Saarc editors,

Jamal's wife

with the prime minister.

over phone.

She also sought protection of her family following recent death threats

Following the hour-long meeting with the minister, Nazma and her eldest son Forman Reza Chowdhury Liton were ushered by home ministry officials into a room away from waiting journalists and kept there for an hour under police guard

But newsmen managed to get a few comments as the two was on their way

out at around 1:00pm "My discussion with the minister was fruitful and he assured me of an appointment with the prime minister," said Nazma, who came to Dhaka

Talking to The Daily Star over phone, Liton said he and his family hoped to get an appointment with the prime minister and request her to help strengthen the search and rescue operation for Jamaluddin as well as authorise security arrangement for the family.

yesterday along with her family.

"We will be staying in Dhaka until our meeting with the prime minister,' Liton said.

Earlier, Nazma faxed an application to the prime minister seeking an

Cops sent to jail FROM PAGE 12

Keraniganj when they went to Delwar's house at South Banasree in Khilgaon on business purpose. Before handing them over to the police station, locals recovered Tk 1.46 lakh from SI Shamsul Haq's possession. The three other accused were absconding.

About the police move to arrest the absconders, Officer-in-Charge of Khilgaon Police Station Arman Ali said last night, "I do not know where Shajahan Sabuj and Habib used to reside in the city, may be at the Rajarbagh Police Lines.'

"A constable claimed he knew where Sabui resided and I sent him there. But he was not found," the OC said without giving details

Harunur Rashid, one of the victims, filed the case against the six law enforcers and the police informer, alleging Delwar is the mastermind behind the mugging.

Meanwhile, locals laid a siege to Khilgaon Police Station yesterday, demanding immediate arrest and trial of the policemen involved in the killing of Shakil Ahmed Chowdhury Sumon in

sued the matter with the foreign

leader, was abducted from city's Chawkbazar area on July 24. His abductors later demanded a ransom

One hundred days into the abduction, police have failed to make any headway with the case and can't even tell whether the man is still alive.

gave Tk 25 lakh to the former CMP (Chittagong Metropolitan Police) commissioner and the officer-incharge (OC) of Kotwali Police Station to secure Jamal's release.

But sources said it is a mystery as to

The commissioner and the OC were supposed to be quizzed by higher authorities but the idea was also shelved for some reason, sources said.

Onion

"Had our proposal been accepted,

onion prices would never have crossed Tk 18-20 a kg." said a commerce ministry official, wishing not to be named.

Colombo

before finalising the agreement and meeting sources said.

wings will deal with tax collection.

Facility (PRGF) loan.

are willing to pay up for his safe return.

agreed to pay the ransom as they thought any mistake would bring the fate of Chittagong magnate Jamaluddin Ahmed Chowdhury upon Sayed too.

the kidnappers to pay Tk 6 lakh at Nuriahan Hotel in Comilla. The abductors instructed the family to come with the cash in a black cab.

the money.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fanatics allegedly led by a local Imam (religious leader) killed an Imam of the Ahmedia Muslim Community in Jessore yesterday following an alter-

last night after locals led by the Imam of a mosque at Raghunathpur village in Jhikargachha upazila attacked the Ahmedia Muslim mosque after the Jumma prayers, said a report of the

Pressing the Ahmedia community to change their belief, locals at one point attacked the minority Muslim sect injuring Alam seriously, it added. Local administration told the BBC

Bangla service that additional police were deployed at the village to avoid any untoward incident.

case accusing 12 persons including the Imam who led the attack.

