Cops set to hunt

there under the arrangement of Shura member Salahuddin, who was JMB in-charge of Sylhet-

Mymensingh region.

Bangla Bhai stayed in four hideouts before his capture from the last one at Rampur village in Muktagachha on March 6.

Sources said the Task Force Interrogation Cell comprising members from police, Special Branch, National Security Intelligence, Directorate General of Forces Intelligence and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) is interrogating the arrestees except Bangla Bhai in

BANGLA BHAI'S

HEALTH CONDITION The JMB second-in-command has begun talking from March 7 but his

sentences are not totally understandable But his words are not being recorded as no-one is staying inside his room. Only doctors go to the room

and come out after examining him and giving him medication. "He is shouting at the hospital

staff," said a source. A board of 18 doctors -- six of the

BDR hospital and 12 from others -are examining him. There are more beds in the cabin

but no-one else, leave alone a patient, is staying in the room, which is kept under lock and key. "Although he is improving, he'll take time to make complete recov-

ery," Inspector General of Police (IGP) Abdul Quayyum told reporters at the home ministry yesterday. The police boss said they do not want to quiz Bangla Bhai right now. "It

may cause infection if he comes in contact with people.
FOUR HIDEOUTS

IN MYMENSINGH Fahima, who was brought to the capital in the night of March 7, told interrogators they had four hideouts in Mymensingh.

Following the August 17 attacks, Bangla Bhai went to Mymensingh and took shelter in a house in the town. Sensing that the law enforcers have got information about that hideout, he shifted to another house. Two or three days later, a Rab

team raided the first hideout but did not find Bangla Bhai.

After Sunny's arrest, Bangla Bhai shifted to another house on RK Mission Road fearing Sunny, who knew about the second hideout. might disclose its location during interrogation, an investigator said quoting Fahima.

Immediately after their arrest on March 6, Fahima said her husband did not meet her for about a month. She said Bangla Bhai did not stay at the RK Mission Road house during

The Rab finally came to learn from different sources including JMB Shura members that Bangla Bhai was staying in a house in Rampur village in Muktagachha, the fourth

Asked about Bangla Bhai's activities and hideout in Bagmara in Rajshahi, Fahima expressed her ignorance, saying her husband did not take her to Rajshahi.

SYLHET A Sylhet court yesterday remanded

Islami Bank Manager Abu Walid Chowdhury, Union Parishad Member Nurunnabi Deshi and mason Abdu Haque for four days to find their links with the JMB, reports our staff correspondent in Sylhet.

The police said Deshi and Hague helped Abdur Rahman's men rent the East Shaplabagh house in Sylhet where the JMB chief was arrested on March 2 along with his accomplices

While serving as the third officer at Islami Bank's Laldighirpar branch in Sylhet in February 1999 Walid introduced former Habigani district Jamaat-e-Islami ameer Saidur Rahman for opening a bank account.

After recovering Saidur's cheque book from Rahman's den. the law enforcers now suspect that Saidur was the medium of JMB's funding in

The Rab and police raided several places in Habiganj, Sunamganj and Sylhet over the last few days in search of Saidur in vain

Top US spies join

FROM PAGE 1 Chammas said, "If requested, I'm sure we'll be able to provide assistance," in the investigation into militancy. She also mentioned that the US has already an ongoing assistance programme in Bangladesh in counter-

ing terrorism. Besides, in line with a US prescription Bangladesh is currently restructuring the existing Anti-Money Laundering Act and also working on a terrorist financing act. The new legisla tion will provide for setting up a financial crime investigation and prosecution office (FCIPO) in the government and a financial intelligence unit (FIU) at the BB. The US government is providing technical and other facilities towards forming both the FCIPO and

The two US experts are here also to know about the existing monetary transaction system and the possible

ways of terrorist financing within it.

A BB source said an FIU is already under the process of being set up at the central bank and Tk 31 lakh has already been sanctioned for purchas-

ing the necessary equipment. DISMAL BB BIDS TO

TRACE TERROR FUNDS After the August-17 countrywide bombing showdown of the outlawed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), the BB undertook an initiative to find out if Rahman and Bangla Bhai had any bank account. The BB attempt knowing, if there were any accounts

But the probe could sniff out only a handful of bank accounts linked to the militants, most of which had a few thousand taka in deposit and their total transaction amounting to just Tk 11

A BB source said they did not find any more information and so, after a while, handed in their report to the home ministry. However, after last Thursday's

surrender of Abdur Rahman, the police got hold of some banking documents n his Sylhet hideout including three chequebooks of three different banks in real or fake names.

