AU summit seeks to ease Darfur, Somali tensions

African leaders were expected yesterday to agree steps aimed at easing tensions in the Darfur region of Sudan where civil war has claimed 300,000 lives, and in strife-torn Somalia.

Diplomatic sources said a Saturday session addressed prospects for future African political integration and a charter for African democracy, main themes of the weekend meeting in Banjul, capital of the west

The proposed charter would ban attempts to change member-states' constitutions so as to extend the terms in office of African presidents.

But the sources said the project had been postponed because of the strong opposition of some presidents attending here.

Predicting that outcome recently South African Foreign Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma publicly deplored the refusal of certain countries to adopt what he said would be a charter that would complicate efforts by unpopular presidents to remain in

Addressing the summit Saturday, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annann expressed concern to his fellow Africans at conflicts still raging on the continent and at suppression of press freedom in some African coun-

"The conflicts in Darfur, Ivory Coast, Somalia and northern Uganda continue to outrun efforts for a solu-

On Saturday, a top AU official told the more than 50 African leaders they must pay more urgent attention to crises in Sudan and elsewhere.

"We are being summoned urgently to look at the crises in Sudan, Darfur and Somalia," said Alpha Oumar Konare, chairman of the AU commis-

In Somalia, Konare said, African leaders had to act firmly to encourage dialogue between the two sides in the lawless country.

"We need an integrated African force in order to tackle these conflicts," he said.

The AU is pulling out its poorlyequipped force from Darfur by September to open the way for UN peacekeepers, though the Sudanese government is opposed to an international peacekeeping force.

The United Nations is conducting the largest humanitarian operation in the world in Darfur, an area roughly the size of France where up to 300,000 people have been killed and 2.4 million displaced by three years of civil war.

Konare and current AU chairman Denis Sassou Nguesso of the Republic of Congo both expressed concern at the deteriorating situation in

The rescue of Somalia lies in indispensable dialogue and necessary compromise," said Sassou Nguesso, urging fellow-leaders to support transition institutions struggling to assert their authority

Guest speakers here on Saturday included President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela and Iran's hardline President Mahmoud Ahmadineiad.

Chavez called on Africa to join with Latin America in "south-south" cooperation, especially in oil and banking to escape from what he called foreign

Ahmadinejad said global "bullies" were annoyed at the technological advancement of smaller developing

"People see that the bullies of the world get angry because of the technical and scientific advancement of other countries and they wish to keep the countries and nations backward.'

Voter list update

at the offices of ward no 44 in Mohammadpur, ward no 39 in Tejkunipara, ward no 13 in Mirpur, ward no 41 in Agargaon, and at ward no 70 and 72 in Old Dhaka when reporters visited the offices at different times yesterday.

The ward commissioners, whose offices are being used for updating the voter list, expressed their doubts about the success of the Election Commission's (EC) controversial method of updating the voter list ignoring demands of major political parties and legal experts for door to door visits to get the job done.

"It is not possible to update the voter list by following this procedure. I believe the election commission's attempt will turn into a farce again. Abu Bakkar Siddiqui, commissioner of ward no 41, told reporters at his office. "The government should look into the matter whether the election commission is engaged in conspiracv to foil the election." Bakkar, also a I BNP leader said

Talking to reporters at his office vesterday another ward commissioner, Kaji Ali Imam, said they launched a huge publicity campaign in the area, but people did not show any interest to get enlisted.

The AROs are not interested to work as they had not been properly paid for the previous preparation of the controversial fresh voter list which was later declared illegal by the Supreme Court, and because of the confusion surrounding the ongoing task, said a number of AROs.

The task of updating the voter list did not pick up speed on the second day although some people collected list, but nobody collected forms for deleting from the list the names of fake voters or names of persons who

The EC officials in many areas could not even start working due to lack of preparation.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, a number of district election officers admitted that they could not preparation and because of the opposition's demonstration.

Chairmen and commissioners of municipalities and union parishads expressed their ignorance about the

"I don't have any information about the ongoing task. I don't even know whether the election officers start work today or not," Rokeya Begum, ward commissioner of Bogra municipality, told our Bogra corre-

Even the forms have not yet reached most of the ward commissioner's and union parishad offices in Bogra, our correspondent reports.

