opposition leaders said the onepoint agitation would be their final anti-government agitation to force it to meet the demand for reforms in caretaker government and Election Commission. They also warned the law enforcers of retaliation if they torture opposition leaders and workers during the countrywide dawn-to-dusk hartal on Sunday.

"We will go for one-point agita-tion to topple the alliance government if it does not accept electoral reform proposals by September 18 (the date of the combine's grand rally in the capital)," AL Presidium Member Amir Hossain Amu said.

of a government conspiracy, police attempted to kill AL Organising Secretary Saber Hossain and former lawmaker Haji Mohammad Selim electoral reforms.

of Workers' Party, said the government would be forced to hold dialogue and reconstitute the EC, JSD leader Hasanul Haque Inu

said those torturing opposition leaders and workers would be blacklisted and brought to book after dislodging this government.

AL acting General Secretary

Polls to be held

FROM PAGE 20 mislead the people, sensing no chances of winning the next elec-

will foil all conspiracies against the country's democracy," she told her audience.

The prime minister noted that

the BNP has introduced multiparty democracy and restored people's democratic rights. This democratic process will continue in the future, she asserted.

would again vote for the BNP-led alliance in the next general elec-tions to keep up the politics of democracy, peace and develop-ment as well as carry forward the roadmap of development initiated by her government.

carried out by her government, she said the present government has carried out massive development and public-welfare activities in all sectors across the country.

She said the opposition wants to reintroduced one-party "Baksal" system they had once introduced banning all political parties. They are proceeding in that direction.

Communications Minister Nazmul Huda, State Minister for Labor and Employment and local MP Amanullah Aman and Prime Minister's Political Secretary Harris Chowdhury, among others,

Earlier, the prime minister inaugurated eight new development projects in Keraniganj.

Obaidul Quader said they would cause a debacle for the prime minis-

Chowdhury Maya, the rally was also addressed by Mofizul Islam Khan Kamal, Nurul Islam, Mukul Bose, Abdul Mannan, Abdur Rahman, Asaduzzaman Nur, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, MA Gani, Omar Ali, Maqbul Hossain, AKM Rahmat Ullah, Habibur Rahman Mollah, Kamal Majumder and HBM Iqbal.

86 colleges

colleges and madraras with zero success rate reduced significantly against 131 of the last year. Sixteen technical colleges, 22

colleges under Rajshahi board, eight under Jessore board, five under Chittagong board, three under Barisal board and one under Dhaka board are also on the list of nosuccess institutions. On the other hand, 388 colleges

and madrashas across the country achieved brilliant result with 100 per cent pass while the number was 214

Of the 388 all-success institutions. 314 are madrasas. Besides, 25 all-pass institutions

are under the technical education board, 22 under Dhaka board, 11 under Rajshahi board, five under Sylhet board, four under Comilla board, three each under Chittagong and Barisal boards, and one under essore board.

The pass percentage was below 10 per cent in 19 educational institutions, below 20 per cent in 110 insti-tutions and below 50 per cent in 1,480 institutions.

The number of institutions without any success is decreasing every year, Education Minister M Osman Farruk said, adding that stern action will be taken against the institutions where no examinee passed.

Tax on 3 items

FROM PAGE 1

Garlic has been selling at Tk 70 per kg this week while it was just Tk 40 last week. Dried chilli sold at Tk 125 vesterday while last week the price was not more than Tk 85. The price of cumin seeds rose by

Tk 50 a kg, pushing it to Tk 210 in a week. Cardamom seeds now sell at Tk570, upped by Tk50 per kg. The price of potato has risen by

Tk 2. Onion that sold at Tk 22 a kg last week was selling at Tk 26 yes-Different kinds of lentils were

selling at prices upped by Tk 4 from the last week's. An average 200-gram tea pack now sells at Tk 38 with a raise by Tk 4 while prices of liquid milk packs

have risen by Tk 2 per litre. Isabgul bhushi was selling at Tk 600 per kg yesterday, marking a rise of Tk 100 per kg. A 2-kg pack wheat sells at Tk 60 while it was Tk 54 last

week and flour at Tk44 from Tk42. Puffed rice and parched rice sell at Tk 28 per kg against last week's Tk 26. One kg poultry chicken meat currently cost Tk 90 while it would

takeTk85 last week. Vermicelli too has risen in price by Tk 3 per kg while 900-gm packs of ghee were selling at a price increased by Tk 50.

