nomic developments in Bangladesh and discussed policies of the new

government. "The mission will report on its findings to the Executive Board of the IMF early next year," Valdivieso

Getting IMF standby facility or Poverty Reduction Growth Facility has become ever more important for Bangladesh as it needs to pay around US\$ 400 million to the Asian Clearing Union in January. Bangladesh can get up to 533.33 million SDR from IMF as its quota.

On the country's economic situation, the IMF mission head said although Bangladesh has enjoyed satisfactory economic growth and low inflation in recent years, 'pressures have been building up as a result of large fiscal and budget deficits and sizeable and mounting losses of the state-owned enter-

"This has been reflected in a steady decline in foreign reserves. In addition, government interference in the financial system and other sectors of the economy has created some distortions, Valdivieso commented.

However, he mentioned that fragility of the country's economic situation was enhanced by the global slowdown that started in late 2000 and in the aftermath of the September 11 events. "These events have affected Bangladesh's

the emerging domestic imbalances, but it cautioned against relying on

"The mission does not support the recent increase in the margin requirement on opening of letters of credits for import of an wide array of goods. Also, given the existing macroeconomic imbalances, measures to increase credit and reduce the cost of bank financing of exports should be offset by reducing credittaking by other sectors in the econ-

omy,"Valdivieso said.
"Such measures will only increase distortions and reduce medium and long-term growth prospects." he thought.

The IMF mission welcomed other steps 'aimed at reducing the cost of financing the budget deficit' It welcomed the reduction in interest rates on various National Savings Certificates and "the measures under consideration to contain government spending, in particular those financed by costly suppliers credit and expenditures under Annual Development Programme.'

Resident Representative of IMF Marijn Verhoven was present on the

Rajuk, DCC

and death of fish in the lake. A task force has also been formed with the Director General of Environment Directorate as convener to take immediate steps to make the lake free from pollution.

Other members of the task force are DCC Chief Engineer, BFDC Director (Marketing), Project Director of Dhaka Urban Transportation Project and President of Gulshan Amateur Fishing Association.

The committee will place shortand long-term recommendations

Shrimp trade in 3 dists processing plants of Khulna,

elder brother Mosharraf Mir was slaughtered the same day.

According to office bearers of Satkhira Jubo Samabava Samity. hoodlums of the ruling party and the PBCP have taken over two shrimp farms of Tala upazila at gunpoint. Police neither arrested the armed goons nor did they save the fish

farms from being looted, they said. The alleged miscreants of BNP, PBCP and BCP looted at least 11 fish farms of Khulna, Bagerhat and Satkhira districts during last one month. Besides, owners of at least 30 fish farms have received death threats after refusing to pay toll. These fish farm owners are fearing for their lives.

Police officials in these three districts, however, expressed their ignorance about such incidents. saying no case was lodged with any

Meanwhile, at least 60 fish

Javed, who joined the elite trio in

The highlight of the day was a

The stand was finally broken 15

Bulawayo last April with an unde-

feated 85, has so far remained at the

crease 415 minutes and faced 320

century partnership between the

dapper Javed and pugnacious

Bashar. The pair remained insepara-

minutes into the final session when

Bashar was holed out at mid off while

attempting to hit left-arm spinner

Grant Flower out of the ground.

Substitute fielder Paul Strang, who

came here as a replacement for

iniured Zimbabwe captain Brian

Bashar struck a dozen bound-

The departure of Bashar her-

Murphy, took a simple catch.

aries 150-ball knock.

FROM PAGE 1

before Al-Shahriar fell for 40.

balls. He has struck nine fours.

ble for more than two sessions.

Javed digs deep

Bagerhat and Satkhira districts are on the verge of closure due to sharp fall in export and outbreak of viral

Several thousand men and women have already lost their jobs in the processing plants and fish farms of greater Khulna, which earns the country over Tk 700 crore

Demand for processed frozen shrimps by foreign buyers has registered a sharp decline due to recession caused by September 11 attack on the WTC and subsequent

The price fall has also forced the traders to stop export of processed frozen shrimps since production cost is much higher than the rate now being offered by the foreign buyers, said leaders of the Khulna unit of Bangladesh Frozen Food Exporters' Association.

alded a mini collapse with veterans

Aminul Islam and Akram Khan

pushed forward only to be caught by

Trevor Gripper at silly point after

marginally better. The popular

Chittagonian made just two before

in the Zimbabwe line-up, was again

the leading wicket-taker with three

for 37. He captured a career-best 4-

41 in the first innings. However, the

arrival of young Ashraful steadied

the ship and together with Javed saw

(Scoreboard and more stories on

out the remaining 95 minutes of play.

