NEWS

pitch after heavy afternoon rair

rendered the conditions far from

perfec.But that was not the reason

for the welter of red and vellow cards

-- seven bookings for each side plus

the two dismissals - dished out by

Spanish referee referee Antonio

Lopez Nieto, beating the nine

recorded in Italy's quarter -- final

victory over Nigeria in

1994.Ramelow was dismissed five

minutes before the interval for

pulling down Samuel Eto'o just two

minutes after receiving a first yellow

card, while Suffo went 13 minutes

from time for tripping an

opponent. The slippery pitch was no

excuse for Klose earlier treading all

over Cameroon defender Rigobert

Song, which left the latter with a

bloody nose.But the class moments

came from the Germans as

well.Klose turned provider on 50

minutes, playing a pinpoint through

ball to Bode, on at half-time for the

lumbering Carsten Jancker, and he

slid the ball low past keeper Boukar

Alioum and inside the far

post.Schafer reaed by sending on

Daniel Ngom Kome for Salomon

Olembe - but to no avail as Klose

nodded in from a Michael Ballack

cross with 11 minutes remaining.

for their second-round match.

Cameroon: Boukar, Tchato (Suffo,

53), Song, Kalla, Lauren, Wome

Niitap, Foe, Olembe (Kome, 64)

Germany: Kahn, Linke, Metzelder.

Ramelow, Ziege, Hamann, Ballack,

Schneider (Jeremies, 80), Frings,

Janker (Bode, 46), Klose (Neuville,

TEAMS

Eto'o, Mboma

TUs still rule Titas

union took control of Titas immediately after the BNP's return to

power After May 16, the authorities have transferred 19 officials as per a list made by the union. There are

three BNP-affiliated unions in Titas. Sources said the union has prepared another list of 68 employees for transfers and postings. The same union is now making a list to suspend officials. The restriction over, the unionists will start lobbying with the management for suspension of the targeted officials, sources said.

Besides, the union leaders were seen visiting the chambers of different high officials every day. "Nothing has virtually changed," said a source. Tampering with meters is also going on.

When activists of another union led by Fazlul Haq Mollah went to Titas headquarters yesterday noon, the activists of Habib-Shahnoo union chased them and a clash ensued. Followers of Mollah were beaten up and driven out of the Titas premises. Convener of the Jatiyatabadi

Sramik Dal, Titas branch and General Secretary of Titas Gas Employees Union AKM Fazlul Hag Mollah yesterday told The Daily Star that the Habib-Shahnoor group brought in some criminals from outside to Titas and launched an unprovoked attack on his union.

"They have beaten us up and broke chairs and tables," Mollah said. "They came from the Jatiya Party and are now pretending to be true Jatiyatabadis (BNP followers)."

Hoodlums of Habib-Shahnoor were threatening different employees of Titas and were lobbying for transfers of employees, alleged Mollah.

His opponent Habibur Rahman refuted the allegations saying, These unpopular leaders were disturbing the environment of Titas with the help of some outsiders, which is why general employees have resisted them.'

A Titas high official, who preferred anonymity in fear of backlashes by the state minister, said, "When the minister himself has taken the side of the corrupt meter reader, how can any honest official

and employee work at this organisation?

and separate the judiciary (from the He said though the unions have executive) immediately." He went on, "I told them those agreed to stop their activities in Titas, their leaders are still interfercommissions are no problem for us,

Donors FROM PAGE 12

acceptable to all '

law. it is learnt.

ment.

sion

Saifur said, "They asked us to set

but the problem is finding persons

commission, human rights commis-

sion, office of ombudsman, reform

and decentralisation of administra-

tion, strengthening of local govern-

ments and establishment of rule of

BNP's election pledges and also

mentioned in the new budget docu-

after the Bangladesh Development

Forum Meeting in Paris in March.

The donors emphasised improving

the governance and law and order

at that meeting. Saifur said, "I told them (donors)

you are talking more, it is alright. But

also give us some liquidity support.

We have passed through a critical

balance of payment situation.

Anyhow, we have survived without

paper (PRSP) which is supposed to

be the centre point of future devel-

opment also came up for discus-

The government is planning to formulate a three-year rolling invest-

minister's budget speech.

could be finalised within this year.

7 AL leaders

according to meeting sources.

