## **Green Road blues**

especially in the morning and in the afternoon there is a rush of schoolgoers. Schools like Viqarunnisa Noon School or YWCA school are situated in the area.

Patients and their attendants who frequent the area that houses scores of hospitals, clinics and pathological laboratories are the worst sufferers. "My mother is suffering a lot from the jerks she has to bear while commuting by a rickshaw to the hospital for check-up," complained Masud Ali whose mother comes for a post-operative medical check-up at the Central Hospital.

The residents say they are sick and tired of complaining. Some do not even think that things will take a turn for the better.

"The Dhaka City Corporation only talks about the difficulties, but does nothing," grumbles Bazlur Rahman who runs a drug store at Green Road. "They can improve the condition within three days if they

When asked about the road, city corporation officials did not have much to say except that the carpeting work of the Green Road was going to start soon. But they have no idea when the endless suffering of the residents of this locality will be

According to them, WASA is installing a storm sewer from Dhaka College area to Panthapath box culvert through Green Road. They started digging out the road before rainy season. However, as it is a huge, time-consuming task, the Mayor ordered a break in the rainy season as a precautionary mea-

sure. The work resumed afterwards and the city corporation has set a December 5 deadline for WASA to

He added that they will start repairs on the road 'sometime after December 15' and once that is done, the DCC will take care of

However, Islam could not say anything about the tentative work

#### Two to die

Yusuf, Afzal, Shajahan, Delwar, Moiibur and Mamun.

According to the prosecution Abdul Aziz had a heated argument with Asgar and Delwar of the same village in connection with rice husking in the locality on June 11, 1995.

accused persons equipped with lethal weapons raided the house of Abdul Aziz, dragged him out and lynched him with sharp weapons in front of his house. Neighbour Abdul Gafur who came to rescue Aziz was also brutally murdered by the

for more than seven years and the verdict was pronounced in a crowded district and sessions judge's court yesterday.

# Water protocol

capacity for water quality testing with technical assistance from the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Following approval of the protocol, water samples from handpumped tubewells and deep tubewells will be collected at random from different parts of the country at least twice a year and sent for analysis in the laboratories. Similar tests will also be done before installing any deep tubewells.

At present, the country has no set standard or protocol as to what to test for while analysing samples of drinking water. The DPHE currently tests for iron, chloride, manganese and, very recently, arsenic,

Previous meetings on this issue with the WHO, the Department of Environment (DoE) and the DPHE worked out on which elements should be included for testing.

Experts recommended biannual chemical analysis for arsenic, lead, iron, manganese, chloride, fluoride, And for physical tests they recommended water turbidity, colour, odour and total dissolved solid.

However, elements like uranium,

cadmium and chromium, detected during the DFID study, are not included in testing and monitoring regime although at some places samples analysed for drinking water quality showed that many elements exceed the WHO-recommended

According to the study an alarming proportion of naturally occurring rganic chemicals like uranium manganese, boron, sulphur, fluoride, phosphorus and many other elements were found in groundwater in several places across the country including municipal supply water in the city. Separate studies, initiated in

1998-1999 revealed very high levels of contamination in some

### CRI office

FROM PAGE 12

ber-country.

Justice Nazrul Islam Mia set next Saturday for hearing the petition or request from the Attorney General AF Hassan Ariff.

Barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud

Under the plan, a 15-member

As the target of freeing the

SAARC poverty-alleviation com-

mission with a convenor was formed

with two members from each mem-

SAARC countries from poverty

within the stipulated time failed, the

poverty-alleviation commission was

reconstituted at the Kathmandu

Summit last January with a view to

finding the reason why the expected

progress was not made and how to

former Prime Minister of Nepal

Krishna Prasad Bhattarai as conve-

nor and the Principal Secretary to

Bangladesh Prime Minister, Dr

Kamaluddin Siddiqi, as co-

meeting yesterday with Prime

Minister Khaleda Zia were Daw

Tenzin from Bhutan, Prodipto Gosh

and Ela R Bhatt from India, Hussain

Nivaaz from the Maldives

Bishwamber Pyakuryal from Nepal,

Mushtaq A Khan from Pakistan and

Saman Kolegama from Sri Lanka.

