RU Golden Jubilee

ers, 2,000 officials and employees and 24,000 students, with more

than one lakh students having so far

Bangladesh Chhatra League, Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, Progotishil Chhatra Alliance fol-lowed suit and decided to stay off

"I feel discouraged, as we have

But enthusiasm runs high

no guidelines from our teachers on how to observe the occasion," said

among the organisers. In a press conference at the Senate Bhaban yesterday, the vice-chancellor announced the RU would spend about Tk 1 crore on the three-day

programme with the prime minister to launch.

He described the pro-boycott group as insignificant, as 3,900 people registered to join the func-

On not inviting the president to the golden jubilee celebrations, he

said, "How can we invite him to the

function where the prime minister

"All teachers were unanimous i

He refuted the allegations of

That speech was two years after

It fell in 1989 on the back of a

The stretch of wall sold at auc-

tion stands on a vacant plot of 650 square metres. The lot comes with

building permission, but the sale

was on condition that the wall itself

The entire wall encircled what

was then West Berlin. More than

230 people are estimated to have

died in attempts to cross it during

Other sections of the wall have

cannot be moved or broken up.

the communist authorities in East

Germany erected the hated barrier

as an "anti-fascist protection wall."

growing pro-democracy move-ment to signal the effective end of

inviting the prime minister and it was the right decision," he said.

politicisation and said many mem-bers of the Progressive Teachers

Group were on the committees except for one who backed out.

Berlin Wall

speech in 1963.

the Cold War.

its existence

is the chief guest?"

Rakibul Hasan, a student.

Promote peace, end hostility in South Asia: Vajpayee

Calling for promotion of peace and banishing of hostility in South Asia, Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee yesterday cited the increased people-to-people contact as a reflection of "intense desire for amity and goodwill."

Inaugurating a two-day conference on "Peace Dividend--Progress for India and South Asia" in New Delhi, he said the demands of globalisation and aspirations of people provided the objective basis for energetic pursuit of a "harmoni-ously integrated South Asia. People, businesses and organisations are waiting to interact more closely with each other."

They had waited for over half-afor fulfilment of "unexploited potential in their own neighbourhood" and were now impatient to move ahead, Vajpayee told a distinguished audience that included former Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, former US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Union ministers, envoys of several countries and others.

The Prime Minister said, "We can sense this impatience in the outpouring of popular sentiment after our initiatives. The increased travel between India and Pakistan of parliamentarians, businessmen, artists and sportsmen show the intense desire for amity and good

will. We have to respond to this desire by seeking every possible way to banish hostility and promote

The conference is organised by the Hindustan Times whose Vice-Chairperson and Editorial Director Shobhana Bhartia said that it was an effort to create greater under-standing and to resolve conflicts in the South Asian region.

South Asia mattered because whatever happened in the region had consequences for the entire world, Bhartia pointed out.

The Prime Minister noted that the conference was taking place ahead of the Saarc Summit in Islamabad and said it could discuss deas on economic, strategic and geopolitical future of India and South Asia.

As the seven members of Saarc develop greater economic stakes in each other, he said, "We can put aside mistrust and dispel unwarranted suspicions. We will also develop mutual sensitivity to each others' concerns and promote more of our common interests."Vajpayee said if the Saarc countries-- India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and the Maldives-- provide legitimate avenues of free commercial interaction, they could eradicate black market and underground trade.

Death in custody

sent a trader to them asking for Tk 50,000 in cash in exchange for Rony's release, an offer they turned downinstantly

Ujjal told The Daily Star that he would file a case against the policemen and demanded the presence of a magistrate during Rony's

The duty officer of Sabujbagh Police Station said Rony was arrested in a good health and was taken to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court the next day.

"He was in good health when he was produced before the court," he

A jail official said Rony was not sick when he was taken to the jail, but he complained of health problems in the early hours of yester-

He was sent to the jail hospital and then shifted to the DMCH as his pulse went irregular.

Police accused Rony of a murky

past, saying he was arrested on warrant orders and charges of ssessing arms and exploding bombs in 2001, extorting money in 1998 and 1999 and stabbing a young man were pressed against him in seven out of nine cases recorded against him. They claimed that Rony was 26

year-old and ran a seedy Pensidyl drugs business, contradicting the family's claim of childhood and

Rising cases of torture and death in police and jail custody have drawn widespread criticism of rights groups.

