Splash out billions

Thursday, Annan urged that such concerns be set aside, saying "the long-term challenge of reconstruction has to be faced by all of us."

Security remains a primary constraint "both now and into the foreseeable future," he said.

"But a start to reconstruction cannot be deferred until that day," he said. "It demands our urgent attention now. I appeal to donors to give and give generously."

Ahead of the meeting, Annan and Secretary of State Colin Powell sought to lower expectations that Washington would come away with the entire \$35.8 billion through 2007 it hopes to raise to jump-start Iraq's economic recovery.

Powell acknowledged "it may take time to meet the goal" of more than \$55 billion set by the World Bank, which includes the Bush administration's nearly \$20 billion pledae

"I don't expect governments to announce everything they are going to do for Iraq in the future tomorrow, Annan said Wednesday night. "But tomorrow and the day after will be an important beginning.

France and Germany, leading opponents of the US-led war, have both cited concerns about the slow pace of restoring Iraq's sovereignty for their refusal to pledge any new money now.

In London, a British aid group charged Thursday that the US-run body governing Iraq has failed to account for billions of dollars allocated for rebuilding the country.

Christian Aid said in a report that the Coalition Provisional Authority had only explained publicly how it had spent \$1 billion of the \$5 billion it has been given for Iraqi develop-

Meanwhile, Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari said his country was looking for "serious contributions in funds and not loans" when pledges are announced Friday, adding "the sooner the better.

Talking to reporters as he flew to Madrid from Egypt, Powell also set his sights on Iraqi assets held in Syrian banks, saying he may take

Dhaka calls for improved sanitation in South Asia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The three-day South Asian Conference on Sanitation (Sacosan) ended in Dhaka yesterday, adopting a declaration on 'common strategies under a common definition of sanitation to ensure sanitation facilities for all in the region by 2010.

The declaration called for gearing up efforts to promote sanitation and hygiene in South Asia particularly to reduce child mortality and morbidity and fulfil the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

More than 200 delegates from nine countries -- India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, the Maldives, Myanmar, Afghanistan and Bangladesh -- attended Sacosan.

The declaration was presented at a press briefing attended by representatives of the participating countries at Bangladesh-China

Friendship Centre. Speaking at the briefing, Local Government and Rural Development and Co-operatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said ensuring sanitation for all in

Bangladesh by 2010 was not an ambitious goal. "Money is not the main problem

to achieve this goal but lack of public The nine countries will take up

repeated attempts.

ing. The hyperactive JS body went into an apparent hibernation as

The committee sat for the first time on July 19 after its formation and then went on to hold a remarkable seven meetings before it

Women

FROM PAGE 1

cadres who tried to thwart the concert by teasing women and shouting

philosophy department, and Hazera Begum, a lecturer of the marketing department, who were sitting in the front row as guests, went behind and joined the students to dance together.

The hecklers became desperate and teased the teachers unknowingly. But when the lecturers revealed their identity, the Shibir cadres intimidated them into stopping dance and threatened to kill

them if they did not do that. Vice-chancellor Professor AJM Nuruddin Chowdhury told The Daily Star that he did not know the inci-

reached for comments. secretary of the CU ICS, denied the allegation, saying: "Those who

Tk 6.5 lakh snatched at N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Armed muggers took away Tk 6.5 lakh of a garment factory at Godnail in the town yesterday.

Project Manager of Knit Concern Limited Khairul Enam Dalim along with some of his colleagues went to a branch of IFIC Bank in the town at about 11:30am and withdrew Tk 14 lakh. After paying Tk 7.5 lakh to a construction firm inside the bank. they started toward the factory at Godnail in a microbus with the

As they reached near the factory, a gang of six riding two motorbikes intercepted the microbus, snatched the bag containing the money at gunpoint and fled.

A case was filed with Siddhirganj Police Station. No-one was arrested till filing of this report at 6:30pm vesterday.

Tigers back

eight, had scored 12 runs in 3.4 overs in their second innings.