Our Rajshahi correspondent

Most of the rural people in union councils under the district do not even know that the process of updating the voter list has started, said the

the district remained open for distrib-

uting the forms yesterday. The ARO of Bochaganj upazila said he waited at his office the whole day but nobody came to collect the forms yesterday, while other election officers said situations in the remain-

very few people turned up to collect the forms from the offices of ward commissioners of the city corporation. People are not yet informed about the campaign due to lack of

Rich, powerful flout ban

clearance at the port while BRTA officials must check it during the registration process," said Feroz Al Mujahid Khan, deputy commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan

Police, Traffic (South). While automobiles with built-in

Buyers are now asking to make the glasses tinted although it flouts traffic rules," said a car showroom owner adding that it is not a problem since the owners can 'manage'

It was found that luxurious sedans and sports utility vehicles of expensive makes like Lexus. Prado. Pajero, Harrier and some other brands usually are fitted with tinted glasses in most cases. Medium priced automobiles such as Voxy, Townace, and Mark II quite often are

also fitted with these glasses.

use tinted glasses in most cases We usually try to overlook them because the owners of those vehicles are very powerful." said a traffic sergeant while talking to The Daily

drivers of those vehicles grossly violate other traffic rules but such cases are not common, he said adding that rich people are using tinted glasses on their automobiles these days despite the fact that they cannot enter the cantonment area with vehicles fitted with such

Japanese FM

FROM PAGE 16 counterpart. Bilateral, regional and international issues will be discussed during the talks.

Japan is a major development rtner of Bangladesh.

In July last year, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia had been in Tokyo on a bilateral visit when Japan assured of its continued assistance for the development of Bangladesh.

Japan was granted observer status of the Saarc at its 13th summit held in Dhaka in November last

It's now World

sad football," said the online version of Lance sports daily.

The only dark cloud hanging over France's win was the violence that broke out in Paris as celebrations turned violent on the French capital's renowned Champs-Elysees.

Police fired teargas at bottle-

hurling youths and some revellers

were injured after being hit by flying England meanwhile was plunged into a doom it has experienced so often as its hopes vanished in a pen-

alty shootout, just as they had in five of

the last eight tournaments. The British press shed no tears over the last game of coach Sven-Goran Eriksson's five-year reign, blaming the Swede for a lack of adventurous tactics and poor squad selection which it said snuffed out England's best chance of winning a World Cup

since its only triumph in 1966. "He leaves his post today, taking with him the king's ransom that was his reward for five years of mediocrity, said the News of the World tabloid.

Most commentators said Wayne Roonev provoked his team's exit by getting sent off for standing on the groin of Portuguese player Ricardo Carvalho, but David Beckham limping off with an injury in the second half also hit England's hopes.

Ten men hung on but Frank Lampard, Steven Gerrard and Jamie Carragher all had spot-kicks saved by Portugal 'keeper Ricardo while Cristiano Ronaldo -- a teammate of Rooney at Manchester United -converted the decisive penalty.

Victory was sweet for Portugal's charismatic coach Luiz Felipe Scolari, who had masterminded victories over England at both the 2002 World Cup. when he was in charge of Brazil, and at Euro 2004 with Portugal.

Meanwhile, Germany was gearing up for a huge party on Tuesday when Juergen Klinsmann's exciting young side will come up against the Italians whose own success has come against the backdrop of a match-fixing scandal

The Fan Mile in Berlin was being extended to allow up to a million fans to follow the action from Dortmund on big

Paban

FROM PAGE 16

Moving the bail petition yesterday, Paban's lawyers argued that their client was implicated in the case as part of a conspiracy to harass him and since Robin did not mention him as a leader of any carjacking ring, he should be granted bail.

Opposing the petition for bail, the prosecution told the court that Paban was directly involved with carjacking and Robin's confessional statement proves it.

A Detective Branch (DB) team captured Paban on Bailey Road with a stolen Toyota Premio on June 7.

Three criminals in Motijheel nijacked the vehicle at gunpoint on October 13 last year.