Among others present in the

The commission was headed by

solve the poverty problem.

## **PM: Poverty reduction**

Kamal Siddiqi, also Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, who was in the meeting said the final report would be placed at the ensuing SAARC summit in Islamabad, beginning January 11.

"The report is at the final stage," said Dr Kamal briefing newsmen.

The commission had three meetings in Kathmandu, New Delhi and Islamabad while it sat for the final meeting here in Dhaka from vesterday with delegations from all member-countries attending.

The PM apprised the delegation of various programmes of poverty alleviation and women empowerment taken up by her one-year-old government, including cash incentives for primary education, free education and stipend for girls, agro-based industries like goat farming, poultry and dairy, and planting of different kinds of trees, particularly medicinal plants.

As Khaleda pointed out that the theme of this year's Tree Planting drive was to plant saplings of herbal plants, SAARC Secretary General QAMA Rahim, who was in the meeting, apprised the prime minister that SAARC would take a programme to catalogue all kinds of herbal species in South Asia.

The delegates were shown various types of medicinal plants and herbs planted last August under the directive of Prime Minister Khaleda in the PM office premises.

The members of povertyalleviation commission also visited on Saturday some areas adjacent to Dhaka to see various povertyalleviation schemes including women's employment in Grameen Phones and impact of female stipend programme

In 1991, a proposal was mooted in the Colombo SAARC Summit for forming a commission that would determine the overall causes of

poverty and its remedy. In 1993, the matter was finalised through Dhaka Declaration under the chairmanship of Khaleda Zia with the target to free South Asia from poverty by the year 2002.

finish the work, the officials added. Md. Shariful Islam, executive

engineer of the DCC's Zone-5, said the re-carpeting of Green Road is going to start under the Dhaka Urban Transport Project soon. The Roads and Highways Department will implement the project financed by the World Bank.

At 8:00am the following day, the

The trial of the case dragged on

## in court fees, two other bills

UNB, Dhaka

Three bills, including one reducing the recently increased court fees. were introduced in parliament vesterdav

duced the Court Fees (Amendment) Bill 2002 seeking to slash court fees from Tk 500 to Tk 200 for cases where the subject matter cannot be determined in terms of money and for the Preemption cases

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman introduced the Depository (Amendment) Bill 2002 seeking to extend the time from 2 years to 5 vears for complete conversion of the existing paper certificate system to the depository system in stock

Rural Electrification Board (Amendment) Bill 2002 seeking to amend the definition of "Rural Area" to redefine the responsibilities and scope of work between the Power Development Board and the Rural Electrification Board in distribution

## Anwar Hossain

FROM PAGE 12

and sought an injunction in that regard. The court rejected the injunction petition and staved the

against the AJC order

Barrister Khandker Mahbubuddin moved the petition on behalf of barrister Moinul Hossain sented Anwar Hossain Monju.

who are divided on the issue of oldest newspapers of the country. As a result of the conflict, none of the brothers use their name as the paper's editor.

#### Audit objections FROM PAGE 1

Officials at the CAG's office also expressed frustration at the nonformation of the PAC in the parliament. They said even if the PAC was formed, it would take a long time to discuss the audit reports.

and 2002, the government's budget for the audit department was Tk 180

The CAG's Office already finished auditing of the accounts of different government offices during 2001-2002 financial year.

be 42 audit reports for the year. "So far, we have completed 34 reports and the rest are at various stages. Of the 34 completed reports, 14 have already been submitted to the president for sending those to the parliament," a high official at the CAG's Office said.

The CAG's Office can cover only 22 per cent government offices and the rest remain out of its audit net-

Recently for the first time it started performance audit and four such audit were conducted on the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation, Chittagong Medical College Hospital, Dhaka Electricity Supply Authority and the National Curriculum and Textbook



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia poses for photographs with members of a delegation of the Independent South Asian Commission on Poverty Alleviation (ISACPA) at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

## AK-47 seized

accomplices. Mesbah. Mansur and

Nizam were nabbed last Monday. Our Bogra correspondent says troops arrested a JCD activist and seized three firearms from him.

