# Hasina: Budget

tance of black money investment, Hasina recalled, "We imposed tax on black money. We did not lift the tax altogether." She alleged the government move was designed to legalise the crores of taka that the four-party alliance leaders accumulated through illegal toll collections over the last seven months.

Dwelling in length on different fiscal proposals envisaged in the budget, Sheikh Hasina also criticised imposition of taxes on educational institutions, NGOs and computers, and increase of levies on travel through land ports, construction materials, books, journals, fruits, fish, powdered milk, and the widespread expansion of VAT net.

The budget issue apart, Sheikh Hasina also discussed some other contemporary issues that included some instant rebuttals to what the Prime Minister and Leader of the House Khaleda Zia had said in her budget discussion on the same day.

In response to the prime minis ter's proposal for talks on student politics, Hasina noted that before talking about whether or not to ban such politics, the government should have first stopped the menace of 'tender terrorism'. She also demanded that educational institutions would have to be 'neutralised' first by removing all partisan appointees from the campus before student politics could be banned.

Once again, she brought up the issue of 'rigging' in the last parliamentary elections, saying her demands for fresh and fair polls still remain for the sake of ensuring good governance. Referring to a recently published book on 'rigging' of the last polls, Hasina said AL would soon produce more documentary evidences of poll rigging.

Replying to a query on an alleged move of establishing the presidential system of government, she said people of the country would thwart such a move. Referring to the unceremonious

exit of the president, Hasina reprimanded Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed for saying that AL was shedding 'crocodile tears' for the president.

## Schooldays

FROM PAGE 12

said a teacher of the school. "There are 123 students who are to appear in the next SSC exams and theirs would be the biggest tragedy.'

The mill authorities used to pay for the education of the workers' children and would also bear the costs of books and stationery. With the government decision to shut down the largest jute mill of the world, these schools would

black spot. It was a very old practice

to show higher price for purchase of

bargaining agent (CBA) leaders

muddled in the administrative actions

of the mill. An efficient worker at the

AJM's cenral workshop was trans-

ferred by a CBA leader having close

link to a top political leader. Besides

salaries are still being drawn against

many workers who have already

A political leader, now a cabinet

minister, once took several thousand

AJM workers to his constituency in

Noakhali to campaign for him in the

by taking direct and indirect benefits

from the political leaders on one hand

and also collected money from the

central workshop over the last 26

years, said one needed to be a strong

union activist to get a temporary job

Sometimes, a temporary worker had

flagrant crimes carried out by (Israeli

presence of "martvrs", or Palestinian

victims, inside the building when the

Abu Rudeina urged the interna-

tional community to "assume its

responsibilities" and appealed to the

Quartet grouping the United States

Russia, the European Union and the

United Nations to "intervene rapidly

forces invent pretexts to destroy all the

institutions of the Palestinian Authority

in order to cripple it and prevent it from

carrying out the reforms" announced

Richard Boucher said the Quartet

would meet Tuesday in London to

discuss US President George Bush's Middle East policy outlined on

Monday, including his demand for new

shake-up in the Palestinian Authority

Arafat aide Saeb Erakat announced

measures including elections in

January, and reforms of the security

services, the judiciary and other ele-

Two days after Bush's call for a

US State Department spokesman

"Every day the Israeli occupation

and stop Israeli aggression"

on Wednesday, he said.

Palestinian leadership

ments of the administration.

He said he did not rule out the

Arafat's HQ

Prime Minister) Ariel Sharon."

Israeli army flattened it.

FROM PAGE 12

Zakir Hossain, who worked at the

workers on the other, it was alleged.

The union leaders made fortunes

died, an official said.

elections, he added.

Pawns of politics

finance minister's remarks regarding the traditional sleeveless overcoat that AL leaders wear. She said BNP was run by 'political prostitutes' as they could not use decent words.