DB produced Paban before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court on June 8. The court then ordered to send him to jail rejecting

the bail prayer. The same court placed Robin on a four-day remand against the

prayer of a 10-day one.

AL walks out FROM PAGE 1

actions. "The police officer was killed when hit by stones thrown by them (opposition activists)," he

"The leader of the opposition should understand that her instigation can create a dangerous situation in the country. I urge the leader of the opposition to withdraw her directives," Babar said amid protests by the AL lawmak-

As the state minister continued, the AL lawmakers walked out of the House for the second time.

"How could the state minister be sure without postmortem that the police officer was killed by stones thrown by the opposition activists," AL lawmaker Abdur Razzak told a press briefing after the walkout. "The minister made a false statement in the

AL lawmaker Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim demanded formation of a parliamentary probe body on

the killings Earlier, the AL lawmakers talking on point of order demanded discussion on yesterdav's killings.

'The government is pushing the opposition towards confrontation by attacking every programme (of the opposition)," AL lawmaker Mohammad Nasim

Responding to the AL lawmakers. BNP lawmaker KM Obaidur Rahman also speaking on a point of order blamed the opposition for enforcing unconstitutional programmes like blockade. "The government will be strict in future if anyone attempts to create anarchy in the name of movement," he

UAE withdraws

FROM PAGE 1

The Ambassador took up the mater with UAE interior minister. The UAE decided to withdraw the deportation

The news came as a relief for the parents of the boy as well as the Bangladesh community in the UAE, said the foreign ministry release.

Islamic banking

the Shariah Council.

"If the Bangladesh Bank refrains from circulating the [focus group recommended] guidelines under pressure from some higher authority, the forces opposing the alliance government might take an initiative to implement the auidelines during the caretaker government's regime. That could create a negative impact on the alliance government during the next election." the report pointed

The central bank in February finalised the new guidelines for Islamic banking that makes the provision for Shariah Council optional. The guidelines also allow banks to decide whether they want to be a member of the Shariah Council. According to the new guidelines

a bank may form a shariah supervisory body to monitor its Islamic banking services but the board of directors of that bank will be accountable to the central bank for its overall operation. Presently, banks have their own

a central shariah council to look into whether Islamic banking as a whole is in compliance with the Islamic principles. The central bank could not issue a circular with its guidelines due to last minute pressure from different

Islamic groups including a certain

shariah councils and there has been

partner in the ruling alliance as well as Bangladesh Sharia Council (IBBSC) and others. Before scripting the guidelines, BB formed a focus group comprising Shariah Council members and representatives from different Islamic banks. Shariah Council members in the meetings of the focus group recommended making Shariah Council mandatory to keep exerting their influence like before.

However when the central bank

framed the final guidelines it did not

accommodate the council's recom-Some officials of the banks that are operated on the basis of Islamic principles said the Shariah Council often interferes with a bank's day to day business. It even insists on seeing internal circulars of a bank.

The council is acting as if it is parallel with the central bank, observed the officials. Although there are a number of banks in the country which operate on Islamic principles, there has not been a standard quideline for Islamic banking and that is why the central bank took the initiative to frame the

The Bangladesh Bank as the regulatory body often consults with stakeholders while framing policy quidelines, but it is in no way obligated to accommodate any view or recommendation put forward by any of the stakeholders. But surprisingly, DGFI in its report explicitly suggested that the central bank incorporates the focus group's

recommendations in the guidelines. "The Bangladesh Bank, after failing to bring changes into the focus group recommended guidelines in the face of opposition from most of the focus group members. took steps to circulate the guideline prepared by itself, after changing two important sections of the recommendations," the report pointed out.

The six commercial banks presently providing Islamic banking services in the country are Islam Bank Bangladesh Ltd, Al-Arafah Bank, Social Investment Bank Ltd. Exim Bank Ltd. Oriental Bank Ltd. and Shahjalal Islami Bank Ltd. Some other banks also provide Islamic banking services in some of their branches.

According to the central bank proposed guidelines, a commercial bank may form a separate company with Tk 100 crore paid up capital for providing Islamic banking services. The subsidiary company will need to offload 49 percent of its share while the parent company may own the remaining 51 percent.

