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People's Right to Know

AGRAHAYAN 16, 1417 BS
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residences

Sees legal bar removed

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

The military authorities are now pondering to construct : ASHUTOSH SARKAR high-rise official residences

Khaleda Zia used to live. The army officials think in Dhaka Cantonment. that there is no legal bar to . Supreme Court dismissed: the disputed house. said sources in the army.

www.thedailystar.net

Army now mulls official Khaleda loses house

SC dismisses her leave to appeal petition against HC verdict over cantt residence, decides to hear contempt of court charge against govt today

for army officers on the land of : The Appellate Division of the Supreme disputed cantonment house: Court yesterday dismissed three petitions where BNP Chairperson · filed by BNP Chairperson Khaled Zia in : connection with her previous residence

One of those was a leave-to-appeal proceed for finalising the plan: petition challenging the High Court of implementing any project ' verdict that had declared valid the govon the 168-katha land, as the · ernment notice asking Khaleda to leave

Khaleda's appeal against the . The second petition sought a stay High Court order on the house : order on the HC judgment. The third and petition for status quo, ; sought permission for Khaleda to return · to the disputed house while also seeking a According to the officials: status quo on the residence.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7 : The apex court's decision came after



an unprecedented chaos that played out in the courtroom for half an hour. It stemmed from insistence by Khaleda's lawyers to hold a hearing on a contempt petition, ignoring the court's requests to

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

AL, BNP

No formal

reaction from

Both ruling Awami League (AL) and opposition BNP kept away from giving any formal reaction over the Supreme Court (SC) decision on Khaleda Zia's appeal in respect of her cantonment house case.

Sharing personal opinions, a BNP leader blamed the ruling party for the court decision, which went against his party chief, while an AL leader said court has taken decision on its own and as per law.

Jamaat-e-Islami, one of the allies of BNP, however, said people's confidence in the SC would have increased if it had accepted the petition of : Khaleda Zia, as it was an **SEE PAGE 15 COL 7**

Hartal

today

hartal.

police.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The main opposition BNP

enforces a countrywide dawn-

to-dusk hartal for today amid

huge preparation of the gov-

ernment to resist any sort of

"anarchy" in the name of

Law enforcers yesterday

foiled pro-hartal processions

in many areas of the capital by

charging batons on protesters

while in many cases BNP

and processions across the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Judiciary insulted

Top legal experts term role of Khaleda's lawyers shocking

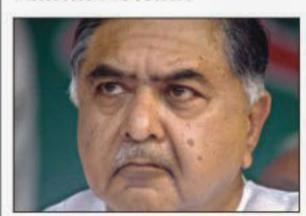
WASIM BIN HABIB and RAKIB AHAMMED

Legal experts yesterday criticised the role of Leader of the Opposition and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's counsels for "not taking part in the hearing properly" before the Supreme Court during hearing of her cantonment house case.

They however expressed mixed reaction over dismissal of Khaleda's leave-to-appeal petition, labelling the case politically "important and sensitive".

Court deserves respect

Kamal Hossain



Eminent Jurist Dr Kamal Hossain said, "In order to have contested issues settled by the highest judiciary, it requires sincere efforts by all parties to maintain respect for the court

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

I'm against call

for resignation Dr M Zahir



activists got into clashes with Noted jurist Dr M Zahir said it is the discretion of the court to The party, to muster suptake up the matters as the port for the hartal, has been court wishes. holding mass contact, rallies

However, the court could have disposed of the contempt **SEE PAGE 15 COL 4**

Lawyers did not behave

Ghulam Rabbani



Ghulam Rabbani, a former judge of the Appellate Division, said the reported behaviour of the learned advocates has pained him. Under article 112 of the SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Hearing could've been adjourned

Rokan Uddin Mahmud



Eminent lawyer barrister Rokan Uddin Mahmud said the SC could have adjourned the leave-to-appeal petition alongside the contempt of court petition as the case was

djuice

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

The arguments

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Appellate Division judges yesterday got into a heated debate with Khaleda Zia's counsels TH Khan and Rafique-ul Huq for 90 minutes over prioritising the BNP chairperson's three petitions for hearing.

The court sat at 9:20am and began the proceedings on the cantonment house ten minutes later. At the beginning of the proceed-

ings, TH Khan started placing SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

PADMA BRIDGE PROJECT

Japan pledges \$100m additional credit

Kan assures Hasina of relaxing GSP rules of origin for Bangladeshi knitwear

UNB, Tokyo

Japan will provide additional \$100 million to Bangladesh for the construction of the Padma

The announcement came in a joint statement signed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan in Tokyo yesterday evening.

The additional \$100 million will be given in the form of Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan to implement the Padma Multipurpose Bridge Project.

With this additional \$100 million in ODA, Japan's total contribution for the construction of the Padma Bridge stands at \$400 million, PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad told newsmen after the summit talks of the two prime ministers at the PM's Office where the joint statement was signed.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1 **PHOTO ON PAGE 16** PRE-HARTAL VIOLENCE

50 hurt, 300 more held

13 vehicles torched; 15 vandalised across the country

STAR REPORT

On the eve of the hartal called by BNP, at least 50 people were injured in clashes in the capital and elsewhere in the country and 300 people were detained during 24 hours till yesterday

The arrested include the members of the main opposition BNP, its associate bodies and one of its key allies Jamaat-e-Islami.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police held another 300 people during the period on various charges.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1 PHOTO ON PAGE 16



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