Tk 26,000cr ADP

economic stability is facing some troubles due to high oil prices in the international market. She also said due to development in almost all the areas of socio-economic sectors, the demand for power is increasing by leaps and bounds. Some problems have arisen in meeting this huge demand and its impact is also visible

The amount of local resources in 43 percent or Tk 11,188 crore.

The PM said in FY 05-06 local resources made up 51.60 percent of the ADP, but in FY 06-07 it will constitute 57 percent. She also said the portion of local resources have risen due to increased revenue income

Finance Minister Saifur Rahman told reporters that although the contribution of local resources in the ADP is rising, no new tax will be imposed, neither will any tax rate be increased. And although revenue

good and revenue income from the mobile phone sector also rose substantially. So, even if there are more local resources in the new ADP there will be no problem in mobilising them.

Education and religious affairs got the highest allocation with Tk 3861 crore or 14.85 percent of the total new ADP. The second largest alloca-

1,283 crore was kept aside in the new ADP. Upazila development assistance programme was allocated Tk 100 crore from the block. It got Tk 150 crore in the current fiscal's revised

Union council development assistance programme received an allocation of Tk 180 crore in the next fiscal's ADP while the amount was Tk 120 crore in the current fiscal's revised ADP. Tk 160 crore was earmarked for Pouroshobha development assistance in the new ADP while the current revised ADP allocated Tk 150 crore for it.

Tk 124 crore, the six municipality corporations got Tk 100 crore, and Tk 61 crore was allocated for village governments in the next fiscal's ADP, which are very similar to what the current fiscal's revised ADP allocated

CURRENT FISCAL'S REVISED ADP

NEC also approved the current fiscal's revised ADP, allocating Tk 21,500 crore for it, downsizing it by Tk

tion, transport, health, oil, gas and natural resources sectors were reduced in the revised ADP. While allocations for rural development, power and infrastructure sectors

In the revised ADP. allocation for the agriculture sector was reduced to Block allocation of Tk 500 crore for agricultural assistance in the original ADP was dropped altogether in the

over to them in reality. They sent letters to the finance ministry on several occasions over the last four

Allocation for health, nutrition population and family welfare was refixed at Tk 2,110 crore, down by Tk 159 crore from the original ADP.

Allocation for education and religious affairs was cut by Tk 434 crore bringing it down to Tk 2863

Allocation for oil, gas and natural resources was cut by Tk 650 crore, bringing it down to Tk 394 crore. Allocation for the transport sector

was set at Tk 2855 crore, down by Tk

A planning ministry source said these amounts actually are not cutbacks, rather the respective ministries could not spend them. So the planning ministry just reallocated the amounts to those ministries that require more than what had been allocated before.

Allocation for rural development and institutions was raised to Tk 3,056 crore, up by Tk 60 crore. For the power sector Tk 263 crore was added making the allocation Tk 3382 crore; for physical planning, water supply and housing sectors an additional Tk 202 crore was allocated bringing the allocation up to Tk 1497

Rejoinder

FROM PAGE 16 police after robbery at its kidney dialysis centre, it added.

nt intelligence agencies after long investigation into RIHS activities in Bangladesh found its support and in some cases direct involvement in militancy. Following the findings, RIHS fund release has been stopped, almost all RIHS departments have been closed down and many RIHS-trained Imams and officials

If RIHS is not connected with militancy, what else is holding back their release of funds and closing down of their offices one after another Investigations also unearthed RIHS activities before RIHS was registered in the country.

Since it began working in the country, RIHS employed a number of officials loyal to different international terrorist organisations. After Al Haramine was banned worldwide for sponsoring militancy, RIHS recruited all its top officials to its Bangladesh

Government departments concerned have identified those RIHS officials who were working in Bangladesh without work permit connected with international militant outfits, and were wanted in their own countries for militancy at different

A number of RIHS foreign officials including its first Libyan director Abu Abdur Rahman Házraz and Iragi official Dr Khobayeb were ousted from this country with notices to leave within 24 hours. As part of the process, two other RIHS officials have also been asked to leave the country recently.