Atiquzzaman Sajib, an accused in (Islami Chhatra Shibir leader) Anisar Rahman Pasha murder case, was arrested in his Partekur

Our correspondent in Khulna reports joint forces arrested two listed criminals linked to the outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) at Paikgacha upzila.

One of the arrested, Sheikh Tarik Hosain, 30, is the son of ruling party leader and freedom fighter Sheikh Shahdat Hossain Bacchu of Godaipur union of Paikgacha upazila. A sawed-off gun, a pipe-gun and black mask from his possession. He was later handed to police, produced before court and placed on a three-day remand. The joint forces handed them

over to police. They arrested were produced before the court with remand prayer and the court granted three-day remanded staring from yesterday. Our Magura correspondent says the army arrested four suspected

criminals. The arrested are as Ujjal Mollah, Sultan Khan, Abdul Hakim, and Nurul Islam Sikder. They were later handed to police, produced before court and sent to jail. Our Kushtia correspondent

reports the army arrested four people including a local ruling party activist. Azizul Malitha, the BNP activist, is an accused in two murder Our Pabna correspondent says

the joint forces led by the army have so far arrested 132 people including 16 listed criminals and recovered 18

### 6 including Nepali citizen held for looting apparel in Chittagong

UNB,Chittagong

Six people, including a Nepali citizen, were arrested from a residence in the city's Khulshi area yesterday on charge of looting Police said exportable apparels

worth Tk 15 lakh of Ratin Textile and

Friends Works in Dhaka were recovered from the residence in the after-According to police, the arrested

looted the apparels on Wednesday after killing two people, including the driver of a covered van carrying the goods at Baro Darogarhat in Šitakunda upazila

The arrested were identified as Brajendra Shah of Nepal, his wife Setara Begum, a Bangladeshi woman, Habibullah, Nuru, Abdullah Al Mamun and Anwar Hossain.

## firearms along with 850 rounds of ammunition during the anti-crime

The forces also arrested two listed criminals. Shariful Islam and Mohamad Shahin, from Ishwardi on

Our Netrokona correspondent says the joint forces arrested six people from different parts of the Our correspondent in Rangpur

writes that the joint forces have undertaken the task of traffic control since yesterday to improve traffic The joint forces have so far

firearms along with 120 rounds of ammunition. Meanwhile, the army arrested 136 people, including 28 listed criminals, across the country during the last 24 hours ending 8:00am

arrested 629 criminals including five

listed criminals and recovered 18

yesterday They also seized 28 firearms, including two revolvers, five shotguns, three pipe guns and one AK-

Meanwhile, according to a press release issued by the police headquarters, the law enforcers arrested 1,544 people, including eight listed criminals, from different parts of the country in 24 hours ending 6:00am yesterday. They also seized four

(DMP) yesterday arrested 304 including two convicted accused, 29 wanted during the last

# in Chandpur

Three people were electrocuted in separate incidents in the district, police and hospital sources said yesterday.

Dhar. 18. of Kachiara village in Faridganj upazila, was electrocuted on Saturday while repairing an electric line of a temple. He was rushed to the upazila health complex where the attending doctors

Patwari was electrocuted at Ashafpur village in Kochua upazila The sources said the victim

came into contact with a live wire while going to a nearby pond for ablution for Fajr prayers.

In yet another incident, shopkeeper Abdur Rahim, 40, died instantly and his wife sustained serious injuries at Hajiganj sadar headquarters last week when they came into contact with a live wire while bringing down their outdoor TV antenna.

#### Students, workers clash in Sylhet: 15 hurt, 5 arrested STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Fifteen students of the Sylhei Polytechnic Institute were injured in a clash with labourers engaged in construction work at the Svlhet railway station yesterday evening, The trouble erupted at about

3:30pm when some students were moving back and forth through the construction area prompting some labourers to try to prevent them from doing so. This led to a heated exchange of words between the two groups. Afterwards, the students left he area but returned after some time along with other fellow students and clashed with the labourers. Some 15 students were injured

in the clash. Among them, three were admitted to the Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital and three others to a private clinic while the rest were released after

Police arrested three students and two labourers from the area.

