Bangladesh 57 for 1

Govt has failed to run state affairs: Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League president Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the fact that the BNP-Jamaat government had completely failed to run the state affairs was evident from the ever worsening law and order.

"The government has totally failed ... the administration collansed," she told reporters after distributing warm clothes among the victims of post-election violence who took shelter at the Awami League central office.

Some 400-500 men and women, mostly party's election agents and workers, allegedly the victims of torture by the BNP-Jamaat terrorists after the October 1 election, have been staying at the AL office for nearly one-and-a-half month.

"We're trying to help these innocent people in distress, they left their homes after losing everything due to terrorism ... they can't go back fearing further persecution," Hasina

She deplored that "terrorism, killing, looting and rape still continued." Today, a College Principal was shot dead in Chittagong. This is very unfortunate," she said

The Awami League president

said lakhs of her party workers were displaced, hundreds killed and women raped. But police did not accept cases due to telephonic advice from the ministers and BNP leaders, she alleged.

Hasina said: "Had the BNP-led coalition won the October election genuinely, they would not have gone for such vendetta. Since they manipulated the electoral verdict, they have resorted to persecution to silence the voice of the people."

In reply to a question, the opposition leader said that after the Eid-ul-Fitr, she was going to hold a national convention on the BNP-Jamaat "atrocities" on innocent people, Awami League workers and minorities across the country.

To another query, she said the government might not have the courage to admit the reality, but people and press are not blind of the 'vile" character of the BNP-Jamaat coalition regime.

Earlier, the Awami League chief distributed warm clothes, saree and lungi among the 342 victims staying at the party central office. Awami league leaders Sajeda Chowdhury, Abdul Mannan, ex-MP Haji Selim and Sechhasebak League leader Bahauddin Nasim were present.

baton to disperse the demonstra-

The Home Minister directed

The Home Minister was silent

President of local Journalists

Union and freedom fighter M Idris

burst into tears and asked Labour

principles and his killers will be

The principal's wife told UNB that

vested quarter had long been

She said her husband banned

trying to grab property of the college

but they could not succeed due to

student politics on the college

campus in 1975 and Islami Chhatra

Shibir led by its top terror Nasir had

made several abortive attempts to

enter the campus in last few years to

Although Nasir is now in jail, his

Meanwhile, the All Party Oikva

It also held a protest rally in front

Giving a seven-day deadline for

Chaired by City Mayor ABM

Bahani again tried to 'capture' the

college campus when the four-party

Parishad brought out a procession

carrying the body of the principal

and marched through the main city

of the Press Club in the afternoon

and announced a weeklong mourn-

arresting the killers, the speakers

said tough programmes would be

announced through a rally at the Lal

Mohiuddin Chowdhury, the rally was

addressed by among others presi-

dent of Hindu-Buddha-Christian

Oikya Parisad Binod Bihari

Chowdhury, CUJ president

Mohamad Idrish, secretary of

College-University Teachers

Association Kanai Lal Das, City AL

(South) general secretary

Moslemuddin Ahmed, city unit

general secretary of Workers Party

Nasiruddin Nasu and city unit presi-

dent of Bangladesh Communist

Gonal Chandra's wife filed a

case with local police indicting six

people belonging to Jamaat-Shibir

Gopal Chandra was kept in front of

Chittagong Press Club in the after-

noon to facilitate people and stu-

village home at Roshangiri under

Fatikchhari upazila for cremation.

Later, the body was taken to his

Our staff correspondent adds in

Dhaka:Awami League President

and Leader of the Opposition in

parliament Sheikh Hasina yester-

day condemned the killing of Gopal

Krishna Muhuri by "terrorists

departed soul and expressed her

sympathy with members of the

She prayed for salvation of the

In a statement Sheikh Hasina

demanded immediate arrest and

punishment of the killers. The AL

president said, "Terrorist belonging

to BNP-Jamaat-Shibir resorted to

grabbing property from the day they

leaders and workers of her party

Hasina said an all-party conven-

tion will be organised after the holy

month of Ramadan to protest these.

lling, repression, rape, looting and

She claimed that over 1,000

dents to pay their respect.