"Awami League does not want to

lose its leaders, but wants to get them

corrected," Hasina said while talking

to newsmen after adjournment of the

None of the leaders were stripped

However, the leaders and work-

The CWC meeting also asked the

The probe committee in its report

party's front organisations to take

action against those accused of breaking party discipline and to

said activities of the leaders and

levels to complete their conferences

by September 31 and October 31

For holding AL's biennial central

Poor service resulted in decrease

The Commercial Director of

vessels of Tagong-Barisal route are

also in a wretched condition and

need proper maintenance or repair

work." The director felt the necessity

of adding new and more vessels to

the BIWTC fleet in different routes for

a better service for the people of

coastal areas of the country that

comprises around one tenth of the

General Manager (Operations)

Mohammad Ali while talking to this

correspondent said all the nine

vessels of rocket service were built in

or around 1928 with an expiry period

"The existing three vessels of

"As such these wretched vessels

consume larger quantity of fuel and a

good amount of money has to be

spent for their repairing and mainte-

The vessels with a slow speed of

around 7/8 knots per hour often takes

time far more than the scheduled 20

hours to cover a distance of 145 kms

nance every year," Ali said.

total population.

of their primary membership of the

ers facing punishment can appeal to

the party's National Committee for

revision of the CWC decision.

according to party sources.

CWC meeting yesterday afternoon.

FROM PAGE 12

party, she said.

inform the party.

espectively.

The poverty reduction strategy

the donors' support."

These are among the ruling

This is the first such meeting

The issues discussed by the

said.

ing in the regular activities of Titas over phone. This three-month restriction is just eyewash. There is no political

sincerity in it and Titas is home to corrupt and anti-state elements blessed by the government," he remarked. Memo to PM

FROM PAGE 1 cession at the Shahbagh crossing. Then, only three members of the student delegation went to the PMC

and submitted the memorandum. PM's Political Secretary Haris Chowdhury assured the student

delegates -- Tanvir Mithun, Shantanu Banik and Saifuddin Molla Shabu -- of the criminals arrest. The students alleged that the

BUET authorities turned down their repeated appeals for action against JCD leader Mukammel Hayat Muki and his accomplices Sharif, Saiham, Swapan and Nesar -- al

involved in Saturday's shootout. The authorities closed the university in an hour's notice only to suppress their failure and foil the

movement, they said. The Engineering University Central Students' Union (EUCSU) at a press conference yesterday alleged that the BUFT authorities did not go for any action against Muki and his gang despite their

repeated demands for it. Hasib Mustabsir, general secretary of the EUCSU, read out the written statement at the press conference attended only by JCD representatives. To a question, Hasib said they

would join the general students in demonstration if the authorities fail to take any action against the criminals and reopen the university by July 3 Representatives of the

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) to the EUCSU in a statement later expressed their solidarity

Different political organisations were continuing agitation yesterday, demanding arrest of and punishment to those responsible for the killing.

up an independent anti-corruption commission and other institutions the previous government.

General Hasan was earlier superseded when Major General Harun-ar-Rashid was appointed the army chief on December 25, 2000. In fact, General Harun superseded seven officers when he was made army chief. They are Major General donors included anti-corruption Anwar Hossain, then serving as ambassador abroad, and Major General A M Mansur Ahmed, who was appointed as director general of Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS) and subsequently joined as Military Secretary to new President Prof. AQM Badruddoja Chowdhury.

The other senior officers who were passed over and in the meantime, have retired are Major General Wahab, Master General Ordnance: Maior General A K Fazlur Kabir. former GOC, Chittagong; Major General Amin Ahmed Chowdhury, who retired while serving as ambas sador abroad (now on contract as ambassador to Oman); and Major General Mostafa Kamal, the then director general of BIISS.

Although there were speculations for quite sometime that the government was considering a new chief, the change happened yesterday with the prime minister giving her assent and the president signing the files.

ment programme in the light of the General Hasan, who is on the PRSP, as mentioned in the finance active army list. was called back to Dhaka from the UAE for "consulta-Saifur said he would launch a discussion on the draft PRSP next tions" on Monday. The retiring army week and hoped that the strategy chief also returned from nine-day long trip to Ching the night before.

> General Hasan held a number of important staff and command positions. He served as the Divisional Commander of Bogra and also was commander of the Bangladesh contingent in the Gulf War in 1991

He also served as the Chief of General Staff (CGS) and headed the two most prestigious defence institutions of the country. General Hasan was Commandant of Staff College and Commandant of National Defence College. He is a graduate of Army War College in the USA.

