



### **Dry weather likely** UNB. Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country today.

Light to moderate fog may occur over land area and moderate to thick fog over the river basins during morning, Met office said adding night temperature may fall by 1 to 3 degree Celsius.

Mild cold wave may sweep over country's Northern part during the period, it added.

Country's highest temperature 28.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chittagong and the lowest 10.2 degree at Syedpur. The sun sets in the capital today at 5.17 pm and rises on

Monday at 6:38 am. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity in the main cities and

towns yesterday w	vere:		,	
City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	25.8	14.0	88	66
Chittagong	28.8	17.0	90	72
Rajshahi	25.2	11.5	85	85
Khulna	24.2	14.2	82	78
Barisal	25.0	14.0	91	90
Sylhet	28.0	13.0	64	60
Cox's Bazar	26.7	19.5	88	74

demanding release of Shahriar Kabir today

Human chain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A human chain will be formed in front of the Jatiya Press Club today demanding unconditional release of Shahriar Kabir Sixteen organisations will take

part in the programme beginning at 11 am, said a press release of Sammilita Sangskritik Jote

The organisations are Supreme Court Lawyers' Association, Sammilita Sangskritik Jote (SSJ), Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, Mohila Parisad, Federation of University Teachers' Association. Dhaka University Teachers' Association, Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists'. Sammilita Samajeik Andolon, Projonmo '71, Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, Bangladesh Street Drama Parisad, Bangladesh Abriti Samonnoy Parisad, Jatiya Kabita Parisad, ADAB, Karmachari Nari and Ain O Shalish Kendra

seas operators after every three

technology but Bangladesh is yet to

A token hunger strike organised by conscious youths was observed at Central Shaheed Minar yesterday demanding release of Shahriar Kabir.

গরাবন্দাবিবেক লেখক সাংবাদিক, চলাচ্চগ্র শুব্দা

শাহরিয়ার কবিরের অবিলয়ে নিঃশার্ত মুক্তি চাই ষড়যন্ত্রমূলক রাষ্ট্রদ্রোহ মামলা প্রত্যাহার করতে হবে

প্রতীক অনশন

সচেতন যুব সমাজ

# **Indo-Pak tension**

#### FROM PAGE 12

"We're keeping close observation on the developments," the Foreign might come up for discussion when Minister said Blair would be meeting with Prime Minister Khaleda Zia

Asked if the escalating tensions between India and Pakistan might stall next month's SAARC summit in Kathmandu, he said, "We don't think so, we haven't got any hint that it might jeopardize the SAARC summit.

Khan said Nepal is putting a lot of efforts to hold the long-due summit as scheduled for January 4-6. In reply to a question about the

possibility of Bangladesh's joining international forces in Afghanistan, the Foreign Minister said, "If we're approached, it will be given due consideration for peacekeeping."

"Our stand is always on bluehelmet operation under the UN peacekeeping mission... Our commitment to world peace against terrorism has received international

appreciation," he said. In reply to a question about his meeting with British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw during his just-concluded UK tour, he said the meeting was fruitful

Asked about Tony Blair's visit to Dhaka, he said the British Prime Minister may visit Bangladesh early January, but the date had not yet been firmed up.

**Tofail on re-export** 

Tofail

## To a question, he said bilateral. regional and international issues

(MOPT) had moved to reduce tariff rates after foreign operators refused to settle accounts with the BTTB due to higher call charges. Foreign operators and BTTB settle accounts for calls coming to the country and generated to the network of over-

months

Tariff cut

FROM PAGE 12

### Armed gang FROM PAGE 1

But police could not arrest any one Call charges have been reduced till yesterday evening. olobally as a result of dramatic improvement in telecommunications

Neither the Deputy Commissioner nor the SP of Chandpur visited the village.

The sources said local BNP lawmaker SA Sultan Titu had directed police to beef up security in the village as the miscreants allegedly threatened to attack the village again vesterday.

A police team led by a Sub-Inspector went to the village.

The victims said many of the male persons who fled the village during the attack are yet to return home

Local AL leaders visited the spot and demanded punishment of the attackers. The sources said since the

October 1 general election, some local BNP men were demanding toll from villagers of Hapania and threatening them.

take the advantage in its stride. The BTTB had snapped connecunison tions of some Internet service providers (ISPs) late last month for nonrenewal of license and on allegation of call termination. A section of the ISPs had long been involved in illegal call termination causing huge revenue loss to BTTB in ISD calls. Meanwhile, Total Accounting Rate (TAR), the amount shared

equally by the BTTB and foreign telecom firms through which calls are routed, has also been reduced to 0.20 SDR (special drawing right) from 0.50 SDR. Call charges to the United States during peak hours have been slashed to Tk 40 per minute from Tk 60.

