



Author of 'An Abiding City: Ruminations from Rome' Neeman A Sobhan presents a copy of her book to Education Minister Dr. Osman Farruk at the launching ceremony of the book at Etcetera in the city yesterday. The University Press Limited and The Daily Star jointly organised the event.



### Film session

reserved women seats in parliament. As part of Contemporary Mexican Film Venue: National Press Club. Time: Session, Zahir Raihan Film Society will 3.00pm screen two films titled 'Danzon' directed by Maria NOVARO and 'Amores Perros' directed by Alejandro Gonzales INARRITU. Venue: Goethe Institut, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm and 7.00pm respectively

### Film show

The High Commission of India will screen a Hindi film titled 'Gharwali Baharwali' directed by Titu Sharma. Venue: High Commission of India Cultural Centre, Satmasjid Road. Dhanmondi. Time: 6.00pm.

**Documentary show** A documentary video on Royal Bengal Tiger titled 'Sundarbaner Bagher Sandhane' directed by Razia Quadir, will be screened. Venue: Poet Begum Sufia Kamal auditorium of National Museum. Time: 6.00pm.

### Seminar

A seminar on 'Environment Issues in Bangladesh PRSP', organised by Bangladesh Environment, Economic and Poverty Programme and Manabik Sahajya Sagstha, will be held. Venue: IDB Bhaban, Agargaon. Time: 9.30am.

### Discussion

FROM PAGE 1

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad organises a

# **Foil all conspiracies** against country: BNP

Bhuivan said conspirators at home

The BNP leader said the conspira-

Unicef report links child

community and society

rights to nat'l dev

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the ruling BNP yesterday called upon the countrymen to take fresh vow to foil all conspiracies hatched at home and abroad against national sovereignty and integrity.

They said a particular quarter. which was defeated in the last general election, is engaged in campaign to portrait Bangladesh as a country of "fundamentalist and criminals" with the support of their foreign "masters".

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ment of a nation.

release here said.

dren.

The United Nations International

Children's Emergency Fund

(Unicef) has linked implementation

of child rights to overall develop-

"It is increasingly evident that if

children's rights and wellbeing are

not addressed by governments,

national agencies and their various

Independence. Addressing a huge gathering at Paltan Maidan in the city prior to bringing out a procession marking and judiciary and welfare of the peothe Victory Day, the ruling party ple. Now the party is trying hard to leaders categorically blamed the make Bangladesh a self-reliant coun-Awami League for hatching conspirtrv. he added acy against the country as well as launching anti-Bangladesh camtors who do not want development and democracy in the country is now paign.

Speaking as chief guest, BNP desperate to foil the pro-people moves Secretary General Abdul Mannan and the achievements of the present

and abroad have been trying to portrait He called upon the people to be Bandladesh as a country of "criminals united and foil all evil moves of the

government

and extremists" to halt the advanceconspirators to materialise the dreams ment of the country. of independence. He said a deep rooted conspiracy Health and Family Welfare Minister is being hatched against the country Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain said when Bangladesh under the leaderthe AL had betrayed the dreams of ship of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia is independence by forming the marching towards rapid development BAKSAL after the liberation and and the government is implementing the ideals and dreams of the War of

making Bangladesh dependent on India On the other hand, the BNP is the Bhuiyan said it is the BNP which only party that upheld the independhas ensured freedom of speech, press ence and sovereignty of the country,

he said. The minister said late President Ziaur Rahman had not only proclaimed independence and fought for liberation, but also safeguarded the sovereignty of the country and took

Bangladesh to a dignified position in the community of nations.

### Selim Osman granted ad-interim bail BSS, Dhaka

The High Court yesterday granted ad-interim bail to Selim Osman, a former president of Naravangan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in an arms case.

The court also issued rule asking the government to show cause in four weeks why Selim Osman should not be granted permanent bail.