The AL president also came down heavily on the government for smelling conspiracy in her recent meetings with some retired defence personnel, saying they were only retired military officials who had contested the last general elections on her party ticket

Sheikh Hasina reminded that her party, which alone received 41 per cent of popular votes in the last parliamentary polls as against 46 per cent received by the four partners in the government, did not need to participate in conspiracy as it already enjoyed such popular

AL leader and former finance minister SAMS Kibria attended the conference among other senior party leaders.

#### Gas reserve

FROM PAGE 1

Yesterday, at the concluding meeting of the committee, they formally sent letters saying that they disagree with the assessment and so, would refrain from signing the final report.

Talking to The Daily Star, Prof Obaed Ullah, who could not attend the last few meetings due to his illness. said, "As per the TOR, we were asked to assess gas reserve in three categories -- P1, P2 and P3. These categories describe the possibilities of gas reserve by percentage. The committee has made their assessment taking into consideration only two categories.

The report would be sent to the prime minister by this week.

The report made its assessments on the basis of the 2001 United States Geological Survey (USGS)-Petrobangla gas resource assessment, Petrobangla-ICM 1991 scientific gas reserve study and the 2002 Norway Petroleum Directorate and

Hydrocarbon Cell gas reserve study.
The committee also outlined a domestic demand growth for a time between 2000 and 2050 at the rate of 4.5 per cent. During this period, the gas demand will be around 65

This committee and another one Gas Utilisation Committee-- were formed earlier this year with a time of one month to file their reports. But as the issues were complicated, both committees have taken a long time to draft their final reports.

The Gas Utilisation Committee is also expected to finalise its report

three cards to work at different units

of the mill simultaneously and did not

even attend the mill. He could draw at

least Tk 3,000 at the weekend only if

he agreed to hand over 50 per cent of

the money to the union leader who

the workshop," said Zakir, who will

get Tk 1.15 lakh as provident fund

and gratuity. "But what would I do with

the money since I don't have any

at the AJM now is 6,100. But till 1993,

it had some 25.000 such workers

Apart from 4.000 staff and 1500

officers, there were 37,000 perma-

nent workers as well the number of

the mill has seven units including a

central workshop, broad loom, lamina-

tion and ABC (associate bagging

complex) units. Sir Daud Adamjee set

up the Meghna Textile Mills, National

Tubes, Aroma Tea Company, Star

Particles Board Mills, Dhaka

Vegetable Oil Industries and

Synthetic & Resin Company during

Besides the AJM, Daud also set

Established on 300 acres of land,

The number of temporary workers

"It is possible to make firearms at

had backed him to get the cards.

other experience?"

which is now 17,079.

un the AJM during in 1950.

## Security firm employee murdered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

security firm was murdered inside its office building Friday night.

The victim was identified as Shahidul, 11, a peon of Black New Cat, a private security firm at Road 7. House 72. Block H in Banani. Prior to joining the firm, the boy lived with his family in Gulshan Karail

the murder. Shahidul and Mashu. another peon of the company, had dinner together at about 8:30pm before going to sleep in a room on the first floor of the three-storey building.

we broke the door open and found Shahidul lying in a pool of blood, said a guard

window. Police suspect that some people

of the security firm had a hand in the murder, adding that Shahidul's roommate Mashu is the suspected mastermind of the murder. Police however could not come

behind the murder. They recovered the body at about 11:30pm and sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy. Chowdhury Golam Mujib Tony, director of the security firm, filed a

murder case with the Gulshan Police Station yesterday afternoon accusing unidentified persons.

### Husband. wife to die for murder

UNB, Khulna

The district court yestsrday convicted and sentenced to death in absentia a man and his wife for killing the second wife for dowry more than six years ago.

Repression (Prevention) Court Shahidul Islam pronounced the verdict against Shamim and his first wife Lucky. According to the prosecution.

Shamim and Lucky poured petrol on Sahana , 22,and set fire on her body at Baniakhamar Bihari colony in the city on March 19, 1996. Shahana died on way to hospital

## Asma Begum

FROM PAGE 12 the police. The DMCH authorities

The doctors said Asma looked very disturbed before the delivery of the baby.

