The Daily Star

NEWS

night.

dent

Homage to Bangabandhu

FROM PAGE 1

leader --Syed Nazrul Islam, Taiuddin Ahmed. AHM Quamruzzaman and Captain M Mansur Ali -- in Dhaka Central Jail on November 3, 1975.

The main opposition Awami League (AL), different political parties, student organisations and socio-cultural bodies have taken up elaborated programmes to mourn the killings and reiterate the demand for capital punishment of the killers.

The AL and its allies enforces a six-hour hartal today from 6:00am to noon across the country protesting the revocation of state mourning on the day and demanding immediate execution of court verdict in the case for the killing of Bangabandhu and his family members

For 21 years, trial of the killers had been barred by Indemnity Ordinance, which was later legalised through parliament. The infamous ordinance was finally repealed in 1996, allowing trial of the case. A murder case was filed on October 2, 1996

In November 1998, the trial court awarded death penalty to 15 former army officers in the Bangabandhu Murder Case.

Later, the High Court (HC) upheld the death sentence of 12 killers, four of whom are now in Dhaka Central Jail. The four are Syed Farukur Rahman, Bazlul Huda, Shahriar Rashid Khan and Muhiuddin.

The others are absconding abroad. They include Abdur Rashid. Shariful Haque Dalim, AKM Mahiuddin, Rashed Chowdhury, Nur Chowdhury, Abdul Mazed and Moslemuddin. Of the killers, Aziz Pasha died.

A Sunni extremist group, the al-

Sahaba Soldiers, claimed responsi-

bility for the Karradah attack to

punish Shias for supporting the

"crusaders," or Americans, and the

Zafraniyah, said the attack left the

neighbourhood "a total mess" with

"bodies of the dead and injured

scattered around in the streets old,

us and there was chaos every-

where," he said in a telephone

interview. "Everyone was dazed and

confused, looking for their families.

Some children and grown-ups were

crying. I can't even begin describing

cut by flying glass and debris, leav-

ing parts of the streets soaked in

blood. Iragi state television reported

that some victims may be trapped in

the rubble of the apartment building.

The multiple attacks were part of

He said many of the victims were

"The ground shook underneath

young, women and children."

Muhanna Yassin, who lives in

"treacherous" Iraqi government.

FROM PAGE 16

The case is still pending with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, which requires two more judges to form a three-member division bench to hear the leave to appeal petition.

Bangabandhu and members of his family were assassinated in three separate attacks on August lead her party leaders at a 15. 1975. The victims include his programme in Tungipara tomorrow. wife Begum Fazilatunnessa, sons Sheikh Kamal, Sheikh Jamal and nine-year-old Sheikh Russell, daughters-in-law Sultana Kamal.

Bangladesh, Workers Party of Bangladesh, Sheikh Russell Shishu Parveen Jamal. brother Sheikh Naser, brother-in-law Abdur Rab Sangsad, Bangabandhu Serniabat, 13-year-old Baby Sangskritik Jote, Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Goshti and various Serniabat. Serniabat's son Arif. fourother organisations will hold discusyear-old grand son Babu, a nephew, three guests, four servants, sions to mark the day. Bangabandhu's nephew Sheikh

Fazlul Huq Moni, his wife Begum Arju Moni, and Bangabandhu's security chief Colonel Jamil Uddin Ahmed TODAY'S PROGRAMMES

The national flag and party flag will fly at half-mast at all offices of the AL and its front organisations.

The party will also hoist black flags everywhere in observance of the day, which was officially observed as the national mourning day during the AL rule from 1996 to 2001.

But the BNP-led coalition, after coming to power in October 2001, scrapped the day's official status. Besides, the present govern-

ment has stalled the process of bringing home those killers of Bangabandhu, who are absconding abroad. The taskforce formed during the AL rule in 1999 to have the killers extradited has been dissolved.

Saddam Hussein's regime.

as "the principal problem here."

this as well." Khalilzad said on CNN.

