# **BTTB** cell phone

responsive afterwards. The launch of the BTTB's cell phone project is heading for a month's delay following the writ

BTTB Chairman SATM Badrul Hoque said the court has given its verdict in favour of the BTTB.

"We will do our best to minimise the delay caused by the writ petition and try to maintain the launch schedule as far as possible," he told The Daily Star yesterday.

He said, "The financial offers of responsive bidders were opened yesterday but we were behind schedule by one month after the Chinese company went to the

The BTTB in its plea said the process of floating tenders of the mobile phone project was conducted in a very transparent man-

Though the litigation delayed the process, the BTTB remains optimistic about launching the project by

## Judge appointment

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed refuted the SCBA president by telling the BBC last night that there is no hard and fast rule under which iudges of the Appellate Division must be appointed on the basis of seniority.

"It is only our tradition but there are instances that judges of the Appellate Division have been appointed ignoring the seniority status." said the law minister.

Terming the consultation with the SCBA as illogical. Moudud Ahmed said that such kind of consultation has no constitutional basis

### Promotion list

FROM PAGE 12 press secretary since his posting as

a deputy secretary. He has been elevated as the joint and additional secretary within a

Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka Syed Nakib Muslim, who was promoted as joint secretary, is expected to be posted as the private

secretary (1) to the premier. Other officials who were elevated as additional secretaries include divisional commissioners AHM Abul Kashem, Mia Mustaq Ahmed. Nazrul Islam of Dhaka. Rajshahi and Sylhet and Additional Divisional Commissioner of Dhaka

Mohammad Abdul Alim Khan. Private secretaries to the local government, rural development and cooperatives, agriculture, jute, textiles and commerce ministers Sharful Alam, Ayub Miah Habibullah Majumder, COK Mushtag Ahmed and Elias Ahmed

Besides, Shahidul Haq, director at PMO, Humayun Kabir and Arfan Ali at Cabinet Division, AKM Helaluzzaman, Mohammad Mohsin and Khandaker Rashedul Haq at the establishment ministry and deputy commissioners of Dhaka, Kushtia, Barguna, Habiganj, Jamalpur and Madaripur were also made joint secretaries.

PMO said new postings of the officials closely associated with the present government were already finalised and they would be given

planned, they added.

### Hired hitman

FROM PAGE 1

sawn-off.303 rifles.

escape on foot in two groups along the Mirzapur Road and Baitypara, Shukur said. "Five others of the squad left the

city soon after the murder and I took shelter in a house at Mahirkhal of Tootpara," the OC quoted Shukur as

sional killer of the outlawed PBCP-J. He was involved in the murders of Rampal BNP leader Aslam and two others in June last year.

Raiib Sarder, Shirin Sultana and Shukur Gazi, three of the seven arrested in connection with the killing, were placed on a three-day remand for questioning (with effect from Tuesday). A special group of intelligence officers are quizzing Shukur to know the names of the

Meanwhile, the two sons of Imam. Rumi and Jami, vesterday refused once again to implicate the BNP-Jamaat alliance in the killing without specific evidence.

They said they demand arrest of the killers and the plotters and their exemplary punishment.

Speaking a crowded press conference, Rumi and Jami reiterated their appeal not to make the murder of their father a political issue and requested people not to indulge in vandalism in the name of protest.

Former state minister Talukdar Abdul Khaleque MP, former whip Mostafa Rashidi Shuja, former MP Mannujan Sufian and president of the district AL Sheikh Harun-ur-Rashid attended the press conferfor the 250,000 GSM (global system of mobile communications) cell phone network in August, 2002, in which Ericsson (Sweden), Siemens (Germany), Nortel (Canada) and Motorola (America) along with four Chinese vendors Huawei, CMEC,

ZTE and China Putian participated. Nearly Tk 600 crore has been earmarked in the concept paper of the project. Funds will be mobilised through selling telecom bonds to the money market. The capital cost of the project will be finalised on completion of evaluation of the financial bids by the technically qualified

The number of BTTB cell phone will be raised to one million in

## 30 hurt in clash over naming of union

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna** 

At least 30 people, including the officer-in-charge (OC) of Bhangura Police Station, were injured in a clash over the naming of a new union under Bhangura upazila on

The clash ensued between the residents of Mondatosh and Baral villages as both sections demanded the new union be named after their respective village.

Additional police force from neighbouring Chatmohar Police Station went to the spot and brought the situation under control.