A survey report of Odhikar, a ghts group, says 56 people were lled by law enforcers and 61 others died in police and jail custody in the first nine months of the

Another survey of Mass-line Media Centre says 1,859 people were vcitimised by law enforcers in 441 incidents in the first 11 months

January 3 and hold a public rally in

will be announced from the rally to

dislodge the government by April

Referring to the death of an accused of the abduction of

Chittagong magnate Jamal Uddin

Ahmed Chowdhury in police custody, she said, "It is an instance

About late president Ziaur Rahman, the AL chief said, "He

(Zia) was known as 'major retreat'

during the Liberation War as he

used to stay some three miles away

from the battlefield. Such a person

later claimed to be proclaimer of

Fazlul Haq Moni during the

Chairman Jahangir Kabir Nanok,

the discussion was also addressed

by AL presidium member Sheikh

Fazlul Karim Selim, Jubo League

General Secretary Mirza Azam and

Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury

and Prof Mostafa Chowdhury of

Presided over by Jubo League

She lauded the role of Sheikh

independence.

Liberation War.

Dhaka University.

of human rights violation."

Hasina said tough programmes

iaka on January i

Hasina: Ruling alliance

FROM PAGE 12

party central office in Dhaka.

About the recent arms haul in Kuril-Badda area of the capital, she said probe into such a big haul has made no headway yet probably because ruling alliance men are involved in the crime.

Hasina was critical of a 'bhaban' and said, "Every businessman has to pay commission to that bhaban."

To substantiate her allegations of government-backed corruption, Hasina said, "A top leader's family members are involved in billboard advertisement business in Dhaka while a senior minister's wife has grabbed a chunk of land at Osmany Udyan, paying only Tk 5,000.'

She also accused ruling party lawmaker and a senior minister's son of demanding bribe from a contractor and said he (contractor) is now facing harassment by police for disclosing the crime.

The AL chief urged all to make a success the anti- government agitation programme that her party already announced.

The AL will go for 'mass contact' across the country from December 21 to 31, observe 'demand day' on

Civic amenities

previously used by local children as playgrounds, are no longer in existence because of shop or house building spree.

The existing disarray arising from diverse undesirable activities within city parks or any attempt to illegally occupy any part of them could have been possible due to unpardonable indifference of the administration or a nod from the relevant quarters, as have been noticed in several

A very ominous picture of various damaging activities on river Buriganga has emerged. The damaging scenario extends in so many directions that the very existence of the river -- a lifeline of the city -- is in jeopardy. The pollution of the river has passed the critical stage. Besides, onslaughts on the river are being carried on by other sources. Largescale encroachments on both sides of the river have occupied much of the river space, leaving a narrow strip in the middle of the river for navigation. Hundreds of acres of land on the riverbed have been acquired by unscrupulous people by earth filling. Landgrabbers have lately turned their attention on Sitalakhya river

where the process of encroachment has already begun.

Those who built unauthorised structures on the Buriganga river or intending to do so should be made to face law without delay. Similar action also needs be taken in respect of encroachments already underway in the Sitalakhya river.

According to observers, we have already lost enough time to restore the rivers' health; now the pace has to be hastened both for the cleaning of its water and plugging the sources of

There seems to be no let-up in the growing threat to the city's other water bodies. Rajuk has reportedly been trying to prevent grabbing of vast water areas in and around the city as per government's directive, but it has proved a difficult task Dhaka continues to expand haphazardly as such wetlands are being rapidly filled in to meet the increasing demand of real estate developers As a result, ambitious private sector developers and short-sighted housing planners of government agencies are all contributing to the rapid disappearance of such wetlands, posing big environmental chal-

PM returns today

BSS, Dhaka

Prime minister Khaleda Zia returns home today after attending the three-day World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) in

She left for Geneva on December 9 to lead the Bangladesh delegation to the summit that began in the Swiss city on Khaleda addressed the summit

on the second day and made a proposal for creating a 'digital olidarity fund' to promote Information Communication Technology (ICT) globally

The prime minister had bilateral meetings with a number of world leaders, including Egyptian President Hosne Mubarak and Iranian President Mohammad Khatami, on the sidelines of the

Series of blasts pepper US HQs in Iraq

A series of explosions peppered the US headquarters in the Iraqi capital yesterday after a US soldier died in a suicide truck bombing as mass resignations almost halved the first battalion of the new Iraqi army.