Hasina condemns

belonging to BNP-Jamaat."

bereaved family.

came to power".

have so far been killed.

BSS adds: The body principal

Party Shah Alam.

for the killing.

Dighi Maidan on November 23.

ing and protest programmes.

alliance came to power, but failed.

ought to justice."

revive student politics.

her husband.

police officials to arrest the killers

when local journalists tried to know

within 24 hours.

his reaction.

Principal murdered

ing of black flags at all educational institutions, wearing of black badge and a rally at the Lal Dighi Maidan on Friday next.

Speakers at the rally said tougher programmes will be announced if the killers are not arrested by the deadline.

olice and witnesses said the gunmen entered the principal's residence on the plea that they had information that Fatikchhari upazila Chhatra League General Secretary Tayebur Rahman, leader of the infamous Tayeb Bahini, was at the house. They asked the principal's wife who was reading newspaper to tell him to come out and talk to them.

As the principal came and said he knew nothing about Tayebur, they fired two shots in his forehead killing him on the spot.

Chittagong City Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhurv also visited the victim's residence in the after-

Sources said Gopal Krishra Muhuri who was principal of the college since 89 recently got two years' extension of his service. This created grouping among teachers and a row between them and the college governing body. The grouping and the row might also be reasons behind the killing, they sus-

The Chittagong unit of Ganatantrik biplodi Jote in a press statement claimed that political reasons were behind the killing. The Jote demanded immediate arrest of the killers.

UNB adds: The body of slain Gopal Chandra was lying on the Sofa. When the IGP wanted to cover the body with cloth, Muhuri's bereaved wife strongly opposed it saving she would like to show the people how the country is now being run and what is the law and order situation.

Gopal Chandra joined the college in 1964. Extension of his service angered a vested group.

The home minister faced violent demonstrations when he, accompanied by the labour minister went to the victims house. Police charged

Bhashani

FROM PAGE 12

ing that Bhashani's lifelong selfless efforts was towards establishing democratic rights of the people and a progressive society by bringing an end to all social disparities. These are examples to be followed by evervone, he said.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia in her message paid glowing tributes to the leader and said that Moulana Bhashani was one of the organisers of the movement for liberation.

The life and ideals of Bhashani will remain a source of inspiration for the people forever, she said, and

prayed for the eternal peace of his BSS adds: Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina in a message said Moulana

Bhashani was uncompromising in his struggle for realising the rights of the deprived and the downtrodden. Meanwhile, to observe the day,

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) will place wreaths at the mazar of Bhashani at Sontosh, Tangail today, a party press release said.

The party will organise a discussion at Sontosh at 12 noon today. BNP secretary general and LGRD Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan will address the discussion as chief

guest. Bangladesh Awami Party (Bhashani) will place wreaths at the mazar of Moulana Bhashani and offer fateha there at 11am today. The party will arrange a discussion at the mazar premises at 12 noon

Besides, newspapers will publish special articles and the electronic media will put on special programmes on the life and activities of Moulana Bhashani

13 injured as JCD, BCL clash at IU

IU CORRESPONDENT

At least 13 students of the Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall of the Islamic University were injured yesterday, one of them seriously, after a clash between activists of JCD and BCL.

The clash erupted following an altercation between JCD activist Lucky and Shohagi, reportedly a BCL activist. Lucky slapped Shohagi while she was returning home with her husband. Shohagi later returned to the hall with her friends and attacked Lucky and other JCD activists. The clash lasted an hour leaving Mona, Shohagi, Luna, Kaniz, Kochi, Munni, Barsha, Lucky, Ripa and four others injured.

The injured students were taken to the IU medical centre where Mona's condition was deteriorated be critical. She was later taken to Kushtia General Hospital.

The provost of the hall was on leave at the time of the incident. Witnesses said that the clash was a seguel to previous enmity

Morshed Khan

between Lucky and Shohaqi

ber of parliament for the second consecutive term from the Chittagong-10 constituency in the last parliament election. He had served the previous BNP government as the special envoy of the prime minister. During that time, he headed a committee for making comprehensive reform recommendations to infuse dynamism in the foreign ministry.

He graduated in Technology and Agriculture from Tokyo University while he had his post-graduation in Industry Management from Sofia University.