A division bench comprising Justice Syed Amirul Islam and Justice Mirza Hossain Haider passed the order.

Selim Osman, elder brother of former Awami League lawmaker AKM Shamim Osman, was arrested any criminal activities. on December 14 after recovering a foreign-made pistol from his factory.

Barrister M Amirul Islam along with Barrister Sowkat Ali Khan and Advocate Manzil Murshid moved the petition on behalf of Selim Osman.

### Politics FROM PAGE 12

laws depends on their discretion".

team from the truck stand Sunday The Daily Star editor then pointed out that the way the discretionary afternoon powers are presently being used, it at Fatullah and later handed to gives one the impression that the laws are put into force to harass innocent police at night. people. He cited the example of admitted to the Narayanganj General Section 54 under which people are arrested, taken on remand, kept for Hospital and then to the DMCH, where he died Monday night. one to two weeks and when nothing is found against them they are detained under the Special Powers Act arms and legs were broken, and Throughout the process, no specific there were cigarette burns all over charges against the victims are ever his body. mentioned.

Laws like Section 54 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) are there in many countries. Moudud said and admitted that sometimes it is abused which the government is trying to

Replying to a query about charges against columnist Muntasir Mamun, who was arrested under section 54 sent him to the DMCH where onand has since then been kept under duty doctors declared him dead detention, the minister suggested that Sunday night. the FIR (first information report) filed against him be consulted. If there is no charges against anyone arrested Islamic studies last year and was under section 54, he would be freed not involved any criminal activities. within 15 days of arrest, he informed. case with any police station, they

About the practice of arresting people under section 54 and detaining them detention under the Special Powers Act without bringing any charges. Moudud said it has been "a part of the system for a long time in the country"

When Mahfuz Anam pointed out that the government is stating no clear reasons and furnishing no facts for the arrest of people on sedition laws, the minister said such laws would be enforced as long as these exist.

Talking on flouting of laws by police, Enamul Haq said the police take departmental actions against its member at fault and such actions are also put in the annual police report. He also felt that people should change their tendency to violate laws.

Sigma Huda said police do not take any punitive steps against their members unless under pressure from the

## Six more die

A contractor, who was picked up

by the joint forces early Friday

morning in Comilla, died at the

Mohammad Ibrahim Khalil Evu, 23,

was handed to Kotwali police.

Police had him admitted to the

shifted to the DMCH at about

5:00pm Monday, where he died

Khalil's elder brother Swapan

and cousin Harun Miah told jour-

nalists that he was neither involved

with neither any political party nor

arrested to take revenge, they

alias Tiger Faruq, arrested by the

joint forces on Sunday, died

venor of the Narayangnaj town

BNP, was picked up by an army

Faruq, brother of the joint con-

He was taken to an army camp

In critical condition he was first

According to family sources, his

However, the DMCH doctors

out his death to micro-cardiac

In Tongi, the joint forces picked

up Shafi Uddin Ahmed Swapan

from his Uttara residence on Friday

After interrogation, he was sent

Swapan, according to his fam-

He was not even accused in any

ly, completed his masters on

to the Tongi police station. Police

His rivals may have had Khalil

In Narayanganj, Omar Faruq

Twenty-three-year-old

DMCH on Monday

later at night.

added.

Monday morning.

nfraction.

niaht.

said.

was arrested by the joint forces (butcher) from Jasim's rented from his Masumpur residence house at Colonel Hat in Pahartali vesterday. Sunday. Bashar was released later

Army sources said they had seized a foreign-made pistol along with four bullets during the raid. In Chittagong, the joint forces

arrested two listed criminals and recovered an AK-47 rifle, our correspondent reports. Meanwhile, the army arrested two members of the infamous Taiveb Bahini and recovered five Kuchiyatali Sadar hospital and firearms and a huge quantity of

ammunition from the crime-prone Fatikchhari in the last 24 hours ending at 8:00am yesterday. Among the firearms seized were

one China-made AK-47 assault riffle, one Indian SLR, and three revolvers including one made in India.

