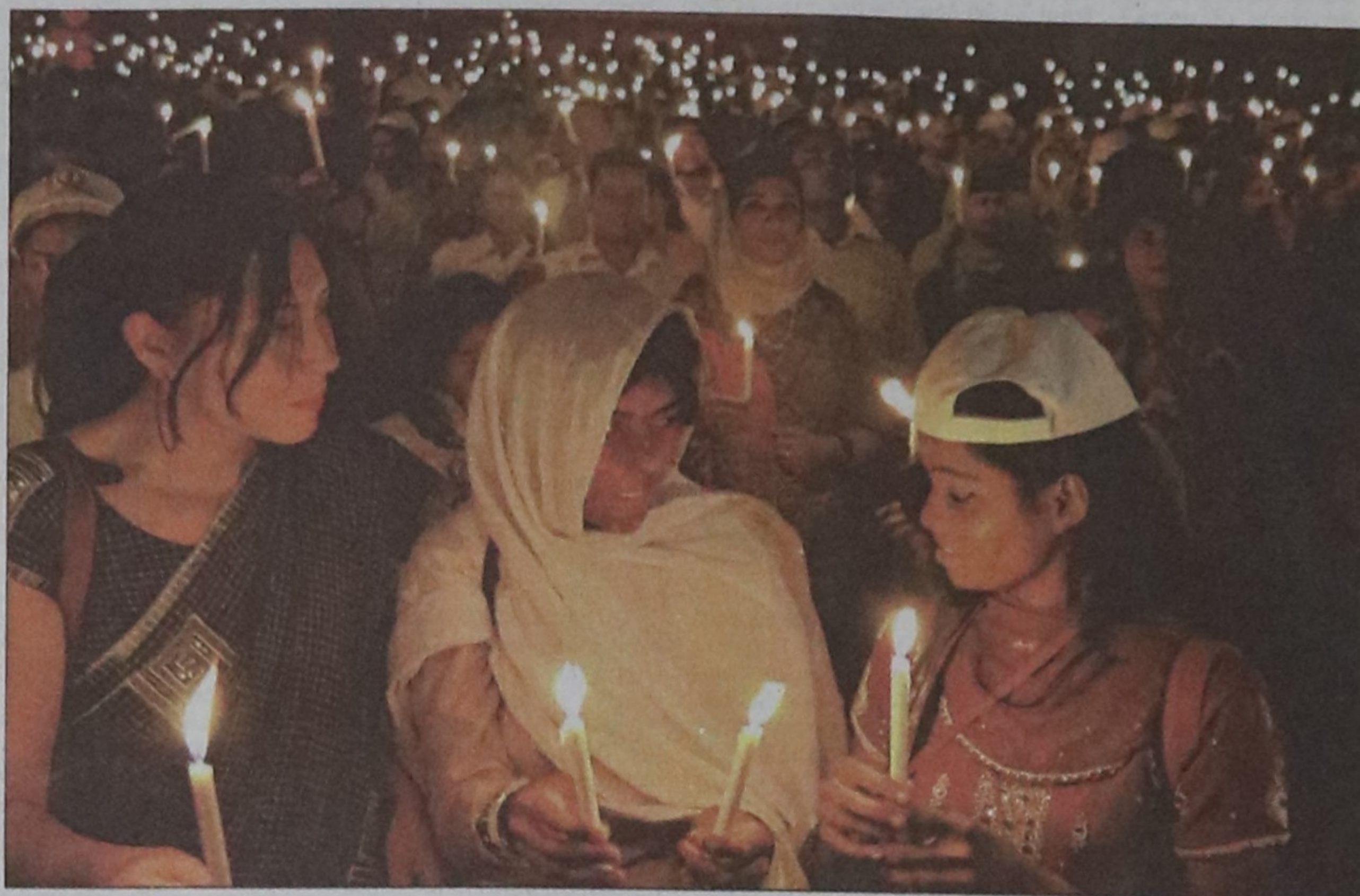
"Normally the acid-violence cases take time delaying acid-victims justice. A national monitoring cell has already been formed in this regard headed by a joint secretary of the home ministry and such cells would be formed at district levels as well," she said at the first international conference of Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) yesterday afternoon.

Talking about the work of ASF for acid-victims, the minister said the government would offer them all kinds of possible support to help acid-crime survivors.

She said Bangladesh could be an example for the world by reducing acid violence. She urged all to be united against the brutal crime.

The daylong first international conference was organised to

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Acid-crime victims, social activists and other participants of the first-ever international conference on Acid Survivors Foundation light candles at Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh yesterday evening as a gesture of solidarity.

