# NEWS

before.

bombings as morally repugnant.

Arafat issued a statement con

demning terrorism last Saturday

during US Secretary of State Colir

Powell's peace mission to the

Middle East. That denunciation

came after a suicide bombing in

Jerusalem killed seven the day

Since the start of the Israel

army's three-week West Bank

campaign, the Israel has seized

documents from Arafat's Ramallah

office appearing to show a hardline

militant group linked to Arafat's

Fatah movement, the Al-Aqsa

Brigades, requesting money for

explosives from Arafat's financial

allegedly with Arafat's signature,

linking him to plots to attack Israel

documents pointing to links

between Fatah and alleged terror

cells in the north West Bank town of

lenin, which saw the heaviest

fighting in Israel's assault on the

Marlon Brando

A former maid and lover of Marlon

Brando filed Thursday a one million-

dollar breach-of-contract lawsuit

against the veteran Hollywood film

star, with whom she has had three

sued by his

former lover

XINHUA, Los Angeles

There were also documents

Ísrael has produced other

adviser. Fuad Shubaki.

the army said.

West Bank

# JMB rail link project Israeli troops pull out of Jenin

from the 245-km under-construction rail track -- Jamtail-Iswardi-Parbatipur and Iswardi-Shantahar sectionsunder the Contract -2. "Thousands more damaged

sleepers would be found if a thorough check is done," an official said requesting anonymity.

Earlier, the then general manager of the project lqbaluddin Choudhury, in a letter to RJ McCurdy, a foreign consultant, suggested a through check to find out the actual number of cracked sleepers in the Contract-2 area as well as in the Contract-1 area.

"You are requested to please take up the issue seriously and also ensure that all defective sleepers are removed from the track immediately. Please see that no cracked sleepers is on the track during the handing over of the same, " the letter issued in late November last year was quoted to have said. Otherwise, it would be unacceptable, the letter added.

The letter also mentioned that since the arrival of the first consignment, large number of sleepers were being rejected outright because of broken ends and edges. A total of 8975 sleepers were found rejected till the second week of November last year.

Referring to different test results. the letter noted that the situation was worsening day by day and there should be an investigation by an independent international agency having vast experience on prestressed concrete sleeper in the environment of this subcontinent. It also pointed out that an earlier

consignment of concrete sleepers of Indian origin, procured to repair post-flood rail track damages in the Bangladesh Railway's east zone in

FROM PAGE 12

raised yesterday

amount of Tk 1.50.000.

998, were mostly defective. "About 745 sleepers were laid in Dhaka-Chittagong track near Feni between the period of October 20 and November 17, 2001, out of which 198 sleepers were completely damaged and most of the inserts have lost anchor in the concrete." it

> Another official of the project said the contractor instructed the local consultants through a letter to use untested slippers of Indian origin (SIL and PCM) when a good number of defective concrete sleepers were

It was alleged that the contractor with a bad intention had laid some 50,000 untested sleepers worth about Tk 13 crore on the track. "It is the contractor who is

responsible for development of the track and maintaining it till it is handed over to the Bangladesh Railway," said a government official who previously worked for the project

Alleged BNP men FROM PAGE 12 the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's

Court, Dhaka yesterday. The court sent them to the Dhaka Central Jail. Police however denied knowledge of any attack on Shahid.

In a statement. Shahid strongly condemned the atrocities unleashed on him and his relatives, and alleged that his rival candidate four-party nominee Md. Farid Uddin master minded the attack sensing defeat in the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) election

Supporters of Shahid brought out a procession in the Debendra Das Lane area yesterday protesting the incident.

The Palestinians claim around 500 people were killed in Jenin, many of them women and children, and that some were summarily executed

after surrendering. Roed-Larsen decried Israeli efforts to block attempts to recover the wounded and dead from the rubble in Jenin

"It is totally unacceptable and horrific beyond belief," Roed-Larsen told AFP while touring the camp Thursday

'The stench of death is horrible," he added. "We have expert people here who have been in war zones and earthquakes and they say they have never seen anything like it, said the UN Special Coordinator for the occupied Palestinian territories.