8 injured in **BCL-Shibir**

Some eight Dhaka University (DU) students were injured in a clash between Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Islami Chhatra Shibir at Sergeant Zohurul Haq Hall on Wednesday night.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) also beat up Shibir men and forced both BCL and Shibir men out of the dormitory following the fight.

Nazrul Islam, Shafiqul Islam and Mobarak Hossain. The two injured BCL men are Shariful Islam and

were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

in room-3008 of the dormitory's extension building around 10:45pm when a BCL activist told his Shibir roommate not to subscribe to a pro-Jamaat newspaper to the room.

They were involved in a scuffle that ignited chases and counter chases between their organisations' activists in the dormitory The BCL men beat up dormitory unit Shibir President Abdul Kuddus and another Shibir activist and vandalised 10 rooms where Shibir men stayed in.

The Shibir men beat up Shariful and Bakul and vandalised a num-

FROM PAGE 20

on Wednesday. The police kicked the veteran AL leader on the belly and charged batons on his lower abdomen, witnesses said.

visited the Apollo Hospital to see Saber Chowdhury yesterday.
"Despite knowing his identity,

the police attacked him in a planned way to kill him," Joy told reporters during the visit.

Saber said, "The police became

aggressive when I told them my

Haji Mohammad Selim and the Trauma Centre to see Chhatra League and Jubo League leaders, who were also injured during the opposition programme. Family members of Haji Selim are

nowtrying to send him to Bangkok or. Delhi for better treatment.

Bullet-hit, Yusuf ran to our

sister's house where he collapsed," said the victim's elder brother MA he died on the way, he added.

BNP and its front organisations leaders planned and killed Yusuf as part of their conspiracy to diminish their (Swechchhasebak League) organisational power in the area.

He said Yusuf was organising activists in the locality ahead of a demonstration yesterday afternoon

General Secretary Pankaj Debnath alleged that BNP men in Badda area have been threatening him since August 15 and the killing is a sequel to that. Yusuf played an important role during Wednesday's election commission siege programme, he added. Leaders and activists of

Swechchhasebak League brought out a procession in the city's Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday afternoon demanding arrest and punishment of the killers.

Chittagong grabbed the third position with 1,006. Of the achievers other boards, there are 732 students in Jessore Board, 447 in Comilla, 239 in Barisal and 158 in

Besides, 412 madrasa students under Madrasa Education Board was only 23 last year and two stu-dents from Bangladesh Technical grade, like the previous year.

GPA-5 indicates marks ranging between 80 and 100, the highest grade in the new system intro-

This year, the students from Science group secured 6,947 GPA-5 against 4,584 last year, Business studies secured 1,884 against 628 last year and Humanities group

Education Minister Osman Farruk said the number of GPA-5 achievers has increased as students are taking the exams with better preparation. "Now the students know that

there is no chance to pass or achieve good result by dint of copying as all of the public examinations are being held in a copying-free environment," the minister said while talking to the reporters. In the capital, Notre Dame

with 290 this year.

More cheers in HSC results

37.05 in 2000, Last year too saw a leap in the pass rate as it shot up to 59.16

from 47.74 in 2004. As many as 4,12,024 students-2, 31,055 boys and 1,80,969 girls--sat this year's exams and 2,63,358 of them--1, 48,409 boys and 1,14,949

Some 9,450 examinees have secured the highest Grade Point Average (GPA)-5 while the number was 5,509 last year and 3,036 in 2004. Of them, 4,837 are from Dhaka Board, 1,006 from Chittagong Board, 2,035 from Rajshahi Board, 732 from Jessore Board, 447 from Comilla Board, 154 from Sylhet Board and 239 from Barisal Board.

Pass percentages for boys and girls are 64.23 and 63.52 against 60.13 and 57.84 of last year. The HSC results of the seven boards were published yesterday under the grading system introduced in 2003.

