Ashik's arrest

From Page 1 sive. I talked to a police official. He suggested that I should talk to some one linked with the Prime Minister as there was not much they could do," said the father of a victim.

Wahidul and Wasim used to introduce the Chief Whip's son to frighten the new 'victims' who were, in most cases, young boys from affluent families, sources

The gang members, about half a dozen, mostly moved around English medium schools and coaching centers, targeting 'O-Level' students. They would force the boys to hand over wrist watches or mobile phones 'just for a few days" and never returned those. When the victims wanted the items back, the gang would start arguments. Within days, the 'innocent boys' would be asked to pay certain amounts of money or 'face serious conse-

quences' on their way to schools or coaching centers, the sources mentioned.

" Ashik would mostly keep quiet sitting in his white car during the introductory period. Wahidul and Wasim would tell the young victims, brandishing arms that the Chief Whip's son would not be happy 'if you do don't do what we say," said a parent.

"All this went on in the name of the Chief Whip's son," said another guardian.

Sadik Abdullah, another son of Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah, along with his accomplices forcibly occupied a house in Kalabagan in the city in April this year. Although police arrested three persons in this connection, Sadik escaped arrest. Police 'mysteriously' did not file any case and the arrested were freed soon, sources concerned pointed out.

Effective ESCAP

From Page 12 more sharpened and practical approach based on the experiences of different countries and slightly improved since 1996. he region.

He mentioned the effort of Grameen Bank and said he was keen to see one of its programmes during his five-day visit to Bangladesh.

He said the principal crosssectoral challenges facing the Asia-Pacific nations in this century are policy reforms and its effective implementation, promotion of growth for poverty alleviation while safeguarding natural assets and countering negative impacts of globalisation.

Kim promised ESCAP would help the member countries, specially the least developed ones in this region to face those challenges in an effective way and also help them to build necessary institutions.

"I don't want to confine ESCAP in seminars and symposiums; rather I want to go beyond that and provide technical assistance in member countries' development effort.

Shedding light on the region's environmental degradation, the ESCAP executive secretary said they want to focus on urban environment problems as 13 dirtiest cities out of 15 are in Asia and urban population would be around 50 per cent in next 20 to 25 years.

The environmental challenges of Bangladesh are not different from the overall regional problem, with exception of high population density, excessive pressure on natural resources and competing demand on financial allocation that often leads to focus on shortterm goals at the expense of longterm possibilities."

Kim also mentioned the high frequency of natural disaster that Bangladesh face and, at the same time, pointed at the natural advantage of regeneration of natural resources due to abun-

Recount

From Page 1 The recount was triggered by state law because Bush led Gore by less than one-half of 1 per cent. State officials expected to finish by the end of the day Thursday.

The world was watching Florida because its 25 electoral votes will decide the winner of the presidential cliffhanger.

Allegations of voting improprieties surfaced late Tuesday and throughout Wednesday, ranging from missing and confusing ballots to problems with tabulations and voter intimidation.

process work," said Gov Jeb Bush, the younger brother of the Republican nominee. "But don't overexaggerate things."

Throughout the state, Democrats and some voters complained of irregularities in the election.

In Palm Beach and Osceola counties, Democratic Party lawyers and voters said ballots were confusing because of their configuration. Officials in Palm Beach announced 19,120 ballots in the presidential race were tossed out before they were counted because more than one candidate was picked. Only 3,783 voters made that mistake on the US Senate portion of the ballot.

dant rain and fertile ground. The ESCAP chief feels that environment in Dhaka has regions to wipe out poverty from when he last visited Bangladesh, although there still is a long way to go. Bangladesh can learn from the experiences of Japanese city Kitakyushu that has successfully got rid of severe pollution.