Minister Noman whether life of He was the chairman of freedom fighters are at all safe now. Bangladesh Association of Banks Noman described the killing as from 1994 to 1996 and honorary brutal and said. "I'm a local MP and consul general of the Philippines in I'll continue my efforts to hunt down Bangladesh from 1968 to 1981. He the killers. During my student life, I also served as a member of the got help from Muhuri. I know him Administrative Board of ILO. personally. He was a man of strong

Morshed Khan also held the position of president of Bangladesh Chamber and Industries. Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industries.

During the tenure of the previous BNP government, he was a member of the parliamentary standing committee on the foreign ministry. He also visited a number of countries with various important responsibili-

A member of the BNP advisory committee. Khan placed wreaths at the mazar of late President Ziaur Rahman after being sworn in as a

He is married with one son and four daughters.

2 businessmen Gulshan lake

FROM PAGE 12 tions in front of the RAJUK building

from tomorrow.

Presided over by Prof. Abdullah Abu Syeed, the rally was, among others, addressed by BEM General Secretary Dr. Abu Naser Khan, Prof. Shahrier Kabir of Independent University, Saiful Islam and MA

Abdullah Abu Syeed said the city dwellers would eventually start dying like these fishes from pollution unless it is checked immediately.

Prof. Kabir identified a newly constructed sewerage near Road No. 11 at Baridhara as the main cause of pollution in the lake.

Members of the Gulshan Matsya Shikari Samity, the Hunger Project, SEED, Proshika, Sundar Jiban, Institute for Environment and Development, Islami Relief, Manabik Shahajya Sangstha and local people also participated in the

Ramadan

Chowdhury yesterday greeted the nation at the start of Ramadan hoping that the teachings of the holy month would be reflected in every

"The Ramadan teaches us to exercise restraint and encourage all to seek attachment with Allah. I hope the teachings will be reflected in our work," he said on the eve of

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia vesterday greeted the countrymen on the eve of holy Ramadan urging all to practice patience, restraint and

"The main teaching of the Ramadan is to exercise restraint warding off luxury, anger, indiscipline and conflict", she said in a message on the occasion.

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina has called for maintaining peace and harmony shunning the path of conflicts, terrorism and anarchy on the occasion of the holy

sacrifice and restraint of Ramadan. we will have to engage ourselves for the wellbeing of mankind and continue to work for building world an abode of peace," she said in a message yesterday.

Kibria: Assess gas reserve

(ADB) reports

in revenue at certain points of time while he was the finance minister. attributing it to the Asian economic crises and the 1998 flooding.

Another former finance minister. Abul Mal Abdul Muhit, also spoke briefly at the press conference, also attended by Saber Hossain Chowdhury, political secretary to AL President Sheikh Hasina. Both Kibria and Muhit appre-

hended bad times for the economy in days to come mainly because of global economic recess after the September 11 attack in the US. They suggested that the new finance minister had better take the challenge ahead instead of finding fault with his predecessor.

Referring to Saifur's remarks on the issue of gas. Kibria said production sharing contracts (PSCs) were signed during the regimes of both the BNP and AL governments. He said the signing of the PSCs had nothing to do with the export of gas as those were meant for gas explo-

"We have always been saying that gas can be exported if the proven reserve meets domestic requirements for 50 years. But Saifur is confusing the issue. They (present government) should make it clear whether they have already decided to export gas. But, I think the decision must be made on the basis of a national consensus." Kibria said.

Refuting the remarks by the finance minister, prime minister and immediate-past president that the last AL government left the economy in a poor state. Kibria produced a load of financial data and frequently

Nurses' strike at

Nurses of Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujib Medical University Hospital

(BSMMUH) will observe a daylong

strike at the hospital today, sources

The nurses will abstain from

work in protest against the alleged

wrong treatment of a nurse at the

hospital leading to her death on

Gynaecology department of the

hospital died at the hospital follow-

ing an operation during childbirth.

