interests: Jalil

hesaid

Being envious of the trend of

economic progress during the

present government, he said the

oppositions composed mainly of

anti-liberation forces were now

trying to destabilise situation to

serve their own political objectives

by submerging the nation again into

the ordeal of the last 21 years till

meeting at Kalihati under Tangail

district on Thursday said the present

government has launched multi-

purpose micro-credit programme

including the interest-free loan

system for the farmers to generate

self-employment for speeding up

remain open today

The offices of government, semi-

remain open today, according to a

All banks and financial institu-

The decision was taken in view of

tions will also function today, said a

the countrywide hartal called by

opposition political parties from

Khaleda condemns

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has

condemned and protested the

arrest of Jamaat-e-Islami secretary

general Ali Ahsan Muhammad

Mujahid and the arrest warrant

against Jatiya Party Secretary

also demanded immediate release

leaders of four-party alliance as the

last attempt to protect itself," she

and arrest warrant against Manzur.

In a statement on Thursday, she

"The death-bell of the fascist

General Naziur Rahman Manzur.

Mujahid's arrest,

warrant against

decision taken by the government.

Bangladesh Bank press release.

Offices, bank to

the rural economy.

BSS, Dhaka

April 9 to 11.

Manzur

UNB. Dhaka

Jalil addressing another public

BSS, Naogaon

Commerce Minister Mohammed Abdul Jalil said yesterday that the basic principle of the present government's development programme is to uphold the peoples' interest leading to overall progress and prosperity of the national economy.

He was addressing a function in connection with inauguration of Noagaon town protection embankment at the local Shilpakala

Local pourasava chairman Akhter Ahmed Siddiqui was in the chair while chairman of the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) addressed the function as the special guest.

The commerce minister said the present government had implemented scores of projects including construction and re-construction of embankments as well as checking river erosion for the overall development in this sector.

equally carried out development in other vital sectors in the greater interest of the national economy."

30 Asians held at Japanese ports on illegal entry

DPA, Tokyo

Japanese authorities said on Thursday that they arrested 30 Asians, suspected of attempting to enter the country illegally, at the ports of Kiktakyushu and Osaka.

Police in Osaka said 13 Asians 12 men and one women were arrested yesterday as they were not carrying passports. The 13, including a teenage boy, are believed to be Chinese nationals. They were found hiding inside two containers at Osaka Miami port.

The Japan Coast Guard said the 17 Asians, hiding onboard a South Korean cargo ship, were arrested Wednesday at Moji port in city of of Mujahid and withdrawal of arrest Kitakyushu in Japan's southwestern warrant against Manzur. Fukuoka prefecture.

The authorities said six people Awami League government" is three men and three women ringing due to public wrath and it detained at Moji claimed they were has started arresting even the top Chinese and another 11 all men claimed to be Bangladeshis. They were found in a room on the 977-ton said. 15 Jang Yung. The ship left the south BNP, secretary, general Abdul ern South Korean port of Prisan on - Mannan Bhuivan also condemned Tuesday and arrived at Moji on and protested the arrest of Mujahid Wednesday morning.

SS Ray joins Tinamool Congress

FROM PAGE 12

up the challenge," said Ray. Incidentally, the Congress has also extended its support to Ray. Some Congress leaders here, however, said there was nothing 'unusual' in the move taken by the

former Chief Minister. One of the general secretaries of the party, Pradip Bhattacharya, said "The Congress has entered an election pact with the Trinamool. So it does not really matter as to who contests on a Trinamool Congress ticket. Our duty is to extend full cooperation."

Ray himself said that he will camp in the Midnapore district from next week onwards. "I am going to campaign really hard this time. I know that our workers will be up against the atrocities of the CPI-M. However, if we can channel all our resources together, we will certainly overcome them," said Ray. He also added that he would like to highlight mulated by her.

the 'terror tactics' that had been used by the CPI-M in that particular district in the last couple of years. "The people of Midnapore have

been forced into submission in the past. I hope that this time they would stand up and protest."

Mamata Bannerjee's decision to nominate Ray as a candidate is based on certain factors: First, Ray is very close to Sonia Gandhi. This would help her in maintaining a 'cordial' relation with the Congress. Secondly, if Ray wins, he would be an asset for the Trinamool Congress in the Parliament.

