calls on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

Cooperation (SAARC) summit to be

Pakistan President General

Pervez Musharraf in his letter

expressed his eagerness to meet

the PM at Organisation of Islamic

Conference (OIC) summit due in

meaningful programmes in alleviat-

ing poverty, spreading education,

improving health care and ensuring

Another report says: British troop

reinforcements began arriving in

Iraq yesterday as US President

George W Bush prepared to seek

more international help to stem

violence and spread the cost of

Most nations remain wary of

sending troops to Iraq under US

leadership, and it was left to

Washington's most faithful ally

London, once again to take a sym-

bolic lead in responding to the

Cyprus to British-controlled south-

But the government of Prime Minister Tony Blair -- mocked by

critics as a poodle of Bush -- is

considering sending up to 3,000

more troops to swell its 11,000-

In London, a minister in Irag's

interim government said yesterday

he wanted to see US and British

soldiers pull out of Baghdad and

other major cities within six months.

to the arguments from both sides.

Obviously I had to make a decision

view based on Latif's reputation as a

sincere cricketer, adding that he has

Rameez Raja said they would not

has no intentions of making an

appeal and accepts the decision of

the match referee," a spokesman for

there is a lot of respect for him in the

Latif becomes the third player

this year after Australian Darren

Lehmann and Pakistan fast bowler

Shoaib Akhtar to be punished under

the ICC Code of Conduct.

team." said stand-in Pakistan cap-

"We feel sorry for Latif because

appeal against the decision.

But PCB Chief Executive

"He (Rashid) has also said he

Proctor said he took a lenient

Latif banned

one way or the other."

the right to appeal

PCB said.

tain Inzamam.

Only 120 soldiers flew in from

occupying the country.

American call for help.

ern Iraq vesterday

strong contingent.

Missiles miss

FROM PAGE 12

The OIC summit would adopt

Kuala Lumpur from October 16-18.

held in Islamabad in January next.

Musharraf's letter

"Many of us have been starving since the nightmare," said Paingcraio Marma, a villager of Babupara. "Only a few lucky families have got rice handouts from the

A few animals, mostly pariah dogs, pet pigs and poultry birds, roamed the battered homesteads seemingly in a daze.

SCORCHED EARTH APPROACH The indigenous people claim that Bangalees, both Hindu and Muslim, torched and looted about 350 houses in the villages under Mahalchhari Police Station, killing two and raping at least 10 women.

The marauders also ransacked three Buddhist temples and razed one and took away four Buddha statues, they alleged

The abduction of a Bangalee youth, Rupan Mahajan, allegedly by a gang of indigenous people on August 24 triggered the violence.

Rupan's family said the hostagetakers demanded Tk 5 lakh in ran-

"I was working at my yard, unaware of the disturbance brewing elsewhere. Suddenly a group of 60 to 70 Bangalee settlers came shouting towards our village. They were armed with machetes, sticks and spears and jerrycanful of kerosene,' said Padma Shova

"Before I could make out the situation, they stormed houses, looting and burning everything. saw some people of the neighbouring village with whom our villagers had good relations, in an unbelievably marauding mood.

'Our villagers ran helter-skelter for cover. They were crying, calling out relatives and running towards the Kalabanya jungle. I asked my daughters to follow me and run to save life. We had no time to think of property or anything else.

She said the gang in their twohour frenzied attack on the village torched all the 63 houses one after another. They looted valuables, farm animals and burnt everything including rice, wheat and maize in an apparent 'scorched earth policy'.

"I came out of the jungle the next day to find the village of lost hope. Nothing was standing, ashes of burnt thatched houses were scat-

Proggajyoti Chakma of Lemuchhara village said some hills people rushed to the police camp, just 100 metres off the village, to inform them of the raids, but the lawenforcers never responded to their cries for help

to the jungles." he said.

