Bush signs war New law FROM PAGE 1 Weadons, the sources s resolution

increasing frustration here with Paris

to the arguments and to hopefully

come together soon to get a resolu-

tion which will achieve the objec-

tives," Bush said later during a joint

appearance with Israeli Prime

expected Sharon to retaliate in the

face of any Iraqi attack, a stark depar-

ture from Washington's approach

during the 1991 Gulf War, when it

urged its close Middle East ally not to

French Defense Minister Michele

Alliot-Marie after previewing the new

"get tough" strategy in a telephone

call earlier in the day with French

Foreign Minister Dominique de

Powell told de Villepin, one senior

condition of anonymity, said Powell

would be "gracious but insistent" on

the issue of the UN Security Council

Alliot-Marie who is opening a two-day

"to get tough" with Alliot-Marie,

expect to hear the same message

when she sees her US counterpart,

Donald Rumsfeld, Vice President

Dick Cheney and national security

advisor Condoleezza Rice on

Wednesday he planned "to get

tough" with Alliot-Marie, according to

a second official, who said the French

minister should expect to hear the

same message when she sees her

US counterpart, Donald Rumsfeld

Vice President Dick Cheney and

national security advisor

Condoleezza Rice on Thursday.

Powell told a senior staff meeting

according to a second official.

Powell told a meeting of his senior

State Department official said.

"Now is the time for France to act,"

The official, speaking to AFP on

Villepin, the official said.

visit to Washington.

Meanwhile, Powell met with

After that meeting. Bush said he

/linister Ariel Sharon

respond.

"We're giving the UN time to listen

US warns allies, Iraq, not to doubt its resolve

AFP, Washington

US President George W. Bush on Wednesday signed legislation authorising him to wage war on Irag. warning Baghdad and reluctant US allies they would be "unwise to test" his resolve to disarm Saddam

"Our goal is to fully and finally remove a real threat to world peace and to America. Hopefully, this can be done peacefully." the president said at a televised White House signing ceremony

"If any doubt our nation's resolve, our determination, they would be unwise to test it," added Bush, surrounded in the ornate East Room by some 100 lawmakers of both parties and chambers of Congress

White House aides have long hoped the resolution, which authorizes Bush to launch unilateral US attacks should he decide diplomacy is a dead-end, will pressure a reluctant UN Security Council to more firmly confront Saddam.

Washington wants the council to adopt a US-British resolution creating a new weapons inspections regime and explicitly threatening military consequences if Saddam fails to comply.

But that plan has drawn opposition from permanent council members France and Russia -- which, like the United States, Britain and China wield vetoes

In a thinly veiled warning to Paris and Moscow, the US president warned that chaos in the Middle East as a result of Irag's policies "would be felt in Europe and beyond.

Those who choose to live in denial may eventually be forced to live in fear," Bush declared, warning that Saddam seeks nuclear arms and has close ties to terrorists like those who attacked the United States on September 11, 2001

Separately, US officials said that Bush Cabinet members, starting with Secretary of State Colin Powell, were taking a "get tough" approach with their French counterparts amid

arrest of party activists, but none could

contact the home minister as he did

met the home minister at the secretar-

iat yesterday and telephoned the state

minister for home and blamed them for

their failure to ensure law and order

that forced the government to deploy

Secretariat office, Law Minister

Moudud Ahmed said army has been

called out in aid of the civil administra-

tion under the Criminal Procedure

He said the government can

requisition assistance of the armed

forces to tackle a particular situation

any time. "As the government is

determined to bring law and order

under control, as promised in the

election manifesto, army has been

deployed to render services in aid of

deploy army was taken at Wednesday

given magisterial power, he said they

can't arrest any civilian without such

power. Army has been deployed

across the country and would continue

He mentioned that the decision to

Asked whether army has been

the civil administration," he added.

night's special cabinet meeting.

Code (CrPC).

Talking to reporters at his

They also said several ministers

not receive phone calls, sources said.

presided over by judges with rank and status of district judges.

ment enacted the Law and Order Disruption Crimes (Speedy Trial) Act to try certain crimes. However, the law is employed mainly to try cases of extortion, intimidation, etc and has a maximum punishment of

that are punishable by sentences above five-year jail-term

government is mulling constitutional amendment to speed up appeal cases on verdicts of the special tribunals at the higher judiciary.

"New legal provisions could be introduced to ensure that the higher judiciary takes up these cases on a priority basis. If need be, we would amend the constitution and the criminal procedure code.

