

# Many leaders support Mujib's four demands

## Bhutto's intransigence held responsible for crisis

Mian Nizamuddin Haider, MNA-elect and a leader of the Bahawalpur United Front, has expressed full support for the four demands put forth by Shaikh Mujibur Rahman and urged the Government to accept them so that the present grave political crisis can be resolved.

In a statement issued last night he said that Shaikh Mujibur Rahman was one of the greatest patriots and believed in one united Pakistan. He said he had a long association with Awami League chief and knew that he (Mujib) was solidly behind the concept of solidarity and integrity of Pakistan. He said attribution of unwarranted motives to his political struggle for the rights of the peoples was the work of those who were jealous of his tremendous popularity with the masses and were annoyed because they found their ambitions for coming into power frustrated.

Referring to Shaikh Mujibur Rehman's complaint that he had been completely neglected by the Government while taking important decisions was fully justified as he was the leader of the majority party in the country. "In the present circumstances he is the only man who can keep Pakistan together and I appeal to people to rally around Shaikh Mujibur Rehman" he said.

### LAHORE

Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, West Wing chief of the Pakistan Democratic Party, urged the President, Gen. A. M. Yahya Khan, here today to go to East Pakistan to thrash out and settle national issues with Sheikh Mujibur Rehman and other patriotic leaders.

He also urged lawyers, students, other intellectuals and labour leaders to make spirited efforts for holding a national convention in which the solution of major national problems was found out.

He said in a press statement that the conditional participation of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman in the National Assembly session on March 25 might be differed with, but it was not unexpected.

He said he had been making strong pleas that under the prevalent situation in the country no such constitution as guarantee national integrity could be framed. That task had now been rendered fairly difficult by the clash of personalities. The sooner this realisation dawned on us, the better for the entire country.

Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan said in a democratic country people were the foundation-head of power. Unfortunately, however, a politician, to stress upon the importance of his party, had not hesitated to term the Armed Forces of Pakistan as a political force in the country. He said the same leader had tried to dish out the impression by holding long meetings with these at the helm of national affairs that influenced the

Progressive Papers affairs, international hockey tournament, Indian plane hijacking, not even lathi charge was resorted to.

"We whole-heartedly support the four demands put forward by Sheikh Mujibur Rehman since he should be repository of all power in the country in view of the mandate given to him by the thumping majority of Pakistan.

### RAWALPINDI

Major (Retd) Aslam Jan former MPA has said that Sheikh Mujibur Rehman chief of Awami League has taken a right step by announcing his decision to participate in the National Assembly session to be held on March 25.

In a Press statement Mr. Aslam Jan appreciated that Sheikh Mujibur Rehman has not outrightly rejected to participate in the National Assembly session. This, he added, will go a long way to save the situation from further deterioration.

He said that the conditions put by Sheikh Sahib could be negotiated. He said that when the major parties of East and West Pakistan attend the National Assembly session and frame the constitution within the stipulated period Martial Law will automatically be lifted. This, he added will lead to transfer of power to the elected representatives of the people.

Major (Retd) Aslam Jan appealed to the leaders of other parliamentary groups to rise themselves to the occasion and make their best efforts to resolve the present constitutional deadlock.

He said that he was confident that Sheikh Mujibur Rehman believed in the integrity and solidarity of Pakistan.

He also said that there should be no further postponement in the National Assembly session.

Syed Ali Asghar Shah, President of Islamabad Convention Muslim League, and a former MNA, has said that Sheikh Mujibur Rehman has taken a wise decision to participate in the National Assembly session.

However, he added, that it would have been better if Sheikh Sahib had not put conditions for his participation in the National Assembly session.

Mr M. S. Siddiqui local chief of Tehrik-i-Istiqal has welcomed the decision of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman to participate in the National Assembly session.

He said that the nation heaved a sigh of relief that Sheikh Sahib had not outrightly rejected to participate in the Assembly session.

He said that decision of Sheikh Sahib will help a great deal to resolve the constitutional deadlock which will result in transfer of power to the elected representatives of the people.