The Daily Star report was based on facts, witnesses, documents and information from reliable sources. We stand by our report.

coal mine started affecting the area

all the more following repeated

raining. At least 20,000 cubic metres

of untreated waste and water with

foul smell are dumped on the road-

Many people including children

Locals said the contaminated

"Waste water has turned our land

were seen collecting coal with bare

water would remain in place till fresh

water starts coming in the rainy

black," said one local, adding that

the villagers are worried over mining

activities, which are affecting them

in one way or another. The mine

authorities maintain no contact with

blasts inside the mine caused fall of

bricks and plaster of buildings in the

area. "We feel a severe jolt in the

area when dynamite is blasted,"

said Azizul Islam, a local from

that many of the houses in the four

villages developed huge cracks in

Kamruzzaman, mining expert at

Barapukuria, only said they will

ultimately cost the government Tk

1,600 crore and suffered eight years

of delay due to incompetence of the

mine's Chinese contractor, repre-

sented in Bangladesh by a BNP

lawmaker's brother. He also repre-

sents the project's consultant and

the Chinese contractor that built the

flawed 250 megawatt coal-fired

power plant there. This project was

pushed in the early nineties by the

then state minister for energy

Mosharraf Hossain and was

awarded to the Chinese company in

Suppliers' Credit

non-transparent way under

investigate the matter

The Daily Star reporter found

When contacted, Md

The Tk 800-crore mining project

Shock waves due to dynamite

side every day.

hands yesterday.

season.

Agriculture ministry sources said the block allocation existed only in the

due to shock waves in the areas created by careless dynamite blasts by the mine authorities inside the The authorities said they are not

The affected villages are Kalupara, Gopalpara, Baidynathpur

pollution treatment plant at the site. "The mine authorities were supposed to demarcate areas which might subside by some degrees as the underground mining

posed to compensate the locals for loss of land caused by mining activities. But none of that happened," he

affected area last week and found faults with both the mine's operator and the mining authority. "They should have had established a monitoring system in the area. Random subsidence will one day

He however ruled out gross subsidence of land. "Typically, when one foot of coal is extracted from the mine, top soil could subside by half a foot. The mine has already extracted three metres of coal. So, top soil could subside by up to 1.5 metres. But this will not increase mining, the miners will erect pillars

Biman

FROM PAGE 16

signed by the Bapa President

operate on those routes till we work out a viable plan "he added

tion and mismanagement in the Biman, the Bapa letter suggested to the ministry to concentrate to resolve the problems immedi-

Dhaka elected

there was no institutional mechanism to oversee the transition from peace-keeping development in nost-conflict societies, which is what this body is mandated to do,"

Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, ambassador and permanent representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations, told the media that this was yet another "resounding recognition of Bangladesh by the international community"

He said Bangladesh is specially qualified to serve in this new commission for three reasons. "First, we are currently the UN's top troop contributor in peacekeeping. Secondly, indigenous development ideas like microcredit and informal education have emanated from our soil and are considered 'best practices' that can transform post-conflict societies as has happened in our own case. And finally, our views on global issues are always seen to be constructive, and as a commission member we will continue in the same positive manner," he pointed out.

Commission is expected to begin its work very soon. Intense negotiations among UN member-states had preceded its establishment.

The first informal session of the commission was hosted by the International Peace Academy at the Waldorf Astoria. New York on May 28 with Iftekhar in the chair.

He said. "Success of the commission would be the true test that

PM shocked FROM PAGE 1

losses caused by the terrible disaster." she said.

Khaleda prayed for peace of the departed souls of those killed in the quake. "May Allah, the Almighty, give courage and fortitude to the members of the bereaved families to bear with their irreparable losses," she said.

Bird flu

National Avian Influenza and Human Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan

The plan conforms to the general standards set by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), World Health Organisation (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). "It is encouraging that the government has developed this plan," the handout added.

In discussions with the government, the WB has focused on the plan's proposed budget and improvements to the coordination and integration arrangements. WB also suggested regulations to better protect food production from disease and the possible registration of poultry farms.

It further underlined that there should be a standardisation of reporting procedures for outbreaks of disease to internationally accepted standards.

Besides, it suggested an operational manual stating what actions are needed in the case of an out-

Jubok phone

FROM PAGE 1

with each other before taking final decision.