Hailing from Sylhet, General Hasan opted to serve as an envov when he was superseded and was ture and backed Krishan Kant. then appointed as ambassador to

New army chief

UNB, Dhaka Incidentally, the BNP-led coalition government has picked both the Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesternavy and air force chiefs from day hoped that merit and qualification among officers who were superseded during the Awami League

aovernment. Lt. General Harun-ar-Rashid, who was a gallant freedom fighter and a meritorious officer, hails from Hathazari of Chittagong. He first joined the Pakistan Air Force and left it when he was not allowed to fly. Later, he joined the Pakistan Military Academy in 1970 as a member of the War Commission on September 6 that year. He was awarded Bir Pratik for his

outstanding bravery during the War of Independence.

After the previous government ook office, he was appointed the Principal Staff Officer to the Prime Minister in September 1996 and served till early 1998.

Abdul Kalam

FROM PAGE 12 Congress which had just a day earlier requested incumbent President K R Naravanan, who hails from the southern state of Kerala, to be their joint candidate if Alexander was chosen by the ruling combine nominee

Prime Minister consulted a host of opposition stalwarts, including Congress President Sonia Gandhi CPI(M) leader Harkishan Singh Surject, CPI leader AB Bardhan and Samajwadi Party chief Mulayam Singh Yaday, on Kalam's choice before the formal announcement was made Monday night. He also spoke to AIADMK chief Javalalitha. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu state, who has agreed to Kalam's choice as the Presidential nominee.

Kalam emerged as the compromise candidate of the ruling alliance after BJP and some of its allies were in disagreement over Alexander. Telugu Desam Party, which rules Andhra Pradesh state and is a crucial supporter of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's government, had opposed Alexander's candida-

would be given due importance in recruiting officers of the Republic. She was talking to the newly appointed chairman of the Public Service Commission (PSC) Dr ZN Tahmida Begum who made a cour-

tesy call on the Prime Minister at her They discussed matters relating to the 21st, 22nd and 23rd

Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examinations during the meeting.

calls on PM

Damage suit FROM PAGE 12

Dhaka, for publishing his photograph with a story captioned 'Beware of Bangladesh' in the April 4 issue of FEER.

The plaintiff stated that the weekly in its story described him as a fundamentalist and identified Bangladesh as a Taliban state.

He said the weekly collected his photograph from a procession brought out from Baitul Mukarram Mosque on March 1, protesting the riot in Gujarat.

Barrister M I Chowdhury and Advocate Sajjad Hossain moved the suit on behalf of the plaintiff

CU JCD factions FROM PAGE 12

randum to the Vice Chancellor today

According to the sources and witnesses, some cadres led by JCD president Sujauddin, who was expelled from the CU for cheating in examinations, and general secretary Saifur Rahman Shapath appeared at the station at around 8.15 am and attacked Milton who was waiting for the CU-bound shuttle train.

Kamrul, who was also waiting at the station for the shuttle train, came under attack.

Hearing the news of attack on their leader, other JCD leaders and activists of Milton group brought out a procession on the CU campus and urged the university authorities to take punitive action against the

PSC Chairman Great German grit

saw both sides finish with ten men and seven bookings a side - a new

World Cup record.p The Germans had Carsten

Ramelow sent off in the first half while Cameroon's Patrick Suffo went for an early bath in the second. Cameroon had been chasing an nistoric win which would have seen Africa have a second representative in the last 16 for the first time. Senegal having marched on after an earlier draw in Group A with

Uruguay But despite the ill-discipline on both sides the Germans kept their heads enough to avoid crashing out in the first phase for the first time since 1938

Klose's fifth goal of the tournament sent him back to the top of the goalscoring charts ahead of Denmark's Jon Dahl Tomasson and also ensured Germany won their group.

Bode said Germany, who will now play either Spain, South Africa or Paraguay, were deserved winners.

"The conditions were very difficult in the second half as we were down to ten men." explained the 32vear-old veteran from Werder Bremen.

