Passage of Vested Property Bill

Christian Oikya Parishad in a statement yesterday hailed the passage of the Vested Property Return Bill

At a rally held at the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday, the Parishad leaders congratulated the Awami League government on the passage of the Bill.

Parishad president Maj Gen today. (Retd) C R Dutt. Prof Lalit Mahan Nath, Dr Nim Chandra Bhoumik and Sukamal Barua spoke at the

They said that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina initiated the process to repeal the Vested Property Act two years ago. And the MPs from AL, BNP and IP on the parliamentary standing committee on Land Ministry reached a consensus in this regard, they added.

Opposition-sponsored 72-hour hartal begins today

Rahman Manzur, Jamaat-e-Islami

and Islamic Oikya Jote (IOJ) -- sepa-

rately urged the people to make the

League (AL) said party units across

the country would bring out proces-

sions denouncing the 'issueless'

nymity said they would bring out

hartal and would encourage all

their cars on the roads during the

transport owners and operators to

directed the district administrations

to exchange views with cross sec-

Sources in the ruling Awami

An AL lawmaker seeking ano-

hartal a success.

FROM PAGE 1 duration.

To recover the loss of work in public sector, the government cancelled the weekly holiday on Saturday last.

With the hartal-related violence costing at least four lives and leaving some 600 people injured in the first week of this month, there is a sense of insecurity among the people as the shutdown begins

Many citizens in Dhaka told this announced by the alliance. correspondent that they apprehended violence during the hartal period, especially at night.

from rival political camps added to alliance, the sense of insecurity. While the Opposition warned the government of the consequence of violence, the government said the opposition will not call hartal any more if the people

take to the streets to protest 'destructive programmes'.

Meanwhile, addressing a press conference in the city yesterday, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia accused the government of resorting to repressive measures against opposition leaders and activists and trying to break unity of the fourparty alliance.

Khaleda urged the people to make a success the 72-hour hartal and follow-up programmes to be

In another development, maintain normal vehicular move-Ershad-led Jatiya Party (JP) faction. decided not to participate in the Provocative announcements hartal. JP is a component of the BNP brought out torch proces- tions of people to keep the districts

> sions in different parts of the city hartal-free. vesterday to drum up support for the shutdown. Other partners in the deployed in the capital to check any untoward incidents during the be deployed in the city combine JP faction led by of Naziur

ment across the country.

hartal beginning, said sources in the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP)

Giving a lengthy pre-hartal briefing to mid-ranking and juniorlevel police officials, who would be commanding different police teams in the city during hartal, the DMP Commissioner Motiur Rahman advised them to exercise utmost patience in handling every situa-

tion, said the sources. Officials at the briefing session acknowledged that the members of the police force are left with very little time for rest as they have to The Prime Minister recently work extra hours due to the standoff in national politics and prolonged

Appreciating the role of policemen, the DMP officials informed Some 6,400 policemen would be the meeting that newly recruited women police officials would also

during today's hartal, the sources inghartals.

Chittagong adds, Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCC&I) urged the administration to follow democratic norms to avoid violence.

The CCC&I in a statement yesterday also urged the opposition to have a tolerant attitude during hartal hours and to find out an alternative to hartal.

They called upon the opposition to keep 'The 9th Chittagong International Trade Fair (CITF)' out of purview of hartal.

CCC&I president Saifuzzaman Chowdhury, Senior Vice-President S M Nurul Hag and Vice-president M A Latif in the statement said businessmen and industrialists have to bear all sorts of overhead expenditures including bank interests dur-

BSS adds: Bangladesh Rickshaw Our Correspondent from and Autorickshaw Drivers, Owners Sangram Parishad called upon the Four-Party Opposition Alliance to withdraw their three-day hartal programme.

> Leaders of the organisation at meeting said they would be compelled to gherao the residence of Leader of the Opposition if hartal is not withdrawn.

Presidents and general secretaries of different rickshaw and autorickshaw drivers and owners associations in the capital attended the meeting at Bangabandhu Avenue with labour leader Shukkur Ahmed in the chair.