> About the ICC Asia Conference, Kim said this event would play a positive role in bringing the government and private sector closer in the development effort of this region and also would give Bangladesh a better exposure to

> > Liquor kills 5 in Nilphamari

NILPHAMARI, Nov 9: Five people reportedly died and four others fell sick after taking poisonous rectified spirit in Sadar upazila here Wednesday, reports

One of the dead was identified as Abul Hossain. The identity of four others could not be known. Hospital sources said Abul

Hossian, 35, and a number of people took poisonous liquor from a homeopathic medicine shop at Ramnagarhat on Tuesday As they fell sick, five were

rushed to Sadar hospital where Hossain died on Wednesday The four others Mohammad

Ali, Ivaruddin Ibrahim, Saidul Islam and Khairat Hossain claimed that four more unknown people who took poisonous liquor with them died instantly. Relatives of the victims con-

cealed the bodies to avoid police harassment, they said.

The shop owner Lohit went into hiding after the incident.

Jamaat calls

From Page 12 16 days from 6 am on November 10 to 12 noon on November 26. The commissioner in a release issued to the press said that the order was issued to protect the

people's property and maintain law and order in those areas. The areas to come under

restriction included parade ground near Chittagong college, Mohsin college, Olikhan mosque, Chawkbazar College Road, Siraj Uddaullah road and the surroundings of Chittagong City Corporation, the release said.

The order came against the backdrop of apprehension of clashes centring the 5 day-long tafsir mahfil from November 13 at parade ground and holding of different programmes at the same venue by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), Chittagong city If there are concerns, let the unit, protesting the incident o eight murders, the release added.

> Such a measure was taken to avert any confrontation over holding programmes by both the rival parties at the same venue, police sources said. However, the supporters of

BCL this afternoon brought out a sticks procession protesting the holding of tassir mahfil by Delwar Hossain Saidi. Jamaat-backed Islami Samaj

Kalyan Parishad has reacted sharply to the ban and called a 96-hour hartal in greater Chittagong from 6 am on Novem-

The four-party opposition alliance at a meeting this evening extended support to the hartal

Justice Shafiuddin resigns

Justice Kazi Shaffuddin, a judge of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court resigned from his office yesterday, court sources said, reports BSS.

Justice Shafiuddin did not elaborate reasons other than mentioning "personal and other grounds" for his resignation, the sources added.

Sumon's father

From Page 1

Sharif and Munna Kashai, the two others arrested four days ago in connection with the double murder were taken to the court after three days in police remand. Munna Kashai confessed to the police that he had slaughtered the two boys Mohsin and Saem.

Sharif and Munna Kashai were once again taken on fresh remand.

There was a rumour last night that police had also arrested Sumon, the main accused in the double murder inside Sutrapur Rifle Club on September 15. However, DB officials when contacted, could not confirm the arrest but said "several police teams are now out looking for Sumon and his accomplices and raiding different places to arrest them. We hope there will be some positive developments by midnight tonight".

Wednesday night. His son Rabid Hasan Sumon is still at large. Nasiburnisa, mother of Sumon, is the president of city Mahila Awami League.

Saem were picked up and brought to the Rifle Club where they were murdered and their bodies cut into pieces by Sumon and his accomplices. The mutilated bodies were later recovered from a manhole in Loharpool

Prior to the murder of Mohsin and Saem, Sultan Ahmed was requested by Mohsin's mother to mediate and secure the release of the two victims. But Sultan Ahmed refused to help.

Shamsı murder

Later on October 25, the case was handed over to the DB. Detectives arrested three young men from the old part of the city the following day on charge of murder.

accused, detectives came to know that Ammar was murdered and his body dumped behind at National Park at Gazipur on October 16.

ing their confessional statement with the CMM's Court, Dhaka.

ICC confee

lash against globalisation grow even stronger."

Over 220 participants from 23 countries of Asia and Europe have already confirmed their Conference.