Mamata Bannerjee also knows that in future her party would have to tackle the likes of George Fernandez, Ram Bilas Paswan in the Parliament. Ray, the experienced Parliamentarian, would be the right person to do the job. That's why, the entire plan to 'utilise' Ray was for-

Appointment of 2 new EC s

FROM PAGE 1

ments immediately after retirement of the two as it would have to deal with many vital issues before the next general election, a top EC official said.

The government is preferring appointment of election commissioners after the takeover by a caretaker government to avoid all sorts of controversy," he said seeking anonymity.

The Constitution provides that the President would appoint the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and the election commissioners ((if any) in consultation with the Prime

Election Commission for Bangladesh consisting of a Chief Election Commissioner and such number of other election commissioners, if any, as the president may form time to time direct, and the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner and other election commissioners (if any) shall, subject to the provision of any law made in that behalf, be made by the President"

Earlier, after a row between CEC M A Syed and the three election commissioners, Syed had said that the country did not require a huge Election Commission comprising

It says, "There shall be an fourmembers.

Development trend

ducing adulterated and fake consumer products of many kinds, there is no denying that the area has some export quality textiles and garments factories.

Kamrangirchar which is rapidly developing mostly in a slum-like ments workers, small traders and various other groups of men engaged in other minor professions. A makeshift bridge connects the char to the mainland. Besides, many char dwellers commute between the char and the city by ferry boats. As the char is located near the heart of in these new areas.

the city, it exerts a strong pull on the

poorer sections of people. Local people living on the char and also in other areas on this side of the river say that, besides the facility offered by the China Friendship An enclave in the Buriganga is Bridge, they experience no difficulty in commuting to the mainland because of easy availability of small

ferry boats till late at night. Not only in Kamrangir char but also in other low-lying areas, private land owners, it is apprehended, may be tempted to erect makeshift structures on account of their low cost, paving the way for large-scale growth of slums attracting poor people. The authorities concerned, it is felt, need to be vigilant about these harmful eventualities so that they do not cast a dark shadow on the healthy growth of urbanisation

Govt upholding public Mori finally calls it quits Hashimoto in limelight

REUTERS, Tokyo

Confirming what everyone already knew, unpopular Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori said yesterday he had decided to resign and former premier Ryutaro Hashimoto jumped to the front of a pack of possible replacements.

"I think it necessary to restore public trust in politics under a new government and deal with a mountain of issues at home and abroad. Therefore, I have decided to resign," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yasuo Fukuda, speaking at a news conference, quoted Mori as saying at a morning cabinet meeting.

The long-awaited formal decision came a year and a day after Mori stepped into the top job, tapped for the post by a cabal of ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) elders after "The present government has government, autonomous and his predecessor suffered a fatal semi-autonomous bodies will stroke.

It came just as Japan approved a package of economic steps to bolster its flagging economy by helping banks to tackle their mountain of non-performing loans and supporting the stock market.

Army camp

Bandarban

Fire ignited for 'jhum cultivation'

burnt a temporary army camp in

Bagalake area in Ruma upazila,

about 60 kilometres from

Local officials said the fire gutted

In the beginning of traditional

30 tribal houses, adjacent to the

camp, damaging valuables worth

'jhum cultivation' season, hill peo-

Bandarban town on Thursday.

gutted in

BSS, Bandarban

about Tk 15 lakh.

BSS, Dhaka

Lalbagh area.

(DMCH).

ple clear bushes by fire.

Bomb attack on

Tazia procession

in city: Several hurt

Several people including a police

official were injured in bomb attacks

on a Tazia procession in the city's

Police said a group of miscreants

on Thursday threw at least four to

five homemade bombs on the pro-

cession brought out by Shia com-

The injured were admitted to

Police arrested three people from

the area for their alleged involve-

A case was registered with

Matin in the chair at his residence on

party's support to the anti-

government movement of the four-

party opposition alliance and

resolved that it would resist all

conspiracies to foil the Opposition

It also demanded of the govern-

Party sources said 11 Presidium

ment to withdraw the 'false case

members including Naziur and

Matin supported the decisions at

the meeting. The others are Kazi

Zafar Ahmed (now staying in

Australia), Shah Moazzem Hossain

(in jail), Sunil Gupta, ABM Golam

Mostafa, Mahmudul Islam

Chowdhury, Kazi Firoze Rashid,

Shah Mohammad Abu Zafar,

Mostafa Jamal Haider and Saifur

IP had 31 presidium members

Banani, Gulshan, Manik Miah

Avenue and Mirpur. According

sources in the Foreign Ministry and

the Works Ministry, 'high quality'

accommodation can be provided for

around 4000 delegates attending the

Hotel is also going on although it

would be completed behind sched-

include expansion of Zia

International Airport's landing and

last Summit of NAM in Durban.

nearly 5000 delegates including

dozens of heads of state or govern-

ment, foreign ministers, diplomats,

high officials and media persons are

expected to attend the Dhaka

Several heads of state would use

Going by the experience of the

Other infrastructural work

Expansion work of Sheraton

before its recent split.