Palestinian officials condemned Bush's Sharon-friendly remarks as a "reward" for the Israeli leader's 'war crimes". "I do believe Ariel Sharon is a

man of peace," Bush told reporters in the Oval Office as he was briefed by US Secretary of State Colin Powell on his Middle East tour, which ended Wednesday without a ceasefire agreement to end almost 19 months of bloodshed.

He said Powell could not resolve the decades-old conflict in one peace trip, adding: "But one trip from the secretary of state laid out the framework and the path to achieve peace"

Powell told reporters before eaving Jerusalem on Wednesday after six days of shuttling between Sharon and Arafat that there was a schedule for the pullback but gave no specifics.

Top Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat told AFP Bush's stance "is a

Danish diplomat against the ship-

ping minister recently as unprece-

dented, audacious and devoid of

mand of the combine said the alle-

gations against the minister did not

only tarnish his image, it also eroded

ment should constitute an inde-

investigation, the statement said.

The 11-party said the govern-

In a statement, the high com-

resignation

diplomatic decency.

the dignity of the country.

BSS, Dhaka

reward for state terrorism and the war crimes committed by Sharon". Israel launched its assault on

March 29, two days after a suicide bomber killed 28 people on the Jewish Passover holiday. A suicide attack killed six people in Jerusalem last Friday, hours after Powell began his peace mission.

UN chief Annan told the Security Council the two sides were so far apart that an international military force is required in the region.

"I believe the deployment of a multinational force deserves serious consideration." he said.

"The situation is so dangerous that the international community has an obligation to provide this assistance."

But Israel quickly rejected the call. "We do not want it and I think also the United States do not want government spokesman Avi azner said.

The Security Council decided to extend its open debate on the Middle East into Friday to give members time to consider Annan's call

The extension, announced at the start of the debate on Thursday by council president Sergei Lavrov, Russia's ambassador to the UN. averted an immediate clash over a proposal for a UN inquiry into the nassacre claims in Jenin

Diplomats earlier quoted US ambassador John Negroponte as saying he would veto an Arabsponsored draft resolution asking Annan to investigate "the full scope of the tragic events that have taken place in the Jenin refugee camp".

Meanwhile, a Palestinian suicide bomber exploded his car yesterday

near the entrance to the settlement bloc of Gush Katif in the Gaza Strip, witnesses told AFP.

The car exploded near the heavily guarded entrance into the settlement area, the witnesses said. Israeli military sources confirmed the attack. There was no immediate information on any iniuries.

Witnesses said the car drove up to the settlement bloc from the southern sector of Gaza, and that Israeli troops staged an incursion into an area surrounding the southern village of Al Qarara following the attack.

Israeli troops also blocked off the main road linking southern and northern Gaza, witnesses said. In Tehran the former head of

Iran's conservative judiciary branded Bush and Sharon "war criminals" who should be tried by that it would take one or two days to the new international criminal print the 'white paper' and then it tribunal.

"Sharon is a war criminal and Bush is an accomplice who supports Sharon's crimes. Both of them are war criminals and must stand FROM PAGE 1 trial," Mohammad Yazdi, a member AW Mohammad Mostafa and chairof the oversight Guardian Council man of ACE Business Systems and former judiciary head, told worshippers during a Friday Abdur Razzak. prayers sermon at Tehran thana, it has been alleged that

Universitv In comments broadcast live on Nasim ignored the opinion of the Tehran radio. Yazdi said Bush and tender committee and gave the job Sharon should be brought before of supplying 10 lakh passport books the recently ratified International to a bidder, causing a loss of Tk 81 Criminal Court, apparently to answer accusations in the Arab world that Israeli troops with US backing had massacred hundreds inspector of the Bureau of Antiof Palestinians in their search for corruption (BAC) on December 11 militants in the West Bank

Storm lashes

Lalmonirhat:

One killed, 400

houses damaged

#### **UN envoy concerned** second part of at Arafat's alleged 'white paper' soon STAFF CORRESPONDENT involvement in terror The BNP-led four party coalition government is going to publish

Govt to publish

ous Awami League government,

at least 'twenty sectors' and in use of

development assistance. BBC

The government published the

BBC also quoted Haris

first part of the 'white paper' two

Chowdhury, political secretary to

the prime minister, as saying that

In the case filed with Ramna

The case was filed by

Jalal who is also investigation

officer (IO) of the case submitted

chargesheet to the chief metropoli-

tan magistrate's court on April 2

The IO got approval from the

In the chargesheet, 11 people

Meanwhile, the accused were

were shown as prosecution wit-

granted ad-interim bail by the High

Court till submission of police report.