Nahar, a senior staff nurse of the

Leaders of Sarkari Karmochari

Samonnoy Parishad (SKSP) of the

hospital alleged that Nahar died

from complications arising out of the

operation performed by Associate

Professor Saleha Begum

Chowdhury. They demanded a

judicial inquiry into the death and

The employees of the hospital

and leaders of SKSP brought out a

procession on the hospital premises

Thursday. They suspected that he

was taken to Dhakkinkan and

The reason behind the killing

The victim's brother Israfil filed a

murder case with Uttara police

Police sent the body to DMCH

None was arrested in this regard

Meanwhile, the ringleader of a

local gang, shot during a clash with

his rivals on Tuesday night, suc-

cumbed to his injuries at the

Suhrawardy Hospital yesterday

chest during a clash with Arshad

where he died at 10:30 am.

morgue for autopsy.

Kala Rashid was shot in the

His body was sent to DMCH

A case was filed with

Mohammadpur police station in this

The leaders felt that apart from

"rigging" in the polls and "biased"

attitude of the caretaker administra-

tion, rivalry in the party rank and file

and reluctance in party activities are

largely responsible for the polls

series of soul-searching meetings at

central level in Dhaka to find what

went wrong in the party that caused

Central leaders and most of the

newly elected party lawmakers, split

in 15 teams, began the tour

programme on November 5. They

held public meetings, workers'

rallies and undertook mass contact

programmes at district and Upazila

process to reorganise the party

would begin right now, slowly but

steadily. It will get momentum after

holding a special council session

early next year to discuss reorgani-

sation of the party.

The leaders are thinking of

Discontent among party leaders

at different levels surfaced when

the month of Ramadan, they said.

Party insiders think that the

The tour programme followed a

in protest yesterday.

gunned down.

station.

till last night.

morning.

debacle.

the debacle

could not be known.

morque for autopsy.

punishment of those responsible.

Thursday.

BSMMU today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

quoted from the World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank

He criticised Prime Minister Khaleda Zia for her statement that revenue receipts fell during the AL period. "Begum Zia (and also Justice Shahabuddin who has very quickly lost the respect of the nation for his unfortunate remarks in the speech he delivered in the parliament) may not remember the Asian economic crises during 1997-98 and the devastating deluge... we managed the macro-economy through the crisis while maintaining

a high growth rate." 'Revenue performance improved notably during FY2001. Revenue collection in this fiscal year displays a clear break from past trends, especially from the sluggish performance of the last two years, he quoted an ADB report as saying.

Kibria conceded that the foreign exchange reserve fell from US\$ 2039 million, when his party rode to power, to 1324 million dollars, when it left office. However, he blamed the forex reserve plunge on repayment of the IMF loan, which the previous BNP government had taken, and also on payment of roughly US\$ 1 billion in food import bill after the

He noted that during his previous stint in the finance ministry, Saifur had failed to stop rapid reserve depletion when the foreign exchange reserve plunged from US \$3070 million to US\$ 2039 million within a span of nine months in the 1994-95 fiscal.

tive pictures of agricultural growth, a key economic indicator for

regimes of the BNP and AL. He noted that the country attained food autarky during the AL's time when there was negative growth in the farm sector during 1993-94 and

1994-95 fiscals He came down heavily on Saifur for the latter's observation that the AL success in agriculture was weather-induced. "Has he (Saifur) forgotten the fact that the worst deluge of the century stalked us in

"Mr. Saifur Rahman would be better off if he focussed on the tasks ahead instead of engaging in diatribes against the government of Sheikh Hasina that outperformed all the previous governments in many fields, most certainly in macroeconomic management," Kibria observed.

He was also willing to offer his suggestion to meet future challenges in the economic sector should the new finance minister ask

AMA Muhit, who lost to Saifur Rahman in the Sylhet-1 constituency in the just-held parliamentary polls, feared economic crises in near future against the backdrop of a global recession.

Pointing out that half a million garment workers have already lost their jobs in the country, Muhit said such job slashing would have farreaching and multifaceted fallout on the economy. He also said that the government may be required to brace for some austerity measures

DUDS office put under lock & key

DU CORRESPONDENT

A group of students, claiming to be Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists, put the Dhaka University Debating Society (DUDS) office

under lock and key on Thursday. Campus sources said the students used guns to threaten the DUDS members, verbally abused the DUDS president Bulbul Hasan and warned him against setting foot

in the office again.

