



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

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Big borrowers to get 15 years to repay default loans

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CRISIS HAS PASSED
Says rejuvenated Obama at State of the Union address

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Bounty for tip-off on attackers

Govt, 14-party alliance combine administrative, political strength to contain violence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday announced a number of steps, including Tk 1 lakh reward each for helping law enforcers arrest troublemakers, to contain political violence, while the ruling alliance vowed to keep attackers at bay with its political might.

Setting arrest of arsonists its top priority, the government decided to intensify the ongoing nationwide drive to arrest arsonists and attackers.

The decisions came at a special meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Law and Order at the home ministry.

Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu, who heads the committee, chaired the meeting convened against the backdrop of a spate of violence since the BNP-led combine's non-stop blockade began on January 6.

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Bappy wrapped in bandage at the burn unit of the DMCH yesterday. The Chhatra Dal leader lost his right hand and injured his nephew and niece while the bomb he allegedly was making went off at his Lalbagh home.

PHOTO: STAR

'Bomb-maker' JCD leader hurt in city

Blast also injures 2; Shibir's bomb factory busted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three people were injured in an explosion when the bomb a Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leader was making went off at Lalbagh yesterday.

Police meanwhile busted a bomb-making factory of Shibir and recovered 130 crude bombs in Mohakhali and arrested several Shibir activists in possession of homemade bombs across the country.

According to witnesses, Happy Akhter Sumi, 13, student of Azimpur Girls School, and six-year-old Ripon, had their bodies riddled with splinters. They were inside the room when the bomb went off.

The right hand of Mahbubur Rahman Bappy, 28, who was allegedly making the bomb, was blown off from the wrist.

Deputy Commissioner of Police Mofiz Uddin Ahmed of Lalbagh Division claimed that Bappy was the general secretary of the

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PM AT SANGSAD Khaleda can be brought to justice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said it would be logical to take legal action against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia for masterminding criminal activities that were leading to deaths and loss of property in the ongoing blockade.

"She [Khaleda Zia] has been giving orders and people are being burnt alive on her directives," Hasina said during a question-answer session in parliament.

"So it will be only logical to bring Khaleda Zia to justice as an accused who masterminded these killings. The law

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Blockaders attack police again

3 hurt in Ctg blast; bomb hurled at train; daily arrests across the country jump to over 2,000

STAR REPORT

Police have once again come under a bomb attack.

Three on-duty constables were wounded as suspected blockade supporters hurled two crude bombs targeting them in Chittagong yesterday.

They were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital with splinter injuries in their legs. Doctors said they were out of danger.

The attack took place near Rose Garden Community Centre at Chandgaon in the

port city around 7:00pm.

Earlier in the capital on Saturday, at least 13 policemen were injured in an arson and bomb attack on a bus carrying about 30 cops near Matsya Bhaban. Two of them are still under treatment.

Meanwhile, the first day of the 48-hour hartal called by the BNP-led 20-party alliance in Dhaka and Khulna divisions was marked by stray incidents of vandalism, arson and explosion in different parts of the country.

At least 11 vehicles came under arson attacks in different districts, two of them in

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Law enforcers being given licence to kill

Alleges 20-party

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-led 20-party alliance yesterday issued a strong warning against the "government's conspiracy to kill opposition men by giving the law enforcement agencies and party cadres the licence to kill."

The combine said the ruling party high-ups are provoking its criminals to take law in their own hands by advocating in favour of the "shoot on sight" order and extrajudicial killings.

In a statement, the alliance called upon all the members of the law enforcement agencies to discharge their duties lawfully

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BLOCKADE, HARTAL O-, A-level exams cancelled

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The O- and A-level examinations scheduled for yesterday and today in Dhaka have been cancelled due to the BNP-led alliance's 48-hour shutdown in the division that began yesterday morning.

However, the examinations in other divisions will be held as per the schedule, said officials of the British Council Bangladesh, which administers the examinations in the country.

Examinations on four papers -- one O-level and three A-level -- were supposed to be held in two shifts yesterday. O-level examinees had English Literature and A-level examinees had Physics Unit-3, Business Studies Unit-4 and Mechanic Unit-2 exams.

Tests on four more subjects are scheduled for today. The papers are Further Mathematics Paper-2 of O-level, and

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