Saifur pointed out that an MP has to make various pledges during election campaign and he would want to materialise those if elected. "But he would hardly be able to do this if the

resolution in his discussions with The minister said an upazila parishad would mainly comprise nonpolitical persons, whereas an MP is a political person. "So, in presence of an staff on Wednesday that he planned MP, upazila parisahd men would not be able to express their views freely The official said Alliot-Marie could

He thought that upazila system was alright when there was a presidential form of government, but it would fail in the present parliamentary

Saifur also said the idea of having the local MP as advisor to the upazila parishad is also not in conformity with the Constitution as articles 80 to 92 which concern enactment of laws and use of funds do not say anything about involvement of MPs in fund use.

"So, if funds are allocated and an MP advises regarding certain projects in certain areas, it might lead to a tussle and the very concept of the local government may be jeopardised," he

AL sees govt

FROM PAGE 12

that." Saber explained. A partial list of the detained party leaders was made available to AL

AL General Secretary and former AL whip Mustafa Rashidi Suja along with his three brothers and a son. Ward Commissioner Nuru, Jubo League worker Bishnu and district Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Organising Secretary Harun were arrested by

staffs from Dolphin Coach Office at Kalabagan.

Segun Bagicha residence of central AL leader Obaidul Kader.

Giasuddin, Aslam, and Zafar were

In Sylhet, Ward Commissioner and city unit AL leader Jagadish Das was arrested from his residence. Besides, Sylhet BCL Joint Secretary Ranjeet's four brothers were also arrested

League leaders and workers were also arrested in the districts of Panchagar, Kurigram, Tangail, Noakhali, Mymensingh, Gazipur, Netrokona, Bogra and Joipurhat.

Manık dead

a member of the Executive Committee of the National Press

He was buried at Jurain graveyard in the city after namai-e-ianaza at Baitul Mukarram Mosque and National Press Club premises after Magrib prayers, family sources said.

his residence at 689, Bara Moghbazar in the city after Asr prayers on Sunday

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia has expressed deep shock at the death of Muzaffar Hossain Manik

Prime Minister recalled the courageous role of the veteran journalist during democratic movements. She prayed for eternal peace of

the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family

Information Minister Tariqul Islam yesterday expressed his deep shock at the death of Manik

He prayed for salvation of the departed soul and expressed sympathy for the members of the bereaved

The executive committee of the



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia listens to Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Hassan Mashhud Chowdhury, briefing her on the progress of the army crackdown on criminals across the country, at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

PM announces plan

FROM PAGE 12

automation of the handling of containers in yard, she informed the function, adding that another yard will be set up in the XY shade area.

She said on completion of the work, Chittagong Port could contribute more to the expansion of the country's import-export trade as well as compete with modern ports in this region in providing improved services

The prime minister said her government has taken up various projects keeping in mind the importance of developing communication network alongside setting up of modern container terminals for smooth transportation of goods to the country's remote areas.

Another project has been undertaken to upgrade Dhaka-Chittagong highway, including roads connecting the port, she said adding that transportation of containers by roads and railways from the country's main seaport to remote areas has already started.

Initiative has been taken to set up another container terminal at Khanpur in Narayanganj to facilitate the transportation of containers

ers will want to make sure they stay in

a four-day warm-up game against

South African Country Districts in

through river routes from Chittagong and Mongla seaports, Khaleda Zia said.

"But development of infrastructure is not enough, the standard of service needs to be improved. The revenue earning from this seaport can be multiplied if everybody put in honest and sincere efforts." she

She pointed out that her government attaches priority to trade policy, not assistance when it comes to international economic relations. "This is why emphasis has been given on import trading alongside promoting export-oriented industries in the country," she told the

She said it has become necessary to increase facilities in the seaports and modernise them due to "our thrust on trade" "We want to ensure loading and

unloading of goods and anchoring and departure of ships in time at the Chittagong Port. We want to provide facilities of international standards to each foreign ship," the prime

Later, she unveiled the plaque of

Graeme Smith, Jacques Kallis, Ashwell

Prince, Martin van Jaarsveld, Claude

Hossain, Tushar Imran, Alok Kapali

Mohammad Rafique, Tapash Baishya,

Úmpires: Daryl Harper (Australia),

TV umpire: Shahid Wadvalla (South

Match referee: Ranjan Madugalle

Home ministry

quickly achieve the expected

enforcing agencies had been

facing difficulties in curbing

crimes due to their limited man-

power and inadequate equip-

taken a firm stand against any

criminal act and is conducting

the joint operation with the objec-

tive of achieving better results

and further improvement in law

army in the joint operation along

with law enforcing agencies was

adopted to take effective mea-

sures in eliminating criminal

activities in the quickest possible

cooperation of the people to this

The government seeks all-out

It said the decision to include

and order." the ministry said.