AL public meet

Meanwhile, Awami League will

also begin a five-day mass contact

tour across the country tomorrow

Prime Minister's office on March 27

for submitting chargesheet

Mohammad Jalal Uddin Ahmed

lakh to the national exchequer.

last year.

nesses.

FROM PAGE 12

(Sunday).

Maidan at 3 pm

by the ruling alliance.

FROM PAGE 1

Zahir Shah

against the four.

BBC reported last night.

saving

months ago.

would be published

Graft case

within few days the second part of its 'white paper' on alleged corruption AFP, Jerusalem and mismanagement by the previ-

The UN Middle East peace envoy expressed "concern" yesterday The 'white paper' will contain about whether Palestinian leader corruption and mismanagement in Yasser Arafat was linked directly to militants who have staged suicide attacks, following Israel's claim that quoted Nuruzzaman Mia. a member it had uncovered documents incrimof the committee on white paper, as nating the Palestinian leader

"We are concerned by the allegations that we have seen, but we have had no opportunity to study these documents ourselves," said Terje Roed-Larsen, the UN special coordinator for the Palestinian territories

But he told reporters that the Israeli allegations would not interrupt the United Nations' direct negotiations with Arafat or the Palestinian Authority.

The UN envoy emphasised that Arafat is the elected leader of the Palestinian Authority and as such remains the leading representative of the Palestinian people.

"We (the United Nations) cannot say that we will relate only to those whom we like, and not relate to those whom we don't like " he said

At the same time, Roed-Larsen stressed that suicide attacks and other forms of terrorism are "illegal and counterproductive to peace. We are appalled by the human destruction that it causes, and have repeatedly condemned suicide

Potka fish tragedy:

Two more die at KMCH

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two more persons died at Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) yesterday, rising the death till from Potka fish tragedy to 11.

Ten of the dead were identified as Saburunnesa, 60, Sirajul, 30, Dhala Mia, 30, Khaleque, 70, Rabeya, 22, Baby, 5, Priya, 13, Mizanur, 25, Khalil, 30 and Mujibar, 22. The identity of other could not be known

At least 40 people of five villages in Digholia and Terokhada upazilas fell sick on Thursday after eating Potka fish. Nine of them died soon after admission to KMCH while two others, Priya and Khalil, yesterday.

Persons undergoing treatment at Eighteen teams consisting of KMCH are Khaleque Molla, Kajol central AL leaders and party law-Jahanara, Rahima, Kuti, Tumpa and makers will visit district, thana and Delwar of the same family. Others union levels and hold rallies to are Rizia, Anowara, Nuruzzaman, mobilise public opinion against the Yusuf, Rahila, Asma, Pinu, Jerina, repression on opposition activists Tahuran, Salma, Khadija, Chumki, Apurbo, Aimal, Sakhina, Babu, Sharmin, Marjina, Al Amin, Raju, Rana, Hossain, Delwar, Ruhul, Hasan and Rabiul Names of nine persons could not be known.

### , More than 200 people were Flash flood

Acid throwing programme, attended by a large ing anniversary of Prothom Alo

Sahayak Tahabil for acid victims. An amount of Tk six lakh was of the Prothom Alo told the function from auction sale of four cricket bats with autographs of players, nine paintings of prominent artists of

the country and five photographs. victims of acid throwing. The cricket bat signed by all the Australian players who won the World Cup-1998 fetched the highest years and four others are being habilitated, he said

Tajin Ahmed, Principle of Sunny Dale School, bought the bat on behalf of the school.

Cross World Beverage Limited donated the bat to the organisers of the auction

President of Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) Kutubuddin Ahmed bought another bat bearing autographs of players of Bangladesh national cricket team who played in the Kenia Mini World Cup in 2000. He bought the bat for Tk 35.000.