One of the accounts is with Rupali Bank Pallabi Branch in Dhaka, another with Janata Bank Brahmanbaria Branch and the last with Islami Bank

The account with the Islami Bank Lal Dighirparh Branch is in the name of Sabbir Ahmed, though it had really been operated by Saidur Rahman, former Habiganj district amir of Jamaat-e-Islami, who has been on the run since Rahman's arrest. To this account about Tk 4 lakh was electroni cally transferred from the same bank's Savar and Gazipur branches. The account with Rupali Bank

Pallabi Branch is also in the name of Saidur Rahman. But the amount of transaction in this account was very insignificant. The central bank sent three teams

last Monday to look into the three accounts and two other teams to Islami Bank's Gazipur and Savar branches yesterday.

The two BB teams sent to Sylhet and Brahmanbaria were still probing vesterday. But the information gleaned so far showed there was not any large transaction that can finance any large scale terrorist activity.

The five probe teams will report their findings to the intelligence agen cies, which will then act according to the laws, BB Governor Salehuddin Ahmed told the press vesterday.

However, he said, if the teams find y banks or bank officials responsible for any irregularities in this regard then the BB will take action against them according to the provisions of the Bank

A central bank source said under the existing system it really is very difficult for them to scent out any source of terror financing, as the BB has to depend mainly on its banking related information.

However, other sources in the banking sector said high officials and ling should not be too tough to trace.

Again, another BB source claimed the bank has much limitation as well as systemic loopholes, which incapacitates it to detect and check such suspicious transactions.

however said a strong feudal system and people's mistrust on political leaders due to abuse of power have also damaged democracy in Pakistan.

Once the military forces take over power in such circumstances, it is very difficult for them to leave it. the forme chief of Pakistan Air Force said.

Bangladesh, on the other hand is doing well on its way to democracy, he said terming the current regime as favourable for ensuring internal and regional security.

Asghar Khan, who had launched his book 'We've Learnt Nothing from History' in the capital recently, also said development of nuclear weapons in Pakistan and India is unnecessary, as the Indian army is four to five

He however does not object to the nuclear capabilities for civilian purposes. "India has freedom to go for two countries are doing it in a friendly manner. India was not pressured." he

Asghar Khan, president of Tahriqe-Isteklal, a political party in Pakistan, believes the US is interested in boosting its relations with a growing India, as China is becoming a major power in the world very fast.

political environment where security can take a lasting root."

General Muhammad Abdul Matin

A party calls

FROM PAGE 1

Bangladesh to arrest the bombers and police. Rab and the intelligence agencies worked round- the- clock and arrested the kingpins.

"When people across the country are bringing out victory procession and distributing sweets over the arrest of two top terrors, the opposition terms it drama as they have links with them." the prime minister told her audience.

and terrorist state had cooperated in staging the bombing carnage

Bangladesh is a successful and effective state. The government and the people have made ineffective those who wanted to make the country nonfunctional.

The prime minister called upon all to work unitedly under the BNPled coalition to build a modern Bangladesh free from terrorism and

She cautioned that those who will cooperate in terrorism and corruption will be isolated from the people

killed innocent men and women. iudges and lawvers in the name of "They are against religion, peace, democracy and development.'

The prime minister categorically said the terrorists will not be allowed to stage a comeback. When people all over the country are appreciating the Rab and its activities, the opposition is unhappy, saying that they will abolish the battalion if they come

Advisor Barkatullh Bulu Mohammad Shajahan MP, Jainal Abedin Faruk MP, Mosharraf Hossain MP, Abul Hashem MP and Begum Hasna Moudud.

Gruesome

FROM PAGE 1 cited the example of an extortion case against Badsha.

Documents show the case was filed on February 30 in 2001.