Earlier Sunday, the US com-

AL President Sheikh Hasina,

Buet closure

FROM PAGE 16

Students of Term-2 under Level-4 of parliament, along with her party different faculties at a press confercolleagues will place wreaths at the ence vesterday urged the authoriportrait of her father at 12:15pm at ties to hold their examinations. the Bangabandhu Museum in the saving that their future is falling into capital. Similar programmes will be uncertainty due to the unscheduled held at Bangabandhu's grave in closure. Tungipara in Gopalganj. Hasina will

Bangladesh Abhibhabak Parishad, a platform of quardians of students studying at different universities and colleges, at a press conference last week said the unscheduled closure of the Buet is tarnishing its image abroad.

students of Term-2 under Level-4, Meanwhile, Buet Vice he said. "It is the students who Chancellor Prof M Alee Murtuza demonstrated for deferment of the declined to mention any possible examinations and now they are date to reopen the university. demanding fresh schedule."

Sources at the university administration, however, said authorities might reopen the university after 'disciplinary actions' against the for deferment of examinations students 'responsible for making the campus unstable'

To identify the responsible students, Buet authorities on August 2 formed a committee that got three weeks to submit its report. Several students talking to this

correspondent expressed the fear

Production Report that puts the

country's total recoverable gas

reserve at 20 trillion cubic feet (tcf),

3.85 tcf (after consumption for

decades, the recoverable reserve in

March last year stood at 2.27 tcf),

Bakhrabad 1.04 tcf (now 0.4 tcf),

Titas 5.12 tcf (now 2.78 tcf),

Since discovery, these five fields

companies, it is worth \$14.97 billion

and in terms of current oil price, it is

lucky with that deal. These five gas

fields are serving Bangladesh as the

energy lifeline and we did not have

to spend anything like Shell Oil did

"We have been unbelievably

worth \$56 billion.

FROM PAGE 16

he added.

Habiganj field had a reserve of

these five fields have 13 tcf gas.

Forgotten gas deal

FROM PAGE 1 Hydrocarbon Unit Reservoir and

RMG workers

also Leader of the Opposition in

The AL will distribute food among

Communist Party of

Dhaka University Teachers'

Association (DUTA) will place

wreath at the portrait of

Bangabandhu at the Bangabandhu

Bhaban in the capital, says a press

sion at its office on the life and

achievements of Bangabandhu at

statement on the eve of the day

called for united efforts to restore

the spirit of Liberation War, rule of

law, human rights and secular social

beliefs and to institutionalise

The DUTA will also hold a discus-

Meanwhile, Sheikh Hasina in a

the flood-hit people today.

FROM PAGE 1

democracy.

elease

7:00 pm.

up," said Kuddus, a wayside vendor. Later some workers regrouped on the railway track near Khilkhet and again started pelting stones at the running vehicles. Eventually, they left the scene following a huge police presence, he added.

The Airport Road and adjacent Kailastila 1.9 tcf (now 1.56 tcf) and area were littered with stones. Rashidpur 1.4 tcf (now 1.05 tcf). The

Some workers said a few months country's remaining 17 fields offer 7 back, the owners had assured them tcf reserve. of increasing their salary within three months, but they did not act have produced 5.6 tcf gas. In terms accordingly. of gas price charged by the oil

the grisly pattern of Sunni-Shia violence that American officials They also alleged that the factory consider the greatest threat to Iraq's authorities force them to work extra stability more than three years after hours, but they never pay the workthe US-led invasion toppled ers for the overtime labour

Besides, they face harassment US commanders are sending whenever they seek a leave.

nearly 12,000 US and Iraqi soldiers Despite repeated pleas, the into the capital to curb the surge of owners have yet to arrange sepasectarian violence, which was rate toilets for males and females described by the US ambassador to they added.

