

Everybody wants peace

FROM PAGE 20 administration in a bid to calm the situation down imposed section 144 in the town from 11:00am that day.

The ban on assembly was lifted Monday evening.

"We have to make sure it [Saturday's violence] does not happen again. No matter who is Bangalee or indigen-ous, the innocent suffer the most in such incidents," said Nirumoi Chakma, a private service holder who attended

yesterday's procession.

Another participant Nurul Afsar, who runs a school in Rangamati for physically disabled children, said, "We, the indigenous and Bangalee people, want to coexist peacefully. The administra-tion should identify the trouble-makers and ensure punish-ment to them."

A special review meeting on law and order was held at the deputy commissioner's office after the procession.

State Minister for Chittagong Hill Tract Affairs Dipankar Talukder, Chakma Raja Debashish Roy, Rangamati region com-mander of army Brig Gen Sarwar Hossain, chairman of Rangamati Hill District Council Nikhil Kumar Chakma were present there, among others.

The decisions in the meeting include forming of Sampreeti [Amity] Committees in every ward

with leaders of all communi-ties, increasing people-to-people interaction, setting up of police boxes at the entry points of Rangamati Govt College and Sadar Hospital, ensuring uniform and identity cards for college students, and continuing ban on bringing out proces-sions on the college campus.

At the meeting, State Minister Dipankar Talukder said peace would prevail in the hills once gunrunning

and extortion were stopped there. Illegal toll collection by armed goons creates disturbance to and destabi-lises the peaceful situation in the hills, he added.

He urged all to keep from criminal activities and work together to ensure a peace-ful coexistence of indige-nous and Bangalee people. The state minister also requested the authorities concerned to beef up intelli-gence activities in the town.

Respect int'l laws

FROM PAGE 1 The premier said it was very unfortunate that given the current power struc-ture of global institutions, equitable applications of international law and reali-sation of a fair global order based on the rule of law for all, remain an illusion.

"To have a fair world order based on the rule of law, powerful nations must support fair and just appli-cation of customary inter-national law in the multi-lateral decision-making process," she said.

Hasina said it became necessary to reaffirm man-kind's faith in the fair and equitable application of the law, the UN charter, International Court of Justice and other global laws for peaceful settle-ment of disputes.

Multilateral institutions should also assist develop-ing countries for their capacity-building efforts aimed at efficient imple-mentation of the rule of law, she told the discus-sion.

The premier reaffirmed her country's commitment to peace and justice, say-ing, "Bangladesh believes in sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interfer-ence in the internal affairs of other nations."

Expressing her personal commitment to peace, justice, development and women empowerment, she said her government was concentrating all efforts towards entrenching the rule of law at home and elsewhere.

"I shall continue doing the same with the active moral, ethical, and techni-cal support of all stake-holders to the rule of law," she added.

Hasina mentioned the enactment of Legal Aid Services Regulation Act 2001 during her govern-ment's previous tenure to make the legal services affordable to the vulnera-ble and marginalised groups.

To strengthen democ-racy and the rule of law, Bangladesh government

has strengthened the com-missions on information, anti-corruption, human rights, law, energy regula-tion, and election, the premier told the discus-sion.

She also said Bangladesh has been mak-ing relentless efforts for regional peace with taking steps to resolve many long-standing problems with neighbouring countries.

In this regard, Hasina mentioned the 30-year Ganges Water Sharing Treaty with India, signing of Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord and settle-ment of dispute with Myanmar on maritime boundary.

Presidents of the International Court of Justice and the Security Council, executive director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, chair of the International Law Commission, among others, were invited to speak at the plenary ses-sion.

Sonali Bank won't

FROM PAGE 1 office told The Daily Star that they had identified the "cul-prits" and would take action against them on arrival of Pradip Kumar from the UK, where he was attending a meeting.

But the bank at a meeting with a parliamentary probe committee yesterday decided not to file any case.

"We've complained to the Anti-Corruption Commission and it will take action against the Hall-Mark Group officials, including its chairman and managing

director," Pradip said.

Asked about recovering the money, he said: "We're trying our best."

"Tanvir Mahmud [Hall-Mark managing director] has promised to pay back the loans."

Pradip, however, did not say when the money would be recovered.

Md Tazul Islam, who is heading the four-member government probe commit-tee, said his team visited the bank's headquarters yesterday as part of the investigation.

"We're not here to probe criminal charges. We'll see internal control, risk man-agement and accountability issue of the bank," he said.

A Bangladesh Bank inves-tigation found that the Ruposhi Bangla branch of Sonali Bank lent Hall-Mark Group and five other compa-nies Tk 3,547 crore from 2010 till May this year.

Of the sum, all swindled using fake papers, Hall-Mark alone took Tk 2,686 crore.

Together with a section of the bank's top management

and branch officials, prime minister's Health Adviser Modasser Ali's name came up in the scam.

He is alleged to have helped Hall-Mark in embez-zling the money, a charge he rejects.

"The investigation is going on and we cannot say who will be quizzed and who will not be quizzed," Tazul Islam told The Daily Star.

