NEWS

People will bring the govt down if it continues repression: Hasina

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the government to stop torture and repression on the people, or else, she said it would fall through a mass upsurge.

"How long will people tolerate torture and repression? The government will make a mistake if it thinks it will be able to rule with a two-thirds majority," she said.

The Awami League chief cautioned that in the past many strong governments fell in the face of resistance by the people, adding that the present government would also fall if it did not exercise restraint.

She made the remarks while addressing the leaders and workers of Teigaon Thana Awami League at the party's Dhanmondi office.

The AL leaders and workers came to meet the party chief along with the recently released Awami League general secretary Shafiuddin Shafi of ward 37. The ex-PM observed that the

people now want to get rid of this "misrule and torture" by the BNP-Jamaat regime and want to live in peace and security. She asked her party leaders and workers to stand beside the people and strengthen the party at grassroots level. She said the present govern-

ment could give the nation nothing but torture, killing, repression and price spirals during its 11-month

The leader of the opposition asked her workers to keep a list of those who are now torturing the people through toll collection and

She also asked for listing corrupt officials of the police administration who she said are also torturing

innocent people of the country. "Power is not perpetual," warned the immediate-past prime minister.

Hasina renewed her complain that the government does not even allow the opposition to speak inside parliament. The speaker, she said, switched off her mike five times while she was speaking at the JS about the "misdeeds" of the present

"There are 73 ministers or persons of equivalent rank in this government, and if I speak for one minute about each minister, it takes 73 minutes." she said.

Neither claimed yesterday's

Israeli government spokes-

man Avi Pazner told AFP. "We

are definitely facing a major drive

by all Palestinian terrorist organi-

sations," and added, "We will do

whatever it takes to stop this new

Hours earlier Israeli police

chief Shlomo Aharonishki had

warned. "The past weeks have

given a false impression of

calm, while terrorism has not

dropped its guard and there

have been constant attempts to

Pazner blamed Yasser

Arafat's Palestinian Authority for

the upsurge, accusing him of

"doing nothing to stop terrorist

attacks and continuing to encour-

age and incite violence in Israel".

its part condemned the suicide

bombing and asked all

Palestinian groups to also

denounce it, but stopped short of

The Palestinian leadership for

attack on behalf of his group.

out by Israel.

wave.'

strike."

die in Tel Aviv

The opposition leader said her mike was switched off when she was speaking about the wheat scam and "massive corruption" of the

She deplored that price of essentials had gone beyond the purchasing power of common people following imposition of taxes and VAT on different items, and also due to extortion and bribery.

"Foreign investment has plummeted by 72 per cent due to corruption and misrule." she told the gathering, "but the present government has no headache about it and is instead busy amassing wealth".

Awami League leaders Abdus Samad Azad. Abdur Razzak Advocate Rahmat Ali, Latif Siddiqui, Abdul Mannan and Abdul Mannan Khan were present at the meeting.

Rly workers

FROM PAGE 12

city yesterday, organised by the Bangladesh Jatiya Sramik Federation in support of the demands of railway workers and

They urged the government to realise the "railway's Tk 12.500 crore dues from different government organisations" and use the money to modernise it, instead of turning it into a corporation

General Secretary of the union Harun Ar Rashid also said steps should be taken to recover the railway's 66,500 acres of land now under illegal occupation across the country and utilise those for income neration in various ways. This would add to the railway's financial strength, he added. The sramik federation placed a

the union. The demands included formation of a separate ministry for railway and an end to all kinds of denationalisation. President of the federation

seven-point demand on behalf of

Tufazzal Hussain, among others, was present at the press confer-

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Railway Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parisad at a rally on September 16 announced an agitation programme including demonstration from 10 am to 11am every day to press its demands. It also submitted a memorandum to the nmunications minister.