The BTTB officials said the charge for European countries had been reduced to Tk 30 from Tk 50 and that for South Asian countries to Tk.20 from Tk.30 a minute. Calls made during off-peak hours will have

#### trader through Bangladesh territory US control can be called 're-export', wondered FROM PAGE 12

a 25 per cent discount.

The former commerce minister nate its interests in the Middle East recalled that following hectic negotiand Asia. ations Indian Prime Minister had

He said Israel provides a bastion through which the flow of oil can be

Karzai sworn in as PM

FROM PAGE 1 and friends. Forget the painful past," he said.

As he finished his speech, he smiled, nodded and bowed slightly as the crowd erupted in a thunderousovation

He swore in the other 29 members of his Cabinet including two women who stood behind him on the dais

Karzai paid homage to Rabbani, with whom he has sharply disagreed in the past, telling him: "I must say Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar," as the audience shouted in

He concluded the formal ceremony by handing Rabbani the written agreement of the transfer of power, a unique scene for Afghanistan where power has been seized in war and coups since the ouster of the monarchy in 1973.

The 30-member government faces the staggering challenge of rebuilding a nation whose citizens are largely unprepared for a long, hungry winter and whose coffers were left empty by the ousted Taliban regime.

Karzai, a 44-year-old Pashtun tribal leader, immediately promised to address the issues of free expression, women's rights and the battered education system.

As a Pashtun, Karzai represents Afghanistan's dominant ethnic group, and his appointment as prime minister was seen as a balancing of the northern alliance's grip on the most important ministries.

The Westernized Karzai is also a figure with whom the Americans are comfortable; he and the US military worked closely in the siege of Kandahar, the southern Afghanistan city that was the Taliban's stronghold

A drum roll sounded as Rabbani arrived and strode a red carpet past an honor quard of smartly dressed Afghan soldiers and an audience of Afahan and

Cleric Barkat Ullah opened the proceedings with Quran recitations n a haunting voice, and everyone then rose to sing the national anthem The speakers and crowd repeatedly paid tribute to Ahmed Shah

Masood, the legendary guerilla leader who led the battle against Soviet occupation in the 1980s, then

## Laden is dead. thinks

Musharraf AP, Beijing

Pakistani President Gen Pervez Musharraf says he's "reasonably sure" that Osama Bin Laden has not escaped to Pakistan and that there's a "great possibility" that the al-Qaida eader is dead.

In an interview broadcast yesterday on Chinese state television, Musharraf said Pakistan would hand bin Laden to the United States if he's caught. "He's not in Pakistan, of that we

are reasonably sure. But we can't be a hundred per cent sure. We have sealed the borders between Afghanistan and Pakistan,' Musharraf said.

"The Tora Bora region in which he was supposed to be operating ... has about eight passes leading into Pakistan," Musharraf said. "We are guarding each one of these passes." "Maybe he is dead because of all

the operations that have been conducted, the bombardment of the all the caves," Musharraf said. "There is a great possibility that he may have lost his life there.

the Taliban, before he was assassinated by a suicide bomb on Sept 9. A huge portrait of Masood was draped behind the podium.

PHOTO: STAR

Rabbani called Masood "the great hero of this Islamic jihad." He also thanked the international community for its backing, saying his country is "thirsty for peace.

"In this very important moment, our fate is going to be decided," Rabbani said. "I thank the great God, who gave us the power that we could present a united front once again. This is a historic moment that has not been witnessed in the last century.

As leaders prepared for peace, US forces hunted down al-Qaida and Taliban leaders, with warplanes destroying a convoy that the Pentagon said was carrying top members of the two groups. But an Afghan official said it was taking tribal leaders to the inauguration.

A Pakistani news agency reported 65 dead in the airstrikes The Pentagon said there were casualties in the attack near the eastern town of Khost, but did not say how many.

Khost lies to the southwest of Tora Bora, which was one of al-Qaida's main bases until an assault by Afghan fighters backed by US

airstrikes and special forces drove out the group's fighters. The convoy destroyed by US ail strikes had opened fire on US aircraft just before it was bombed, a US diplomatic mission official in Kabul said.

"We apparently had evidence that this convoy had al-Qaida forces. We circled the convoy," said the official, who declined to be identified.

