Blockade

joined by Jatiya Oikya Front comprising Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Jativa Oikya Mancha and Bangladesh Tariqat Federation, resumed the blockade demanding EC reconstitution as the third deadline for President and Chief Adviser lajuddin Ahmed to meet its 11-point demand ended on

THE CAPITAL

With the daybreak, blockade enforcers took position at different intersections in the capital to block vehicular movement. They also set up makeshift podiums on trucks at many places and on streets at other places.

Folk singers were rendering parody during intervals of speeches by leaders. At some places, satires were read out to cheer up the gather-

Leaders of the 14-party and LDP delivered speeches throughout the day yesterday with intervals, assuring their supporters of an imminent victory. The participants were also seen dancing at almost every blockade

A good number of general people

were seen at these points.

The participants chanted slogans at the top of their voice, especially while burning the effigy of the CEC. Some of them even kicked the effi-

At Mirpur 10, Mirpur-1, Gabtoli, Shyamoli, Sukrabad, Russell Square and Paltan, singers rendered parody criticising the CEC. At some places, blockade rallies turned into election campaign rallies. The singers also v depicted the agony of people during the five-year rule of BNP-Jamaat alliance.

On the Supreme Court (SC) premises, the SC Bar Association (SCBA) leaders addressed a rally. Many lawyers rendered songs that once cheered up people during the Liberation War.

At Russell Square, pickets torched a private car whilew at Shyamoli, they vandalised a CNG-run autorickshaw.

At Amin Bazar ghat, a good number of fertiliser bags sent from Chittagong were seen piled up. Usually about 50 trucks carry fertiliser from here everyday.
In front of the BNP central office at

Nava Paltan, a small rally of party men were held and there was a similar rally of Jamaat about 100 yards away. The 14-party leaders held rallies at

and Muktangon throughout the day. Police vesterday removed the barricade they put up at the entrance to Muktangon. Jubo League later set up

Participants were in a jolly mood as they expected that the CEC would resign any time.

Vehicles except rickshaws, vans and emergency transports were not atrabari-Savedabad-Kanchpur areas on Dhaka-Chittagong highway. Leaders and activists of 14-party

and LDP took to the highway in pro-

Almost all the shops excepting some medicine and food stores remained closed during the blockade in Old Dhaka.

Pickets vandalised a passenger

BOGRAVIOLENCE

While Islami Chhatra Shibir activists were marching in a procession to join a meeting of the four-party alliance at

BNP men attack

activists Md Naim Chowdhury, 30, and Abu Sama, 30, and JCD activist Abdul Kader, 26, was critical and they were undergoing treatment at CMCH.

Sources said the BNP men brought Naim out of his house and cut his tendons.

LDP RALLY Addressing the rally, Oli Ahmed called upon the people to fight

against the widespread corruption, terrorism and injustice. He said he made a great blunder by recommending Gazi Shahiahan

for nomination before the 1996 elections. Oli declared M Yakub Ali, convenor of Patiya upazila LDP, as his party's candidate from Patiya for the

next election and sought vote for Former state minister Ridwan Ahmed and LDP central leader Shahadat Hossain Salim also spoke at the rally presided over by Yakub Satmatha in the town, some unidentified people threw a cocktail at them

yesterday morning.
Agitated Shibir workers later attacked a 14-party gathering near the AL office, stormed into the office and ransacked furniture, accusing those

tried to attack each other but failed to do so due to police barricade between

Dal workers, later threw cocktails on police to clear the barricade, prompting police to fire teargas shells and ubber bullets.

were blasted at Satmatha and adjoining areas during the two-hour clash that left 50 injured.

prevent further clash.

Thana unit President Sarker Mukul Hospital

CHITTAGONG Pahartali area at around 1:45nm .ICD a rally there then, pelted brickbats on

The BCL activists later chased and attacked the JCD-Shibir workers and damaged the four-party's podium, chairs and tables. Shibir leaders Jahid and Rakib were stabbed there. Later, workers chased away JCD-

Raqibul Islam and JCD leader

Rahman were also injured. Reports from different other dis-

GAZIPUŔ

procession were chanting offensive a stone at the procession.

were angered by this act and they vandalised over a dozen plastic chairs stacked outside the AL office. Supporters of the two groups

locked in a clash and hurled brickbats at each other after the AL activists organised themselves and chased the four-party men. Police took position between the

by firing teargas shells.