Friday noon

Deserted by her husband Kabir Hossain, Asma Begum, 25, was admitted to the DMCH maternity department on Wednesday noon. She was blessed with a son same

Later, it was learnt that she had sold her son to a nurse, Mahmuda, for Tk 1.000.

vesterday afternoon and started crying, claiming someone had kidnapped her baby. Later, a nurse produced documents, which showed Asma's thumb impression to prove that she had sold the baby.

#### Kaikobad

League and joined the BNP supported Jubo Dal before the last parliamentary elections. He contested the election as an independent candidate, failing to manage a

Asnan, Kaikobad recently got a tender of Tk 32 lakh from the Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Company (BAPEX).

According to family members, he was trying to sort things out with other criminal groups over the tender. Unable to do so, his life came under the attack.

Kaikobad might have been attacked following a strife in his locality.

of the dead collected the body from the DMCH. His body was taken to the BNP's central office at Naya Paltan for his namai-e-ianaia. He will be taken to his village home Patmanika under the Borhanuddin thana in Bhola for burial

### Sr lawyers

Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, advocate Abdul Baset Majumdar, advocate Jead Al Malum.

Earlier, a team of senior Supreme Court lawyers had separate meetings with the president, pursue the issue of the confirming the appointments of three High sought an appointment with the prime minister to discuss the issue.



Bangladesh Women Freedom Fighters' Sangsad formed a human chain in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday to protest killing, rape and repression across the country.

## PM: Plots on to oust govt resolve those on the floor of the

institutions from politics in the national interests.

Without admitting the recent killing of a university student in a gunfight between rival factions of her party's students front, the prime minister told the parliament that criminals from outside are joining students in campus violence.

Inviting the boycotting opposition lawmakers to return to the House. Khaleda advised them not to make fresh attempts' to overthrow her government. "Your attempt to topple the government is bound to fail and you have to pay dearly for such a move," she said and asked the opposition not to try for street agita-"Let us work together for better-

all members of the parliament including those of the opposition." Blaming the AL for boycotting the House on 'lame excuses', Khaleda said, "We hope they would come back. Otherwise, people who have

ment of the people and development of the country. I need cooperation of

elected them to parliament will reject The prime minister further alleged the opposition party is trying to make her government non-functional and create a law and order situation by using illegal arms the party had

collected while in power. "They (AL) do not believe in democracy. While in power, they did

obstructed others from doing so. And their role as the opposition had always been undemocratic," she

Amid cheers from the Treasury Bench, Khaleda said the people never wanted to see the AL in power. "In 1996, they returned to power through a conspiracy and by rigging the general election. In their five-year rule, they perse-

cuted our activists and unleashed widespread violence. This is why the people rejected them in the last

Brushing aside the AL claim that the party was not given enough time to discuss the proposed budget in the parliament, the House leader said, "It was an untrue and baseless plea to avoid discussion on the budget as they (AL) had nothing to speak against it." The opposition party was given much more time than it deserved, she added "We would have given them more

time if they meant it a budget discussion. In the name of budget discussion, they spoke about so-called successes of their five-year rule," the prime minister said

"Come back to the House as the people no more want to see you creating a law and order situation on the streets. Shun street politics and make the parliament effective. We have a lot of issues to discuss and

country and these must be imported

from the countries of origin and not

from a third country. The minister

1649 cc and microbus, minibus and

jeeps of any limit will be allowed to

cars has been drastically reduced,

the depreciation facility for the

reconditioned vehicles will not be

allowed. However, the existing rule

to impose duty on reconditioned

vehicles by deducting 35 per cent of

In his budget proposal on June 6,

Saifur reduced import duty on cars

up to 1649cc to 59 per cent from 125

per cent. For cars between 1650cc

and 2659cc, duty has been cut to 89

per cent from 232 per cent and for

those above 2659cc, duty has been

reduced to 150 per cent from 256

the price shown in the 'Yellow Book

will continue," Saifur said.

per cent.

