## Renegade Philippine troops end mutiny

**BBC ONLINE** 

Renegade Philippine troops yesterday have agreed to end their mutiny and return to barracks, a government negotiator says.

The rebel soldiers had stormed a shopping complex early on Sunday, demanding the resigna-tion of President Gloria Arroyo, who they accused of corruption.

"It was agreed the [rebels] would end the siege and they will march back to barracks," Colonel Danilo Lim, a member of the government panel that met the troops, told reporters.

The move came after a second deadline for the rebels to surrender had elapsed.

Earlier, Arroyo had declared a nationwide "state of rebellion" and told the soldiers they had until 1700 (0900 GMT) to surrender or face an all-out assault - but that deadline was subsequently pushed back two

About 15 of the mutineers surrendered early but the remaining 200 held out.

The BBC's correspondent in Manila, John McLean, said an assault was delayed because the rebels had seemed open to persua-

The renegade soldiers had been demanding the resignation of both Mrs Arroyo and her defence minister, Angelo Reyes.

The rebel soldiers were said to be heavily armed and to have rigged the prestigious Glorietta complex, in the Makati financial district, with explosives.

Earlier navy Lieutenant Antonio Trillanes, one of the rebel leaders, said the soldiers had only planted explosives as a defence.

Hundreds of troops loyal to Arroyo surrounded the area.

Correspondents at the scene say the situation had been complicated, with evidence of mutineers exchanging handshakes with the troops sent to surround them.

One rebel who left the complex saluted a general who was there to accept his surrender and the general embraced him.

"I'm pleased to have 150s against all of them," Waugh said.

nice to have that record. It'll certainly be challenging for someone

In another milestone Sunday, Waugh moved to second on the all-

makers with his 32nd hundred. Waugh needs two more centuries to equal India's retired master,

Waugh, who has plundered four centuries this year, is now one century ahead of Indian rival

"It doesn't really matter what I set," Waugh said. "Sachin is going

to waltz past it anyway.

"Every innings when you get

would use "reasonable force" to retake the complex and insisted that she remained in full control of Telling the mutineers that she

In a televised address, Arroyo

warned the rebels that her troops

was their "commander-in-chief", she said: "You have crossed the line of professionalism and are now engaged in unlawful political action backed by the use of force.

"Your actions are already hovering at the fringes of outright terror-

The US State Department expressed its "full support" for Arroyo - a position echoed by Australia's foreign minister.

"We don't want to see presidents fall out of the barrel of a gun,' exander Downer said.

The group accused the government of staging terrorist attacks in the Philippines as a means of getting military aid from the US.

10 Indians

pushed in

here yesterday morning.

A family of 10 Bangla-speaking

Indian citizens was pushed across

the border into Bangladesh

through Chirirbandar border point

sources said the Border Security

Force (BSF) of India, in a fresh

push-in bid, compelled the Indian,

citizens including women and

BDR sources said an Indian

couple along with six sons and two

daughters was held from

Chirirbandar Bazar for suspicious

movement. All of tem were later

During interrogation, Ali Hossain, 50, the head of the family,

told the BDR that the Indian police

arrested them in their house at

Maldah in West Bengal four days

back and later turned them over to

the BSF who pushed them into

Control over area

Rangamati clash

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati** 

Saturday's Naniarchar shootout

was a sequel to feuds between

activists of Parbatya Chtragram

Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) and

United People's Democratic Front

(UPDF) for dominance over

Naniarchar and nearby Ghilachhori

Fresh conflict surfaced between

the two groups after residents of the

Mahalchhori-Khagrachhori road for

an indefinite period on July 16

demanding an end to rampant

extortion and violence by armed

youths allegedly belonging to the two

mounted pressure on the residents

PCISS activists allegedly

Surprisingly, the UPDF expressed

solidarity with the people only to

widen gap between people of the

area and the PCJSS, sources said.

and Kutukchhori areas.

to withdraw the strike.

injured Saturday.

groups.

reason behind

The BDR is trying to push them

Bangladesh yesterday morning.

back, the sources said.

children, to cross the border.

taken to Tajpur BDR camp.