Results of the Alim examinations under Bangladesh Madrasa Education Board and HSC (vocational), business management, and diploma-in-commerce examinations under Bangladesh Technical Education Board were also published yesterday--all under the gradingsystem. The number of Alim examinees

getting GPA-5 this year is 412 while only two from technical board have

FROM PAGE 1 Considering the ratio of GPA-5

achievers and total examinees,

Viqarunnisa Noon College stood

first with 45.41 percent followed by Notre Dame College, with 40.11 percent and Holy Cross College

A total of 2,181 students appeared

for the HSC exams in Notre Dame

College and 875 examinees achieved

GPA-5. Viqarunnisa Noon College

had 1,143 examinees and 519

In Dhaka City College, 1,712

candidates took the exams and 290 of

them secured GPA-5. Birshrestha

Noor Mohammad Rifles Public

School & College has 279 GPA-5 students while 955 had taken the

A total of 758 students took the

achieved GPA-5 out of 470

for the exam in Rajuk Uttara Model

School & College and of them 162

achieved GPA-5. In Residential

College, 134 obtained GPA-5 out of

success rate in Dhaka Board the top-

10 colleges are: Rajuk Uttara Model

School and College, Khilgaon National Ideal College, Tongi

appeared before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court, Dhaka at about 11:45am and

submitted a withdrawal petition sayinghis conflicts with the defendants

were resolved with the help of their

court, Rahman mentioned the defen-

dants had given rejoinder through an

advertisement saying that their state-ments were published in a distorted

way. So, he had decided to withdraw

the case against the five and would

have no objection if they were cleared

of the charges, Rahman added.
After the hearing, Metropolitan
Magistrate Mizanur Rahman granted
the petition for withdrawal of the

On August 9, Rahman filed the case with the CMM's court and

Metropolitan Magistrate Syed

Mohammad Mujibul Haqissuedarrest

warrants against the five citizens fol-

interim anticipatory bail to them after they appeared before the court. The

HC also issued a rule on the govern-

ment asking it to explain why regular

August 28 ordering the government

and Rahman to show cause within four

weeks why the case pending before the CMM's Court, Dhaka against five

At the same time the bench stayed

Rahman in his lawsuit said the

all the proceedings of the case until

accused made libellous, disgraceful,

indecent, misleading, conspiratory, false, fabricated and baseless state-

ments against him at a news confer-

The Bol chief earlier had made brash remarks about CPD while speak-

ing at a meeting with the members of

Economic Reporters Forum at the

National Press Club on August 6, where

citizens should not be quashed.

disposal of the rule.

The HC further issued a rule on

bailshouldnot begranted in the case.

The next day, the HC granted ad

In his petition placed before the

In terms of securing 100 percent

A total of 515 students appeared

obtained GPA-5.

examinees

481 examinees.

well-wishers.

defamation case.

Notre Dame, VN

Students from business studies and commerce have marked a significant progress as 1,884 secured GPA-5 against 684 of last year. From humanities, 619 students have secured GPA-5 this year against 297

Education Minister Osman Farruk handed over the result sheets to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office. State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Huq Milon, Education Secretary M Momtajul Islam and the heads of the education boards were

The prime minister expressed satisfaction over results this year compared to past few years, increase in the number of students getting GPA-5, falling number of expulsions for adopting unfair means, and also over considerable decrease in the incidents of cheating in the public

Dhaka Board this year fetched the highest pass percentage of 74.76 and sore Board the lowest of 54.40. Rajshahi Board last year obtained the highest pass percentage of 65.93 and Sythet Board the lowest 44.40. In Dhaka Board, 98,691 of the

1,32,091 examinees passed the exams with the pass percentage of 74.76. As many as 65,511 students took the exams under Chittagong Board and 35,636 among them

Shafiuddin Sarkar Academy and

College, Farmgate Ideal Commerce

College, Demra Shamsul Haque Khan Uccha Madhyamik Bidyalay,

Gulshan Kalachandpur Uccha

Madhyamik Bidyalay, Mymensingh

Girls' Cadet College, Gazipur MEH

passed making for a percentage of

Among the 96,288 candidates under Rajshahi Board, 54,657 came out successful with a pass percentage of 56.76 against 65.93 of last year. Under Jessore Board, 65,511 students appeared in the exams and 35,636 passed. The pass percentage is 54.40 againstlastyear's 63.70.

