## The Baily Star

# China warned to prepare for even worse flooding

### AFP, Beijing

People across China were warned Tuesday to prepare for imminent flooding even worse than that thought to have killed almost 800 people last month, as the full force of the rainy season looms.

The warning came as aid workers said earlier flash floods had left some rice paddies farmed for generations unusable ever again, and local populations severely traumatised.

The main areas under threat during the rainy season, which officially begins in July, are around the traditionally flood-prone Yangtze River, especially in central and eastern China.

"It is high time for water levels in the Yangtze and other main rivers to rise as more rain is predicted for this month, the beginning of the major flood season throughout China," a senior flood control official told Tuesday's China Daily newspaper.

Areas most at risk were around the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze, said Deng Jian, deputy head of the Office of the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters.

Adding to concern is the imminent arrival of Typhoon Rammasun, currently lurking off Taiwan and expected to bring heavy rain to central and eastern parts of the mainland within three days, the Central Meteorological Observatory in Beijing told AFP.

Rivers and lakes are already perilously close to danger levels. Dongting lake in the central

province of Hunan, which acts as a buffer for the Yangtze, was just one centimetre below its 32-metre flood warning level, the state Xinhua news agency said early this week

The Red Cross said areas around the Yangtze had been battered by heavy thunderstorms on Tuesday

## SP commits 'suicide'

FROM PAGE 1 was taken to the Dhaka Medical

College Hospital (DMCH) where the senior police officials. on-duty doctor declared him dead on arrival at 5:30am. village home for burial. An unnatural His relatives said Bashar's wife death case was registered with the

Tasmina Bashar Moni started living in the city, leaving two of her three daughters and the son with her husband in Faridpur. Tasmina aspired to become a

Hatral singer and was expected to release FROM PAGE 1 an album soon. Tasmina's career for sports Obaidul Kader. Police aspiration might have irked her also raided an office of AL lawhusband said sources

Bashar's in-laws alleged that he was mentally challenged and being treated by surgeon Iftekhar. One of his in-laws said he made another attempt to commit suicide about 12 davs ago. But Bashar's cousin Aurangozeb alias Babu refuted the allegation

#### and more were forecast to come. In some places, water levels were already above those recorded in 1998, when devastating floods around the Yangtze killed 4,000

people, although river banks have been reinforced since then, the group said. Thorir Gudmundsson of the International Federation of Red

Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Beijing said further flooding was inevitable "We are preparing for what might happen. There are medical teams on

alert who are ready to move in to prevent any outbreaks of disease which is what kills the most people during floods," he said.

At the same time, the terrible effects of flash floods and landslides which ripped through a number of provinces earlier this month are still emerging. Gudmundsson, who returned

Tuesday from the west-central province of Guizhou, said many people there appeared severely traumatised. Hours of torrential rain on June 15

caused flash flooding in areas usually not at risk, where many people farmed in dry river valleys, he said.

### Children hurt FROM PAGE 12

the ditch as driver pressed hard brake

Manik, 20, helper of the bus.

noon. It is apprehended that some of other 25 travellers may be inside the vehicle Of the injured, 20 including the

Later, the body was sent to his

maker and a leading cultural activ-

ist Asaduzzaman Noor. Besides,

another AL candidate in the last

general elections, Abdullah Al

Islam Jacob, was allegedly tor-

the parliament and AL President

Leader of the Opposition in

tured during police remand.

Ramna Police Station.

### Shihab murder case may be disposed of this month BSS, Dhaka

The sensational Shihab murder case may be disposed of by the middle of this month, the Home Ministry monitoring cell for reviewing sensational and important cases said yesterday. Meanwhile the sensational

Shipu murder case may be disposed of within September this year. the cell added.

This was revealed by the monitoring cell while reviewing the sensational murder cases which were discussed earlier at the Home Ministry with State Minister for Home Lutfuzzaman Babar in the chair.

The sensational murder cases which were reviewed yesterday are Shipu murder, double murder at Sutrapur. Shihab murder. Bushra murder, Shazneen rape and murder, Jalal murder, Mahima murder, Jibran Tayebee murder, Taraj murder, constable Badsha murder, triple killings at Malibagh crossing, Sajal murder, Advocate Habib Mondal murder, Sujan murder, Khaled Imam murder and Buddhist monk

housing project must register with

To control the increasing cases

of illegal encroachment, Housing

and Public Works Minister Mirza

Abbus will arrange a meeting with

A high level inter ministerial

Following a prime ministerial

committee was also formed at the

extent of the developers' work.

the developers involved.