The lawmaker, however, said AKM Azizur Rahman, an official of the Sonali Bank's Ruposhi Bangla branch who

Plea to remove Justice Manik

FROM PAGE 1 yesterday for forwarding to the Supreme Judicial Council.

The SJC is comprised of the chief justice and two senior judges of the SC Appellate Division and is empowered to probe allega-tions against any judge.

A total of 29 allegations were included against Justice Manik, a press release from the newspaper office said. They include violation of laws on money laundering prevention and foreign currency exchange and concealing wealth informa-tion.

The HC judge had bought three houses in London, showing the costs at Tk 40 lakh, despite paying many times higher, the statement read, adding that he had not

mentioned any account or source of this "extra money" in income tax papers sub-mitted in London.

The HC judge has pro-vided the wrong address about one of the houses and concealed his wealth infor-mation before the London authorities, the press release said, citing Rahman's state-ments in the application.

Justice Manik had another residence in London other than the three houses mentioned in his tax record, according to the press release. The record says nothing about sending the money from Bangladesh to London.

Citing the allegations brought by Rahman, the release said there was no scope for sending so much

money directly out of Bangladesh as per foreign currency exchange and money laundering laws.

Rahman also claimed Justice Manik had committed misconduct by making political statements against the opposition political parties and in favour of the ruling party through partici-pating on different televi-sion talk shows in London.

On June 18, an HC bench led by Justice Manik issued a contempt of court rule against Mahmudur Rahman, for publishing a "false report" on the judge's UK residences.

The same day, three prom-inent lawyers -- Rokanuddin Mahmud, Shafiuddin Ahmed and Ruhul Quddus Kazal -- told the bench that

Justice Manik was appointed an HC judge after he had bought the residences in 1981, 1982 and 1983.

Echoing their views, Justice Manik said that what he had earned during his student and professional life in London was enough to purchase the houses.

Later, the Appellate Division stayed the order of the HC bench.

Sources closed to Justice Manik said the judge on August 23 served a legal notice through his solicitors in London, asking Rahman to apologise for the report and not to repeat such "un-true and defamatory" alle-gations against him.

Yesterday, SC Registrar AKM Shamsul Islam told The Daily Star that his office had received the application from Mahmudur Rahman, but he had no authority to place such an application before the SJC members as per the constitution.

He said if there was any allegation against a judge, it had to be placed before the Supreme Judicial Council through the president.

Oliullah Noman, a reporter of Amar Desh, said he had submitted a copy of the application on behalf of Mahmudur Rahman to Bangabhaban, official resi-dence of the president, over the sending of the allega-tions to the SJC.

But Nesar Uddin Bhuiyan, press secretary to the presi-dent, said his office had not received such an application.

Meanwhile, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed told The Daily Star that he had heard about the application. It is unacceptable, for a private person cannot bring allega-tion against an HC judge.

But a legal expert request-ing anonymity said anybody could appeal to the presi-dent to send allegations against an HC judge to the Supreme Judicial Council for investigation as per Article 96 of the constitution.

Receiving the allegations, the council may hear argu-ments from the complainants and the accused as part of the enquiry and then send a report with recommenda-tions to the president, he said.

Temporary repair makes

FROM PAGE 20 nuts and bolts.

Appointed by the army, Malaysian Hercules Engineering had carried out the temporary repair from September 1 to September 7.

They fixed 35-millimetre-thick steel plates with nuts and bolts. A layer of bitumen was laid to fill the gap between the steel plates and the bridge's deck.

Besides, hinge bearings were also fixed underneath the bridge as part of the temporary repair.

To carry out the repair, traffic was kept suspended on the bridges for six hours from midnight every day.

The repair helped reduce vibration on the bridges, but nuts and bolts started falling off from the expansion joints a couple of hours after traffic was allowed over the bridges.

This has compelled the authorities to readjust the nuts and bolts on a regular basis. The job was assigned to Infertech Bangladesh.

"We monitor the expan-sion joints round the clock and readjust the nuts and bolts whenever required," said Sorwar, an engineer of Infertech Bangladesh. He

blamed overloading and excessive speed of vehicles for the problem.

Experts of Buet, however, attributed the problem to improper design of steel plates. "The plates are not effective as those are very thick," said Prof Saiful Amin, one of the members of the three-member consultancy team of the civil engineering department of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet).

According to fundamental rules, the steel plates should be installed at either 1/2 millimetre below or parallel to the deck of the bridge. But in the Meghna and Meghna-Gumti bridges, the plates have been installed above the

deck. As a result, vehicles crossing the bridge hit the plates, he added.

"We had suggested that they should use much thinner steel plates, but we don't know why the design was not used. We were not aware of the fact that they were using thick plates," mentioned the Buet expert.

Prof M Azadur Rahman, consultant of the army, ruled out the claim by the Buet experts. "There is nothing wrong with our method as we used it only as a temporary solution. It was anticipated that the nuts and bolts will be dislodged."