But police failed to arrest anyone till filing of the report, BBC told Jamaluddin, also a local BNP

Meanwhile, the victim's family

what was done with the money.

withdraw full duty on onion

Colombo has agreed to accept the list,

Bangladesh exported goods worth \$3.75 million in the fiscal 2002-03 while its imports to Sri Lanka totaled \$8 million, according to the Export

257 big firms

said a NBR top official. "One of the LTU Another will gather information and resolve disputes. Another wing will conduct audits. The LTU will now have

UK's Department for International Development provided Tk 44 crore to

Expanding the LTU also fulfils one of the conditions of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to qualify Bangladesh for the second instalment of \$70 million Poverty Reduction Growth

Top company director

Police were initially reluctant about the ransom and top police officials met several times to find a way of rescuing the executive. The abduction was also not recorded with any police station during the day as police were too embar $rassed \, to \, have \, the \, news \, leaked.$

After prolonged discussions, police

Later, Sayed's family negotiated with

Four teams -- two of Rapid Action Team (Rat) and two of Detective Branch (DB) -- detailed the rescue operation and at 12 midnight, the forces trailed the black cab that carried the ransom to Comilla. Sayed's brother-in-law carried

In front of Nuriahan Hotel, four of the abductors appeared in Sayed's car at 2:30am, whisked the brother-in-law in, seized his mobile phone and headed for

The abductors went to a remote village in Harishpur in Laksam, where

The 20-minute clash left at least 15 people, mostly hailing from Barisal and Bhola, injured. They were undergoing treatment at different city clinics, sources said. cation on religious beliefs.

Station.

occurred at around 9:30am when the train from Chandpur remained stopped at the station for about 40 minutes allegedly to give passage to

Some passengers of the Meghna Express went to the stationmaster's room to inquire about the delay where an altercation with the staff started.

A local person circulated the matter over his cell phone to others in the locality, who rushed to the station with sticks and attacked the passen

Amir Hossain and Mohammad Tanvir alleged that they lost their money and other valuables during the clash. Police came in and brought the

situation under control.

A case was filed with Government

1 killed, 4 hurt in Ctg water tank collapse

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A labourer was killed and four others were injured when a water tank collapsed at a steel mill at Nasirabad in the port city yesterday.

A huge concrete chunk of a tank at Bayezid Steel Mill Limited smashed on working labourers at around 4:00pm killing Abdul Hakim, 30, on the spot and injuring Mizan, Yousuf, Salam and Ranju. Workers nearby recovered Hakim's body from the rubble and rescued the injured, police said.

Critically injured Mizan was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

A case was filed with Bayezid Police

Inter-city train survives crash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhei

An inter-city train narrowly escaped an accident Friday night as local dacoits removed fish-plates from the tracks in a robbery bid.

Soon after Dhaka-bound Upaban Express train departed Sylhet railway station at 10:00pm, a message reaching Sylhet said that some dacoits had removed fish-plates at a place between Mogla-bazar and Kotalpur, railway sources said. Being informed of the matter,

Moglabazar railway station halted the train. Railway workers located the troubled place and fixed the line for rail movement. Upaban Express was delayed for 20 minutes and other trains of the region

reached different stations late. Meanwhile, locals held Layek of Mohammadpur village under South Surma Police Station for the act and handed him over to Government

Railway Police (GRP). A case was filed with the GRP.

Indifference to technical fault caused grid failure, says probe body

The grid failure from Ashuganj Power Plant causing severe power disruption on Wednesday was not a sudden debacle as the technical fault had developed over a period of time, a probe body said

The three-member body headed by the joint secretary (administration) of the ministry of power in its report submitted vesterday said the incident took place due to a long indifference to the echnical fault that developed gradually on the 132 kv transmission line.

However, the committee did not specifically hold anybody responsible for the incident.

The report was learnt to have irked the high officials of the power ministry, which is now waiting for report of the five- member technical committee formed after the incident.

The 230 KV bush insulator of the Ashuganj Power Plant was burnt and detached Wednesday morning when the aluminum conductor of the nearby 132ky line of the sub-station melted because of extreme heat and fell on 230 ky line. The incident caused power outages all over the country, bringing the

The government immediately formed two separate probe bodies to supply that was restored after 24 hours of relentless efforts. The incident, worst in past several years, also hit generation from other

operative power plants excepting those in Mymensingh and Sylhet region. Officials initially blamed the massive

disruption on technical problems. The 700mw capacity Ashuganj Power Station has been turned into commercially run Ashuganj Power Company Ltd on June 1 this year.