If the demands were not met by October 13, the parishad would go for tougher programmes, it warned.

calling for a halt to such strikes.

by a kamikaze attack was on July

17, when twin bombings carried

out by Islamic Jihad in a crowded

neighbourhood near the old bus

attack which killed an Israeli

policeman as well as the suicide

bomber in the northern Israeli

town of Umm El-Fahm was the

first to succeed inside Israel

since a Hamas bomber killed

nine people in a bus in the north

intending to board a bus going

tured a four-man Jihad cell in the

village of Itar, near Tulkarem on

the northern boundary between

Israel and the West Bank, and

arrested a suicide bomber plan-

ning an attack out of Nablus

Israeli army said it had cap-

on August 4.

was not identified.

deeper into Israel.

Wednesday's Islamic Jihad

station killed five people.

The last time Tel Aviv was hit

Rape of AL leader 3 BNP activists sued, 2 arrested in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two separate cases were recorded with the Khulna Thana vesterday accusing three BNP activists of assaulting and raping local Awami League leader Nasima Khatoon.

The cases were filed by the victim herself, who named Ferdous, Azad and Bipu as accused in the first information report (FIR) of the

Two of the FIR-named accused, Ferdous, 32, and Azad, 34, have been arrested while prime accused Bipu is still at large.

Nasima Khatoon, a ward-level AL leader, was allegedly beaten and subsequently gang-raped by the three accused inside her shanty on Tuesday night. An injured Nasima was admitted to the Khulna General Hospital but later sent to the Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) under threat allegedly from the officer-in-charge (OC) of the Khulna Thana who reportedly ordered doctors not to attend her

Earlier on September 2, the OC had refused to record an assault case by Nasima after the same three BNP activists allegedly molested her on that day. Nasima then filed the case at the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Khulna, on September 4, following which the CMM ordered the OC to investigate the case. But the OC reportedly did not comply with the CMM's order, terming the accusation concocted and the complainant

Meanwhile, Nasima's condition did not improve due to lack of proper medical care for her at the KMCH. Also, two unknown persons on Wednesday night threatened her with dire consequences if she filed any case in connection with the assault and rape.

According to a source at Khulna hana, Nasima is one of the prosecution witnesses of the Triple Murder Case in which Ershad Shikder is the principal accused.

UP polls

FROM PAGE 1 their respective districts.

However, polls to 190 more union parishads would be held later due to non-completion of their tenures, various legal tangles and problems relating to area demarca-

The last election to union parishad across the country was held from December 1 to 31 in 1997. At that time, the government had introduced for the first time separate wards for exclusively electing three women members in each unions with the objective of empowering

women at the grassroots level. Following last week's government decision of reintroducing upazila system in the country lding of election to ur parishads has became all the more necessary, sources pointed out.

The EC at a meeting yesterday discussed updating of voters' list and preparations for the election to union parishads as well as city corporation polls in Sylhet and Barisal

The meeting decided to send a proposal to the LGRD Ministry for introducing provisions for submission of nomination papers for all local government polls on more than one day.

At present, all candidates have to Islamic Jihad said the bomber submit nomination papers on a had been spotted by police as he single day, causing serious probwas heading for his target, which lems for polls officials to handle the situation. Police said he was apparently

The EC also decided that legal action would be taken against any one found enlisting his or her name more than once as voter.

Chaired by Chief Election Commissioner MA Sved, the meeting was attended by election commissioners Shafiur Rahman, MM Munsef Ali and AK Mohammad Ali and top officials concerned

US envoy says

CHT situation conducive to dev activities

US ambassador in Dhaka Mary Ann Peters yesterday said she would do everything possible to convey to the donor countries and agencies the message of resuming their development activities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) as peace and discipline has returned to the region and conducive atmosphere now prevails there.