"So, the government has

The release said the law

improvement in law and order.

Manjural Islam and Talha Jubair.

Russell Tiffin (Zimbabwe).

(Sri Lanka).

FROM PAGE 1

Habibul Bashar, Sanwai

the foundation stone of Newmooring Container Terminal. Speaking on the occasion,

Commerce Minister Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury said investment of Tk 750 crore for setting up of the terminal would go in vain if the port services could not be made efficient to meet the challenges of this competitive business world.

He lamented the relatively higher freight charges in the port saving that the businesspeople have to pay three per cent excess charges for each item compared to other coun-

Shipping Minister Akbor Hossain said environment in the Chittagong Port has improved remarkably after the BNP-led coalition government came to power, and now there is no cargo backlog

He said a five-member team, comprising exporters. importers and leaders of port workers, will soon visit ports in India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Malaysia to assess the standards of their services as well as freight charges, aiming to improve the quality of services in our

Gas sector

gas and pays their bills for the gas they explore.

James Stone replied, "We want to sell gas to Bangladesh...not to India." Even he tried to give a calculation with a notion that the government would not be able to pay their bills.

Farugue Khan MP of the AL cautioned that there should not be a situation in which Bangladesh has to buy gas from India at a higher price in future.

Wali Bhuiyan of the Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) asked why none from the business community was included in any committees. "The issue of best utilisation of gas is a business decision." he thinks.

Mahbubur Rahman, president of the Bangladesh chapter of International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) said the country signed far more PSCs than required to explore gas for domestic consumption.

Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, member of the utilisation committee, said the historical growth rate of energy demand is between 10 and 11 per cent and they have presented three scenarios based on five, six and seven per cent gas consumption growth rate.

At seven per cent gas consumption growth rate, the shortfall of gas supply from the present reserve will start in 2014, he said.

Petrobangla Chairman Syed Sajedul Karim said successive governments have put Petrobangla in a position to sell gas to other government corpora-

tions at a subsidised rate.

Army swoops Among the high-profile political leaders whose residences were

raided yesterday are former treasury bench whip in the parliament Mostafa Rashidi Suja and Krishak Sramik Janata League chief Kader Siddiqui, MP. Both avoided arrest as they were not at home during the raids. However, Suja's son and two brothers were arrested in Khulna.

The army operations came in the wake of a steady law and order downslide, with the government under pressure from the business community and also the donors to take stern actions against crime. According to sources, army was

to once again go for raids last night. Many mid-to-lower-level activists of different political parties have gone underground following the army operations. In protest at the raids, different

political parties brought out processions at several places across the country. Allegations are there that the army arrested and tortured relatives of 'criminals' who slipped through the dragnet. Meanwhile, the army remains

completely out of contact with the press about the raids and is not taking any help from police. It is conducting the operation based on reports from internal intelligence sources. The government also remained tight-lipped about the raid.

Earlier, a special cabinet committee on Wednesday night discussed law and order and decided to call out the army to tackle the situation, as previous joint police-BDR drives did not yield any result. The decision to deploy army in crime mop-up was kept a top secret.

The raids have already irked many cabinet ministers as news kept pouring in about arrests of their supporters from their constituencies. However, they seem helpless as the highest office of the government is directly monitoring the operation and refuses to entertain any request to free anyone caught during raids. In the capital, the army arrested

200 persons from different areas and recovered 25 firearms. The arrested were taken to the Mirpur Stadium, Unconfirmed sources said some of the arrested have been taken to the cantonment.

Among the important persons arrested in the capital are three BNP-backed ward commissioners, Mohammad Ismail Hossain Benu of Ward No. 2, Anwaruzzaman of Ward No. 40 and Motahar Hossain Jahangir of Ward No. 52, and Dhaka City General Secretary of the Bangladesh Jatiya Party Tayebur

Rahman Anwaruzzaman was arrested at dawn from his Raza Bazar residence. He was blindfolded and walked through the neighbourhood before being whisked away. Later, the local BNP brought out a procession to condemn the arrest.

The army also raided the residence of top Jativatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leader Sagir Ahmed in the old town. He was not home at that time, but the army allegedly beat up his two brothers. Sagir is reported to be a top criminal, operating in the Sadarghat area.