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR)

BSS, Dinajpur

Our correspondent in Manila says such allegations have been aired before, but the rebel soldiers provided no proof for their

### 3 dacoits caught with booty

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three dacoits were caught while getting away with the booty at eraniganj Saturday.

Fourteen armed members of inter-district dacoits' group led by Shahid forced into Habib Khandokar's house at Char Kabutar at

Holding the family members hostage at gunpoint, they looted valuables said to be worth Tk 1.94

While the dacoits were fleeing with the booty, villagers encircled them and managed to catch Sumon, Manik and Bipul of the gang.

Locals beat them up before turning them over to Keraniganj police.

## Tigers take Test to Day 4

Last week, with his 100 not out in the first Test, Waugh joined South Africa's Gary Kirsten as the only players to have made centuries against the nine other Test nations. Kirsten, though, does not have 150s against India, Pakistan and

"I've worked hard for it, and it's eise to try to achieve that.

Waugh has made 14 Test scores of 150-plus, with four against England and two against the West

In this match, he caressed 17 boundaries while negotiating 291

time list of Test cricket's century-

Sunil Gavaskar, who holds the world record mark of 34.

Sachin Tendulkar.

towards the end of your career assumes a bit more importance because you know it is not going to last for ever and I'm always looking forward to the next 100, whenever

As the Bangladesh bowlers toiled manfully, Australia Sunday lost only the wicket of Darren

Lehmann, who thumped 177. Lehmann, resuming on 156 after making a century in the final session on the second day, lasted only 38 minutes, but that was enough for him to post his highest Test score, bettering the 160 he made against the West Indies in

In one murderous assault, he blasted four consecutive boundaries off medium-pacer Anwar Hossain, finishing with 22 blister-

He appeared to be in superb form, but finally fell when he mistimed a ball from Tapas Baisya and was caught in the covers by

Ashraful Lehmann and Waugh added 250 runs for the fourth wicket, lifting Australia from 132 for three to 382 for four.

Lehmann boosted his Test average to 50.79, enabling him to join four other Australians, Waugh, Matthew Hayden, Ricky Ponting and Adam Gilchrist with Test averages above the magic 50 mark.

## **Number of criminals**

press briefing at the ministry.

improved law and order in the region and increased people's confidence in the operation. He said the government pre-

pared a list of 1,200 criminals on the basis of definite information as part of the operation, code-named Operation Spider Web.

Earlier, the authorities said the crackdown was aimed at arresting

"The drive will continue till our target is achieved," the home secretary stressed, adding it offered law-enforcers a chance to get in touch with locals in outlying areas what would help them achieve satisfactory success

Inspector General of Police Shahudul Haque and Principal Information Officer Khandker Monirul Alam were also present at

paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles and ansars was launched on July 20 in the wake of a series of violence that claimed at least 31 lives in 15 days.

But press reports said the crackdown was foundering because of faulty strategy, lack of intelligence and police tip-off to criminals.

after the beginning of the drive, the joint forces would comb through the pockets of underground operatives in 10 southwestern districts, the hotbed of so-called leftist

ties -- Purbo Banglar Communist locked in perennial armed struggles in the region.

Some of the splinter groups are also involved in sheer criminal activities, sources said.

Traditionally, the extremists were largely armed with .303 rifles, double-barrel guns and in some cases with sten guns, smuggled into Bangladesh by gunrunners

equipped themselves with sophisticated modern weapons including submachine guns, AK-47 and other

### Pvt universities

FROM PAGE 12

five acre land or Tk 5 crore for a 20-member governing body of a pri-

On the fulfilment of the criteria his own university, he said: "Daffodil is only 20-month old, we've plenty of time to meet the

private universities. Private universities have urged the government to consider allocating its lands to them at current market prices to encourage higher education in the private sector.