"Our indigenous people say the situation in all the eight villages is the same. Even after seven days of the arson, we've got only a handful handout of rice from the govern-

ment," Padma Shova said. She and other villagers like Joyotibikash Chakma, a schoolteacher. Sonaratan, headman of the village, Amal Kumar Chakma, Union Parishad member -- all live in the Kalabanya jungle

They have no shelter and no way to save them from monsoon rains. Those who had flimsy shelters in the ungles were drenched in the cloudburst yesterday.

Living a precarious life in the jungles is better than living in damaged houses under the spectre of unceasing fear of mindless acts of bestiality, say the indigenous peo-

Avinas Chakma, a student of Dhaka State College and a resident of Babupara village, had read about the incident when he was in Dhaka. He went to his home village five days after the incident to see the scars of the plunder.

"What remain of my house are only ashes. If I tell the barbaric story to my friends in Dhaka, they won't believe. It's totally unbelievable in a society that claims itself to be democratic," he said.

ADMINISTRATION INDIFFERENT The indigenous people allege that the administration is soft-pedalling on bringing the criminals to justice and trying to shift the blame onto rival political groupings of indigenous people.

The administration has no definite information on how many houses were burnt and how many indigenous people became home-

According to the indigenous people, 63 houses were burnt in Lemuchhari village alone and the loss ranged between Tk 30,000 and Tk 12.00000 a house.

The Bangalee settlers say the violence was the act of ethnic people. Some of them set fire to a house in their simmering conflict raging in the area and the fire soon leapt to neighbouring houses and villages,

Local legislator Wadud Bhuiyan said it was not the Bangalees, but the indigenous people were their own enemies.

The Prime Minister's Office is planning to allocate Tk 30 lakh for the rehabilitation of the

Meanwhile, the leaders of the 11-

party alliance visited the court

premises yesterday and con-

demned Saturday's 'barbaric attack'

and ransacking of the Dhaka Bar

Association office. They demanded

immediate arrest and trial of the

photojournalists and two court

correspondents were wounded

when pro-BNP lawyers and activists

of the Jubo Dal supported by law

enforcers swooped on them at the

has sent letters to the foreign mis-

sions in Dhaka seeking their coop-

eration in 'upholding democratic

values'. The letter state that 'democ-

racy and human rights' are in jeop-

ardy in Bangladesh as the armed

cadres of the ruling alliance have

unleashed a reign of terror.

Meanwhile, the Bar Association

Dhaka Bar Association office.

At least 50 pro-AL lawyers, 10

persons involved in the incident.

"We had no other way but to flee

Meanwhile, a pro-Awami League

lawyer, arrested Saturday on

charge of attacking a Jativatabadi

Jubo Dal procession on the court

premises, was sent to Dhaka

arrested after pro-BNP lawyers and

activists of the Jubo Dal supported

by the law enforcers caused injuries

to at least 50 pro-Awami League

lawvers at the Dhaka Bar

Association office. The attack took

place half an hour before Prime

Minister Khaleda Zia arrived there to

lay the foundation stone of an

annexe building of the district

one Jubo Dal activist. Delwar

Hossain of 115 Nawabour Road

Sutrapur, filed two cases against six

pro-AL lawvers for attacking a Jubo

Dal procession and the members of

a law enforcing agency. He filed one

case for hurling of bombs on a Jubo

Dal procession and the other for

attempts on the lives of Jubo Dal

Advocate Moktar Hossain before

the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's

Court, Dhaka, yesterday afternoon,

Magistrate Khondoker Fatema

Begum granted Moktar Hossain bail

in one case but rejected in the other,

advocates Abdur Rahman

Howlader, Shah Alam Talukder,

Saiful Islam, Ali Akbar, Abu Abdullah

lawyers including the six threw soft

drink bottles, flower vases and

bombs on a procession of Dhaka

city Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal (South)

when it was marching past the

Dhaka Bar Association office at

11:30am Saturday to welcome

(FIR), the complainant also said the

attack left 11 Jubo Dal activists

None of the FIR-named lawyers

was arrested till writing of this report

hours earlier, Henin returned to the

court and produced a storming effort

world number one in the final of the

Henin fought off two set points in

In the first information report

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia.

including him injured.

at 8:30pm last night.