Mary Ann Peters, who was here on a brief visit, made the observation during a meeting with the chairman of Rangamati Hill District Council (RHDC) Manik Lal Dewan at the latter's office. The US envoy said peace, condu-

cive atmosphere and congenial law and order situation are preconditions for taking up development activities in Peters expressed her satisfaction

at the prevailing situation in CHT,

resuming development activities, a press release of RHDC quoted her as

The development activities in the entire area remained stalled for quite some time. The chairman of RHDC in the meeting sought the US envoy's cooperation in conveying the message to other donor countries and agencies about resuming development activities in CHT.

The ambassador, who was accompanied by Leonard A. Hill, counsellor for political and economic affairs, had meetings at the Chittagong Hill Tracts regional council office and Deputy Commissioner's office where she exchanged views with officials about the situation prevailing in the area.

Before their departure for Dhaka, the visiting dignitaries enjoyed a cultural function in Tribal Cultural Institute Auditorium.

AL divisional

backdrop of the party's debacle in the last general election.

According to sources in the AL, over four and a half lakh party leaders and workers have been implicated in false cases since the BNP-led fourparty alliance took over. Many of its (AL) grassroots level leaders cannot simply live in their houses, fearing political persecution allegedly by the ruling alliance

In such a situation, AL policy planners hope that the seven divisional conferences would revitalise the party and boost the morale of thousands of party leaders and workers at thana and district levels. The first such conference would

take place on September 30. Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad and AL President Sheikh Hasina would inaugurate it in he divisional city of Sylhet. It would be followed by the second divisional conference in Chittagong on October

Schedules for five other divisional conferences are likely to be finalised shortly, party sources said. The last regular council of the party

was held on May 6-7 in 1997. It had nominated Sheikh Hasina and Zillur Rahman as party president and general secretary respectively for a three-year term. Unprepared to hold a due central council while in power, the AL rather held a special council on June 23 in 2000 to extend the tenure of that committee by two more years.

On June 11 this year, the AL once again extended the central committee's tenure by six months mores after fixing the December 22-23 schedule for holding the next central council. A close aide to Sheikh Hasina told

The Daily Star that following the seven divisional conferences, she would go for a whirlwind tour of the country prior to the December council.

divisions would attend the confer-Party sources said that Sheikh day-long conferences and then listen

Hasina would inaugurate each of the to the participants before giving policy directions to the party rank and file. Preparations for the two confer

ences in Sylhet and Chittagong divisions are going on with the party central leaders and those in the two divisions working out details

Yunus tells BEA confce

The government should concentrate more on curbing corruption, extortion, smuggling and other crimes and creating a congenial atmosphere for the growth of entrepreneurship in the c0ountry.

Yunus thought that the number of people living below poverty level in the country could be reduced at least by 50 per cent by the year 2015 if the government takes up open policies in many more fields and allow people to utilise their capabilities properly.

The Grameen Bank chief also urged the conscious section of the society to come forward and engage in business activities for bringing transparency in the sector and ensuring welfare of the con-

He noted that information technology (IT) has rich prospects in the country. But the sector is yet to ply its desired role mainly due to the government's 'restrictive poli-

About Chittagong port, Yunus said it has become a major hindrance to economic development

Prof Abu Mahmud Memorial Lecture at the session on 'Poverty and Disparity.'

by Dr Mohammad Sirajul Haque poverty alleviation and employment generation for rural poor by M

Hossain Zillur Rahman observed that Bangladesh has achieved some sort of success in managing crisis. He emphasised strengthening the local governments and focussing on local

"It is true that absolute poverty has reduced in the country, but that is not much significant" he said. There should be some alternative methods to use the social power.

Climate change: PM

FROM PAGE 12

lum for students. "Debate should be practised in the classroom though traditionally it never happens."