"As customs duty on import of

Ridiculing the AL claim that its five-

year rule was a golden era, Khaleda termed it a 'bomb era' and reminded the House of the sensational incidents of bomb explosions during the AL rule. "Bombs and killings were all around... She went on, "They (AL) created a

reign of terror in the country and killed numerous opposition activists ... Children of AL ministers, the chief

whip and MPs themselves were involved in killings and other criminal activities, but none of them were tried, rather, they were protected." Reacting to the opposition's

display of pictures of those killed during the eight-month rule of this government in the House on Monday, the prime minister asked why the opposition leader did not do show the pictures of those killed during the AL In response to the AL allegation of

political persecution now, the prime minister alleged that during the AL rule, public meetings and processions used to come under gunfire and bomb attacks. "The then ruling party men blocked our long marches towards Chittagong and northern region, when we took up those programmes as substitutes for

# **Pacy Turkey third**

will return with pride," Gunes added. Hakan Sukur broke the speed record when he netted after 11 seconds to shatter the record of 15 seconds set in 1962 by Czechoslovakia's Vaclav Masek against Mexico. It was his first goal of an otherwise disappointing tourna-

"I had to wait a long time for that goal. We deserved our win and if we had reached the final we would have won that as well. I played well in the earlier games but luck was not on my side." he said.

Lee Eul-Young levelled after just nine minutes of a frenetic opening but Ilhan Mansiz scored twice after 13 and 32 minutes to set the Turks right on course as they took third place for their best ever showing in only their second World Cup appearance before a late consolation from Song Chong-Gug.

Both sides linked arms and saluted the supporters at the final whistle and Korean fans raised an enormous Turkish flag.

Hiddink's players fell to their knees to thank the fans in traditional Korean fashion - then threw Hiddink and Korean World Cup organising committee chairman Chung Mong-Joon into the air to celebrate their

But proceedings started on a sombre note as there was a minute's silence in memory of the victims of a clash between the North and South Korean navies earlier in the day which left five South Korean sailors dead or missing and 22 wounded.

Despite Korean pressure in the second half the hosts showed little accuracy in front of goal after the break despite the exhortations from the touchline of Hiddink, whose contract officially ends after Sunday's final in Yokohama, Japan, between Germany and favourites

Ahn Jung-Hwan, Korea's golden goal hero against Italy, had earlier seen a shot deflected inches wide, frustrating 63,000 red-shirted fans.

Turkish coach Gunes opted to play Sukur alongside Ilhan up front with Hasan Sas left on the bench.

And Sukur it was who promptly netted as the clock ticked up 11 seconds, firing home past Korean keeper Lee Woon-Jae after Korean defensive stalwart and skipper Hong Myung-Bo trod on the ball and lost possession Hong, making his 135th and final

appearance after 12 years in Korean colours, would not reappear after the interval The shocked Koreans were soon

back on track, however, Lee Eul-Yong firing home a brilliant leftfooted free-kick which left Recber helpless in the Turkish goal

back in front as Ilhan prodded the ball in from around 10 yards after a quick breakaway as the Korean

defence melted away. After 32 minutes Ilhan, combining brilliantly again and again with Parma striker Sukur, made it 3-1

with a neat chip over Lee. Ahn thought he had closed the gap on 40 minutes but Lee Chun-Soo stood offside

The South Koreans lost to Germany in their semi-final while Turkey went down to Brazil, both matches finishing 1-0. The Turks had claimed mental

tiredness before the start - but in truth it was South Korea who had shot their bolt once they bowed out to the Germans. Both sides will hope that they do

not go of the way of the last three sides to lose the playoff match.

England, who lost to Italy in 1990, Bulgaria, who lost to Sweden in 1994 and Holland, who lost to Croatia in 1998 all failed to qualify for the following tournament.