US Open

FROM PAGE 12

The accused in the two cases are

The complainant said some

and sent him to jail.

and Tapan.

After Kotwali police produced

Police showed him arrested after

judge's court on Saturday.

activists

Advocate Moktar Hossain was

Central Jail yesterday.

Rival lawyers

Jitu not abducted. fled due to poor exam result

Schoolboy Devjit Dutt Jitu, who was missing for the last three days and feared to have been abducted. returned home Saturday night.

Jitu's relatives and a team of Daily Star yesterday.

Helal found Jitu loitering in the Chittagong rail way station and took him to his Andorkilla residence Thursday night.

Jitu, a student of class nine and son of lawver couple Poritosh Dutt and Bani Dutt, remained missing for three days since he went out of his residence for a private tutor's Thursday morning.

Jitu told his mother that he fled home due to his poor performance in the school examinations.

Little success in special drive at Bandarban

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

The joint forces of army and Bangladesh Rifles Saturday launched a special anti-crime drive in the remote areas of Bandarban.

arrested Shah Alam with a sawn-off rifle and six bullets.

25 and August 26. They also arrested some alleged

Union Parishad chairman were abducted. Moreover, five murders and other incidents of extortion that took place in the area forced the authorities to launch a joint drive. sources said

'Criminal' drafted in Ctg Gram

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

included in the Gram Sarkar Committee in ward No. 6 of Fatehpur union under Hathazari upazila.

Union Parishad Member Noor Mohammad Shah of Fatehpur yesterday submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner (DC) of Chittagong protesting the inclusion of a 'controversial person accused in many cases' in the Gram Sarkar

of Hathazari.

Chittagong

The UNO said he received a copy of Noor's letter and would look into

Joy Bangla Bazar

Nizami, sources said.

This was followed by weeks of exchange of official letters between the agricultural ministry, the Department of Agriculture Marketing (DAM) and the district administration, culminating into the renaming last month.

According to official documents. people of the area had volunteered to give their lands for establishment of the Joy Bangla Bazar under the Agriculture Commodities Wholesale Market Infrastructure Development Project', which the Executive Committee for National Economic Council (ECNEC) approved in 1999.

But with the change of regime and the Jamaat-e-Islami chief taking over as agriculture minister, some ruling alliance adherents allegedly took up the issue of renaming the market. To this effect, they reportedly approached ruling party whip Zahed Ali Chowdhury who had defeated the former agriculture minister Matia Chowdhury in the last parliamentary polls in Sherpur-2 constituency.

Joy Bangla Bazar is one of the six markets in the country's six divisions that the Department of Agriculture Marketing has developed under the first phase of the ECNEC-approved Tk 36.85 crore project. Thirteen more farm commodity markets are to be developed under this project by year 2006.

Md Mominul Haque, director of the DAM, denied receiving any directive from the agriculture ministry about renaming of the market. He said the ministry had just asked the district administration of Sherpur to see that "people's desire is reflected" in the name of the market.

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

family sources said.

police led by Sub-inspector Imtiaz found him at the residence of a lawyer Mohammed Helal Uddin in Andorkilla of Chittagong and brought him back to Rangamati at 11:30pm, Jitu's mother told The

On the first day of the drive, they

Law enforcers had also seized AK-47 rifle, M-16 rifle, rocket launcher, grenade launcher, live grenade, land mine, high frequency walky-talkies, bullet proof jackets. army uniforms, and other arms and ammunition from the area on August

criminals in Nikhanchhari, Alikadam, Ruma, Roangchhari and other areas in the last few months, Recently, 10 persons including a

Sarkar unit

Abdul Malek, accused in cases including one for rape, has been made a member of the committee

The committee is scheduled to take oath today, said Jahiruddin Babar, upazila nirbahi officer (UNO)

Sources said Malek, also a former UP member and BNP activist, had allegedly raped a teenage girl a few vears back. A case in this regard is pending at the Women and Child Repression Prevention Court in

Adult illiteracy

FROM PAGE 12

the literacy rate among seven-yearolds and above is 62.66 per cent and the percentage of literate people, aged 15 and more, is 54.80.