Iraq, Zalmay Khalilzad, on Sunday Joint Secretary (Labour Cell) of Bangladesh Garments "I believe that the sectarian Manufacturers and Exporters violence is serious. I believe the Association (BGMEA) Rafigul Islam Iraqis have overcome challenges said some vested interests had misled the workers about wages before ... and they can overcome and provoked them to go on the rampage

mand announced that soldiers of He said the owners have promthe 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne ised the workers that their salaries will be raised after determination of Division had arrested a key terrorist a minimum wage. But their [workcell leader who was "directly linked" ers] leaders could not yet decide on to the July 17 attack on an outdoor market in Mahmoudiya, about 32km the issue though they had held as many as 18 meetings, he added. WORKERS

workers will join their work today.

Managing Director of NASA Group

Nazrul Islam Swapan has assured

that he will increase the wages once

the Wage Commission formed on

May 30 announces a wage struc-

pledged to solve the other problems

She said the owner has also

A correspondent from Gazipur

adds: Hundreds of garment workers

demonstrated on Dhaka-

Mymensingh Highway at Tongi

disrupting traffic on the highway

Fulchan Fashion Ltd went on a work

stoppage from 8:00am. At 10:00am.

they took to the road and blockaded

the highway for an hour to press

home their 10-point demand includ-

ing payment of the arrears and

The workers withdrew the block-

ade after local lawmaker Jahid

Ahsan Russell told them that he will

take the initiative to solve the prob-

lems within a couple of days after

discussing the matter with the

Meantime, workers of Golden

Relief Garments at Shirerchala in

Gazipur staged demonstration

salaries they have not yet been

win in the first match on Saturday.

Dav Whatmore's charges will

the last game to finish their 23-day

under-achieving African safari on an

impressive note and repeat the feat

done at home earlier this year when

included Tushar Imran in the 12-

member squad for the match,

Khaled Mashud (captain), Shahriar

Syed Rasel and Shahadat Hossain.

The Bangladesh think-tank

the Tigers beat Kenya 4-0.

resting Rajin Saleh.

TEAM (from)

Witnesses said the workers of

ture.

soon.

yesterday.

overtime bills.

factory owner.

ligers

FROM PAGE 16

paid.

REPRESENTATIVES MEET OWNERS

Oil price fallout He said the donors were sur-

these fields." he added

they did in the late 80s. It has been prised at the economic growth of the difficult even for the developed country despite all odds including countries to manage the situation, soaring oil prices.

During the visit, the finance minister had meetings with World Bank President Paul Wolfwitz and ongoing reform programmes" by the IMF Acting Managing Director future government to achieve a He said they would not provide

any assistance to offset the burden; rather they suggested Bangladesh to look at other options like strength-

\$100 million.

PRGF. he added.

not have such concern.

Afghanistan FROM PAGE 1

teammate Zahid sent a cross from right in the 13th minute. However, there was enough power behind the shot as it got through the gloves of Nepalese goalkeeper Ritesh

Thapa. Earlier. Afghanistan put on a spirited show to hold three-time SAF Games champions India to a goalless draw in the opening match. The Afghans, who were included

in the biennial event of the Saarc nations two years ago in Islamabad, played impressive football against the rather dull Indians, who failed to stake their claim as a contender for the gold medal.

Hosts Sri Lanka, unnerved by the day's bomb-blast in the heart of the capital that killed seven people, edged Maldives 1-0 in the day's second match.

With cheers from a noisy crowd, Nimal Fernando separated the two sides after 75 minutes with a longrange drive.

Over 7cr voters FROM PAGE 1

The updated list will however contain the latest particulars of voters registering their names fresh.

Sources pointed out that voters aged 25 in 2000 will continue to be 25 now and their profession will also remain the same. A female voter, even if she is divorced and remarried in the last six years, will have the name of her husband unchanged.