"Debate teaches a person to offer his own opinion to others in a decent way," said Mahfuz Anam, editor of The Daily Star. "Ultimately, it works as a means of communication.'

enhance the democratic values of a person and makes him rational, selfconfident and honest, observed other speakers. They also underscored the

necessity of English debate compe-

debaters to achieve the international standards." said Shameem Jahan Ahsan, moderator of the Viqarunnisa Noon Debating Club.

of Dhaka Md. Ilias Hossain Mohammed, members of managing committee Mohammed Sadeque and Khondoker Mushtague, and Assistance Head Mistress Ashfia Sultana were present among others on the occasion.

that all compensations for the blowout would be paid. But the fact remains that there is no clause about compensation. briefing session for the participants. Change. Presided over by Environment and Forest Minister Shajahan Siraj, the inaugural function was also addressed

by UNDP resident representative Jorgen Lissner, LDC Expert Group representative and Director General of the Meteorological Department of Mali

attended the session.

ening," but for others it is "life threaten-She said the least developed countries (LDCs) would face the worst effects because of their dependence

on agriculture and natural resourceshased economy Referring to the international summit on global climate to be held in New Delhi next month, she said the LDCs require more interactions and

the most densely populated, deltaic and low-lying country, is extremely vulnerable to climate change. She referred to the IPCC report that has warned that half a metre rise in sealevel will inundate 11 per cent of the country's territory, and the Sunderbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, would be at stake.

tion of mentioning this is not to scare, but to sensitise all. Referring to erratic behaviour of

climate in different parts of the world, she said the breakdown of the balance of nature was a matter of concern.

help contribute to capacity building for meeting the challenge of facing climatic changes. Khaleda Zia said Bangladesh, with

its limited resources, was trying hard to meet the challenges posed by the climatic change. In this regard, she mentioned the signing of the Kyoto Protocol.

VP meets PM All out ADB support for

UNB, Dhaka

assured

The Asian Development Bank has lauded present government's development efforts in various sectors and assured all-out support for socio-economic progress of Bangladesh.

development

Visiting Vice President of ADB Myoung Ho Shin gave the assurance when he made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday afternoon. Appreciating the donor agency's

support for the country's development, the Prime Minister sought more assistance in education. ICT power and energy sectors. She appreciated the Bank's

contribution as a development partner to agriculture, education health, power and infrastructural development of the country. Other matters of bilateral cooper-

ation also came up for discussion during the meeting. Prime minister's principal secre-

tary Dr Kamal Siddiqui was present. Mugger gun down

The injured was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH)

where the on-duty doctors declared him dead. The body was sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy. A case was filed with the Kafrul

Police Station in this regard. This is the second such incident

within a week in the Kafrul area. Police had gunned down an alleged mugger laizuddin, 25, while they tried to snatch away valuables from a rickshaw passengers and threw crackers at the policemen at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city on Friday night.

Police rescue FROM PAGE 12

Islam, Atiqui Islam, Amina Khatun, Mahmuda Akther Shathi and Fazlul Hag, for their alleged involvement

with abduction of the minor boys. Police said that the mastermind the abduction incident Mohammad Arif and his father Mohammad Ali Daroga are

Sources said that Arif had made a proposal to the parents of the boys regarding their sister Molly and they refused him. Being rejected Arif got furious and planned the abduction in a form of revenge Later, Arif along with his accom-

plices abducted the two from Shere-Bangla Road area and took them to the said Gazipur. Father of the victim informed

Hazaribagh police station after the regard on the following day. Police investigation found that the boys Being informed the OC along

who is said to be the main man in the Legal action has been taken against the arrested persons in this

Cell for HPSP

were contracts with the team leader Waliul Islam and three other consultants who coordinated the activities of the HPSP

Yesterday was the last day for the consultants in office at Paribagh The decision of closure has

ment partners financing the HPSP since the launch of the programme Under the development credit agreement, the PCC was supposed

coordination among 28 line directors of the health and family plan-Last month, the health ministry

under pressure from the Planning Commission informed the development partners that it no longer required services of the PCC. The development partners

nclude European Union, Sweden, Japan, the Netherlands, World

PCC...its absence will be felt a few months later." said an official in the health ministry requesting anonym-Also, the government is planning

the ministry and a few more posts

launched in July 2003.