Grant, who is not a regular bowler

A nervous Aminul tentatively

His long-time pal Akram fared

disappointing once more.

being bowled by Grant.

scoring one.

page 13)

IMF, Dhaka assessing Taliban to surrender Kunduz

local Taliban tried to surrender in Kunduz but they were killed by the foreign soldiers," the spokesman said, adding that the death toll was less than 150 as reported in some

Reuters adds: The Taliban said they were in control in their southern stronghold, Kandahar, yesterday but announced they were extending a night curfew while US jets rained bombs on them from the skies.

The raids killed 46 people in and around Kandahar, powerbase of Taliban supreme leader Mullah Mohammad Omar, the Pakistanbased Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) said, describing raids on Saturday night and yesterday morning as among the heaviest in 43 days of

The Taliban -- struggling to maintain control over the city -have extended the curfew by an hour, warning residents they would be shot if they came out of their homes after 8.00 pm local time, witnesses arriving at the Pakistani border crossing at Chaman told

Heavy US bombings raids overnight and yesterday morning at Maiwand district, 70-km west of Kandahar, killed 42 people. Four civilians were killed in the city.

The US jets may be targeting Taliban trying to escape the city for the inhospitable mountain ranges of central Afghanistan.

Witnesses arriving at the Pakistani border said several Arabs were among those killed near Kandahar as two of their vehicles sustained direct hits by US bombs Arabs and Pakistani Taliban from share power

the al Qaida network of Osama bin Laden are among the most formidable and determined fighters in Afghanistan

There was no sign the beleaguered Taliban were ready to withdraw from the powerbase they captured just seven years ago from the Mujahideen despite reports on Friday that they had done a deal on a withdrawal that would leave the city in the hands of fellow members of the ethnic Pashtun majority.

In the past week, the Taliban have been booted out of the capital Kabul and other major cities by the opposition Northern Alliance, composed mainly of minority Tajiks and

Meanwhile, a top Russian delegation flew to Kabul yesterday to hold talks with the anti-Taliban opposition as Moscow seeks to play a role in the formation of a future government for Afghanistan, sources said.

defense, interior and emergency ministry officials, was due to meet Burhanuddin Rabbani, recognised as Afghanistan's president by the United Nations and most countries, among others. Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov said earlier that the group

The delegation, including

contact with the leadership of the legitimate government of this AFP from UN says, the collapse of Taliban rule in Afghanistan has

forced the United Nations to

urgently accelerate a strategy for

would attempt to "establish working

tries to persuade ancient foes to

The UN special representative for Afghanistan, Lakhdar Brahimi, has outlined a two-year transition to a new constitution and multi-ethnic government, starting with a pan-Afghan conference.

Asked to name his chief obstacle, Brahimi replied: "thirty years of

The so-called Group of 21-- the six countries bordering on Afghanistan, major donor nations and other states with a large stake in the country's future -- met here Friday for the first time in three

A diplomat who was present said Brahimi asked those with influence over Afghanistan's various ethnic groups -- Iran and Pakistan, but also China, Turkey, "and even India" -- to come to the conference.

In addition to the victorious Northern Alliance -- mostly Tajiks and Uzbeks from the north -- the conference would include the southern Pashtun tribes, who make up half the population, and representatives of the 87-year-old former king, Mohammed Zahir Shah, deposed in 1973.

General Mohammad Quassim Fahim, the Alliance's defence minister, said Saturday that "for the good of the country and for peace in Afghanistan we are ready to take part" in talks outside Kabul, which fell to his forces four days earlier.

Bill for electoral law reform placed before parliament

An ordinance promulgated by President Shahabuddin Ahmad seeking electoral law reform was placed as a bill before parliament vesterday.

the House.

promulgated the ordinance ahead of the October 1 election amending the Representation of People Order 1972, the gospel for the conduct of elections.

amended law are increase in election expenses from Tk 3 lakh to 5 lakh and disposing of election disputes in High Court instead of tribunals.

armed forces as law-enforcing agencies during elections and arming them with power of arrest and seizure without warrant.