Later at about 5:00pm, the students again came to the area in a protest procession. But police baton-charged, lobbed teargas shells and opened blank fire to Cases have been lodged with the

Sylhet Kotwali Police in connection with the incident.

### DND den

FROM PAGE 12

living in the DND area in peace compared to other areas.

Some other places that fall under the Siddhirgani Police Station in Narayanganj are also vulnerable. Of them, Nimaikashari, Shanarpar and Bagmara are worse.

## 20 injured in Rajshahi bus accident

BSS, Rajshahi

At least 20 people were injured five of them seriously, in a road accident on Raishahi-Chapainawabgoni highway early yesterday morning.

The accident occurred when a Chapainawabgonj-bound night coach from Dhaka fell into a roadside ditch at Mohishalbari as the driver lost control over the wheel.

Five of the injured were rushed to the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) with serious head injuries while the rest given first aid at the nearby Godagari Health Complex and RMCH. A case was recorded with

Godagari police in this connection Police seized the vehicle, but its driver fled the scene.

# No loan rescheduling

FROM PAGE 1 classified loans and take steps for

The application for rescheduling must be made within three months of loans becoming defaulted and the bank will have to inform the board about the effective interest rate to be applied on rescheduled loans. The committee recommended that no interest waiver be entertained in case of rescheduling.

The committee has recommended that while rescheduling term loans for the first time, the banks would take 15 per cent of overdue instalment or 10 per cent of total outstanding loans, whichever

the percentages would be 30 per cent and 15 per cent respectively. If a defaulter wants to reschedule loans more than twice, he will have to pay 50 per cent of the defaulted instalment or 20 per cent of outstanding amount, whichever is less.

rescheduling loans up to Tk 1 crore. For loans between Tk 1 crore and Tk 5 crore, the down payment should be 10 per cent (but not less than Tk 15 lakh) and for loans of Tk 5 crore and above, the requirement should be five per cent (but not less than Tk 50 lakh). However, if any demand or

for adjustment and instalments are set down, the down payment should either be 30 per cent of overdue instalment or 15 per cent of total outstanding loans, whichever is less. For any subsequent rescheduling, the down payment should be 50 per cent of overdue instalment or 20 per cent of outstanding amount, whichever comes less.

a year or repayment of total loan, whichever comes earlier.

mission from the BB for reschedul-

banks may take permission from the The banks will have to report to

the credit information bureau of the BB whenever a loan is rescheduled.

Commenting on the proposed guideline, Managing Director of Pubali Bank Khandokar Ibrahim Khaled said the provision for down payment on defaulted instalment is not justifiable "This is not the international

said Khaled who also served the central bank as deputy governor. "It is the total loan that falls classified not the instalment alone. If the down payment is applicable on instalment, then the banks would receive a piffling amount " On the other hand, Managing

discussion with Bangladesh.

He said the JRC is the appropri-

# FM: Propaganda

active in projecting the country's real mage as a country of religious

The foreign minister was replying to a notice by Jamaat-e-Islami awmaker Abdus Subhan who alleged that an Indian website was engaged in a "heinous campaign against Bangladesh".

Without naming the website, Subhan said that the site was proecting Bangladesh as one of the fundamentalist and terrorist states

"The website contains 30 photographs most of which are not of Bangladesh, Photographs of oppression in various countries are being claimed to be from Bangladesh," the Jamaat lawmaker

The website claimed that religious minorities were being epressed in the country, he added. He alleged that some Bangladeshi intellectuals, now

staving in India, were responsible for such propaganda. In reply, the foreign minister told the House that no official website of India has such contents. But, he hastened to add, an official Indian website contains recent remarks by