SEC fines Doel

Talking to The Daily Star, the SEC officials said that when a company announces dividend, the price of the share of the company goes up as investors buy the shares taking it for granted that they will earn the

declared dividends. "But if the company fails to pay the dividends or defaults on the payment against the debentures in the stipulated period, the confidence of investors in the company is shattered, which stifles development of the capital market," explained an SEC

As the directors of the companies are responsible for the affairs of the company, the SEC decided on penalising the directors instead of the company, he reasoned.

The official said that two compa-

nies defaulted on payment of Tk 7.19 crore against debenture claims, including interest and principal amount. The outstanding amount of Bangladesh Luggage Industries is Tk 6.08 crore and that of Bangladesh Zipper Industries is Tk 2.06 crore. Of the Tk 6.08 crore default

amount of Bangladesh Luggage Industries, claims from institutional investors amount to Tk 4.02 crore

Schoolgirl rescued from abductors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A schoolgirl was rescued from abductors in the city's Hazaribagh area yesterday.

Agang of four abducted the girl, a student of class X, on her way to school at Basila in the Hazaribagh area at 10.00am.

Hearing screams, locals chased down one of the abductors named Mukul, when the gang was heading for Mirpur with the girl in a trawler

Road accident kills 2 in Sitakunda **STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg**

Two persons were killed in a road accident on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Sitakunda vesterdav. The dead were identified as Zakir

Hossain, a marketing agent of Square Group, and Ataur Rahman Bhuiyan, an official of Sitakunda Health Complex Sources said, the two died on the spot when a Dhaka bound bus from

hittagong hit their motorbike at Fakirhut in the morning. The body of Zakir was sent to his village home at Syedpur in Doulatkhan upazila of Bhola district

after a namaj-e-janaza in the city

The other victim, Ataur Rahman

hailed from Sitakunda in Chittagong

A case was filed in this connection

amount to Tk 2.06 crore.

Institutional investors stake a claim to Tk 70.62 lakh from Bangladesh Zipper Industries and

general shareholders Tk 40.03 lakh. Bangladesh Dyeing and Finishing Industries had declared ten per cent dividends in 2000, but the SEC received complaints from investors that the company defaulted on payment of Tk 51.62 lakh in dividends. The company's total dividend is Tk 72

Bangladesh Zipper Industries announced five per cent dividend in 2001 but defaulted on payment of Tk 18.30 lakh out of Tk 29 lakh.

The Bangladesh Chemical Industries declared ten per cent dividend in 2001 but failed to pay Tk 50.88 lakh out of Tk 66.93 lakh.

The SEC engaged SF Ahmed & Co in the audit on Bangladesh Luggage Industries, Ahmed & Ahmed Co on Bangladesh Chemical Industries, Rahman Rahman Hug Co on Bangladesh Zipper and Acnabin & Co on Bangladesh Dyeing.

Auditors have been asked to submit the complete report in 45

ČJ asks president president appoints one judge to the

Appellate Division on ad hoc basis. There are only seven judges in the Supreme Court now, of whom Justice Ruhul Amin and Justice Fazlul Karim had given the verdict in the murder case, while they served in the High Court Division.

Of the five remaining judges except the present chief justice, four had felt embarrassed at various stages of the trial. Now, if a judge is appointed on ad

hoc basis, the number of judges for

the hearing will be two, including the

chief justice. The bench cannot be constituted with the two judges. Talking to newsmen at his secretariat office earlier, the law minister said the government wants to dispose of the case at the earliest. For this, he said, seven judges were appointed to the Appellate Division of

"Of the seven judges, two had given verdict in the trial at the High Court while four others felt embar-

the Supreme Court instead of five

rassed," he added Only the chief justice. Moudud said could take part in the hearing 'Three judges were needed to form a bench but there is only one judge in the Appellate Division," he said.

