10 JCD men hurt in clash at DU hall **DU CORRESPONDENTS**

At least 10 leaders and activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) were injured in a clash between two rival factions of the ruling BNP's student wing at Haji Mohammad Mohsin Hall of Dhaka University on Friday night.

The rivals also ransacked at least five rooms at the hall and set afire one room.

The clash originated from occupation of a hall room by a JCD activist, hall sources said.

Four of the injured -- ICD central leader Anwarul Haque Royal, Ekramul Kabir Badal, Shafiqul Islam and Jakaria Mamun -- were admitted to a private hospital.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

GP plans fixed phone link for pre-paid customers

STAR REPORT

GrameenPhone (GP) plans to launch a new prepaid package, enabling subscribers to make calls to and receive from fixed phone network, sources

The package, likely to be named Easy Prepaid Gold, will hit the market as Eid package.

The outgoing call charge to fixed phone will be Tk 6 plus the BTTB charge and VAT while the incoming charge from fixed phone will be a flat Tk 2 per minute. There will be no charge on incoming calls from mobile phones. The initial subscription charge of SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

US closes mission in KSA UK citizens in

Bahrain on alert **REUTERS**, Riyadh

Washington's decision to shut its embassy in Saudi Arabia was based on fresh information about militants

SL PM takes time to all-party govt call

which she said a grave threat to national

ment...to join me to form a grand alli-

ance...with the objective of forming a

government of national reconciliation,'

Kumaratunga spoke hours after

Wickremesinghe received a jubilant

welcome after returning from the

United States, where he received fresh

backing for his peace plans from

lined the highway from the airport

chanting his name, dancing and waving

Tens of thousands of well-wishers

she said.

President Bush.

REUTERS, Colombo

ecurity had forced her hand. Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil She asked Wickremesinghe to join Wickremesinghe may take several days her in a unity government -- an idea that before responding to the president's call has surfaced repeatedly over the past for an all-party government to resolve decade but has never been attempted the island's political crisis, a spokesman because of deep policy and personal said vesterday. differences between the main parties. The call for a new government is part "I call upon all parties in parlia-

of a power struggle that began when President Chandrika Kumaratunga's sacked three cabinet ministers and suspended parliament this week, threatening a peace process with Tamil rebels

"There will be no immediate response. The prime minister met the cabinet before the president's speech and will have to meet them again," government spokesman Gairuka Perusinghe told Reuters. "It might take two or three days," he said.

banners as his convoy traveled at a Kumaratunga delivered a hardwalking pace into the capital. hitting television address on Friday in While he was away, Kuma-ratunga,

who has bitterly criticized his handling of peace moves with the rebels, sacked the ministers and suspended parliament until November 19, plunging the island into crisis.

"Parliament must re-assemble. It is the only body with a mandate for negotiations," Wickremesinghe said.

The crisis has been looming since Wickremesinghe won parliamentary elections in late 2001, campaigning on a platform of peace talks with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), defeating Kumaratunga's party. The Norwegian embassy said

Deputy Foreign Minister Vidar Helgesen would go ahead with a visit from Monday aimed at paving the way for resuming direct talks between the rebels and the government after they stalled in April

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

Two policemen struggle to save the motorcycle ridden by two muggers yesterday after it was set on fire by a mob that caught the miscreants in the act and beat them up on Green Road in the capital.

AES, UK firm want change **Green Road** in plant sale deal

SHARIER KHAN

After initialling an agreement with the government over the sale of two major power plants, US company AES and British firm CDC want to change some legal words that go completely against the spirit of the negotiations.

Sources said both the energy ministry and Power Development Board (PDB) have expressed reservations about the AES and CDC's reverse

"CDC is apparently trying to avoid the obligations it earlier agreed to," said the project management unit of the energy ministry on Sunday, giving SEE PAGE 11 COL 1 its opinion on the issue

Although the existing agreements with the AES over the 450 MW Meghnaghat and the 360 MW Haripur power plants do not allow sale of the plants in the first eight years of operation, the government agreed to the company's plea to allow it to sell them to the CDC on certain conditions.

Following 10 months of lobbying and negotiations by the two foreign companies, the AES, CDC and the PDB last month initialled a supplementary agreement containing terms and conditions of the government giving its consent to sale of the power plants. This draft was sent to the energy ministry on September 30 for

approval. The salient features of the agreement are: Allowing the PDB to relocate a discharge channel in the Meghnaghat site at its own cost except for costs associated with potential changes within the project premises. The ownership of a grid interconnection facility of the Meghnaghat site will be transferred to the PDB. The PDB will no longer purchase power from

the two plants on a priority basis. But on October 7, in a letter to the energy ministry the CDC proposed a new draft seeking to change some words saying these will not have any 'material impact' on the agreement. SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

Mob beats up mugger at

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mob yesterday beat up an alleged snatcher who attempted to snatch money from a businessman at Green Road in Dhanmondi.