His other four goals at the event have also been headers. "We wanted to put Cameroon Lauren had hit the woodwork in under pressure as we knew they the 73rd minute for the African and had their weaknesses and we did Olympic champions but they so. The main thing was to go showed little imagination up front.

through and it's great that we have." Ballack should have made it 3-0 Cameroon's German coach the closing stages but sent a Winfried Schafer was frustrated as header straight at Alioum. his side failed to capitalise on almost German midfielders Dietmar 40 minutes played with an extra Hamann and Christian Ziege as well as Ramelow will all be suspended

man. "It should've been visible that we had the extra man. I told the players to play over the flanks but they didn't. We conceded a lot of possession in the middle and that's how the first German goal arrive."Ramelow's sending off was decisive. I'd have rather he'd stayed on and (Samuel) Eto'o score,' Ramelow having fouled the Cameroon striker as he bore down on goal."If we'd beaten Ireland in the first game we'd have made it." added Schafer as he reflected on a 1-1 draw in the opening match against the Irish, who beat them into

Goals: Bode 50, Klose 79 Red cards: Suffo 77 (Cameroon); Ramelow 40 (Germany) Attendance: 47,085

second spot by beating Saudi Referee: Lopez Antonio (Spain) Arabia 3-0 on the nigh. The greasy

Meter reader Mahbub

FROM PAGE 1 Energy AKM Mosharraf Hossain is speaking in favour of Mahbub in

public. At a seminar in the city Sunday, Mosharraf primarily blamed the systems loss in the gas sector on a section of consumers. According to the minister, the second and third causes of such loss were due to a section of Titas officials and the

unions respectively. He criticised the media for carrying news on the corruption of meter reader and union leader Mahbub. "Recently many reports were carried on how a Titas meter reader became a millionaire. But we cannot

storey residence in the city Moreover, he used a jeep of Titas gas full time. However, the jeep was withdrawn following a report in The Daily Star

An investigation into the origin of his wealth reveals that he made it all by tampering with gas meters of the industries located in Narayanganj, Munshiganj and Narsingdi.

December 22-23. the meeting Following press reports on him, formed three subcommittees. These the authorities formed an investigation committee, members of which were reportedly selected by Mahbub himself. The probe commit tee is yet to come up with its report When asked about the status of the probe report, a top Titas official said veday Johora Taiuddin when a minister has vouched for Mahbub that he is honest. "why should we try to dia into his dishonesty? Meanwhile, the immigration authorities also did not file any case June 23. against him for using a fake pass-It decided to dissolve district port committees in Magura, Jessore After his arrest, Mahbub was Khulna, Kushtia, Sylhet and Pirojpur surprisingly sent to court under and suggested convening commitsection 54 of the Code of Criminal tees in these districts. Procedure (CrPC) although a case BIWTC under the Immigration Act is the normal procedure. At the time, the FROM PAGE 10 Airport police told the court that a There are also three other vessels to regular case would be filed against carry the people up to Barisal and him under the Immigration Act. Bhola." he added. Investigation Officer of the case which was filed under section 54 in the number of passengers. Poor Nazmul Ahsan told The Daily Star maintenance and high operational that the Special Branch of Police costs of the wretched vessels, and was delaying in giving a report on theft of fuel oil and irregularities by a Mahbub. section of unscrupulous elements in Meanwhile, the third date for connivance with some dishonest filing of the police investigation officials of the organisation, had been report has been refixed on June 15 forcing BIWTC to incur the loss for Earlier, two dates were deferred. No the last five years. regular case can be filed against Mahbub without the investigation BIWTC S M Aynul Karim told The Daily Star "all the previous three report.

workers contrary to the party interest caused defeat of some AL nominees in the election. For overhauling the party, the meeting had a detailed discussion of its strength at all level. It asked party committees at thana and district

conference and council on

Prof. Nooruddin has set down Muki initiated disorders on the

are a 21-member constitution amendment and declaration subcampus when he became general committee headed by Sveda Saieda secretary of the JCD BUET unit in Chowdhury, an 11-member financial 2000. Also assistant joint secretary sub-committee headed by AMA of the JCD's central committee (now Muhit and a seven-member election suspended), Muki led a gang in the tribunal sub-committee headed by gunfight over bidding with the Dhaka University-based Titu-Taga The meeting extended the tenure faction of the JCD on the BUET of the party's Central Committee for campus on Saturday. Unfortunately, six months, up to holding of the next the shootout left no other than biennial central conference in December. The tenure expires on Sabequn Nahar Sony, a BUET student, killed.