FROM PAGE 16

They also threatened to go for tougher movement if the ban is not

office for few hours last week.

imposed at a time when the next parliamentary election is approachties of the EC.

They found the ban as an interthe ban so that the reporters could not dig out its irregularities and corruption.

from the EC, they alleged.

India, China

breakthrough on the border issue although both sides are working out details of the next meeting of special

representatives formed to examine Singh said the two special representatives will be asked to accelerate their efforts to arrive at a boundary settlement on the basis of the

Agreement on Political Parameters last year. 'We agree that an early boundary settlement will advance the basic

objective. Such a settlement will invest our strategic partnership with further strength and dynamism," he said. While this process goes on, it will be ensured that "such differences are not allowed to affect the positive

development of bilateral relations," the Singh said he had "cordial, open

and constructive talk focusing on bilateral relations and cooperation on The two countries agreed that the

relations in recent years "must be made irreversible", the Indian Prime

They also agreed to set up addi-

present of throwing the cocktail Activists of both the rival combines

Police said at least 50 cocktails

additional police force were deployed at important points of the town to

Eight of the injured including Town unit Shibir Organising Secretary Shakawat Hossain and JCD Sadar were admitted to local Mohammad Ali

While BCL activists in 18 trucks were returning in a procession to Nimtala in and Shibir activists, who were holding

Fifteen people were injured before police brought the situation under

President of Shibir Chittagong City South Unit Jahidul Islam and activist Afsaruddin were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital

BCL activists Wasimuddin, Iqbal Ahmed, Zakaria, Sabbir and Pavel

tricts said the blockade was observed

15 people were injured in a clash between activists of four-party alliance andAL

slogans while passing the AL district office in the evening, someone hurled Numbers of four-party activists

two rivals in an attempt to defuse the ension but without any success.

Later riot police and Rapid Action Battalion joined to assist the police and dispersed the clashing activists

Reporters wants

imposed the ban on journalists' entry to its secretariat. The EC also barred reporters from entering its

Addressing the rally, the media people said the restriction was ing and all eyes are set on the activi-

The reporters said as the general election is nearing, people want more information regarding the EC and its steps to hold free elections. But the restriction stands as a serious block to gather information

FROM PAGE 16 Bangladeshi journalists being denied the right report in forms of ntimidation and threats by politi-

> "A truly democratic Bangladesh cannot be achieved without greater respect for press freedom and the public's right to information," Warren

> "When journalists are beaten, harassed or threatened for their work, the very heart of democracy is

> compromised," he added. 'Éurthermore, criminal defamation, an inappropriate penalty that brands journalist a criminal, must not and cannot be retained by a truly democratic state," he said.

the government of Bangladesh for immediate action to ensure the safety of journalists, for the removal

JCD attacks

CFC's removal reached there. BCL's DU unit President Sohel Rana Tipu and General Secretary

procession started from the Institute of Fine Arts.

Later, the BCL activists reorgan-

ised themselves and launched a counter-chase against the JCD. Armed with bamboo sticks, activists of both the organisations then engaged in a skirmish and hurled brickbats to each other.

clash, sources said. On receiving information, police

rushed to the spot and charged batons on both the groups to disperse them leaving at least two injured from both sides.

The incident marked the BCL's first organisational presence on the DU campus since the caretaker government took over last month.

FROM PAGE 16 regional leader of their rival PBCP Lal Pataka faction inside the crowded Jalalpur market. They gunned him down and hacked him to death, said the sources.

The dead was identified as Amjad Hossain, 35, son of late Abu Jafar, of Chomorpur village under Ataikula

Locals chased the extremists and caught one of the suspected assailants, Dulal. The mob beat him up and handed him over to Rab 12.

Following Dulal's confessional statement, a Rab team took him along at Dhopaghata in the afternoon to recover hidden firearms and capture his accomplices, said Rab.