Under Comilla Board, 27,268 examinees out of 42,785 passed with a success rate of 63.73 percent against 60.06 last year. Barisal Board had 25,319 candidates and 15,572 of them passed. The pass percentage is 61.50 against 62.48 last year.

Under Sylhet Board, 18,667 students sat the examinations and 12.218 came out successful with the pass percentage of 65.45 against last The pass percentage for Alim

examinees is 75.23 against 64.74 last year and for HSC (Vocational) examinees, it is 69.74 against 30.98

BSF guns down 2 in Thakurgaon

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) gunned down two Bangladeshi farmers at Mandumala of Baliadangi upazila in Thakurgaon yesterday morning and dragged their bodies into Indian territory. The victims were identified as

Md Mujibur Rahman, 45, of Bazbari and Shaheb Ali, 30, of Zagiharh of Baliadangi upazila. Bangladesh Rifles (BDR)

sources quoting Mandumala locals said BSF sprayed bullets on the victims around 5:30am when they were irrigating their farm-land. They said the BSF fired at least 25 bullets on them.

BDR sources said the panic stricken locals fled the village fearing skirmishes between the BDR and BSF

Confirming the incident, Lt Col Rafique of 20 BDR Battalion said they sent a protest letter to the BSF demanding the bodies' At least 10 people have been killed during the last 30 days in

BSF firing.

34 Bangladeshi FROM PAGE 20

Sha, was being towed by a tugboat when it sank in rough weather off the coast of Koggala, said an official at the Colombo Radio rescue coordinating centre said.

A navy spokesman said the vessel ran into difficulty and was being towed to the port of Galle, 112 kilometres (72 miles) south of here, when its hull broke. We have taken on board 34

Bangladeshi nationals, including two children and two women," the navy spokesman said. "They are being taken to Galle port." No other details were immedi-

ately available.

Tax holiday

FROM PAGE 20 delegation at his office yesterday.

IMF Advisor for Asia Pacific Department Thomas Rumbaugh led the delegation.

offered for the national interest and welfare of the local industries. He indicated that the govern-

ment would withdraw tax exemptions and tax holiday gradually when "we will find a particular sector has become self-reliant." In this connection, he

think, it was based on false and incorrect information," Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, executive director of CPD, told a press briefing yesterday at five sectors in 2006. According to official data, exemptions in VAT and customs

duty, income tax and VAT cost the national exchequer around Tk 10,000 crore per annum -- Tk 1700 import duties.

in the country is 10.5 percentthe lowest in the world. The IMF ratio to 12 percent by 2008, but urging Bangladesh to withdraw all exemptions and tax holiday.

About the meeting, the NBR chairman said they had discussion on revenue collection, related issues.

people evade tax in Bangladesh and NBR should continue its drives against such tax evasion." The NBR chairman countered

the remark, saying that there is tax evasion in every country of the world. "We also have this and our laws are very much capable of preventing tax evasion."

The IMF advisor also

the failure to achieve the target of tax collection. But this is not the end, there are scopes to improve," he said. In August this year, NBR col-

lected Tk 2561 crore as revenue as against Tk 2391 crore in the same month last year. "The amount is 10 per cent higher this year," the NBR chairman said. The revenue collection in July

Israel starts to lift

FROM PAGE 20 of 1500 GMT at the country's only

international airport in Beirut.
"Lebanon opens up to the world once again," trumpeted the frontpage headline on the French-language L'Orient Le Jour.

The move marked a victory for UN chief Kofi Annan who piled the pressure on Israel during a tour of the region, and was welcomed by Lebanese politicians and business leaders who said it would help breathe life into an economy shattered by the 34-day war.

As part of the UN-brokered ceasefire deal that took effect on

August 14, expanded UN peacekeep ing forces are being deployed in south Lebanon and will also be stationed off the coast and at Beirut stanoned off the coast and at Berrut international airport to prevent weaponssmuggling to Hezbollah.