"I'm told by Centcom (Central Command) that we were fired on twice by the convoy using antiaircraft missiles, which they took as a hostile act and proceeded to attack the convoy." he said.

### 52 murdered in city FROM PAGE 1 Mohammadpur and Uttara while

In the wake of a rise in killings and

On the other hand, a top DMP

shortage of police personnel with

adequate experience to fight mod-

ern terrorism and criminals after the

remain untouched because of their

'contacts' with high-ups. Moreover,

many policemen now feel discour-

aged to carry out their duty properly

policemen were punished for their

actions against criminals, they

There are many instances that

because of political intervention.

Babul murder

As per her directive, Belera opened the door in the morning and

then went back to bed. At about

:30am, she woke up hearing

gunshots and found two strangers

standing at the gate. Then she went

to the living room and found

Rahman lying in a pool of blood. Fahad, the victim's son, told the

magistrate that he, his sister Babli

and their mother were asleep in the bedroom when three men came into

the house at 7am. Two of them

entered the bedroom and ordered

their mother to give the key's to the

almira. As their mother (Hira)

refused to oblige, they dragged her and forced her to give them the keys. After a while, he heard gun-

He told the court that the two men

took away a gun, and valuables

nised one of them whom he had

seen at a nearby park while he went

there with his cousin Liton, the main

remembered Liton talking to that

man at the park. He however did not

saw two people in the bedroom in

the morning. She said her cousin Liton used to come to their house

sometimes and would spend hours

Belera were kept at the DB office to

be handed over to their close rela-

tives. Investigation Officer of the

case Inspector Wahiduzzaman told

The Daily Star that victim's brother

came to take the kids but they

refused to go with him, as they

wanted to stay with their maternal

grandmother in Pabna.

Nahiduzzaman also said that

Belera, along with the kids, would

also be sent away to her native

Hira and Liton for the murder. The

village in Pabna.

Farhad, Babli and housemaid

Babli told the magistrate that she

know the man's name.

together with their mother.

FROM PAGE 1

In most cases, the criminals

major reshuffle in the department.

The December victims include 23 one each in Hazaribagh, Gulshan alleged muggers, two businessmen, and Cantonment areas. four small traders, two cloth traders. four unidentified men and women, criminals activities. the Dhaka two JCD and Jubo Dal activists, four Metropolitan Police (DMP) deployed housewives, a garment employee, a additional forces in the capital ahead cattle trader, a car driver, two college of the Eid. But the move did little to students, a school student, a bank nprove the situation. employee, a government employee. a bus passenger, a pedestrian, a official said they are still facing

errorist and a new-born. Of the killings, nine took place in Sutrapur, five each in Demra, Dhanmondi and Shyampur, four each in Mirpur and Tejgaon, three in Kotwali, two each in Pallabi, Ramna, Motijheel, Kafrul, Khilgaon, 2 cops arrested

FROM PAGE 1 Following the interrogation, the arrested persons confessed that the two traffic sergeants nicked Tk 25 lakh from the booty.

An identification parade was pointed out. organised at the Dhaka Metropolitan Police headquarters yesterday in which Sergeant Babul was identified for the offence and later he was arrested. was expecting three guests.

Police also kept an eye on a number of other suspect policemen and later arrested Jahangir. Police also recovered Tk 12.20 lakh from the sergent.

A gang of robbers looted Tk 25 lakh from Abu Naser, general man-ager of Ajik Group of industries, at Road number 7 in the Dhanmondi area on December 15 morning.

After the robbery, the dacoits set off for Gazipur in a microbus. When they reached Shabagh area, two on-duty traffic sergeants stopped the car. The robbers immediately ran away and after searching through the vehicle, the policemen found a carton full of money. The sergeants then asked the

driver to take them to Panthakuja near Banglamotor.