According to sources, OC Sakhawat Hossain was hospitalised after the clash. However, police claimed the OC was injured other-

Police have been deployed in the locality to avert any further skirmish.

## Pintu's brother

the charges of a February 16, 2002 double murder in Keraniganj.

The tribunal could not begin its trial yesterday because of the HC order, although the complainant appeared before court to give his deposition. The court sought a supplemen-

tary copy of the HC stay order from the government and scheduled the submission of the copy for An HC Division Bench compris-

ing Justice Gour Gopal Saha and Justice Abdus Salam Mamun issued the stay order that came after Additional Attorney-General Abdur Rezak Khan filed the petition on behalf of the government against the August 17 rejection order of the

Earlier, the home ministry sent a letter to the Dhaka metropolitan public prosecutor (PP) to pave the way for relieving the accused of the charges that it said were fabricated.

The tribunal said the government did not mention in its petition why the charges should be withdrawn.

The nine others are Salahuddin. Mohammad Moula, Mohammad Hasan, Jahangir, Maniur Ali Shahin, Mohammad Alam Mohammad Meshah and Javed The tribunal framed charges against Monir and 22 others

Monir and eight others are in iail custody, while another 10 are out on bail. But Talim, Azad, Javed and Mesbah have been absconding since the murder.

Amir Abullah. 26. secretary of the Ziniira Market Association and sports secretary of the Zinjira Union Jubo Dal and 30-vear-old Sentu. a lessee of a cattle market at Zinjira Bazar, were shot dead on February 16 last year.

### New Market

not to mention how unbearable it became for us to run shops," said fishmonger Joynal, now selling fish by candlelight. "Buvers can't even see fish. How

can I sell them?" he guipped, when asked how he was managing his business in the dark. Because of its structure, the

kitchen market is worst hit by the power outage that made the building creepy dark, hot and humid.

Shopkeepers of the much-open New Market have been using handfans and most of the big shops using generators to cope with the outage. "But how long can you keep the generators going?" asked a

The DESA officials denied the allegation of asking for money from the power users. An official of the DESA's Kataban Control Room said. "The DESA officials never asked for money. They are always under pressure from people. The situation turned dangerous for the DESA staff, as the power users got angry at the long-time outage."

Another DESA official said the problem stemmed from huge outstanding bills of the consumers in e market area.

The shop owners and shopkeepers have threatened a bigger movement in case the DESA does not restore power immediately.

## SC asks BTRC to decide on ETV licence in 90 days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday gave Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) 90 days to dispose of the application of the Ekushey Television (ETV) for

Court (HC) Division directed the BTRC to dispose of the issue within

Challenging the HC order, the government attorney filed a leave to appeal petition with the Appellate Division. The government also sought a stay on the HC verdict. But the Appellate Division did not entertain the government petition, though it extended the HC deadline to 90 days from 30 days.

Meanwhile, the ETV's lawyer Dr. Kamal Hossain challenged the authority of government attorney to stand in the court for the BTRC, as it is an independent autonomous body. Advocate Abdul Matin Khasru assisted him.

The ETV. the first private terresrial TV channel that broke years of state monopoly in the electronic media, was shut down following a Supreme Court verdict on August 29 last year that declared its licence llegal after 28 months on the air.

The government seized the ETV equipment on the heels of the

## Two get life for rape

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal.

The Speedy Trial Tribunal, Barisal yesterday sentenced two to life imprisonment and fined each of them Tk 20,000 for abducting and raping a woman.

Judge Md Abdul Quddus Mia handed down the judgement in the absence of the two convicts, Abdul Rashid Mia and Mostafa Biswas. In case of their failure to pay the

fine, the two will have to serve two more years in prison. The other two accused in the case, Ruhul Amin Shah and Faizul

Huq Mia, were acquitted. According to prosecution, Abdur Rashid Mia and Mostafa Biswas abducted Sheuli Begum, wife of Abul Kalam Sardar of West Satla village under Uzirpur Police Station on September 15 and took her to

They then raped her, tried to engage her in prostitution and smuggle her out of the country.

The victim was rescued on October 25 last year and a case lodged against the four.

### AL hartal

ance of left-leaning parties Police said some 5,000 lawenforcers including paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) would be deployed in the city today to maintain law and order during the hartal

Police dispersed a big pro-hartal procession brought out from AL headquarters at Bangabandhu Avenue last evening. Some people from the procession reportedly damaged some cars near the Paltan

intersection. Addressing a rally in the city esterday, opposition leader and AL President Sheikh Hasina called upon AL leaders and activists to make today's hartal a success, braving all "government-sponsored atrocities"

'This hartal is to protest political killings and absence of peaceful and congenial social atmosphere," she said, adding that the strike will show that people want the present government to step down.