Chino will attend the two-day

liberalisation, Asian recovery and

until his death. Hasina recalled the veteran AL leader's great contributions in allnational struggles including the movement for six-point demand, the War of Independence and the

From Page 1

Abul Khaer Choudhury, Nurul

Ameen Khan Pathan, M.A. Majid,

Prof Pulin Dey, Choudhury

Harunar Rashid, Rafiquzzaman

Bhuiyan, Mohammad Sirajuddin

and Engineer Mohammad

The obituary reference on

Salahuddin Yusuf was adopted

with an amendment suggested by

Akhtaruzzaman. Prime Minister

Sheikh Hasina supported

Akhtar's proposal that the refer-

ence should have a mention of

Yusuf's role as an organiser of the

The House also had a discus-

sion on the late Salahuddin

Yusuf, who held the health port-

folio for three years and was

without any portfolio at the time

Rounding up the discussion,

the prime minister and the leader

of the House said Yusuf was

relieved of his ministerial duties

due to acute sickness he had

been suffering for months. 'While

visiting Salahuddin Yusuf at the

hospital, I promised him a portfo-

lio as soon as he gets well," she

She said Yusuf developed

chronic illness due to physical

torture meted out to him at the

jail during the regime of General

Ziaur Rahman and he had to

suffer from various complications

to be chosen for the very special

job that will mark the beginning

of Bangladesh's journey in the

tough world of Test cricket. And

it would be a moment of personal

gratification for the 'Prince of

Calcutta' who makes his debut

Neil Armstrong's famous

saying This is a small step for

man but a giant leap for man-

kind must be playing on the

back of Naimur's mind when he

first steps on to the lush green of

the famous venue, which will

host its ninth Test since becom-

ing a Test venue on the New

Cricket in Bangladesh, for the

last few years, has become synon-

extent, pride of a nation that

seldom gets any international

recognition. However, the game,

which has become a national

passion since Bangladesh's

triumph in the Malaysia ICC

Trophy in 1997, is once again

going to occupy the attention of

130 million people when Bangla-

desh's baptism as tenth Test-

with Test fever, it is only likely

that all roads would lead to the

popular arena, and all eyes would

be glued to the mini screen on the

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

With the city already caught

playing nation takes place.

weekend day.

ymous with carnival and, to some

as India's Test captain.

Year's Day of 1955.

War of Independence.

Shahidullah.

of his death.

told the House.

The former lawmakers are:

Quake shakes Chittagong CHITTAGONG, Nov 9: A mild

The teachers of the 18 women's colleges broke their fast-unto-death programme yesterday. Picture

shows Food Minister Amir Hossain Amu helping a teacher drink water to break her fast. -Star photo

Winter JS session on

criticised Opposition leader

Khaleda Zia for not condoling the

death of a liberal leader such as

Yusuf who expressed his condo-

Referring to Yusuf's active role

lence at the death of Zia.

earthquake shook the greater Chittagong district today, reports The epicenter of the quake,

which lasted 16 seconds, was 135 km off the seaport. There were no reports of casualties.

"Intensity of the tremor was not recorded," said a source at the Seismographic Observation Centre at Ambagan here.

Hartal observed at Kotchandpur

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Nov 9: A half-day hartal called by the investors of Kotchandpur Syndicate Bank was observed at Kotchandpur Upazila headquarters today. The investors enforced the

hartal demanding release of Kazai and his agents. All business establishments

remained closed during the hartal while some vehicles plied on Chuadanga-Jhenidah route House at 12.33 p.m., postponing under police escort.

However, there was no report of any untoward incident during the anti-autocracy movement. She hartal.

The odyssey begins

Dignitaries from across the

world including the president of

the Merylebone Cricket Club

(MCC) Lord Alexander are already

in the city to be a part of the spe-

cial occasion. Being the first

overseas team, MCC, the oldest

cricket club in the world, toured

Bangladesh in January 1977 to

have a necessary assessment

before recommending Bangla-

desh's case for becoming an

Associate Member of the Interna-

the first day of the five-day match,

which in all probability will com-

mence under glorious sunshine.

The curator of the fabulous pitch

Nazmul Abedin Fahim confirmed

it would be a batting paradise. It

seems anyone eyeing to topple

Brain Lara's world record of 375

should give it a go on this ideal

satellite channel SET Max will

provide live coverage of the pro-

Although no sane human

being would expect Bangladesh

to pull off an upset in their very

first match in an altogether differ-

ent ball game, their never-say-die

supporters would be hoping

against hope that their team will

make a positive start against their

They definitely lack the experi-

ence to bowl the visitors out

twice without incurring a good

degree of damage. An Indian

victory is on the cards, although

one has to keep their fingers

much-vaunted next-door neigh-

ceedings from the big bowl.