UN okays

about 130 countries, a relatively speedy

United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, which entered into force on September 29. That treaty requires ratifying countries to cooperate with each other in combating money laundering, organised crime and human trafficking.

Jail Killing Day

country. Leaders and workers would wear black badges to mourn the gruesome killings.

include placing wreaths at Bangabandhu's portrait and the graves of the national leaders at Banani graveyard and offering fateha. The main opposition will also organise milad mahfils and special prayers across the country to mark the day.

The party will also hold a discussion meeting at the auditorium of Engineers Institute, Bangladesh in the city tomorrow with AL President Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

England sweep 2-0

Then came the most obtuse dismissal of the innings with Habibul Bashar getting run out. Bashar, who had looked largely untroubled except for a dropped chance in the slips, raced to 21 off as many balls with three boundaries when shoddy running resulted in his wicket.

Having pulled Johnson to the vacant mid-wicket, Bashar took two runs with ease with his partner Javed Omar and was coming back for a third. But Omar for some reason was looking at the fielder and staved glued to his crease, leaving Bashar with little time to get back and beat Martin Saggers' throw from the deep.

Saggers was again in action when Omar (18) tried to cut one of his deliveries too close to his body and Read took a simple catch to leave Bangladesh on 51 for

Seven runs later, another run-out pulled the stuffing out of the home side. Mushfigur Rahman was promoted ahead of Alok Kapali after some resolute batting in the series but missed out this time around when he fell just short of the crease to a Vaughan throw from cover while responding to Rajin Saleh for a sharp

Rikki Clarke had Saleh caught behind as the batsman drove without getting to the pitch of the ball.

Kapali (19 off 18 balls), who is going through a prolonged batting slump in Tests, showed the first signs of resistance but only flattered to deceive

In the last over before lunch, the talented all-rounder hooked Johnson for a six and drove magnificently down the ground for a four off the first two balls. But just as he so often does, he couldn't resist the temptation of going after another short delivery and a backtracking Saggers at deep square leg held out his right hand and somehow managed to catch the ball which had already gone over his head. It was a superlative effort and completed a fantastic day for the paceman in the field.

The England bowlers continuously bowled short after lunch while placing a forward short leg, a deep square leg and a deep fine leg. Bangladesh captain Khaled Mahmud bore the brunt of some searing balls and had to be treated by the physio on a couple of occasions. Mahmud lost Khaled Mashud with the total on 108 as the former captain couldn't take the bat out of the way from a Johnson delivery.

With his ship sinking, Mahmud decided to go down fighting. He slogged his way to 33 with the help of a six and three fours before being the last man out to Johnson, who ended with four for 44 to add to his five for 49 in the first innings.

and with cracks opening up on the third and fourth days. I bowled a bit short and

got the results," said Johnson. England paceman Matthew Hoggard, who bowled tirelessly throughout the two Tests, was adjudged man of the series, while opener Marcus Trescothick was declared the batsman of the series for his 201 runs in four innings which included a hundred and a fifty. Bangladesh's leftarm spinner Mohammad Rafique became the top wicket-taker with 10 victims

Cops hunt for **Durrani** for death in mob beating

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Kamrangirchar police vesterday raided the house of Shamshul Haque Durrani, editor of Nawroi, and his possible hideouts to arrest him in connection with the death of a young man from mob beating.