Raiuk.

Rajuk will determine the

murder in Chittagong. Ashuliya FROM PAGE 1

Survivors said the bus tumbled into

Local people rescued the children and recovered the body of Work on salvaging the bus from

meeting, led by Cabinet Secretary water was continuing till the after-Dr Saadat Hossain. The committee will present a report to prevent illegal filling in the low-lying lands across the country.

driver were admitted to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.

#### directives, the authorities concerned will take steps to implement programmes of forestation and construction of walkways around the lakes after evicting illegal occupiers of Gulshan, Banani, Baridhara

and Uttara lakes. The committee will also present police, the Dhaka metropolitan a report suggesting ways to stop illegal filling in of low- lying lands police commissioner and other around the Dhaka city.

### Banks' capital FROM PAGE 1

meet the higher capital requirement may go for merger to beef up their financial footing.

At present, a bank needs to have Tk 20 crore in paid-up capital in the beginning. But then it has to increase paid-up capital to Tk 40 crore by issuing initial public offering (IPO) within three years of opera-

Focussing on the country's troubled banking sector, the minister said the private banks, specially those which started operation in the last few years, have complicated the problems of the banking system.



The city's pothole-strewn Hatkhola Road makes traffic movement risky.

NEWS

## **Remitters' welfare fund**

He however could not say how much money was distributed during his tenure and how much remained when he left office.

The process was initiated by the previous BNP government and it continued during the AL rule. But it was stopped towards the end of AL rule in the face of strong objection from various quarters, the source mentioned.

Although there is a provision of providing legal support to Bandladeshi workers abroad by appointing local lawyers, most of the Bangladesh missions in Middle East countries, where large number of Bangladeshis live, never do this, it is alleged.

"I have never heard of any legal support to any of the around 12 lakh Bangladeshi workers in Saudi Arabia." said Noman Chowdhury, chairman of Dahamashi Corporation, a Saudi- based recruiting agency.

Although written compliants were made several times about torture and harassment by Saudi employers, officials at the Bangladesh mission ignored those, he alleged.

Bangladeshi workers hardly get any chance to seek legal support from the country's missions abroad. The missions even do not take the responsibility of sending the body home or arranging payment of compensation if a worker dies in a foreign land.

refugees

said vesterday.

Tun Razak said.

millior

released

vesterday

detained as of last week.

REUTERS, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia will deploy three newly

acquired spy planes to monitor an

increasing flood of Philippine refu-

gees illegally entering its eastern

Sabah state, the New Straits Times

in the number of refugees entering

"We have detected an increase

"About 150 refugees have been

One of southeast Asia's wealthi-

est nations, Malaysia has about two

million foreign workers, including

an estimated 600,000 illegal immi-

plantations and construction sites

Its population numbers around 23

Najib said the three Eagle-UAV

aircraft, worth 47 million ringgit (\$12

million), would also look for any

killing of one of its key leaders in the

coastline two years ago after the

Abu Sayyaf group, linked to Osama

bin Laden's al Qaida, raided two

resorts and kidnapped foreign and

Malaysian tourists who were later

tried to sneak into the eastern state

of Sabah, in the last two weeks

following Manila's stepping up of

military operations with US forces in

Minister Najib Tun Razak said

However, based on the records

"What we noticed is that, the

number of people fleeing from

southern Philippines to Sabah have

increased in the last two weeks," he

told a media conference.

"We have been monitoring the

Philippines last month.

our waters." Naiib said.

According to him, this is not because of fund crisis but because of lack of sincerity of the officials concerned as a lot of money is collected through visa renewal and other fees from workers

The government collects for the welfare fund Tk 300 from each He suggested that the governworker if he goes abroad in a group ment should engage some lawyers of more than five and Tk 900 each or law firms to deal with such cases in the countries with large number from others. Thus around Tk five

lakh is collected every day from 500 of Bangladeshi workers. The to 700 people going abroad for jobs, expenses for this be can be met from the welfare fund, he said. sources said. State minister Quamrul Islam said the fund would now be used twice before harassing or torturing Bangladeshi workers if they properly for the welfare of wage earners. A total of 188 housing flats know that there are lawyers to would be built for them take the cases to courts, he

The government is also arrangobserved. ing around 1000 housing plots in the Purbachal project, specially for the wage earners.