Deputy Prime Minister Lal Krishna Advani about reported activities of al-Qaida and the ISI in Bangladesh. What Advani had stated is just an echo of the comment by a certain eader of Bangladesh. The foreign minister informed the House that Bangladesh had requested India and some other countries to deport alleged criminals

month ago. Khan, however, did not name the countries where the "criminals" have taken refuge in.

who have fled the country, espe-

cially after the anti-crime army

crackdown was launched over a

"We've also asked the home ministry and different intelligence agencies to gather names of the criminals so that the Indian authorities can take action." he said

Referring to a point raised by his predecessor Abdus Samad Azad, Khan said the government was ready for discussion on the Bangladesh-India relations, But, he did not specifically say when and on which issues the discussion would be held.

Azad, rising on a point of order, asked the prime minister to issue a statement on the latest developments in Dhaka-Delhi diplomatic ties and the recent BDR-BSF shoot-

out along the border. Citing newspaper reports on the Satkhira border skirmish, he said the foreign minister and the home minister should also make statements in the House about the issue.

Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury, PM's parliamentary affairs adviser, ridiculed Azad who wanted to know what was going wrong with India. "The Awami League knows better about the Indian mind and could furnish the government with their

### 3 Shibir men hurt in clash with JCD at Nizampur College

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

At least three activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) were injured in a clash with Jativatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on Nizampur College campus in Mirersarai yesterday.

The injured ICS activists are

Shafiul Alam, Shahed and Mahim,

They have been admitted to Mastannagar Health Complex. Sources said, the clash erupted following an altercation between some activists of ICS and JCD over

rium at around 11 am. On receiving information, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control

playing carom at the college audito-

# Speaker snubs AL

oresidential house Aggrieved, the Awami League AL) then flayed the Speaker for not

allowing its lawmakers to speak in the House AL Chief Whip Abdus Shahid speaking on a point of order at the parliament yesterday said Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar did not entertain any of the notices filed by the AL MPs under privilege and adjourn-

ment motions "We are not allowed to speak at the Business Advisory Committee, or under any notices. So, how can we express our views and grievances on different matters of public importance?" he said.

Shahid recalled that before the start of the current session of the parliament, the AL had proposed for holding general discussions on portant issues in the parl ment. But all the proposals were turned down by the ruling party representatives at the Business Advisory Committee meeting and the AL lawmakers walked out of the

The proposed issues were the

arrest of opposition MPs during the ongoing anti-crime drive, law and order, price hike of essentials, increased gas and electricity tariffs, seed crisis, corruption in administration and alleged irregularities in the

open market sale (OMS) of rice. After rejection of the issues at the meeting, the government ministers

however gave statements on at least two of them -- army deployment and seed crisis -- but the opposition did not get any chance to speak on those occasions Prior to the beginning of the

current session, the AL lawmakers met the Speaker twice and submitted memorandums on issues including the arrests of three MPs. The Speaker also told reporters

on October 23 that "as the Speaker, it's my duty to protect the rights of the members of parliament. And, I will entertain any privilege motion if moved in the House on the arrests of the AL lawmakers.

## Jubo Dal leader

FROM PAGE 12 Police Super (SP) of Bagerhat and the DIG of Khulna Range of police to show cause why Fakir Tariqul Islam is being harassed without any specific charge. The Home Secretary has also been served with such a show cause notice by the High

The writ petition was moved by advocates Mohammad Jainul Abedin and Aminul Islam.

When contacted, the DC and the SP said they are yet to receive copies of the High Court order. The Jubo Dal leader has been

absconding since launch of the

# Flag meeting

on Friday night and fired at least 1500 shots when BDR protested construction of the jetty that would change the course of Kalindi river and devour Bangladesh territory. The BDR responded with about 300 shots in self-defence