FROM PAGE 1

ule, it is learnt.

parking facilities.

The meeting reiterated the

Lalbach thana in this connection.

Dhaka Medical College Hospital

munity at about 1:30 pm.

ment in bomb attack.

Manzur

FROM PAGE 1

Thursday.

movement.

against Naziur.

LDP policy chief Shizuka Kamei

told reporters the package would be implemented no matter who became prime minister.

"This has been decided by a formal body and even if a new LDP president is elected, naturally these policies will be implemented," he

The LDP, the dominant party in Japan's ruling coalition, had decided on Thursday to hold an election to replace Mori as party chief, and hence almost certainly as premier, on April 24. Mori, whose popularity vanished

after a string of scandals and blunders during his year in office, had decided in mid-March to bring forward the LDP poll, but stubbornly refused to acknowledge the move meant he was stepping down.

Ruling party lawmakers had campaigned hard to oust Mori in hopes that replacing him would improve their chances in a key Upper House election set for July.

No contender has formally thrown his, or her, hat into the ring for the presidency of the LDP. The winner would almost certainly become Japan's 11th prime minister in 12 years by virtue of the LDP-led ward whom he could support.

coalition's grip on the Lower House. On Friday, former Prime Minister

Hashimoto whom domestic media said was likely to run with the backing of the LDP's biggest faction came close to confirming he was keen for the challenge.

"It is a great honour as a politician," he told a post-Cabinet meeting news conference. "This is something I want everyone to decide."

Hashimoto, 63, a past proponent of fiscal reform to get Japan's massive public debt under control, resigned from the top post after the LDP performed abysmally in a 1998 Upper House election.

Japanese newspapers reported that Kamei, who heads a key faction in the multi-group LDP, was making support for a Hashimoto candidacy conditional on the former premier's agreeing to put his fiscal reform policies on hold and to put economic recovery first.

In a hint of that stance, Kamei, known as a supporter of public works spending to bolster growth, told reporters he was ready to run himself if no candidate came for-

PM:Steps against hartals

FROM PAGE 1

servants of the people and not their rulers," she said.

While urging them to work with utmost honesty, sincerity and dedication, she called upon the deputy commissioners to help attain a prosperous and self-respected nation attuned to the spirit of the War of Liberation. "Our prime objective is to ensure a decent living for each and every person in the country," she said.

Expressing her total dismay over calling of hartal by the opposition alliance without any justification, the Prime Minister said that despite her sincere announcement of time frame for transfer of power to pave the way for holding general elections by neutral caretaker government the leader of the opposition gave ultimatum and called country-

Sheikh Hasina said, "We even went to the president and sought his help to bring the opposition to negotiation for settling the issue of transfer of power and holding general elections". But unfortunately, she said, the opposition ignored the call of the president and remained adamant on their hartal-call which proved that they did not believe in election or democracy.

The Prime Minister said, it is now crystal clear that the main objective of calling hartal is to protect the killers of Bangabandhu by prolonging the trial of the killers of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. She pointed out that the High Court remains closed on hartal days.

Cabinet ministers, advisers, state ministers, deputy ministers, principal secretary to the Prime Minister and secretaries of various ministries were present at the opening session of the conference.

Earlier in his address of welcome,

Dacoity at Rupali Bank Branch in Sirajganj

UNB, Sirajganj

Dacoits looted Rupali Bank, Bagbati Thursday night.

Police said the bandits entered the strong room of the bank by breaking its wall at midnight and looted Tk 85,230 and 148 prize bonds valued Tk 100 each.

a case with local police in this connection.

None was arrested in this connection till filing of this report vesterday evening.

their private jets to attend the

ratus for protection of a large num-

member-countries. The current

Dhaka is also learnt to be think-

membership of NAM stands at 116.

ing of appointing a full time NAM

Coordinator/ Secretary General.