Bangladesh Television and

A full house is guaranteed on

tional Cricket Council.

strip.

Choudhury, Food Minister Amir

in parliament, the prime minister

said the late AL leader submitted

a bill seeking separation of the

judiciary from the executive in

the fifth parliament. But, she

regretted the BNP government

the matter without opposition's

support because such a bill

requires amendment of the con-

stitution ... But we're doing every

other thing for independence of

Other who spoke about long

political career of Salahuddin

Yusuf are Forest and Environ-

ment Minister Sajeda

"We're unable to pass a bill on

did not support the bill.

the judiciary.

Hossain Amu, Prime Minister's Parliamentary Affairs Adviser Suranjit Sengupta, Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed, Fisheries and Livestock Minister ASM Rab State Minister for Relief and Disaster Management Talukdar Abdul Khaleque, Jatiya Party Whip Fazle Rabbi, AL Whip Mostafa Rashidi Suja, Mir Shakhawat Ali Daru and Monnujan Sufian.

Earlier, the Speaker nominated a five-member panel of chairmen who will preside over the current session in the his or the Deputy Speaker's absence. The panel includes Abdul Latif Mirza (AL), Mir Shakhawat Ali Daru (AL) Noor Mohammad Mandol (JP), Hosne Ara Wahed (AL) and Shagufta Yasmin (AL). The Speaker adjourned the

other businesses listed in the Order of the Day. The House will resume business at 10 a.m. on November 14.

crossed to know the margin.

SQUADS

Rahman (captain), Shahrian

Hossain, Mehrab Hossain,

Habibul Bashar, Al-Shahriar,

Aminul Islam, Akram Khan,

Khaled Masood (wicket-keeper)

Mohammad Rafique, Hasibul

Hossain and Bikash Ranjan Das.

tain), Sachin Tendulkar,

Sadagopan Ramesh, Shiv Sundar

Dash, Rahul Dravid, Sved Saba

Karim (wicket-keeper), Javagal

Srinath, Zaheer Khan, Sunil

Joshi, Murali Kartik and Ajit

Agarkar. 12th man: VVS

Laxman. Umpire: David Shepherd

(England) and Steve Bucknor

Match Referee: Raman Subba

Third Umpire: Mahbubur

Fourth Umpire: SB

Businessman

robbed

By Staff Correspondent

from a businessman at Road

number 3 in Dhanmondi Resi-

dential area in the city on

A gang of four riding two motor

bikes stopped the car of Rabiul

Islam and asked him to give his

briefcase at gunpoint. The inci-

dent took place when Rabiul

arrived in front of his Engineers

Technology Services Ltd at house

Muggers took away Tk 8 lakh

INDIA: Saurav Ganguly (cap-

12th man: Rajin Saleh.

(West Indies)

Chowdhury

Wednesday night.

44 at about 10:30 pm.

Row (England)

Rahman (Bangladesh)

BANGLADESH: Naimur

BCL leader murdered

From Page 1 lets in different parts of his body. including two in the head. He died

on the spot. Police suspected that Akhi was killed in an internal feud of the

student wing of the ruling party. Hearing the death news of Akhi, former VP of Tutumir College Students Union, his followers went on the rampage at Mahakhali and in different parts of the city.

damaged vehicles, exploded crackers and fired gunshots, creating panic in the area.

In a separate incident, two factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League clashed at Dhaka College for about two hours from 7.30 pm yesterday.

One police constable was shot in his head while two other conexplosions during the clash. According to sources, the

belonging to BCL leader Polash group attacked their rivals who went to the campus to take control of it at about 7.30 pm.

on the rampage on the Mirpur in case of onion, date, dry date Road, attacked a number of and gram (Chhola), said an offishops and blasted crackers dur- cial announcement yesterday.

ing the clash.