#### **TEAMS** Turkey: Rustu, Akyel, Korkmaz,

Alpay, Ergun, Davala (Okan 75),Basturk (Tayfur 85), Tugay, Emre (Unsal 41), Sukur, Mansiz Booked: Tugay, Rustu Goals: Sukur 11 second, Mansiz

13, 32 minutes South Korea: Woon-Jae Lee, Hong (Tae-Young Kim 46),Min-Sung Lee,

Yoo, Yong-Pyo Lee, Eul-Young Lee (Cha 64),Chun-Soo Lee, Park, Song, Ahn, Seol (Tae-Uk Choi 79) Booked: Eul-Young Lee Goals: Lee Eul-yong 9 minute, Song Chong-gug 92 minute

Attendance: 63,483 Referee: Saad Kameel Mane

#### Hotel owner

FROM PAGE 12 he spot.

The miscreants looted cash of the hotel and left the scene.

On information, police rushed the spot and recovered the body. They sent it to Sadar Hospital for

A case was lodged with Cox's Bazar Sadar police station in this

#### Sony murder

FROM PAGE 12

Clinic at Eskaton in the city, the statement said.

At about 5 pm on the day, Tagar said, he came to know that a BUET student was killed in the shootout. He then left the city to escape arrest.

## Fancy finale!

and Germany took full advantage of

Just one month ago British bookbetween 12-1 to 16-1.

been forgotten about.

their reserves of mental strength, of superior organisation, invoked their sense of destinies and also produced some very fine play when it mattered, and are now just one game away from the ultimate triumph in the

ily because Ronaldo and Rivaldo cannot stop scoring goals and because Germany have lost their main creative player Michael Ballack who is suspended.

claim otherwise, but Germany come to the final with the greatest record of any European country while Brazil boast not only the best record among the South Americans, but also the world.

finale for the first finals in Asia and on a high.

1958, 1962, 1970 and 1994 -- will be spearheaded by the twin strike-force of Ronaldo and Rivaldo.

est and most incisive to beat Germany's best player -- skipper and goalkeeper Oliver Kahn.

will also give the severest test to the German defence which has conceded only one goal in the entire tournament -- Robbie Keane's late equaliser for Ireland in their 1-1 draw with Germany in the first round.

four matches without conceding a goal and while their football has not exactly been brimming with dazzling ball skills and flair, it has been effective enough.

Ronaldo, playing in his second World Cup final following his own personal nightmare of 1998. Then, just a few shadow of his usual self.

Cafu, meanwhile, will be making history of another kind by becoming the first player ever to appear in three World Cup finals after appearing as a substitute in 1994 and playing in

Coach Luis Felipe "Big Phil" Scolari is expected to start with the same team that beat England 2-1 in the quarterfinals, reinstating Ronaldinho to the starting line-up after he was suspended from the semifinal win over Turkey after his red

card against England. Germany will rely on their traditional virtues that, according to coach Rudi Voeller means: "plenty of order

and discipline". "We must switch to the attacking mode but we must do it carefully because Brazil have players capable of using any opportunity to counterattack," added the former World Cup

"In terms of individual players they have more class than we have but that's not something we should be ashamed of," Voeller said. "All the other teams are in the same situation

when compared to Brazil."

As always, Voeller declined to drop any hints on his starting line-up but he said all his preferred players were ready to go despite minor injury Top striker Miroslav Klose, who has scored five goals in the tourna-

ment, trained fully on Thursday despite a sore hip and should start up front alongside Öliver Neuville. Kahn, who was instrumental in his side's run to the final by conceding

only one goal, had to receive treatment on a painful neck during a training session on Thursday but Voeller said there was nothing to worry about.

Midfielder Dietmar Hamann should take over the playmaking duties from the suspended Ballack and the tireless Jens Jeremies should be handed Hamann's usual defensive role at the centre of

PROBABLE TEAMS

Brazil: (Formation 3-5-2; Jersey

numbers in the beginning): 1-Marcos: 3-Lucio. 5-Edmilson. 4-Roque Junior; 2-Cafu, 8-Gilberto Silva, 15-Kleberson, 11-Ronaldinho, 6-Roberto Carlos; 9-Ronaldo, 10-Rivaldo Germany: (Formation 4-4-2; Jersey

Assistant Referees: Leif Lindberg (Sweden)Philip Sharp (England)

#### Contractor, Arafat aide Nabil Abu Rudeina said, trucker shot "We strongly denounce this new Israeli crime, which is part of a series of

for tolls STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Armed miscreants shot and injured a truck driver and a contractor in separate incidents in the city's Tejgaon area yesterday for refusing to pay tolls.