#### WB report FROM PAGE 12

agencies about Tk 4,500 last year om each firm.

Moreover, firms have to pay speed money for utility connections. For gas connection, a firm has to pay about Tk 1 lakh, for electricity Tk 30,000 and for telephone connection

The WB reports that more than half the firms surveyed said corruption is a major obstacle to their arowth. It said the firms received frequent

visits from the customs and tax departments -- a total of about 17 a year. And dealing with each visit can be very costly. "More than one-third of the firms report using facilitators to help with

annual cost of more than Tk 600,000," it said. These costs are measured not just in terms of fees and payments, but also in terms of the firms' resources needed to satisfy inspec-

regulatory issues, at an average

next month. The survey said most firms experience about 250 days of power outages and surges a year, which take toll on their production cost.

tions," notes the report to be released

"On average, firms report losing more than three per cent of their production due to problems from the

electricity grid," the WB report notes. To deal with power outages, most firms invest in generators spending as much as \$500.000.



Lawyers of the Supreme Court gather on the court premises yesterday calling upon lawyers to unite against killings, violence and anarchy.

# 146 top brasses

All the promotees have been made officer on special duty (OSD) and posted to the establishment ministry until fresh postings.

In the elevation, officials of the 1973 batch, the most senior batch in the administration, were left out in the cold like on the past two occasions, despite qualifying for promo-

the 1973 batch were promoted as additional secretaries, when most of the 1979 batch got a lift. They said the 1977 and 1979 batches were given top priority in

promotion to the posts of additional Some senior and eligible officials broke down in tears seeing their names omitted from the lists of promotees despite fulfilment of all

ations when many eligible and qualified professionals were dropped from the list without citing any reason," said a high official, requesting anonymity. The government promoted some

taries on June 13 last vear when 174 officials were elevated. of other cadres were largely ignored like in the past. Only 31 of them

found slots on the list crowded by 115 administrative cadres. Forty-nine officials were pro-

nearly 60 vacant posts. Around 20 eligible officials fulfilling the criteria set for the promotion were ignored because of the alleged reports of having relations with the past Awami League government or having relatives and close

Seventy-three administrative officials easily outnumbered their 24 colleagues from other cadres for additional secretaries.

Ninety-seven officials were elevated as additional secretaries against fewer than 50 vacant posts. Highly placed sources said a section of mid-ranking officials at the Prime Minister's Office and the establishment ministry played the key role in the selection of promotees and they were 'completely' driven by 'political consider-

dropped some officials from the list out of their 'personal jealousy'. "Although the government set

criteria with specified marks for promotion, it did not follow its own policy," a senior official said. "Even the officials who topped the merit lists in the BCS (Bangla-

Sources said Kazi Aminul Islam and Mosharraf Hossain, who stood first and second on the combined merit list of 1981 BCS examination. were ignored due promotion.

and Mosharraf may be linked to their service as private secretaries to former deputy minister for food Dhirendara Devnath Shambhu and finance minister Shah ASM Kibria respectively under the past Awami League government.

The senior official felt such selection and promotion of handpicked officials would trigger rancour in the civil administration.

"The government should immediately reconsider the cases of eligible officials who have been ignored in today's promotion.'

the coalition government is doing justice to the civil servants by resolving the promotion logiam created over the years.

The government in the last two years gave promotion to 493 senior secretaries, 49 deputy secretaries and 97 joint secretaries.

Besides, a large-scale promotion was given to some other cadre officials including policemen.

# **Peshawar Test**

the Pakistan bowling to sword and batted for nearly four hours to set the best partnership record for Bangladesh for any wicket.

Interestingly, the previous best

partnership was also shared by the two when they crafted a 131-run second wicket stand against South Africa at Chittagong in April this The partnership was broken in

the seventh over after tea when Bashar was adjudged leg before to an incoming ball from right arm fast bowler Shabbir Ahmed.

"The ball came low and I thought it was going down the leg," said a content Bashar after the day's play. Bashar, who scored his 14th halfcentury, also said the sweltering

heat of Peshawar didn't bother him.

"Karachi was more humid. The wicket was also much better than Karachi and the ball was coming on to the bat." he said. In his 238-minute vigil at the crease, Bashar, whose fifty came off

82 balls in 117 minutes, faced 167

balls and hammered nine sweetlytimed hits across the rope. Javed, one of the three batsmen in Test history to have carried their bat through on debut, smote 16 boundaries in his 286-ball knock.