One of the sergeants went to a nearby shop and brought a poly-thene bag, put Tk. 35,000 in it and from the almira and that he recoghanded it over to the driver. The policemen nicked the rest of the money. accused in the case. Farhad said he

### Inquiry FROM PAGE 12

the magistrates concerned separately. However, immediately after the incident, the deputy commissioner declined his involvement, but admitted the facts while talking to some of the newsmen

The Whip at the meeting asked the district officials to take necessary steps to maintain law and order

### Road accident FROM PAGE 1

gers on the spot

The dead were identified as Achhia Begum, 55, Chand Khan, 70, Toma, 7, Mithu Molla, 20, Baby Akhter, 40, Badhon Molla, 12, and

van driver Ayub Ali, 32. Achhia Begum and Chand Khan Zahidur Rahman, statistics assistant at the Survey Department ailed from Bhanga in Faridpur of the Bureau of Statistics, was shot dead by gunmen at his Taj Mahal Road in the city's Mohammadpur area on Friday. Victim's brother Badiur Rahman Bulu filed a case district while others from Jessore district Of the injured, Belly, 13, was

admitted to Faridpur Medical College Hospital in a critical condiwith Mohammadpur police accusing tion A case was filed with Shibchar

case was later shifted to the DB on

He recalled that the post-75 BNP dovernment gave railway and waterway transits to India. which were renewed later by Ershad government and again by 1991 BNP government

Referring to India's long-

cherished demand for transit facility,

Tofail said the Awami League gov-

ernment did not concede as it

viewed that the arrangement would

not be beneficial for Bangladesh.

party was in power

"We had agreed to consider transshipment, because we found it economically rewarding for us. It would benefit our transport sector and help develop road and other infrastructures," he said

Tofail noted with regret that BNP now quickly agreed to the Indian proposal, which it vowed to resist even at the cost of life.

He disagreed with Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury that it is simply a reexport arrangement, not transit or transshipment facility to India

How carrying Indian goods from one Indian trader to another Indian

# Araihazar still tense

me or BNP"

spot

#### FROM PAGE 1

the spot about one hour after the attackers left. Aquandi village is only six km

Friday. from Araihazar thana headquarter and is linked with a pucca road.

During a visit to the village yesterday, several families were seen sitting helplessly on homesteads in the open. The villagers alleged that the "terrorists" looted whatever they had and even took away poles of some of the demolished houses.

Nazron, an elderly woman, said she was at her house when the attackers destroyed it, uprooted the poles and took away the chicken and the small quantity of rice she collected by begging. Now she has nothing to eat.

Fatema, 30, wife of Joz Mia, said the miscreants looted valuables including her gold ornaments. They uprooted the tubewell and demolished the bathroom.

Tajul Islam, an weaver said they destroved his handloom and looted valuables and 20 maunds of rice.

Some of the villagers alleged that the attackers were led by Abul Pradhan, Danial dacoit and Afa dacoit, known as supporters of local MP Ataur Rahman Angur.

Joz Mia alleged that the MP's incident. elder brother Khosru was present in Mannan yesterday lodged a case Araihazar thana during the attack. with Araihazar thana accusing 450

When contacted, Ataur Rahman Angur told The Daily Star, "I do not know Danial or Afa dacoit. The attackers have no connection with

ould allow duty-free access to 2 categories of Bangladeshi items to help reduce the huge trade imbalance. But India never implemented

declared in Dhaka that his country

Because, he added, India always tried to tag the transshipment issue to duty-free access of Bangladeshi items although it was agreed to be on non-reciprocal basis.

Earlier, Khasru told UNB that under the new arrangement Bangladeshi traders will import Indian fruits and vegetables from

one point through L/Cs and reexport those to other bordering states. Bangladeshi carriers will carry the goods from one point to another. The re-export arrangement, initially for six months from next month, will yield at least 10 per cent benefit to Bangladesh, he informed

He said his elder brother Khosru

did not go to Araihazar thana on

temporary blood donation centre

Meanwhile, the DIG of police

OC of Araihazar thana Taffazal

Meanwhile, the Araihazar

upazila JCD unit yesterday held a

meeting at the thana headquarter

where speakers said the local BNP

and Angur were not involved in the

people in connection with the inci-

dent. Police are yet to arrest any

Local Union Parishad member

ADC of Narayanganj and Ataur

Rahman Angur MP visited the

lage yesterday morning.

criminals, they alleged

to old rivalry.

one

the spot in time.

Central Asia will also be hinged on its oil resources, so far as the US is concerned. Speaking about the Middle East.

he said "As long as Arabs have oil and gas, there will be no peace in the region"

Responding to interventions Dr. Selim said, the events of September 11 affected the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

He said Hamas has done much damages to Arafat's peace process. Extremists often work in tandem and become allies. Hamas by its spate of terrorist activities is acting as an ally of Israel.

Israel, he said is unable to survive without the backing of the United States.

Dr Selim felt that the melting pot in the modern world has proved to be a salad bowl where people mix without necessarily evolving towards a common culture.