Soon after the Rab team reached Dhopaghata, Dulal's cohorts fired on Rab prompting Rab to return fire that triggered a half-hour long gunfight Amirul, Dulal and Lutfar were found

dead after the gunfight was over, The dead are accused in many cases filed in several police stations including Pabna and Ataikula, Rab

4-party protests

"People will not forgive if you fail to maintain neutrality. So, you should not do or say anything that goes in favour any particular party," he told a rally at Motijheel.

Chaired by Alauddin Ali, the rally was also addressed by Jamaat- e-Islami leader Rafiqul Islam, Jubo Dal leader Abdus Salam and Shirin

From another rally held at Tejgaon former state minister and Jubo Dal president Barkat Ullah Bulu criticised the advisers to the CG saying, " They are busy meeting some illogical demands, which is not their duty. But they are not doing what they should as regards holding the next lection properly"

Presided over by Jalal Ahmed, local BNP and Jamaat leaders addressed the rally, followed by a

Ramna thana BNP also held a rally Mouchak crossing and brought out procession led by DCC Ward CommissionerArifulIslamArif.

Similar programmes were held at Dholaikhal, Nayabazar, Hossain Market in Badda Mohammadour BRTC bus stand, Mirupur Mazar crossing, near the New Market and at many other places.

Ershad says

FROM PAGE 1 trial of the case, the ones willing to humiliate him in front of the society had implicated him in the case. And therefore, he was seeking acquittal of the

charges in the case.
On July 17, 1990 (when Ershad was the then president of the country). a team of customs officials held four people including two foreign nationals at Zia International Airport while

Bangladesh, the prosecution said. Asmuggling case was filed with the Cantonment Police Station the same day against the four -- Bernhard Rudiger of Germany, David Anthony Chalmar Chaker of England, then manager of the Zia International Airport Maj (Retd) Ashraf Uddin Sekender and Abu Taher, a security

guard of the airport. Ershad's name was not in the FIR (First Information Report) that was the supplementary charge sheet as an abettor during the ongoing trial.

Rudiger, Chalmar Chaker, Ashraf and Taher were convicted and sent to prison on different terms on May 14,

1992. The trial against Ershad did not start due to a stay order from the High

Court. Ershad was acquitted and discharged of four graft cases in last August and September amid speculations of his joining the four-party alli-

lajuddin

FROM PAGE 1 the armed forces for their outstanding role in facing national crises apart from performing their professional duties.

mentioned the role of the armed forces in UN peacekeeping missions and said they have upheld the image of Bangladesh abroad playing an active role in establishing international peace. He said the government has

taken up a massive programme to make the armed forces more capable of facing the challenges of the 21st century. "We must attain the expected quality through implementation of the programme. Inshallah, we'll work

together and tirelessly to achieve

that goal," the president said

14-party demands

parties, donor agencies, foreign diplomats and international communities want reconstitution of the EC. so that, the next election could be held in a free and fair manner.

Referring to the BNP chairperson's demand for announcement of election schedule without delay, Jalil said sensing a certain debacle in the upcoming elections, the BNP-Jamaat alliance wants quick declaration of election schedule so that they can make arrangements for their plan to rig the election.

All the political parties and the people of Bangladesh are united they would not allow any rigged elections be held in the country, Jalil stated. He said the BNP-Jamaat alliance

has resorted to conspiracies as a

congenial atmosphere for a free and

fair election is being created. The AL leader alleged the Hawa Bhaban, an office of the BNP, has brought identified terrorists to the capital to attack 14-party rallies and create anarchy in the country.

Claiming notorious criminal Subrata Bain was released on Hawa Bhaban's request after he was arrested at a city hotel recently, Jalil demanded immediate investigation into the matter.

He also accused "Hawa Bhaban godfathers Ilias Ali and Gias Uddin Al Mamun" of conspiring to attack fourparty rallies so that the 14-party alliance could be blamed for the attacks. Referring to attacks on minority communities in different southern

districts, Jalil demanded the presi-

dent to take immediate actions to

stop attacks and harassments of minorities. He also demanded security for the minority community during the elections. Jalil protested against a news item on newspapers about the AL submitting a list of 829 officials to the establishment secretary. He said they have not submitted any list and those who placed the list in the name

people, he claimed. AL Leader Abdur Razzak, Tofail Ahmed, Suranjit Sengupta, Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, Obaidul Quader, Rashed Khan Menon, Hasanul

of AL are not involved AL at all. They

placed the list only to mislead people

and the AL has no relation with these

Islam and Dilip Barua were also present in the briefing.