Officials at the EC Secretariat With a recent drilling and develsaid they have nothing to do with opment of two wells. Titas field now these anomalies. "It is not possible has 16 wells. While the total task to update the particulars of the required an expenditure of less than voters registered in 2000 since it is Tk 60 crore. Bapex charged only Tk a massive task," a senior official said

He however said in the existing voter list, a column contains the date of birth of voters. This will show the age of voters registered in 2000, he said

But he could not explain the issue of change of profession of voters during this period.

The existing list has 7.64 crore voters on it. Over 20 lakh names will be deleted from this list due to deaths and migration of the listed voters.

Meanwhile, the EC yesterday held a meeting with officials of Dhaka City Corporation and Thana election officers to expedite updating the voter list in the capital.

Meeting sources said the EC secretary expressed dissatisfaction over the slow progress of the task

Chief Election Commissioner MA Aziz urged the officials to complete the task by August 20 as scheduled.

BSF kills 2 more FROM PAGE 1

continued until just a few minutes Barman, 30, son of Khoka Barman

Politicised institutions

FROM PAGE 16 on, which is very unfortunate, he said, much emphasis on memorisation is adding that things will not change creating serious problem and ultiwithout ensuring accountability. mately hampering the achievement of It is not possible to control the activities in some 78,000 primary and

the goal of education. Špeaking at the meeting, Prof Dr M 24,000 secondary schools in the Asaduzzaman, chairman of University country from Dhaka, said Dr Grants Commission (UGC), identified Mahmudul Alam of Bangladesh lack of commitment as a reason for Institute of Development Studies. degradation in education quality.

Local government bodies should When the main objective is to score be given some responsibilities in marks and achieving degrees, being running these institutions, he said. an educated person gets less priority D. Net Executive Director Ananya he said, adding that it is very unfortu-Raihan suggested utilisation of crenate that the teachers are not properly ative initiatives in reducing poverty. Earlier, making a presentation on

discharging their duties. Stressing the need for improving 'Vision 2021 for Bandladesh: Goal 5: the quality of primary education, the To have a skilled and a creative UGC chairman said it is the basic workforce.' Debapriva Bhattacharva. foundation to prepare skilled human executive director of CPD, stressed resources the need for universal access to

Prof Shaheda Obaid, former education up to the secondary level. chairperson of Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Dhaka, education should be given to every said the governing body and managechild irrespective of his or her family ment of the educational institutions are income level, gender, religion, ethnichighly politicised and it is one of the ity or disabilities, he said. main causes of poor quality education in the country.

students

Board, she said.

35 crore fund."

able abroad.

underprivileged too.

education sector.

trating more on creativity, Prof Hafiz

GA Siddiqi, vice-chancellor of North

South University, said academic

curriculum should be prepared in a

way that would not only serve the

purpose at home but also be accept-

Dr Siddiqur Rahman of Dhaka

Kazi Rafigul Alam. Executive

University said the education system

should be modified so as to cover the

Director of Dhaka Ahsania Mission,

observed lack of accountability as a

reason for creating a mess in the

university graduates at the primary "It is very unfortunate that a memand secondary schools by offering ber of parliament now heads 40 to 50 them highest paid entry-level jobs. educational institutions. As a result, "It is necessary to keep the sturecruitment of teachers and admission dents as well as teachers free from of students are being done on political party politics to develop an internationconsiderations," she said.

ally competitive education system by Blaming lack of political commit-2021." he said, adding that political ment for the situation, Shaheda Obaid parties should immediately cease their said the present system is creating sponsorship for student politics. 'mastans' instead of educating the There is a need for an education

system where a set of core knowledge Around Tk 35 crore was spent to and competencies are acquired by all improve the efficiency of English students at the primary and secondary language teachers under a level, along with choices for additional programme of Dhaka Education and complementary learning options. Debapriva mentioned.