In Khulna, the joint forces arrested three armed cadres of the outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (BPCP) from Rupsha upazila Monday night, our correspondent reports.

Moreover, the armed forces arrested two-armed cadres of the outlawed Biplobi Communist Party (BCP) from Baitiaghata upazila. They also seized five firearms in different parts

Our Madaripur correspondent said the joint forces arrested 15 people including a union parishad chairman.

In Pabna, the joint forces arrested three listed criminals and a member of outlawed party, our correspondent reports.

Our Magura correspondent reports that the joint forces arrested the joint secretary of Magura municipal unit of the BNP Mushtaq Ahmed, sports secretary of the district unit of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Mizanur Rahman and Farid Ahmed, a Jubo Dal activist, in the last two days. They were produced

before the court and sent to jail. In Faridpur, the joint forces arrested eight people including a government official and a female

union parishad member. Shahidul Haque Khan, an inspector of the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) and Hosne Ara Banu, a member of the Aliabad UP were picked up by the

joint forces on Sunday. According to our Sirajgan Former commissioner of theb correspondent, former Awami Lukshmipur ward Mohammad League lawmaker Abdul Latif Mirza Nasim was also picked up.

## Share scam cases

ROM PAGE 12 Sessions Judge's Court had not followed the Code of Criminal Procedure in framing charges against the accused and that its decision of indicting the accused did

verdict of the High Court.

tee report.

FROM PAGE 1

his mistake

These are five of the 15 complaint

cases filed by the SEC following the

1996 share market crash. The SEC

sued 35 directors of different publicly

traded companies and stock market

brokers based on an inquiry commit-

Seven cases were filed against

brokerage firms and their officials

while eight others were against listed

Five of the cases were initially

staved by the High Court after the

defence moved for guashing the

the quotes regarding "al-Qaeda"

After this call, Enamul phoned

Saber Chowdhury telling him what he

came to know about the bomb explo-

sions and the home ministry's opin-

on. At this point, Saber told him that

Later, Enamul found out that the

Now he feels ashamed and regrets

Soon after his statement was

recorded, the police abruptly sent

him to jail at 3.00 pm. He was not

given the chance to meet his wife.

Later, Enamul's lawyers moved a

petition for bail. The hearing of the

petition should take place in pres-

ence of Enamul, according to his

awyers. The CMM's Court, however,

rejected the plea for hearing in his

presence, and approved a hearing

A Reuters report on the

Mymensingh bomb blasts on

December 7 created controversy

over a quotation of Home Minister

Altaf Hossain Chowdhury. The

minister on the next day claimed that

ne did not talk to Reuters, while the

international news agency stood by

its story. The minister issued a rejoin-

elder brother and lawyers.

for bail petition tomorrow.

were taken from that conversation.

companies and their directors

not reflect "judicial thinking." The three directors of Chittagong Cement had moved to the High Court for quashing the cases, but the High Court rejected their pravers and Mohammad and Mohammad directed the Session Judge's Court Magsudur Rahman of Chick Textiles. to follow the Code of Criminal proce-These cases are still pending with dure in framing charges against the the High Court for almost six years. accused directors. The SEC then In three other cases, charges went to the Appellate Division filing three appeal petitions against the

The companies and their cases. accused directors are: A Rout Chowdhury, Mashiur Rahman, S Chowdhury and Anu Jagirdar of Premium Securities, Zafar Ahmed and Zahir Ahmed of Apex Foods, Zafar Ahmed and Zahir Ahmed of Amam Sea Food, Mohammad Bhai and Aziz Mohammad Bhai of Olympic Industries and Iftekhar

### took an outstanding catch. The bowlers were backed up by

The left-handed Gavle was beaten all ends up by a beauty of a delivery from some good fielding. Mohammad the right-arm paceman that held its Ashraful sprinted from the cover point line after pitching on the off-stump to run out Vasbert Drakes with a direct hit at the bowler's end

Hosts turn around

and nipped the bails. Bowling with venom Talha also dismissed Marlon Samuels for 31 after Monjurul had found the edge of

### Naripakkha A cultural programme, organised by Naripakkha, will be held. Venue: Centra Shaheed Minar, Time: 5.00pm.

discussion demanding direct election to

#### BKL discussion Bangladesh Krishak League (BKL) organises a discussion on the occasion of the Victory Day. Venue: 23. Bangabandhu Avenue. Time: 3.00pm.