A delegation of lawmakers from Chandpur meets Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

check the devastation wrought by the river Meghna in Chandpur. Sofar, Tk67 crore has been spent for the Chandpur Town Protection proneld at Tk 17 per litre.

ject and the MPs asked for additional funds to complete the job properly. The prime minister asked the legislators to involve the local people in various development activities initiated by the government.

Laying particular stress on education, she reminded them that it was one of the priority areas of develop-ment and asked the MPs to ensure that the resources provided for the sector are not wasted

The delegation apprised Khaleda Zia of the law and order in the district. She directed the public representatives to strengthen the base of their organisation and work unitedly for further improvement of the situation.

The MPs also requested the prime minister for additional funds to complete the 40-kilometre Chandpur-Pinnai road and invited her to inauguratetheroadwhenitiscomplete.

## MP's brother

**PM** 

accused in the sensational double murder case. The 10 were singled out of 23 on-trial accused to be cleared of charges for the murders in February last year at Keraniganj.

The tribunal set July 29 for passing an order in this regard.

The counsel submitted that the move of the home ministry was malafide, politically motivated and an act of interference in the judicial process. Withdrawal of murder charges because the accused is the brother of a ruling party leader is nothing but abuse of power and denial of justice.

The counsel argued that in case of withdrawal of charges against the accused, criminals with close links with government high-ups would be encouraged to commit heinous Referring to Section 494 of the

was not empowered to make such an A High Court bench comprising Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman and Abdul Awal heard the

government or the district magistrate

petitioner. The writ was filed by Mohammad Amir Hamza , brother of Amir Abdullah Shakil who along with his friend Mohammad Sentu was gunned down at Keraniganj in

Advocate ABM Nurul Islam appeared for the petitioner. The inconclusive hearing resumes

This tension led to the shootout that left three killed and another

Saddam missed

## Kerosene price

On the other hand, kerosene price was not raised in the post-January 5 tariff rearrangement with its price

Following various measures taken to check fuel adulteration, especially mixing kerosene with diesel, the government can now lower the price of kerosene to Tk 16 per litre, the officials said.

Before the price readjustment, per litre price of both kerosene and diesel was Tk 17. But diesel price was later raised to Tk 20 per litre.

The price difference between kerosene and diesel encouraged dishonest traders to indulge in adulteration forcing the government to consider remedial measures, including dyeing kerosene

## **AES plant**

power plants, should be terminated. Before finalising the change of ownership, it is necessary to reach consensus with the Meghnaghat

The meeting also sought job continuation of current employees for better maintenance and operation of the plants.

FROM PAGE 12

Dhaka. Nushrat was handed over to port police and a case was filed.

seized medicines worth about Tk 5

Insulated H.M., Rhesonative, Zoviraziv, Human Albomin, Verorab A departmental case was filed in

FROM PAGE 12

Many local people left the area in fear

FROM PAGE 12

plant on the grid interconnection facilities, observed the meeting.

ing denying them promotion at the They said the senior officers mostly belonging to the erstwhile CSP (Civil Service of Pakistan) cadre, never tried to build a "smart and efficient"

### Tk 25 lakh

the parliamentary standing commit-tee last Saturday, before a final deci-In the other incident, customs officials searched the luggage of Mohammad Sayed Mahmood and

Mahmood arrived at Dhaka via Chittagong airport from Jeddah by Bimanflight No. BG-038 at 2:00 pm. The medicines recovered from Actrapid H.M.

## 3 'robbers'

BetagiUpazilaHealthComplex.

No case has been filed in this connectiontillthefilingofthisreportat5:30pm.