Besides, a one-stop service centre for them would be set up in the city, consisting of a modern dormitory with 350 rooms, medical centre, banks and money exchange counter so that they can stay there and get all necessary services without any hassle, Quamrul said.

Leaders of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agents (BAIRA) however said the wage earners mainly need legal support when they are locked in disputes in a foreign country

"Bangladeshi workers often become helpless when a foreign employer violates the terms and conditions mentioned in appointment letters. This happens frequently," said Abdul Alim, joint secretary general of BAIRA.

Labour counsellors in most of the Bangladesh missions abroad hardly take up such cases with the authorities concerned, he alleged. In case of such disputes, they only make a list of the recruiting agents which sent the workers to those

# Shazneen

### case FROM PAGE 12

Dhaka, filed a rape case with the same police station accusing seven people including Shahid, after six months of investigation into the Shazneen murder case.

Accused Shahid, Hasan, Badal Shani Ram, Minu and Parvin were present in the court during the hearng yesterday.

Special public prosecutor ABM Sharfuddin Khan Mukul, Mahbub Ahmed, advocates Saima Khanam, Mohammad Ali Hossain and Anisur Rahman appeared in the court on behalf of the complainant while advocates MA Kamrul Hasan Khan Aslam and Mosarraf Hossain Kazal

appeared for the accused. The Shazneen murder case pending with the First Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka, was earlier stayed by the High Court (HC). The HC order will remain valid till disposal of the

rape case Trial of the rape case began at the special court on July 9, 2000.

### PM: Exams

FROM PAGE 12

PHOTO STAR

encouraging results of female students, the prime minister asked them to ensure that girls receive all the facilities provided by her government for expansion of female education

She inquired the chairmen about the activities of their respective boards and thanked them for announcement of the results in due

Education Minister Dr Osman The employers would think aruk, State Minister Ehsanul Huq Milon, Deputy Minister Abdus Salam Pinto and Secretary M Shahidul Alam, chairmen of the country's seven Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Meanwhile, the International Boards, acting chairman of Organisation for Migration (IOM) in Bangladesh Madrassah Education a recent study also blamed the Board and chairman-in-charge labour attaches in Bangladesh of Bangladesh Vocational Education Board were present on the

FROM PAGE 12

missions abroad. "Instead of protecting the rights occasion. of migrant workers, there have been allegations that labour attaches themselves become involved in recruiting activities," the study

It mentioned that this is done in two ways. Firstly, they indulge in clandestine recruiting activities by establishing contacts with the employers and recruiting agents in the host country. And secondly. they work on behalf of the Bangladeshi recruiting agencies and act as their agent in the host country.

said.

Responding a question, Quamrul Islam told the Jatiya Sansad on Thursday that around 1560 Bangladeshis are languishing in different foreign jails, including Malavsia and Saudi Arabia.

Efforts are underway for their release, he added.

According to an estimate, around 30 lakh Bangladeshis have so far left for other countries for jobs and other purposes.

## Graveyard for sex workers

### BSS. Raibari

DHAKA THURSDAY JULY 4, 2002

A graveyard for the sex workers of Daulatdia ghat brothel was opened here yesterday. Local Member of Parliament

Mohammad Ali Newaz has provided a plot of 30 decimal land for the graveyard near the brothel in fulfillment of his election pledge.

Newaz opened the gravevard at a simple ceremony. In the past, in the absence of a

graveyard for the sex workers, their bodies were left afloat on the Padma.

Funds set aside FROM PAGE 12 this process of plundering public properties. The entire deal is reached in connivance with a section of officials at the ministry

'To every body's knowledge a vicious circle has been active around the ministry to grab expensive public lands, but nothing has been done so far to solve the problem,' the official added.

'This happened for years because the petty lawyers who are supposed to defend us were easily bought up by the vicious circle who are after the public properties, another top official at the ministry

said 'Now we shall hire top lawyers to defend our interests and we hope to save a lot more than we spend on the counsels.' he said

### Heavy rain FROM PAGE 12

rainfall last month was attributed to two depressions in the Bay of Bengal where there was one well marked seasonal low and one low. The Southern Oscillation Index was 14.5, meaning the El Nino effect was active. It did not have any impact on the overall rainfall in the country however.