Hannan Sarker was batting on four and Habibul Bashar was unbeaten on zero when an absorbing day's play ended due to bad light with ten overs

Saleh had to come out to open the innings after Javed Omar pulled a hamstring while fielding on Wednesday. Resuming on 111 without loss, England openers Trescothick and captain Michael Vaughan were cruising along until they reached 137. Then the tourists suddenly lost their way after a four-over magical display by Mohammed Rafique and vushfigur Rahman.

Left-arm spinner Rafique immediitely reward his skipper sending back Vaughan (48 off 125 balls).

The Yorkshire right-hander paid the price for attempting a cheeky sweep off the crafty tweaker. Rafique's 27th Test wicket meant he joined Bangladesh discard Monjurul Islam. But later on he eventually overtook the left-arm pacer with two more wickets.

For the fast-improving Mushfiq the day was very significant. The Rajshahi all-rounder not only grabbed his maiden Test wicket trapping Mark Butcher lbw for a duck but also followed that up removing former England captain Nasser Hussain, also

But not everything went Mushfiq's way as he spilled an easy catch at first slip with Trescothick batting 88.

However, debutant Enamul Haque Jr. captured the prized wicket when the Somerset dangerman tried to sweep the 18-vear-old left-arm spinner and ended up offering simple catch at the square leg for 113.

Before departing Trescothick completed his fifth Test century in grand style hoisting Rafique over midwicket for a six. Trescothick, the most prolific

batsman on the tour so far, clobbered 16 boundaries and three towering sixes during his 247-minute vigil. England's middle-order collapsed like it did in the two practice matches

Only a brilliant half-century by Graham Thorpe saved their blushes. The stylish Surrey left-hander combined with all-rounder Rikki Clarke

to put on 49 runs for the fifth wicket. An ominous looking Thorpe was

finally out with a gem of a delivery from Mashrafee-bin-Mortuza. The Narail express produced a well-directed bouncer that kissed the batsman's glove and was taken by Rajin Saleh at Thorpe hammered 64 off 171 balls

that featured seven glorious bound-

Fittingly, Rafique ended England's first innings thanks to a fantastic diving catch by 12th man Aftab Ahmed to get rid of Ashley Giles.

From fun ride

Control seized some bottles of contraband phensidyl cough syrup from a compartment of Javantika Express. She watched in horror when the officials detained her for alleged drug trafficking.

They produced the then under-12 girl before the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka the following day, showing her aged at 22 years. The court sent her to jail custody the same day. When it was found that she was a juvenile, the jail authorities sent her to Juvenile Correction Centre at Tongi, Gazipur.

The Government Railway Police pressed charges against her and the Court of District and Sessions Judge. Dhaka, said on March 16 this year that she was on bail. The court ordered her to appear before it on April 17, but she knew nothing of the order. As she did not appear on April 17,

the court issued an arrest warrant for her. Later, the Court of Additional Sessions Judge, Dhaka, where the case was transferred, framed charges against her under the Narcotics Control Act, 1990 and recorded statements of five 'wit-

came to know of the incident and he found Moina's detention groundless. He appeared before the court on her behalf on October 20 and explained what had actually happened

"The court verbally expressed apology for making the mistake and ordered a fresh trial." Mannan Khan told The Daily Star last night.

"The court has decided to invalidate the statements of the five witnesses and fixed November 16 "Maybe the trial would have been

complete keeping her in the dark and she would have been languishing in custody for a crime she had not done." Mannan said.

Kabbah leaves capital

At the luncheon, he urged the local businesses to invest in his country and tan the unexplored natural resources,

including gold and diamond, there, At the Grameen Bank headquarters, he expressed keen interest in replicating microcredit programme in his country for cutting poverty and improving the social conditions of poor

Managing Director of Grameen Bank Mohammad Yunus briefed the visiting dignitaries on various aspects of the bank and the microcredit

Yunus also illustrated the process and requirements for introducing microcredit in a country.

A four-member delegation from Sierra Leone visited Grameen Bank in

morning. The minister briefed the technical aspects of the over 4.8 kilometer-long bridge.