Maior General Sikder M Shahab Uddin, director gneeral of BIISS

delivered the welcome address

Frienship Bridge Some villagers alleged that FROM PAGE 12 during the attack Angur was at a opment of road communication and the BNP government in 1991-96 only about one kilometre from the took up a massive programme for

development of this sector. The villagers also criticised Narayanganj Police Superintendent She mentioned that during 1991-Shafigul Islam who told newsmen 96 period of BNP 80 per cent work of on Friday that the incident could be the five-kilometer long Jamuna in retaliation for an attack by some Multipurpose Bridge was com-Awami League men of Aguandi in pleted. 1996. Police are trying to save the

More than 300 other bridges including Meghna, Gumti, Mahananda, Atrai, Sheola and Dhaleshwari, thousands of culverts and several thousand kilometers of roads were constructed by the past

BNP government, she said. Hossain told The Daily Star that the incident was not political. It was due She called upon all, irrespective of their party affiliations, to work He claimed that police reached together for socio-economic eman-

> cipation of the common people. She lauded the construction firm, China Hilong Ziang International Economic and Technical Corporation, for completing the project before the stipulated time.

The Prime Minister thanked the Chinese government for its assistance in development and hoped that the bilateral relations would be further strengthened in the days ahead

# Move to file anti-dumping suit

#### FROM PAGE 1

ful while framing the case as the anti-dumping procedure is 'quiet complex

According to Dr Mostafizur Rahman, Research Director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), the BTMA has to proceed on particular cases of Indian yarn import and has to prove that those imports have caused 'substantial injury' to the country's industry. After framing the case, the BTMA has to request the Tariff Commission to invoke the antidumping provision. "Anti-dumping is a normal

defense tool in international trade. But only the strong nations can use this option effectively. It is a good

sign that our entrepreneurs are also moving ahead to use this tool," said Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Executive Director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).

With the multi-fiber agreement (MFA) is nearing expiry in 2004, the Indian government has taken a policy to capture a sizable share of the international textile and clothing market and earmarked 25,000 rupees along with different incentives for development of its backward and forward linkage industries. However, in the present context, the Indian textile industry can not utilise its full capacity due to quota and **GSP** restrictions

In the circumstances, the local

# Indo-Pak troops trade fire

#### FROM PAGE 1

A Pakistani military official also accused India of moving huge numbers of troops to the border with Pakistan and their disputed Kashmir boundary "in a very aggressive posture"

"Indian troops in massive numbers have advanced from their peace locations to forward areas during the last 12 hours along the Line of Control and the international border," he told AFP on condition of anonymity.

The official said Pakistan had established counter-measures including increased surveillance and monitoring on the border and beefed-up defences along the Line of Control, the unofficial Kashmir frontier

"The troop movement is in a very aggressive posture and we are closely monitoring the situation," he said.

India said yesterday its troop movement along the border with Pakistan was a "precautionary measure" to counter a heavy Pakistani build-up.

"We have taken precautionary measures keeping in view the heavy Pakistani build-up at a number of places in various sectors from Kashmir to Rajasthan along the international border and the Line of Control (LOC)," an Indian army spokesman told AFP.

India also reiterated its demand for arrest of the leaders of the Pakistan-based militant groups it has blamed for last week's suicide attack on parliament and said it was

awaiting "meaningful action from information about the attack by New Islamabad. Delhi, State Department spokes-"Of course, we want them to be man Richard Boucher told a news

apprehended. They have engaged briefing. He gave no details. criminal activity. They have indulged in terrorism, they have released certain evidence linking instigated activities against our two militant groups, the Lashkar-estate and our democracy," Indian Taiba and the Jaish-e-Mohammed Foreign Ministry spokeswoman, both of which have bases in Nirupama Rao, told reporters, in Pakistan, to the terrorist attacks on the Indian parliament," he said. Pakistan said it regretted India's

decision to recall its ambassador but did not intend to respond in kind. Indian Home Minister L K Advani said the decision to withdraw the

ambassador from Pakistan was a carefully measured step to make Islamabad "pay the price" for failing to crack down on militants. "We said all options were oper

and we weighed the situation, Advani said in an interview published yesterday in the Hindustan Times

US President George W Bush said Friday that the United States was "very much involved" in defusing tensions between Pakistan and India sparked by what be denounced as a terrorist attack on

the Indian parliament. "A flare-up in that region could really create severe problems for all of us that are engaged in the fight against terror," he told reporters.

Bush urged President Musharrat to crack down on militants accused to attacking India's parliament.