Former foreign Secretary Shafi Sami

is tipped to be given the job on a

work for hosting the NAM Summit

should be geared up further. More

specific committees are required to

be set up to oversee the infra-

structural work, arrangements for

the conference and the huge logis-

facilities, translation and accom-

modation of delegates.

ber of high profile guests.

contractual basis.

the Cabinet Secretary Kazi Shamsul Alam outlined the objective of the conference and asked the field level government officials to perform their duties of serving the people with a sense of honesty, sincerity

and dedication. Divisional Commissioner of Dhaka Abdur Rab Khan, DC of Dhaka Abdus Satrar Khan, DC of Munshiganj Quamrunnesa Khanom, DC of Jessore Aminur Rasul, DC of Comilla Rezaul Karim, DC of Kishoreganj Shaheb Ali Mridha. DC of Habiganj Abdul Aziz, DC of Pirojpur S.M. Zahurul Islam and DC of Natore Sheikh Altaf Ali also spoke on the occasion. They highlighted various problems and prospects of development of their

respective districts and divisions. The Prime Minister, giving a resume of the objective of her government, expressed the determination to establish the rights and privileges of the people in the coun-

She pointed out as to how the hopes and aspirations of the people for a decent and dignified living was frustrated after the brutal killing of the Father of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the national leaders inside jail in 1975,

introducing the so-ca lled politics of coups and killing and scrapping the national constitution. The Prime Minister said that her

government in the last four years and nine months had ensured people's right to vote and food through free and fair elections under a caretaker government and achieving food autarky. Sheikh Hasina asked the deputy

commissioners to play an effective role in achieving the coveted goal of economic emancipation of the common people.

Under-trial prisoner dies at Khulna hospital UNB, Khulna

An under-trial prisoner of the dis-Branch, in Sadar upazila on trict jail died at Khulna General Hospital yesterday morning. The inmate, Sunil Mistri, 34, son

of Prabhash Mistri of village Gunari in Dakop Upazila, was an accused in a murder case.

Jail Super Meer Moksud Hossain Bank Manager Rafiqul Islam filed informed that Sunil fell sick at about 6 am and was rushed to hospital where he died soon after admission. He said Sunil died of heart ailment. A general diary was filed with Kotwali thanain this connection.

Summit. Holding of it also involves not yet been addressed is Dhaka's concerned as it provides NAM an

placement of a huge security appa- chaotic traffic system. Planners oportunity to adopt some crucial

taken much earlier to expand some

some fly-overs taking the opportu-

nity of holding such a major confer-

the forthcoming Summit is that

there is no known budget estimate

for it. Asked about the budget, an

official said, "The budget is under

being done from the development

should have considered the feasibil-

ity of holding the Summit in due

time, i.e. September, when it bid for

Summits were held in September. Troika.

Observers feel that Bangladesh

The most noteworthy aspect of

The NAM Summit is preceded by existing arterial roads, construct

Observers feel that the pace of preparation. Many expenditures are

tics involving transportation, media hosting the mega event.

a meeting of foreign ministers of the more connecting roads and build

Hurriyat rejects Delhi's offer for talks

AP, New Delhi

The main separatist group in Kashmir rejected yesterday the Indian government's offer of talks to end the 50-year-old dispute over the region, according to a news agency.

Talks between Kashmiri opposition groups and New Delhi will serve no purpose unless militants in Pakistan, and the Pakistan government, are included. Abdul Gani Bhat, chairman of the All Party Hurriyat Conference, was quoted as telling Press Trust of India.

Hurriyat is an umbrella group of political and religious parties that want Kashmir separated from India. Some demand it be joined to

The group has been waiting for months for India to allow senior leaders to travel to Pakistan to consult with militants and the government there on a response to India's peace moves.

"Unless the center fulfils its earlier commitment of allowing a Hurriyat delegation to visit Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir to hold talks with their counterparts and militant leaders there, no purpose can be served by entering into any kind of dialogue with the government," Bhat was quoted as

Bagerhat FROM PAGE 12

Chandu, 25, and Forkan Howlader, 24. All of them are armed cadres of Awami League and its two front organisations, police said.

Police said an armed gang belonging to the ruling party attacked the JCD leader with ram daos at Munigani.

The attackers also exploded at least 20 hand bombs to create panic. Tito named the attackers to police and doctors which has been recorded as statement.

Meanwhile, Bagerhat district Awami League has denied the charge brought against the four arrested activists and demanded their immediate release.

BTTB plans

FROM PAGE 12

The BITB has also issued tender for installation of a nation-wide cellular mobile phone service.