Hossain Al Masum, executive director of Jubok, said the loan agreement was postponed in consultation with Dhaka Bank, the lead bank. "We hope the agreement will be signed when Jubok will be cleared of the allegation," he said.

Managing director of Dhaka Bank could not be contacted for his comment.

Earlier, Bangladesh Bank on Wednesday in a show-cause notice asked Jubok, a non-governmental organisation, to explain in the seven days why its activities, such as collection of money deposits and borrowing from the common people in exchange of interests, should not be declared illegal.

The central bank issued the notice in accordance with sections 51 and 52 of Bank Company Act, 1991. As per the rules, if Jubok is found guilty of wrongdoing the organisation might be declared bankrupt.

The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies also issued a similar show-cause notice to Jubok following a direction from the commerce

EU likely to put LTTE on its terror list

The European Union is expected to put Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers on its list of terrorist groups next week, a spokes-man for the EU's Austrian presidency said Saturday.

The EU move, agreed in principle on May 18, is an item on the agenda of a meeting of the 25-member bloc's ministers in Brussels today, he said.

It means that the assets of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) will be frozen but more importantly it will cut off vital funds being sent to the rebels by members of the Tamil diaspora in Europe.

The move also provides for special EU cooperation measures to combat

The separatist ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka has claimed more than 60,000 lives since 1972. More than 200 people died last month despite a fouryear truce between government forces and the rebels, brokered by

been urging the EU to announce the ban, saying that it would probably help force the rebels to the negotiating In an interview published on Thursday, Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapakse said the ban

The Sri Lankan government has

would leave the Tigers with little choice but to engage.
"The LTTE thought the world was with them. Their propaganda machine was very effective. Now, with the EU ban coming, they will realise that they can't use these tactics, killing innocent

people, murdering," he said. They will have to think twice and be much more careful. They have to think twice about fighting the whole world. Whoever has political sense won't do that," he told Britain's Financial Times.

But the Tamil's chief negotiator has warned that any ban could scuttle future peace talks. The EU's move come at the urging of the United States, which has

already blacklisted the Tigers, along with Britain, Canada and India. In Colombo on May 16, US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Donald Camp said: "We have encouraged the EU to list the LTTE."

ing of that label. We think it will help cut off financial supplies and weapons procurement and the like," he said.

Norway has often hosted peace talks between the Sri Lankan govern-ment and the rebels, and EU states Sweden, Finland and Denmark were said to have resisted the blacklist move out of solidarity with their Nordic neiahbour.

Britain banned the Tigers in February 2001 while the EU in October slapped travel restrictions on them after holding the LTTE responsible for the August 2005 assassination of Sri Lankan foreign minister Lakshman Kadirgamar.

BNP clips Sylhet

Khaleda held a close-door meeting with Saifur after the NEC meeting at the Planning Commission and summoned Ilyas and Ariful at her office in the afternoon. At the meetings, both the feuding leaders complained against each other, and the party chief asked them to refrain from intra-party bickering, sources

"I have informed the prime minister about my grievances and she has assured me of looking into the matter." Saifur told reporters after the NEC meeting. He said this when asked about his reported threat to resign if the party did not take punitive action against Ilyas.

When contacted. Ilvas said he had talks the BNP chairperson on organisational matters in Sylhet district. He declined to comment on discord with Saifur.

Earlier on May 28 last year, Sylhet BNP convening committee was suspended in the wake a spate of discord between loyalist of the two leaders.

In the latest conflict, some activists reportedly backed by Ariful (loyal to Saifur) ransacked the residence of Ilvas at Svlhet on Wednesday following his reported remarks on the finance minister.

The rival sides clashed in the city next day and activists backed by Ilvas demonstrated against the finance minister, blaming him for the attack on Ilyas' house.

Aggrieved at this, Saifur threatened to resign unless action was not

Hunt on for survivors

of the provincial capital Yogyakarta, the stench of bodies filled the air as soldiers used a backhoe to dig through the rubble in one neighbourhood that was completely levelled by Saturday's temblor.

The top priority in the flattened district was to "evacuate victims still trapped in the rubble, using heavy equipment," said Gendut, a provincial health official

Residents said at least two people remained trapped in the debris.