"It's extremely important for the government and the people of Lebanon," Annan said in Spain on the latest leg of his tour. "Now the government... and the Lebanese people can dedicate themselves

people can dedicate themselves again to reconstruction. After talks in Beirut and Damascus, and ahead of a visit to

Israel and the Palestinian territories. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said it was time to work on a global solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. "It is clear that only a comprehen-

sive settlement involving all aspects of the situation will bring a lasting peace to the region," he said. Israel slapped the blockade and bombed Beirut's airport runways on

July 13 -- isolating Lebanon from the world -- a day after launching a massive offensive against Hezbollah following its capture of two soldiers in a deadly borderraid.

If kept up the restrictions despite

the ceasefire and widespread international protests, saying it would only remove the blockade once it was sure Beirut was enforcing an arms embargo against Hezbollah. On Wednesday it announced that US Secretary of State Condoleezza

Rice and Annan had informed Prime Minister Ehud Olmert that "international forces are ready to take up control positions over Lebanons seaports and airports." Lebanese officials had blasted the continuing blockade as a violation of

UN Resolution 1701 that brought an end to the conflict in which more than 1,200 Lebanese, mostly civilians, and 160 Israelis, mostly soldiers were killed. The restrictions also had a devas-

tating effect on the Lebanese econ-

Shab-e-Barat FROM PAGE 1 separate messages felicitating the Muslims on the occasion.

Bangladesh Television (BTV), Bangladesh Betar and private television channels will air special programme and newspapers will publish articles highlighting the significance of the Shab-e-Barat, the night of fortune.

Islamic Foundation and other socio-religious organisations have arranged discussions, Qurankhwani, waz mehfil and milad.

On the holy night, the Muslims will distribute food and sweets among the neighbours and the poor.

omy, which imports 85 percent of its

consumergoods.
On top of the destruction of infrastructure, estimated to have cost 3.5 billion dollars, Finance Minister lihad Azour said the war and blockade had increased Lebanon's

public debt to 41 billion dollars, more

than twice gross domestic product of 18 billion dollars, he said.

Hasina

our party enjoys, the prime minister is desperate to hold an election," said Hasina, also president of AL.

She was addressing a view exchange meeting with presidents and general secretaries of Dhaka metropolitan AL and front organisations. Former lawmakers of different city constituencies too attended the meeting held at the AL chief's Dhanmondi office.

Referring to the election of February 15, 1996, the former prime minister said, they [BNP] held the election without the major political parties but could not manage to cling on to power.

The prime minister has long been conspiring to rig the upcoming polls as she already knows that her party is bound to lose the election. And having Ershad aboard the coalition won't make a difference at all,"

She said despite rigging in the 2001 election, AL won about 41 percent of the vote. At least 15 percent votes were stolen at every poll-ingcentre at that time, she added. Hasina alleged that the Election

Commission (EC) has again prepared a false voter list, bypassing the High Court directives. The next caretaker government cannot be neutral with Justice KM Hasan being at its helm. It would rather be a B team of the ruling alliance, she observed. On electoral reforms, she said the

rime minister will be forced to ccept the reform proposals.

The opposition leader directed

them to go all out to ensure that tomorrow's hartal, laying siege to Prime Minister's Office on September 12 and the grand rally on September 18 are successful.

AL acting general secretary Obaidul Quader, Tofail Ahmed, Kazi Zafarullah, Abdur Rahman, Abdul Mannan, Mofazzel Hossain Chowdhury Maya, among others, were present at the meeting.

Boy killed

FROM PAGE 20

dle drug undercover and used Yasin for carrying drugs, said police. The poor boy once sensed that his employers have been using him in an unethical business. On Tuesday he refused to carry drugs

anymore. Nurul and Hossain then beat him up mercilessly and broke his hands and legs. The poor father Amir could not

treat his son until yesterday eve-ning when the boy succumbed to his injuries.

After Amir filed a case in this connection, Demra police arrested the two employers.