Repeated assurances from US top brass sit uneasily with the daily grind of blood and violence in Iraq where three suicide bombers have blown themselves up in as many days nearby American bases.

Four explosions followed by two very loud blasts had rung out in succession about half past mid-night (2130 GMT) in Baghdad followed by another big boom last morning. "Two projectiles impacted in

the vicinity of the Green Zone," a military spokesman said reporting

"One caused minor damage to a building," he said. "An investigation is continuing. Smoke could be seen rising into the clear blue morning sky near the

Coalition Provisional Authority headquarters in the city centre after the latest explosion. Iraqi police on the edge of the zone told reporters it was probably a controlled explosion of ord-nance. The US military had no

immediate information about the One US soldier died and 14 others were wounded Thursday in a truck bombing outside the rebel town of Ramadi, 100km west of

"A furniture truck was driven by a suicide bomber" at approxi-mately 1:30 pm (1030 GMT) at Champion Main, 82nd Airborne Division Headquarters, in the vicinity of Ramadi," a statement said.

"It is believed three Iraqis driving the vehicle were killed in the explosion," another statement

A suicide car bomber wounded 58 soldiers near the northern city of Mosul and another would-be killer blew himself up just short of a base north of Baghdad on Tuesday.

Troops from the 1st Armoured Division found the body of a coleague who drowned Wednesday night during a routine patrol of the Tigris River in Baghdad, the coalition

Halliburton

FROM PAGE 12

as much as \$2.20 per gallon for unleaded gasoline, compared with \$1.18 in other contracts. KBR is not suspected of improp-

erly pocketing any taxpayer funds in either case but may have failed to ensure its subcontractors performed as required, defense officials said.

In addition to allegations of over-pricing, auditors were also looking into delays in providing details of pricing, a military source told Reuters.

"There are significant issues regarding the timeliness and adequacy of price proposals," the

So far the company has generated about \$2 billion in business from the March contract and more than \$2 billion from the logistics contract for which it supplies services ranging from delivering mail to doing laundry for US troops.

Democratic lawmakers have complained loudly to the Bush administration about the amount of work given to Halliburton in Iraq and have accused the White House of cronyism because of Cheney's former links to the firm, a claim the vice-president has vigorously

Democratic presidential hopefuls Howard Dean and Wesley Clark sought to make mileage from the audit findings. Dean, referring to the Bush

administration decision to bar Iraq war opponents from bidding on lucrative reconstruction contracts, said in a statement: "Now this president is preventing entire nations from bidding on contracts in Iraq so that his campaign contrioutors can continue to overcharge American taxpayers

Clark spokesman Chris Lehane said: "George W. Bush is a president for Big Oil, of Big Oil, and 'buy Big Oil. He is more concerned about the success of Halliburton than having a success strategy in



The 11-party left grouping brings out a procession in Dhaka yesterday in support of its countrywide dawn-to-dusk

Anti-Ahmadiyya

cultural group, organised the demonstration, joined by a raft of Islamist outfits, after Juma prayers yesterday, with its President Shamsul Haqin the chair.

"The Ahmadiyyas are not Muslims although they offer prayers and observe fast, as they do not go by basic Islamic rules, including recognising Mohammed as the last prophet," Mamtazi alleged.

"Either you repent for you attitude and swear by Islamic rules and beliefs or be identified as a different commune, not Muslim, said Shamsul Haq. The demonstrators asked the

dentify their mosques as merely 'places of worship' if they do not comply with Islamic Sharia (Islamic code of religious law). "We are strong enough to make he government understand what means to ignore our just emand," Asadullah said, calling

Áhmadiyyas non-Muslim and

Pointing to State Minister for Religious Affairs Mosharef Hossain Shajahan's comments on the issue published in The Daily Star that he could not declare anyone non-Muslim, the convenor of Nabuwat Andolon, Abdul Hannan Al Hadi, said Muslims have the power to declare someone murtad (nonbeliever) and sentence him to

ABM Hemayet Uddin, joint secretary general of Islami Shashantantra Andolon, accused the four-party alliance of taking an anti-Islamic stance after coming to power banking on Islam and said: What the government can do to stay in power is pass a law to declare Ahmadiyyas non-Muslim."