Yuni, a woman in her 40s searched frantically for her uncle, who lived with a maid at a house that

"We are resigned and willing to let him go. Our only hope is that we can find his body so we can bury him

properly," she told AFP. Bodies were still being pulled from the wreckage of homes as grieving families hurriedly buried their dead in makeshift graves in simple ceremonies as they read verses from the Quran.

The death toll from the Indonesian earthquake has reached 4,611, the country's social affairs department said on Sunday.

to "reduce the burden" on national and local authorities Hospitals struggled to cope with

spent the night outside, and relief workers rushed food and medical supplies to some of the 200,000 people left homeless. The International Federation of

Societies issued an emergency appeal for nearly 10 million dollars and separate aid pledges poured in from Western and Asian states. Aid workers said the immediate

priority was to treat the injured, but warned that dwindling supplies of food and water and a lack of housing could pose long-term challenges.

Bantul and five in Yogyakarta -- all are overwhelmed and they are not even treating the slightly injured any more," he said. Anton Susanto, a member of the Unicef assessment team already in the quake zone, said 30 to 40 percent

"People are just laid out everywhere," he said. "People are still very, very traumatised. Frequent aftershocks are still going on," he added. More than 470 aftershocks shook

parts of Java, further terrifying residents who were afraid to return to their homes. Adding to the fear Mount Merapi a volcano north of the quake's epi-

centre, continued to simmer after weeks of spewing lava and heat clouds that saw 20,000 people evacuated from their homes amid a maior eruption alert. Most of the major damage and casualties from the quake occurred in

farming belt south of the ancient city of Yogyakarta, with a population of

affected areas in search of aid and As volunteers distributed food bottled water, tents, tarpaulins and baby kits, troops battled to repair

cracks in Yogyakarta's airport runway

to speed the arrival of aid. But some survivors complained help was coming too slowly.

"Since yesterday, no district officials have come to check on us." Tugio, who arrived at government offices after his hamlet of Plesetar was razed, told AFP.

"We've come here to get food and tents -- we need them badly," his friend Marianto said.

The 6.3-magnitude earthquake was Indonesia's third major disaster

The Jakarta government has earmarked 50 billion rupiah (5.5 million dollars) for relief operations around Yogyakarta, 400km southeast of Jakarta.

Offers of help came from around the world including the United States, Pakistan, Canada, China, Britain, South Korea and France, Malaysia Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, Turkey and Norway despatched emergency

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan

led those expressing grief. "The secretary general is deeply saddened by the loss of life, the hundreds of injuries and the destruc-

Indonesia sits on the Pacific 'Ring of Fire", where the meeting of continental plates causes high volcanic and seismic activity. The jittery region was rattled by three more strong earthquakes Sunday.

An undersea quake measuring 6.2 hit Papua New Guinea at 0312 GMT and about 20 minutes later a 6.7-magnitude quake shook the ocean floor near the Pacific islands of said. There were no reports of any casualties or damage.

quake struck off the northern coast of the Philippines.

BSF kills 1

BSF cross-border firing on Saturday morning near Molani border of Haripur upazila left madrasa teacher Mamlat Ali. 35. and trader Ashraful Haq, 30, dead Their bodies were returned to BDR at a flag meeting with BSF on Saturday night.

Judgement

FROM PAGE 16
Muslim Janata Bangladesh) chief

Siddiqul Islam alias Bangla Bhai. Senior assistant judges Jagannath Pandey and Sohel Ahmed were killed in a suicide bomb attack at Purba Chadkati in the Jhalakathi town on November 14, 2005 in the wake of a series of violent militant attacks across the country.

Other accused in the case are Rahman's younger brother and JMB military commander Ataur Rahman Sunny, Rahman's son-in-law and a top JMB leader Abdul Awal, JMB regional commander Khaled Saifullah, assassin Mamun and his accomplice Sultan and Arif. Among the accused, only Arif is absconding.

On February 20, Barisal Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal awarded 40 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) to the same accused in another case lodged in connection with the judges killing under the Explosives Act. Strict security measures have also

been taken in judicial offices of the region on this occasion.

10 garment

At least 10 workers were injured as both sides hurled brickbats at each other after a scramble.