Initially, the board hopes to provide four lakh mobile phones in Dhaka and adjoining areas on a turnkey method through suppliers' credit programme.

At present, there are some 2.5 lakh telephone connections in the capital and more than 1.75 lakh applications for fixed phones pending with the BTTB.

The government wants to implement the schemes on turnkey basis, as donors are reluctant to finance

BGSL gas sale

FROM PAGE 12

threatened to stop and withdraw all lapanese project financing in the country. However, according to an expert,

the secretaries actually did not violate the Prime Minister's deci-"What the Prime Minister

approved has been accommodated as it is. What they added is the relevant clauses of the current agreement. For instance, while Kafco is currently buying gas at 1.01 dollars per unit, the floor price, is 75 cents as per the current contract. "Since the Prime Minister did not

say anything regarding the gas sale tariff till 2005, it means the current floor price of 75 cents would remain valid," he said. "The secretaries were pushing ahead the agreement on the basis of a decision of the recent review meeting between Kafco and the government", he said.

Since inception in 1995, technical and mechanical failures in Kafco made the country incur a loss of 120 million dollars till 1999.

Kafco is an international concern dominated by Japanese investment. JBIC (formerly OECF), along with Chiyoda and Marubeni, owns 31.29 per cent share of Kafco. Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) owns 43.51 per NAM: Much remains to be done

and to place those at the UN

begins on the third Tuesday in

Durban, two other countries--

Jordan and a neighbouring state

and other related issues.

General Assembly session which

Another major aspect that has This month is kept in mind by all

September.

Jamaat-cops clash

FROM PAGE 1

Police went into action when the activists came out and started pelting stones at them and damaging vehicles.

Police said the activists also hurled crackers on them.

They fired several hundred rubber bullets and lobbed tear gas shells to disperse the activists. At least 10 people including two

policemen were injured. Ten vehicles were damaged and a car was set ablaze. Witnesses said a number of

plainclothes policemen were also inside the mosque in the guise of While hunting for Jamaat-Shibir men inside the mosque, police also swooped on devotees, it was alleged.

Over 500 people were picked up during the clash. They were taken to the Police Control Room at Shahbagh. Of them, 161 identified as Jamaat-

Shibir activists were arrested and the rest were released. On Thursday, the activists clashed with police near the mosque and in Purana Paltan area and damaged 12 vehicles including a microbus of the Prohtam Alo. Police

fired rubber bullets and tear gas shells to disperse them. Police also swooped on the office of the city unit of Jamaat at Paltan and picked up 188 people from the area on Thursday. Of them, 155 were

shown arrested. Police also raided a mess at

Kalabagan in the city and arrested

some more Jamaat-Shibir activists. Muzahid and those arrested on Thursday were produced before the CMM's court the same day. The court sent him to Dhaka Central Jail on one month's detention. Others were also sent to jail.

Police sources said the crackdown on Jamaat-Shibir activists was made to prevent violence during the Opposition-called 72-hour hartal from Monday.

They said hundreds of "militant" activists of Jamaat-Shibir arrived in the city from districts in recent weeks. "The last 60-hour hartal was enforced by these activists. They have come to the city to strengthen their position in the coming days," one source said.

Khaleda

FROM PAGE 1 followers, joined BNP at the function yesterday evening at 29 Mintu

Mannan Khan, former upazila chairman, said he joined BNP following repression unleashed on him by his party, the ruling Awami

League. "At the next election, I will offer the Shibchar seat to you," the aggrieved former AL leader told Khaleda Zia.

The parliament seat is now held by Awami League MP Liton Chowdhury, nephew of Health Minister Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim.

Interestingly, the encounter will

mark Streak's first outing in an ODI

BANGLADESH (from): Naimur

Rahman (captain), Javed Omar,

Mehrab Hossain, Mohammad

Ashraful, Habibul Bashar, Aminul

Islam, Akram Khan, Khaled Masood,

game in a professional way."

against Bangladesh.

SQUADS

First ODI in Harare positive cricket and approach the

FROM PAGE 1

unruffled by the reputation of world class performers like Andy and Grant Flower, Alistair Campbell and a versatile attack led by Zimbabwe skipper Heath Streak.

"They are an experienced side. But I want to focus on our own Naimur hinted that there might

be an alteration or two from the team that played against the CFX Academy on April 4. "We might make changes in the

His Zimbabwean counterpart Streak believed that the wicket and the conditions would suit the home side more, but added that it would be a good one-day wicket. Streak however was not taking Bangladesh

"We are going to play hard and Watambwa.