The meeting urged all drivers and owners to ply their rickshaws, auto-rickshaws and tempos in the streets and ignore hartal.

Bio-technology

FROM PAGE 12

The noted scientist also said, "the scientist community wants development and we need cooperation for this from whoever is governing

the country." He said, "we do not need any foreign aid, our united efforts are

enough to achieve our dreams". Presided over be secretary for Science and Technology M Fazlur Rahman, the inaugural session was also addressed, by Md Habibur Rahman Chowdhury, director of NMST and Jeyaun Nahar Begum, joint secretary (Admin.), Ministry of

Science and Technology. The programme, which will be concluded on April 11, includes symposiums and exhibition.

A total of 79 educational institutes from around the country are taking part in the fair with their innovations.

The institutions were selected through a national competition, held throughout the country from January 15 to February 5.

FROM PAGE 1

caving in meekly. Only opener Javed Omar stood tall in the ruins with an unbeaten 33 when the tourists lost their last wicket in the fourth ball of 31st over. The diminutive right-hander struck a sixer over square leg in his some-

what responsible knock. Although a couple of decisions went against Bangladesh, but most of the batsmen, being oblivious to the seaming condition, were guilty

at playing rash shots. The rot started in the very first over when Al-Shahriar was adjudged leg before off Zimbabwe captain Heath Streak. But the decision only satisfied umpire Esat himself as television replay showed that the ball was going down the leg

Habibul Bashar struck a beautiful four over mid-wicket, but then edged Streak behind the wicket in the third over, leaving his team tottering at two for nine from where they could never recover.

Naimur Rahman tried to mend the damage with a quick-fire 25 off 21 balls that included four boundaries. But he too was not willing to build a captain's innings.

Earlier, Campbell smashed his first century against Bangladesh with the help of eight fours and a six off 145 balls after Zimbabwe lost the toss and were asked to bat. His previous best against the Test-babes was 97 in Dhaka a couple of years

police constables were admitted to

the National Hospital and later

transferred to Rajarbagh Police

Hospital in the city. The other vic-

tims Zakir and three others were

admitted to the Dhaka Medical

Witnesses said that activists of

the Seven Star group loyal to Tokai

Sagar carried out the bomb attack as

the court refused Sagar's bail peti-

tion and granted the police a five-

CMM's court yesterday with a

prayer for a ten-day remand follow-

ing completion of a three-day

CMM's court seeking cancellation

of the remand stating that Sagar was

sick. Later, the CMM Shailendra

Kumar Adhikary went to the court

A bail petition was filed with the

Detectives took Sagar to the

day remand for interrogation.

FROM PAGE 1

College Hospital.

remand.

Sagar's health.

in a second-wicker stand of 133 between Campbell and Stuart Carlisle, who made 56 in 73 balls

with a four and two sixes. The home side tired to pick up the tempo in the last ten overs in front of sparse holiday crowd. And their ploy partly paid off, but in doing so they lost six wickets in the

Sharif gave Bangladesh an early breakthrough by having Whittall

Pick of the Bangladesh bowling was Monjurul Islam, who finished with a career-best return of three for

37 in his 10 overs. Naimur however continued to

"The bowling was quite good again. The finish was very good. I do not know what would be the conditions in Bulawayo. We will decide our next course of action once we reach

Bangladesh will leave Harare tomorrow morning for Bulawayo which is only one-hour's trip by air. (Scorecards and more stories or

Tigers surrender No scope for understanding: Khaleda

FROM PAGE 1

appointment Election Commissioners in place of the two who are due to retire on April 14.

"The caretaker government should appoint the two new election commissioners. We will not accept any appointment during the tenure of the present government".