Ctg leaders

sioner of Chittagong, who was made OSD reportedly for controversial activities during the immediate past government's tenure, is trying hard to get posted as chairman of Chittagong Port Authority, sources

succeeded in convincing the BNP government that he was victimised by the AL government, said the

leader, who is also a cabinet member, strongly supported reinstatement of the removed secretary and as per his instructions, the office of the attorney general refrained from representing the government at the High Court.

Establishment Secretary Syed Marghub Murshed ended yesterday.

Power plant FROM PAGE 1

Trade Asia (Malaysia) and McConnel International (New Zealand)

According to primary proposals, placed by some of the companies, the plant would not dispose harmful waste. Such a power plant might be set up at the DCC dumping site at

The project would take between 18 to 24 months to implement. Some 5000 DCC garbage collectors would supply waste daily to the plant from Dhaka and Narayanganj.

However, the project got stuck at the level of the Ministry of Environment in 1999 when it wanted to scrutinise the primary proposals.

The then Environment and Forest Minister Sajeda Chowdhury took particular interest in it, sources In the early 199, the ministry

foreign bidders - Techomtech and Integrated Environment Technology both represented by one local agency, sources said. However, as the ministry added two more bidders that did not origi-

added names of two unsolicited

nally participate, the original bidder protested to the government in Afterwards, the project suddenly stopped progressing. The Power

Cell was supposed to arrange a consultant for the project but could not proceed due to lack of In recent months, the project got

back some life as the Commonwealth Secretariat agreed to finance the consultancy for the project. "We are hoping to proceed with the project once again," said an

Ctg: Manhunt FROM PAGE 1 A team of CMP police led by Deputy

Commissioner (North Zone) Nababikram Tripura visited Nazirhat College and surrounding areas yesterday afternoon for investiga-

CMP sources said the team suspected involvement of some other local people in the sensational

Sources said Gopal Chandra earned fame as principal of the college. He was a man of principle and maintained academic atmosphere on the campus. He banned student politics at the college and removed irregularities in the college administration.

Police earlier said the four FIRnamed accused are supporters of Jamaat-e-Islami, but local Jammat leaders said the party has no link with them.

UNB adds: The two arrested teachers of Nazirhat College were interrogated by a special team of CMP headed by AC Monirul Islam.

AC Monirul said the arrested teachers gave them some important information in connection with the murder. Police are verifying the

Official sources said the five CMP teams formed earlier to arrest the killers conducted several raids in different areas to nab the culprits.

Laden surrounded FROM PAGE 1 around bunkers.

On Saturday night the Taliban envoy to Pakistan refuted earlier claims that bin Laden had left the country with his wives and children.

"Osama is inside Afghanistan but don't know whether he is in our territory or the area controlled by the Northern Alliance," Salam Zaeef

But Reuters quoting Salam Zaeef said yesterday Laden was not in Taliban-controlled areas of Afghanistan and did not know if he was still in the country.

"I do not know where he is, whether he is in other parts of Afghanistan, or he has left Afghanistan," Zaeef was quoted as saying by the Pakistan-based AIP. "But what I know is that he is not

in any area under our control," Zaeef said in an interview in the southwestern Pakistani city of Quetta. US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has warned that bin Laden might have access to a

helicopter that could try to take him to a possible rendezvous with a private iet in Pakistan.

Gas, power sectors

FROM PAGE 1

gas as well as gas export. The Indian representatives also

pointed out problems of government's monopoly control of gas supply and marketing.

The technical session discussed a joint power project by India and Bangladesh in the bordering area of Bheramara. Addressing the inaugural ses-

sion as chief guest, State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources AKM Mosharraf Hossain said Bangladesh will export gas only if it is found economically profitable. "Now we have to think how we can make optimum use of our

natural gas", the state minister said, adding that only 15 per cent of the people of Bangladesh are now getting the benefit of energy. The government is fully committed to regional cooperation, he said. Representatives from Nepal and

Bhutan stressed the need of mutual cooperation on hydroelectric potentialities in this region to bring more people under energy network.