A decent primary and secondary

He suggested recruitment of top

Pointing to the misuse of funds and Prof Rehman Sobhan, convener of poor quality of the training programme, the Nagorik Committee 2006, and M she said, "I doubt whether efficiency of Syeduzzaman, former finance minis-35 teachers was improved with the Tk ter, were also present at the consulta-Emphasising the need for concen-

Youth caught FROM PAGE 1

him to cut the electric cable to foil today's programme, the OC told The Daily Star.

Acting on his information, the security guards later went to the Shia Mosque area in Mohammadpur and caught Rahim Mollah and Nurunnabi's parents Salahuddin and Amena Begum. Police arrested the four and took

them to their custody. On the youth's motive. OC

peacekeeping force and Lebanese

troops that deploy in the south, but has

not said whether it will pull out its forces

Mahbubur Rahman said they were 'Buying and selling' of certificates yet to interrogate them as of 9:00 under the National University is going last night

Israel starts pullout

FROM PAGE 16 the gunman had been killed. "We will continue to defend our forces acting in the area," the spokesman said.

from the area south of the Litani river. Israel says it would be entitled Thousands of Israeli troops remain in southern Lebanon, and they are not under the UN resolution to use force to expected to withdraw fully until an prevent Hezbollah from rearming and international peacekeeping force to clear guerrilla positions even after arrives alongside Lebanese troops. the truce took effect. Security sources in south Lebanon

Western diplomats and UN officials said Israeli airstrikes and artillery fire said they feared Israel's broad definition of "defensive" actions could lead before the truce took effect at 0500 to a resurgence in large-scale fighting

the recurring floods as well as the The finance minister stressed the need for "really continuing the

rapid economic growth. Replying to a question, he said the World Bank will release in time the bank's Development Support

The fifth review on the PRGF will

Replying to another question,

Saifur said few European countries

expressed their concern over the

next general election, but other

countries like the United States do

know about the decisions of the flag-

meeting on Sunday," she said. "On

Sunday evening, he rushed to my

father's house, where we took

refuge, to tell us about it." she

18 crore for the drilling of two wells. "In contrast, Irish company Tullow drilled a single well in Bangora for \$4 million (Tk 28 crore)," noted a Bapex official "With small but regular investments, except for Bakhrabad which

is nearly exhausted now, these gas fields will continue to energise Bangladesh. The government should always give top priority to

to discover the fields and then

that the committee may identify

some innocent students as respon-

sible for the violence on July 30

denied any possibility of such inci-

some postgraduate examinations

during the closure, Students'

Welfare Director of Buet Prof M

Asked about the demand of

At least 30 people were injured

when the students demonstrating

clashed with the police on the Buet

The authorities accused the

demonstrators of vandalising about

15 cars of teachers and their houses

at teachers' quarters during the

Monowar Hossain said

campus on July 30.

violent clash on the night.

The vice chancellor, however,

The authorities allowed holding

develop them," commented a top official Titas gas field has been the

biggest energy supplier in the country. It is now producing over 470 mmcfd against the country's total demand for over 1,450 mmcfd.

61 schoolgirls killed

62 killed as car bombs

FROM PAGE 1

their state."

received a complaint from the LTTE and monitors were on the way to the area to investigate.

We have got a complaint from the LTTE that an orphanage has been bombed and that 50 children have been killed," spokesman Thorfinnur Omarsson said. "Our monitors are on the way. We can't comment any further.

The United Nations agency for children. Unicef. said it was also told of the incident and had rushed officers from its base in Kilinochchi to investigate.

Ambulances were rushing the wounded, many of whom were bleeding heavily to hospitals, the pro-rebel website Tamilnet reported.

The Tigers run orphanages to care for hundreds of war orphans in the rebel-held northeast.

It was not immediately clear if the bombed orphanage was the same one opened in January by the LTTE's supremo Velupillai Prabhakaran

According to the Tigers at the time, the Senchcholai comprised 11 residential blocks, an area for infants, an administration block, a skill development center, a cultural hall, a health center, a library, study halls and a children's park.