Swapan, brother of victim Ripon, filed a murder case with Kamrangirchar Police Station Friday against Durrani, reporter Kamal Chowdhury and Durrani's brother Idris. Ripon suffered fatal injuries in a

mob beating at Rasulpur in Kamrangirchar Thursday evening and died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) Friday. "I have ordered my forces to arrest Durrani and others accused in the mur-

der case," Deputy Commissioner (DC) of

police Khan Sayeed Hasan told The Daily "Durrani and some locals confused us by saying that Ripon and nine other extortionists attacked his house Thursday. First, I believed him and appreciated Durrani and his men for helping police arrest Ripon, Omar Faruq and Ohid alias Maruf," Sayeed

visit to Kamrangirchar area Friday morning, I came to know that it was an arranged game by Durrani," the DC The victim's relatives said Durrani beat up Ripon's nephew when his

bicycle hit Durrani on Kamrangirchar

"Following Ripon's death and my

Hasan said.

embankment, Hearing the news, Ripon and his friends Omar and Ohid went Following an altercation, Durrani his brother Idris and some others started beating Ripon and his friends

that resulted in the death of the young

Soaring prices

FROM PAGE 1

like us," said Bulbul, a shopper in the

Mohammadpur kitchen market. problem has been repeatedly reported

35, Indian garlic at Tk 26, down from 28, cucumbers at Tk 25, down from Tk.28 and brinjal at Tk 20, down from 25. But in the same market locally grown onions were being sold at Tk 28 a kilo, Indian onions at Tk 22, ginger at Tk 26, local dried chilies at Tk 85, Indian dried

borbati at Tk 20. The price of all these items is the same as the day before Ramadan. "Today I am selling cucumbers at Tk 25 a kilo, which is three taka less than on Friday, and I hope the price will come

down this week," said Sohrab Mia, a trader in Karwan Bazar. "I am selling brinjal at Tk 20 a kilo, down from Tk 25 on Friday," said

But prices were higher in the city's Mohammedpur and Hatirpul kitchen markets yesterday. Beans were selling at

Tk 67-70 a kilo, down from Tk 75 cucumbers at Tk 28-30, down from Tk 32, tomatoes at Tk 40-42, locally grown onions at Tk 28-30, Indian onions at Tk 22-26, brinjal at Tk 25-28, down from Tk 30, and local garlic at Tk 40, down from

Meanwhile, it has been reported by

the BSS that Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury yesterday visited several kitchen markets in the The commerce minister was reportedly informed that locally-grown onions were selling at Tk 20-22 a kilo as opposed

to the actual price of Tk 28, potatoes at

Tk 12 against the actual price of Tk 13,

and sovbean oil at Tk 46-48 as opposed

to the actual price of Tk 48-54. Transport strike

FROM PAGE 12 mostly responsible for damage of the

highways. The Parishad will hold rallies in the districts and is likely to organise a grand rally at Paltan Maidan before

calling the strike on December 20. Among the leaders of the Parishad, Abdur Rashid Khan, Waziuddin Khan, M Rustam Ali Khan and Habibur Rahman were present.

Hotel manager

Dhaka Medical College Hospital

"As soon as I opened the door of my room, I saw three youths, whom I failed to identify from behind, hurry down the stairs," he said. "When I entered my brother's room I found him lying unconscious on the floor in a pool of blood." Suman last saw a lungi-clad Khokon asleep in his bed 15 minutes ago.

He then rushed his brother to the DMCH where doctors declared him Hospital sources said a bullet

wound was found in the right side of the victim's head. Suman however failed to figure any reason behind the killing. But

police and locals said Khokon confronted some influential residents and two alleged owners -- Alamgir and Shaheed -- over proprietorship of the hotel in last four months. "We are not sure who is the owner of the hotel." the officer-in-charge

(OC) of Ramna Police Station Mahbubur Rahman, said. Police arrested Shafiq, manager

fruit trader in West Rampura.

Master Sohel and Shah appeared "They asked to pay up Tk 20,000 they have been demanding for long,' said a witness who took Anik to the DMCH. "Then they shot him in the

Afghanistan's cop-militia clash sees 40 killed

Some 40 people were killed when Afghan police and a former military commander and his fighters fought a fierce battle in southwestern Helmand province, the state-run Bakhtar news agency reported yesterday. The clash erupted Friday afternoon

ing to ex-military commander Haji Idrees for a routine check and the $commander \, resisted.$ Bakhtar said Idrees and his deputy were among those killed in the fight

in Gereshek district when police

stopped a convoy of vehicles belong

ing, as well as three women and 12 other civilians caught in the crossfire. Earlier the Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press said the fighting involved two pro-government militia groups

and put the death toll at 25.