### people trusted with knowledge about Saddam's whereabouts.

Eliminating Saddam could tamp down anti-American violence, too, he said. "Getting rid of Saddam Hussein will have more

effect than any single thing we can Four US soldiers were killed Saturday, three in a grenade attack outside a children's hospital in Baqouba, 45 miles northeast of Baghdad, and one in a bomb and rocket-propelled grenade attack just west of the capital near the

notorious Abu Ghraib prison. In Tikrit on Thursday, US troops of the 4th Infantry Division captured a group of men believed to include five to 10 of Saddam's bodyguards. After that, soldiers learned that Saddam's new security chief and possibly the dictator himself were staying on one of the

these guys," said Col. James C. Hickey, a brigade commander. 'They running out of places to hide, and it's becoming difficult for them to move because we're everywhere. Any day now we're going to knock on their door, or kick in their door, and they know it.

The army would not name the man they had targeted, but said he was believed to have taken over Saddam's security after the June 17 arrest of Abid Hamid Mahmud al-Tikriti, Saddam's cousin and presidential secretary. Mahmud, who was No. 4 on the

US most wanted Iraqis list, con-

trolled all access to Saddam. He

and Saddam's younger son Qusay

were believed to be the only two

Bradley fighting vehicles, surrounded the farms as Apache attack helicopters hovered above. No shots were fired. About 25 men were in the houses and emerged peacefully. They were briefly detained and released later

US commanders say their more than 140,000 soldiers can take the pain for the gain of a stable and prosperous Iraq in the long term. But hopes that eliminating Saddam's heirs would break remaining resistance may be wishful thinking, some Iraqis say, pointing to broad resentment at

included in the list are poultry and Americans. Gossip and rumour dairy products, fish, vegetables, may be inflating public anger but it fruits, tea, spices, edible oil, sugar is also the case that muscular rice, wheat, food preparations and policing tactics across the country tobacco. The major items of texare winning the troops few friends tiles and clothing are cotton yarn among Iraqis who are otherwise and fabrics, silk yarn and fabrics, garments and made-up textiles.

condemned the treatment of Iraqi prisoners and methods of housesearching used by the troops. Four US soldiers have been

charged in an investigation into suspected abuse of Iraqi prisoners of war at a camp near Umm Qasr in the south in May, the US military

plundered another Tk11,000 crore from last two development budgets. also present at the programme.

negative list before the dialogue Iraqis are also dying in violent

glad that Saddam is gone. Amnesty International has

civilians have been killed since the war began on March 20, according to an independent estimate. No precise toll is available. The United States refuses to give estimates of Iraqi civilian or military dead.

Getting a quickie divorce ha taken on a whole new meaning i Malaysia after it was decided that man can divorce his wife with a tex

The government's adviser on religious affairs, the man who counsels Malaysia's Prime Ainister Mahathir Mohamad, saic as long as the message was clear and unambiguous it was valid under Islamic Sharia law.

"SMS is just another form of writing," Dr Abdul Hamid Othman was quoted by the New Straits Times daily newspaper as saying.

The decision follows Malaysian court's ruling on Thursday in favour of a man who served divorce on his wife via a text

Sharia judge Mohamad Fauzi Ismail declared that the divorce declaration was valid and that as such the marriage between the plaintiff Azida Fazlina Abdul Latif and defendant Shamsudin Lati was annulled, the Utusan Malaysi

newspaper reported. Shamsudin was said to have sent Azida a text message saying: "I ou do not leave your parents

nouse, you'll be divorced' Although such a notification of divorce may seem astonishingly brief to some, under Islamic law men are allowed to divorce their wives simply be saying the word 'talaq' - I divorce you - three times.