Replying to question she said the Opposition was compelled to give the government a March 30 deadline to resign as it shifted from its earlier commitment to quit power to facilitate holding of polls by June. Awami League did not quit power and started misleading people by making false announcements because it became scared of a crushing defeat in the next polls, she said.

and peaceful", she said.

alternative to going for tougher

programmes, she said, "Our move-

ment is constitutional, democratic

HM Ershad's reported understanding with the government, Khaleda said BNP has formed alliance with parties, not with individuals. There is unity in the alliance and it will continue, she added.

acting chairman of the JP faction led by Naziur Rahman Manzur, said, "Ershad signed the declaration of the four-party alliance on November 30, 1999 on behalf of JP. We still uphold the commitment and we, as the majority, are with the alliance."

Matin said, "JP and unity of the during hartal and at other times.

alliance will not be affected if Ershad along with some of his family members quit the party and the alliance. Majority of party leaders and activ-About lativa Party (JP) Chairman ists across the country are with the alliance"

Asked whether BNP will accept Ershad if he wants to remain in the alliance after his release, Khaleda said, "Ershad is still in jail. We do not know what stance he will take after At this stage, DR MA Matin, release from jail." She however said Ershad will have to clarify his position after his release.

Replying to another question about violence and killings during hartal, she said BNP does not believe in politics of terrorism and killing The ruling AL is responsible for terrorist activities and killings both

Khaleda alleged that AL activists, in the name of peace procession during hartal, attacked Opposition processions and killed many people, but blamed the Opposition for those. Armed terrorists led by AL MP Dr Iqbal attacked a BNP procession and killed four people during the February 13 hartal, she alleged. She said the Prime Minister's

latest speech in parliament provoked AL "terrorists" to attack opposition leaders and MPs. AL "terrorists" have already attacked the residence of a BNP MP at Chuadanga, she claimed.

Khaleda said the government has become shaky and urged the people to observe the three-day country wide hartal beginning this morning to compelit to resign.

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and party leaders Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain and Moudud Ahmed; JP (Naziur) leader ABM Golam Mostafa, Jamaat leader Abdul Qader Mollah and IOJ leader Ahmed Abdul Qader were also present at the press conference.

PVC caution FROM PAGE 12 ethylhexyl-phthalate or commonly known as DEHP is not chemically bound to the plastic in the intravenous (IV) bag or tubing, DEHP

migrates into the solution it con tains. The review confirmed that the toxic chemicals in DEHP leaches, potentially causing damage to the heart, liver, ovaries, testes, lungs and kidneys, and interfering with sperm production. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has labelled the chemical as a 'probable

human carcinogen' The Daily Star had earlier published two reports on April 6 and June 26 in 1999 on the toxic effects of DEPH present in saline and blood

bags manufactured in Bangladesh. More than 20,80,000 IV and blood bags, supplied by the government, are used annually in the country to treat sick and injured patients in hospitals. Two local pharmaceutical companies also manufacture IV saline bags in the country. Their production capacity is at least four times as high as that of the government plants located in

Mohakhali in the capital. The Drug Administration (DA) here, when contacted, said that PVC used in manufacturing medical products is safe for use and the government plants will continue to manufacture PVC Intravenous Saline and blood bags containing

In a letter to The Daily Star following the publication of a June 26, 1999 report captioned 'Warning goes unheeded', the Drug Administration declared that PVC

saline and blood bags are not harm-The DA provided a support document of the European Council for Plasticiser and Intermediates which said 'during the last 20 years hundreds of studies have been conducted by independent researchers and reviews by numerous government agencies have provided no indication that the plasticiser DEPH is unsafe for use in PVC medical products even among

requently Makers of PVC intravenous products admit that DEHP in IV solutions can reach concentrations of five parts per million (PPM) more than 830 times higher than the amount of DEHP permitted in drinking water (6 parts per billion).

persons who use the products most

Ershad not freed

petitions for Ershad's bail, submitted by his lawyers. However, as the bail order did not reach the First Additional District and Session Judge's Court during office hours, the production warrant could not be recalled, forcing Ershad to stay back in prison.

Meanwhile, the Ershad-led Jatiya Party yesterday joined the Jatiya Sangsad sessions vesterday. An affiliate of the BNP-led four-party opposition alliance, it announced yesterday that it would not participate in the opposition-sponsored 72-hour hartal programme beginning today.