Army teams went to selected areas, cordoned off specific houses and called out the alleged criminals. As soon as the doors were opened, the criminals were tied up, blindfolded and bundled into army trucks. They were also stripped off their

The Mirpur Stadium where the arrested have been confined was kept off limits to the public. It was not known whether the arrested are being interrogated there.

The army roamed the city at night with lists of JCD and BCL activists who have links to crimes. Sources said some of the criminals sensed the raids as their cell phone networks went out of service and escaped before the army could reach their areas While the raids were in process,

panic gripped the neighbours, as they were confused about the reason behind the army presence.

Army patrols stopped and searched vehicles at various points of the city throughout the day. People were also frisked. Taxicabs and microbuses were special targets for the army search. In Tangail, the residence of

Kader Siddigui, MP was searched. with the troops tossing around furniture and messing up the place. However, nothing was found there.

In Magura, the organising secretary of the district BNP Ali Ahmed Biswas was arrested on charge of possessing arms and harbouring criminals during the raid. Later, he was handed over to police and sent to jail. He had 11 criminal cases

pending against him. In Satkhira, two union parishad chairmen were arrested, one of them belonging to the BNP.

Chittagong

In a pre-dawn raid, army patrol picked up about 100 political activists and leaders belonging mostly to the ruling BNP and the AL

The army picked up former ward commissioner of Patenga Md. Ismail, Jubo Dal city unit president Abul Hashem Bakkar, JCD new committee member-secretary Yasin Chowdhury Liton, former JCD general secretary Md. Ali and organising secretary of the AL, Chittagong north chapter, Gias Uddin.

Besides, Anwar Hossain Milon Morshed Khan, Shah Alam, SMG Akbar of the BNP and Aslam Shahidullah and Saleh Ahmed of the AL were detained, sources added.

Talking to The Daily Star, wife of AL leader Gias Uddin said army personnel picked her husband up from the door after he had answered to their vigorous knocking. He was not allowed to go back inside and several army men launched a

the cantonment. But we do not know about his exact whereabouts." she said

and activists of the Jativatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS), were arrested in predawn army raids.

The arrested include Rezaun Nabi Al Mamun, commissioner of ward No. 15 of the Rajshahi City Corporation, Sumon of Pathanpara, Kala Faruk, a Jubo Dal leader, and Abdul Kuddus Dollar, organising secretary of the Motihar thana unit of the Jubo Dal.

virtual deadlock on the Rajshahi University campus, protesting the army raid in which five leaders and

sity bus-stop and besieged the administrative building yesterday. Classes and examinations of the

Hall, on the telephone. Quazi Mamun Rana, president of the Zia Hall unit of ICS, was arrested in his room. Also arrested were two

The army vandalised students' rooms and spread a reign of terror in the Sher-e-Bangla Hall, attacking the sleeping students and arresting JCD hall unit President Aminur Rashid Zinnah.

The pro-vice-chancellor, Professor Dr Shahadat Hossain Mondol and the students' advisor. Professor Dr Rafigul Islam, told The Daily Star that the army did not seek permission from the university

Narayanganj

The army arrested three criminals and the joint convenor of the city BNP in a two-hour raid starting at 9:30am yesterday.

joint convenor, his vounger brother Hasan, a notorious criminal, Shakil, a Jubo Dal cadre, and Tapan, also a

Feni

Former convenor of the Jubo Dal district unit Monwar Hossain Dulal and former president of the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) district unit Jahangir Mohammad Adel were arrested.

der case and Mohammad Nurunnabi, a chargesheeted accused in the Udichi murder case.

The army also arrested some notorious smugglers. In Rupsha Upazila, 89 people were arrested

Also arrested was former whip of parliament Mostafa Rashidi Shuja belonging to the Awami League. Shuja's son Shukarno and

Arrested were senior BNP leader Khulna City Corporation (KCC) --

Sources said Awami League Biswas, Raju Biswas, Tarek, Shantu, Bishnu Pada Shagor and BCL leader Harun were also arrested. Sramik Dal leader Abdul Latif and BNP leader Salek have

also been nabbed in the army crackdown Bagerhat

Fakirhat Sadar Union Parishad Chairman Monirul Islam Moni was

its adjoining areas.