### Meeting

### A meeting of the executive committee of Uttarbanga Janakalyan Samity will be held. Venue: 54, Dilkusha. Time: 4.30pm

Drawing competition An inter-school drawing competition, organised by Dhaka General Schools Division-2 of UCEP Bangladesh, will be held. Venue: Shishu Academy auditorium. Time: 1.00pm.

Migrant Day In observance of World Migrant Day the Welfare Association of Repatriated Bangladeshi Employees (WARBE) and Bangladeshi Women

those seriously. Migrant Association (BWMA) jointly It underscored the need for a organise a rally. Venue: In front of the "new partnership" among adults, National Museum, Time: 10.00am children and young people, seeking their (children's) opinion and taking

FROM PAGE 1 issue of repatriating Rohingya refugees to Myanmar. Some 22,000 refugees are staying in Bangladesh's

coastal district of Cox's Bazar Asked about this, the foreign secretary said the refugees would be ent ha

On international plane.

them into account in the family,

the newsmen about implementation of the outcome of the talks with Mvanmar.

Myanmar Prime Minister General Shwe termed his first visit to Bandladesh "a great pleasure" for him. He wished the Mvanmar-Bangladesh

drama at the launching ceremony. "Authentic and meaningful child They also spoke of various difficulparticipation requires a radical shift ties they face in their day to day life. They voiced against early marriage, dowry and all sorts of repres-

sion on under aged people in the country. Herluf Madsen underscored the

improve the role of children in society. A major problem in this regard is that parents do not know how to do this

A greater role of children will bring happiness in the family, tighten the bondage in communities and ensure their growth and development, he said.

many countries signed the UN sands of children are subjected to torture and various types of repres-The speakers said adults often do not bother to give much attention

A group of working children organised by BRAC also presented some issues through staging a dren, the document said.

to the feelings of children.

Convention on Child Rights, thou-

UN member states pledged to fulfil eight goals by 2015, six of which are directly related to chil-

need for a 'national plan of action' to prevent.

Dr. Salehuddin said although

Prime Minister at the VVIP tarmac by a

smartly turned out contingent drawn

from the three services of the armed

forces. On his first day in Dhaka,

General Shwe also visited the

National Mausoleum at Savar to pav

homage to the martyrs of the country's

Dhaka, Yangon for road link

in adult thinking and behaviour." it said. The shift should be "from an exclusionary to an inclusionary approach to children and their

capabilities - from a world defined solely by adults to one in which children contribute to building the kind of world they want to live in."

international partners, development goals will never be met," Unicef's The launching ceremony held at State of the World Children 2003 the IDB Bhaban auditorium at Agargaon was addressed by Herluf It was published as part of its Madsen, regional representative campaign to increase participation here of Sweden's Save the Children, Unicef representative of children in all spheres of life and Morten Giersing, Dr. Salehuddin to create a world suitable for chil-Ahmed, Deputy Executive Director The document also focused on BRAC and Mizanur Rahman, some responsibilities of adults to Executive Director of Resource seek views of children and to take Bangladesh.

Khaled Mashud.

Mashud also took a brilliant catch down the lea side to remove Shivnarine Chanderpaul reducing the West Indies to 127-5.

Expectations of a remarkable turnaround then rose, but the leftright combination of Jacobs and Ganga spared the visitors the embarrassment of scoring less than the hosts.