Police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) deployed nearby rushed to the spot and brought the situation under their control.

The workers later resumed work as the owners agreed, in a meeting between the workers and the owners

3 killed FROM PAGE 16

van, Goutam fell into the line of fire and died on the spot, police said.

Police seized two shutter guns and eight bullets from the spot. Police said Goutam was

accused in seven cases including

two for murder. Criminals caught police source Golam Mustafa, 35, at Pyarpur village in Alamdanga upazila under Chuadanga district on Saturday night, police said, adding that locals found his slaughtered body in nearby Boalia field under Moheshpur upazila in Jhenidah

district yesterday morning. Police recovered the body and sent it to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital for an autopsy.

UNB adds from Narayanganj: A criminal leader was killed in a 'shootout' between his cohorts and police at Jangalia in Araihazar upazila early yesterday. Police said they arrested

Shafiqul Islam, 30, a gang leader

wanted in eight criminal cases including those for murder and mugging, from Jogardia in the upazila on Friday night. Following his statement, police took Shafiqul to Anwar Vita of Jangalia to recover arms and arrest

opened fire, forcing the law enforcers to fire back. As Shafigul tried to flee, he was caught in crossfire and died on the

his accomplices when his aides

spot, police said. A pipe-gun, two bombs, two local-made weapons and six bullets were seized from the scene

Time ticking away

FROM PAGE 16 months," a senior official at the EC Secretariat told The Daily Star wishing anonymity.

About five months have already been wasted since the HC directed for revising the existing voter list. "Had the Election Commission started preparing the voter list in accordance with the High Court directives, it would have been easier for us to complete the task," he said.

Officials at the EC Secretariat said they will need at least 15 days to complete printing materials before starting the field level task. They are, however, optimistic

about completing the task in time. But they fear they might face difficulties in recruiting manpower as about 3,00,000 recruits, who worked for the preparation of a fresh

voter list in the last four months.

have not been paid their remunera-

Meanwhile, the main opposition Awami League that has been demanding resignation of the CEC recently declared that it will not recognise any revised voter list under the present CEC.

Financier

FROM PAGE 16

with flawless designs which the authorities rejected.

Determined to push the project ahead the ministry selected the Tk 300 crore offer of "China Major Bridge" company as the lowest. The ministry asked the project implementation authority, the Roads and Highways Department (RHD), to award the bid to this Chinese company since the bidder will 'correct' the design flaws later on.

The ministry in January forced the RHD to slash the contractor's time required for site study in order to kick-start the project well ahead of campaign for the general elections.

Engineers and the project's consultants had suggested a time frame of six months for studying and designing such a project, but the communication ministry was pressured by Chittagong based ruling party MPs and policymakers to cut it down to two months only.

ILO decries low wages

standards, it observes. Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) President Tipu Munshi said, "It's true some of the existing wages for the workers do not match with minimum living overtime work as provided for in the

> most of the workers switch to another factory when they get skilled. The semi-skilled or skilled labours do so to get healthy wages. "This trend is helpful for the workers as they get over Tk 2,000 a

month after three or four months of oining in the garment sector." The ILO survey says there is also He expressed the hope an effective wage board will be formed soon in association with the government, workers and garment owners.

complying with the labour laws and

Bangladesh Garment

He said garment factories are

now facing a labour shortage as

Prothom Alo

FROM PAGE 16 11:30am and prayed for bail.

Earlier on May 18, the same court had issued warrants of arrest against them, as the two did not appear before it on three consecutive dates. The defence lawyers for the editor had submitted a medical certificate regarding his admission to a clinic and sought extension of time, but the court rejected the petition.

Abbas had filed the case against them on February 2.

In his complaint, Abbas said the news item headlined "Public works minister has objection to a police complex being built at Rajarbagh' run by the national daily on January was false, baseless and concocted.