Health Minister Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, also in charge of the primary and mass education ministry in parliament, said the literacy rate is 65 per cent in his speech on the budget session in parliament. But an independent survey conducted by Education Watch put the overall literacy rate at 41.4 per cent.

The Unesco finds that appeared in the "Education For All Global Monitoring Report: Is The World On Track?" said 870 million people were defined as illiterate in 1980 and 862 million in 2000. Over one-third of the illiterate

population lives in four of the world's high-population countries combined - India, China, Pakistan and Bangladesh. It reconfirms the forum's diagno-

sis that achieving the EFA goal remains a dream in those countries. said Professor Christopher Colclough, director of the report. Eighty-three countries were on

track to deliver by 2015 education for all. But at the same time, the other countries would fail to reach the target and some are actually going backwards, it said. Major educational and economic

ensure an investment-andbusiness-friendly environment for the sake of economic self-reliance

The outgoing directors of the coun-

try's apex trade body also called

upon all quarters to come forward to

social justice for entire Muslim

convey her best wishes to President

Musharraf and PM Jamali saying

she was also looking forward to

Aziz, now on a five-day official

He lauded the high standard of

visit to Bangladesh, praised

Bangladesh's role in the United

Bangladesh Institute of Peace

Support Operation Training,

National Defence College and Staff

College for providing training to

army personnel at home and

mended the progress Bangladesh

achieved during the last two years

under Begum Zia's leadership.

The Pak general also com-

He also hoped the ties between

Prime Minister's Principal

Bangladesh and Pakistan would be

Secretary Dr Kamal Siddiqui,

Principal Staff Officer of Armed

Forces Division Maj General AM

Mahmud-uz-Zaman and Pakistan

High Commissioner in Dhaka Iqbal

Ahmed Khan were present during

Nations peacekeeping missions.

Begum Zia requested Aziz to

Ummah the letter said

meet the Pak leaders.

abroad

strengthened.

the courtesy call.

FBCCI

Party cohesion FROM PAGE 12 working to resolve conflicts in Gaibandha, Gazipur, Mymensingh (north) and Manikganj and is expected to complete formation of

the district committees soon They said the party high command decided to form all thana and district committees by August 31 prior to holding the national council by the end of the year.

But there is no sign to work to the schedule, as most of the 75 organisational district committees will not be formed even in next few months.

"I think Tareque Rahman will have to take the responsibility of district committee formation as he succeeded in resolving conflicts in many districts peacefully," said a BNP policymaker.

Other assigned leaders are reluctant to form the committees and waiting for the party high command to ask them to hand over the responsibility to Tareque, he said.

Khulna fright

stepped up in a city caught with unusual panic following two sensational political murders since August 25. Teams of riot police wearing bullet-proof jackets have been posted in front of the AL. BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami offices and also at other vulnerable points including the industrial belt.

The bomb that killed Kutu was thrown on the AL office when district leaders including MP Talukdar Khaleque and city AL Joint Secretary Mizanur Rahman Mizan were coming down from the first floor of the office with other leaders and activists to bring out a procession in protest against the attack on lawvers in Dhaka.

The leaders said they were the targets of the bomb attack. Mizan's private microbus (Dhaka-Metrocha-11-3978) was badly damaged in the bomb attack. AL central leaders Faruk Khan

MP. SM Kamal and Begum Monnuian Sufian called on Khulna Metropolitan Police Commissioner Bazlur Rahman yesterday noon and requested him to arrange security for the city AL leaders. But the police commissioner expressed his inability to do so for 'certain reasons', sources said

AL leaders held an emergency meeting on Saturday night at the party office, half-an-hour after the murder was committed. They blamed the ruling four-party alliance for the killing and observed that the

motive was to silence the movement against the government and obstruct investigation into the Monzurul Imam murder case.