1 killed, 100 hurt

workers when they attacked the onduty law enforcers, eyewitnesses

Police and APBn members went into action at 11:10am when they came under attack by agitating workers near People's Jute Mills, Assistant Commissioner Zahur Chowdhury of Khulna Metropolitan Police said, adding that workers pelted them with stones and brick-

bats recklessly. Convener of Patkal Sangram Parishad Sarder Motaharuddin, on the other hand, said workers became furious when law enforcers chased them at the time of laying siege to People's Jute Mills as part of their movement for getting arrear wages and salaries of eight jute mills of Khulna-Jessore industrial belt.

Many shops and vehicles were damaged during the clashes. Unruly workers also damaged Khalishpur Wonderland, a recreation spot for children.

The fierce clashes disturbed normal life at Khalishpur and forced suspension of production at Khulna Hardboard Mill at 11:00am yester-

Workers and employees of eight

strike since Wednesday demandin arrear wages and salaries. They have cut off water supply

deprived them of essential services including use of official transport since Wednesday as pressure taction to realise their demands. Huge security forces have been deployed at tense Khalishpur indus

trial belt. Earlier on Wednesday evening pitched battles between law enforcers and unruly workers at Khalishpur

Industrial Area blocked the Dhaka Chittagong highway for eight hours yesterday, disrupting traffic on the busy route to the seaport.

assurance from the government

high-ups of fulfilling the demand of theworkers.

regions, raising the spectre of an Iraq formally divided into Kurdish, Sunni

and the debate was already expected

a rival bill, which was expected to

water down autonomy provisions in

favour of a stronger central govern-

Sunni lawmakers also submitted

US hands over

to take place last Saturday, but was delayed amid wrangling on the Iraqi side over who should sign the accord with the Americans on behalf of the government. Violence has continued to rage

across the country, particularly in and around the capital, which is in rival Sunni and Shia factions.

into a police fuel depot in the town centre, killing at least 12 policemen, said interior ministry spokesman Brigadier General Abdul Karim Further bomb and gun attacks

concept of autonomous regions.

Hasina, also said the AL chief called terinthe coming election. Chaired by city 14-party Convenor Mofazzel Hossain steps to compel the government to go for electoral reforms. At the Muktangon rally, the

Tofail Ahmed alleged that as part

during the Wednesday's siege programme. He feared a situation of confrontation if the government hands over power to a caretaker government without implementing Rashed Khan Menon, president

"But the people are united in favour of politics of democracy, peace and development, and they

Khaleda hoped that people

Listing the development works

Updated list drafts

(CEC) MA Aziz claimed on Monday that the EC has done its "best" in updating the voterlist. Sarkar, however, said yesterday, "It is my honest confession-the task for updating the voter list was not done the way it should have been...I have doubts over the process of

deleting names from the existing voter list The documents disclosed by the EC Secretariat shows that 2,11,63,408 persons have registered their names as voters during updating while the EC officials across the country deleted only 45,08,680 names from

The EC started updating the

existing voter list from July 21 without any procedure to examine the authenticity of the applications received by its field officials during door-to-doorvisits.

The field level task for updating the voter list was completed on September 10 allegedly keeping many eligible people across the country out of the list. Allegations

were also raised for registering under-age people and Rohingya refugees.
The updated voter list witnessed a

huge rise in fresh listing of names in some ECadministrative regions.

The percentage of registered names in Dhaka region is 37.19, in Chittagong region 30.44, and in Comillaregion 30.73. The six other regions--Rangpur Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Mymensingh and Sylhet--witnessed 24-25 per cent rise in the number of

freshlyregistered voters. In Dhaka region, 11.55 per cent names were deleted while in other regions the percentage is between 3 In the capital, the percentage of rise in the number of voters is even more astounding. The percentage of fresh registration in Cantonment area is 77.83, in Motijheel 74.26, Pallabi 73.96, Dhanmondi 72.66, Mirpur 71.92, and Uttara 68.96. The Kotwali area, however, witnessed only 28.52 per cent rise while other areas witnessed 45-61 per cent rise.