The news has tarnished his

status in the society and created a

bad image of him among the people

of the country as well as of his constituency, he said adding that Kuleswar stayed at his village yesterday although police went to the the news also led to a misundervillage to make sure he returns to the standing between him and the capital, our Moulavibazar corresponpolice department. Besides, the daily did not publish

> the rejoinder sent by the complainant properly.
>
> The defendants appear to have connived to publish the report with an intention of bringing him into

disrepute. Abbas said. Advocates Syed Ahmed Gazi, Anwarul Kabir Babul, Samiul Karim Alamgir, Ashraf Ul Alam, Prasanta Kumar Karmaker and Chaitanya Chandra Halder stood on behalf of the editor and publisher.

Pry teachers

FROM PAGE 16 went to the Prime Minister's Office and

submitted a memorandum that inscribed the teachers' one-point demand -- nationalisation of their jobs. The huge gathering of teachers created traffic congestion in the busy streets near the Matshya Bhaban for

about two and a half hours. The roads

were blocked for about an hour from

30pm before the teachers returned to Muktangon where they began a 48hour hunger strike Earlier, teachers of nongovernment primary schools from

fferent parts of the country joined a rally at Muktangon. The government did not meet their election pledge to nationalise the primary teachers' jobs and they will get e résult in the next elections, Shamsul Alam, president of the nongovernment primary school teachers

Shamsul Alam threatened to begin a fast unto death if the government do not meet the teachers' demand within next 48 hours. "Discrimination in education sector

association, said amid anti-

government slogans by the teachers.

annot continue," said Rashida Begum who came from Narsinghdi. "We are fighting for our one point demand and that is nationalisation of our jobs. We think all primary school teachers should be treated equally. Habibur Rahman, a teacher of a nongovernment primary school at Babugani in Barishal said, adding that

they would not return home before

Dr Azad killing

that he gathered important information from JMB member Shafique Ullah

alias Shad during a four-day remand. The information is being verified, the IO said and prayed that Shafique Ullah be confined in the jail custody

until the investigation completes.

Earlier, the CID had prayed for

showing JMB member Mizanur Rahman alias Shaon of Joypurhat arrested in the case, as he admitted to have been directly involved with the

two books that 'hurt the religious sentiment of the Muslims. The IO also sought a seven-day remand for Shaon. The court granted the petition for

remand prayer. Earlier, JMB chief Abdur Rahman and his younger brother JMB military

The CID had so far arrested Khaleg alias Gaba Tiger, Abu Abbas alias were granted bail at different dates

were shown arrested in the case

FROM PAGE 1 She said the country's macromonths, but to no avail, they said.

in industrial production, she added. the next year's ADP was set at 57 percent or Tk 14.812 crore while foreign resources will make up about

from different sources.

income has declined a bit, earning from income tax and VAT is increasing, he said.

The service sector is doing pretty

tion went to transport sector (Tk 3309 crore or 12.73 percent), the third largest to power (Tk 3,161 crore or 12.16 percent) and the fourth largest to rural development and institutions (Tk 3.139 crore or 12.07 percent). A block allocation to the tune of Tk

Zilla parishads got an allocation of

for these sectors

3,000 crore from its original size of Tk 24,500 crore. Local resources constitute 50.43 percent of it while foreign resources constitute 49.57 percent. Allocations for agriculture, educa-

someday buildings might collapse

sure what causes the shock waves. and Balarampur.

cials, neither the mine authorities publicly announced beforehand that land in the adjacent areas might subside nor did the Chinese contractor take any initiative to install a

added. A Petrobangla team visited the

to create rooms. Consequently, further subsidence will stop," he Contaminated water from the

more viable routes," the letter said

Captain SM Helal. "We firmly believe it is possible to make profit in almost all the routes where other airlines are making profit but we must not attempt to

Pointing to the rampant corrup-

The Peace-Building

would impact on all UN reforms."

Indonesia appealed for foreign aid some 20.000 injured, many of whom

Red Cross and Red Crescent

"Clearly the top priority right now is the treatment of injured people," Unicef spokesman John Budd told "There are three hospitals in

of those injured were children, with many suffering from head wounds and broken bones.

towns and villages in the lush green

Susanto said survivors were streaming into the city from worse-

in 18 months, following the 2004 Asian tsunami catastrophe which killed 168,000 in Sumatra and another quake that killed more than 600 people in Nias in March last year.

tion suffered by the people of Indonesia," a UN spokesman said.