Supporters of Ershad crowded the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH) premises where Ershad is staying in a prison cell, and the court premises, too. Many JP leaders and activists came to the city from outside anticipating Ershad's release today.

However, in the evening as the supporters came to know that legal complications had shelved their leader's release, Ershad's brother GM Kader and Acting Secretary General of Jatiya Party ABM Shahjahan told the waiting crowd that Ershad would be freed today and urged the people to come to the BSMMU premises at around 10 a.m.

Our Court Correspondent adds: Earlier, Advocate Sheikh Sirajul Islam had submitted two separate bail petitions for Ershad with the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka on March 18 against the rejection order of March 13 by the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka.

The court then fixed yesterday

for hearing on the petition. Islam prayed for Ershad's bail on health grounds stating that the former president was shifted to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH) on March 24 due to

chest pain and later on, he suffered eve disease.

Public Prosecutor Quamrul Islam opposed the petitions on the merit of the charges brought in the cases, but he did not oppose those on health ground.

After hearing both sides, the court granted bail to Ershad upon a bond of Tk 3 lakh.

In one case, it was alleged that while in office Ershad had permitted the Scimiter company to dig exploration wells in Haripur oil field by abusing power.

In the other, Ershad was charges with abuse of power in giving a directive for purchase of 50 per cent of bitumen emulsion for Roads and Highways Department from Zakir Industries.

New OCs

FROM PAGE 1 charge as OC of Cantonment thana and DB Inspector Nazrul Islam as OC of Pallabi thana.

OC of Badda thana Kamrul Islam and OC of Pallabi thana Shahid Mondal were transferred to DB police while OC of Mohammadpur thana AKM Mohsinuzzaman Khan was transferred to Dhaka range.

Some more city thanas will have new OCs shortly, the sources said.

President

FROM PAGE 1 important institution and said besides their traditional duties as magistrate and collector, they coordinate various development activities of the government and act as district representatives of the

government. He advised them to act in cooperation with other officials of the

district administration. Among others, Cabinet Secretary Quazi Shamsul Alam was present.

During the 20-minute fight, the

two sides exchanged over 200 shots.

Police brought the situation under

control by firing teargas shells and

injured, one of them bullet-hit, in

the fighting and in the police action.

to Chittagong Medical College

Hospital. The rest one being treated

suspects from the area in connec-

at Satkania Health Complex.

tion with the killings.

At least 10 more people were

Two of the injured were admitted

Meanwhile, police arrested 8

According to local people, activ-

ists of Chhatra League and Chhatra

Shibir fought gunbattles at least 15

times in last one year to establish

rubber bullets.

2 AL men killed

FROM PAGE 1 the "operation". Of the injured, AL activist Nurul Kabir died at Chittagong Medical College Hospital later. Others are

being treated at the hospital. AL leaders blamed activists of Jamat-e-Islami backed Chatra Shibir for the killings. Shibir denied

the charge. Police said the incident is sequel to previous rivalry between activists of AL and Jamat-Shibir at Satkania.

Police said contingents yesterday raided suspected hideouts of the killers at Satkania but none could be arrested.

UNB adds: Police and witnesses said a band of armed Shibir men. numbering eight, came to the bazaar by a microbus at about 10:30 am and opened fire on them.

Bullets pierced Golam Hossain's chest and head. Condition of two bullet-hit

Chhatra League activists Golam Faruque and Mohammad Touhid alias Bachchu was said to be "criti-

After the incident, the Shibir activists were locked in a gunfight with local supporters of Awami League and its front organisations at about 11 am.

supremacy in the area. BSS adds: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina vesterday condoled the death of Golam Hossain and Nurul In a statement, she condemned

the killings and said Jamaat-Shibir and BNP were out to destabilise peace through explosion of bombs, firing and acts of terrorism. She urged the people to resist the antiliberation forces and foil their evil designs through united resistance.

She asked the members of the law enforcing agencies to arrest those responsible for the incident fortrial.