The rainfall during July will be influenced by one to two seasonal depressions in the Bay of Bengal, the forecast noted.

"We intend to make broad-based

Prime Minister Mori's visit to

Japanese foreign minister, besides

speaking on relations with its tradi-

tional ally, the United States, spoke

about its ties with South Asian

countries. In this regard, she partic-

ularly mentioned that this year he country marks the 50th anniversary

of establishment of diplomatic

relations with India, Pakistan and Sri

During the interview, the

Bangladesh in August 2000."

## **Jubo Dal leader**

#### the Manju group

leader was at the root of all evils that Claiming himself as one of stalled construction of the bridge. forerunners of the Rupsha Bridge Engineers, consultants and conmovement, Zahir said he and his tractors were frequently told to stop associates had never gone to the work unless they paid toll, or face project site. dire consequences otherwise. As a result, work on the RBP had to be suspended recently incurring a Japanese FM colossal financial loss, local con-

tractors said. FROM PAGE 1 The matter was brought to the interchanges at the citizens' level, notice of the government high-ups. following which the Home Ministry the linchoin of our relations. This was confirmed during the then ordered drastic action against the extortionists.

However, after Zahir's arrest vesterday, work on the RBP resumed in full swing.

Sources said Zahir also grabbed

some land and a house belonging to

the Christian community of Rupsha

strand road. Besides, he and his

Bashar owned another flat on the eight floor of the Century Arcade, which was rented out.

He left behind his three daughters Tanni, student of class IX at the Faridpur Police Lines High School, Safa, student of class III, and sevenmonth-old Tanvi and six-year-old son, Sunny.

The eldest brother among three, Bashar, from Chuadanga Sadar, joined the Bangladesh Police Service in 1986, qualifying for the Bangladesh Civil Service in 1984. Bashar served as superintendent of police in many districts, including Laxmipur, Jamalpur and Faridpur.

Lecturer of the Forensic Department of the DMCH Mizanur Rahman carried out the autopsy.

The namaj-e-janaza of Bashar held at the Rajarbagh Police Lines Mosque after Zohr prayers was attended by the inspector general of

## Auditors: Past loan

Dr Mahmud.

travel out."

pollution-free.

involved in the practices. The committee will appoint special auditors for this purpose to scrutinise big defaulted loans.

The committee formed last month sat with Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday to discuss its task and scope of the work.

The committee will dig deeper into the loan default problem and go through specific cases to detect the causes behind the malaise." Saifur told newsmen after the meeting at the finance ministry.

Whether inherent weakness of projects or political disturbances and infrastructure bottlenecks are to be blamed for the loan defaults will be identified by the committee, the minister added.

The committee headed by economist Dr Wahiduddin Mahmud will work for three months

In March 2002, the amount of FROM PAGE 1 classified loans stood at Tk 24,343 "We'll take proper action immedicrore, which is 0.46 percentage ately and nothing will go beyond the points higher than the figure of Tk law." he assured. 23,599 crore in December 2001.

Of the March classified amount, Tk 21,049 crore was in bad loan against the December figure of Tk 20,434 crore.

Committee members Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud, Kazi Abdul Mazid, Moslehuddin Ahmed and member secretary of the committee Nazrul Huda attended the meeting.

Sheikh Hasina already issued separate statements on 'the latest wave of repression on and harassment' of her party leaders and

activists Today's hartal is also aimed at pressing home the AL's demand for release of all political detainees and containing spiralling of essential prices, and at protesting imposition of taxes on the poor, closure of the Adamjee Jute Mills, deterioration of law and order.

Meanwhile, the city unit of the AL held an extended meeting last night at the party's Bangabandhu Avenue central office. The meeting expressed deep concern at the 'harassment' and arrests of AL

The committee will also examine

whether there is any need to change

the definition of defaulter and bank-

ing laws, said Committee Chairman

can write off default loans stuck up

Rahman said the loan default prob-

lem is leading to high interest rates,

which punish honest borrowers.

uled just before elections.

for a long time," he said.

"We will also see how the banks

Finance Minister M Saifur

He also said loans are resched-

Saifur said even if an industry

turns sick, its owner does not. "On

many occasions, we have found

that owners of sick industries own

two or three expensive cars, live in

expensive houses and frequently

The residents of the sector Nos.

Some proposed an integrated

and 13 told The Daily Star that

they urged the authorities to take

development programme that

involves paving the embankment.

building a walkway and planting

trees around the lake and making it

necessary steps to save the lake.