Meanwhile, as part of the AL's campaign for electoral reforms, a delegation of AL leaders led by former finance minister AMA Muhit met Adviser to the Caretaker Government Shafi Sami yesterday. The delegation discussed key reforms issues with the adviser.

Col Faruk

to the Dhaka central jail due to political

The cases-- one under the Arms Act, one under the Special Powers Act and the other under the Explosive Substances Act-- were filed with

During the trial, the court recorded statements of six prosecution wit-

nesses in each case. According to the prosecution, a criminal investigation department (CID) team along with the then officer-Station arrested Faruk on August 18,

The team also seized a revolver, a shotgun, an airgun, a stengun, 616 bullets, eight international passports 2 830 Pakistani rupees and 62 75 Libyan dinars from the spot. Later, four cases were filed with

Cantonment Police Station-- one under the Arms Act, one under the Foreign Currency Control Act, one under the Explosive Substances Act and the other under the Special PowersAct.

charge in a case filed for possessing foreign currencies, as the charge brought against him was not proved. Another court on October 20, 2004 sentenced Faruk to life in jail in the jail

One day gone

Sources said the president will

CEC MA Aziz, who came to the office amid tight security at 8.45 in the morning yesterday and had a series of meetings with election commissioners and EC officials, left the office at 4:13pm amid police escort again without saying anything to the media

about his next course of action. Aziz, who was apparently looking very exhausted, kept his lips tight despite a volley of questions from reporters about whether he will resign or take a leave responding to the proposals of the presidential delega-

The CEC did not attend the Arms Forces Day programme in Senakunja vesterday evening either and cancelled a scheduled meeting with a foreign delegation today, sources said. The officials of the EC Secretariat guessed that the CEC might not attend his office from today amid a widespread rumour that he took a 90-day leave of absence.

Contacted by The Daily Star, Secretary to the EC Secretariat Abdur Rashid Sarkar declined to say anything about the CEC's next course of

The secretary, who also attended a series of meetings with the CEC, however said that he did not visit Bangabhaban carrying any message or letter from the CEC to the president

The presidential delegation comorising three advisers that met the CEC on Monday morning and announced later that they will get a result in 24 to 48 hours, last night said they were also waiting for the CEC's response.
"We don't know anything till now,"

adviser Sultana Kamal, a member of the presidential delegation, told The Daily Star at 9:15 last night. The advisers, who attended the Armed Forces Day's function in Senakunja yesterday evening, were also discussing among themselves whether the CEC had informed his decision to the president, but none of them had any information regarding that. They wanted to sit together to discuss the next course of action upon receiving a response from the CEC

which they could not do since they did not have a decision vet, sources said. President lajuddin Ahmed however expressed his optimism that the efforts of the advisers to break the present political impasse will be successful, the state run news agency

BSS reported yesterday.
"I hope the differences among the political parties will soon be narrowed down and a solution to the crisis will come in the next one or two days," a Bangabhaban spokesman quoted the president as telling the visiting British Deputy Chief of Defence Admiral Charles Style, who called on him vesterday.

admiral that he is trying hard to solve the problem for paving the way for a free and fair election. CEC MA Aziz who has been rigid on his stance of not resigning however on Monday assured the presidential delegation that he will inform the president about his decision on

Since then all eyes have been se

on Aziz to know his decision, but he did

not disclose anything yet. He left his office at 4:13pm and did not visit

two davs.

Bangabhaban since arriving at his residence. A widespread rumour was that the CEC had sent a fax to the president informing his decision to take a 90-day

leave of absence. But it could not be confirmed as the advisers to the caretaker government last night expressed their ignorance about such

ing. It is his personal matter," he told reporters while leaving the office at 5:00pm.