Abdul Latif Nizami, another swipe at the state minister for saying "the agitators would want to capture a mosque and then a church, once the government declare the Ahmadiyyas non-

He demanded withdrawal of his arrogant speech'

The demonstrators also demanded arrest and trial of writer Humayun Azad for his novel, Pak Sar Jamin Saad Baad, published in a Bangla daily's Eid issue and the president of National Press Club or what they said was derogatory

They also demanded apology in three days from writer-journalist

in the then president AQM

A cabinet minister said holding

of parliamentary party meetings depended on the leader of the

House and it was not proper for any

Members of the National

Standing Committee (NSC), the

highest policymaking body of the

BNP; members of the National Executive Committee (NEC) and

leaders of various front organisa

tions are also dissatisfied over the

absence of party meetings

although the government is facing

The NSC is supposed to sit once

a month and the NEC once every three months, but there has been

no meeting of any of the two vita

bodies for months on end. The NSC

last met on July 17 to finalise nomi-

Some senior party leaders feel it is wise to hold meetings of all

forums in the context of the current

move of the party's founding secretary general and former president

"It is certain that any move of

Badrudozza will go directly against

the BNP. So it is the responsibility

of the party high command to work

out a strategy to face the situation

It is also urgent to talk to the party

leaders now speaking about gov-

ernment failures," an influential

leader said, also seeking anonym-

deputies resented the government

performance on law and order.

corruption and price hike, among

other issues

A number of BNP leaders and

Badrudozza to float a third force.

Netrokona-3 by-elections.

a candidate for

crisis on different fronts.

Badruddoza Chowdhury.

lawmaker to raise this issue.

FROM PAGE 12

Sadeq Khan for his article, published in the Inqilab, which they said was targeted against the anti-

Ahmadiyya group. Reiterating the demands for trial and punishment for injuring agitating anti-Ahmadiyyas in Nakhalpara on November 21 and withdrawal of two 'false cases' filed against them with Tejgaon Police Station, the leaders also called for banning Dewanbagh Peer's activi-

Nabuwat Andolon activists will hold similar demonstrations at Tongi on December 19, Paltan on December 23, Jatrabari on December 26 and Mirpur on

Hundreds of anti-Ahmadiyyas brought out a procession from the Baitul Mokarram Mosque.

Abdul Ahad Noor of Islami Oikya Parishad, Golam Mostafa Bhuiyan of Swadeshi Jatiyatabadi Kendra, Ainur Islam of Bishwa Muslim Parishad, Abdus Samad Jehadi of Islami Oikya Andolon, Amir Ali Howlader of Bangladesh Musolli Committee, Rafiqul Islam of Jatya Party's Shyampur unit, Sarder Shahadat Hossain of Bangladesh Gonotantrik Party, Syed Belayet Hossain of Islami Shashantantra Andolon, Tafazzuq Aziz of Khatmen Nabuwat Andolon, Zafarullah Khan of Khilafat Andolon and Jamal Nasser Chowdhury of Aaamra Dhakabashi also took part

Depression FROM PAGE 1

40 kph, rising up to 50 kph in gusts or squalls. Sea will remain moder-

Maritime ports of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mongla have been advised to hoist distant cautionary signal number one.

All fishing boats and trawlers in the north Bay and deep sea have been advised to come close to the coast and proceed with caution.

Another 'robber'

Frustration congeals

police (SP) of Noakhali himself arrested one Meraj, 28, near Karing The coastal guard arrested

Habib Ullah, 30, and Main Uddin, 28, from Boer Char during a routine search operation.

Police suspect there are 15 to 20 more robbers still at large deep in the jungles of the char areas.

They said it would be difficult

for the party to face a probable opposition movement if the gov-

ernment failed to allay public dissatisfaction and unrest within

chief must take urgent steps to

resolve the problems facing the country and remove discontent

within the BNP and two of its coali-

tion partners," said an NSC mem-

Tanguar haor

The environment and finance ministries provided Tk 25 lakh for the drive that started a few weeks

About 2500 pieces of illegal finemesh nets worth about Tk 15 lakh were seized during the drive till

People of the area cooperated in the drive. The elements, who were illegally fishing in the water body as Tessess of the illegal occupants' tried to create problems but

The government declared Tanguar a Ramsar site in 2000 but no progress was made in implementing the Ramsar project.