Musa also showed a letter, in which the police tried to prove Badsha an extortionist and the letter s also dated February 30.

days in the month of February?" "The JMJB men seldom found

any outlaw to kill. In case of any capture, they spared most of them when they surrendered to them." said a Union Parishad chairman.

FROM PAGE 16

Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) organised the seminar

"We have already talked to donor agencies such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and United Nations Development Programme for funds to form the body as soon as possible," the state minister added.

to Power Division, BD Rahmatullah, director general of Power Cell of the Power Division, and business representatives attended the seminar presided over by DCCI President MA Momen.

Hasna J Khan, director of Prokaushali Sangsad Ltd (PSL), presented a keynote paper at the

The speakers said as the whole country is facing serious power shortage, the government should think about alternative sources, like renewable energy, for immediate

The discussants pointed out the example of India where renewable energy contributes five percent to total power generation while the contribution is almost six percent in Bhutan and Nepal, and 10-15 percent in developed countries.

Unfortunately, Bangladesh produces less than one percent power from renewable resources. they said, urging the minister to form a separate policy for promoting

"If the government takes serious nitiative to use renewable resources like solar, biomass and wind for generating electricity, it is possible to produce 6500 megawatt power every year in Bangladesh," said the DCCI president.

In her keynote paper, Hasna Khan said the government should add an option in the polity to provide sufficient incentive to attract investment in the renewable energy sector.

have already submitted a proposal on renewable energy to the prime minister and she has given her approval in principle". The government is not capable

enough to resolve alone all the problems in the power sector, he said, adding that a partnership between public and private sectors is needed to generate power to match up the rising power crisis in the country.

JS body grills Akbar Murali web

FROM PAGE 1 Siraj said, adding, "We are now

overseeing if there is any irregularity He pointed out that some changes were made to the first project proposal, reducing facilities;

the construction cost also went up. According to the first tender, two cranes were supposed to be installed on the ship but the provision was later dropped in the third tender. The two cranes would cost around Tk 10 crore, Siraj said adding that the container capacity of the ship was also reduced.

Akbar Hossain, however, rejected outright the allegations of corruption and irregularities as a whole, terming them baseless. "The Anti-Corruption Commission will investigate if there is any such corruption," he told reporters after the meeting held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban. The shipping minister claimed that the project proposal has not been finalised vet. "I think the main objective of building a new ship is to siphon off

Bangladesh Shipping Corporation [BSC]," said another standing committee member. The BSC has a deposit of Tk 100 crore in local accounts and around \$60 lakh in foreign accounts. After spending Tk 130 crore for the new ship, the BSC will be left with hardly

all the money deposited against

any money, he said. The meeting also enquired about the increase of cost for constructing a new mooring container terminal a the Chittagong Port from Tk 300 crore to Tk 400 crore.

The ministry showed fluctuation of local currency against the dollar and expansion of work as the reasons for this hike. It claimed the construction would be completed by October this year although most work of physical construction still remains undone. Meanwhile, the Combined

Bargaining Agents (CBA) at the Port has eaten up a big chunk of Tk 12 crore allocated for a golden handshake programme aiming at reducing workers.

Although eight persons were suspended on this allegation, the powerful CBA remained untouched.

Sources said the organisation

has become so powerful that no

minister that we're working with the

officials in Bangladesh to see what

assistance we can provide in terms

of developing intelligence skills in

Bangladesh for tracking money of

track down the terrorist financing,

the Australian minister said she

enemies are indiscriminate in their

targets, they will attack civilians.

About the possibility of easing

visa regime for Bangladesh citizens.

Asked about the software to

the terrorists.

earlier when the same person was in its charge.

wanted to introduce "merchant

booking system" at the port instead

of "gang booking" but could not

implement it due to resistance from

also raised questions about appointing a retired additional

secretary the new BSC managing

director as the corporation had suffered a loss of Tk 110 crore

The standing committee meeting

the CBA leaders.

Dodgy Saudi

Hamid, acting secretary of the expatriate welfare and overseas employment ministry, the Bangladeshi workers would get their wages if the court gives verdict in favour of them. "I have asked the labour officials at the embassy to send a report on the matter immedi-

Sources however said such cases remain pending as long as representatives of a company concerned do not appear before an arbiter for hear ing several times.