The gunfight stopped when SI Mizan of Dhanmondi thana, who was leading the contingent of police on Mirpur Road in front of Dhaka College, rang BCL leader Polash on his cellular phone at about 9.40 pm and asked him to stop his group members from firing, witnesses said.

Soon after the clash, a group of youths came out of the college campus and forced a number of At Mahakhali, Akhi's followers tempo drivers at the nearby tempo stand to carry them to

Import duty on onion reduced

The government has reduced import duty on certain essentials like onion, date and gram on the stables were injured in bomb occasion of coming Ramadan, reports UNB.

Import duty on onion has been trouble began when armed men reduced to 5 per cent from 25 per cent and on date 15 per cent from

Besides, 2.5 per cent import permit fee imposed by the Com-The feuding groups also went merce Ministry has been waived

TOO PIULIE

From Page 1 Dr S Panitchpakdi

September 2005. Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi was born in 1946 in Bangkok. He holds a Masters Degree in Econometrics and Development Planning and a Ph.D in Economic Planning and Development from Erasmus University, Rotterdam. He was awarded an Honorary Degree (Ph.D) in Economic Development from the National Institute of Development Administration in 1995. Dr. Supachai has held a range of positions in former governments,

including the position of Deputy Finance Minister of Thailand (1986-1988) and Deputy Prime Minister (1992-1995). In this capacity, he was directly in charge of Thailand's participation in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations including its subsequent ratification and implementation.

Since 1997, Dr. Supachai has served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Commerce of Thailand and has been actively involved in international trade, playing an instrumental role in the drafting of Thailand's major economic policies, including the national economic and social development plans. Dr. Supachai has also acquired professional experience in the private sector, holding the position of President of the Thai Military Bank (1988-1992) and Chairman of Nava Finance and Securities.

Tadao Chino

Governors. In a career spanning more than three decades in Japan's Ministry of Finance, Mr. Chino, who is an expert in international finance, has represented the Ministry in a number of international monetary conferences as Vice Finance Minister for International Affairs. Mr. Chino was deeply involved in the creation of ADB as the officer of

the Bangkok-based United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and Far East (ECAFE) in charge of planning and preparing for the establishment of a regional development bank. ECAFE was instructed to assemble a Group of Experts to begin the task of translating the idea of creating an Asian Development Bank into reality. After spending nearly half a year in Bangkok in 1964, Mr. Chino submitted to ECAFE papers that were used as a basis for discussion at the meetings of the Group of Experts. The papers showed that an Asian Development Bank was both "necessary and feasible." The ADB's first draft Charter was also submitted to the group for discussion. The Group completed a report on 30 October, 1964 that paved the way for the foundation of ADB in 1966. Mr. Chino said. "My enthusiasm for working in the ADB stems partly

from the fact that I was one of those who took part in the creation of the Bank.

Kim Hak-Su

ment, Mr Kim was the Ambassador for International Economic Affairs of the Republic of Korea. He has vast experience in central banking, development planning, government think-tanks and private sector management, as well as international organisations. Mr Kim began his professional career in 1960 as a central bank

economist, served as Secretary to the Minister of Commerce and Industry in 1969 and worked for the London Representative Office of the Bank of Korea (1971-1973). He joined Daewoo Corporation in 1977 as Executive Director and served ACWOO International Corporation in New York as President. From 1981 to 1989, Mr Kim worked as Chief Planning Officer and

Chief Technical Adviser under the United Nations Department for Technical Cooperation and Development, in the Pacific island countries, including Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. He joined the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy as a Senior Research Fellow, researching and publishing on issues regarding international economic cooperation from 1989 to 1993. He served as President of the Hanil Banking Institute before taking

up the post of Secretary-General of the Colombo Plan, based in Colombo, Sri Lanka (1995-1999). He served as Ambassador at large for International Economic Affairs since June 1999. Mr Kim was born in the rural area of Wonju, Republic of Korea, on

27 February 1938 and studied as an undergraduate at Yonsei University. He holds a Master's degree from Edinburgh University, United Kingdom, and a PhD in Economics from the University of South Carolina, United States. Mr Kim is married with three children.