Bakhtar said several shops were damaged and the many civilians were also injured. Greshek is 480km southwest of the

capital Kabul. AIP said an Afghan traveller, who arrived in Pakistani city of Ouetta in southwestern Baluchistan province bordering Afghanistan told the news agency he had heard that 45 people

might have been killed in the fighting. The agency quoted local sources as saying that US troops were seen heading towards the troubled area, but no other details were available.

The incident reflected the poor security situation especially in the south and southeastern parts of Afghanistan amid increasing rebel attacks and clashes attributed to local warlord rivalries.

Customs officers' strike halts activities at Benapole port

Export and import through Benapole landport remained suspended yesterday following work abstention by the customs officials.

The customs officials went on the

work stoppage protesting attack on

one of their colleagues by a C&F agent

employee in the morning, leaving hundreds of trucks, carrying onion and other essential commodities, stranded, Port sources said Mintu, manager of C&F Agent Sathi Trade International, attacked the customs

officer following a dispute over releas-

ing a product inspected by a PSI com-However, the import-export resumed in the late afternoon after a meeting between Customs Commissioner Mohammad Shahabuddin and C&F Agents Association leaders where the association leaders assured of taking legal

action against Mintu.

Biman's Barisal FROM PAGE 12

cal mile-long Dhaka-Rajshahi-route is Tk 1300 per passenger Earlier, Biman closed its Barisal flights twice on the plea of fewer number

Meanwhile, private airlines GMG operates daily flights on this route. Many passengers alleged the fare hike of Barisal route is part of a 'conspiracy' by certain quarters to favour private airlines, harming Biman. They demanded immediate withdrawal of the

Uneasy calm

FROM PAGE 12

increased fare.

report of any illegal entry of Myanmar nationals into Bangladesh since communal riots broke out over a week Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Cox's Bazar Saifuddin Ahmed vester-

day directed Upazila Nirbahi Officer

(UNO) of Teknaf Matinul Haq to report

immediately if any influx takes place.

The UNO then alerted chairmen of all

in Cox's Bazar said there has been no

union parishads in Teknaf against possible intrusion. Reports received from across the border said Myanmar's border security force, Nasaka, had a five-hour commander-level meeting in Mongdow to maintain peace on the

Meanwhile, the tension over Rohingyas camping across the border has greatly affected Bangladesh Myanmar border trade though there has been no official restriction on it. Cement, clothe and dried fish trade on Teknaf-Mongdow border has almost $come\,to\,a\,halt, business\,people\,said.$ From December 1991 to March 1992, between 210,000 and 250,000

torture, religious persecution and forced labour by the Myanmar armed

Rohingyas fled Arakan in west

Myanmar to Bangladesh for fear of

going on, only very slowly. Only 23 Rohingyas from Kutu Palong refugee camp went back home yesterday.

journalists meet in city

A two-day conference of editors and journalists of Saarc countries began in Dhaka yesterday to review the measures to promote press freedom, better working condition and information flow

among the neighbours. Information Minister Tariqul Islam opened the first ever such conference at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

"We know that newspapers in other Saarc countries as well are run predominantly by private enterprises. Yet, we are convinced that the government has a big part to play in promoting the industry, developing the professional bearings of journalists and the networking of close contacts among media profes-

"We hope that governments will pursue he right course in that direction under the framework of Saarc," he said. Editor of The News of Pakistan Selim Bukhari, Editor of the Nepalese daily

sionals in the region," he said.

The Kantipur Yaba Raj, Editor of the Kuencel newspaper of Bhutan Ligyen Penjor, Director of Saarc Secretariat PB Shah, Principal Information Officer of Bangladesh government Khondokar Monirul Alam and Director General of External Publicity Wing Zahirul Haq also spoke.