The minister said the president can appoint only one judge to the Appellate Division on ad hoc basis as per the constitution

The president cannot appoint more than one judge on ad hoc basis. Due to this, hearing of Bangabandhu murder case was not possible and the government has nothing to do with the hearing of the case, he said

Rickshaw strike

The government launched the crackdown on September 13 to pull out more than four lakh unlicensed rickshaws from the city. But allegations have it that the drive is unplanned as alternative transports have not been provided and there is no plan to rehabilitate the rickshawpullers

The 5.500 two-stroke three-

wheelers allowed to ply were too few

to meet the demand. Taxicab drivers took the chance to charge double or triple the actual fate. Those were too expensive, even if found for hire. The government earlier removed 12,500 old two-stroke

autorickshaws, blaming those for the air pollution. Sources in the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) said 5,500 two-stroke three-wheelers, around 2.000 four-stroke threewheelers (Mishuk), nearly 1,000 CNG-run auto-rickshaws and over 3,000 taxicabs ply the city roads

To fill the vacuum the Bangladesh Road Transport

Corporation (BRTC) has introduced 100 new buses so far but those are far short of the requirement.

After the rally, hundreds of rickshaw-pullers and owners took to the streets chanting slogans protesting the drive and demanding implementation of their six point demand. The demands include removal of buses and trucks from Phulbaria, Joykali Mondir and Dolai Khal to ease traffic jam, stopping DCC drive to seize legal rickshaws and vans, withdrawal of the decision to stop movement of rickshaws on Gabtli-Azimpur road and rehabilitation of rickshawpullers and owners displaced by the drive.

convenor of the Parisad said they will go for a greater movement including hartal if their demands are not met. "A fresh movement programme will be announced at a press conference on September 25". he said.

When contacted, Sukur Ahmed,

would hold a meeting with the deputy commissioner (south) traffic on September 24 to find out ways to resolve the crisis.

Bangladesh blown away

He started the rot with his second delivery, the eighth ball of the match, when he trapped opener Al Shahriar leg-before for nought with a ball that cut in sharply off the pitch. Gillespie caught behind two balls later after

get in the act. The lanky fast bowler. nicknamed pigeon, enticed opener Javed Omar to drive in the air to Brett Lee at cover and Bangladesh were soon reeling on 10 for three.

Man-of-the-match Gillespie had their previous game.

The going got a little bit easier for

cross their lowest one-day total. Bangladesh's worst score came at this venue last month when they were bundled out for 76 against Sri

for the fifth wicket. Brett Lee broke the partnership as Tushar, on 27. offered a simple catch to Bevan at cover while trying to drive Australia's quickest bowler. Tushar's 41-ball knock extracted five boundaries.

round the legs by leg-spinner Shane Kapai braved the Australian attack for more than an hour to help his team post the moderate total in 45.2 overs. The 18-year-old legspinning all-rounder was the ninth

Bangladesh will play their last match against New Zealand on September 23.

No headway asked Unocal to explain its claim that the Magurchhara compensation issue has been 'resolved' through a supple-

As Pétrobangla officials asked Unocal to show where it was written in the document. Unocal officials told them to go though the document, according met at the Petrobangla office in the city

adequately explain the whole issue

about an hour. Five years after the Magurchhara explosion, Petrobangla on July 2 claimed a compensation of US\$ 685 million from Unocal for damaging the gas structure having a reserve of over 245 billion cubic feet of gas.

Petrobangla made the compensation claim on the basis of a report by a probe committee consisting of government officials and experts and an expert from Occidental. The report was also

English debate

Unocal took over the assets and liabilities of Occidental, which was the operator of the gas field during the mentary agreement for blocks 13 and 14 in late-1998. blowout, in Bangladesh after the disas-The American oil company claimed The supplementary agreement was that the supplementary agreement

> nated on January 11, 1998 for failing to fulfil minimum work commitment. The agreement has given five per cent additional share to Petrobangla as an incentive for letting the oil company work in those blocks even after its failure to fulfil the minimum work commitment and not as a compensation for damag-

> > ırces said.