The emergency meeting was attended among others by former state minister and city AL secretary Talukdar Abdul Khalegue MP. president of the district AL Shah Haroon-ur-Rashid and central leader and former MP Begum Mannujan Sufian. Police have confirmed that 14

persons including eight leaders and activists of the AL and Jubo League were injured in the attack. A young man identified as

Shagor, 28, was picked up by police at midnight Saturday for question-A police officer told The Daily

Star that the powerful bomb dropped on the ground after being obstructed by an electric wire. Had it not been obstructed, the death toll would have been higher, he added. Most of the shops in city were

found closed till filing of this report vesterday evening. With the murder of Kamrul Islam Kutu, the number of murders in the city and the district in the last 66

He left behind his wife and a college-

days has risen to 34. The slain AL leader was the elder the motive behind the killing, adding brother of city BNP leader that the two were on strained rela-Giasuddin Bony. He was proprietor tions for the last few days. 'Esha Chamber', a shopping mall, and a residential hotel, Glory.

Kidnapped boy escapes captivity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A schoolboy, abducted Friday, managed to escape captivity in Raozan yesterday.

Three kidnappers in an autorickshaw abducted Noor Hossain Shoveb, a student of class ten and son of Anwar Hossain, from Dabua in Raozan at gunpoint and took him to a rubber garden in remote forest area at Hingala, family members

He managed to flee as all four guards to keep watch over him fell asleep in the early morning yesterday, they added

Meanwhile, a demand for Tk 20 lakh ransom yesterday confirmed that Mohammad Zunayed, a student of Rangunia Fulbagicha Madrassah, was abducted. He was missing from Gahira in Raozan since Friday noon, sources said.

However, police could not rescue him till filing of this report at 9:00pm

Literacy Day FROM PAGE 12

Adviser to the Prime Minister on Primary and Mass Education Prof Jahanara Begum will lead a procession at 8:30am today from the Central Shaheed Minar. It will end at the Osmany Memorial Hall after parading city streets.

She will also inaugurate a threeday education fair at 3:00pm today at the National Press Club auditorium. The Islamic Foundation

Bangladesh has organised a procession at the Baitul Mokarram Mosque at 10 this morning to be attended by students of the 'mosque-based mass education programme for children.

On September 8 and 9, folk songs and street dramas on mass education will be arranged at several important places in the city. Besides, special slides on mass education will be screened at every cinema from September 8 to 10.

On September 10, a cultural function highlighting aspects of mass education will be held at 7:00am at the Shaheed Zia Auditorium of the National Museum.

20 wounded FROM PAGE 1

identified as SM Sultan Mahmud, 32, police and witnesses said

The bus hit Sultan from behind when he got down from an autorickshaw in front of the factory, police said.

The agitating workers set four buses afire and obstructed movement of traffic. When police attempted to clear the road, the angry mob tried to resist them. Police baton-charged the agitators to force them to retreat

Later, they lobbed teargas shells to disperse the agitators and bring the situation under control.

Police said four persons were picked up from the spot during the

Of the 20 injured, six persons including a woman were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) in critical condition while others were released after first

Shahidul Islam, 25, Arif Uddin, 22, Shohag, 20, Shamim, 20, Rafiqul Islam, 20, and Nurun Nahar, 20. Police were deployed in and around the CEPZ that houses over

The critically injured are

100 factories. Sources said production in some of the factories was hampered due to the incident as most of the workers joined the agitation.

Hired private buses carry the workers regularly to and from CEPZ factories, CEPZ sources said.