Kamal, Tutul, Meheria Biswas Tapan, Shahidur Rahman Dollar, Tauhidul Raja, Abu Shahin, Tiger and Noor-e-Alam

Bogra flares up FROM PAGE 1

At around 11:30am, the army opened fire to disperse the mob and pulled away the barricades. The army also clubbed the protesters, leaving 10 persons including a

When the army left the spot, the agitators returned and put up barricades on the road again. They also burnt tires on the highway. At 1:30pm, the army men led by a

BNP leaders to withdraw barricade. But the protestors held their ground. At around 2:40pm, as the army tried to remove the barricade, the protestors threw brickbats at the

army. At one stage, a shot was fired

At around 3:00pm, the situation

came under control.

AL revamping ruling BNP is doing) with the hope

central leaders for acting against party interests in the polls. The party rank and file for appointing liberals Saber Hossain Chowdhury in important positions like Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad, Opposition Chief

But gradually, the AL started loosing that tempo. Sources in the party attributed this to 'political persecution' by the government, the party's own inertia and internecine feuds for non-holding of councils of district and thana units to make room for fresh leaders

and workers have been implicated four-party alliance took over power. Many of the key leaders of grassroots level AL units could not even stay in their respective areas because of torture and repression by their political rivals belonging to

cabinet member on condition of anonymity said army has been given magisterial power so that they can work independently. "But the authority

nitely not for an indefinite period, he

Talking to The Daily Star, a senior

cancelled intra and inter-ministerial meetings and left their offices early. Many of the DCC ward commissioners with police guard were seen moving at the Secretariat apparently to

Meanwhile, Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury briefed the prime minister about the activities of army personnel

to help the civil administration Officials said the army chief along with Principal Staff Officer of the Armed Forces Division Major General A M Mahmud Uzzaman met Khaleda Zia

The PM directed the army to work resolutely to recover illegal arms and nab criminals for ensuring peace and security of the people, they said.

400 party men including seven also earned acclamation from its like Abdul Hamid, Abdus Shahid and

Whip and the Opposition Leader's Political Secretary respectively.

four and a half lakh party leaders in false cases since the BNP-led the ruling alliance. In such a situation, the party is finding it almost impossible to organise councils of

ences of party workers (as the

Secrecy was the key

given to the army is within the civil laws." Sources at the Secretariat said vesterday almost all the ministers

meet the ministers, but most of them could not as the ministers kept away to avoid rush of party leaders.

at her office yesterday afternoon.

operation till the law and order is brought under control, but it is defi-

party councils at district and thana levels. Holding of the councils could give the party a new look prior to the

AL sources claimed that over The last regular council of the committee for two more years. On June 11 this year, the AL once

boost to the morale of party leaders and workers at district and thana levels. It has already held a divisional conference in Sylhet and is set to hold the second one in Rajshahi today. But many of the party workers are of the view that such conferences cannot be substitutes for

that this would give a much needed

central council, they say. The December 22-23 council would elect a new central committee of the AL. This is viewed as crucial against the backdrop of the party's election defeat last year.

party was held on May 6-7 in 1997 and 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 held a special council on June 23 in 2000 to extend the tenure of the central

again extended the central commitfor the next central council.

weapons, the sources said.

There will also be a timeframe to complete investigation (15-21 days) into offences punishable under the new law and their trial (45-60 days). The trials will follow the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) and be

Earlier on April 10, the govern-

five years in prison.

The new will be applied for cases

In another development, the

Saifur

FROM PAGE 12 upazila parishad chairman and the local MP as both would be elected from the same constituency by the

proposed system is implemented."

and this would lead to a deadlock."

vided with is a politically-motivated one or not. If the army can operate independently, we have no problem with

yesterday evening. According to that list, Khulna district

In Dhaka, army arrested AL President of Ward no-48 unit Md Selim and raided the residence and business establishment of Dhaka City AL Vice President Fazlur Rahman Razu .They also arrested one of his office

Detective Branch police raided

In port city Chittagong, leaders of city unit and other party units Gias Uddin, Hajee Shafi, Chandan Dhar and three Ward Commissioners Md

Scores of other AL, BCL and Jubo

FROM PAGE 12

Qulkhwani of Manik will be held at

In a condolence message, the

the squad for tougher challenges later in Henderson, Mornantau Hayward, the season from Sri Lanka and Makhaya Ntini, David Terbrugge, Alfonso Thomas (12th man). Bangladesh were trounced in three Bangladesh: Khaled Mashud one-day internationals before the Test (captain), Al-Shahriar, Javed Omar series. They completed a 100-run win in