Farid Khan, Chairman of Summit Group, bought the cricket bat autographed by the Sri Lankan team which played in the Dhaka Mini World Cup in 1998 at a price of Tk

number of businessmen. Sazzad Sharif, Assistant Editor

that about Tk 28 lakh was deposited with the Prathom Alo Sahavak Tahabil in last two years and Tk 11 lakh of it was spent for assistance to

Eighteen women were rehabilitated with the assistance in the last

7 alleged muggers

### arrested with arms in city BSS, Dhaka

The Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) have arrested seven alleged donors muggers and recovered two firearms

The 11-party blamed the alliance from their possession in last 48 government and its minister for this hours ending at 6 pm yesterday. situation and said the government Pallabi police yesterday arrested would have to take the responsibilitwo alleged muggers -- Mohammad ties to restore the glory tainted by a Sohel Rayhan alias Zia and foreign diplomat. Mohammad Abul -- from Shialbari

#### 11-party demands Six snatchers probe into Danish held in Cta charges, minister's BSS, Dhaka

Kotwali police arrested six alleged snatchers after mid night Thursday hight from Chittgong College area. The 11-party combine yesterday Police said they also recovered termed the charges brought by a

A disabled woman was killed and 15 Taka 2000, which the snatchers took away from one Zasim Uddin. A case filed with Kotwali police in

Taslima Nasreen seeks permanent residency in India UNB, Mumbai

Controversial Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasreen who has long been for permanent residency in this neighbouring country.

sequel to her book 'Amar Meyebela', she wants to spend at least six months a year in Kolkata which she identifies as her second home, Times of India reported Thursday.

Taslima wants West Bengal hipf Minister Rude

Begum, 26, daughter of Tameruddin, died in a house collapse at village Khetabag during the storm. The wounded received first aid from local hospital About 400 thatched houses were damaged while many trees and a number of electric poles uprooted in

UNB, Lalmonirhat

the storm. Extortion: Jubo Dal leader, 3 others

held in Gazipur UNB, Gazipur

Four people, including a Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal leader, were arrested on charge of extortion in Sripur upazila on Thursday night.

Police said upazila Juba Dal organising secretary Liakat and three others were arrested and a car

aircraft at Kabul airport in late morn-

children Maria Cristina Ruiz, 43, filed the awsuit at Los Angeles Superior Court seeking one million dollars in damages and monthly living expenses from Brando, the 78-yearold actor that has won Best Actor Oscars twice.

Ruiz claimed that she and Brando, the star of A Streetcar Named Desire, On The Waterfront and The Godfather, became romantically involved in February 1988 During their 14-year-old relationship until they split last December, the couple had three children, who are now 8, 10 and 13 years old.

She claimed she and Brando ived together until last December, when Brando reportedly stopped paying Ruiz's living expenses cept the children's.

Ruiz's lawyer, Donald Woldman said the lawsuit is simply the equivalent of a divorce petition, demanding equal division of Brando's property Ruiz said she "devoted all aspects of her life to Brando's needs, the interests of their children, his personal interests and well being, to the exclusion of her own."

The lawsuit also alleged that Brando had agreed to split all of the lv in death or separation. Brando, who has been living a reclusive life, was previously married three times. He reportedly spent most of his fortune in a case involving two of his other children He paid a huge sum of money to pay for the legal bills for defending his son Christian, who murdered his half-sister Cheyenne's lover in Brando's Bel Air home in 1990. Later Christian served five years of a 10-year term and was released from prison in January 1996. Cheyenne committed suicide in 1995 at age 25. Brando has seldom appeared publicly in the past years, except for playing occasional wellpaying movie roles or attending pop star Michael Jackson's concert.

others were injured in a storm that hit villages in Barobari union of Sadar upazila Thursday night.

this connection.

pendent committee to investigate the allegations in a transparent way and let the world know about its on the run from a death threat allegfindings. The minister concerned edly for blasphemy of Islam should resign at the time of the approaches the Indian government It also demanded publication of

the details of corruption by the

# Now in India to release the

20,000

Wali Bhuiyan, Managing Director of BOC bought the other bat for 20,000. It bore autographs of members of Bangladesh cricket team who played against England in the country.