The average percentage of dele-tion in the capital is 33.62. Dhaka had about 29 lakh voters in the existing voter list. The abolished draft voter list witnessed 37 lakh voters while the updated list now has 45.35 lakh voters in the capital. The EC secretary said they will

take actions if they find any error in

Secretariat said

THEBBSREPORT

the updated voter list. However, the EC has no plan to examine the unusual rise in the number of voters in the updated voter list, sources at the EC

The BBS report shows the number of people aged 18 years and above-the age for a person to be eligible for voting--should be maximum 8.02 crore if no deaths occur during the last five years and every eligible person is listed. The calculation is based on the

mentary elections.

The report showed the number of people in the age bracket of 13 years and above at 8.02 crore. Those who were 13 years in 2001 have reached the voting age in 2006, five years downtheline. So, there is no way that the num

ber of voters in 2006 could go above this figure. In fact, it should be less

2001 BBS census report completed

soon after the previous voter list was

prepared ahead of the last parlia-

than 8.02 crore as at least 10 lakh people in the age group died in the last five years. Moreover, if the standard calculation--that at least 5 per cent voters do not get listed for various reasons--is factored in, then another 40 lakh would be reduced, meaning, the actual number of voters should be

around 7.5 crore. The voter list prepared in 2000 also triggered controversy over the number of voters. The European Union (EU) in a letter to the then CEC MA Syed noted that the voter list included a staggering 1.3 crore ghost" voters In September 2003, the EU said

the number of 7.48 crore voters is too

high in a population of 13 crore. It

argued that 55 per cent of Bangladeshis are aged over 15 years. So, even if the eligibility age is reduced to 15 years, the maximum number of voters cannot be more than 7.15 crore. CEC MA Aziz referred on several occasions to the EU letter defending his move for preparing a fresh voter list even by ignoring High Court directives for revising the existing

clash at DU DU CORRESPONDENT

Of the eight injured, six were Shibir men while two were BCL activists. The injured Shibir men are Abdul Kuddus, Shibir hall unit president, Shimul, Abu Taiyeb,

Sources said five of the injured

Sources said the clash erupted

Injured Saber

Meanwhile, Sajib Wajed Joy, son of AL President Sheikh Hasina,

Joy also visited Bangladesh Medical College and Hospital to see city AL Organising Secretary

exams in Dhaka College and 258 of them received GPA-5. In Dhaka Swechchhasebak Commerce College 227 obtained GPA-5 out of 1,437 examinees ple some 20 vards off his sister's In Ideal School and College, nouse at Post Office Goli at around Motifheel, 193 students obtained GPA-5 out of 799 examinees while in Holy Cross College 175 students

Gani. Relatives and locals rushed Hospital (DMCH) immediately, but Badda Swechchhasebak League president Shafiq Mollah alleged that

at Muktangon. Swechchhasebak League

GPA-5 getters FROM PAGE 1 ranked second with 2,035 and

secured GPA-5, while the number Education Board achieved the

secured 619 against 297 last year.

with 37.23 percent. Arif College, Keraniganj Doleshwar Abdul Mannan Adarsha Mahabidyalay and Mirzapur Cadet Birshrestha Noor Mohammad Rifles Public School & College, Dhaka College, Dhaka Commerce College, Motijheel Ideal School and In terms of having the highest College, Holy Cross College, Rajuk number of GPA-5 scorers in colleges under Rajshahi Board, Rajshahi New Uttara Model School and College, and Residential Model College are Government Degree College stood also in the top-10 list of high GPA-5 first with 350 GPA-5 achievers (Grade Point Average) scorers in Rangpur Cantonment Public Schoo respective positions. and College was second with 180

139 GPA-5 scorers. Comilla Victoria Government College has 131 GPA-5 achievers, Comilla Ispahani Public School and College has 44 GPA-5 scorers and Comilla Cadet College has 44 GPA-5 hievers under Comilla Board. In Jessore board, Jessore Cantonment College has 114 GPA-5 scorers, Khulna Government Girls'

GPA-5 students and Bogra Government AH College third with

In Chittagong Board, Chittagong College has 299 GPA-5 scorers, Chittagong Government Hazi Muhammad Mohsin College has 158 GPA-5 scorers and Chittagong Ispahani Public School & College has 36 GPA-5 achievers.