Yusuf, 35, and two of his accomplices in a motorcycle held the rickshaw of the businessman at gunpoint at around 11:00am.

"The three tried to snatch Tk 1 lakh from the businessman," the duty officer of Dhanmondi Police Station said quoting witnesses. The businessman raised an alarm

and locals chased the snatchers. Of the three. Yusuf was caught with the motorcycle and a revolver with five bullets. Locals set the motorcycle ablaze. Police rushed Yusuf to Dhaka

Medical College Hospital (DMCH). SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

Two shot dead after seizing control of Philippines airport AFP, Manila Police stormed Manila airport's control tower Saturday shooting dead a retired senior aviation official and an ex-navy officer to end a bizarre predawn siege staged to protest alleged government corruption Panfilo Villaruel, head of the Philippine Air Transport Office in the 990s, was killed with former navy lieutenant Ricardo Gatchalian as aviation police regained control of the tower at 3:00 am (1900 GMT





plans in the kingdom and followed a call to target Western "crusaders," diplomats said vesterday.

The US embassy in Riyadh and its consulates in the coastal cities of Jeddah and Dhahran were all closed on Saturday -- a working day in the Gulf -after what the United States said was credible information "terrorists" were about to strike.

Its warning to US citizens in the kingdom followed raids in which SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



Garment workers demonstrate in front of the Bangladesh Textile Manufacturing Corporation (BTMC) building, also housing the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), demanding payment of salary and bonuses.

Constitutional

being violated,

says Dr Kamal

Constitutional provisions to safeguard people's fundamental rights are being frequently violated, legal expert Dr Kamal Hossain vesterday said.

"Although the constitution is to safeguard people's lives and property, this does not happen in practice," said

Dr Kamal, who is also president of Gano Forum, at an iftar party organised by

Terrorism, extortion, politicking and tender grabbing have been institu-

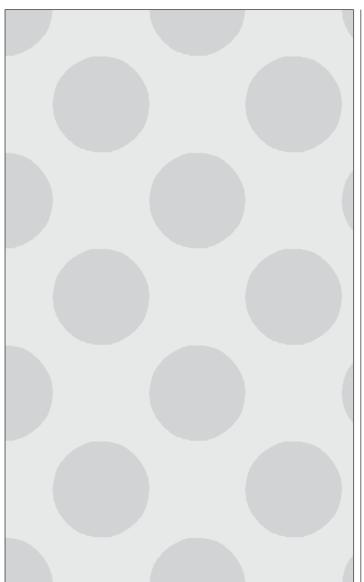
"In such circumstances, it has

safeguards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Oikya Prachesta.

tionalised, he added.



over release of top smuggler

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Officer-in-charge (OC) of Khulna Police Station Shafiul Azam Swapan was closed to Boyra Police Lines at 7:30pm yesterday, following the submission of the probe report by Additional Police Commissioner Saiiad Ali.

Saijad submitted the report to the Khulna Metropolitan Police commissioner, suggesting immediate withdrawal of the OC.

The OC has been stand-released. He has also been accused of being delinquent. Shafiul arrested listed smuggler

Shamsul Alam Shamsu Sunday night and released him Monday morning

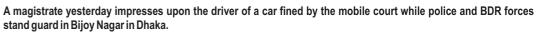
Mustafizur Rahman, the police Police Shahudul Hug to probe the allegation that Shafiul forced Shamsu to pay Tk 3 lakh for his release.

exchange of money, but it found that Shafiul arrested and released Shamsu at his will.

ruling BNP intervened during the investigation, asking the police commissioner not to be rigid in the case.

commissioner, formed a committee at the instruction of Inspector General of

> The probe body could not prove the Sources said a lawmaker of the



M-16 haul Cops asked to detain ship,

nab crew Sehri, Iftar timings Ramadan Nov Sehri Iftar STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Port.

ters

SEE PAGE 11 COL 8

5 - 1810 4-48 5-18

Prayer Timings

November 9		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-47	5-02
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-19	5-24
Esha	7-30	8-00
Source: Islamic Foundation		

Meanwhile, Mongla Sea Customs has filed a departmental case against Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of the vessel owner, HRC Shipping Lines. Khulna Range Abdul Aziz Sarker has Customs sources said the process is asked Chittagong Metropolitan Police on to hand over the arms to Mongla

to detain national flag carrier MV police. Banga Lanka and take its crew into The sophisticated arms and ammucustody following Thursday night's nition were seized Thursday midnight recovery of three M-16 rifles and 169 by Mongla Sea Customs from the cartridges from the vessel at Mongla bonded locker of MV Banga Lanka.

"We cannot specify when the arms The DIG said a message has been and ammunition will officially sent to the CMP headquarhanded over to police," said SEE PAGE 11 COL 7



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