1st Test against S Africa

Bedford Tuesday but their batting, has been poor on tour, again failed to impress as they were bowled out for totals of 260 and 164 by a weak bowling attack. The Bangladesh selectors opted for youth when they picked the touring side. Pace bowlers, Tapas Baisya, 19, and

Talha Jubair, 17, have both looked promising without threatening to run through teams. The South African side for the first Test to be played in this coastal city contains eight of the players who finally reversed the trend of last summer by

winning the final Test against Australia in

Durban in March

It would have been nine but left-arm spinner Paul Adams was forced out by a back injury and replaced by fellow leftarmer Claude Henderson. Wicketkeeper Mark Boucher will captain the side in his hometown. Boucher took over for the home series against Australia last season because regular skipper Shaun Pollock was injured. Pollock played in the one-day

series against Bangladesh but is being rested from the Test because of a strain behind his left knee. Batsman Martin van Jaarsveld, who made his international debut during the one-day series, wins his first Test cap ahead of the out-of-favour Neil McKenzie, while specialist fast bowler

Mornantau Hayward was selected in

South Africa: Mark Boucher (cap-

tain), Herschelle Gibbs, Gary Kirsten,

sometimes it seems that there is no

government in the country, "and

having failed to run the country, the

failed to give minimum security to

the people. "Now the people are

looking for a way out of the misrule

and torture," she told her audience,

alleging that the BNP-Jamaat

alliance government is patronising

situation" is prevailing in the country

as this government "totally failed" to

run the country. "This government

could not give the nation anything

but dead bodies. There are murders

Referring to the killing of Azam

and dead bodies everywhere."

Hasina further said an "anarchic

the killers.

She said this "killer government"

government called out the army".

place of all-rounder Andrew Hall.

end, said the press release. Failing to run country: Hasina

> Islam? Are they really Muslims?' she questioned. The former prime minister said the people of the country would take account of all killings.

> bid "to capture a mosque by BNP-

Jamaat cadres". "Do those who are

killing the musullis really believe in

She alleged "BNP-Jamaat cadres" are raping little girls and killing innocent people. "Every day little boys are losing their beloved fathers and little girls are being raped in front of their mothers -there is no security of anyone," she said in an emotion-choked voice. The little son of Azam will never get back his beloved father, she added. "The entire country is in the grips

of criminals," she told the meeting

reiterating that the people of the

to build a united resistance against

want to see any more dead bodies." The AL chief also demanded immediate trial of the killers of Awami League leaders Abdul Jalil, Matia Chowdhury, Abdul

the torture and killings. "We don't

Mannan, Mahmudur Rahman Manna, Amanullah Khan, and Krishak League leaders Motaher Hossain Mollah and Harunur Rashid also addressed the protest meeting presided over by Shimabari Union AL president Gauradas Roy Chowdhury. Later the Awami League president went to the house of slain AL

family members. She talked to Azam's father and widow and took the two-year-old boy of Azam in her lap. She tried to share the grief of the family members saying that she herself had lost all her beloved

leader Azam and consoled his

search for arms in the house. "I think my husband was taken to

Raishahi At least 15 people, including leaders

The JCD and ICS have created a

activists of the two student wings were arrested. Also, the angry JCD activists damaged six vehicles at the univer-

university could not be held due to agitation yesterday. An army officer is learnt of have verbally abused Professor Abu Bakar Siddique, provost of the Zoha

ICS activists and as many outsiders on the campus.

authorities

The arrested are MA Majid, the

Khulna Five persons were arrested by the army Wednesday night. The arrested include 'Khachchar' Selim. a chargesheeted accused in the Journalist Shamsur Rahman mur-

and 48 of them were released.

younger brothers Muzaffar Rashidi Reza and Moazzem Rashidi Doja are among others arrested. and former MP Abdul Gaffar Biswas and ward commissioners of the

Nurul Hug, Anis Biswas and Abul Kalam. activists Barek, Rashid, Aslam

Rangpur Twenty-four criminals were netted last night in the Rangpur town and Among the arrested are SK

photojournalist injured.

lieutenant colonel requested the

at the army. In response, the army fired back leaving the rickshawpuller dead.

on July 20 this year, she said he was country were now waiting to get rid the units, the sources mentioned. National Press Club yesterday killed while reciting from the Holy of this suffocating situation. They Against this backdrop, the AL tee's tenure by six more months and expressed profound shock at the want peace and security. started holding divisional conferfixed the December 22-23 schedule death of its member Muzaffar She said four musullis were killed She also called upon the people Hossain Manik. at Malibagh when they protested a