Occidental lobbied hard and the process for a supplementary agreement began. During the process, etrobangla proposed several clauses like compensation for the burnt gas at Magurchhara or inclusion of BAPEX as a partner of Occidental. But these were rejected by Occidental and a deadlock followed. Finally, Occidental's high officials verbally' promised to political high-ups

The art of debate helps to

"We should try to prepare our

Additional Deputy Commissioner

chaired by Rowena Hossain, acting principal of the school. The programme was followed by a

Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman gave

A number of papers were presented at the session. The papers were on economic growth and income inequality in Bangladesh women and poverty by Fedous Ara Kabir, poverty alleviation effort in Bangladesh: involvement of selected banks and NGOs, and

agenda.

FROM PAGE 12 with the LDC Expert Group on Climate

Mama Konate and Environment and Forest secretary Sabih Uddin Ahmed. Ministers, political leaders and a large number of environmentalists Addressing the session, the prime

ing out a common strategy before negotiating with larger groups. She assured Bangladesh's total cooperation in these efforts. Khaleda Zia said Bangladesh, as

CNG system.

As per plans, delegates from all district and thana committees of the party inr the seven oganisational

were taken to a place at Gazipur. with his team went to raided a house at Uzila, Sripur in Gazipur and rescued the boys. Police said that

they are working hard to arrest Arif abduction case.

FROM PAGE 1 at the end of last month. Cancelled

in the city, and the team leader left office on September 12. angered many of the 19 develop-

to function until June 2003, ensuring ning directorates.

Health Organisation (WHO), Unicef, UNFPA and the World Bank -- all funding different components of the "It is not clear why the government has decided to abolish the

unit (MCU), another component of the HPSP. Sources in the ministry said Mezbah Uddin Ahmed, a kev member of the MCU, was called back to

to abolish the management change

any reform programme planned in the HPSP, which may affect fund disbursement during the current fiscal year and aid commitment by the development partners for the health, nutrition and population sector programme (HNPSP) to be

He said leaders of the Parishad

had one-down Habibul Bashar Bangladesh's most successful batsman in international cricket played at an away going ball without moving his feet. Gillespie's partner-in-crime. Glenn McGrath, did not take long to

his third victim, Mazharul Haque, caught behind the wicket to put Bangladesh (13 for 4 in 8th over) in danger of recording their lowest ever total against the Australians. who had thrashed current champions New Zealand by 164 runs in

the Bangladesh batsmen after spinners Darren Lehmann and Shane Warne were introduced into the attack as they batted steadily to

Skipper Mashud and middleorder Tushar Imran launched a recovery of sorts, putting on 36 runs

Mashud, known for his fighting spirit, then partnered Alok Kapali and added another 36 runs for the sixth wicket before being bowled

batsman out, beaten by Lee's pace, after topscoring with 45 off 75.

(Scoreboard on Page 13)

Petrobangla and Unocal officials yesterday on a request from the latter late last month. The meeting started at around 11.30am and continued for

However, Unocal brushed aside the Petrobangla claim. In a July 3 letter, it said there was no scope for discussion on the issue that has been 'resolved' through signing of a supplementary

signed with Occidental eight months after the original contract was termi-

ing the Magurchhara gas structure, After the PSC was terminated,

The inaugural ceremony was

minister pointed at the impact of global warming saying that for some countries it might be mere "lifestyle threat-

dialogue within themselves for work-

The prime minister said her inten-

She expressed her hope that the deliberations of the workshop would

She also mentioned the environment-friendly initiatives of her government that include building of power plants based on natural gas and conversion of motorised vehicles into

will soon be vacated in phases. The sources apprehend that the government will no longer pursue