### **Re-investigation** ordered into Kalidas murder

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The Additional District and Sessions Judge of Bagerhat has ordered reinvestigation in the sensational Advocate Kalidas Boral murder case by suspending its trial on Saturday. He further ordered submission of the report of the reinvestigation to the court within 45

The court earlier rejected a petition

against the reinvestigation of the case submitted by the complainant Happy Meanwhile, the complainant has prayed to the court for a stay on the reinvestigation. Hearing of the prayer

willbeheldonSunday. Bagerhat Awami League Vice President Advocate Kalidas Boral was gunned down on August 20, 2000 at Sadhana Square of the town. Charge sheet of the case was submitted on October 31 of the same year accusing 22 persons of the murder. So far, five out of

74 prosecution witnesses have been examined. Three out of 22 charge-

## **BNP-AL clashes** leave 15 injured during hartal in Natore

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Sporadic clashes left some 15 people injured during the daylong hartal observed partially in Lalpur upazila of

Local Awami League (AL) called the hartal to protest against the visit of State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman Patal who was earlier blamed for the sensational murder of AL lawmakerMomtazUddinAhmed.

injuries during clashes between pro-and anti-hartal activists at Salampur Bazar in the early hours. Six shops were damaged and two motorbikes burnt during the clashes.

Four of the injured -- Arbab UP member Shahidul Islam, Zahirul Islam, Abdul Kuddus, and Taher Uddin -- were taken to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. Four others-- Shafiqul, Rezaul, Mokbul and Ahsan Ali -- were admitted to Lalpur Health

The hartal was observed spontaneously at Abdulpur, Walia, Salampur and Gopalpur unions in the northern part of Lalpur while Lalpur Sadar, Bilmaria and Old Iswardi areas were reportedly unaffected following presence of large contingents of police

and BNP activists. The state minister reached Lalpur upazila under police and BDR escorts. He later addressed a scheduled meet-ing at the Trimohini crossing in the

## **Tremor**

FROM PAGE 1

Chakma and her daughter Lipika Chakma, 16, were admitted to Barkol Upazila Health Complex. Mallika Khatun, 55, and Suren Barman, 60, were injured in Kolabunia where two

The other injured received first aid from Barkal Upazila Health Complex, police said.

The union parishad building and the health complex of Aimchhara in Barkal upazila collapsed, sending shards of concrete flying around, said a police officer of the Barkal PoliceCitation Police Station. Besides, 18 buildings, including

upazila under shock waves, sources Our Cox's Bazar correspondent quoting the local meteorological office as saying a mild earthquake of 20 seconds jolted the town and its environs at 5:18am. Offshore

islands in the Bay of Bengal were shaken by the quake. Yesterday's quake briefly rekindles the horror of the one measuring 5.74 on the Richter scale, in which 27

# Gas disconnection

FROM PAGE 12 public sector include Tk 286 crore

Industries Corporation (BCIC) and Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation (BSEC), both under the industries ministry, owe Tk 162 crore and Tk 75 crore. Defaulting ministries under the

education (Tk3 crore) According to an estimate placed in the meeting, the arrears in the private sector amounted to Tk 665 crore including Tk 384 crore by the private industrial units. Tk 37 crore

amounted to Tk 187 crore. Tk 1.4 crore also remained unpaid with the seasonal consumers. Some private power plants and energy sector companies are also

(Haripur) owe about Tk 15 crore and about Tk 13 crore.

Others include RPCL (Tk 7

Westmont (Tk 7.5 crore), Rahim Energy (Tk 3.3 crore), Madhabdi and Ashulia Palli Bidyut Kendra (Tk 43 lakh each) and Meghna Energy

(Tk 27 lakh).

At the meeting, the state minister also asked the gas companies to arrange internal payments of unpaid wheeling charges to Gas Transmission Company Ltd. Systems loss in the gas sector was brought down to 2 per cent, but it marked a rise again to 5 per

cent. The minister asked

Petrobangla to go for action against

officials and employees involved in

pilferage of gas in the name of

systems loss. He asked engineers and officials to complete the proposed Nolka-Bogra gas pipeline no later than December this year. But the officials told him that the construction could be finished by June 2004.

Mosharraf identified three

major problems in implementing

projects -- flaws in project propos

als, wrong tender processes and

lack of funds. He asked officials to be cautious on their part in project implementation. The meeting also outlined a plan to increase gas production by another 400 mmcfd (million cubic feet per day) in next two years to meet the growing demand. Gas production increased by 125 mmcfd in last fiscal when 550-km

gas pipelines were laid.