Kabbah arrived in Dhaka on

A high-powered Bangladesh delegation will visit Sierra Leone very soon to find out the ways and areas of cooperation between two countries, Foreign Secretary Shamsher Mobin Chowdhury said

After signing the minutes with Sheka Mansaray, secretary to the Sierra Leone president.

member Bangladesh delegation would visit Freetown in December to

Ctg: Optical fibre FROM PAGE 1

appointment in the day, he called Aminul and could only say 'how are you?' before the line went dead. The exchange, in operation

since December 31 last year, was being opened formally yesterday. Roadworks at Sonagazi under the Roads and Highways Department might be responsible

The network was restored through microwave link to a limited

Engineers from Dhaka are

explore the prospects of cooperation in food and agriculture.

"Besides, a business delegation will visit Sierra Leone shortly to explore opportunities in trade and investment." Mansaray expressed deep grati-

tude for what the Bangladeshi peacekeepers have done for his country recovering from an 11-year civil strife. "We have food deficit. We've

observed that despite having a large population Bangladesh has achieved food security," Mansaray said. "So we are willing to have low-cost technologies and equipment from Bangladesh to augment our food production.

Only a fifth of the land in Sierra Leone is used for agriculture.

FFs may get spl status

The government plans to give the freedom fighters (FFs) a special honorary status in recognition of their contribution to the War of

According to the plan, the FFs will be given special medals and identity cards. They will also enjoy various facilities provided by the government and take part in the national func-

Senior government officials said this at a roundtable yesterday on the activities of the Ministry of Liberation

State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Rezaul Karim presided over the function. Former vice- chancellors of the Dhaka University Emajuddin Ahmed and Moniruzzaman Mia, Chairman of Muktijoddha Council Kabir Ahmed, Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UCG) Prof. Asaduzzaman, Chairman of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation Imamuzzaman, Prof. Saidur Rahman of Dhaka university and Abdus Sattar took part in the

Secretary of the ministry Khandakar Fazlur Rahman presented the keynote paper on the

Rumsfeld challenges

FROM PAGE 12 Afghanistan

President Bush, traveling in Australia, chimed in with support, saying he agreed that the "war is going to be tough work and it's going to take a

Bush told reporters he had not seen the secretary's memo but said that as for the idea of doing more to prepare, "I cannot agree more.

Rumsfeld wrote in the Oct. 16 memo, which was first reported by USA Today on Wednesday, "My impression is that we have not yet made truly bold moves, although we have made many sensible, logical moves in the right direction, but are

they enough?' Rumsfeld said Wednesday he sent the memo to keep top Pentagon officials thinking about the broader

implications of the war on terrorism. "I asked guestions. I didn't answer questions." Rumsfeld told reporters after meeting with lawmakers on Capitol Hill. "Elevating that issue forces people to think about it in the broadest possible context, which is why I did so.'

The memo also raised the possibility of creating a new team or agency in the federal government specifically to fight terrorism worldwide.

The Pentagon released a copy of the memo, addressed to Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Richard Myers and two of their deputies. In it, Rumsfeld offered a much more stark assessment of the global war on terrorism than he often gives publicly. "It is pretty clear that the coalition

can win in Afghanistan and Iraq in one

hard slog," he wrote.

The top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware, said the memo "is a little different than the sort of selfassurance that was communicated to

Rumsfeld said the memo did not say anything different from what he and Bush had said in the past.

White House press secretary Scott McClellan, traveling with Bush, voiced support for Rumsfeld. "That's exactly what a strong and capable secretary of defense like Secretary Rumsfeld

179 more illegal structures demolished

UNB, Keraniganj

bank of the Buriganga were demol-

Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) said three teams each backed by a magistrate demolished 150 small and 29 multistoried structures along the bank of the river from Jinzira ferry ghat to Alam Tower.

They said action against 50 structures on the eviction list could not be taken as the owners came up with High Court injunctions. Political influence was exerted in some cases, they added.

The drive will continue till tomor-

Outlaws in S-W region

of arms and ammunition.