Ashraful, the 19-year old right hander who scored 114 on his debut against Sri Lanka in September 2001, curbed his aggressive instincts yesterday and kept his cool in 96-minute stay in the wicket. He hit three boundaries. In contrast, it was a frustrating

day for Pakistan, who lost their previous two Test matches in Peshawar against Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka. None of their bowlers could looked threatening to the Bangladeshis as they got only two wickets vesterday, one each by medium pacers Umar Gul and Shabbir Ahmed. Their speedstar Shoaib Akhter conceded 28 runs in Leg spinner Danish Kaneria and

off spinner Shoaib Malik, who suffered a groin injury while fielding in the second session and was off since then, also failed to get any

## Hasına

On the abduction of two students in Chittagong, the AL chief said the Islamic Chhatra Shibir leaders in association with the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal committed the crime.

She said the BNP-led ruling coalition, which had promised to launch a Jihad against corruption and violence before the election, is now itself indulging in corruption and encouraging violence.

discussion. Sheikh Hasina ioined another discussion in front of the party's central office where she said Jamaat-e-Islami, a partner of the ruling alliance, has at least a dozen militant organisations across the country. "These communal parties are engaged in violence across the country with the support of the government," she said. Hasina called upon all to observe

the countrywide dawn-to-dusk hartal today. Earlier, Hasina rushed to the

Bangabandhu Avenue in the city from Tungipara to join a condolence Tuesday

## 3 drown in boat capsize

UNB, Brahmanbaria

Three people, two of a family, drowned when a boat capsized in the river Titas near Bhairabnagar in Nabinagar Upazila vesterday

Survivors said the boat, carrying some 45 passengers, sailed for Bidyakut from Bhairabnagar and sank in the river as it was caught by

a strong current at noon. They said most of the passengers swam ashore.

The bodies, recovered at about 5:30pm,were identified as Shahana Khatun, 35, wife of Abul Kashem, and her daughter Noor Jahan, 8, of Bhairabnagar village, and Junayed Hossain, 3, son of Fariduddin of

Two other passengers, including Salahuddin, son of Abul Kalam of Bhairabnagar village, were still missing. Rescue operation was on to recover the missing people.

### Hartal paralyses normal life in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Normal Life was paralysed in Khulna city yesterday, the first day of 48-hour hartal, enforced by Greater Khulna Development Action Co-Ordinatio Committee (GKDACC), to press home its

Pickets ransacked eight shops at station road at about 9 am. Transports were off the roads and production in mills and factions remained suspended.

Financial transactions were not reported from any state-owned and commercial banks in the city. Thin attendance was reported in govt, semi-govt and autonomous bodies.

No classes were held in the

educational institutions including

the Khulna university. 2 more top Ctg cops

transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctq

Two more police officials of Chittagong district were transferred in another reshuffle yesterday.

Assistant Commissioner (Port) Hafiz Akhter was moved to Patiya circle and Assistant Police Super (ASP) Sirajul Islam of Hathazari circle was transferred to Gouranadi circle in Barisal, a police headquarters memo said.

Gaibandha replaced the ASP of Hathazari circle Meanwhile, SM Sabbir Ali took over the charges of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) commissioner and Mahbubur Rahman joined as police super of Chittagong district replacing Shahidullah Khan

ASP Reazul Kabir of Gouranadi

circle was transferred to Sitakunda

circle while ASP Nazrul Islam of

and Motiur Rahman respectively. AKM Mahfuzul Haq who is to replace additional deputy inspector general of Chittagong police is yet to

#### Mars encounter FROM PAGE 12

up in the observatory's grounds. The last time Mars came nearer was around Sept. 12 in 57,617 B.C. when it passed about 34.62 million miles away. If you miss it this time you'll have to wait 284 years for

another such close encounter. But while Mars came the closest it has been to Earth since the Stone Age, man's long-held dream of landing on the planet remains as far

away as ever. The red planet has always fired

the human imagination. Mars was the god of war in Roman mythology and the planet made good copy for early sci-fi fiction, such as Ray Bradbury's "Martian Chronicles." When Orson Welles broadcast "The War of the Worlds," HG Wells' story of a Martian invasion, many of his radio

Fortune tellers, looking for clues in the sky to the future of an uncertain world, say that little good is likely to come from Wednesday's close encounter.

listeners were terror-stricken.