They also chanted slogans saying that the DUDS office "had been freed from BCL activists". Sources said most of the armed

students belong to the university's Ziaur Rahman Hall and are patronised by a former member of the debating society.
The DUDS leaders later con-

tacted Monir Hossain, president of the DU unit of JCD, who initiated steps to reopen the office. ADUDS press release yesterday said that the armed students had locked up their office, after threaten-

ing the society members, just before a scheduled meeting was to be held The press release strongly condemned the incident and

demanded punitive actions against They also called for all-out cooperation from the university authorities concerned to help the democratically elected executive body of the society to run it properly.

Prices increase

FROM PAGE 12 was sold at Tk 190 some days ago. We are selling it at Tk. 220 now" one

He said prices of spices including those of ginger, cummin, coriander turmeric, bay leaf, cinnamon stick, raisin, garlic and chilli have risen by Tk 2 to Tk 5 per kg.

Prices of peas, red gram, kheshari and other types of lentils have gone by Tk 2 to Tk 3 per kg.

Prices of almost all fruits including dates, apple, orange, banana, papaya, malta, and grapes also rose slightly.

Dates were selling Tk 35 to 140 per kg, depending on the quality.
Prices of fish, beef, mutton and

chicken have also increased Meanwhile, fast food shops and restaurants have erected canopies on their premises to sell Iftar items. Special banners and decorations erected to attract people have given

On November 8, police had to

escort AL Presidium member

Suranjit Sengupta and former state

minister Talukdar Abdul Khaleq out

of the meeting venue as rival groups

clashed at a workers' meeting at

The meeting ended in a pande-

monium barely 10 minutes after it

began. Rival party groups clashed

with sticks and damaged the

affairs advisor to immediate-past

prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

termed the incident "most unfortu-

Sengupta, former parliamentary

Two former state ministers faced

Following an altercation with

an embarrassing situation at an AL

workers' rally at Rajshahi Public

some local leaders, agitated party

workers damaged two vehicles, one

owned by former state minister

Zinnatunnesa Talukdar. Former

state minister Prof Abu Sayed was

the two former state ministers and

The meeting ended abruptly as

podium and microphones.

nate and disgraceful".

Library on November 9.

AL leaders left the venue.

also present.

Satkhira PN High School ground.

Middle-order turned opener Al-Shahriar looked impressive with the bat for the first time in the series. After being pushed up the order, he scored only 12 runs (5 and 7) in the first Test in Dhaka last week. The stroke-maker was batting on

of wicketkeeper Andrew Flower. He

scored eight runs in his 17-minute

was on 21 when the stumps were taken off for the day. Earlier, Zimbabwe piled on runs as their star performer Andrew Flower scored his 12th century (114

not out) and Craig Wishart notched

25 while in-form Habibul Bashar

his maiden hundred, also 114. Opener Trevor Gripper (112) was the other centurion in the Zimbabwe innings on Thursday.

Flower, currently rated number one batsman in the world, had to take a break of nearly two hours when he cut his chin following a collision with Bangladesh spinner Enamul Hogue in the post lunch session. Having his chin sewed up with four stitches, Flower returned to

the crease shortly after tea and turned his 70 into a hundred, playing only 134 balls.

On the other hand, 27-year-old Wishart made no mistake this time after running himself out twice in nineties (93 against West Indies in Harare and 94 against Bangladesh in the Dhaka Test) this year. The aggressive lower middle-order batsman hammered 11 boundaries and a six off 126 balls to reach the elusive mark.

Wishart made the most of the letoff at mid wicket by Javed Omar when he was on 58 and never faltered again before pulling Ashraful into the hands of Sharif in deep mid wicket.

Number eight Douglas Marillier was the other notable run-getter for the tourists with 52

Young right-arm seamer Mashrafee-bin-Mortuza and veteran spinner Emanul evenly shared four wickets among themselves.

(Scoreboard and other reports

themselves governor of the key

lem among Afghanistan's ethnic

groups and this has not been

solved." said Musa Arifi, the

Peshawar representative of Hezh-I-

Wahdat, the party representing the

Hazara minority in central

heading to Kabul to protect the

Hazara population in the west of the

capital, an admission that they do

He said Hazara troops were

"Certainly there is a grave prob-

eastern city of Jalalabad.