Ganga top-scored with 63. The Trinidad right-hander was looking confident until he tried to loft off spinner Sanwar Hossain out of the ground but ended up offering a simple catch at long on to Taposh.

Jacobs scored a captain's knock off 59 before his opposite number Mashud, diving full length to his left,

Enamul floored Gayle at third slip early in the morning. But most impor tantly Bashar's peculiar stance exposed the fact that he lacked the

The only disappointment was

Habibul Bashar and Enamul Hoque's

amateurish presence in the slips

basics to be placed in such a specialised position. Earlier on Monday, Bangladesh, after winning the toss, were all out for

Al-Shahriar (25) and young

other notable run-aetters.

Pedro Collins and Daren Powell

**Rly defies PMO Order** 

#### FROM PAGE 12

visit to Arjotpara in the face of proor fire incident as these will also tests by local people. block movement of ambulance, fire brigade and rescue teams. land grabbing by many of the resi-

In many areas, people use the sidewalks along the tracts as passage as there is lack of adequate road network. This is mainly due to unplanned urbanisation.

BR sources however alleged that, many of the residences have built their houses on BR land by 'manipulating land documents and totally ignoring construction rules'.

Sources in BR said a strong syndicate of contractors backed by an influential minister is playing the key role in implementation of the wall project in a hurry.

The contractors are trying to complete the work as early as possible to draw their bills, said a BR official preferring anonymity.

But the BR has no adequate budget now, he said.

KM Asaduzzaman, convenor of the committee opposing the wall construction, said they sought intervention of local MP Abdul Mannan and Communication Minister Nazmul Huda to stop the project.

Commissioners of Wards No 54 and 55 have also joined the movement. he said.

Meanwhile, Communications Minister Nazmul Huda on December 10 verbally instructed the BR to erect the perimeter walls along the tracks leaving at least seven feet for roads on both sides to let people move.

'Bir Shresthas" in the war was also The instruction came during his highlighted.

She went round different stalls.

Bashar let off Jacobs in his 40s and procedure.

(ARF)

tries.

against terrorism.

belongs to the people".

she told waiting reporters.

Before attending the official talks, the two prime ministers had a 15minute tete-a-tete when the Bangladesh premier stressed strengthening of the country's relations with the countries in the East

following recent developments. 194 in 63.1 overs. Middle-order batsman Sanwar Hossain, who its commitment to SAARC and came in place of Aminul Islam, BIMSTEC and sought cooperation of scored highest 36 followed by Khaled Myanmar in becoming a dialogue partner of ASEAN-plus 4 by getting the Mashud who added 32.

sensation Ashraful (28) were the

took three wickets each while Vasbert Drakes and Jermaine Lawson shared the remaining four

But there are also allegations of

The BR will launch a drive today

to evict the encroachers from its

and Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka

Prime Minister releasing colourful

balloons and pigeons in the sky. She

also hoisted the National Flag while

the band played the National Anthem.

march-past in an open jeep and took

witnessed a joint exercise of the armed

forces at the National Parade Square.

Bangladesh Air Force enthralled the

spectators. Fighter jets and helicop-

of military hardware at the parade

up separate stalls to display the mili-

"Muktijuddha Stall" where arms and

ammunition used during the war of

liberation by the freedom fighters were

displayed. The heroic role of seven

tary hardware and equipment.

ters were took part in the exercise.

ground.

salute from a decorated podium.

The Prime Minister inspected the

At 11:00 am, the prime minister

The fly past and air show by the

She also inaugurated an exhibition

The Army, Navy and Air Force set

The prime minister first visited the

The programme began with the

Unite to fight

dents in the said area

land, sources said.

FROM PAGE 12

Syed Nakib Muslim.

iendship would live long. Khaleda Zia led the host side while

her Myanmar counterpart Than Shwe headed his delegation at the meeting held at International Conference Centre at PMO complex.