"It was not technically possible to fix the expansion joints properly in six hours

time.... Our target was to reduce vibration on the bridge and we have achieved that."

Asked about the quality of the repair work, acting com-munications secretary MAN Siddique said, "I am not denying the fact, but it was only a temporary repair and both the bridges are now safe and fit for traffic."

Earlier, the government took a Tk 150 crore project to repair Meghna and Meghna-Gumti bridges as the infra-structures became risky for traffic due to severe damage to the expansion joints and hinge bearings.

Permanent repairs of the bridges are due by the end of this year.

বাংলাদেশ ইনস্টিটিউট অব ম্যানেজমেন্ট
BANGLADESH INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT (BIM)
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OBITUARY

Khawaja Mahmud Ahsanullah Son of Late Nawabzada Khawaja Ahsanullah passed away in London, England on 24th September 2012. Innnalillahi Wainnailihi Razeun. His Doa Mahfil will be held after Magrib on 27th September at House No. 32, Road No.113, Gulshan-1, Dhaka. All relation and friend's are requested to attained and pray for the departed soul.

FROM
Begum Shamsunnahar Ahsanullah and Family

Bangladesh Ordnance Factories (BOF)
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Re-Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in prescribed form are invited from bonafide manufacturers/local agents/importers/suppliers for supplying of the following items:

Serial	Nomenclature & qty	Last date of selling tender form	Date of dropping & opening tender	Currency	Price of tender form	Tender No. & date
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
1.	High Quality Hot Rolled Round Steel with 12 items. Raw Material for Rifle BD-08.	08 October 2012 1200 hrs	09 October 2012 Dropping 1200 hrs Opening 1205 hrs	Local	Tk. 2000/- (non-refundable)	23.04.0000.166.86.4856.12.13 dt 12-09-12
2.	High Quality Cold Drawn Steel Wire with 14 items. Raw Material for Rifle BD-08.	08 October 2012 1200 hrs	09 October 2012 Dropping 1200 hrs Opening 1205 hrs	Local	Tk. 1000/- (non-refundable)	23.04.0000.166.86(Ka).4856.12.13 dt 12-09-12
3.	High Quality Cold Drawn Round Steel with 10 items. Raw Material for Rifle BD-08.	08 October 2012 1200 hrs	09 October 2012 Dropping 1200 hrs Opening 1205 hrs	Local	Tk. 2000/- (non-refundable)	23.04.0000.166.86(Kha).4856.12.13 dt 12-09-12
4.	High Quality Hot Rolled Flat Steel with 12 items for Raw Material Rifle BD - 08.	08 October 2012 1200 hrs	09 October 2012 Dropping 1200 hrs Opening 1205 hrs	Local	Tk. 2000/- (non-refundable)	23.04.0000.166.88.4856.12.13 dt 12-09-12
5.	High Quality Cold Drawn Steel Wire with 14 items. Raw Material for Rifle BD - 08.	08 October 2012 1200 hrs	09 October 2012 Dropping 1200 hrs Opening 1205 hrs	Local	Tk. 2000/- (non-refundable)	23.04.0000.166.88(Ka).4856.12.13 dt 12-09-12
6.	Precision Instrument Lathe Machine - 01 No.	22 October 2012 1200 hrs	23 October 2012 Dropping 1200 hrs Opening 1205 hrs	Foreign	Tk. 500/- (non-refundable)	23.04.0000.167.100(iii).6813.12.13 dt 14-09-12
7.	Pure Lead No-2 1,00,000 Kg	08 October 2012 1200 hrs	09 October 2012 Dropping 1200 hrs Opening 1205 hrs	Local	Tk. 5000/- (non-refundable)	23.04.0000.166.52(ii).4856.12.13 dt 04-09-12
8.	Pure Lead No-2 12,500 Kg	22 October 2012 1200 hrs	23 October 2012 Dropping 1200 hrs Opening 1205 hrs	Local	Tk. 5000/- (non-refundable)	23.04.0000.166.347(ii).4856.12.13 dt 04-09-12

Notes:

- Supplier enlisted at BOF, DGDP and any other defence organization, who have security clearance will only be eligible to participate in the above tenders.
- Tender forms with detail specifications and terms & conditions will be available in the BOF Auditorium on all working days between 9.00am to 1.00pm.
- Commandant BOF reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without any reason thereof.

Deputy Director Material
For Commandant

GD-3702

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Baseline Study: Union Parishad Governance Project

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United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh seeks proposals from interested Firms/companies for "Baseline Study: Union Parishad Governance Project". All interested Firms/companies may request the Bidding documents (RFP) from arifa.ahmed@undp.org by a formal request to UNDP that will register bidders into participants list. So any correspondence, questions regarding the bidding documents and respective answers can be sent to all bidders.

Submission of Proposal: Potential Companies/Firms are requested to submit their bids in sealed envelopes marked with "Proposal for Baseline Study: Union Parishad Governance Project" and should be addressed to the UNDP Bangladesh, Procurement Unit, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh.

The deadline for submission of Proposal is 11 October 2012, 16.30 (Bangladesh Local Time)