The plan for establishing a fish inctuary in the nearly 4000-acre

haor is also to be implemented yet.

"The prime minister and party

the ruling BNP.

from time to time.

Tuesday.

IT course

The three-day WSIS began in the Swiss city of Geneva Wednesday and was attended by more than 8,000 delegates with 60 heads of state or government.

Khaleda said Bangladesh has adopted information and communications technology (ICT) as a key instrument for accelerating growth and poverty alleviation. "As a developing country with

resource constraints, Bangladesh

has decided to give high priority to

the millennium goals and the

concept of Information Society,' The prime minister expressed her belief that Information Society will help achieve millennium goals with cooperation and collaboration among the nations, strong

infrastructure. She narrated the measures taken by her government for promotion of ICT.

political will and adequate network

"We have initiated egovernance and e-commerce and are about to enact the IT law and amend existing IPR law," she said.

Khaleda also focused on liberation of telecommunications regulation and abolishing taxes on computer accessories.

Estonian President Arnold Ruupel, Kyrgyz President Askar Akaev and Niger Prime Minister Hama Amadou were, among others, present.

CDC Globeleq

This acquisition follows CDC Globeleq's purchase of Keivin (1600 MW coal-fired power station serving at Johannesburg) and Songas (a 110 MW gas to electricity project in Tanzania, which is under construction)

CDC Globeleq, the emerging markets power company of CDC Group plc, provides power to people and industry in emerging markets. It creates value for its shareholders and co-investors by helping to relieve a critical constraint to economic and social development

generation and distribution assets with a net capacity of 2,540 MW in Latin America, Africa and Asia, and is actively engaged in acquiring additional assets, the press release added.

told The Daily Star.

Currently, the telephone exchanges are bilateral having connectivity from one operator to another. Installation of a hybrid exchange will enable operators to exchange.

project yields quality service, such projects will also be copied in other cities.'

installed in Nepal on an experimental basis and they have proved

Plunder of the *haor* resources continued so long as the groups involved in it allegedly enjoyed backing from leaders of the successive ruling parties. mobile phone users, of whom 90

GrameenPhone, AKTEL, City Cell

lakh fixed line phones provided by

its 15 subcommittees were formed with teachers aligned with the ruling coalition, avoiding the 33 members of the senate, RUTA leaders, RU Alumni Association and the Progressive Teachers' Group, said Ahmed, also a RU senate mem-

"A number of students are also not taking part in the long-cherished celebration as the chan-cellor was ignored," said RU syndi-

Many pro-BNP teachers are also backing out of the programme, linking the vice-chancellor to the lamaat-e-Islami, part of the ruling

Several other teachers said the pro-vice-chancellor, Shahadat Hossain Mondol, was also left out of the organising committee. Mondol went close to regretting: It will be unlucky, if such a thing

Dr Saidur Rahman Khan, former RU VC, said the authorities should have involved all in the celebrations of the university home to 900 teach-

Hartal

FROM PAGE 1 state-owned enterprises and privatisaion, demand implementation of the CHT peace accord and save the country from the hands of the World Bank and IMF.

On completion of their whirlon competent of their winning campaign across the country in support of the hartal programme, the 11-party leaders campaigned in the capital over the last couple of days in favour of today's hartal.

A press release of the alliance yesterday said a number of its leaders were injured following attacks by `BNP-Jamaat criminals' on their processions yesterday in different parts of the country.

Processions brought out in support of today's shutdown came under attack in Madaripur, Bagerhat and Barisal. The govern-ment supporters also tried to snatch mikes from the pickets, it In a statement, alliance coordinator Rashed Khan Menon con-

despite such "conspiratorial provo-cation" and take forward the move-He said such attacks against the would only strengthen the ongoing

demned the attacks and called upon

the countrymen to remain calm

long since been dismantled and often sold, many abroad where the fascination for the Cold War relic is Rallies were organised at Paltan stronger than in reunified Germanyitself. and Pallabi to drum up the mass-

strike programme.

ruption, terrorism and issues

relating to good governance. Despite repeated requests from the people he met, Badruddoza would not form a political party at this moment rather concentrate more on the convergence of people on a platform and spelling out precise guidelines before the nation to help resolve the burning issues.