Maria L Cattaui

vote of the ICC's World Council held at ICC Headquarters in Paris, says

a press release. Mrs Cattaui was with the World Economic Forum in Geneva from 1977 to 1996. During that period she was instrumental in increasing membership from 80 companies to more than 1,000 major world firms in over 60 countries. She rapidly became a member of the Executive Board, was appointed Executive Director in 1990 and Managing Director in 1991. Her role was crucial in the development of the Foundation

as a unique partnership of Public and Business leaders. The new ICC Secretary General was involved in numerous other activities. She initiated the first China Symposium in Beijing in 1980, from 1989 onwards she arranged events to assist integration of Central and Eastern European countries in the market economy system. including a major meeting in Moscow in 1991. Mrs. Cattaui also led large-scale business missions to the Baltic countries and to Central

She represented World Business in the First WTO Ministerial Conference held in Singapore from December 9-13, 1996. Mrs Cattaui, a Swiss, is an Honours Graduate of Harvard Univer-

sity. During her early career, she was engaged in writing and research, then editorial supervision and planning with Encyclopedia Britannica, Chicago. After a spell with Time-Life Books, New York, she was a freelance editor and writer of books, speeches and articles.

JCD: Bomb attack

From Page 1

casts twice in one night, making their viewers wonder about the wisdom of relying on exit polls for calling crucial political contests.

early editions Wednesday erroneously handing the US presidential election to Republican George The Houston Chronicle election outcome a mystery.

stopped press three times to change headlines. It printed too late for many newspapers to the building. The confusion reportedly media in havoc.

also prompted The New York Times and other newspapers to sight, but Vice President Gore University, is very enthusiastic stop the press to change head- and Governor Bush remain about the election. Living in Amerlines that proclaimed Republican ensnared in one of the closest candidate George W Bush win- presidential races in a century.

Several newspapers published election officials declared the race expected to continue into Thurs-

By that time, however, it was coin to choose a president. changes in poll results left the US the democrats this year.

Then, later that evening, it was constituencies of retired people, anybody.

too close to call, necessitating a Houston Chronicle election anarecount of the state's votes that is lysts Tuesday night said that by 10:00 pm on any election night, day and once again making the the victor is certain, however this year it is almost as if you can flip a ing for the Democratic party Meanwhile the South Asian fight for.'

37,000 copies declaring Bush as stop the press. Such unprece- community in Houston, Texas the winner, but those never left dented minute-by-minute has kept their fingers crossed for

The finish line is finally in Professor of Texas Southern ica since 1970, she said that being a minority and a coming from a Third World country, she is On Tuesday, the state of gling for a lead, the race has been a democrat because it addresses

Democratic candidate Al Gore in remains the crucial deciding eight years of Bill Clinton it is headded.

state in this race. With its mixed hard for her to accept Al Gore or "No body can replace Bill

Clinton intellectually or politically, he has done so much locally In sheer desperation, The and globally. Both the candidates are mediocre this year, however one of the human rights privilege is to be able to vote and I have exercised that right, votbecause it addresses the issues I

Dewan A. Ahmed, treasurer of the South Asian American Politi-

staff bus near the BNP office at From Page 12

Sadek Hossain Khoka received that time. minor injury.

However. JCD activists that carried out the bomb attack regrouped within a few minutes and brought out a colourful procity streets.

Sadek Hossain Khoka. Amanullah Aman, Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anney and Sagir Ahmed led the procession.

The JCD has officially blamed the 'terrorists' of the ruling party the faction led by former secretary of now-defunct central committee of JCD Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu is responsible for the attack, as there is serious internal squabbling in the organisa-

mere bystanders when the crack-

JCD sources said the group

to foil the rally also fired several gunshots in front of the BNP cession that paraded different central office on Wednesday evening. Talking to the Daily Star yesterday, a number of JCD leaders

alleged that 'Pintu group' has become violent after the BNP policymakers foiled a move of the hardliners to form JCD's central for the incident, but insiders said committee with Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu and Shahabuddin Laltu as its president and general secretary.