Abdel Rahman's

son captured

Afghanistan?

or killed in

AP, Cairo

Speaking as special guest, State Minister for Power Iqbal Hasan Mahmud said the countries of the

The son of Omar Abdel-Rahman, a blind Egyptian cleric serving a life sentence in the United States for conspiring to blow

Fazlul Rob, Uttara Pressure on

region should initiate collaboration

Akmal Husain, Power Secretary

Petroleum and Natural Gas (P &

NG) Secretary VN Kaul, Indian

Power Secretary AK Basu,

Bhutaneze Trade and Industry

Secretary Dasho Karma Dorjee

Water Resources Secretary of

Nepal LMS Karki and ADB officials

The newly appointed OCs are

Saifur Rahman Babul, Ramna; S M

Mohiuddin, Motijheel; Akkhlah

Hossain; Tejgaon; Mahbubur

Rahman, Kotwali: Rabiul Islam,

Sutrapur: Samsuddin Ahmed.

Hazaribagh; Ruhul Amin, Lalbagh;

Abul Kalam Azad, Dhanmondi;

Abdul Noor, Kafrul; Noor Ahmed,

Mohammadpur; Mahfuz Alam,

Mirpur; Jane-e-Alam Khan, Pallabi

Iftekhar Hossain, Gulshan; Nasir

Ahmed Sikdar, Cantonment;

Shadat Hossain, Airport; Shah

Mohammad Azad, Badda and AKM

addressed the inaugural session.

17 new OCs

FROM PAGE 1

Among others, Energy Secretary

in all other vital sectors.

Mesbahuddin Ahmed,

FROM PAGE 1 minister after the election.

BNP

As Naziur was convicted in a corruption case, he was constitutionally barred from participating in the election and becoming a minister for five years. The five-year constitu-

The BJP source noted that since Naziur was not an MP, he would be appointed a minister under the echnocrat quota.

However, there is a problem in this regard, he said.

The constitution permits one non-MP minister for every 10 ministers. There are already six technocrat ministers in the 60-strong council of If the government wants to

appoint another technocrat minister, has to induct nine more MPs into the council. The BJP has, however, come up

with a proposal to over this problem, suggesting that one of the six technocrat ministers be made an advisor to the prime minister with a minister's status and Naziur be put in his place.
BJP sources claim that the BNP

has accepted the proposal, "It's only a matter of time before Naziur takes oath," said a BJP source.

A BNP source admitted that the BJP had submitted a proposal and that the government would settle the issue within a few days. The BJP secretary-general told

The Daily Star Saturday night that his participation in the Narail-1 byelection has been finalised

Criminal

FROM PAGE 12

out quoted the decision of the meeting.
The meeting also decided to take

administrative actions against the responsible authorities if they fail to arrest the culprits, the handout said The cabinet committee asked the

agencies concerned to take lega actions against the incidents of crimes that were published in the newspapers. It also directed the departments concerned to inform the people about steps taken against the criminals through radio, television and newspapers Law, Justice and Parliamentary

Affairs Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Labour and Manpower Minister Abdullah Al Noman Housing and Public Works Minister Mirza Abbas, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Sadeq Hossain Khoka and State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfuzzaman Babar attended

the meeting.
Cabinet Secretary Dr Akbar Ali Khan, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Dr Kamal Siddiqi Home Secretary Dr Saada Hussain, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Mudabbir Hossain Chowdhury and Joint Secretary (Political) of the Home Ministry were

Rejoinder & our reply Bangladesh Election Commission

engineer of BTTB received a phone call from Canada on his mobile. It is further claimed that 9352629 (a number allocated to us) was displayed as the caller ID. If this was true then how come we have never heard anything relating to this issue from either the BTTB or the MOPT. And we fail to understand how the responsible reporter managed to brand us with the allegation of call termination on the basis of just this one unsubstantiated claim by one individual.