They said she asked the minister concerned to enter into negotiations

Talking to The Daily Star, an influential Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) leader from Khulna said the assigned minister talked to some lawmakers for the region and was likely to sit with them early next month to discuss the possibility of

minister, then with the prime minister and home minister to work out a set of offers to be extended to the outlaws." he added. general amnesty, withdrawal of

cases filed against outlaws and rehabilitation of the self-styled Sarbahara leaders and activists. we'll move to negotiating tables." "If necessary, we'll give written guarantee to the outlaws that the

government would not go for any legal action after their surrender to nstill confidence into them," he said. The consequence would be dreadful if we renege on the promise after the surrender of arms by the

"Opening of negotiations with the outlaws may take a long time, but

the government is serious about early solution to the trouble," an official at the Prime Minister's Office

BNP policymaker said the initiative was at an initial stage, but hoped that things would begin to gather pace in a month. "I think it is possible to ensure surrender of outlaws through a general amnesty and bring peace to

the promise made to the outlaws is He said the AL government was successful to ensure the surrender of outlaws and it largely reduced troubles in the region. But the initiative relapsed as the government

made a major shift in its commit-

"If we proceed, we must keep our commitment and help rehabilitate the outlaws who would respond positively and take the opportunity of amnesty," he said.

ment, he alleged.

Anthem glitch by Chief Whip Khandakar Delwar

Hossain to probe the matter. The committee prepared the

secretariat and 20 officials.

Janatar Mancha case Hearing on charge framing **Nov 16**

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court vesterday fixed November 16 for a hearing on the framing of charges against former state minister for planning Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir and seven others in the Janatar Mancha (sedition) case.

Judge Hossain Shahid Ahmad of the Court of Second Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge, adjourned the hearing following a time petition by the defence lawyers.

In the petition, the lawvers stated that Barrister M Amir-ul-Islam, the chief defence counsel, could not appear before the court as he was at a seminar, organised by the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. So, they prayed for adjournment of the hearing. The seven others are former

home secretary and incumbent Flection Commissioner Shafiur Rahman, former director of Narcotics Control Department Syed Bazlul Karim, former students relationship officer of the Ministry of Education Abu Alam Shahid Khan, former joint secretary of the women's affairs ministry and incumbent Member of the Public Service Commission Sirajuddin Ahmed, Senior Assistant Secretary of the establishment ministry Rabiul Alam Mohammad Obaidul Muktadir Chowdhury, former DIG of police Prokriti Ranian Chanda (PR Chanda) and former president of Secretariat Karmachari Sangjukta Parishad Syed Mohiuddin

Of the accused, Mohiuddin Alamair and six others, now on bail were present in the court yesterday.

Moudud

two years in power, the roundtable was joined by lawmakers of the ruling and opposition parties, retired judges, senior lawyers and editors, among others. Barrister Mainul Hosein presented the keynote paper. The minister, who drafted the bill, in

his concluding speech promised that

the recommendations made by the

speakers would be considered and the proposed law on the commission would be reviewed Former chief justice Mostafa Kamal asked the government to form the ACC with no delay in an impas-

sioned plea: "Please announce the

commission soon or indemnify all corruption." "It is not proper to keep two judges nominated by the chief justice in the selection body. When the chief justice recommended the appointment of judges, you ignored him. Then why have you now become too broadminded when it came to institut-

ing an anti-corruption commission?" "Do not undermine the post of the chief justice seeking his opinion. Leave him alone. Avoid controversy. The far he is kept away, the better it is for the country." the former chief justice

He demanded that the government broadens the jurisdiction of the ACC. Responding to Kamal's statement Moudud said, "Whoever is made member of the selection body, there

will be criticism. The judges have been

included in the ACC because they are least controversial. State Minister for Law Shahiahan Omar said, "Most surprising is that when you are in power, there is no corruption case against you."

He dismissed a suggestion that two lawmakers should replace the ministers and said. "If ministers are not there, there is no reason to keep MPs. On expansion of ACC's jurisdiction

aested inclusion of the defence ser-Chief Whip of the Opposition Abdus Shahid expressed doubts about the neutrality of the ACC, argu-

Attorney General Hasan Ariff sug-

ing, "The bill has been designed to serve the purpose of the ruling party." He suggested selecting nominees from the ruling and opposition parties but pointed out, "If there is any political representation to the commission, it is

likely to be partisan. Supreme Court Bar Association President Rokanuddin Mahmud said. "The constitution should be consulted to see if judges can work outside their

judicial responsibilities." "All appointments are being made on political considerations -- even the chief justice. I am doubtful about the neutrality of the commission, Rokanuddin adds.