An oil painting by Shahabuddin was sold at Tk 56.000. The other paintings sold at the auction were by Quaium Chowdhury, Rafiqun Nabi, Mohammad Kibria, Kazi Gias Uddin, Monirul Islam and Shakur Shah

Five photographs by Nasir Ali Mamun were sold.

The programme was attended by, among others, Editor of the Prothom Alo Matiur Rahman, former advisor of caretaker government Rokeya A Rahman, Aziz Khan of Summit Group, film star Elias Kanchon, cricketers Khled Masud Pilot, Naimur Rahman Durjoy and Saiful Islam, popular singers Ayub Bachchu, Shakila Jafor and Shuvro Dev

Afzal Hossain, prominent television personality conducted the

### Rape: Four arrested in city

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested four people yesterday in connection with the rape of a girl in the city a few days ago.

According to police, a 14-yearold girl was picked up from near her shanty in North Goran on the night of April 16, and forcibly taken to a nearby house belonging to one Moinul Hossain.

There, she was allegedly gangraped by four young men several times throughout the night.

Afterwards, two of the men took the unconscious girl in a rickshaw and dropped her off near her home in the early hours of April 17.

The accused, all of whom were arrested separately from the Goran area vesterday, were identified as Naim Elahi Shanju, Shohag, Shihab and Razzak

The girl herself came to the Khilgaon thana and filed a case vesterday.

She lives in a slum in the area along with her mother who works as a domestic help

area while they were trying to flee after snatching money from a pedestrian. Police also recovered snatched money from the arrested muggers.

A team of Detective Branch (DB) of police led by Assistant Commissioner (AC) Ali Hossain Fakir arrested a snatcher. Mohammad Aftab Uddin, from near

Shishu Mela at Shyamoli Thursday night and recovered a German made .22 bore revolver and an Americar pistol from his possession.

motorcycle from his possession. In another operation. Inspector Lutfar Rahman of the DB arrested four alleged muggers from a restau-

rant near Gawsia Market Thursday identified as Ali Hossain, Mohammad Rahmat Ali, Borhar

Gunfight between supporters of 2

candidates in Rajshahi: 10 hurt UNB, Rajshahi

> Ten people were injured, one with bullet. in a clash between the sup porters of two ward commissioner candidates in the city's Chhoto Banogram area yesterday.

when a procession of ward commissioner candidate Alauddin came under attack allegedly by the supporters of Moniruzzaman Sharif at about 6pm.

during the clash. Alauddin alleged that gunmen of Moniruzzaman Sharif opened fire on his procession, leaving an unidentified man wounded.

injured in the clash. Of them, Meraj, 26, and Seja, 23, were admitted to Raishahi Medical College Hospital while others released after first aid. A tense situation was prevailing

Alauddin is a joint secretary of city BNP while incumbent ward

commissioner. Moniruzzaman Sharif joint convenor of city Juba Dal. Sharif is wanted in several

Police also seized a snatched

The arrested muggers were Uddin and Mohammad Billal Hossain

commissioner

Witnesses said the clash ensued

Several gunshots were fired

Nine other people were also

following the incident in ward no 19.

cases

Couple held FROM PAGE 1

with Dhanmondi thana he claimed that he has been residing in the house for the last 30 years.

Dhanmondi police informed the PMO about matter when Nasrin Majid, sister of Musa, filed a general diary with the thana.

After verification, the PMO suspended Nazimuddin on April 14.

Talking to newsmen at Dhanmondi thana, the arrested claimed that they had advanced money for the house in 1990 and hey were the real owners.

FROM PAGE 12

entered the fray.

citizens' committee.

has been fixed at Tk 50,000.

blessed' by the Awami League.

BNP candidate Enamul Hague 643.

JP 7,007 and Badsha 6,217.

tion.

The arrested will be produced before court today, police said. Sub-Inspector Motiur Rahman is

investigating the case.

Islamic groups condemned her book "Lajja" as insulting to religion and issued a fatwa against her. At least two cases are pending against the runaway back in the country.

she currently divides her stay

writer fled Bangladesh in 1996 after

The physician-turned-feminist-

between Sweden and France.