Two armed men knocked at the door of contractor Mazharul Islam Pintu, 37, who was then resting at residence at 294/A Purba Nakhal Para at 2.30pm. They shot him indiscriminately

as he opened the door, leaving him critically wounded. Several bullets hit him in the abdomen, left hand and left thigh. He was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). When contacted, Tejgaon police

said the miscreants went to the victim's residence to demand tolls. In another incident, armed extortionists demanded money from truck driver Mizanur Rahman, 35, at

the Tejgaon truck stand at about 12:30pm. They shot him in the leg as he refused to pay. The miscreants also looted his

cash and other valuables. Mizanur was admitted to the DMCH.

A young employee of a private

Sources said that on the night of

Later at about 11:30 that night, security guards at the building heard a noise out of the room and knocked on its door. "As nobody responded.

Mashu, who was supposed to be in the room, was missing and has been absconding ever since. Police said the killers were inside the room and fled after cutting the grill of the

up with any clue as to the motive

Judge of Women and Children

informed the on- duty police at the hospital soon after Asma went

It created a chaotic situation at the hospital when Asma reported her baby missing from ward No. 17

Asma went back to the ward Despite criticism from different quarters, Saifur defended his proposal for general amnesty to black

FROM PAGE 12

Father of a six-month old baby

Police on the other hand said that

Mahmudul Alam Tapash, brother

#### FROM PAGE 12

Kazi Shahbuddin Ahmed, advocate Shudangshu Shekhar Halder, advocate Subrato Chowdhury, advocate MA Halim, and advocate

chief justice and the law minister to Court Division judges. They also

#### JS passes budget minister said only four-year old vehicles would be allowed into the

from the proposed Tk 3,600. He also reduced supplementary duty on fluorescent tube light from the proposed 50 per cent to 30 per

The financed minister did not make any change in the tax exemption limit for the individuals, but reduce d the minimum payable tax to Tk 1,200 from his proposed Tk 2,400. He also reduced the highest income tax slab to Tk 625.000 from

his proposed Tk 975,000. In his budget proposal placed in the parliament on June 6, the finance minister reduced the income tax exemption limit to Tk 75,000 from Tk 100,000.

money holders if the funds are invested in manufacturing or service "It has been proposed to auger investment. It does not have any relation to the facility of whitening the black money given during the regime of the immediate past Awami

League government," the minister

Proposing revision in the policy

for reconditioned vehicles, the

It has also been made mandatory to submit certificate of the

recognised automobile associations of the exporting countries to the customs authority. Saifur in his revision of tax pro-

posals also reduced the tariff value

Poultry, Dairy and Agro Farm, level of loan recovery. Fazle Hasan Abed said women money recipients of BRAC have set many examples of selfempowerment. In the past 30 years, BRAC has empowered thousands of rural women bringing them under various programmes including education, reproductive health,

> have every potential to improve themselves but they still need support from society. "We are trying to make them valuable in the eyes of society so that they can lead their lives better

small business, healthcare and self-

he said. Among others, President of

Kutubuddin Ahmed, Executive Director of BRAC Abdul Muyeed Chowdhury, MIDAS Managing Director MA Karim, diplomats and a good number of women entrepreneurs were present at the function.