The speakers called on the government to build an image of an independent commission, first by taking action against those in power. "It's easy to take action against those in the opposition. When the government can take action against its own men for corruption, only then it will create a good image," one of them said.

They also demanded repeal of the Official Secrecy Act, 1923, saying it stands in the way of free access to Transparency International,

Bangladesh Chairman Khan Sarwar

Murshid, TIB trustee Mujaffar Ahmed, Barrister Abdur Razzak, The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam, New Age Editor Enayetullah Khan, lawmaker MA Hena, former cabinet secretary Mujibul Haq, former caretaker government adviser ASM Shahjahan, former inspector general of police Enamul Haq, Bureau of Anti-corruption Director General MA Matin and former DG of the bureau Badruzzaman, among others, spoke.

Security goes high

tion and other criminal activities in Dhaka and elsewhere in the coun-

On various problems dogging the city, including traffic jam, the meeting decided to take special measures, including deployment of paramilitary BDR, police, ansars and Armed Police Battalion (APBN) n Dhaka and other cities.

Meeting sources said the summary courts, led by magistrates, will try accused like muggers and extortionists on the spot.

Besides, 40 patrol teams of the BDR, police, ansars and APBN will be deployed as strike forces in the city to swing into quick action. As shopping gets momentum

during Ramadan, the authorities

decided to deploy plainclothes

police in and around the city mar-Police will be in all markets in the quise of buyers or bystanders to check criminal acts like mugging,

hijacking and robbery. Security forces will be on duty on highways and at launch and bus terminals to protect the homebound

Driver abducted in Raozan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Miscreants abducted a driver of Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation (BFIDC) from a rubber plantation at Dabua under Raozan upazila Wednesday afternoon. Sekandar Ali was picked up by a

waiting for the general manager of BFIDC, Nurul Islam, a visitor to the garden. Locals claimed that the miscreants were members of Aziz Bahini of Raozan, while police alleged that

gang of five or six at 3:30pm. He was

three to four indigenous criminals kidnapped the driver for ransom. No case was filed till filing of this report yesterday afternoon. This is the 18th abduction in Chittagong since magnate and BNP

leader Jamal Uddin Ahmed

Chowdhury was abducted on July

passengers from robbers and from harassment by ticket touts.

The meeting identified at least 20 points in the capital where traffic jam is a common feature, particularly during Ramadan, Special forces of police are also being deployed in the areas to ease traffic congestion and facilitate the movement of fasting people.

However, the meeting decided not to allow sale of Iftar items alongside roads as it causes traffic jam and chaos.

Among others, Home Secretary Omar Faruq, Inspector General of Police Shahudul Houqe, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Ashraful Huda and senior officials of

Transport strike in Sylhet rolls into 2nd day

the ministry were present

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The second day of the indefinite strike enforced by the transport workers and owners of the district passed off peacefully yesterday.

The strike was called by Sylhet 7ila

Paribahan Sramik-Malik Oikya Parishad to press home its 20-point demand. The demands include an end to illegal toll collection and suspension of doubledecker bus services introduced by Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation The district administration vesterday

withdrawal of the strike may be taken soon, a source said. Meanwhile, the people of three upazilas -- Jaintapur, Kanaighat and Gowainghat -- kept boycotting the bus and minibus services since October 15 in

protest at the withdrawal of the BRTC bus

convened a meeting at the deputy

commissioner's office A decision for

ervice on Sylhet-Tamabil route. The Brihattar Jainta Samannaya Samity at a rally yesterday said it will go for tougher programmes if the BRTC service do not resume. People and activists of all politica parties of the three upazilas attended the meeting chaired by Sirajuddin Ahmed