# IGP loses heart

FROMPAGE 1 being held by his abductors

The IGP's pessimistic observations came during his visit to Fatikchhari yesterday when a local Union Parishad Chairman Shahiada Rabiul Hossain Miah urged him for more police reinforcements there to speed up operations to rescue Jamaluddin.

belief that the abducted businessman is alive and being held hostage at Fatikchhari. "As per available information, believe Jamaluddin is still alive," he

said while talking to a group of

However, the IGP reaffirmed his

iournalists at the upazila "The rescue operation would be strengthened with new guidelines and plan of action," he added with out elaborating. But unlike on Saturday when he

gave a 48-hour deadline to rescue

Jamaluddin that expired without

making any headway in the matter,

this time he declined to announce any fresh deadline for rescue. Businessman Jamaluddin, also a BNP leader, was abducted from Chittagong's busy Chawkbazar area over a month ago.

# **Human wave washes** over worshippers

## 39 killed, 125 injured in Indian religious festival

REUTERS/AP, Nasik (india)

Throngs of pushing Hindu pilgrims toppled a bamboo fence, causing a stampede at a religious festiva yesterday, that killed at least 39 people, mostly women.

The tragedy happened when pilgrims pushed and shoved along a narrow lane to a bathing pond on the banks of the Godavari river at Nasik in Western India to cleanse their

Sumana Mahashinde, barely able to speak as she waited outside a hospital for injured relatives. "My 60-year-old mother-in-law was pushed and people stamped on her. She died on the spot. It was very

"I saw many people being crushed in front of my eyes," sobbed

difficult for us to get out of the crowd carrying her. One witness said several bodies were trapped in a huge pipe routing muddy water from the fast-flowing Godavari through the Ramkund bathing pond. More than 150 people

were injured. The town's mayor, Dashrath Patil, said 39 people were killed -26 of them women --and at least 125 people were injured. Two of the injured were police officers, he

The bamboo fence, held together by ropes, was meant to direct traffic and funnel the crowds toward the river. Thousands of impatient pilgrims pushed into it, and the barrier collapsed, sending people spilling to the ground, survivors said.

"People, even women, were pushing forward. Due to the weight of the crowd, people started falling

down," said Lalji Mistry, a 35-yearold pilgrim who escaped the crush. 'Old women were crying, 'Take me

out. Help me." Chhagan Bhujbal, deputy chief minister of Maharashtra state, said some 50,000 people were behind

the barrier when it fell and pilgrims "People at the back just began walking on them and that's how the stampede happened," said Bhujbal.

'It was a tragic accident. Ambulances, their sirens wailing rushed to the area as rescue workers urged the crowd to give way so the injured could be taken to hospi-

After the stampede, tens of thousands of pilgrims continued worshipping at the festival area, which is spread across dozens of

"Many don't know what's going on. They are still worshipping," said

The Kumbh Mela festival is held every 12 years, timed in connection with alignments of the Sun and Jupiter But Wednesday also marked the day Mars passed closer to Earth

than any time in the past 60,000 years, which many astrologers around the world believe means The tragedy at Nasik, about 125 miles northeast of Bombay, came just two days after India's financial

capital was hit by two bombs planted in taxis, killing 51 people. Stampedes are not uncommon at major Hindu religious festivals which can attract millions of wor

# FBCCI chief

FROM PAGE 12

Kamaluddin Ahmed of Cox's Bazar Chamber of Commerce and Industry was elected first vicepresident and Abul Quasem Haider of Bangladesh Sewing Thread Manufacturers' and Exporters' Association vice-president of the country's apex trade body.

Earlier, two candidates -- Mintoo

and Abdul Matlub Ahmad -- submitted nomination papers for the post of president in the second phase of the biennial election. Although Matlub did not withdraw from the race, he refused to

the method of casting of votes -- by raising hands. Kamaluddin was unanimously elected first vice-president as his lone rival for the post Mir Nasir Hossain of Faridpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry withdrew in

Haider defeated Mohammad Ali

of Bangladesh Re-rolling Mills

Association to become vice-

take part in the election, protesting

president. Haider, chairman of Youth Group, secured 23 votes while Ali, incumbent vice-president, got 10 votes. The Mintoo-led leadership will

the last minutes.

meeting of the FBCCI on The 24 elected and 14 nominated directors met yesterday to elect president and two viceoresidents.