Al Sahariar, Mohammad Rafique, Enamul Hoque, Hasibul Hussain, Manjural Islam, Mohammed Sharif, batting," he said without elaborat-Mushfigur Rahman. ZIMBABWE (from): Heath Streak

(captain), Guy Whittall (vicecaptain). Andy Blignaut. Alistair Campbell, Stuart Carlisle, Dion Ebrahim, Grant Flower, Andy_ Flower, Douglas Marillier, Brian Murphy, David Mutendera, Bryan Strang, Dirk Viljoen, Brighton

observed

Holy Ashura, commemorating the supreme sacrifice of Imam Hussain in Karbala some 1360 years ago, was observed on Thursday across the country.

Various religious, social and cultural organisation observed the holy occasion, the 10th day of the Arabic month of Muharram, through discussion meetings, milad mahfil and special prayers seeking divine blessings for the Muslim Ummah.

In the city, Islamic Foundation held a discussion meeting at its auditorium on Thursday.

The Sunni Muslims brought out a huge procession from in front of the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque.

The Shi'te sect of the Muslim community brought out Tazia processions from different parts of the capital that also carried festoons and banners inscribed with verses from the Holy Quran.

A procession brought out from Lalbag area at about 12.30 pm and paraded different streets in the

The day was a public holiday. Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television broadcast special programmes while the national dailies published articles highlighting the significance of the

Garment worker

FROM PAGE 12 Nasreen was informed vesterday that her husband's body was lying near Begunbari lake. She went there and identified the body.

Nasreen filed a case with Tejgaon police in this regard but none was arrested.

Cargo stockpiled feel that steps should have been resolutions on common issues | FROM PAGE 1

they said.

"We are very worried as the port has a limited space capacity in its container vards" said a senior offi-At the last NAM Summit in | cial seeking anonymity.

"If the situation does not improve, it will hamper handling of had bid for hosting the coming container vessels. Facilities for container cargo have not been The NAM Coordination Bureau | increased in the last few years while at a meeting in New York shortly is container cargo is increasing by 25 likely to review preparations made per cent every year"

by Dhaka for hosting the Summit In the last fiscal year, Chittagong port handled about four lakh containers against its capacity to handle The Bureau works in conjunction with the NAM Troika which is about two lakh containers annually, headed by South Africa, the current port sources said. Chairman, Former chairman

Meanwhile, consultancy work Colombia and next Chairman for installation of more container Most of the previous NAM · Bangladesh are members of the terminals at the port is going on, they said.

Young man shot by muggers in city

UNB, Dhaka A youngman was shot by a gang of muggers at Becharam Dewri in

Kotwali thana yesterday. Hospital sources said the armed muggers numbering about four fired at Arif Hossain, 20 at about 2pm and took away his mobile phone set and wristwatch, leaving him critically injured.

He was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

3 missing

FROM PAGE 12 three children were killed in a boat capsize in the Buriganga river near Keraniganj in Dhaka Wednesday

Survivors said the boat carrying

some 25 passengers capsized after a

collision with a trawler. They were returning to the city from a premarriage function at Bharalia village in Keraniganj. Police said divers recovered three bodies on Wednesday night and

three on Thursday morning. The rest of the passengers swam ashore. The dead were identified as Nasima, 18, Sultana Begum 10, Roman, 6, Nilufar Akhter. 12, Arifur Rahman, 10 and Rakibul Hasan, 16

of Basila under Hazaribagh thana in

Dhaka. World Health Day

FROM PAGE 12

According to WHO studies. mental illness can be diagnosed and treated before it gets worse.

For instance, Alzheimer's Disease is a form of insanity which destroys brain cells disrupting 'transmitters' which carry messages to cells, particularly those store

It is the most common type of insanity and accounts for about 60 per cent of all mental disorders. There are eleven million people in the world now who suffer Alzheimer's Disease. The figure will double by 2025.

suicide in every 40 seconds in the world. Five out of ten of the most common disabling disorders are psychiatric in nature. According to a WHO document released last week, about one in five

In 2000, one person committed

youths (under 15 years) suffers from mild to severe disorders. A large number of these remain untreated because of lack of services. Traditionally, adults get treat-

ment and the need for early intervention in childhood is normally ignored.

fashion. The enclave has steadily grown over the years with diverse population. It is now home to five to six lakh people mainly of lowincome groups comprising day labourers, rickshawpullers, gar-