CG won't cancel FROM PAGE 16 appointed officials are technicians and have no influence on holding the general election," Establishment ecretary AFM Solaiman Chowdury

Different political parties, especially the Awami League, have long been demanding cancellation of more than 200 contractual appointments. The caretaker government has so

told reporters at his office yesterday.

ever, reinstated eight officials soon after cancelling their contracts on their plea that the cancellation process was not followed "rightly". According to the rule, the ministry has to issue a notification three months before cancelling the contract of any officer at the Bangladesh

Telecommunications Regulatory

Commission or the Securities and

Exchange Commission, Solaiman The establishment ministry is also considering promotion of officers at various levels who are eligible but were deprived of due promotion during the tenure of the immediate past BNP-led four-party government.

Solaiman said cases of more than 200 senior assistant secretaries, 40-45 ioint secretaries and 30-35 additional secretaries will be considered at a of the Superior Selection Board (SSB). 'Every officer will be assessed

deprived," he added A meeting of the SSB was called following demonstrations of a section of aggrieved cadre officials who claimed that more than 1.000 officers at different levels were deprived of due romotions and postings during the

The SSB meeting was adjourned

on Sunday and will resume soon to

forgery of the annual credential report (ACR) in 2005 and decided to file *r*isiónal cases against them. More than 100 ACRs of government officers were tampered in various ways, including increasing marks, to

give promotion.

CA's apathy

routine work as well as the preparatory work for holding the election. At yesterday's meeting, the advis-

ers discussed the existing political impasse and government measures for a free and fair poll once the crisis is resolved, sources said. "We are discussing various issues

with each other at different times so that we can perform our duties properly as described in the constitution, Adviser CM Shafi Sami told reporters before joining the lunch. The advisers, however, declined to

call their having lunch together a "meeting". "We gathered to take lunch only and Mahbubul Alam was today's host," Finance and Planning Adviser M Akbar Ali Khan said. Adviser Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury did not attend the lunch as

he was at a scheduled programme outside the secretariat, his personal staff said Earlier on Sunday, Shafi Sami hosted a lunch for his cabinet col-

leagues. After assuming office, all the advisers met at a lunch meeting at the state guesthouse Padma.

BNP Chairperson and immediate past prime minister Khaleda Zia bitterly criticised the meeting, terming it "a conspiracy" as the chief adviser was not present there. But Akbar Ali Khan told reporters

Japanese envov

that they had met only for taking

FROM PAGE 16 Justice Mahfuzur Rahman and Mohammad Hasan Monsur were Talking to reporters at the EC gate

after the meeting, Inoue said he exchanged experience and views with the election officials on various issues and preparations for holding the next election in a free and fair manner.

political situation the internal matter of Bangladesh and said, "We do not want to make any comment on it." "People of Bangladesh will decide how the election will be held in a free

The envoy termed the current

Commissioner Douglas Foskett met Election Commissioner SM Zakaria at He left the EC Secretariat without responding to any query of the waiting

Later, Australian High

and neutral atmosphere," he said.

iournalists **BGMEA**

FROM PAGE 1 ultimatum to the president to break the deadlock; otherwise, they said, they would stage a sit-in on the premises of the presidential residence Monday

However, later they had decided

to have the decision approved by

the association members and accordingly, they called an emergency board meeting at the BGMEA office yesterday. At the meeting, the members overwhelmingly endorsed the sit-in programme, said sources. "We will have to go for a sit-in in front of the Bangabhaban if

solution by today," Tipu Munshi, the BGMEA, told The Daily Star. He said, "The majority view at the

President lajuddin fails to work out a

meeting was that we hold the demonstration." Addressing a press conference after the board meeting, former BGMEA president Annisul Hug said, "We must organise the programme as the so-called constitutional and democratic politics of the political

BGMEA President SM Fazlul Hague, however, did not make anv comment on the planned sit-in.

parties has been ruining our indus-

dent and chief adviser on Thursday and then decide on what to do." Meanwhile, in a statement signed by Salahuddin Ahmed, acting secretary of BGMEA, said the board meeting has decided to submit a memorandum to the chief adviser, advisers and the governor of the Bangladesh Bank, depicting how badly the garment sector has

been affected due to the ongoing political unrest. The statement said the appare factory owners and manufacturers hope that the current crisis will come to an end within the deadline spelt out by the interim government. They will announce more programmes it

things do not improve by that time.