take office at the annual general

The new electoral system adopted in line with a statutory regulatory order (SRO) issued by the commerce ministry does not have any guidelines on the method of casting votes for electing president and vice-presidents. So, the FBCCI Election Board Chairman Anisuzzaman gave three options -hand-raising, secret balloting and picking a winner through consen-

As 26 out of 38 directors were in favour of voting by raising hands,

the election board went for it. But Matlub walked out of the board room, the venue of the election, protesting the method. He asked his panel members to follow him but none responded. He however came back to participate in the election of vice-presidents. Later, his panel members left the election venue when Mohammad Ali

lost to Abul Quasem Haider in the vice-presidential race. They chanted slogans against the election board chairman, terming him a 'lackey' of the government. Talking to newsmen later, Matlub, chairman of Nitol Group, said he did not participate in the

election as the 'hand-raising

method of voting is an undemocratic one. He however accepted the results and assured all help to the new leadership. Mintoo, who was also president of the FBCCI for 1998-2000 term, said his prime job would be to concentrate on capacity building of the highest trade body. The Multimode Group chairman, Mintoo, also said

he would utilise his past experience

to make the trade body a facilitator

of trade and commerce and help it play a greater role in this field. In the first tier of the election, the Mintoo-led panel bagged 11 directors out of 12 in the chamber group and one out of 12 in the association group. The Matlub-led panel got one in the chamber group and nine in the association group. And A Rouf

Chowdhury-led panel got the rest

### two in the association group Man gunned down at

Hatirpool

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Assailants gunned down a young man at Hatirpool yesterday. Police recovered the bulletriddled body of Monir, 30, from

He was shot in the head and his hands and legs were broken. Police also recovered a cell phone and a telephone index from

Hatirpool at about 8:15pm last night

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

the victim's pocket.

shirt, said an army official.

rebel group of Myanmar.

yesterday.

Dhanmondi police had no clue to the motive behind the killing. No case was filed till 9:30pm

The army also seized combat

dresses and belts with AA engraved on

them: AA stands for Arakan Army, the

alleged that a gang of 80, including 14

foreign nationals, widened its network

far deep in Boangchhari, Ruma and

Sadar upazila and its operatives haunt

roads and waterways, spreading a

The gang with most of its members

being indigenous unemployed youths

has established its main base in

Betchhara Badyapara, seven kilo-

planket of terror almost every day.

A Union Parishad chairman

# **Another terrorist camp**

der guards fired 35 bullets. Earlier, a predawn raid was aunched on a terrorist camp in the Bandarban forest in the early hours of Tuesday and army recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition including anti-tank grenades, rocket launch-

before the army men barged into the camp on Tuesday Superintendent of Police of Bandarban Nazibur Rahman told newsmen that the camps of police,

BDR and army went on high alert after the two rounds of the operation that came hard on the heels of abduction of Kina Ram Tanchanga, an indigenous vouth. Kina Ram could not be rescued

outfit and engaged in extortion and abduction for ransom -- a claim refused by law enforcers.

The operatives also pressure the families in the areas to pay them Tk 500 each during harvest, complained

# 55 was labelled on the collar of his

ers and assault rifles. A source said vesterday that the terrorists escaped with several AK-47 and M-16 rifles, revolvers and mortars

despite strengthening of the operation. The terrorist who died in Tuesday's gunfight that raged amid an exchange of at least 200 bullets was identified as Cheo Su Ki, believed to be a foreign national. The 25-year-old man was in military uniform used by the troops of the 55 Army Division and the number metres off Bandarban district headquarters, said locals. They also alleged that some foreign operatives sneaked into the bordering district, joined the terrorist

were promoted as joint secretaries.

Highly placed sources at the fresh postings by the next week.

Earlier, it was decided that the promotion and new postings would be given at the same time, but because of some complexities things did not take shape as

Shukur said three powerful handbombs were exploded followed by several rounds of fire from The killers made good their

Police said Shukur is a profes-

men behind the killing.

Earlier on August 20, the High

Official said only 13 officials of

the criteria for elevation. "The promotion to both posts were made on political consider-

additional secretaries to joint secre-In the current promotion, officials

moted as joint secretaries against

friends in the party ranks.

his 11 overs.

FROM PAGE 12

Following the Sramik League's

meeting on Sharif Mozammel, a city leader of the AL, who was killed on

The influential quarter also

desh Civil Service) examinations were not given promotion. Merit professional excellence and track record -- nothing was considered."

The reason for dropping Aminul

However, most officials felt that

assistant secretaries, 174 deputy