Afghanistan.

Kandahar bombed

killed," said General Mohammad

Daud. The governor of Kunduz called

for a two-day grace period before the Northern Alliance attacks the city so inhabitants can flee, according to Daud.

"At the end of two days, we will attack. We want to enter Kunduz before winter." he added, saving fighting would not stop for the start of holy month of Ramadan this weekend Reuters says, as the need to fill a

power vacuum in the capital Kabul took on new urgency at the start of the Muslim fasting month, Afghan tribal leaders spoke of popular uprisings in the south and plans to advance on Kandahar. The United States, which has

reiected calls for a military pause during Ramadan, said time was running out for Saudi-born bin Laden, his Taliban protectors and his al-Qaeda network.

"We are tightening the noose, it's a matter of time," Army General Tommy Franks, head of US Central Command, told a Pentagon news conference with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

Iran radio, monitored in London, reported that bin Laden has probably fled from Afghanistan across the border into Pakistan The White House, which

stepped up a charm offensive to defuse criticism of Ramadan air attacks, sent out a statement from President Bush saluting Islam and playing up the US humanitarian efforts in Afghanistan.

"As the new moon signals the holy month of Ramadan, I extend warm greetings to Muslims throughout the United States and around the world," Bush said. He did not mention the military campaign.

Hunt for Laden US special forces have been on

the ground in Afghanistan directing

not trust the troops of Burhanuddin Rabbani's Jamiat-I-Islami that moved in on Tuesday although both are members of the Northern Alliance that united to rout the

"Because of past experience, people in west Kabul have concerns about their fate. They want to actively take part in the new setup.' said Arifi. "We want a good share in

the setup; without that, Hazara people will not trust it." Arifi was one of several Afghans in this frontier city who met James Dobbins, the US envoy making his first trip to the region in his new role of helping Afghans to form a stable

government. "He preferred to listen our point of view. He did not have any specific proposal," Arifi said of his meeting with US envoy. He quoted Dobbins as saying that Washington wanted the establishment of a broad-based government in Kabul and elimina-

tion of terrorism from Afghanistan. Power struggle

But many of the people Dobbins might have expected to see had decamped the previous afternoon to just over the Khvbe Pass, to engage in a power struggle for control of the provincial capital

that had been a Taliban stronghold. "Frankly it's not a very impressive group of leaders here," said a foreigner among the large community of diplomats and charities trying

In Washington, a US official said Osama bin Laden's military chief was believed to have been killed in an American airstrike. The military chief. Mohammed Atef, was a close confident of bin Laden, and his daughter was married to bin Laden's son. US officials suspect him of involvement in the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon as well as the bombings of US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998.

air strikes and hunting for bin Laden. One US official said the Northern Alliance had captured top Taliban leaders, who could have information

The captives, the official added did not include bin Laden or Mullah Omar, who said through a spokesman on Thursday that the Taliban would regroup and fight on.

on the whereabouts of bin Laden.

"The situation in Afghanistan is part of a big plan including the destruction of the United States." Mullah Omar told BBC radio in comments relaved by the spokesman. He said the Taliban still controlled four of Afghanistan's 29 provinces.

The same Taliban spokesman said bin Laden would fight to the death rather than surrender.

Iran Radio guoted an informed source as saying bin Laden had probably fled for his life across the Afghan border near Tirah, southwest of Peshawar in Pakistan.

"Osama bin Laden has most likely abandoned Afghanistan for the Manatiq-e Azad (free areas) of Pakistan to save his life," it quoted the source as saying.

Rumsfeld said bin Laden would be relentlessly pursued. "I think we will find him (bin Laden), either there or in some other country," he added.

Pakistan, which has faced pressure from Muslim radicals at home over its support for the US-led war. has put tanks on its border to stop Taliban or bin Laden fighters cross-

Vice-President Dick Cheney said the United States would go after al Qaida cells beyond the borders of

Afghanistan. Old suspicions

Meanwhile, in an ominous sign for prospects of a smooth transition to a post-Taliban administration in Afghanistan, Afghan politicians yesterday were already voicing old suspicions.