The Senchcholais or Tiger orphanages were first established in 1991 in Sandilippay in Jaffna. The latest attack came ahead of

a powerful bomb attack in the capital Colombo that killed seven people. including four bodyguards of Pakistan High Commissioner (ambassador) Bashir Wali Mohamed, police said.

The top diplomat escaped but his car was damaged in the blast.

In the island's north 15 people were killed and many more wounded when shells hit a church where residents had sought shelter, the rebels said.

The church on the islet of Kayts near Jaffna was hit on Sunday, Tamilnet said, charging that the shells were fired by the military from its Palaly base

"At least 15 persons were killed and 20 severely wounded when rockets and artillery shells fired from Palaly military base hit St. Philip Mary Church in Allaipiddy, Sunday morning," Tamilnet said.

It said 37 others wounded else-

where had also been brought to the main hospital in Jaffna

south of Baghdad.

Officials and relief agencies

expressed concern for the safety of civilians in the Jaffna peninsula, where troops and rebels have been locked in combat since Friday despite a truce in place since 2002. Meanwhile, Tamil Tigers killed

seven people and injured 17 in an attack on a Pakistan embassy convov vesterday, the military said. just hours after a suspected rebel front threatened to start bombing civilians in the capital.

The blast, less than a mile from Sri Lankan President Mahinda Raiapakse's residence, came after the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said Air Force jets bombed an orphanage in the northeast, killing 61 schoolgirls aged 15-18 and injured 60.

"Definitely it's an LTTE attack to the Pakistan ambassador's car but they missed and the backup vehicle got caught," a military spokesman

Four military personnel and three civilians were killed in the blast. which bomb squad officials said was caused by a fragmentation mine inside a three wheeler taxi.

In Pakistan's capital, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Tasnim Aslam told Reuters: "He was unhurt...though his vehicle was damaged a bit."

The blast shook the windows of the Reuters office in the capital. Soon afterwards, the three-

wheeled autorickshaw was still burning as heavily armed troops and police sealed off the area, only 100 metres (yards) from a busy

shopping mall. Peppered with what looked to be ball-bearings from the claymore mine, a Land Rover had slammed through a wall. A nearby car was

burning while other civilian vehicles were damaged and smashed. "Pakistan has been providing military hardware to Sri Lanka for some time," said a defence analyst. 'l wouldn't rule out mistaken identity. This comes after this bombing in Mullattivu. It could be an opportunistic attack when they saw the military

people in the car." Monday is also Pakistan's independence day.

ening the National Board of Revenue (NBR) to increase reve-In the afternoon, a meeting of worknue collection. ers' representatives, owners and

Takatoshi in Washington.

However, Saifur said they did not BGMEA leaders decided that the force Bangladesh to raise the oil price considering the next general Labour leader Nazma Akhter election in the country. who took part in the meeting said

"I don't think they will make any policy prescription that will create inconvenience," he said, replying to a question whether the donors pressed for adjusting the oil price.

Saifur said it will not be possible to put further burden on the shoulder of the people already affected by the high prices. The government will have to absorb the burden.

Zakiganj border

added.

FROM PAGE 1

Amolshid border outposts (BoP) The Daily Star correspondent found the additional BDR forces, who were deployed along the border following reinforcements by their counterpart, were packing and returning to their barracks.

A BDR official, on condition of anonymity, said they have observed withdrawing their additional BSF forces from the border areas.

BSF had gathered a huge number of additional forces, set up more camps, dug new trenches and bunkers, and installed heavy mortars along the border area after the Wednesday night's battle. The Daily Star correspondent, while visiting the border on Sunday, had also inside the factory, demanding the seen piles of earth and a few bunkers on the other side of the border, which the BDR claimed were recently constructed.

Around 20,000 people of 15 villages had been living elsewhere since the Wednesday night's battle. However, hundreds of villagers were seen returning to their houses on foot or on rickshaws as on festive definitely try to come down hard in occassions.