Cop kills mate

half a dozen police Sarod and Nirupam hailed from

Khagrachhari and were formerly members of the Shanti Bahini. They were inducted into police service after surrendering with arms. Police said they are yet to know

Deputy Inspector General of Police Golam Mostafa and other senior officers visited the Police Lines yesterday

AL blames PM

away from the place of occurrence and instigated her 'private force' to launch an attack on the lawvers who were staging a peaceful demonstra-

Reading out a written statement at the briefing, AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil alleged that the proalliance activists set on fire the houses of AL adherents at four villages in Pabna on August 29 and demanded a judicial probe into the incident. The AL arranged a video show at the news briefing of hundreds of distressed people rendered homeless in Pabna.

Expressing deep concern at the recent incidents of violence in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), the AL blamed the BNP-led government and the anti-CHT peace treaty groups for deterioration of law and order in three hill districts. Besides, the AL also came down

heavily on the government for what it said signing a secret pact with the Visiting Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee of Pakistan Armed Forces General Muhammad Aziz Khan United States agreeing not to seek trial of any US soldier in future. Abdul Jalil explained the August 17 US-Bangladesh pact as going against the independence and sovereignty of the country.
"Why is the question of giving

immunity to US soldiers against prosecution being raised now? Is the US going to set up a military base in Bangladesh? Are US soldiers coming to our country?" AL presidium member Tofail Ahmed

Replying to a query, Tofail said the US knew it for sure that pressure would be mounting worldwide for trying US soldiers in the International Court of Justice for the killings in Iraq and that's why "it (US) is signing immunity (against trial) pacts with other countries by exerting pressure".

On the issue of attacks on lawyers at the court building on Saturday, AL leaders also questioned the role of the law enforcing agencies. After visiting the spot, some of the senior opposition leaders narrated to journalists yesterday that a 'private force' of the prime minister launched the attack on the lawyers at her behest. AL presidium member Abdus

Samad Azad said, "We want to blame Khaleda Zia for the attack Police gave protection to the private force when the latter attacked the lawyers yesterday." The AL leaders deplored killings of party leaders in Khulna and other

minister for failing to contain the slide in law and order. They said the AL would support the September 16 hartal called by left-leaning groups to protest whole-

places and criticised the home

Hamas alert

FROM PAGE 12

ring to Hamas leaders. "We won't give them a moment's rest. We will continue to hunt them because they have only one objective: the destruction of Israel

In the West Bank, the search began for a successor to Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas, who resigned Saturday after a Yasser Arafat

Arafat has not yet accepted the resignation in writing, as required by law, but told Palestinian lawmakers he considered Abbas' Cabinet a caretaker government, implying recognition of the resignation. Yesterday, Arafat aide Nabil Abu Rdeneh said the leader hoped to persuade Abbas -- also known as Abu Mazen -- to remain and form a

new government. Abbas, responding to speculation he might reconsider his decision to step down, said vesterday his resignation was final, according to Reuters.

Asked whether he would accept the post again, he told reporters: "It's very premature to talk about this right now. My resignation is final."

sale closures of state-run enter-

prises and freewheel retrenchment of public sector employees and On the question of forming an alliance with like-minded parties

the AL general secretary said the

party was very much in the process

of having dialogues with other progressive opposition parties to wage a united movement in future against the BNP-led ruling alliance. On the six-point agenda put forward by the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) to the AL early last month. Jalil said. "Not that we have agreed to all their points

ress by taking those as the basis for further talks.' AL leaders Matia Chowdhury, Abdur Razzak, Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Obaidul Kader, and Mohammad Nasim were present, among others, at the press briefing.

rightaway, but we can make prog-

Female NGO staff stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

stabbed to death and dumped in a bush at Toynbee Circular Road by unidentified assailants.

Police recovered the body of

Hasina Begum, 35, a Durjoy Nari Shangha employee at around :20am and sent it to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy. Quoting the inquest report, police said there were marks of stab

injuries in her chest, abdomen, thigh and left wrist. A case was filed with Motijheel Police Station.