Biman FROM PAGE 16

the chair, an official handout said. Meeting sources said the first flight with 480 ballottee Hajj pilgrims will leave Dhaka for Jeddah at 9:00am on November 26 and the second flight will leave with 301

pilgrims at 5:00pm on the same day.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Adviser M Azizul Haque, Secretary of the Religious Affairs Ministry Muhammad Ataur Rahman and Secretary of the Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry Shaheed Alam were present at the meeting. Mahbubul Alam sought coopera-

tion of all for 51,000 pilgrims in

performing holy Hajj peacefully and smoothly in Saudi Arabia. Azizul Haque stressed the need for joint coordination between the ministries of religious affairs and foreign affairs to ensure smooth transportation of the Bangladeshi

Hajj pilgrims to Saudi Arabia.

The pilgrims have started arriving at the Hajj Camp from November

Container terminal

FROM PAGE 16 the cranes for five days during suspension of the Awami League-led 14-

party combine's blockade It will demand Tk 10 lakh as

150 crore in January this year and The dockworkers loval to the city

cancellation of the 'controversial agreement with the private company. tainer handling was awarded to the company without following rules and

regulations. The company charged Tk 470 for handling each container whereas the port earlier handled the cranes with

any extra money, they said.

After getting the letter from the city mayor, port Chairman Moslehuddin neld a closed door meeting with the

CPA high officials in the afternoon. They discussed the latest development and tried to evolve a solution to the crisis, sources said, adding that the CPA may take a decision to resume operation at the CCT without operation of the gantry cranes while not cancelling the agreement with

the private company. According to the decision the port would start operating the CCT through anchoring ships that have their own cranes while the gearless

ships (ships without cranes) that have been anchoring at the port for several days would be removed from

Two large gearless ships that cannot operate without gantry cranes are anchored at the jetty and seven other gearless ships have been waiting at the outer anchorage

for weeks. There are around 6 000 containers full of import cargo in those ships and if the gearless ships are removed from the jetty and asked to go back, the importers will suffer huge losses, sources said.

The containers will have to be discharged at Singapore or Colombo port and then again loaded in a ship with gear. It will cost at least \$4,000 to 5000 per container, the source

It is feared that such a situation may lead to boycott of Chittagong

port by the gearless vessels. The loading and unloading at the general terminal took place yesterday in a limited scale amid tough agitation outside as the 14-party combine has enforced countrywide rail, road and port blockade programme for realisation of their 11-

point demand. The agitators did not allow any cargo to go inside the port or coming

standstill due to the blockade programme. Cargo handling at the ports took place in a limited scale but the delivery from the port yard was completely stopped.

2005, and a rally of Awami League

(AL) leader Suranjit Sengupta in Sunamganjin July, 2001.

leaders and activists of HuJi. who had planned and taken part in the BACKGROUND

begun his education at a local primary school but later he was shifted to a madrasa at his village in Madaripur. He completed Hefz-e Quran (Quran memorising) at Gahardanga Madrasa in 1979. He also attended Sharshina Alia Madrasa for a few months before

going to a Deoband madrasa in India

Later, he enrolled at Aligarh

madrasa teacher and said he had

University and finished his MA in Islamic Studies in 1987. He returned to Bangladesh the same vear but went abroad for further studies the following year. In Pakistan, he got himself admitted to Jamia Yusus Bin Nuria Madrasa at New Town in Karachi to study Quran, Hadith and Figh.