At the villages, the doors of houses were found locked, homesteads deserted and in some cases damaged or destroyed in blasts, trees burned by mortar and heavy artillery shells and paddy fields with craters made by shells.

More than six hundred families who have been cultivating their lands there since 1947, are unsure if they could survive this season as the battle left their crops destroyed.

Asma Begum, a resident of Nafees, Sakib Al Hasan, Aftab Kazipara under Barothakure union, Ahmed. Mohammad Ashraful. expressed her joy with a smile when asked how she felt about returning Forhad Reza, Tushar Imran, Mohammad Rafique, Abdur home after five days. Razzak, Mashrafee Bin Mortuza,

"My husband, along with thousands of others, waited all day to

Credit phase IV (DSC-IV) worth of village Karenda

The bullet-hit, Badsha, was \$150 million and the 6th installment admitted to Pirganj Hospital. of IMF's Poverty Reduction Growth

This is the second incident of Facility (PRGF) and Trade killing by the Indian border guards in Integration Mechanism (TIM) worth the district within a span of 24 hours. On Sunday, the BSF shot dead a Bangladeshi named Helaluddin in take place early next month for the Baliadanga upazila at around release of the sixth installment of 6:00am.

> BDR officials quoted family sources as saving that the victims went to their relative's house in India on Sunday and were returning home yesterday morning.

When they reached near the main pillar 335/4s, the BSF men of Goiripur camp fired at least 15 bullets targeting them, killing Saidul and Shukumar on the spot and injuring Badsha, who narrowly escaped BSF arrest and crossed the border

After the killing, the BSF personnel took away the bodies to their camp and did not return as of 7:30pm yesterday.

BDR strongly protested the killing of two Bangladeshis and asked its Indian counterpart to return the bodies.

ACC, NBR

FROM PAGE 16 the mother of many kinds of corruption. It has links with money laundering and evasion of taxes."

"Despite having limitations we are continuing investigation of all the customs houses including Chittagong Customs House and Benapole Customs to detect tax evasions through under invoicing and false declarations," Munir Uddin Ahmed added.

He said, the commission investigators detected a number of consignments imported illegally and one of the detected containers of such consignments will be opened for inspection next Thursday at Kamlapur ICD.

The customs officials with information from the ACC on August 3 this month seized a consignment of large quantity of cigarettes worth Tk 6 crore at ICD, which had been imported through false declaration Another such consignment of spare parts for wrist watches was detected on August 8.

Munir Uddin Ahmed said in addition to ACC investigators' vigilance, private citizens also help ACC with information in detection of false declarations and underinvoicing

GMT. Then there was silence. and prevent the swift deployment of Israel said some soldiers began the UN troops, likely to be led by

pulling out of Lebanon after the truce France. began. "There are forces going out but there are enough forces that are staying," a military spokesman said. There were no reports of any Hezbollah rockets being fired at Israel after the truce took hold.

"We are entering the stage of a ceasefire. The firing is over," a senior Israeli army officer said over the radio aiving orders to his soldiers.

We are asking you to stay alert and prepare as Hezbollah could still break

Thousands of Lebanese displaced by the war headed south -- some to check damage to their houses, others hoping to return home for good. Drivers honked their horns, and hundreds of cars jammed a narrow road leading south from Sidon.

"I'm so excited to see my home. I'd heard news it was completely destroyed, but even if there's one room intact. I will stay there with my children," said Sanaa Ayyad, carrying a baby while two young boys followed

But Israel said its ban on unauthorised traffic in southern Lebanon remained in place, and that any vehicles on the roads risked attack. An air and sea blockade of Lebanon would also continue, a military source said.

Aid groups said they needed swift access to southern Lebanon to help 100,000 people stranded in the area south of the Litani river, which has not been reached by aid convoys for a week

"With the ceasefire in place, there can no longer be any no-go areas in Lebanon," David Shearer, the UN humanitarian coordinator in Lebanon, said in a statement.