BUET: Gangsterism

FROM PAGE 1

enrolment in Master's on charge of his involvement in crimes.

the violence to student politics. Every problem will be solved if student politics is banned, the VC felt. He said armed cadres are born in student politics. "If you want to stop such violence, what you should do first is ban student politics "

agitation without a justifiable cause. which distinguished them from others. But Saturday's shootout tarnished that image

A resident of Jamalkhan Road in Chittagong, Muki was a polite student. With good track-records in SSC and HSC examinations, he enrolled in the Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering at the BUET in 1993. But his meeting with former JCD leader Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu initiated him into the crime world. Also, Muki was blessed by an influential ruling party leader in Chittagong.

Titu and Tagar are involved in extortion from the markets in and around the DU campus. Last month. the armed duo raised tolls from all traders and businessmen at the Palashi Market. They did not spare cigarette shops even, said sources. The Palashi extortion incident

prompted the BUET authorities to urge the government to take action against extortionists based in Dhaka University, who were disturbing the peaceful educational environment of the BLIET But no action was taken.

Leaders and activists of different student organisations, particularly

Forget France FROM PAGE 1 any chance of going through.

It was too high a mountain to years, the French finished the tournament with the worst record of any champions in the 72-year climb for a French team that has failed to sparkle at the finals in South history of the tournament after a Korea and Japan. 22nd minute goal from Danish Although inspirational midfielder striker Dennis Rommedahl and a Zidane was back in the French 67th minute effort from Jon Dahl starting line-up, the hero of their 1998 triumph on home soil could not

Tomasson. France finished bottom of group rescue the defending champions. A after failing to score a single goal Tomasson was left unmarked in three games and getting just one and got on the end of a cross from point. They suffered a shock 1-0 Jesper Gronkjaer to fire under oss in the opening game to new-French goalkeeper Fabien Barthez comers Senegal, were held to a to finish the issue, although the Dane appeared to pull French draw by Uruguay and lost to the Danes captain Marcel Desailly as he ran

"It was a very tough day for the into the box. players, myself and all the fans, "But you must be present (in your mind) from day one and if you're in trouble, it means something's wrong. I must admit that even before the World Cup, we had a lot of little problems and bruises, we never were 100 per cent and not in great

make a decision on the basis of newspaper reports. These require administrative investigation.

Continued Mosharraf: "We've come to learn that the said meter reader was not with the Titas Gas for six years. He might have made fortune thorough hard work in those six years."

But sources contradict the minister's claims. Moreover, in the past there had been several instances where the authorities acted against corrupt employees on the basis of press report.

On February 14. a general manager in a note recommended administrative action against a deputy manager and two employees on the basis of a newspaper report. The authorities on the same day sent the deputy manager into forced retirement. But, no action was taken against the employees.

The authorities at the time had said the publication of such news items was damaging the image of Titas and so, stringent actions should be taken immediately.

A general manager was made officer on special duty (OSD) after a newspaper financed by an industrial group published news against him. The manager reportedly irked the industrial group over collection of pending gas bill

"It's not true that no action is taken on the basis of newspaper report," commented a Titas high official. "Rather such comments (of the state minister) are basically aimed at defending the corrupt people for petty political interest."

Official documents on Mahbub also contradict the state minister's claims about the origin of his wealth.

Appointed in 1987, Mahbub was suspended in April 1996 and then terminated on March 12, 1998 Using his political connection, Mahbub however got back his job on November 24 last year.

In his prayer for reinstatement in the job last year. Mahbub had said since 1996 he remained unemployed and that he was looking forward to re-joining Titas as a meter reader.

Mahbub was arrested on April 27 at the Zia International Airport before flying off to Singapore with his family. His passport identified him as a 'businessman'. However, the police had to free him when a top political leader intervened.

He owns two flats at Purana Paltan in the city, a car and two industries. He also uses a three-

Multi-metering FROM PAGE 12

taken by the government. take decision. We are implementing

He claimed that multi-metering

telephone since a caller will be precise in talking, not to waste time and money.

February to introduce the multimetering system. But it was disapmmission (BTRC).

BTTB then challenged the authority of the BTRC and sought a decision from the law ministry which finally gave a decision in favour of introducing the multietering system.

However, it could not implement the the BTRC.

telephone subscribers all over the country

along with valid licenses to avoid multi-metering, BTTB officials said. When asked BTTB Chairman

SATM Badrul Haque told The Daily Star that the decision to introduce multi-metering system has been 'We don't have nav authority to

the government decision."

of 20 years and all those are will enhance people's access to wretched now. Chittagong-Barisal route that opened in 1965 are also far beyond their expiry date," he said.