JOINING AFGHAN-WAR

Hospital in Pakistan

former Soviet forces. After a 15-day training, he along with a thousand other fighters joined a battle at Khont of Paktia province on the first day of Ramadan. Hannan was injured in a battle at

Jaton Kella on the 15th Ramadan,

During a 10-month stay at the

During a Ramadan vacation while in

Pakistan, Hannan went to

Afghanistan to fight against the

he got acquainted with several other Bangladeshis who too had been injured in the war in Afghanistan. Maolana Obaidullah and Abu Musa of Comilla, and Hasan and

Salauddin of Chittagong were among

On completing his studies in Karachi, he got back to Bangladesh BIRTH OF HARKAT-UL JIHAD (HuJi) Ìn the confession, Hannan said although the Afghan War ended in

Abdur Rahman Faruqui, the founder of the outfit, had joined the Afghan war again and died there HANNAN'S ORGANISATIONS On return, Hannan established Kotalipara Adarsha Cadet Madrasa

and some other HuJi leaders at a meeting at Gahardanga madrasa in 1994. They had invited him to join HuJi. On induction into the organisation, he was appointed the publicity secretary and soon started working

sion at home and abroad". Around 2 lakh people might have been trained in the Kaomi madrasas schools, colleges and universities. Hannan also founded Khurshidia

He came back to his cadet madrasa the next year. Besides, he formed an NGO. Al Farug Islamic Foundation, in 1996 Since then, he would visit the HuJi

offices at Khilgaon and Taltala in Dhaka and attend the organisation's

meetings regularly. **HuJi IN ACTION** Hannan in his submission said the organisation had already decided to stop the non-Islamic activities in the country and help others in their wars. In line with the decision. HuJi had

UDICHI BLAST The HuJi leader also described in detail how his organisation had carried out the deadly blast at Udichi programme in Jessore.

the Arakanese rebel Muslim forces.

(Madaripur), Hafez Jahangir Badar (Dohar), Yahia (Sylhet), Abu Bakar (Sylhet), and Maolana Sabbir Bogra) were present at the meeting.

sion to the organisation's Amir Mufti They said they had learnt from the media about a month-long programme that Udichi was going to

arrange in Jessore.
Informed of the decision at

Mughda office, Shafiqur had directed

Maolana Abu Bakr, Abu Musa and

Sabbir to go on a recce and report back to him in a short time. After the team had returned from the field inspection, he assigned Sabbir and Musa to make some

and stayed at Khurshidia Madrasa. Later, Musa along with Rouf and Sabbir went there and informed Hannan that the bombs had been kept at madrasa teacher Samsu Hag's house. For planting the bombs, they

The bombs went off between

Hannan said he had returned to

Magura after handing over the

bombs to Rouf, Waliur and Abdullah

hundred.

Anti-Syrian

Gemayel was killed "by gunshots on his

convoy near the Mar Antonios church in

Witnesses said Gemavel was

the region of Jdaideh," north of Beirut.

riddled with bullet holes. Dozens of family members and

classical music after the death was confirmed. The head of the anti-Syrian majority in parliament, Saad Hariri, interrupted a press conference to accuse the Svrian

regime of "trying to kill every free person"

in Lebanon.

"The cycle (of killings) has resumed," he said. He was referring to a spate of assassinations and attempts in the past two years. These included the murder of his

killing was linked to a looming UN Security Council decision on endorsing an international tribunal to try suspects in the murder of his slain father.

Hariri later told CNN he believed the

"We believe that the hands of Syria

"This is not a time to give up. Blood

has been shed to free our country from

are all over the place," he said.

with the attacks.

president Amin Gemayel, a leading figure of the anti-Syrian camp. He was also the nephew of president-elect Bashir

apparently driving the car when it was 1992, many of the Bangladeshis attacked by gunmen, who shot him in the He said. "We will meet the presireturned home in 1989 and 1990 and formed an Islamic organisation styled Harkatul Jihad Al Islami Bangladesh. The window on the driver's side was

at Kotalipara and began working as a teacher there. He said he had come in contact with Mufti Shafiqur Rahman, Abdul Hye, Abdur Rouf, Saidur Rahman

at different levels in places across the The main objective of the organisation was to train up young Muslims and have them ready to fight for the fellow Muslims "subjected to oppres-

Mahila Madrasa, a madrasa for the women in Jessore, in 1995.

sent fighters to Myanmar to fight for

Hannan said they had worked out

the plan for the attack at their Mohammadpur office in 1999. Among others, Abdur Rouf decades of military domination in Lebanon.

declaration said. regional and multilateral issues"

There were no expectations of a

and Guiding Principles signed in April interests of the two countries and must therefore be pursued as a strategic

positive development of Sino-India

tional consulates in Kolkata and

the two sides.
Shibir activists, joined by
Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Jubo

Including three journalists.
Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and

the procession injuring some BCL

Shibir men from the area

(CMCH) with serious injuries.