It should be mentioned that in order to stop call termination the government has taken a decision and accordingly the BTTB had stopped the outgoing call facility of the telephones issued to the ISPs in the country since the beginning of

It has been further mentioned in the said report that the rate of incoming calls to Bangladesh in the international market is on the decline. Now one fails to understand as to how, with the imposed outgoing call restriction in place on all ISPs, call termination is happening and how the rates of incoming calls to Bangladesh in international

We would like to further clarify here that no shareholder of Spectra is involved with the Awami League or any other political party of the country. Homeview Bangladesh, a sister concern of Spectra, had extended its all-out support to the

market is one the decline.

in publishing the election result live on the Internet during the October 1. 2001 election. It is perhaps as good an example as any to make everybody understand our completely

sion documents that clearly show that former post and telecom minister personally lobbied for telephone connection to Spectra. 2. Displaying the telephone

set is pertaining to a technology named common channel signalling number 7 (CCS7). This signalling protocol is globally standardised by the Internationa Telecommunications Union and other standard bodies. Therefore, display of the above stated telephone number in a mobile handset while receiving an overseas call clearly establishes Spectra's involvement with call-termination business. We have copy of complaints by the engineer about Spectra number used in call termination. Our report pointed out the mysterious inaction by the MOPT

all the ISPs in Bangladesh.

BNP leader gunned down

FROM PAGE 12 charge of the police station be closed.

At around seven in the morning, a group of three armed men, led by one Jamal, went to second-floor residence of the 40-vear-old BNP leader at 101/4 Sher-e-Bangla Road, Katashur and pressed the doorbell.

Babul woke up, came out of his bedroom and opened the door. The gang first asked him to come with

them to the ground floor. As Babul refused to do so, a brief altercation took place. At one stage, the gang pulled out their weapons and shot him once. Babul tried to close the door in vain as the assailants pushed the door open and shot him twice more in the chest and

abdomen. Upon hearing the shots, local people rushed to the spot and found the victim in a pool of blood. Babul was taken to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where the duty doctors declared him dead. The body was later sent for autopsy.

Riziva Begum, wife of the victim. witnessed the killing from close quarters. In fact, she was about to open the door when her husband asked her not to and opened the door himself.

son of late Hafizuddin Master, knew the killers. They also said Babul had been at

Police sources said that Babul.

odds with local BNP leader Nuru over a piece of land behind his residence. The former had taken over its possession at least 15 days

Local Government and Rural Development and Co-operatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Sadek Hossain Khoka went to the DMCH yesterday afternoon to see the body of the victim.

her that some miscreants had been threatening to kill him for quite some time. She could not, however, confirm the identity of the killers. The victim's brother-in-law, Masud, said that Babul had told him

on Saturday that he feared an attack

Riziya said that Babul used told

from some of his associates. Babul also asked him to come to his residence to talk. He did got to Babul's residence but could not find him as he had gone out for prayers.

The victim's namaz-e-janaza of the victim was held at a madrassah at Sat Masiid Road in the city after Asr prayers yesterday. Later, he was buried at Katasur, police said. Babul was the second among

three brothers and father of a six-

year-old girl, Jitu and a ten-year-old

son, Jewel Ahmad. Babul, a businessman, hailed from Motlab in Chandpur The Detective Branch of Police arrested Ahsan for his alleged

involvement in the killing. The duty officer of Mohammadpur police station, however, said last night that they were yet to receive any case in connection with the killing of the

diseases in most of shrimp farms, sources said.

a year in foreign exchange.

US bombing in Afghanistan

PM discussed in JS

Former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's foreign trips came under pungent questioning in Parliament yesterday, with BNP lawmakers asking about the money spent for her 52 trips and whether the country gained anything out

of those trips. Newly appointed Foreign Minister Morshed Khan avoided replies to many supplementary questions from Mashiur Rahman, Mehedi Ahmed Rumi, Prof. Shahidul Islam and Nazimuddin Álam of

chequer nearly Tk 60.88 crore.

Khan said the Bureau of Anticorruption (BAC) would investigate if the then government had committed any corruption in undertaking those trips.

Replying to another query from Mashiur Rahman if Ambassador Mrs. Shelley Saida Hossain Zaman is a cousin of ex-PM Hasina and if she is a

appointed by the Awami League government, where called back following the

give reply if the member gave a

foreign national, Khan said Shelley is a close relative of the former prime minister, but he did not know if she has foreign In reply to a question from Whip Ashraf Hossain, Khan said ambassadors and officials in foreign missions,