"As President Musharraf does so, he will have our full support," Bush said.

The move followed the release of parliament, the paper said.

industry sources said a good number of Indian textile companies have been dumping their products in Bangladesh so that Bangladeshi textile units wither away due to huge loss.

"We have a good market as our readymade garment (RMG) industry, which earns more than US\$5 billion annually, developed tremendously. In line with the RMG growth, our entrepreneurs have invested in textiles. But now, the unethica practice of the Indian textile industry has pushed our whole industry to the verge of ruination," said Jahangir Al Amin, a member of BTMA and Director of Shamsul Al Amin Group.

"The Indian government has

sources in Islamabad said.

saving

been assured by US Secretary of

State Colin Powel over the tele-

not attack Pakistan nor would it

cross the LOC in Kashmir. Daily

"Dawn" quoted official sources as

December 13 attack on Indian

# A commendable action

FROM PAGE 12

bidders from submitting offers. When the state minister asked what they were doing, the hoodlums just ignored him and continued their business.

After knowing identity of the state minister, one of the youths asked his companion to make a phone call to one "Rintu bhai or Jalal bhai". But the state minister and his two staff caught all the five youths.

At one stage, the terrorists ounched on a staff of the minister. During the scuffle, four hoodlums managed to escape from the spot.

But Milon firmly grabbed one of the criminals, who introduced himself as Jabbar of Azimpur.

Jabbar first introduced himself as a BNP activist, but later he denied this. He said he is an unemployed person and there are over a dozen of cases, including those for murder, against him.

A police official told the reporters that Jabbar is a gang member of Rintu, the younger brother of BNP awmaker Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu.

The state minister then called State Minister for Home Lutfuzzaman Babar and requested him to send a police force.

Milon gave a few blows to the PTI adds: The United States has terrorist as Jabbar was still fuming assured Pakistan that India will not and showing his spunk. A little later. attack it despite growing tensions a number of policemen, including between the two neighbours and detective branch people, arrived at said New Delhi will also not cross the spot. the Line of Control (LOC), official

The state minister then called out the registrar of the board and other President Musharraf and officials concerned to the tender Foreign Minister Abdul Sattar have room. At this stage, one Saidur Rahman of Central Courier Service complained to Milon that he brought phone two days ago that India would two tender documents from Shamsuddin Printing Press, but the hoodlums tore them up. He also showed the two damaged envelops.

Milon then asked the board It said Pakistan was fully cooperofficials to bring the tender box and ating with the US-led military coaliopen it which was empty. But before tion to hunt down terrorists in the box was opened, a sub-Afghanistan and under this circumassistant engineer dropped two bid stances the Bush administration did offers into the box. not want any problem for Musharraf.

The state minister then con-Musharraf assured Powell that Pakistan would definitely take fronted the engineer and asked his dentify. The engineer, Abdul Matin, action against Jaish and Laskar provided it was given certain proof failed to give any satisfactory of their involvement in the answer why he dropped the bids.

In presence of the officer-in-

charge of the Lalbagh police station,

DB officials and the chairman of the board. Milon asked the registrar. deputy registrar and accounts officer for an explanation about the whole affair. But none could give any satisfactory answer.

The state minister then told the police that a section of the board officials might be involved in the incident and asked them to properly investigate the malpractice.

Lalbagh police station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Ruhul Amin made a brief investigation and suspected that Registrar Prof Kazi Shahid Mostafa and Sub-Assistant Engineer Abdul Matin might have links with the tender snatchers.

The OC told the state minister that a police force was sent to the board office as per a request of the board. But the policemen deployed on the board premises told the state minister that the sub-assistant engineer asked them to stay in a room. The engineer also allegedly

entertained the constables. The state minister instructed the police to immediately arrest the tender snatchers and also to interrogate the board officials. He also instructed Chairman of the Board Prof Matiur Rahman to form an inquiry committee and issue showcause notices on the officials responsible for the misdeed.

A case was filed with the Lalbach police station.

## eather Liton

said he was organising secretary of Pochattorer Ghatak Dal Nirmul Committee and convenor of Hazaribagh thana BCL.

He said he had left for Kolkata as soon as the Caretaker Government days before the October 1 election.

Liton said he feared attack from his enemies including political rivals.

tion while the court granted remand for two days

A top DB officer also said a petition for Liton's detention for three months will be lodged.

FROM PAGE 12 nickname Leather Liton. He also

took over and came back just four

He was produced before the CMM's court yesterday with petition for a ten-day remand for interroga-