India has 35 Nukes

Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), is believed to have an active biological defence research programme as well as the necessary infrastructure to develop a variety of biological agents,"

become "virtually self-sufficient" in its missile programme, enabling it to avoid international export control regime and difficulties arising out of foreign involvement in its Ever since the 1998 Pokharan

detonations, India's decision mak-The CRS attributes this self-

"India then reverse-engineered these high quality foreign missile components, and that was a key factor in her subsequent self-

sufficiency." On the assumption that American interests require a balance between India and Pakistan and that India should not compare itself with China, CRS says that ever since the 1998 nuclear tests in South Asia, it has appeared that

According to the Pentagon 'India's development of mediumrange ballistic missiles is motivated by its desire to be recognized as a great power and strategic competi-

6 get life

girl in Bhola last year.

for rape

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal A tribunal in Barisal yesterday imprisonment for raping a teenage

Tribunal, Barisal also fined each of the convicts -- Shafiqul Islam Shafiq, Salahuddin, Mohammad Nantu, Zakir Hossain, Dulal Howlader and Rafigul Islam Rafig --Tk 1 lakh. Zakir, Dulal and Rafig have been

The Divisional Speedy Trial

girl was gangraped on her way back nome to Guingar Hat from her sister's house in Kumuria by rickshaw on the morning of August 26, 2002. Judge Abdul Quddus Mia acquit-

evading capture since the 15-year-old

9(3) of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act. Investigation Officer Rafiq filed the chargesheet against the seven on September 4, 2002, after the case was filed on August 27, 2002 with Bhola Sadar Police Station. The case

was sent to the tribunal on June 10,

Khaleda, the delegation expressed

the Saudis' desire to hire more

skilled and semi-skilled workers

from Bangladesh, according to

Khaleda also urged the delega-

tion to recruit more workers from

Bangladesh and thanked the Saudi

government for employing

Bangladeshi workers, benefiting

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan

today and visit some manpower

training centres and the Grameen

Bank headquarters before their

procession in town at about

11:00am and held a rally in front of

Goswami, secretary of the commit-

The rally was addressed by Dolan

The Saudi delegation will call on

More docs, engineers

sources.

both economies.

Bangladeshi workers remit around \$1.7 billion to the country a year. The amount is more than half of the total foreign remittance earnings of

recruiting people from Bangladesh. Saudi Arabia can hire as many people as Bangladesh can train. "We hope that manpower export to Saudi Arabia will increase signifi-

the workers was also raised and the Saudis assured the Bangladeshi side they are taking measures to improve the wage. The Saudi delegation lauded the

Dhaka in the afternoon on a special flight from Jakarta, Indonesia. He is leading a five-member highpowered delegation including the secretary of his ministry, Abdul Aziz Al Mansur Al Zamel.

tee, Rajat Shubhra Gosh, Gopal Shaha, Shushanta Mitra and

and take out a procession wearing press club tomorrow.

12 JS bodies

The committees at fault are on ministries of law, justice and parliamentary affairs, foreign affairs planning, commerce, information, expatriates welfare and overseas employment, textile, labour and employment, jute, social welfare,

Of them, the committees on foreign, planning, jute and information ministries failed even to hold a single meeting since their formation in July. Eight other committees did not

civil aviation and tourism, and

women and children affairs.

ago. The committee on commerce ministry held its last meeting on September 3, expatriates and overseas on September 23, textile on September 6, labour and employment on September 3, women and children on September 4, law on September 13, civil aviation on August 30, and social wel-

committee is however quite interest-

received the graft bill. teachers

dent. The lecturers could not be Abdul Awal Mamun, general

The Iraqi people are looking to us," said Foreign Minister Ana Palacio in her opening remarks. "We won't let them down So far, Japan has pledged \$1.5 billion for 2004; South Korea has agreed to \$200 million, and Canada, remaining amount. \$150 million. The World Bank has

said it will lend Iraq \$3 billion to \$5 billion over the coming five years. Spain pledged \$300 million through 2007 and Britain \$439 million for 2004-2005. Both were

the matter up with Syrian delegates

An estimated \$3 billion is

Although pledges announced so

reported to be in Syrian banks, but

Powell said he had not "heard a

far total just a few billion dollars, the

host of the conference, Spain, tried

at the meeting.

to sound upbeat.

number quite that high."

firm supporters of the war. The European Union's head office has limited its contribution to

one year, promising \$233 million.