The Prime Minister prayed for peace of the departed souls and expressed sympathy to the members of the bereaved families.

CEC: Voter list

Some 77 vendors, 62 in Dhaka and 15 in different districts, were given the tasks of printing the new

officials concerned to take "immediate steps to complete the printing works where not completed." Role of the Deputy

Commissioners concerned in supervising the printing works was stressed in the meeting. Officials concerned were asked

an immensely wide River Naf."

Handicapped for life Armed men in Feni abducted

Tipu on the night of January 25 and unleashed violent assaults on him, beating him mercilessly with iron rods, hockey sticks and baseball bats. Later, the goons abandoned him thinking that he was dead.

Tipu's only fault was that he reported on the criminal and inhuman activities of a locally powerful politician and his 500 or so armed cadres.

Tipu was the Feni correspondent of the United News of Bangladesh (UNB) Tipu's arm and leg bones were

Dhaka have already asked the bat-

the experts, the treatment might

tain days at the hospital.

activities including arms trade and has been absconding since the

hajat to personally find out about murder of Milon. Sagar is the assistant general The magistrate rejected Sagar's secretary of BNP's city committee.

Procedure are concerned."

cost up to Tk 20 lakh. assurances from different quarters. including the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Tipu is now passing uncer-

list of the vested property selected for returning to the deserving perthe proposed law comes into effect. would also be made through radio, television and other media asking the deserving persons to collect the list of vested property from the offices of the Deputy

Commissioners. An owner of vested property must submit his/her claim supported by documents to the tribunal in 90 days from the publication of Amin Rasul Sagar alias Tokai | the list, said the bill proposing that

maximum period of 180 days. Back in 1965, the then Pakistan government through an ordinance declared "enemy property" all immovable assets of the Hindus who had been in India on September 6, 1965 or stayed in that country since that date till the with-

minority community of then East Pakistan had crossed over the border in the wake of 1965 Indo-Pak war. This was a second exodus after the first one following the partition of India in 1947. After independence of

Bangladesh, the government

enacted the Enemy Property Act in

1974 vesting the all enemy property

on the government. With the pas-

sage of the vested property bill, the

enemy property act now stands

long-standing problem. The bill providing for establish-

ment of Bangladesh Institute of Parliamentary Studies (BIPS) aims

posed institute to be headed by the Speaker will be responsible for conducting research on parliamentary system, practice and management, and sharing information and experiences with parliaments in other countries to make the national parliament more dynamic and prosperous. Other areas of research include:

the process of making laws, sharing information and experiences with other parliaments on legislative businesses, parliamentary rules, regulations and conventions, and cooperation with similar organisations in other countries. assist the government and the oppo-

the countries they will visit. of the Parliament Secretariat, organshops and orientation courses at home and abroad to raise skills of tary democracy. Courses on conducts of the lawmakers will also be

It will investigate and disseminate information on issues bearing importance on national life, publish newsletters, periodicals and reports on parliamentary matters and contribute to the effective role of MPs in nation-building activities.

The institute will be set up in Dhaka as soon as the law comes into being. It will have a 21-member governing body with the Speaker as

its chairman, said the bill. Other members of the body will include: deputy leaders in the treasury and opposition benches, minister in charge of the parliamentary affairs, chief whips in the treasury and opposition benches, chairman of the Law Commission, Attorney General, parliament secretary, DG of the judicial training institute, Dean of Law Faculty of the Dhaka

University, legal experts and researchers. Besides, a five-member executive committee headed by the Speaker will assist the governing body in running the institute. The BIPS will have a Director General, who will serve as the full-time chief executive and be responsible for implementing all decisions of the

governing body and the executive committee. The third bill passed yesterday brought an amendment to the Law Commission Act providing for appointment of consultants and

Another bill amended the Brick Kiln (Control) Act banning use of bamboo and date tree for burning bricks.