# 4 auditors assigned

nised 15 foreign consultants of international repute and shortlisted six of them. They will be asked to submit proposals on recruiting new management having specific targets for bail-out

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman in a letter to the president of World Bank in May said these processes will be complete by

staffing changes at senior levels in order to strengthen bank performance and credit risk management," Saifur said.

To carry out these reforms, the

Economic Relations Division sought \$3.5 lakh from the World Bank in mid-July. In 1999, the Awami League

In 1998, the government also conducted special audits of the NCBs under a World Bank fund.

Bank from private sector. But the effort ended in futility even after advertising for managing director.

The auditors found major inconsistencies in these banks. Auditor SF Ahmed wrote about Sonali Bank that "a very large chunk of credit has gone to a few selected business houses. Only 98 borrowers, each owing more than Tk 50 million, occupy about 17.25 per cent of the loan portfolio of the bank. Another 466 borrowers, each of whom owes between Tk 10 million and Tk 50 million, account for 24 per cent of

yield any result.

"The drive has significantly

some 160 top criminals.

the briefing. The drive involving 14,000strong personnel from the police,

The operation blueprint said

Three main underground par-Party (PBCP), Biplobi Communist Party-Haq Group (BCP) and New Biplobi Communist Party -- are

from India.

vate university," Khan said.

The last annual report of the

But now the outlaws have

## types of assault rifles.

UGC recommended reduction in admission fees and other charges to enable more students to enrol at

further information on the 2:35 a.m. attack.

FROM PAGE 1 attached to the Marines was killed and one was wounded in the grenade attack just south of Baghdad. The death was the first of the week after one of the bloodiest sevenday periods in the guerrilla war against American forces since President Bush declared major combat in Iraq was over on May 1.

> number of Americans killed in action in Iraq since May 1. So far 163 US soldiers have died in the war, 16 more than the number of those killed in the 1991 Gulf. There had been hope the killings Tuesday of Saddam's sons Oday and Qusay, Nos. 2 and 3 on

the US most-wanted list, might

demoralise the resistance. Instead,

their deaths appear to have

Paul Wolfowitz said US officials

thought there would be a spike in

violence following the sons'

Deputy Secretary of Defense

inspired a wave of revenge attacks.

The military said it had no

The death brought to 48 the

deaths, but there also has been a beneficial increase in information coming in from Iraqi informants. "In the last week alone we've picked up 660 surface-to-air missiles. That's a product of the increased intelligence the Iraqi people are providing," Wolfowitz said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Wolfowitz said that with time

Iraqis may give Americans more

with sensitive information, which

could lead to getting Saddam.

"It takes time for them to trust us to give us the information, Wolfowitz said. "But they're giving us more and more. I think what happened last week with the deaths of those two miserable creatures is encouraging more people to come forward.

Asked whether the Bush administration was confident Saddam would be captured or killed soon, Wolfowitz said: "We're going to go after him until we get him and it's a mistake to put timetables on these things.

farms, Russell said. "The noose is tightening around Hundreds of soldiers, backed by

the American presence. incidents, some at the hands of

Besides, paints and varnishes, Between 6,000 and 7,800 Iraqi printing ink, soap, cosmetics, matches, rubber products, paper, cartons, aluminium products, copper wire, locks, razor blades, electric meters, watches, furniture, lighting shade, toys and ballpoint pens are listed by the MCCI.

### Malaysia permits divorce thru' text message BBC ONLINE

One shot dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

One person was killed and three

others were hit by bullets when

robbers opened fire at Hishnapara

village in Daulatpur upazila on

The victim was identified as

According to Daulatpur police,

gang of some 25 armed robbers

stormed into the house of Golam

Mohammad at around 12:00pm.