A separate \$20 billion package is

now before the US Congress, and will go mainly toward security in Iraq and resurrecting its oil industry.

BNP leader

shot in city

vesterday

Ward-level

STAFF CORRESPONDENT An armed gang shot a ward-level leader of the ruling BNP at his residence at East Jurian in Dhaka

of the BNP unit in Ward No. 89 of the Dhaka City Corporation, suffered bullet wounds in his thigh and knee. He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Masud Karim, 35, joint secretary

'The gang of about eight shot me

as soon as I opened the gate of my

residence in the morning," Masud

told newsmen at the DMCH.

The attackers held his mother younger brother and daughter at gunpoint, he added. A few days ago, a 15-member gang demanded toll from the owner of an under-construction building in the locality. Masud, also former

The gang most likely attacked Masud in response to that incident, The gang also fired blank shots

in front of an under-construction

The duty officer at Shyampur

building before fleeing, locals said.

Police Station said till last night no

private secretary to the local MP,

chased them away, his relatives

case had been filed. **BSF** hands FROM PAGE 12 a senior official said here Besides Ulfa and NSCN (I-M),

Liberation Tigers of Assam (MULTA) five and three camps each of the People's Liberation Organisation (PLA) and a little-known outfit Islamic United Reformation Protest of India (IURPI)

the list shows National Democratic

Front of Bodoland (NDFB) having

14 camps, Meghalaya's Achik National Volunteers' Council

(ANVC) nine, Muslim United

The list also showed two camps of Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council (HNLC) and one of Manipur's Khanglei Yavol Khnna Lup (KYKL) The official said other "frontiers

may also have separate list of

underground camps like this fron-He said the list was handed over to BDR team to buttress India's

position (of militants camp in Bangla soil) since "Dhaka has all along been denying this". The Daily Star could not contact the BDR director general for his

soon as it received the much-talked about independent anti-corruption commission bill for scrutiny.

Arifa Sultana, a lecturer of the nesses' in her absence Blast lawyer Abdul Mannan Khan

for the next hearing," he added.

September for gathering information. Communications Minister Nazmul Huda received Kabbah at Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge at Sirajganj in the delegates on the infrastructure and

Tuesday on his way home from Kuala

Shamsher told reporters that a two-

But as the speaker had another

for the fibre glitch, sources said.

us in Congress.

should be doing," said McClellan.

About 179 illegal structures on the ished vesterday Officials of Bangladesh Inland

opening talks with the outlaws.

"Five of us will first sit with the

"If the prime minister agrees on a

outlaws 'as the Awami League government did,' the BNP leader

Asked on the roadmap to talks, a

the battered southwestern region if honoured," he added.

report after questioning the deputy speaker, secretary of the parliament

The CRS also said India has

ing is a key factor in regional stability in South Asia, the CRS said in a report. sufficiency to the fact that "most likely in anticipation of the Missile Technology Control Regime, India went on what was described by some analysts as a shopping spree

for gyroscopes, accelerometers, and motion simulators from suppliers in the US, Germany, France and

ted Abdul Kader of the charge in his verdict handed down under section

India's decision-making is a key

Bangladesh The meeting sources further said

Riyadh categorically told Dhaka that

it does not have any ceiling for

cantly following the discussion," Quamrul Islam told newspersons after the discussion. He said the issue of low pay for

efficiency and sincerity of Bangladeshi workers, the minister The Saudi minister arrived in

Immediately after his arrival, the Saudi delegation met Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office. During the half-hour meeting with

Temple FROM PAGE 12

Manikgani Press Club.

departure on Saturday.

Mohan. The speakers condemned the attack on the temple and demanded punishment to the guilty. The puja udjapan committee will hoist a black flag atop the temple

black badges in town today. It will also hold a protest rally and form a human chain in front of the local

awareness is," he said. national plans and programmes by comments on the issue despite involving the stakeholders, the

committee and the secretary shall convene a meeting of the committee at a date, time and place fixed by the speaker," the rules of procedure

tee is not called in accordance with the

rules, the speaker may direct the

secretary to call a meeting of that

hold the regulation meeting since their last sittings 30 or more days

fare on September 4. The case of the law ministry