Communications Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda, Foreign Minister Morshed Khan, Disaster In the meeting, Dhaka reaffirmed Management and Relief Minister Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, Home Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury, Principal Secretary to PM Dr Kamal Uddin membership of Asian Regional Forum Siddiqui. Foreign Secretary Shamser Mobin Chowdhury, Home Secretary Bangladesh renewed its commitment Omar Faruq, Bangladesh High to international peace and global fight Commissioner to Myanmar Manjur Rahim and DG Saiful Amin Khan were The foreign secretary quoted present in the talks.

General Shwe as telling Khaleda Zia Earlier in the morning, a red carpet that the military regime has no intenreception was accorded to the tion of denying democracy to the Myammar premier at the Zia people of Myanmar as "state power International Airport as he arrived in Dhaka on a two-day official visit. A 21-Emerging from the meeting, gun salute heralded the arrival of the Khaleda described her discussion with distinguished visitor when he disem-Shwe as "very fruitful". "It was a very barked from a Myanmar International fruitful discussion. We have agreed to Airways (MIA) aircraft at the VVIP further strengthen the existing good terminal of Zia International Airport in relations between the two countries, the morning. Prime Minister Khaleda Zia received her Mvanmar counterpart at the VVIP tarmac.

workers from working for the polls.

ongoing Operation Clean Heart.

"How can those who killed a number

off tendons of general students in

different educational institutions

Hasina urged the government as

Referring to press reports about

the conference of the ruling BNP's

well as the joint forces to remain

objective and arrest only the crimi-

nals, not the political opponents.

become saints overnight?"

The Al chief asked the joint

Khaleda further said they had also discussed ways of working together to General Than Shwe is leading a 55-member delegation that included his spouse, two daughters and ministers of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture, Industries and Commerce. A guard of "Very soon work will start on the honour was given to the Myanmar

Hasina alleged.

expand economic and trade relations as well as communications network between the two neighbouring coun-

basis of consultations," Khaleda told

### Hasina blames

#### FROM PAGE 12

up to "repression" and put an end to "the nightmarish atmosphere the BNP-led coalition has created during its last one year rule".

The former prime minister alleged that the government stands out in violating human rights. "These days there is no room to seek justice in the country as the lower courts do not adhere to High Court ruling," she noted.

Giving an account of recent repression on the opposition activists by the joint forces, Hasina alleged that under the cover of anticrime drive the government is arresting innocent AL workers while criminals roam openly.

"The prime minister has taken up an agenda to arrest the opposition workers ahead of the Union Parisad election. It will prevent opposition organisation was funded

War of Independence. He attended a banquet at Bangabhaban hosted by the prime minister

Before leaving Dhaka this afternoon, the Myanmar leader is scheduled to call on President lajuddin Ahmed

2 judges FROM PAGE 12

of the two on leave -- in order to dea with some important cases. The association also requested the

Chief Justice to allow hearing at all High Court benches of writ petitions against detention orders. It also suggested that a writ bench

be formed during the winter vacation for important writ petitions, along with another bench to resolve bail petitions for the under-trial.

Led by the President of the Association Ozaer Faruk, a team of senior lawyers met Chief Justice Mainur Reza Chowdhury with these proposals. The Chief Justice asked four benches of the High Court to function today, the last working day before the winter vacation, in place of the two benches rendered nonfunctional by the judges going on leave. Meanwhile, as per a special

request of lawyers and approval of the Chief Justice, Justice Syed Amirul Islam and Justice Mirza Hossain Haider formed a bench that heard listed cases for an additional two hours yesterday, after the regular hearing

time ended at 5.00 pm.