#### of scraps of ships from the proposed Tk 1,500 to Tk 1,000. He also imposed 20 per cent duty on import

duty has been imposed on twostroke motorcycles imported in CKD (completely knocked-down) condi-He also increased supplementary duty on import of cigarette and

liquor to 350 per cent from the

His new proposals also include

15 per cent 'excess profit tax' on the

Thirty per cent supplementary

of marble and granite.

existing 250 per cent to discourage their import. Supplementary duty on locally produced cigarette has also been hiked by five per cent.

excessive profits by banks to 'encourage the banks to reduce lending rates'. The revisions also include increase in import duty on stones

from 22.5 per cent to 32.5 per cent. The finance minister also mentioned that the government has decided to set up a revenue reform commission for timely reforms in income tax, import duty and value

## Women Entrepreneurs' Association

FROM PAGE 12

Presided over by the WEA President and former advisor to the caretaker government Rokia A Rahman, the awards ceremony was also addressed by Managing Director of Grameen Bank Dr. Mohammad Yunus as chief guest and Chairman of BRAC Dr. Fazle Hasan Abed as special guest. Rokia said women entrepre-

extremely commendable, given the loan default culture in the country. "It is with a deep sense of national pride that I speak about women entrepreneurs who have set a trail of success stories for social change," she said. The award recipients were -

neurs have successfully progressed

in business with a very high percent-

age of repayments on loans which is

Minu Begum of Munshiganj of Grameen Bank, Majeda Khatun of Jamalpur of BRAC and Sandhya Roy of Gonosasthya Kendra, of the rural quota. In the urban area, awards were given to Dil Rowshan Akhtery, proprietor, Flower Club Cottage Industry and co-chairperson, MIDAS Mini Mart; Ruby Guzhnavi, managing director of Aranya Crafts; and Rahima Mahmud, proprietor, Rimotas In the institutional category, the

Grameen Bank, BRAC and the Gonosasthya Kendra each received the honours for their outstanding contributions in the empowerment of rural women and for bringing them in the nation-building process. The honoured recipients spoke

about their struggling days. They

said they too can contribute to

society as agents of social change

and expressed the hope that society

would change its mindset and attitudes towards women for the greater development of the country. Dr. Yunus said there are at least seven million beneficiaries of the micro-credit programme across the country, of which 90 per cent are women who are contributing to

He further stated that women have the potential to empower themselves and further improve society as agents of social change. "We have observed while working with women their tremendous

social advancement.

potential for the advancement of the nation." he added. He also said in the micro-credit programme, women entrepreneurs as borrowers deal with about Tk 5000 crore each year with a record

Referring to the total loan of Tk 1,510 crore given to women in the year 2001, he said rural women

improvement programmes.

International Chamber of Commerce, Bangladesh Chapter, Mahbubur Rahman, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and **Exporters Association President** 

Argentina were strongly tipped to contest the final -- but after both were eliminated in the first round, Brazil

ies priced Brazil at odds of between 6-1 and 13-2 to win the World Cup, while Germany were considered

serious stuff starts, indifferent form in the qualifiers or the friendlies has Brazil and Germany have dug into

Brazil begin as favourites primar-

their opponents in what is incredibly, the first ever meeting in the finals between the two traditionally dominant countries of world soccer. Italy and Argentina might like to

could bring the tournament to a close Brazil's assault on their fifth world title -- their eagerly awaited "penta" following their previous successes in

Ronaldo (6 goals) and Rivaldo (5)

Much of the attention will be on

nis own personal memory book.

the way the competition opened up.

even less of a chance at odds ranging But as so often happens when the

But Brazil will not under-estimate

In many ways it is the perfect

They will need to be at their sharp-

Since then Germany have gone

nours after suffering a fit, he was a He will be aiming to consign that personal demon to the rubbish bin of

numbers in the beginning): 1-Oliver Kahn: 22-Torsten Frings, 2-Thomas Linke, 5-Carsten Ramelow, 21-Christoph Metzelder; 19-Bernd Schneider, 16-Jens Jeremies, 8-Dietmar Hamann, 17-Marco Bode; 7-Oliver Neuville, 11-Miroslav Klose, Referee: Pierluigi Collina (Italy)

Fourth official: Hugh Dallas

#### raw jute and the extra amount was shared by almost everyone from the top boss to the temporary workers." The government sanctioned funds for modernisation of the AJM, but again, the money was not utilised The AJM workers and officials also talked about how the collective