As per the proposed guidelines, commercial banks will have to maintain separate accounts for their Islamic banking services at the branches where such services are provided and they also have to maintain separate statutory liquidity ratio (SLR) and cash reserve requirement (CRR) with the central bank for such services.

At the same time, the central bank also finalised the guidelines for new Islamic banks in the country. In case of a new Islamic bank, the sponsors will have to offload 50 percent of the bank's shares and sponsor directors will not be allowed to own shares worth more than Tk

Currently, there is no separate guideline for Islamic banking in the country. The central bank, for the first time, formulated the guidelines for new Islamic banks and for the banks already providing Islamic banking services at some of their

2 Britons, 21 others

attack helicopters and planes were called in to assist forces on the ground. The base had been under attack for three nights, said spokesman

Captain Drew Gibson. "The first two it was fairly minor -- last night was a fairly concentrated attack," he said.

The fatalities were the fourth and fifth British soldiers to be killed in Afghanistan in the past three weeks and since a new British deployment of around 2,000 troops began arriving around late April.

Another two British soldiers have also been killed in Afghanistan since British troops deployed here in late 2001, when they were part of a coalition that helped to topple the extremist Taliban government.

Gibson said the force had not yet determined how many of the attackers

The Helmand police chief said earlier that 12 Taliban were killed in fighting that erupted in Sangin late Saturday after rebels attacked Afghan

police and army and coalition troops. It was not immediately clear if this was the same battle in which the British soldiers and the interpreter lost their lives but a coalition spokesman

said it "probably" was. "Twelve Taliban bodies were left at the site after two hours of fighting with

joint forces," Khail told AFP. The British deployment to Helmand, one of the most restive provinces in the country, is intended to help the government extend its authority and bring Taliban-linked rebels and drug-lords under control.

The province is a focus of Mountain Thrust, which includes forces from Afghanistan, Canada, Britain and the United States and has resulted in the killing of hundreds of rebels since it

Nepai

FROM PAGE 16

had provided the government with millions more in military aid to help it fight the Maoists, but suspended it after Gyanendra seized power last

The Maoists' leader criticised Moriarty's comments. "I am not surprised with the

comments by the ambassador to Nepal because he does not want peace in Nepal," rebel leader Prachanda said in an interview published in the state-owned Rising Nepal newspaper Sunday. The rebels took up arms in 1996

demanding a "people's republic" to replace the monarchy and championing Nepal's poor. They plunged the Himalayan kingdom into a conflict that killed 13,000 people

The new interim government will eventually create a new constitution

was launched in mid-May

Coinciding with the operation has been an upsurge in attacks linked to an insurgency launched by the Taliban after they were ousted when they did not surrender al-Qaeda leaders for the

foreign troops and the strength of local security forces as well as government campaigns to persuade the Taliban to surrender, the insurgency has only grown stronger

President Hamid Karzai said last month that the militants' sources of funding and training outside of the country's borders need to be tackled in

He said in an interview with the BBC's Pashtu service aired on Saturday that if this did not happen, the violence in Afghanistan might spread

He did not mention Pakistan, but Afghan officials have previously said that rebels are being trained across

FROM PAGE 16 intention of harming the Palestinian population. I can report the Karni humanitarian aid, can be transferred," Olmert said at the cabinet

meeting. Following Shalit's abduction, Israel announced Gaza crossings would be closed. It also launched air strikes against Gaza's main power plant and road bridges and arrested senior Hamas politicians in the occupied West Bank.

Serious casualties have so far been limited to two dead militants.

Even before the standoff, the Palestinian government was straining under a US-led economic accept past interim peace deals.

dreds of Palestinians from its jails in exchange for the soldier. These are not easy days for Israel, but we have no intention of surrendering to blackmail," he said.

Abbas and Egyptian mediators have been involved in round-theclock negotiations with Hamas in an attempt to defuse a standoff that has plunged relations with Israel to new lows and dashed hopes of renewed peace talks.