Holding the inmates at gunpoint,

Just as the miscreants were

The neighbours rushed to the

ouse and managed to corner the

The armed gang then opened

The injured, Shahin, 22, Kasem,

A case was filed with the

Mixed reaction

About the government move to raise

the retirement age, the senior bureau-

crats are happy, but the junior officials of the rank of deputy secretary and

below believe that the decision would

not solve the problem of promotion

additional secretaries, who are now at the fag end of their career, will be

greatly benefited if the retirement age

is raised within the next two to three

Iunior officers said raising of the

retirement age would serve their cause only if the decision is imple-

mented after removing the promo-

They alleged that a section of top

bureaucrats are making laws in their

own interests and said the new move

might have been made to please some

They blamed the senior bureau-

crats for impeding the progress of junior officers in various ways includ-

bureaucracy which would have

ended their supremacy and emi-

The officials further said they

would like to see the bill, approved by

return the two houses that she got from

the state after the killing of Ziaur

state on the ground that they were

and should return the property to the

Dubbingthe prime minister's family

as the richest in the country, she asked

the PM to return the cantonment

residence to the army and Gulshan

On Bogra ammunition haul, the

opposition leader said the government

is vet to form an international body to

probe the matter to unearth the sources

of the ammunition and their destina-

the government failed to take up any

new development projects while Tk

1,000 crore from the public exchequer

was misused on 'goat (rearing) econ-

omy'. She said the government also

Senior leaders of the party were

pared to protect the government's

loss of revenues from imports, said

Dhaka and New Delhi agreed to

initiate a dialogue on FTA in October after the Indo-Bangla

Joint Economic Commission (JEC)

meeting in Dhaka took a decision

Sources in the commerce min-

istry said they would finalise the

after scrutinising lists from differ-

ent chambers and government

The main farm products

All types of medicine, plastic

tube and pipes, tableware and

sheets have also been included in

the list. Items in the steel and iron

sector include hot and cold rolled

sheet, GI sheet, sections of iron,

screw, bicycle chain, tableware and

kitchenware. Items like ballast,

UPS, cable, TV and bulb also figure

MCCI

on that.

offices.

The opposition leader alleged that

state,"theALchiefadded.

residence to the government.

indigentduringthetime,"Hasinasaid.

"They took the property from the

"But now they have lots of money

sion was taken on it.

Hasina

months, because many of them are

due to go on LPR by the year end.

Sources said the secretaries and

45, and Rafiqul, 18, were admitted

to Daulatpur Health Complex.

Daulatpur Police Station

fire on the people, leaving Akter

leaving the spot, Mohammad

the dacoits looted cash, gold orna-

ments and other valuables.

raised an alarm.

dead on the spot

hacklog.

tion backlog.

senior officers.

Akter Hossain, 26, son of Mokter

by robbers

Eight BNP men received critical

Complex.

acres of rice paddy subsided.

13 government offices, were damaged in different areas in Langadu

Moheshkhali, Kutubdia and Sonadia

## sheeted accused are absconding. Among them, five are in jail custody while 14 are on bail. people were killed at Hamzarbagh in Chittagong on November 21, 1997.

from state-run Power Development Board (PDB), which is the largest consumer of natural gas supplied by the Petrobangla companies. Among the other large gas clients, Bangladesh Chemical

small clients category include jute (Tk 17 crore), textile (Tk 16 crore), housing and home (Tk 5 crore each), communications (Tk 3.5 crore), health (Tk 3.3 crore) and

by private commercial users and Tk 1.1 crore by tea estates. Although residential clients consume only 7-8 per cent of the total gas supply, their arrears

on the list of defaulters. Of them AES (Meghnaghat) and AES

FROM PAGE 1 the DMDs and GMs. The government has scruti-

Sonali Bank management will also be reformed in a similar fashion with the help of consultants.

October 30. "New management will be subject to performance-based criteria, and will be provided with sufficient authority to implement

government took an initiative to hire the chief executive of Rupali

the loan portfolio.

But these initiatives did not