However, the city BNP President said the hired goons of the Awami League government attacked the peaceful gathering Riot police deployed around to destroy the spirit of the "Nathe BNP office preferred to remain tional Revolution and Solidarity Day." He denied the allegation ers were exploded. Some unruly that JCD's internal conflict was JCD activists partially damaged a responsible for bomb attack.

Unocal sticks to 'ghost' From Page 1

performing their duties as Jatiya Party. High officials of the required in the gas filed that caused the devastating blowout at the Magurchhara gas filed on June 14, 1995," the member was quoted as saying. formed a seven-member probe

committee headed by Additional Secretary Mahfuzul Islam to investigate into the incident. The parliamentary committee expressed dissatisfaction over the ministry and Petrobangla, saying after three years of the incident, the government officials could

not found the cause and get com-

pensation, rather the responsible company was rewarded. "It is not the responsibility of the politicians to find the guilty people. There are officials responsible for the matter. And they should be asked for it," a member of the subcommittee told The Daily Star.

the subcommittee, Captain Tajul Islam, the meeting was attended 'projected' costs as 'paid' cost.

by Imran Ahmed of Awami League and Abdul Mukid Khan of Jatiya Party. High officials of the Roller-coaster ride for media "Responsible people were not League and Abdul Mukid Khan of ministry were also present.

In early October, Unocal triggered controversy over the compensation issue by saying that it had paid a sum of Tk 332.32 crore In 1995, the government to different authorities following the Magurchhara blowout.

Later when Petrobangla sought its explanation, the US company explained that out of the Tk 332.32 crore, about Tk 40 crore was paid to railway authorities, tea estates and local people. Tk 158 crore was spent on remedial measures for the blowout and Tk 134 crore was projected as 'sacrifice' of profit in case of future gas production from Moulavibazar-2 gas field and the rest was paid to 'various third party contractors.'

However, Unocal admitted that the 'compensation' actually meant 'business loss'. Following this explanation,

Presided over by convener of Petrobangla had issued a warning letter saying that it cannot use

Police arrested Sultan Ahmed Two teenage boys Mohsin and

From Page 12 after his abduction on October

During interrogation of the

The four Ziaur Rahman Zia, the main accused in the case; Salauddin, Mostafa Almas Bappi and Alamgir, were sent to the Dhaka Central Jail after record-

From Page 1 He also laid emphasis on the role of the global companies, saying, " With good corporate citizenship, globalisation can come to benefit all people. But without it we may see the back-

participation in the ICC Asia A number of internationally famed personalities including the next World Trade Organisation (WTO) chief Dr Supachai Panitchpakdi, ICC, Paris Secretary General Maria Livanos Cattaui, ESCAP Executive Secretary Kim Hak-Su and Asian Development Bank Chief Tadao

conference. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the conference at 9.30 a.m. It will then have six sessions on the following day on oil and gas, IT, commercial dispute settlement, trade

multi-modal transport. This is the first time that regional businessmen, policymakers and economists are putting heads together to chart a futuristic outlook for the region in the context of globalisation," said Mahbubur Rahman, President of ICC-Bangladesh, explaining the reasons for holding the confer-

will grace the opening ceremony, which will start half an hour before the scheduled commencement of the match at 9.30 a.m. The PM will also sign the first day cover of a postal stamp commem-

orating Bangladesh's inaugural

US television reports. given to Bush, securing him the Hispanics and conservative presidency. But as revellers southerners, Florida is a juicy celebrated the news, Florida prize for both candidates.

With both candidates strug-Florida, and its 25 key electoral at one point as tight as Bush-242 votes, was originally given to and Gore-242. However, Florida

grassroots issues.

cal Action Committee (SAAPAC). Dr Selina Ahmed, Associate a political organ of the SAARC countries in Houston, said that they support those who uphold their agenda. "SAAPAC is mostly democrat, because usually democrats sup-

ports our call like immigration policy, equal rights, minority contracts, plus they support our However after the successful countries, they think about us,"