Land grabbers

FROM PAGE 1 The meeting observed that such problems should be resolved through the sprit of good neighbourly relations

Committee Chairman Mahbubur Rahman presided over the meeting, also attended by committee members M Shamsul Islam, Kabir Hossain, Nurul Huda, Abdullah Al Kafi and Ali Kadar, among others

ADP benefit

FROM PAGE 1

chief executives of all banks on August 30, a string of decisions including allowing private banks to take deposit of the government's development funds was made in a move to cut lending rates.

Eleven local PCBs out of the 30 are eligible to avail themselves of the facility as they meet the prerequisite. They are Pubali Bank, Uttara Bank, AB Bank, National Bank, City Bank, IFIC Bank, UCBL, Oriental Bank, Eastern Bank,

NCCBL and Islami Bank. In most cases, the ADP funds are deposited in the current account with the nationalised commercial banks (NCBs), which carry no interest, sources at the planning ministry and commercial banks said. At present, the amount of interest-free deposit in banking system is over Tk 13,000 crore.

The PCBs will get the facility of receiving a large amount of low cost deposit due to the decision. Each year, the finance ministry releases around Tk 14.000 to 15.000 crore from ADP funds. According to the proposal, the

PCBs, in business for over five years, can also take up to 25 per cent of government funds as deposit instead of the current 15 per cent The total amount of government deposit is now more than Tk 13,709

crore. So, as per the proposal, the

PCBs can keep government deposit

of Tk 3,000 crore.

DFP dogged by graft

with Information Minister TariquI Islam in the chair discussed the allegations of corruption at the DFP. The minister then formed an investigation committee headed by Joint Secretary Mizanur Rahman Majumder

According to the committee report, the investigators went to the DFP on August 7 and wanted to see seven documentaries and video films -- Jibon Jemon Jebhabe, Tourism, Gonotontrer Uttaran, Esho Sundorer Pathey, Shishu Apaharan Rodh, Tomar Moto Bondhu Ke Achhey and Festival of Bangladesh.

The deputy director (Films) of the DFP surprised the investigators, saying that only three of the seven films are available, namely Jibon Jemon Jebhabe, Gonotontrer Uttaran and Shishu Apaharan Rodh. Again, the film librarian told the

investigators that the DFP had only one film titled Gonotontrer Uttaran that was made back in 1979. The investigators found that Jibon Jemon Jebhabe was a documentary recorded in videocassette

rather than on film. And Shishu Apaharan Rodh was not made available to the investigators. The video copy submitted to the investigators had a label that read

produced these films

"Amar Phuli". The investigators finally concluded that none of these movies was ever made. Yet, the producers and directors collected bill totalling Tk 18.09 lakh claiming to have

Besides, the DFP made five documentaries in 2002-2003 fiscal without permission from the ministry. Similarly, it made six documentaries and one video film in 2001-2002. The DFP DG has no authority to make such films, the investigators pointed out. On November 14 last year, the

DFP procured 34,050 feet of 35-mm

colour films through 51 orders,

which is an all-time high. It broke the previous record of 10,600 feet of colour films procured against 21 orders. In November 20 alone, the DFP procured 5.640 feet of films through eight orders. "This is not realistic." observes the probe committee. "Although Supervisor Shahid Abdullah is not entitled, he drew over 97,250 feet of

positives through numerous orders. This is unusual and raises suspicions. Again, the DFP illegally obtained 35-mm raw films where the laboratory supervisor gave the requisition for the product and approved it, as well. He employed the same method

"It can be assumed that scopes have been created to procure and use films by violating departmental rules," notes the investigation report. The investigators deduced that

to obtain 14,6000 feet of positives.

such illegal practices have forced the government to incur an unnecessary cost to the tune of Tk 15.19

to claim her second grand slam of the season Both of Henin's major successes have come at the expense of Clijsters, having also beaten the

French Open in June.

the opening set and them produced eforms as well as a significant adding that there was no political some immaculate tennis to race increase in budgetary resources for away with the title in just 81 minutes. basic education will be required in many countries to achieve the goal.

Shova's eyes