There was a move earlier in proved by the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory

in Chittagong-Barisal route, he said.

BTTB had also decided to enhance the monthly line rent of ISPs to Tk 1,200 from Tk 150.

decision following intervention by BTTB has some seven lakh fixed

routes earning around Tk 1.50 crore while 416767 passengers and 7021 tons of cargoes in its Dhaka-Khulna route earning around Tk 3.08 crore in 2001

coastal people.

Sources said the shootout was the first such untoward incident in the BUET's 50-year academic history. Earlier, there had been two killings and some petty crimes like cracker-explosion and ransacking.

An armed gang killed Ahmedullah, a BUET student, in 1995, and Alak, a Dhaka University student, in 2000 on the BUET campus. But none of BUET students was involved in the incidents.

Records show that on various occasions. BUET students and student organisations showed restraints in joint agitation. Sometimes, they damaged vehicles, of course. Until the emergence of Muki, there was no charge of killing, extortion or mugging against any BUET student or student leader. Unlike other university students.

the BUET students did not go for

some JCD activists loyal to Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu in Lalbagh area. The vouths used to grab extortion from various markets in and around the BUET, including the Palashi Market. Then, he was introduced to firearms and now possesses several.

Meantime, Muki did his bachelor degree and got admission to Master's. He concentrated on making up his own gang as assistant organising secretary of the central unit of the JCD and emerged as the first BUET student leading a criminal gang in 2000.

He along with Pintu's supporters occupied a floor of the Titumir Hall and was staying there illegally.

His opponents in Saturday's gunfight incident -- Benazir Titu and Tagar of Bangabandhu and SM halls of Dhaka University -- always tried to manipulate BUET's bidding in the past. This time, Muki wanted to take control of the bidding -- the reason leading to a rivalry with Titu and Tagar.

Freed from traffickers

Their father, Shahjalal from Sakharipota village under Sarsha upazila in Jesore, said, "Mv familv of three daughters, two sons, my wife and myself crossed over to India in March last year for lucrative jobs offered by traffickers. We were among a group of 24 people. We reached Bongaon, a bordering town in West Bengal. But while boarding a kolkata- bound train in the evening, we (my family) were made to board two separate compartments." He told this correspondent that police arrested him along with his two sons and daughter Rubiva and brought them out of the trian at Nohati station in West Bengal. His wife and two other daughters were in another compartment. "We did not know what happened to them and they also were in the dark about our fate," he recalled with tears in his eyes "I was allowed to stay with my

He said addition of the new vessel children for 45 days in President's could mitigate the suffering of the Jail in Kolkata. Then I was sepa-According to sources, BIWTC rated from them and taken to another jail. I was kept there for carried 441888 passengers and 8515 tons of cargoes in its coastal seven months and 10 days," said Shahjalal.

He was arrested under the foreigners' act and was no more allowed to see his children. At a stage, he was released from jail and

'pushed back' into Bangladesh later, he found his wife and two other daughters who had come

back from Mumbai after spending miserable days on the streets of that city for about two months, he said. His sons were kept at a shelter home run by West Bengal government. Praajak, a local NGO informed the BNWLA about the two

brothers around two months ago. Rubiva is now in 'Liluva Home' in Kolkata and efforts are being made for her return and reunion with her

family. "We faced a lot of problems to get the two boys back. The authorities concerned in both the countries initially did not agree to hand over them to us although we were in contact with the home ministry and different relevant agencies in this regard," said Advocate Salma Ali executive director of BNWLA.

However, the boys were finally handed over to BNWLA officials.

Meanwhile, a meeting on trafficked women and children organised by the BNWLA will be held at Rajendrapur in Gagipur district from tomorrow. Officials from Bangladesh and India and NGO representative are likely to attend the meeting, sources said.

the JCD and the Bangladesh Chhatra League, used to take shelter in different halls of the BUET, losing their grip on the DU Gradually, it dragged BUET students into politics.

The BUET authorities could not take action against Muki and his men because of their links with influential political high-ups. The BNP's return to power through the last general election has lent a desperate edge to his criminality.

"Tension was mounting again on the campus since early June when the authorities published a tender notice. The two JCD factions started roaming the campus -- sometimes brandishing firearms," said a BUET teacher on condition of anonymity.