Ershad Shikdar

FROM PAGE 12 Shikder's three other accomplices Liakat Lashkar, Haroon alias Toondoo

Haroon and Joynal Khan. Of the accused, Joynal is still absconding. The four others appealed forces why did they not raid the to the higher court against the verdict. "Jamaat-Shibir dens" during the The High Court bench in its verdic also ordered immediate execution of Shikder and Jamai Faruk. However, of Chhatra League activists and cut the lawyer of the convicts, advocate Khondkar Mahbub Hossain, said they

will appeal to the Appellate Division. Ershad Shikder has also been sentenced to death in seven other cases and life imprisonment in three cases. Jamai Faruq was given death sentence in five other cases and life imprisonment in five cases. So far, 12 murder cases and 28 other cases have been filed against Shikder.

nals like Shikder goes unpunished, it would mean deterioration of law and order and this type of criminals do not have any rights to live.

human rights organisations. She asked the government to make public such move, whenever made. through the press.

Homage

FROM PAGE 12 Jamiruddin Sircar laid wreaths later.

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina placed wreaths at 8.15 am. Hasina, who is also the president of Awami League, placed wreaths again on behalf of her party. She was accompanied by her party central leaders Abdus Samad Azad, Zillur Rahman, Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, S A M S Kibria, Abdur Razzak, Abul Jalil, Mohammad Hanif and Motia Chowdhury. A good number of party workers were also pres-

ent at the time. The government, political parties and different socio-cultural organisations celebrated the day with renewed pledge to consolidate the country's independence and sovereignty.

The day was a public holiday. In the capital, the day's

programme began with a 31 gunsalute.

The national flag was hoisted atop all public and private buildings across the country at dawn

Main thoroughfares and road he should go ahead with the news islands in the capital and other big story. cities were decorated with colorful phone call he made to the home festoons and buntings while imporministry was misplaced. He had not tant government buildings illumitalked to anybody at the ministry, and nated had actually talked to someone else.

Court: Army

with a tree. "They tied up his hands and legs, blindfolded him and beat him up mercilessly. The army tortured my husband to death as he failed to hand over arms."

After Litu died, the army mer covered his body with a bed sheet and handed it over to Savar police. "They also forced Savar police to prepare an inquest report," she complained to the court.

"As a cover-up, the army circulated the story that Litu had hurt himself seriously as he jumped off the first floor of the farm and later succumbed to his injuries at the Combined Military Hospital in Savar." she said.

There is not two-storied structure in the farm compound, she added.

have been framed against five directors. The companies against which charges have been framed are: Doha Securities, Securities Consultant Limited, and SES company

Three other cases are pending with the Appellate Division of which two companies, Beximco Pharmaceuticals and Shinepukur Holdings have filed appeal petitions against an order of the High Court. In the case of Runa Alam, the High Court had acquitted Alam which was challenged by the SEC and the case is currently pending with the Appellate Division.

### **Reuters stringer**

home ministry. When he asked Events took a sharp turn when questions about the bomb attacks, he Reuters withdrew its story and began received answers accordingly, and an internal investigation to find out how the story was filed.

Enamul Haque Chowdhury, a senior reporter of BSS working as a Reuters stringer, filed the news story and was arrested by the police on December 12.

The Reuters story quoted Home Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury as saying, "The bomb attacks could be the act of al-Qaeda or any other terrorist group." He also guoted Altaf as saving that the political opponents of the government might also have been behind the explosions.

Enamul's quote in the story lost its credibility when Zakaria Milon, a crime reporter of the Ittefaq, told the press that on December 7 Enamul dialled Milon's mobile phone number, mistaking it for the home minister's and they talked about the Mymensingh blasts. Enamul did not realise his mistake until the next day

when he called Milon again TIB report

### FROM PAGE 1

they had to pay bribe to get service. In education, the TI report mentioned that 87 per cent respondents encountered corruption by the teachers while 40 per cent students were subjected to different kinds of irregularities in the education department.

The TI report said bribe is a heavy financial burden on South Asian households.

# FROM PAGE 1

The court in its verdict said if crimi-

student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), in the country's tourist capital of Cox's Bazar, She asked how such conference of a student