The expatriate ministry often receive complaints of on non-payment of wages of Bangladeshi workers in

The ministry also conducted an investigation about two years go and found that at least half a dozen large Saudi companies are highly irregular in paying wages of foreign workers The probe report said around 650 Bangladeshi workers in one of the companies did not get wages for one and a half years.

The ministry then asked the recruiters not to send workers to those

The workers also complained of poor accommodation and working condition.

A leading Bangladeshi recruiting agency however said some Saudi companies do not pay wages regubut the situation has improved recently following stern action by the Saudi government. The authorities take proper action if any foreigner complains about non-payment or irregular payment of wages, he

Over two lakh Bangladeshis go to Saudi Arabia for jobs every year.

Although the government has mandated that Bangladeshis should not go to the kingdom for jobs at less than 400 riyals a month, many recruiting agencies are violating this.

Murali, who also claimed a matchhaul of nine wickets in the first Test at Chittagong that Sri Lanka won by eight wickets.

Test appearances took him only two wickets shy of reaching the 600wicket landmark of Test scalps after Australian Shane Warne (659). Bangladesh got off to a confident

start with Javed Omar (35) and his opening partner Nafees Igbal (26) batting with authority against the visiting pace attack. But the complexion of the game was changed once Muralidaran was introduced in the 13th over. He broke the 52-run opening

stand by having Nafees Ibw. Nafees

paid the penalty for staying back in

his crease against an off-break in the very first over of Muralidaran. Javed was dismissed almost in the similar fashion very soon. Bashar looked well set after a clumsy start but Shahriar Nafees (9) and Mohammad Ashraful (24), the hero of the first day in the

Chittagong Test, failed to build partnerships with the captain. It was also a disappointing Test comeback for local boy Mushfigur Rahim, who misread a doosra only to become the third lbw victim of Muralidaran, who also got rid of

Bashar and last man Rasel to complete with five wickets. Bashar occupied the crease for nearly three hours to make his 22nd Test half-century, hitting seven

boundaries in 120 balls. Although batting was a let down again, Bashar walked off the ground with some sense of satisfaction after young left-arm pacer Rasel, who has made it a habit to give early breakthroughs in the series, trapped Michael Vandort leg before in the third over. His new ball partner Shahadat then removed nightwatchman Malinga Bandara, who was brilliantly caught at short square leg by Nafees Iqbal.

Ctg mayor

FROM PAGE 16

private-owned port on the estuary of the Karnaphuli, the mayor vowed to resist the government's recent move that he termed to be 'against the national interest'.

The Executive Committee of National Economic Council (Ecnec) earlier decided that implementation the Tk 737crore NCT project would be done through the self-financing of CPA that will also run the NCT but the CPA has taken a different move at the behest of the vested interests, the mayor said.

the NCT would be used as a safe route of smuggling and illegal arms if its operational and management authority is awarded to the private

Former CPA chairman Mahmudul Islam, CPB leader Shah Alam and the conference.

The CPA will hold a view exchange meeting on the issue at its training institute auditorium at 10:00am today with workers organisations and port stakeholders, where Shipping Minister Akbar Hossain and CCC Mayor Mohiuddin Chowdhury have been invited.

FROM PAGE 16 (ASK) and 10 other human rights

organisations.

They sought remedy for inaction and omission on the part of the government in ensuring effective workers from fire.

Passing the interim orders a division bench comprising Justice MA Matin and Justice ATM Fazle Kabir issued a package of rules asking why the respondents 'should not be directed to take necessary action to effectively investigate, prosecute and punish those responsible for the deaths

The court also asked them as to why they 'should not be directed to take all necessary measures for such purpose and for prevention of any such future occurrence'.

Under the rules, the court asked the respondents to explain why they should not be directed to establish a national committee in compliance with the 2001 High Court directives on similar writ to monitor compliance by garment factories with the applicable laws on fire safety and to make recommendation to prevent any such incidents, and to disseminate their reports in the press every six Dr Kamal Hossain with Barrister

Taniibul Alam appeared for the petitioners.

Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers' Association (Bela), Bangladesh Legal Aid and Kori, Odhikar and Ubinig.