She is now visiting India on a three-month visa and will meet Bhattacharya next week to seek support for her residency permit. Thereafter she will apply to the Indian government for the opted domicile.

The writer says she chose to make Kolkata her home because "this is the closest to Bangladesh," the daily "Protidin" reported.

# **RCC** polls campaign

Rahman of the Jamaat 41,774, JP's Abdul Matin Khan 13,747 and Also accused were many com-Badsha 3,838.

missioner candidates, in the 30 Despite poor results in the past wards, of higher expenditure. For a three polls, Badsha has ascended commissioner candidate, the ceiling to high popularity this time following a changed political scenario, the Five candidates for the post of local political observers said.

mayor, 270 for 30 posts of ward Earlier, Minu promised Advocate commissioner and 103 for ten posts Ekhlak Hossain, the city BNP presiof female ward commissioner have dent, his all-out support in the contest for the mayoral post this time, as Badsha, a Workers' Party polithe (Minu) was elected a lawmaker buro member, is likely to be supfrom the BNP in the last parliamenported by the anti-Minu group in the tary polls. BNP that opted for a change in the

He declared at several public mayoral candidature and is meetings that he would not contest the mayoral election anymore and Minu also formed a citizens' would like to create new leadership council to counter the Badsha's in the city BNP.

Minu explained his position on In the 1994 Rajshahi City joining the mayoral election by Corporation polls, Minu bagged saying that he was under immense 58,532 votes, while Awami League pressure of the party high com-(AL) candidate Abdul Matin bagged mand.

23,001 votes, Jamaat-e-Islami After the filing of nomination candidate Siddique Hussain papers by three BNP leaders --Mizanur Rahman Minu, city BNP 17,692, independent candidate Siddiqur Rahman 12,296, Jatiya President Advocate Ekhlak Hossain Party's Durul Huda 7,581 and rebel and district BNP General Secretary Quamrul Monir. the triangular rivalry In the 2001 parliamentary polls in in the city BNP has shrunk to a the city area, Minu won 96,657 contention between two, with votes, while AL candidate AHM Hossain withdrawing his nomination Khairuzzaman Liton bagged 49,768 paper.

votes, Mustak Ahmed Labu of the Many of the city BNP leaders defected from the Minu group a In the 1996 parliamentary polls in week ago after the incumbent the Rajshahi-2 constituency, BNP's mayor joined hands with the Jamaat Kabir Hossain bagged 108,471 leaders who sought nomination of at votes, AL's Liton 75,803, Ataur least 12 commissioners from their

ijacked by them was recovered Bhattacharva to lobby for her with Liakat and his accomplices New Delhi. In her lonely life in exile,

allegedly kidnapped a businessman Selim Sikder, along with his private car demanding Tk two lakh on the night of April 14.

They, however, released him next morning taking his signature on a blank paper. They took away the car and a mobile phone from the businessman.

Harun murder case FROM PAGE 12

fired shot at Harun, said inspector Shibli Noman of DB who led the operation.

Baby is younger brother of PBCP armed cadre Tiger Khokon who was killed in 1997 by cadres of Ghazi Kamrul group of Biplobi Communist Party (BCP).

favour of Minu.

the BNP.

charges.

the polls in one ward.

also joined the fray.

January 30, 1994.

an independent candidate, have

three years behind schedule.

The elections had been post-

poned due to legal complexities

over expansion of the city areas.

The last elections were held on

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), which played the supporting role to the interim administration in providing security at Thursday's homecoming, said the day had passed off with incident.

Spokesman Major Can Oz told journalists Friday that ISAF was not planning any extra patrols for the exking's security

"Nothing extra because we have enough patrolling," Oz said.

"The security of the king is the interim administration's responsibil-

An ISAF source told AFP that the Italians, as a member of the multinational force, would share any relevant intelligence about the former monarch's safety.