Uttara Lake

leaders and workers. It urged the party men as well as the people to make success today's half-day hartal in Dhaka

He also attributed the recent upheaval in the call money market to the capital weaknesses of the new private banks. . "Most of the new banks started

operation with a low capital structure and suffer from liquidity crisis. In such a situation, they frequently borrow from the call money market. And the established banks take the chance and lend at exorbitant rates," Saifur added.

### SSC exams

FROM PAGE 1 lowest -- 29.24 -- is under Comilla board

The number of eaxaminees was 2,82,142 under Dhaka board, 82,977 under Chittagong board, 3,13,197 under Rajshahi Board. 1.27.634 under Comilla board 1 23 774 under Jessore board

62,726 under Barisal board and 33.007 under Sylhet board The results of Vocational Certificate Examinations under the grants, employed in factories, Technical Education Board and Dhakil examinations under the Madrassah Education Board were also announced vesterday. These results are also in letter grading system

A total of 25,590 examinees sat for the vocational examinations and 1,52,702 for the Dakhil examinations. The percentage of pass is 44.59 and 52.46 respectively.

The percentage of pass of male students is 68.97 and that of female students is 31.02 in the vocational examinations. In the Dakhil examinations, the percentage is 53.13 for male students and 51.36 for female students

The results were sent to all the examination centres concerned across the country yesterday afternoon. Students have been asked to collect their results from their

respective examination centers. There are six grades in the letter grading system. These are: A+ (80-100 per cent, five points), A (60-79 per cent, four points) B (51-59 per cent, three points), C (41-50 per cent, two points) D (33-40 per cent, one point) and F (0-32 per cent, zero point).

and armed forces intelligence, no The boards will issue certificates member of the Abu Sayyaf group mentioning Grade Point Average was detected among the immi-(GPA) instead of division. grants, he said

Under the present system, marks obtained in fourth subject are not counted in the GPA, but mentioned in the certificates.

GPA-5 Malaysia to use

FROM PAGE 12

spy planes to GPA-5 46 male and 22 female. Of them. 65 are from Science group track illegal and three from Business group. Comilla Board: Of the 43 who got this grade, 32 are

male and 11 are female students. Of them, 42 are from Science group and one from Humanities group. Sylhet Board: Fifteen male and three female

students got GPA-5 and all of them are from Science group. Raishahi Board:

Fifteen 15 students g t GPA-5 -- 11 male and four female. All of them belong to Science group. Jessore Board: Sabah," Defence Minister Najib Sixteen male students and two

female students got this grade 17 of them from Science group and one from Business group. **Barisal Board:** All the 10 who got GPA-5 under this

board are male students from Science group.

### Grading system FROM PAGE 12

which is one of the reasons for low pass-out percentage. Some 15 students obtained A+

fleeing Abu Sayyaf rebels trying to from the Vigurunnisa Noon School seek shelter in Sabah following the this vear. Principal of the Motijheel Ideal

School and College Prof. Md. AK Malaysia deployed armed Nowaz was however satisfied with forces along Sabah's island-dotted the results

> He said the students of his school had no problem with the maths question paper. Some 21 students of the Motijheel Ideal School and College got A+ or GPA 5.

"This year's average of passing percentage is very low and it should situation because it is not far from be at least 50 per cent under the new grading system," said RU Zahed, Bernama adds: Malaysia Armed headmaster of the Government Forces detained 150 Filipinos, who Laboratory High School, which grabbed 17 GPA-5

"Negligence of teachers to their students is one the main reasons behind the low percentage," he southern Philippines, Defence observed.

> This year, more than six lakh examinees failed. As many as 10.05.937 appeared at the exams, of which 596958 came out successful.

The results also showed that the girl students could not do better. The percentage of passing of the girl students is 37.06 against the boys' 42.33. Out of a total of 327 A+, the highest level of the grading system, female candidates managed only

### Rejoinder

#### FROM PAGE 1 claimed its ownership.

He said the land was recorded in the name of the Forest Department during CS and SA surveys, but it was recorded in the name of one Shayesta Begum during the RS survey. The Jamuna Group purchased the land from Shavesta Begum. When it went on constructing a boundary wall, the Forest Department resisted the move

The CCF said the additional deputy commissioner (revenue). Gazipur ordered recording of the land in the name of Shavesta Begum instead of the Forest Department, Upon the order. Shavesta Begum updated land tax.