A Palestinian official quoted mediators as saying 19-year-old Shalit was alive after being treated for wounds

14-party

The AL will also bring out mourning processions across the country at 4:00pm today in remembrance of Golam Mostafa Milon, allegedly killed in police excess vesterday.

at Bangabandhu Avenue. The 14party leaders and activists will bring out a mourning procession from Muktangon and head to the Central The four-party alliance government has become hostile, as it has realised that it would not be able to

hold on to power for much long. "That is why they have started killing people," Hasina said alleging that the ruling party's hired goons killed Sub-inspector Abul Bashar yester-Condemning the killings of

corrupt family in power. "They [The ruling parties] have been looting people's money over the years and now they are killing

Urging people to be aware about the activities of the government Hasina said. "The more they kill, the more people there will be protesting

"The government has no other party's reform proposal or resign,' price hike of essentials and insecurity of life and property, and terrorism. Hasina added.

invitation from the Bangladesh government

Dhaka said the visit would be rescheduled later.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Navy chief Rear Admiral M Hasan Ali Khan, arrived in Sri Lanka on Sunday on a visit at an invitation by the Sri Lanka Navy.

25 NRBs

FROM PAGE 16

government is arranging extra facilities for the expatriates who have made significant contributions for keeping the country's macro economy stable by sending remittance, thus increasing the foreign reserve.

selves of all facilities and status like the CIP declared by the Ministry of bution in the field of business, sources said.

The 25 NRRs will avail them-

The government had earlier decided to issue remitter's card for sending big volume of remittance in a year. But the idea was abandoned as the finance ministry did not agree

to the proposal, sources said. Around five million Bangladeshis living abroad send over \$4.5 billion a

from an archaeological site.

prohibits collecting and selling any antique including terracotta objects It prohibits collecting even the soil

Some terracotta obiects were

The matter was reported to the

Department regional director. The probe committee formed after the theft is, however, yet to start investigation, said an official of

movements, said the Archaeology

Some miscreant groups are even engaged in digging different archaeological sites hoping to find antiques for their illegal business.

acting on a tip-off recovered a Vishnu statue in Bhangura upazila of Pabna district as it was going to be smuggled abroad. The Archaeology Department officials said the statue has not yet been handed over to it. In another incident, the Rapid

Action Battalion (Rab) recently

Gokul area in Bogra. Rajshahi police are yet to recover a statue stolen from an old temple in Taherpur in the district a

sites, including the palace of Balihar strators.

at Orthopaedic Hospital (Pangu

Cop, activist killed

the six-hour demonstration starting at 9:00am. The law enforcers charged batons, lobbed tear gas shells and fired rubber bullets to disperse the opposition activists who were throwng stones and brickbats at them, witnesses said

Dozens of vehicles and a train were damaged as drivers tried to defv the blockades, snapping rail and road communication across the country. The clashes between the police

and opposition workers in Narayanganj, Sirajganj, Pabna, Kishoregani and Sylhet left about 100 wounded. In Dhaka, businessmen kept shutters down, educational institu-

tions remained closed and the pres-

ence at public offices was thin. Only

rickshaws and a few auto-rickshaws and minibuses plied the streets. Authorities deployed more than 10,000 additional police and paramilitary troops in the capital and other

A Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) source said they treated nearly 50 people injured in

resterday's clashes in the capital. Besides electoral reforms, the opposition's demands include changes in the caretaker government system and resignation of the chief election commissioner (CEC)

and the two election commissioners. In Dhaka, clashes between the police and opposition activists took olace mainly at Mirpur, Mohakhali, Russell Square and the old part of the city. The opposition activists damaged a number of vehicles and hurled brickbats at the law enforcers during the sporadic clashes

POLICE OFFICER KILLED

Riot police and opposition demonstrators locked in a fierce battle for about four and a half hours at Murgapara intersection on Dhaka-Chittagong Highway in Narayanganj from 10:00am. Thousands of demonstrators

them to retreat and taking control of the busy highway. Pickets set fire to about 10 vehicles. Half an hour later, additional police forces from Kanchpur rushed to the area and engaged in violent

clashes with the pickets

threw stones at the police, forcing

SI Basher died during the clashes Following the death, the police started indiscriminately beating opposition men, local people and iournalists. Blockades on Dhaka-Chittagong

and Dhaka-Sylhet highways created

serious traffic congestion near

Kanchpur Bridge and Meghna ghat Opposition leaders and activists led by AL leader Gazi Golam Dastagir brought out a procession at Rupgani