In Barisal Board, Barisal Amritalal

College has 50 GPA-5 achievers and Jhenidah Cadet College has 43 GPA-5

Dey College has 72 GPA-5 achievers, Barisal Government Girls' College has 31 GPA-5 scorers and Barisal Cadet College has 31 GPA-5 achiev-In Sylhet Board, Sylhet MC College with 39 GPA-5 achievers stood first, Sylhet Cadet College with 36 GPA-5 achievers stood second and Sylhet Government Women's

BoI chief drops case

members of the board of trustees of CPD. We welcome the move as, we

College with 28 GPA-5 achievers stood third.

officein Dhaka. CPD hopes that all propaganda and malign involving it and its activities will be stopped after withdrawal of the case and all the policy debates should be conducted with respect and etiquette, hesaid. As a research organisation, CPD wants to assure all that it would con-

tinue its role objectively in reviewing

policies including investment based on facts and statistics for the economic

development of the country and in the interest of the people, Debapriya "Regarding the recent exchanges between CPD and the Bol Executive Chairman, we agree that there has been a misunderstanding and we would like to move forward," a joint statement signed by Debapriya and

Mahmudur Rahman, executive chair-

"To this end, the case against the

man of Board of Investment said.

CPD trustees has been withdrawn," the statement said, adding, "Both sides regret any inconvenience caused to "CPD will continue its debate on foreign investment and the executive chairman of BoI will also continue his debate," Debapriya said, adding that there is no harm if the debate contin-

ues. "But CPD will not make any con-

and it never tarnished anyone's image

tance from none was sought to reach

He said CPD did not do any wrong

On another question, he said assis

cessionaboutitsrole

anunderstanding. are also our well-wishers took an initiative and we have honoured it." he UNB adds: "The process of the

The NBR chairman said tax exemptions and tax holiday are

informed that the government withdrew tax exemption facilities from 11 sectors in 2004, from seven sectors in 2005 and from

crore in income tax, Tk 5890 crore in VAT and the remainder in At present, the tax-GDP ratio has been pressing to increase the

reforms of the NBR and other Replying to a question after the meeting, IMF advisor Thomas Rumbaugh said: "Too many

expressed his dissatisfaction over

and electricity connection for the families of the mill officials and

and Daulatpur left at least 30 people injured. UNB adds: Around 20,000 workers of seven jute mills in Sitakunde

Sources said the workers put up barricades on the highway a 8:00am demanding payment of all The barricades were withdrawn in the afternoon following an

The ceremony had been scheduled

the grip of a vicious turf war between On Thursday, a suicide bomber ploughed his explosives-laden car

around the country, including sev-eral more explosions in Baghdad, brought Thursday's death toll around Iraq to at least 39.

This idea is fiercely opposed by many Sunnis, who fear being marooned in Iraq's barren western and central regions while rival groups exploit Iraq's rich oil reserves,

and Shia camps.

tobestormy.

Political tensions were raised still further with the kidnapping of a nephew of the 275-member assemly's Sunni Islamist speaker Mahmud al-Mashhadani, a virulent opponent of US forces and of the

Gunmen abducted Ahmed al-Mashhadani last night from the western Hurriyah neighbourhood," interior ministry spokesman Brigadier General Abdul Karim Khalaftold AFP

negotiation started a week ago and diplomats of USA, UK, Australia and he branded the civil society think-tank The EC prepared and published the draft of the fresh voter list on May College topped the GPA-5 achiev-Canada, and the UNDP representaas 'a conspirator and a shameless liar' ers' list with 875 students, and accused it of maligning the countive in Bangladesh had taken the Viqarunnisa Noon College ranked second with 519 and Dhaka City and August this year was Th try and of making Bangladesh's ecoinitiative to reach a settlement. It got 3, but the Supreme Court on May 23 The fractious parliament was due 5007.5 crore, which is Tk 447.70 to debate a bill proposed by Shia lawmakers that would allow provnomicdevelopment'complex'. a concrete shape two days ago," declared it illegal as there is no provi-The executive chairman of Bol has sion in the electoral laws for prepar-College grabbed the third position Mahmudur Rahman told reporters crore more than the same period withdrawn the case filed against five at a briefing yesterday. inces to merge into autonomous ing a fresh voter list. last year.