### JRC team

BNP Secretary General and FROM PAGE 12 LGRD Minister Abdul Mannan navigability and to take steps to stop the severe erosion by the Kushiyara. Bhuiyan and Secretary General of A standing committee of the JRC the Jamaat and Social Affairs also made a field visit to Sylhet-Minister Ali Ahsan Md. Mujahid will Assam border areas at that time. go on a joint campaign for the

The severe erosion by Kushiyara incumbent mayor in Raishahi on over the last three decades has April 20. The move came in the changed Bangladesh's map in many wake of allegations that the Jamaat places in this region. About 25leaders and other high-ups of the square mile area of Bangladesh has alliance are not campaigning in disappeared and new lands have emerged in the Indian side due to The rivalry has also surfaced the continuous erosion, the sources said

among the ward commissioner As per the decision of the August candidates of the BNP, as the BNP meet, water officials of both the fielded more than one candidate for countries made hydrographic and topographic survey during the last In the Ward No. 11, there are 12 two years.

candidates for the post of ward After reviewing the findings, they commissioner, with 11 belonging to agreed that there is no alternative to dredging of Surma, protecting the Besides, SM Basharuzzaman banks of Kushiyara and taking flood Heera of the Jatiya Party (Ershad) protection measures in the Borak and Advocate Solaiman Hossain, valley in India.

The sources said a 'model study is likely to begin next year to ascertain the behaviour of the rivers.

Meanwhile, at least ten candi-It will include study of silt carried dates, including one for the mayoral by Borak, velocity of water flow and post, are accused of criminal discharge of water through the rivers. The polls will be held on April 25,

Originating from Manipur, Borak meanders through hills and enters into Bangladesh

The JRC officials had also noted that, the three rivers affect both the countries in many ways.

bomb plot targeting leaders such as in Sunamganj interim cabinet chairman Hamid Karzai and Zahir Shah, officials said UNB, Sunamganj

> A flash flood inundated several thousand hectares of land with standing IRRI-Boro crops in Biswambharpur and Sadar upazilas early yesterday.

Locals said onrush of water from hills following heavy rain broke Gazaria embankment Thursday night flooding 3,500 hectares of land in Kharchar Haor of Biswambharpur.

Besides, a vast tract of land in Jamalganj, Tahirpur, Dharmapasha, Dirai, Chhatak and Doarabazar went under water

There are 131 big and small haors in the area.

## Hasina: Corrupt govt

FROM PAGE 12 referring to a recent attack on a

secretary by a state minister. "If the people once turn around, none can resist them." she said and called for all to join Awami League in the anti-government movement.

Alleging repressive measures adopted by the government for killing, arresting, harassing and enacting a black law, the opposition leader said, "It seems that the government is suffering from publicohobia.

She noted that the government had said that it would repeal PSA, but it now enacted a black law, not to make trials speedy but to repress the opponents. "This black law has been enacted so none could protest

the misdeed of the government. Blaming the government for Hug, Abul Hashem Azadi and industrialist Khademul Islam rying all possible ways to eliminate Awami League from this country. Hasina said it had imposed an

undeclared ban on Awami League. Mentioning government action obstructing Awami League from holding meetings-rallies and processions she questioned whether the government banned Awami League, whether Awami League is an outlawed party.

Referring to retrenching officials and employees from army, police and civil service, Hasina said this government was axing anyone it suspected as Awami Leaguer. About government action against officials in the name of offence for joining Janatar Mancha, Hasina said at that time officers and employees came out of the secretariat due to "repression by Aman'

and others. How many employees would be tried, she wanted to know,

Pointing to a reported attack on former state minister Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir by a prisoner in Dhaka Central Jail, the Awami League chief questioned where that pris-

oner got a knife inside the jail. In this context, she cited the killing of four central leaders of the party inside the jail on November 3, 1975. "This government can do anything," she said.

The function was attended by AL general secretary Zillur Rahman and deputy leader of the opposition Adv Abdul Hamid Those who joined AL include Adv

M Fazlur Rahman Khan,

Mohammad M Shajahan, Md Sirajul

The show-cause notices were

issued as per lists received from

In most cases, replies to the show cause notices were not satis-

The reformists want the 'trouble-

makers' to go before the party chooses its new leaders through

councils of the party and its front

organisations, likely to be com-pleted within this year. The council

of AL's student front Bangladesh

Chhatra League was held earlier

grassroots level leaderships.

factory to the party high-ups.

AL 'rebels'

FROM PAGE 1

October polls.

this month.