### SARGODHA

ings with these at the helm of national affairs that influenced the political decisions of the Government. Amendment to the Legal Framework Order, postponement of the election for the women's seats from West Pakistan in the National Assembly, announcement on March 1 postponing the session of the National Assembly convened for March 3 and lately the President's announcement re-fixing the date for the session of the National Assembly on March 25 after five-six hours meeting with the same leader were accident which could not be ignored. And it was natural that Sheikh Mujibur Rehman should have gathered a special impression from them. He warned that Pakistani people were least concerned as to who succeeded in the clash of personalities. They were simply concerned that the national solidarity was not undermined owing to this struggle. He said the event which unfolded themselves in East Pakistan during the last few days had aggravated the situation, and fears were harboured that any extreme action might be announced by the Awami League leadership. Thank God, Sheikh Mujibur Rehman had allayed these fears by refraining from any extreme announcement.

Sardar Snaukat Hayat Khan, President, Punjab Council Muslim League, said we must get down to constitution-making at the earliest possible opportunity.

He said Sheikh Mujibur Rehman's demand regarding the inquiry was legitimate and it should be conducted by a judicial tribunal. We must make every effort to remove any feeling of distrust in the mind of the majority party leader, he added.

He maintained that it would be advisable and proper to assist the elected majority of the country in running its affairs and restore the confidence among the people of East Pakistan.

Seven Karachi Awami League leaders here urged the Government not to take any half-hearted measures and should allow the National Assembly to be held in a peaceful and congenial atmosphere.

The already tense atmosphere, they said in a statement issued here tonight should not be allowed to grow worse.

The statement was signed by Shaikh Manzurul Haq, President, Mr. S.A.H. Bilgrami, Vice-President, Mr. W. A. Choudhury, Vice-President, Mr Khalid Ahmed Trimizi, General Secretary, Syed Ahson Ali, Organising Secretary, Pir Mohammad Bashir Siddiqui, Hon. Treasurer and Khwaja Abdul Malik, Publicity Secretary, all of Karachi Awami League.

The statement continued: "It is an accepted convention the world over that while convening the National Assembly of a country, the majority party is consulted in this respect and all other affairs concerning the nation but in Pakistan inspite repeated advises of the Awami League, the National Assembly was not convened for two long months after the general elections. On the other hand, the Assembly was convened on March 3 at the advise of PPP which is a minority party having nearly 1/4 members of the total strength and was postponed when it so demanded. When the democracy-loving people of East Pakistan protested against the decision of postponement, action was taken against them.

As against this when there were similar protests organised by PPP on the question of Pakistan

## SARGODHA

District and city chiefs of the Pakistan Awami League, Malik Uar Draz Khan, and Malik Rab Nawaz Khan, respectively have urged the Government to establish a people's Government as soon as possible.

Addressing a Press conference here today they described the decision to fix fresh date for the convening of the National Assembly as a victory for the democratic forces.

They said Sheikh Mujibur Rehman was not against the unity and integrity of the country.

They held certain western leaders responsible for the present crisis and increasing inter-wing differences.

Mr Manzoor Baluch, a prominent student leader and ex-President of Baluch Students Organisation has supported the demands of the chief of Awami League Shaikh Mujibur Rehman and said that the realisation of these demands would ensure a democratic constitution and quick transfer of power to the peoples representatives.

In a Press statement here tonight he severely condemned the attitude of the Chairman of Pakistan People's Party Mr Z. A. Bhutto and said he was putting hurdles in the way of restoration of democracy and peaceful transfer of power.—PPL

## Kasuri seeks c

(Continued from page 1)

our difference through mutual discussion. There was no harm in these discussions preceding the Assembly. But if a solution was not available before the Assembly there was no reason to become despondent that the Assembly in the absence of a previous agreement would fail. The decision of President Yahya Khan to call the Assembly on March 25 should, therefore, be an approach to resolving our difficulties.

Mian Mahmud Ali Kasuri said he had not the opportunity of reading the speech of the President of the Awami League and he reserved his right to make detailed comments after reading the same. From what he had heard on the radio a few questions immediately arose in his mind. He said: "the demand of the withdrawal of Martial Law even before the Constituent Assembly has framed a constitution, legally leads up to the revival of the constitution of 1962. If it be argued that 1962 constitution was imposed by a dictator after his predecessor had illegally abrogated the constitution of 1951 constitution, the demand for withdrawal of Martial Law could mean the immediate enforcement of the constitution of 1951.

Obviously, he said, the Awami League had to explain its position as to which of these two constitutions would become applicable with the withdrawal of the Martial Law. The third alternative could be that President Yahya Khan should promulgate a new constitution in which the civil government could function.

He said while it is possible for Martial Law Government to function from scratch, a civil Government could only function with a th