Information Secretary Nazml Alam Siddiqui chaired the inaugural function

of the conference, hosted by the Ministry of Information in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Senior Journalists and editors including Enayetuallh Khan of the New Age, Reazuddin Ahmed of the News Today, Mahbubul Alam of the Independent, Amanullah Kabir of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), Mahfuz Anam of The Daily Star and Shafiq Rehman of the Iai Iai Din were

The conference is expected to review issues ranging from the working condition for media workers in South Asia, the comparative assessment of the staterun media and the private enterprise, the media's overall impact on promotion of regional co-operation to crossborder media initiatives and free flow of

The conference came months after Dhaka hosted the South Asia Free Media Association to help the region move toward materialising its goals concerning the media sector.

The information minister said Bangladesh had undertaken an unequivocal stand in the area of media, ournalism and freedom of press. "Since independence, newspapers in Bangladesh had overcome many hurdles and are now enjoying absolute

White House faulted on Iraq dossier proof

Intelligence Committee singled out the White House for failing to meet a noon EST deadline on Friday to turn over documents about intelligence on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction used to justify the US

expected to receive "a quantity of docunents" from both agencies by the end of "The White House has not met today's deadline. I am hopeful that the White

House will recognize the importance of the

committee's efforts and comply as soon as

week sent letters to top administration officials demanding documents be turned over and interviews with officials be sched-Congressional officials said that step

provide information the panel had requested as long as five months ago for its review of the quality of US intelligence on At this point more drastic steps such as subpoenas were not being considered, but

"We're not kidding around on this," the West Virginia Democrat told Reuters. Setting the deadline was "meant to be a very strong signal to them that we're tired of waiting. This is the nation's business, there

support for the war. No biological or chemical weapons have been found, nor any solid evidence that Iraq was resurrect-

ingits nuclear program. White House spokesman Scott

BB asks

executive floor where the bank's top officials work, are sources of noise, BB

high officials, and meet top executives

Meanwhile, police yesterday grilled some employees and officials in connection with last week's incident. Police said they would submit a

years ago. The union leaders demanded their promotion before any fresh recruit-

Nationalist Party, continued to lobby with influential political leaders and streamline their activities

ning legal battles with the BB.

McClellan said that even though the Senate committee has no jurisdiction over the White House, it has been working to help with the panel's Iraq review, "We are talking with them and we will continue working

with them," he said from Crawford, Texas.

Committee want to finish the review by

year end and focus on the intelligence

Republicans on the Senate Intelligence

agencies, while Democrats are seeking a broader scope to include a look at how the White House used the intelligence.

Marines' death FROM PAGE 12

"To be honest, I'm scared, but I have to Fighting broke out Friday in Abu Ghraib on the western edge of the capital after attackers threw grenades at US soldiers in a market, wounding

a rooftop. An Iraqi oil ministry source said a lack of security was hurting crude exports from the country, which has

two. An Iraqi policeman was killed

during the unrest, shot by a gunman on

main pipeline to Turkey may not resume operation next week as planned. It was still under repair after being sabotaged. In Washington, the independent Congressional Budget Office said the occupation of Iraq could cost up to

depending on its size and length, and that in a worst-case scenario US troops could be in the country to 2013. Some US officials have been quoted as saying that Saddam and one of his top lieutenants, Izzat Ibrahim, are playing a key role in directing attacks, in cooperation with Ansar al-Islam, a group linked to al Qaeda

suspected of being behind many of the

FROM PAGE 12

The prime minister inaugurated the conference

waiting for her advice, the sources

the prime minister wanted him to do so, he added. Confusion about the anthem glitch arose from the very beginning as the

probe body formed on October 7 failed

to submit a report within 48 hours

despite the prime minister's directive to

do so. Rather, the speaker restructured

the body on October 10 in consultation tioned 16 people including the deputy speaker and secretary of the parliament

conference, the deputy speaker said, "I am trying to disclose the report on expenditure of the conference as soon as possible. If any misappropriation is detected, action will definitely be taken against those responsible.'

ence was over Tk7 crore.