As part of informal consultations, some former BNP leaders including ex-ministers and MPs, and businessmen and chartered accountants met him yesterday and exchanged views on the prevailing situation.

On January 6, the former president would meet with Supreme Court Bar leaders and discuss the current situation and seek their opinions.

Political observers feel that though Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury and Dr Kamal Hossain have undertaken similar initiatives they are both maintaining a safe distance.

Although Badruddoza openly

B Chy: Platform stated that if invited he would attend the proposed national

convention to be called by Dr Kamal Hossain, it is less likely that the two leaders will mount one platform at this juncture. Dr Kamal is now abroad. It is to

be seen if the two leaders sit across the table or pick up telephones to discuss their initiatives. Meanwhile, both ruling BNP and opposition Awami League are

closely scrutinising various state-

ments of Prof Badruddoza and Di

Kamal Hossain and their future programmes. Some analysts say that mobilisation of the dissenting section of the civil society will help strengthen the opposition's future anti-government agitation, but

Awami League strategists will not accept Prof Badruddoza or Dr Hossain taking the lead. Keeping it in mind, Awami League president Sheikh Hasina

has decided to spell out her party's action programme from her party's planned rally at Paltan Maidan on January 10.

Vajpayee: Gas sell

Pitching in for increased trade among South Asian countries, Vajpayee said, by most estimates trade within regions accounts for nearly three-fourths of global trade. Yet in spite of our geographical proximity, shared economic characteristics and similar development infrastructure intra-South Asia trade is under 5% of our total foreign trade.

In this context, he sought to dispel the apprehensions that increased trade between India and other smaller SAARC countries would be to the disadvantage of the latter and cited the case of Sri Lanka to drive home his point.

We must discard the myth that because of the asymmetries in our economies, the smaller countries do not benefit from closer economic integration within South Asia. Our free trade agreements with Nepal and Sri Lanka have resulted in narrowing the trade deficit of both these countries with India, he pointed out.

In fact, the success of the India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement has inspired us to expand its scope to cover services and investment in a comprehensive economic partnership agreement, Vajpayee said.

The prime minister said in the post-Cold War world of globalisation, countries around the world are increasingly focusing on regional economics. Political disputes have been resolved diplomatically or quietly deferred for tackling at a more opportune time. Conflict has given way to coopera-

tion; dialogue moderates differences. There is a clear recognition that hostility only stunts economies, inhibits trade and retards progress.

can put aside mistrust and dispel unwarranted suspicions. We will also develop mutual sensitivity to each other's concerns and promote more of our common inter-Vajpayee said if official trade

He said, as we develop greater

economic stakes in each other, we

among SAARC countries flourish, we can eradicate the black market and underground trade, jointly tackle smuggling, drug trafficking, money laundering and other transnational crimes, which today flourish in our region because of our mutual rivalries and inadequate coordination.

would not be far from mutual security cooperation, open borders and even a single currency, he said. "If this seems unrealistic and

Once we reach that stage, we

utopian, perhaps we are being unnecessarily cynical," Vajpayee "Let us remember that the

world did not anticipate the sud-

den end to the Cold War or the collapse of the Berlin Wall. No-one thought Apartheid South Africa could be transformed bloodlessly into Mandela's Rainbow Country Not many political analysts would have predicted that the hostile suspicion between Russia and China could be converted in such a short time into a strategic partnership," the Indian premier said.

CDC Globeleq has a portfolio of

Ctg cellphone

use more than one operator

Hybrid exchanges have been

posed exchange would be a common platform of private and public operators and would also work for the first internet exchange. It will have 12,000-line circuit capacity enabling 1.20 lakh people to talk at

percent do not have fixed phone Four private operators -

million turnkey project to expand the BTTB's network. When completed, cellphone operators will get two lakh more connections with the fixed phone network of the The country has about seven

Tanguar is home to about 60,000 birds of different species and 140 species of fish. Over one lakh guest birds fly to this area every winter.

of a hybrid exchange to establish a multi-platform telephone exchange both for public and private operators," BTRC Chairman Syed Marghub Murshed

The BTRC chairman said, "If the

a success, he mentioned. Another official said the pro-

There are around 1.50 million

and Sheba -- are financing a US\$ 2