Many students told The Daily Star that despite such open show of gangsterism, the authorities did not take any security measure. Worse, the authorities turned down the students' appeal for expulsions of Muki and four other students --Sharif, Saiham, Swapon and Nesar.

FROM PAGE 1

workers throughout the country were facing 'government sponsored' repression.

AL to join JS

Now, the AL says the national budget for fiscal 2002-2003 placed before the House is an 'anti-people' one. It rejected the budget.

It plans to go to parliament to protest the budget which is 'overburdened with taxes for the poor and the middle class', the sources said.

AL calls hartal

FROM PAGE 1 The programmes were adopted at the adjourned meeting of the Awami League Central Working Committee (ALCWC) yesterday.

"We will definitely compel the government to withdraw the additional taxes," she told newsmen after the meeting was adjourned at 2 pm. The government did not take any special measure in the new budget for poverty alleviation

She said her party has rejected the proposed budget as it is 'designed to protect interests of the rich'

health "We must tell it like it is, we were not up to that World Cup and we don't deserve to be in the second round. The sanction of sport is there, we must accept defeat like we accepted victory.

The Danes clinched top spot in the group, with Senegal also qualifying for the second round as runnersup. France went out along with Uruguay, who drew 3-3 with Senegal in Tuesday's other group A match in Suwon.

Denmark coach Morten Olsen praised his side's teamwork and said they had done a good marking job on playmaker Zinedine Zidane in his first match at this World Cup after a thigh injury.

"It was a very difficult group especially after France lost the first game and we saw the quality of Uruguay and Senegal.

We had a good day, the team played well and with a lot of confidence and discipline. We had to be well organised but I thought we played some good combination football as well

"Having Zidane back in the team attack. was a boost for France but we marked him very well.

Zidane, having suffered the frustration of picking up an injury in -rance's last warm-up match before the finals against South Korea two weeks ago, started the match but his left thigh was heavily strapped to enable him to play.

"I am really disappointed, I would have never imagined that we could be eliminated in the first round but it's logical as we lost two games and we drew one," he said.

"I certainly did not expect that result." he said. "I am a little bit tired but that is normal.

"Once again we had our chances but we did not take them. When it was 2-0 there was no way we could come back. Beating Denmark was a real possibility. We had at least three chances but no luck. If we had scored early in the second half we could have come back and even gone through," he said.

"Now we must do something, we must be able to turn the page. All of us have to ask ourselves questions to try to understand what happened

After Rommedahl's first-half goal, the European champions needed to put three goals past the Danes in the second period to have

third country to go out so early in the defence of a title. Brazil failed to get past the first round in 1966 and Italy also suffered the same fate in 1950 although the Italians had not been able to defend their 1938 title for 12

The French became only the

years because of World War Two. But both Brazil and Italy managed to win a match in the first

round. Rommedahl took his goal well. half-volleying the ball with the outside of his right foot from eight metres to the left of Barthez after a deep cross from the right from Stig

Tofting

The Danes deserved their victory after a shrewd performance tactically. Despite the warm weather, they pressed the French persistently in midfield with Christian Poulsen and Tofting giving Zidane little space.

Zidane, returning after a thigh njury, produced a few clever touches which gave the French more creativity in the middle of the park than in their previous matches. But they missed the clinical finishing of suspended striker Thierry Henry up front.

France threatened a comeback in the 51st minute when their captain Marcel Desailly hit the bar with a header. Three minutes later they brought on exciting young forward Djibril Cisse for Christophe Dugarry and he injected extra pace to the

But after Tomasson's goal it was all over, even though striker David Trezeguet hit the bar in the 73rd minute.

Denmark will now play the runners-up in group F with Senegal facing the winners of that group. Sweden, England and Argentina are the three countries in contention for the top two places.

But Denmark coach Olsen would not reveal who he would prefer to plav in the next round. saving only: 'It was most important that we qualified".

TEAMS

Denmark: Sorensen, Henriksen, Laursen, Helveg, Jensen, Tofting Nielsen, 79), Gravesen, Jorgensen Gronkjaer, 46), Poulsen Bogelund, 76), Tomasson, Rommedahl

Goals: Rommedahl 22, Tommasson 67

France: Barthez, Candela, Lizarazu, Desailly, Thuram, Vieira (Micoud, 71), Makelele, Zidane, Wiltord (Djorkaeff, 83), Trezeguet, Dugarry (Cisse, 54) Attendance: 48,100. Referee: Vitor Melo Pereira (Portugal)