Hasina's foreign trips as

He said people know what the former set rules of the government prime minister brought for the country through her trips that cost the national He, however, said the government had not yet taken any decision about the

calling back of Cyril Sikdar, now Bangladesh Ambassador to Bhutan. On a supplementary question from Nazimuddin Alam about the expenditure Some 33 ambassadors and officials were appointed by the Awami League for Hasina's visit to Miami to look after government the foreign minister told her daughter, who was expecting a

baby, the foreign minister said he would More changes in admin

member of the Tariff Commission, Establishment Ministry OSD (Joint (Finance) of PDB. Joint Secretary of the Information Ministry Mustaquddin Ahmed member of BADC and WAQF administrator Muazzem Hossain member of

Bangladesh Handloom Board. The services of Col Abul Kalam Azad of Bangladesh Army have been placed under the Health and Family Welfare Ministry for appointment as Director of CMSD on depu-Meanwhile, the duties CMSD Director Col Mohammad Ali. working on deputation, were entrusted with the Armed Forces

Division for his return to the Army. Second Secretary (Press) of Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi Dr Nasiruddin and Deputy Chief Information Officer of Regional Information Office, Chittagong, Abdul Mannan have been made Deputy Press Secretaries of the Prime Minister under the PM Office.

Department Begum Rezina Akhter

Khanam (Joint Secretary) was

transferred to the Establishment

lake area should be immediately

government more than a year ago,

consultants of the project, Vitti

Sthapoti Brindo, have submitted a

comprehensive proposal in this

regard with the Ministry of Housing

several protest rallies over the last

one week, said that the Tk 100 crore

project to save the lake should be

delaying the project in the hope that

more plots could be extracted from

Lake has long been the target of a

section of rich and influential prop-

erty developers. A section of Raiuk

officials has contributed to plunder-

With the massive pollution at

Twenty to 30 drains have been

Officially, the lake belongs to the

hand, the authorities continued

connected with the lake in the last

20 years, Dhaka City Corporation

Rajuk and the water body has been

leased out to the Bangladesh

Fisheries Development Corporation

(DCC) Zone-9 officials informed.

pointing fingers at each other.

Local people, who have staged

They said a vested quarter is

The Gulshan-Banani-Baridhara

After being engaged by the

Ministry as OSD.

implemented.

and Public Works.

revived immediately.

ing of the lake.

the lake and lakeside area.

Commission Ábu Solaiman Director General of Women Affairs Department. Joint Secretary of the

Division while Director General of Islamic Foundation Abdur Rashid Khan was appointed Joint Secretary of the Establishment Ministry. Division Mohammad Abdus Sattar

Kalam, has been made Director of BTMC

issued on Saturday, Secretary of Muktijoddaha Kalyan Trust Abu Khalid Mohammad Abdus Shukur has been transferred as deputy secretary to the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

Director of Muktiioddaha Kalvan

Trust Mohammad Siddique has

been More changes

(BFDC) for pisciculture and mainte-

nance purposes, Rajuk officials

BFDC officials, meanwhile, said

that they were giving technical

assistance to the Gulshan Saukhin

Matsha Shikari Samity to cultivate

been seen floating in the lake water

since November 9 and stench has

made breathing difficult for people

living on the lakeside and in its

adjoining areas. A large number of

dead fishes have already been

streaming into the lake has wrought

havoc on the fish population by

reducing the biochemical oxygen

Department of Environment (DoE)

has already declared that the lake

water is extremely polluted and also

requested people not to eat fish of

BFDC officials said that fishes

In a letter to the corporation, it

claimed fishes worth nearly one

crore taka have died, said BFDC

worth at least Tk 25 lakh have died

in the lake so far. The samity puts

the lake or bathe in the water.

the loss even higher.

After testing the water of the lake

Experts believe that toxic waste

dumped under ground.

demand (BOD) in its water.

Schools of dead fishes have

said.

fish in the lake.

Joint Secretary of the Election

Establishment Ministry Nazrul Islam has been transferred to the Finance Joint Secretary of Cabinet

According to another notification

has been made Chairman of Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC). The former BRTC Chairman Azmal Chowdhury was made member of Bangladesh Export Processing Zone Authority Member of BADC, KM Abul

According to separate notifications of the Ministry of Establishment issued yesterday, Director General of Women Affairs

UNB, Dhaka

Law, Justice and Parliamentary

Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed placed the bill titled "The Representation of People (Amendment) Act 2001" for its passage by President Shahabuddin had

Among main features of the

Also, it provides for considering

FROM PAGE 12 chairman or directors of nationalised banks, they added.