Speaker rules out JS ruling on JP majority

understanding with the government, as being spread by certain quarters. We are attending the session to

> cal party", he said. the Ershad-led faction of JP is very

> To another question she said there is no possibility to form an alliance with the ruling Awami

However, the 18 JP (Ershad) members who joined yesterday's at a meeting of the JPPP in 1996, she sitting expressed satisfaction over the Speaker's statement. At a press Later, on March 27 this year, most

Party leader, she said in the House. would continue to attend parliaresolution of JPPP's 1996 meeting, ment sittings depending on the which made Ershad leader of the release of their leader H M Ershad, JPPP, has been sent to him. detained since November 20 last

72-hour hartal (beginning today)"

briefing at the JP Parliamentary of the JP lawmakers supported Party office, they said the Speaker's Ershad as the party's Parliamentary statement was positive. One of the lawmakers said they

"I have vetted the matter thoroughly," he said. Neither the resolution of the March 27 meeting nor any of the JP lawmakers in their statements in the House referred to the issue of validity of Ershad's leadership of JPPP as per provisions of the Constitution and the Rules of

Rohingya as citizens. Lack of citizen-

that despite some irritants, such as

nomic relations should be estab-

Rashed Maksud Khan, Chairman

Procedure, he said.

Economic ties between Bangladesh, Myanmar holds immense potential

Bangladesh's only other neighbour,

except India.

Most discussants, however, felt and different political systems

Khan pointed out that India had and its political counsellor said that is still very insignificant compared within the country, to partake in recently gone for establishing deep just next to the border, opening a to the potential due to lack of proper public service, or pursue some types relations with Myanmar and had

> should not interfere in building up trade and other bilateral relations. Ambassador Arshaduzzaman,

their country believed in having friendly ties with Bangladesh. Brigadier General (retd.) Syed Enayetullah Khan, a former Jahangir Kabir pointed out that both China and India are trying to woo

he said, "Obviously, a permanent naval base facility in Arakan coast duly supported by road and railway Ambassador Shafiullah, Sheikh from mainland will be perfect set-The discussants said that the two lished between the two countries for Raquibuddin and Dr Shaheen ting for China. Rumours persist that Afroze of Bangladesh Institute of China is acquiring a naval air base International and Strategic Studies facility in Rumree Island on the of Myanmar-Bangladesh Business (BHSS) also spoke of the benefits of Arakan coast. Worried Indians and "Myanmar should also seriously Promotion Council, said that border better ties with Myanmar and western powers exaggerate most of

power.

pointed out that India is afflicted by the fear of China creating another eastern fringe.

Warning about China's interest, through Shagain division via border town of Thamu and trying to push both Asian highway and railway through that corridor bypassing Bangladesh.' Stressing on building friendship

FROM PAGE 1

of the printing works, the CEC asked

to collect the compact disks (CD) from the vendors who have already completed the voting-roll printing.

Dock workers FROM PAGE 1

demand of dockers.

The dock workers also expressed their firm determination to continue the movement at Mongla port Fill their demand is met. The Joint Director of Labour has threatened to cancel registration of

Dock Workers' Union declaring its

strike illegal. It also issued a letter to

the union leaders asking them to call

clinker carrying ships. The steve-

dores remained determined till

yesterday evening not to fulfil the

offstrike or to face legal action. A tripartite meeting was going on till writing of this report to end the deadlock.

Chairman of Mongla Port Authority, Dock Workers' Union and Stevedores' Association are participants in the meeting, sources said. Eight sea-going vessels are now lying idle at the port.

stood a good chance of returning to normal life if he is treated abroad. According to an estimate done by

for which a separate bank account

Medical experts said that Tipu

The Daily Star appeals to its readers and parrons to donate

Most of Zimbabwe's runs came

caught at long leg.

struggle with the ball. The offspinner conceded 44 runs in his eight overs without any success. "Our batting was awful. But, I do not know what problems they are having at the moment. I'm telling them what to do, but they are doing something else," said a dejected Trevor Chappell after the match.