Ahmedia Imam killed in Jessore

Shah Alam died at a local hospital BBC Bangla service last evening.

Meanwhile, Alam's wife filed a

quoting local administration.

with the car. The kidnappers also left a A little later, they brought Sayed to the road and asked him to walk to the

As Saved was walking down, the

 $confined \, and \, arrested \, another \, person.$ Police also recovered Tk 30,000 from A police press release claimed the Sayed was rescued following a raid on a

mess near Harishpur School in

Deputy Commissioner of Police

(DB) Farook Ahmed yesterday denied

having paid any ransom and said fake

notes were used to fool the kidnappers, a

claim not corroborated by sources close to Sayed's family. Clash over erratic train

halt leaves

15 hurt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg Passengers, railway staff and villagers vesterday locked in a clash over an irregular halt of Chittagong-bound

Meghna Express at the Sitakunda

Witnesses said the flare up

Injured passengers Amirul Haq

they left the brother-in-law on the road

police teams appeared and arrested the man kept on guard at the car. Police later raided the house where Saved was

> generation to nearly half of 3,500 mw. investigate the disruption in power

It complements another treaty, the

The day's programmes also

"I wonder why the government does nothing to control prices even after the In Karwan Bazar yesterday, beans were selling at Tk 60 a kilo, down from Tk 65, local garlic at Tk 32, down from Tk.

chilies at Tk 82, potatoes at Tk 13, turmeric at Tk 75, tomatoes at Tk 38 and

another trader, Khaleque, in the same

of Hotel Sweden Palace of the area and picked up London Palace boy

Khokon was serving as manager of the hotel for four years. Eldest of five brothers and two sisters, he lived at 'Renukunja' at 275, Uttar Shajahanpur with his wife, Happy, and a 7-day-old son. He hailed from Mudarchar in Sonargaon, Narayangani.

Shamim for interrogation, the OC

Anik, 20, son of one Abdul Jalil of 385/3, west Rampura, was sitting in his shop on the footpath opposite to the BTV Bhaban at around 2:30pm vesterday when local criminal

In another incident, unidentified

extortionists sprayed bullets on a

right thigh and back." A critically injured Anik is undergoing treatment at the DMCH.

All but around 20,000 Rohingvas returned home under an initiative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The process of repatriation is still

REUTERS, Washington

The Republican chairman of the Senate

But Sen. Pat Roberts of Kansas said the

CIA and State Department had provided a "good faith response" and the committee

The Senate Intelligence Committee this uled by the deadline. was intended to prod the administration to

possible," Roberts said in a statement.

fragleading up to the war. Sen. John Rockefeller said if the response was lacking he would be prepared to take

is a lot at stake," he said. Critics have said President Bush and his administration may have exaggerated the threat from Iraq's banned weapons to gain

FROM PAGE 1 officials said. Union activists used to hold meetings in the boardroom, earmarked for

without any appointment.

charge sheet in the case soon. Sixty-six new assistant directors, whose appointments were virtually blocked by the CBA moment, joined the central bank yesterday. The BB issued letters to 100 selected people who sat for the recruitment test two

Leaders of the CBA, backed by the coalition leader Bangladesh

Bank Employees Federation yesterday to 'fight out' the central bank's 'decision to oust' unruly unionists and CBA sources said they were plan-

the world's second largest reserves. The source said northern Irag's

\$200 billion over the next decade,

recent suicide bomb attacks in Iraq. Speaker

Sircar told newsmen on Thursday, The report is still being scrutinised. It will be made public as early as possible.' He also said he had not yet gone through the report. He would read it if

About the expenditure of the CPA

The amount allocated for the confer-

Headed by Chief Whip Khandakar Delwar Hossain, the probe body ques-