India on alert

Meena said there were only two bomb blasts and not three as police

The first bomb went off in the packed, centuries-old Sankat Mochan temple where hundreds of devotees of the Hindu monkey-god Hanuman had gathered for evening

The second exploded at the city's cantonment railway station. Police had said on Tuesday that two bombs exploded at the station.

Uttar Pradesh, said he suspected Pakistan-based militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba of involvement Police said they had shot dead

one Lashkar man in Lucknow, and TV channels said two Lashkar militants were killed in New Delhi. but it was not known if they were connected to the Varanasi blasts. "He was instrumental in carrying

We are trying to find out whether he was connected to the Varanasi blasts." Varanasi's police chief Navneet Sikera said referring to the Lucknow militant. Lashkar, which is outlawed in

several violent attacks across India in the past, including one on another Hindu holy site in Uttar Pradesh last Prime Minister Manmohan Singh urged people to remain calm after

the blasts, but Hindu groups allied to the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party called for a general strike in the state on Wednesday to protest against the blasts. Authorities said they had shut down schools and colleges as a

ancient city appeared normal. "People are moving around. Puja is going on in the temples. There is no problem now," said 65-year-old

would open his clinic despite the "There is no tension. It's nothing

related to Hindus and Muslims. It is

a terrorist incident and people are

treating it like that. Everybody is sad

but life goes on," Rai said. Temple-studded Varanasi, 670 km southeast of New Delhi, is on the banks of the holy Ganges river.

Indian shares were expected to

consolidate on Wednesday. "Sentiment will turn cautious ... but I don't see any major damage

taking place on the indices. The overseas and domestic interest in India remains high," said Sanjay Dutt, director at Quantum

ROK

He informed the Ambassador that Saarc countries are now finalising the terms and conditions for new membership and observer status. The Korean envoy appreciated

the views expressed by the foreign

Cops

FROM PAGE 1

we'll submit the charge sheets," said another police official. The official declined to be identified and said they would record new cases against Bangla Bhai and his

men if the tortured people want to. Earlier, investigations into the killings and torture by Bangla Bhai and his men in the northern districts in 2004 were brought to a complete standstill

'Lack of complainants, evidence and witnesses' is what the Rajshahi police have so far shown as an excuse. But the victims' families have always held responsible the law enforcers' indifference to take action against the militants. Bangla Bhai and his cadres killed at least 22 people as reported in newspapers and tortured many others between April 1 and July 31 in

in the case for murdering Monwarul Hossain Babu of Naldanga, Natore in Bagmara. In the cases for murdering Diponkor Roy of Atrai in Naogaon,

Golam Rabbani Mukul of Konopara

Police submitted the final report

in Bagmara, Bangla Bhai was found to be directly involved. Golam Mostafa Babul alleged police did not record his case for murdering his brother Golam Mukul. Rabbani On April 22. Mosharraf Hossain of Belgharia was killed at the diktat of

the JMB chief and the case still hangs in the balance Saiful was killed at Peergachha Natore on April 26 and police recorded just a general diary.

Dafadar Jamir Uddin was killed at Kashiabari in Atrai but police have no case or information about the

UNSC likely to meet

identified due to the subject's sensitivity, he said the council would work quickly to issue a "presidential statement" calling on Iran to suspend all atomic fuel enrichment activity and fully cooperate with UN investigations into the nature of its atomic ambitions.

If Iran defies the call, the council could repeat its message with a possible threat of action if it were unheeded.

But the council's sanctions option looks further off since vetowielding Russia and China, while sharing Western resolve to denv Iran nuclear technology of potential use for warheads, now oppose isolating Iran where both have major trade stakes. The diplomat added that at this

point, the active involvement of the

Security Council was necessary

and inevitable since "there is no sign that the Iranians want to compromise." The United States and "EU3" also rebuffed the Russian proposal floated informally in private consultations because they said it would not have prevented Iran perfecting bomb technology via enrichment

Stung by the rejection of its trial balloon after private discussions with Western leaders about the matter were leaked to news media, Moscow then publicly closed ranks with Washington and the EU3 by declaring it had not drafted any new

In response a top Iranian official Wednesday threatened the United States with reprisals in the dispute over Tehran's disputed nuclear "The United States may have the

power to cause harm and pain but it is also susceptible to harm and pain," Javad Vaidi, head of the ranian delegation at the UN nuclear watchdog, told AFP here. "So if the United States wishes to choose that path, let the ball roll."