Bomb hurled at police vehicle bail petition as he found him in good

> his arrival at Zia International Airport from Dubai via Sylhet on March 3. Humayun Kabir alias Murgi Milon murder case upon a prayer submitted by the DB police. Milon was

Tokai Sagar is the ringleader of the Seven Star group, an underground gang comprising city's top criminals. Involved in various criminal

Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka in

September last year.

health and granted the police a fiveday remand. Sagar was arrested with a pistol on

Sagar was shown arrested in the gunned down by a gang of assailants on the premises of the District and

drug smuggling through ZIA, Sagar

because they said there was nothing else they could do for him in the

But who will foot the bill? Despite

reduced to fragments and muscles generously to Tipu's treatment fund

The Opposition was left with no

its owner would be duly compen-According to the bill, the government would publish a district-wise sons within 180 days from the day Besides, public announcements

the tribunal must settle a claim in a

drawal of state of emergency on February 16, 1969. A good number of people of the

Bill on return of vested property abrogated, thereby resolving the

> at strengthening parliamentary democracy in the country. According to the bill, the pro-

The institute will advise and sition as well as MPs of both sides on the parliamentary systems, prac-

tices, rules and principles and

related developments across the

world. It will also help the parlia-

mentarians to get primary ideas about the issues of parliaments of for the officials and employees ise seminars, symposia, workthe government under a parliamen-

voluntary members of the commis-

After the Speaker's statement, T I M Fazle Rabbi took the floor to say that the party lawmakers were not attending the session as per an

protect our election symbol 'plough', since election symbol is of paramount importance for a politi-Replying to a question at the press briefing, Rawshan Ershad said

After a few minutes, Rawshan drew Doctors at the Pangu Hospital in has been opened. the Chair's attention and reiterated Please see the attached | the demand for a ruling on the issue tered journalist to pack up and leave announcement. of JP Parliamentary Party leader. She

FROM PAGE 12 Myanmar's admittance to Bangladesh, it was observed. ASEAN has great significance for Bangladesh, as it has brought the south-east Asian nations' grouping new vista of unfolding opportunities

Ior Bangladesh.

BIMSTEC is seen as a scope which will provide a missing link and a valuable land bridge to expand trade, investment and joint developbridge over Naf River for easy interment between South and Southeast actions between the two peoples is the Rohingya issue and the recent Asia. BIMSTEC hopes to move from a Preferential Trade Area ultimately Haque. to a Free Trade Area," said one of the speakers at the seminar.

much to offer to each other and

Yangon with its enormous natural

market of 125 million people of Obaidul Haque said that trade ship restricts the freedom of the

The JP members led by its acting

chairman Rowshan Ershad entered

the House at 12.05 pm yesterday.

between Bangladesh and Myanmar Rohingya to travel outside and infrastructure and administrative of higher education. It is of interest even started building roads. machinery required to promote the to us because only the integration of "Myanmar's enrolment in volume linkages between the two countries dus," Haque said in his paper.

is of crucial importance. Building a

of utmost importance," observed border flare-up, the best of econeighbours had some irritants in mutual benefit. Myanmar and Bangladesh has their relations, which could be solved amicably.

resources can look forward to a consider changing it flawed citizen- incidents and Rohingya problems insisted that Bangladesh's foreign it, and China will need more than

The BIPS will provide training

said the party's existence depends on the issue. Ershad was made leader of the JP Parliamentary Party

The Speaker said no copy of the

much with the BNP-led four party opposition alliance, but "not in the

the Rohingvas into the mainstream ambassador to Myanmar and "Expanding road, river and air society can stop any further exo- Editor of Holiday, said the two countries shared many commonalties, interests,

ship law, which fails to recognise the should not distract trade between policy should be diversified in deal-The ambassador of Myanmar

Myanmar for their own strategic

wants to emerge as an Indian Ocean The former defence adviser

strategic ally like Pakistan on her "India is building a highway between Imphal and Myanmar

between the two neighbours, he said, "We can gradually draw SAARC and ASEAN together for bridging on voter lists. Stressing reinforced monitoring

hailed STAFF CORRESPONDENT The Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha 2001 in Parliament.