Even a former deputy commis-

Mamun-ur-Rashid

sources. They said a high profile BNP

Meanwhile, the one-month contractual appointment of

Thousands exposed to health hazards Rajuk Superintendent Engineer Emdadul Islam blamed the BFDC for allowing the DCC to let the drain

They are also supposed to take care of its maintenance. BFDC Chairman Khan Mohammad Belayat Hossain, however, said that the Rajuk was supposed to resist the DCC from connecting the drain with the lake. "We are only the lessee. Since the Rajuk is owner of the lake it was

water fall into the lake a few months

back. "We have leased out the lake

to the corporation for pisciculture.

their responsibility.' Sources said that the Rajuk has already asked the BFDC to sue the DCC for pollution of the lake water. Raiuk officials also questioned as to how the DCC permitted a dying plant beside the lake According to local people, a few

months back a drain along Road No

11 of Baridhara was connected to the lake and it started the rot. The BFDC issued a letter to the Department of Environment (DoE) and a copy of the letter was issued to the DCC zonal office on September 30 after the colour of water of the lake begun changing at many places.

The DCC, on behalf of the Dhaka Urban Transport Project (DUTP),

said that there was no possibility of any kind of residential and nonresidential liquid waste or sewer being carried by the drain.

Moreover, initiatives have been

taken to make alternative arrange-

ments after stopping disposal of water into the lake immediately, considering the importance of the issue, they said. Meanwhile, failure of the WASA to expand its sewerage network at Baridhara-Badda area has left no option for the residents but to con-

drains that run into the lake. "A few residents are using septic tank while the rest are connecting the sewer line with surface drain.' said WASA sources. WASA officials attributed its

nect the sewer lines with surface

failure to expand sewerage network to fund constraints. Although the BFDC, with the help of labourers and trucks provided by the DCC zonal office, has been removing rotten fishes from the lake for the last few days, the arrangement appears inadequate. The

obnoxious odour in the air is still

BFDC chairman said, " We are removing dead fishes everyday; however, the problem is fishes are dying everyday.

tional bar ended on Saturday.

up New York City landmarks, reportedly was captured or killed in Afghanistan as he fought alongside other Arab allies of The London-based Arabic newspaper Al Hayat quoted unnamed Islamic militant sources yesterday as saying that Ahmed Abdel-Rahman was captured by American soldiers on Friday as he was trying to leave the Afghan capital of Kabul for Kandahar, the southern Afghan city that is the Taliban's stronghold.

was killed along with Mohammed Atef, the Egyptian-born militant and close aide to Osama bin Laden, the prime suspect of the September 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. His elder brother, Mohammed, was

A third brother, Abdullah, who lives in Cairo, told The Associated Press that the

But another London-based Arabic

newspaper, Asharq Al-Awsat, quoted unnamed Islamic militant sources in London as saying Ahmed Abdel-Rahman

family had only seen the newspaper reports and had not been officially informed that Ahmed Abdel-Rahman was dead or in US custody.

reportedly in Kandahar.

No JS motion FROM PAGE 12 reasury and opposition benches proportionately. "MPs will head the parliamentary standing committees," he said referring to the prece-

dence in the Seventh Parliament.

Meanwhile, a treasury bench member has submitted a proposal to the Parliament Secretariat seeking amendment to the rules of procedure. He suggested that each member of a committee should work as its chairman for a six-month term. The proposal was included in the

order of the day at the fifth sitting of this session, but was not moved in the House. The committees formed in the maiden session include Business Advisory Committee. House Committee, Committee on Private

Member's Bills and Resolution and Standing Committee on Privileges. But Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Committee on Estimates. Committee on Public Undertakings and Committee on Public assurances, considered very important, are yet to be formed.

Dacoity in city

toll from a bank official

FROM PAGE 12 rescued the manager but failed to arrest any of the culprits. The victim was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

In another incident, police arrested Fatullah thana unit JCD president on charge of demanding

neutral political view. Our reply: 1. The Daily Star has in posses-

number 9352629 in a mobile hand-

and the BTTB on the complaint. Spectra claimed to be voice of

Whereas in its official letter dated November 8, 2001, the country's ISP Association has officially dissociated itself from Spectra.

ability to generate foreign exchange and increased the downside risks to the economic outlook." The IMF mission welcomed some of the measures the new government took to address the adverse external environment and