Around 1,100 people in Lebanon, mostly civilians, and 156 Israelis including 116 soldiers, have been killed in the war, triggered when Hezbollah captured two Israeli soldiers in a cross-border raid on July 12. An Israeli airstrike on a van on the outskirts of the eastern city of Baalbek killed seven people minutes before the truce began. Lebanese medical sources said. Airstrikes near Lebanon's border with Syria killed at least 10 people and one person was killed in a raid on a Palestinian refugee

fighters out of southern Lebanon.

Ershad also dissolved the central committee of his party's student wing Jatiya Chhatra Samaj due to internal group has said it will cooperate with the feuds.

key issues including the fate of the two captured Israeli soldiers, the issue of whether Hezbollah will disarm and the status of the Shebaa Farms area, which is claimed by Lebanon but The question of how to deal with

The truce has not resolved many

Hezbollah could once again fracture Lebanon along sectarian lines. A Lebanese cabinet meeting scheduled for Sunday was postponed because of divisions over whether to discuss

The war in Lebanon coincided with an Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip to

An Israeli air strike on Mondav killed three Palestinians in the Gaza Strip shortly after at least one rocket was fired into Israel from the area, doctors said. The Israeli army said it

launched the rockets.

her

Under a UN Security Council resolution adopted on Friday, Israeli forces must start to withdraw as around 30,000 foreign peacekeepers and Lebanese soldiers deploy in the south. Hezbollah must also pull its

occupied by Israel. "We hope the ceasefire will be kept

> disarming Hezbollah. free another captured soldier.

had targeted militants who had

JP gives list

FROM PAGE 1 political situation. Roushan told the prime minister that her party is eager to join the BNP-led alliance ahead of the next election. JP sources said.

Sources added that Roushan, also a presidium member of JP. demanded that the prime minister nominates at least 50 JP leaders as the ruling alliance candidates in the next election. The prime minister told Roushan that she will consider the demand at a proper time. The JP leader drew the prime minister's attention to the cases . filed against HM Ershad on charges of land grabbing and tax evasion. The iudgment on the tax evasion case is likely to be pronounced on August 17.

Meanwhile, JP Chairman Ershad yesterday dissolved the post of his political adviser. On Sunday night his political adviser. Kazi Firoie Rashid. appeared on a TV talk show with Bidisha, former wife of Ershad. Within 12 hours of broadcasting of the programme, Ershad dissolved the

JP Secretary General ABM Ruhul Amin Hawlader told The Daily Star that there is no provision for a post of party chairman's political adviser in the party constitution. "The chairman can dissolve the post and he has done it in

proper way," he said. "I wanted relief from the post much earlier," Kazi Firoje Rashid told The Daily Star last night adding, "It was not a valid post according to the party's constitution"

Hezbollah has said it accepts the UN resolution although it regards some aspects of it as unjust. The

Asma said they had taken refuge in her father's house in Kashkonpur about five miles from the border area. So did return, Kazi Mostak Ahmed of Chowdhurypara, Abul Kalam of Nayapara, Ainal of Amolshid, and many others of the

15 villages, which were deserted during the battle. People told stories about the terrible Wednesday night they had

aged to flee the firefight. "Of course, the blessings of the have saved us, otherwise, many

Uddin, chairman of Barothakure union. "People fled in groups under the

and bangs, flames and explosions

BDR, however, did not allow the farmers to return to their farmlands vesterday even though it was decided in the flag meeting that whoever has the possession of the lands would enjoy cultivation rights.

"We would let them go to their farmlands after a few days when reinforcements on both sides are completely withdrawn," a camp commander told The Daily Star.

to go through and how they man-

360 awlias and pirs of the district would have died in the rain of mortar shells fired on that night," said Nasir

cover of night, there were booms

everywhere but luckily, none of those shells fell on them." he added.