KILLED Golam Mustafa Milon, 45, was critically injured when police charged baton, fired tear gas canisters and rubber bullets to disperse the opposition workers in front of Titumeer

College at 10:30am. Milon died around 10:45am while being taken to a nearby clinic. As the news of his death spread. Mohakhali area turned into a battlefield. Agitating leaders and workers brought out a procession carrying his

body at 12:10pm But as police intercepted the procession at Banani Road No. 8. clashes broke out between them and the demonstrators

the dead body and dispersed the procession, leaving some 15 opposition men injured. Later, the body was sent to DMCH for autopsy. Milon's wife Rekha said her husband was first injured when a tear gas shell hit him. Later, the law

At one stage, the police took away

front of Titumeer College Mahabubur Rahman, officer-incharge of Gulshan Police Station, said the opposition worker died of cardiac arrest.

A sand trader by profession, Milon

hailed from Mathbaria of Pirojpur. He

enforcers tortured him to death in

left behind his wife, three daughters Earlier, opposition men led by AL Presidium Member Tofail Ahmed brought out a procession at about 10:00am in Mohakhali area. Soon processions led by Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon Samyabadi Dal leader Dilip Barua

and Gono Forum leader Pankaj

Bhattacharya joined them. At least 25 people including AL leader Abdul Latif Siddique and a photoiournalist were injured in sporadic clashes between the police and demonstrators in Mirpur area in the Mirpur-10 ward unit AL Treasurer

Mohammad Mostafa was critically injured when a police van hit him around 11:45am. The vehicle was being chased by a group of demon-Mostafa is undergoing treatment

Latif Siddique and several others

were injured when police in riot gear barred a procession on Mazar Road around 10:30am and beat them ndiscriminately. Demonstrators threw stones at

the police and chased them several times during the melee that ended around 12:30pm

Workers of the 14-party opposition combine damaged at least eight passenger buses and other vehicles

At Russell Square, opposition workers clashed with the police intermittently throughout the day while in Jurain pickets set fire to a

injured in a clash between police and 14-party combine at Hati Kumrul on the Dhaka-Boara Highway. As police blocked the procession of the 14-party combine and charged

bats at them. Six vehicles and two shops were damaged during the At least 10 people were injured when police charged baton on the

reports our Pabna correspondent. Agitated 14-party men blockaded Pabna bus stand and damaged a number of vehicles.

Twenty people including a police

spondent reports. Our Gazipur correspondent

reports: Clashes between police and

activists of 14-party opposition

combine at Jagrata Chourangi of

Chandna intersection left 12 people including Gazipur District AL President Mozammel Hugue injured. Opposition activists led by local

to disperse the mob. Our staff correspondent from Sylhet reports: Opposition activists damaged at least 15 vehicles at the city's South Surma while the Chittagong-bound inter-city train Paharika Express was delayed by

blockade. Opposition activists put up barricades at Olonkar crossing and AK Khan Gate in the port city's Pahartali at 9:00am, closing movements of inter-district buses and trucks to and

Hundreds of agitating opposition leaders and activists stopped Dhakabound Karnaphuli Express and Chittagong-bound Sagarika Express

the 14-party activists blocked six major entries of Dinajpur, reports our Dinaipur correspondent. They also blocked Dhaka-bound

inter-city trains Teesta and Drutajan

Express at Parbatipur until 3:00pm. Our JU correspondent reports:

bound commuter train at Nawapara industrial town and blocked several highways in the district, leaving Indian passengers stranded at

Cabinet decides

expressway would be handed over to the government, according to the Earlier, the communication ministry scrutinised the proposal and sent it to the Private

The delay in approving such an investment proposal by a Malaysian consortium was cited as one of the causes behind the hold-up in recruiting fresh manpower from Bangladesh, Malaysia has stopped employing Bangladeshis since 1997.