And two competitors proclaimed

to help Afghanistan. Representatives of both Yunis Khalis, whose men took part in the revolt to drive out the Taliban, and Haii Qadeer, brother of Abdul Hag, a famous guerrilla leader executed by the Taliban last month, had told diplomats in Peshawar that their leader was the governor of

Jalalabad. A meeting was to be held yester-

day to try to resolve the dispute. "Some people have come from here and some people have come from Kabul, from the Northern Alliance." Arifi told Reuters. "There is some problem but it will be solved because they know the situation is

very grave." Former Jalalabad governor Qadeer was one of the most prominent figures from the Pashtun tribes, who make up about 40 percent of the Afghan population, in the Northern Alliance, which is made up mainly of Tajiks, Uzbeks and

Hazaras While Dobbins is conducting his own diplomacy, Afghans overwhelmingly are looking to the United Nations to provide the mechanism to establish a new government. Under the UN plan, leaders from all Afghan groups will meet and approve an interim leadership that

will rule for a maximum of two years. Titas Gas

FROM PAGE 1
One official said only private sector operators could properly and cost-

effectively market the gas

Besides the system loss, the company is also burdened with a huge amount of unrealised bills Domestic consumers alone owe Tk 120 crore in unpaid bills, according to a report submitted to the Asian Development Bank in February this

When contacted, Managing Director in-charge of Titas Gas S M Anwaruzzaman said installation of metres has been started to improve

the situation.

FROM PAGE 1 body's life.

the holy Ramadan.

sense of proportion.

month of Ramadan. "Being imbued with the spirit of

1998 deluge

Kibria also presented compara-

DU halls FROM PAGE 12 that hall if they have no permission to reside there. Besides, resident students who

their own halls, will also be considered as outsider, according to the decision of the meeting. Speaking on the occasion, the new Vice Chancellor sought cooperation of the provosts to oust the

are staying in other halls instead of

terrorists from the halls and root out terrorism from the campus. He called on all concerned to perform their duties with fairness and neutrality irrespective of their party affiliation to ensure peaceful co-existence of the activists of rival

student organisations in the halls. The meeting also held detailed discussions on the law and order situation now prevailing on campus. Newly appointed Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Z N Tahmida

Begum and Proctor Prof. Nazrul

Dacoity at

Uttara

Uttara area yesterday.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Dacoits looted money in cash, gold ornaments and other valuables from the house of a family planning officer at Faidabad in the city's

Police quoting family sources said the robbers numbering seven to eight entered the house of Mustafizur Rahman at about 5am after cutting the window grill. They confined the inmates of the house in a room at gunpoint and

looted Tk.10, 000 in cash and gold ornaments and other valuables worth about Tk.1.50 lakh. A case was filed with Uttara

police station in this regard.

Clarification Information Minister Moveen Khan said in the Jatiya Sangsad on November 14 that "proper steps" would be taken against Ekushey Television after disposal of the case against it in court. But it was printed in The Daily Star on November 15 that "steps" would be taken against

ETV. We regret the inadvertent mistake.

Chuva Selim group at Geneva Camp in Mohammadpur on Tuesday night. The critically injured Rashid was admitted to the hospital

said

October 1 polls.

districts.

AL needs immediate overhauling

unpleasant incidents took place in

presence of central leaders in

different districts during the tour

programme, the central leaders

situations during her tour of six

southwestern districts included

Gopalganj, Narail and Barguna.

She was elected from Gopalganj -3,

Narail -1 and 2 and Barguna -3 in the

vene when party workers started

shouting at each other at a workers'

rally at Barisal circuit house on

November 10. Rival groups were

blaming each other for the polls

debacle, particularly in the southern

chanted slogans against former

chief whip in parliament Abul Hasnat

Abdullah, a cousin of the AL presi-

an awkward situation while attend-

ing another workers' rally in Magura

leaders intervened in presence of

Zillur Rahman to calm down rival

AL general secretary also faced

November 11. Senior party

Party workers in Barisal also

The AL president had to inter-

Sheikh Hasina faced unpleasant