As some activists from a four-party

withdrawn by today.

vention to their freedom of expression and alleged the EC imposed

The IFJ calls on the police and

FROM PAGE 16
Curzon Hall at around 9:30am when

Sazzad Sagib Badsha led the

Four cocktails went off during the

3 outlaws

Rab recovered a rifle, two bombs

address the nation upon receiving a result of his initiative

attempting to smuggle around 3.6 kg gold worth about Tk 2.5 crore into

recorded before the BNP government came to power. Later, on August 31 1991, the investigation officer (IO) of the case included Ershad's name in

The president also told the British The president/chief adviser also vhether he will resign or take a leave in

Hague Inu, Aktheruzzaman, Bima Biswas, Pankaj Bhattacharya, Nurul

Al leaders Asaduzzaman Noor Farruk Ahmed Chowdhury, HT Imam and M Mokammel Haque were members of the delegation.

Sessions Judge's Court adjourned the delivery of the verdict as he could not go to the special court set up adjacent

Cantonment Police Station on August

n-charge (OC) of Cantonment Police 1996 after raiding his house at DOHS in the capital.

Earlier, on May 9 last year, the same court acquitted Lt Col (dismissed) Syed Farukur Rahman of

a decision and the officials of the EC Secretariat also expressed the same Meanwhile, Election Commissioner Mahmud Hasan Mansur however said he does not know anything about the CEC's decision. "The chief election commissioner did not share it with me. And the issue was not discussed at the meet-

the CEC on May 23 last year, takes a

leave of absence then an election

commissioner will act as the acting

CEC, and if Aziz resigns then the

president will appoint a new CEC.

far cancelled the contracts of 46 offi-The establishment ministry, how-

individually to identify the deprived ones and the reason why they were

complete the process. Meanwhile, the establishment ministry has found its own officers nvolved in the much-talked-about

compensation for per day work stoppage.
The CPA installed four sophisti-

cated gantry cranes at the cost of Tk later appointed Śaif Powertec Limited to operate the cranes.

mayor have kept the CCT besieged since November 12 demanding They alleged that the job of con-

its own operators without spending

out from the port yard. The activities at Mongla seapor and all the land ports also came to a

Mufti Hannan

Besides, he also named the other The meeting had decided to stop the "naked musical performances" of Udichi even if it would take a huge effort, and communicated the deci-In the confessional statement. Hannan identified himself as a

> bombs and use them at the venue of Udichi programme if the cultural organisation goes on to perform musical shows. Following a call from Rouf, Hannan went to Jessore on March 5

Jessore. The two did their parts following the orders from Rouf. 12:30am to 1:00am, killing at least 12 people and injuring more than a

brought Abdullah, aged about 17, from Chittagong, and Waliur, 20, from

friends rushed to the hospital, many of them shouting in anger and others wailing. One woman was evacuated after fainting in the emergency ward. Lebanese television channels interrupted their normal broadcasts to air

own father, five-time premier Rafiq Hariri, in a massive bomb blast on the Beirut seafrontin February last year.

the hands of the regime, from the regime that was involved in killing Rafiq Hariri, in killing a lot of people," he said. A UN probe has implicated senior Svrian officials and their Lebanese allies in Hariri's murder, which sparked protests that forced Damascus to end nearly three

Kataeb (Phalangist) party.

The Syrian regime has denied links Gemayel was the son of former

Gemayel, who was murdered in 1982 at the height of Lebanon's 15-year civil war. He is also the grandson of Pierre Gemayel, the founder of the Christian

of defamation from criminal code and for greater respect for media independence," IFJ President Christopher Warren said.

FROM PAGE 1
The Awami League (AL) led 14-party

On Sunday, the EC suddenly

IFJ unhappy The IFJ, representing more than 500,000 journalists in 115 countries, condemns the numerous reports of

Guangzhou cities to promote trade