The Malaysian high commis-

sioner in Dhaka has already hinted at shifting investment proposals of \$1.5 billion by Malaysian companies, which have been pending for In addition to the expressway construction, the Malaysian consor-

munications sector. However, the BNP-led four

approved any of the investment proposals of the Malaysian companies, turning the relations between two countries cold, sources said.

publicity start working yesterday due to lack of

this special glass should not get

tinted glasses are being illegally imported, glasses are also being tinted in some cases after importing the vehicles, he explained. "We do file cases and impose fines if the owner fails to show the ministry's permission "Demand for automobiles with tinted glasses is on the rise lately

thinas.

"Automobiles that are expensive

reports that not a single person visited the offices of a total of 35 ward commissioners of Raishahi City Corporation to collect the forms and none of the AROs was found at the

Our Dinajpur correspondent reports that only two women collected the forms for including their names on the list till yesterday while 134 offices including 15 ward commissioners' offices in 13 upazilas of

ing centres are almost the same. Our Chittagong office adds that

House.

Sometimes cases are filed if the said.

minister reviewed the case and

and devastated the tourism-based for the country.

September 11, 2001 attacks. Despite the presence of thousands

order to stop the unrest.

to the whole region.

Israel bombs crossing will be opened today so that fuel, essential goods and

embargo imposed to get it to recognise Israel, renounce violence and In his remarks to the cabinet Olmert again rejected demands by militants for Israel to release hun-

recovered some old coins from Palestinian President Mahmoud few years ago. Hundreds of archaeological

> king in Naogaon and the palace of Dinnath Roy in Dinajpur, are facing ruination due to a lack of proper maintenance, said an Archaeology Department official.

The namaj-e-janaja of Golam Mostafa will be held at 12:00pm today in front of the AL Central Office

Shaheed Minar.

Bashar and Milon, she said a police personnel had to die just to keep a

people so that no one can protest against them," said Hasina.

against them. options and it has to accept the 14she said. The people of the country have been suffering a lot due to the

SL president's

A foreign ministry source in

local and international organisations and inter-ministerial meetings in the last two years. This is for the first time that the

Archeological FROM PAGE 16

higher authority but no initiative has yet been taken against the illegal business, the senior official added. lost from the Annik Temple at Putia a few months ago although the security guards were patrolling on the temple premises. The thieves were reported to have been using cell phones for informing the guards'

the department.

Meanwhile, Sirajganj police

Locals said the police picked up an innocent shopkeeper during the

at Mirour-10 and on Begum Rokeya

Sarani after police had prevented them from taking out a procession. At least 14 people were picked up

police vehicle. Our Sirajganj correspondent reports: At least 50 people, including District AL President Abdul Latif Mirza MP, police and journalists were

baton on them at around 10:00am, the opposition activists pelted brick-

opposition gathering on the Dhaka-Pabna Highway at Birahimpur,

constable were injured and Bajitpur upazila AL office, several restaurants and shops ransacked when BNP men attacked AL activists at Sorarchar Railway Station at about 10:00am, our Kishoreganj corre-

MP Jahid Ahsan Russel blocked the Tongi Station Road level crossing on the Tongi-Kaliganj highway and stopped Dhaka-bound train Surma Mail. Police lobbed 15 tear gas shells

two hours due to the opposition's

at AK Khan Gate for about an hour. Vehicular movement stopped as

Pickets vandalised two buses near Savar Bus Stand while the blockade disrupted the vehicular movement on the Dhaka-Aricha Highway until 2:00pm. Our Jessore correspondent adds: Opposition men stopped a Khulna-

Benapole land port.

FROM PAGE 1 tolls to pay off the investment. After operating for 30 years the

Infrastructure Committee (PICOM) and later to the cabinet for final approval

tium also proposed to set up two power plants and invest in telecom-

party alliance government hardly

in Narayangani and took position at Commerce for outstanding contrithe Tarabo intersection around As police chased the opposition Among them, five will be activists, they pelted brickbats at the awarded the CIP status for sending law enforcers. The clashes left at highest remittance in a year while least 25 persons, including policeten each in two other categories for men and Dastagir, injured. investing and importing from Chittagong, reports our staff Bangladeshi goods. The police lobbed at least 50 correspondent from Chittagong. rounds of tear shells and picked up a The CIP status will be given for number of opposition activists. one year and will be reviewed every **OPPOSITION ACTIVIST**