

# Meetings, rallies on final day of hartal

## 5-day protest against NA postponement ends

DACCA, March 6: The five-day hartal to protest against the postponement of the National Assembly session in response to a call by the Awami League chief Sheikh Mujibur Rahman ended today.

The stage is now set for the final programme of the movement. The concluding programme is to hold a mammoth mass rally at the Race Course Maidan tomorrow afternoon which Sheikh Mujib will address.

The hartal today was for eight hours from 6 in the morning.

On the last day today, scores of meetings and rallies were held and processions brought out from various parts of the city. Other parts of the province also observed the hartal through holding of public meetings and protest processions.

The commercial banks also remained open for two hours for cash transactions, according to an earlier directive of the Awami League chief.

The Bangla National Awami Party (Wall Group) held a public meeting at New Market. The meeting was organised to protest against the killing of unarmed civilians and launch a movement to realise the rights of the people. The meeting was presided over by Prof. Muzaffar Ah-

med, President of the Party, and addressed by Mr. Mohiuddin Ahmed and Begum Motia Chowdhury. In their speech, the speakers said that people must continue the movement as the vested interest and conspirators were active. They expressed the determination that the goal of the people would be achieved.

The East Pakistan Students Union also organised a meeting at Shahid Minar to protest against the killing of unarmed civilians and the postponement of the National Assembly session.

Bangla Chitra League held a rally before Baitul Mukarram and the Dacca Motor Drivers Union at New Market.

Under the auspices of the Women's branch of Awami League, a meeting of the women of the city was held at Shahid Minar in the afternoon. The meeting, presided over by Mrs. Badrunnissa Ahmed, condemned the "killings" of the civilians and expressed solidarity with the movement of the people. They also brought out a procession which paraded the city streets.

The Bangla National League held a public meeting at the Paltan Maidan. It strongly condemned the "killings" of unarmed civilians. The speakers urged the people to continue the movement at all costs and expressed the hope that the rights of the common men would be established despite the opposition of vested interest.

At a gathering of the artistes at Bangla Academy, complete solidarity with the struggle of the people was expressed. The artistes decided to restrict their participation in Radio and Television programmes in view of the present political situation. The meeting, which was addressed, among others, by actor Mustafa and Hasan Imam also called for mass-oriented cultural activities in the province.

The teachers of the non-Government schools in Dacca and Narayanganj held a rally at Shahid Minar in the evening.

The Dacca Central Students Union brought out a torch procession from the Baitul Mukarram in the evening. They paraded the city streets raising slogans against the "killing" of the people and demanding the establishment of the rights of Bengalis.

Those who brought out the procession, included the Bangla Airways Union; Udichi, a cultural or-

## 7 killed, 30 others injured in Dacca Jail wardens open fire on escapees

DACCA, March 6: Seven prisoners, two convicts and two under trials, were killed and 30 others, including seven convicts wounded, when the Jail wardens opened fire on the prisoners who broke open the Dacca Central Jail here this morning, according to Jail authorities.

The Jail authorities told the APP the 325 prisoners, including 16 convicts, escaped the jail by breaking open the cella Jail gate and jumping over the high walls. Sixteen others, including four convicts who also escaped the jail, were later recaptured.

Six guards and one sergeant were injured when they clashed with prisoners at the latter's attempt to overpower the guards in their escape attempt.

Later, those convicts and the under trial prisoners, who escaped

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# East Wing hartal

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organisation, and Rajabag tannery workers.

Trains and domestic flights of PIA remained suspended since Tuesday. Similarly cinema houses and studios remained closed.

During these days all educational institutions were closed and black flags were fluttering atop all buildings in the city.

After the hartal period city life returned to normal conditions. Buses and vehicles reappeared on the streets.

The East Pakistan Union of Journalists (EPUJ) brought out a procession from the Press Club and held a mass rally before the Baitul Mukarram.

Addressing the rally, the President of Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists, Mr. K. G. Mustafa congratulated the heroic people of Bangla Desh in their struggle for establishing the rights of the people. He said the ruling clique had been engaged in conspiracy against the whole population of the country. He urged the people to unite against them.

Mr. K. G. Mustafa called upon the journalists all over the world to correctly project the struggle of the people here so that public opinion could be moulded in favour of the just struggle of the people of Bangla Desh.

He also urged the journalists to reflect truly the struggle of the people in their work and said that they should not be deterred by the restrictions. He also appealed to the journalists of West Pakistan to support the struggle of the people of East Bengal. The rally was also addressed by Mr. Ali Ashraf, President of EPUJ and Mr. Ataus Samad, former General Secretary of the Union.—APP.

PPI adds: A big public meeting at Paltan Maidan this afternoon called upon the National Assembly members of Bangla Desh to frame a socialist constitution of their own to end exploitation for good.

Organised by the Bangla National League, the meeting was presided over by Mr. Oli Ahad, General Secretary of the League.

The meeting in a resolution also stressed the urgent need for forming a joint front by all political parties against the conspiracy to foil the constitution that would be framed by the elected members of Bangla Desh.

The resolution opined that the establishment of a society free from exploitation was the only course open to end the exploitation and injustice that had been perpetuated on Bangla Desh during the last 22 years.

The same resolution described the postponement of the National Assembly session scheduled to begin here on March 3 as a part of conspiracy and said outburst of the seven crore Bengalees

against the postponement amply reflected their determination to realise their demand at any cost.

Addressing the meeting Mr. Oli Ahad explained how Bangla Desh had been groaning under oppression and exploitation all the years of our independence and appealed to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to adopt a positive programme and announce it in his tomorrow's meeting at Ramna Race Course Maidan.

In his speech Mr. Ahad traced the historic struggle of the people of Algeria, Palestine and Viet-Nam and said that emulating the stirring struggle of these peoples would inspire us in our struggle for the realisation of the rights of Bangla Desh.

After the meeting a procession was brought out which paraded the main streets before dispersing at central Shahid Minar.

A meeting was held in front of Bangla Academy in the afternoon which was attended by artistes from Radio Television, film and stage.

Presided over by Mrs. Latia Arjumand Banoo it was addressed, among other, by Messrs. Anwar Hussain and Razaque. The speakers expressed their solidarity with the present movement.

They also called the fellow artistes to boycott the media where curbs had been imposed against proper focussing of people's views.

The artistes brought out a procession after the meeting and paraded the main streets of the city.

The biggest women rally of the day was held at the Central Shaheed Minar this afternoon under the auspices of the Women branch of the Awami League.

Presided over by MNA-elect Mrs. Badrunnessa Ahmed, the lady speaker expressed their solidarity with the struggling masses and called upon each and every woman all over Bangla Desh to fight shoulder to shoulder with their fellow brethren for the establishment of the legitimate rights of the people.

The mass women's rally was attended by women from different walks of life including students, housewives, teachers political workers and nurses. A big women's procession was brought out after the rally which paraded the main streets of the city chanting various slogans.

The Bangla Onattra League held a meeting in front of Baitul Mukarram and the Students Union (Motia Group) in front of the Central Shaheed minar this morning. Speakers at both the meeting expressed their full support with the movement for the realisation of people's rights.

Both the organisations brought out a procession and paraded the main streets of the city raising various slogans.