The Forest Department filed a case with the Fourth Senior Assistant Judge's Court, Gazipur, seeking permanent injunction on the land, which is under trial, he said

Faruq said the Forest Department is "very much sincere" to recover the "disputed" land and took all legal action.

The project -- "Establishment of Forest Land Management Unit of the Forest Department (first phase) -- has already appointed a retired district judge as consultant on fixing of the boundary of forestlands, recovery of lands and settlement of ownership conflicts, he continued.

On the transfer of Divisional Forest Officer (DFO, Dhaka) Mohammad Abdur Rashid, Faruq said the DFO was transferred as part of the routine and it has no connection with the land dispute. The newly appointed DFO has continued all legal steps to recover the land and the report on the insecurity of forest officials and employees is completely false, he added.

Our reply: The report was based on official and legal documents, which showed the disputed land as a protected government property. Even the rejoinder itself admits that the land belongs to the Forest Department.

Abdur Rashid was transferred upon his efforts to protect the disputed land. Rashid joined the Forest Department as DFO, Dhaka on September 16, 2001 and was transferred on May 30 last. Transfer of an official takes place every three years, but in his case, the transfer took place only eight months later. We stand by our report

accomplices forced shrimp traders and wholesalers of fish of the Natun Bazaar commercial belt to pay toll time and again. But none ever dared to lodge any complaint to the police fearing reprisals, shrimp traders said.

Zahir, who ran for commissioner of ward 29 in the last KCC election, raised a huge amount of money from businessmen of Natun Bazaar and Rupsha Industrial belt through coercion. He was however defeated by his rival from the Manju group of BNP.

Prior to his bail yesterday, the Jubo Dal leader, who was sitting on sofa in the office of the OC of Khulna thana, refuted all allegations against him, saying there was no evidence to support any of the allegations. His arrest was part of a conspiracy by his rivals in the party, he said in an oblique reference to

See text of the Interview on

Tofail Ahmed, Abul Hasnat Abdullah

and Obaidul Qader, and arrested

several prominent leaders and

from the government after our joining the House," Hasina said. On

the contrary, the prime minister in

her budget speech brought allega-

tion of conspiracy against Awami

League and blamed her party for

from the opposition in tackling law

and order, Hasina said, the prime

minister put the blame on Awami

League, which is "unfortunate and

the diplomats that her party would

watch for any qualitative change in

the government's behaviour after

Awami League's return to parlia-

of Bangladesh Institute of

Development Studies (BIDS) Dr

Zaid Bakht, Senior Research Fellow

of BIDS Dr Binayak Sen and division

head of the planning commission

The commission will recommend

Review body

The opposition leader also told

Instead of seeking cooperation

deterioration of law and order.

"We don't see any good gestures

2 envoys meet Hasina

former MPs

unbecomina"

FROM PAGE 1

ment.

FROM PAGE 12

secretary Saber Hossain Chowdhury and press advisor Jawadul Karim said the issues of continued repression on Awam League, deteriorating law and order, rampant criminal acts and human rights situation figured prominently during the talks.

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina told the diplomats that Awami League is committed to parliamentary democracy and make parliament functional, but it might not be possible with her party's singlehanded efforts.

She aired doubts if the party in ower at all wanted to see Awami League in parliament and play its role as the opposition. In support of her contentions, Hasina pointed out how a new spell of repression, false cases, arrests and raids on the houses of her party leaders were being carried out by the government

She said Awami League would join the parliament when it resumes its session, and raise the burning issues including law and order, the rule of law and human rights However, Hasina said she is not sure if her party would be allowed to speak on these issues of national

concern. KMSA Kaisar. The ex-PM told the envoys that after joining the parliament, governafter reviewing different aspects of ment's "repression" on Awami financial management of the gov-League leaders and workers ernment. It will submit the report to increased. Police raided the houses the government within the next six of Awami League leaders, including months.

Lanka and the 30th anniversary of establishing diplomatic ties with Bangladesh Turning to international sphere, the foreign minister said Japan intends to further its efforts for promoting international order to achieve peace, stability and prosperity for the entire international community.

"We will continue to make active contribution to tackling various global issues. We will make Japan-US relations the fundamental basis of Japan's foreign policy as well as developing and strengthening its relations with China. South Korea. Russia and other neighbouring countries.

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