However, despite the flag meet-

ing, both the BDR and the BSF have

strengthened their forces in the

border area, sources said. Both the

sides have dug bunkers and deployed additional forces equipped with heavy machineguns and mortars. BSF has deployed special 'Black Cat' forces The situation along the 238-km border with India in the district is still tense and villagers, mostly women

and children, who fled homes in the trouble area are vet to return. Along with BDR personnel, local people are guarding border the area

to face any BSF attack, the sources BBC adds: Towhidul Anwar Khan, a member of Bangladesh part of the Joints River Commission (JRC), told the BBC last night that

one-sided steps in the shared rivers in border areas that created problems for Bangladesh. "If India constructed jetty in the Kalindi, an international river, it would change the course of the river and for this, Bangladesh would loss

India sometimes had taken some

its huge land," he said. "Bangladesh is a small country with high density of population. So it s a serious concern," he told BBC. India should follow JRC agreements that say any construction in the shared rivers must be followed by

ate forum to discuss disputed issues on shared rivers with India. "However we would raise the issues at the secretary-level meeting between Bangladesh and India. scheduled to be held next month".

There are at least 50 shared rivers between Bangladesh and

### Piyal

FROM PAGE 12

Keranigani police

the bail petition and placed Piyal on a day's remand. Piyal surrendered to Keranigani police Saturday night after identifying his wife. After his surrender, he

was shown arrested by the

Upon hearing both sides,

Magistrate Ishag Hasan rejected

Body of an unidentified young woman was found near the Buriganga Bridge on Monday. Keraniganj police recovered the body and took it to the station.

As nobody came to claim the body, they handed it to the Aniuman Mafidul Islam. The charity later buried her. Eventually, the body was identi-

fied as Tinni's. The uncle and the father-in-law went of the model and actress to the Keraniganj police station and made

positive identification.

Pival to find out whether he was involved in the killing. Keraniganj police said they have

Police are now interrogating

already got some important information from Piyal about who were closely associated with Tinni.

#### However, a last horde of over 2,000 monkeys can still be seen at the Char Muguria Bandar in Madaripur.

ecause of poverty.

Monkeys

FROM PAGE 1

monkeys often attack people. He recalled that once upon a time, the non-Bengali Marwari businessmen used to anchor at the Char Muguria Bandar along with their favourite pet monkeys. After the 1998 deluge, the then forest and environment minister, Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, allocated relief

for the distressed monkeys, added

said Khan, adding that people have

stopped feeding the primates

In search of food, he said, the

"According to anthropology, monkeys are evolutionary cousins of human beings. It is necessary to take up a realistic plan for the preservation of monkeys," concluded ture for Bangkok. He was taken on board an air ambulance from the Zia International Airport to Bangkok at noon. Foreign Minister Morshed

College Hospital.

Ishtiaque

hospitalised

in Bangkok

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangkok, family sources said.

On the following day, he was

Ishtiaque regained conscious-

transferred to Bangladesh Medical

ness yesterday prior to his depar-

better treatment.

Khan escorted him up to the airport. At the Bumrungrad Hospital, three specialist doctors are reviewing his health condition. Later on in the day, Ishtiague talked to his son in Dhaka

Earlier, former chief justice and former chief of the caretaker government Latifur Rahman, former chief justice Mostafa Kamal, former attorney general Mahmudul Islam, barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud and others visited Ishtiaque at Bangladesh Medical College

introduced in JS

Bill for reduction

Law and Justice Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed intro-

State Minister for Power Iqbal Hasan Mahmud introduced the

Afterwards, barrister Moinul filed a revision petition at the High Court

while barrister Rafiqul Haq repre-Monju and Moinul are siblings leadership of Ittefaq, one of the

During the period between 1996

According to sources, there will

comes lower, as down payment. For second time rescheduling,

> In case of demand and continuous loans, the committee suggests

continuous loans are rescheduled

Once rescheduled, a borrower will not be allowed fresh loans within

The banks will not require pering. But in case of large loans or

47, and 74 rounds of bullet.

firearms and seven rounds of bullet. The Dhaka Metropolitan Police

# 3 electrocuted

Sources said Pavel Chandra

declared him dead Another youth named Swapan

## 15 per cent down payment for loans relating to the directors, the

standard for loan rescheduling,

Director of Mercantile Bank M Taheruddin said the proposed

guideline is a welcome step and the

provisions can be further hardened