But Iran will not for now use its

key role as an oil supplier as a

weapon in the international dispute over its nuclear programme but may review the situation later. "We will not use the oil weapon now because we don't want to confront other countries," he told AFP here on the sidelines of a meeting of the UN watchdog over

suspicions that the programme is

hiding a drive for the atom bomb. "But if the situation changes, we will have to review our politics and adopt our policy," he added.

Iran says its nuclear programme aims solely at generating electricity for a growing economy. However, it IAEA for 18 years and its calls for Israel's destruction have rung alarm

But Iran insists peaceful atomic industry as a party to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. It has charged that the IAEA's resort to the Security Council was driven by a US-led agenda to isolate and topple its Islamist gov-

ernment. "The purely technical nuclear issue of the Islamic Republic of Iran is politicised." the Iranian government said in a statement on ElBaradei's report released just

fied information has misled the international community," the statement said.

It added that Iran had bent over backwards to cooperate with IAEA inquiries over the past three years. providing "voluminous information," granting access to military sites and arranging interviews even though such steps were not required by the

with probes remained selective. He gave examples where it withheld documents, denied access to people the IAEA wanted to query and failed to clarify allegations of military links to nuclear research.

nuclear research shortly or face Council pressure to do so. Iran's decision to curb IAEA inspections after the board notified the council last month heightened suspicions about Iranian goals, said

nuclear power reactors or, if enriched to high levels, the fissile core of nuclear warheads.

swered ... (and) could have a military dimension, such as a document related to the fabrication of nuclear weapons components," it said. Iran showed inspectors the document, saying nuclear black marketeers provided it unsolicited, but refused

FROM PAGE 16
The keynote speaker, Asghar Khan,

times larger than that of Pakistan.

On the so-called clashes between the Islamic and non-Islamic world

how much money had they have and its source or sources

> directors of some banks are involved in the transactions of money used to feed terrorist activities and if the BB and the intelligence agencies investigate these suspects the fund channel-

> > generation of power.

nvestment in the sector.

The state minister said. "We

There are allegations that compensation money was distributed among unknown and anonymous

government instructions can be implemented. The government

Australia offers working reasonably well." Foreign Minister Morshed Khan said Bangladesh and Australia have

> Bangladesh has already enacted Money Laundering Act and signed as many as 12 UN conventions, including one relating to tracking down the funding of any kind of terrorism. "We've choked the funding of

conventions and through our vigi-

lance," Morshed told reporters.

On terrorist financing, he said

About sending of Bangladeshi manpower to Australia, he said Australia is willing to take more skilled Bangladeshis subject to scrutiny, as they are concerned about their aging population. About the MoU signed with

Australia yesterday, the foreign

minister said it will create a new destination for Bangladeshi stu-Morshed also told the Australian Minister to relax the rules of origin to increase Bangladeshi export as Australia has already granted dutyfree access to Bangladeshi prod-

Dhaka may sign

agreement that allows its huge export to Bangladesh through using the two countries' water, railways and roads.

merce ministry sources said. The agreement came into force in October 4, 1980 for a period of three years and through extensions in several phases, it remained effective till October 3. 2001. After that the agreement was renewed for short interim periods.

Dhaka will also raise issues like

huge trade deficit, sharing of the

the trade imbalance by opening Indian market for Bangladesh products through removing tariffs and non-tariff barriers, commerce ministry sources said. While Bangladesh has given maximum trade facilities for Indian products that have flooded the Bangladesh market. India does not

give Bangladeshi products similar

Bangladesh has long been pressing

the neighbouring country to reduce

access as the former imposes tariff para-tariff and other barriers, offi-

goods, and cement. India also nposed anti-dumping duty on our dry cell battery exports India_has_suggested Delhi-Dhaka Free Trade Agreement to remove the trade gap and Dhaka sought easing problems relating to banking, land port, and infrastruc-

Education Minister Dr Osman Farruk at a press conference on March 7 said the government has taken all-out measures to curb cheating in the examinations this

On the persistent power crisis across the country ahead of the SSC examination, the minister said he would officially inform the power ministry to take steps in this regard.