PHOTO: SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

Heads they keep high in horror

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Peyara Begum's son's teacher attacked her with acid after she refused to return 'the love' he so undeservedly tried to bestow on her.

Her face was burnt as was major portion of her body, and her entire face had to be reconstructed.

To pay for this treatment Peyara had to sell all her properties. And yet, today she stands tall and proud and tells her extraordinary story, of how she recovered and continues to live a normal life with dignity and honour, with the help of her supportive and loving husband.

Peyara works at a life insurance company now and earns enough to maintain the expenses of both of her sons' education.

Such were the strength of Peyara and others' stories as acid violence survivors related their struggles to live on. They were in town yesterday to attend the International Conference of the Acid Survivors.

Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) Bangladesh organised the international conference at the Engineers Institution auditorium bringing together 600 people -- who were acid survivors, or their relatives or people working for organisations that help acid attack survivors.

"It took me ten long years to leave behind the pain and agony of the attack, but today I am content with my life. I also am able to help acid survivors now," said Peyara who had come to the

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15 hurt as AL men clash over tender

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

At least 15 people were injured yesterday in a clash between activists of two associated bodies of Awami League at Santhia upazila over submission of tender documents at a local Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) office.

Vehicular movement on Dhaka-Pabna highway remained stalled for half-an-hour due to the clash. Police arrested four people in connection with the incident.

Meanwhile, the BWDB authorities suspended the tender process.

Sources said organising secretaries of Santhia upazila unit Swachha Sebak League and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Md Abul Barkat and Md Raja along with their followers went to the Bera BWDB office at about 10:00am to submit tender documents for repair works at Bera water board colony.

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Three ex-IOs of August 21 blast case surrender

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Three former investigation officers (IOs) of August 21 grenade blast case surrendered before a Dhaka court yesterday in a case filed against them on charges of misleading the probe.

They are former superintendent of police (SP) Ruhul Amin and former ASPs Abdur Rashid and Munshi Atiqur

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VIOLENCE AT INDUSTRIES RMG exporters ask for safety

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Garment manufacturers have demanded that the government ensure security for them from mugging, looting, snatching, extortion and even death threats they are now facing frequently.

"We want security for the garment factory owners and exemplary punishment to the criminals immediately as the sector is hostage to some anti-social elements," said Abdus Salam Murshedy, president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) at a press conference yesterday.

A few unknown criminals shot down Mubarak Hossain, father-in-law of Delwar Hossain, owner of Tuba Fashion, in the

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Nadim, Millat sent to jail on surrender

Both ex-BNP MPs sentenced in absentia

STAR REPORT

Former BNP lawmakers and fugitive convicts Nadim Mostafa and M Rashiduzzaman Millat were sent to jail after they surrendered before courts in Rajshahi and Dhaka yesterday.

In Rajshahi, second court of Additional Sessions Judge Lutfa Begum passed the order to send Nadim Mostafa to Rajshahi Central Jail rejecting his bail prayer when he was produced before it yesterday noon in two criminal cases in which he was sentenced to different terms.

The court also ordered the jail authorities to provide him division as per the jail code.

At around 11:45 am, Nadim Mostafa along with some lawyers went to the court and surrendered before it.

He claimed himself innocent before his supporters who had been taken to the court premises by 10 buses from different

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Army deployed at Barapukuria coal mine to prevent trouble

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Army personnel have been deployed at Barapukuria Coal Mine Company Ltd (BCMCL) to prevent any untoward incident at the coalmine site.

Sources said at least 180 army personnel led by a lieutenant colonel arrived at the BCMCL Monday morning and started supervising coal

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Zero tolerance on militancy, terrorism

High-level committee discusses combat plan UNB, Dhaka

The government has announced 'zero tolerance' against militancy, terrorism and any attempt to disrupt law and order situation as a 17-member National Committee on Militancy Resistance and Prevention held a meeting at the home ministry yesterday.

Briefing reporters after an over two-hour meeting at the home ministry, Sohel Taj said a three-phase programmes will be undertaken in short, medium and long terms to deal with a twin-problem posed by militancy and terrorism.

"Militancy is under control but that does not mean it does not exist," Taj told reporters as

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People try to remove a tree that severed electric cables before landing on road during yesterday's nor'wester at Kazipara of Louhajang in Munshiganj.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

3 more public universities in the offing

UNB, Dhaka

The government has planned to establish three more public universities and add three more private universities to a large number of varsities under private venture to take in rising numbers of students for higher education.

"Government approval of the planned universities is in the final stage of processing," University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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AirAsia Dhaka Station Head
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