Tonga, the US Geological Survey Hours later a 5.5-magnitude

FROM PAGE 16 demanded immediate return of the

with the ILO's 'decent work' indica-

The ILO survey finds that when workers do overtime, employers very often exploit them on their hours, preferring to pay fixed sums, which is much lower than the 100 percent incremental pay for the

The survey says although in recent times there has been some initiative to bring workers under insurance coverage the nonissuance of appointment letters by employers could actually deprive workers of being benefited from

a need to improve the institutional capacity of basic unions and industrial federations in this sector to deliver effective membership services and more transparent and responsible actions by the union

such schemes.

initiative of setting up a common compliance standard should not be alternative to the implementation of the ILO's core conventions. It also emphasises the need for

strengthening the tripartite consul-

The paper points out that the

tation structure among the government, employers and workers. Along with the pressure from ncreased competition, Bangladesh is also confronted with a challenging task of improving the labour stan-

dards in the RMG industry, it says. The future growth performance of the sector will critically hinge on

DB examining

FROM PAGE 16

Hospital morque. Sanjay's father Kuleswar Sinha performed his son's funeral at Homerjan village under Islampur union of Kamalganj upazila in Moulavibazar district on Saturday evening.

yet to be learnt. The two bodies are still

ying in the Dhaka Medical College

dent reports. Police kept tight vigilance on the Monipuri community and inquired about Sumon, but the residents said Sumon did not show up after the

The vigilance has also been

The detectives have so far

detained four persons in this connec-

tion -- Ashit Kumar, driver of the house

owner, Jisair and Lipson, guards of the

house and Phool Chandra Sinha, the

strengthened at Mendi Miar Tila in

Puranbari under the upazila, where six

insurgents were killed in an encounter with the Rapid Action Battalion last year.
The DB, who took charge of the case on Saturday, yesterday received

the dockets from Uttara police.

father of Sumon. Phool Chandra came to the capital with Sanjay's father Kuleswar Sinha on Friday.

Garment owners

organisations would represent in the for the garment workers. When contacted, BGMEA Second

Vice-president Abdus Salam

Murshedy told UNB that the commit-

tee is likely to be formed within a day or

two.
"We'll finalise our representatives to the committee tonight and send the names to the ministry tomorrow (Monday)," he said Murshedy said that discussions took place at the meeting on safety

ers, their weekly holidays, overtime, bonus, maternity leave and other "Workers are already enjoying most of these admissible benefits. So

we (the owners) are willing to recon-

himselftackled labour unrest last week

The apparel sector leader, who

sider their benefits," he added.

and security measures for the work-

as BGMEA acting president, however, noped that the wage committee would fix the minimum salary for the workers so that it could be implemented. "The committee should not fix such an amount that would go beyond the

owners' capacity," he pointed out.

15 Bangladeshi

BGMEA President Tipu Munshi,

who returned home Friday after a

weeklong tour of USA, chaired the

Iftekhar Chowdhury will receive the awards for onward forwarding to their next of kin.

In his message on the UN

Peacekeepers Day (May 29),

Secretary-General Kofi Annan

noted that Bangladesh is one of the three countries, which made significant contributions to UN peacekeeping missions According to him, "the leading contributors, by far, are India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, which collectively provide more than 40

per cent on UN peacekeepers --and

as a result have also suffered some

The first peacekeeping mission

of the highest losses."

of the world was established by the UN Security Council on May 29, More than 72,000 uniformed personnel and 15,000 civilians are

now serving in 18 peace operations administered by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. Some 108 countries now contribute uniformed personnel including a 71nation mission in Sudan --the most diverse coalition ever assembled.

Shaon also confessed that being directed by JMB chief Abdur Rahman, he and three others including Sunny took part in the attack as Dr Azad wrote

showing him arrested in the case and fixed tomorrow for hearing on the

commander Ataur Rahman Sunny

Bomb Abbas and Golam Mostafa in connection with the attack and they

Area around

Mine sources said the untreated chemicals and waste contain poisonous phosphorous [P], arsenic [Ar] and magnesium [Mg]. According to Petrobangla offi-

work progressed." said a mining expert of Petrobangla. "The authorities are also sup-

affect the mine if it remains unmonitored," said a team member.

dramatically. At a later stage of