The mayor expressed fear that

dockworkers' leader Mahfuzur Rahman Khan were also present at

HC asks govt

enforcement of laws on workplace safety regarding prevention of deaths and injuries to garment

and injuries to the fire victims'. fruit juice, soft beverage, vegetables, jamdani saree, jute, jute

The other petitioners are

Services Trust (Blast), Karmojibi Nari, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR), Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA), Bangladesh Centre for Sustainable Development, Nijera

had earlier said.

His five on Wednesday in 101

Yashpal Singh, the police chief of

out serial blasts in several places.

Pakistan, has been blamed for

precaution, but a Reuters reporter said traffic on the streets of the

housewife Prem Lata. Local doctor Ashok Rai said he

Hindus believe that dying in Varanasi, being cremated on the banks of the Ganges and the ashes immersed in the river ensures release from the cycle of rebirth.

Many elderly and ill people come here if they believe they are close to The United States condemned

concealed atomic research from the

bells in the West.

before Wednesday's debate "Bias, exaggerated and unjusti-

ElBaradei said Iran's compliance

An EU statement to be delivered to Wednesday's IAEA board session repeated that Iran must halt all

the statement from Austria, current head of the rotating EU presidency. The EU statement ruled out even ow-scale research with centrifuges, machines, which convert uranium UF6 gas into fuel suitable for

"Key questions remain unanto let the IAEA copy it.

Pakistanis favour

US-India agreement on developing such an agreement. Moreover, the said responding to a question during an open discussion

especially after 9/11, he said the US

"The US does not understand the sensibilities of the Muslims. The

Muslims, therefore, have become

very critical of the US policies world-

wide. The clash is a creation of the

US," he observed. Chairing the discussion former ambassador Mufleh R Osmany said undemocratic policies of the Pakistani rulers to exclude, marginalize and suppress the aspirations of the majority in the pre-1971 period destroyed the security struc-

ture in the sub-continent.

board of governors of BIISS The power elite in South Asia elected or otherwise, seems to get carried away by the arrogance of power, he said, adding that the region is replete with examples of excesses of power internally and

Stressing on honesty and integ-

rity of the politicians in democracy he

"Complete collapse of the secu-

rity structure led to a political deba-

cle," said Osmany, chairman of the

said. "Democracy creates congenial BIISS Director General Major

She said those who want to make Bangladesh a dysfunctional

Khaleda said the BNP-led alliance government has proved that

Khaleda said the bombers have

Chaired by Law Minister Moudud Ahmed, the meeting was also addressed by Health Minister Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain, prime Minister's Political Secretary Harris Chowdhury, Advocate Mahbubur Rahman MP. Commerce

"How did they (police) get 30

informed the home minister that the software the intelligence agencies use in Australia is very well developed and working good. Autonomous "But the first task, of course, is developing intelligence skills to track financial movement... this is terrorism." she said. "War on terrorism is a war against all of us...

women and children and none of us want to see them.' Asked about the training of Bangladesh immigration officials. the Australian minister said: "We do have some cooperative arrange-ANH Akhtar Hossain, secretary ments and we are happy with that We look forward to continue with

> she said it is not needed since a lot of skilled migrants are going to Australia and the number has increased five-folds in last 2-3 vears. "That's a big increase... we

them.

Bangladesh used the agreement as a tool to put pressure on India for withdrawal of different non-tariff barriers imposed by India, com-

waters of the common rivers and the Indian river linking project, borderrelated issues like smuggling of drugs and arms, long-standing problems of land-boundary demarcation, handing of adverse possession and enclaves and fencing of border violating Indo-Bangladesh treaties during the Bangladesh premier's India visit, foreign ministry sources said. With a yearly trade deficit of about \$1.5 billion with India,

cials said. India has imposed non-tariff restrictions on Bangladesh export items, including biscuits, jam, jelly

SSC science group this year while 3,46,723 from humanities and 2.39.916 from business studies

those caught resorting to unfair means adding that vigilant teams from different levels would be on alert to keep the exam halls free from cheating.

The minister assured that strin-

gent action would be taken against

several protocols and MoUs, includng one to fight against terrorism through capacity building and