NEWS

Saifur blasts

traders for misusing the free market economy as a "free-style market," adding such practices were the causes for boosting prices of essentials. "Who knows the price of which item will be increased by those businessmen next?" he asked -displeased with the corrupt prac-

The minister urged business leaders of chambers and associations present at the session to identify such dishonest traders and mete out punishment to them.

Terming the textiles a basic industry for readymade garments, Saifur assured the textiles businesspeople of providing adequate loans urging them to utilise the money properly. "In the recent past, it was found that some businessmen received loans from banks for one purpose and used it for other," he

Urging the textile mill owners to use state-of-the-art technology to enhance performance, the minister said: "Such fair will surely help

Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA) and Chan Chao International Co Ltd of Taiwan coorganised the exhibition, where latest textile and garment machines

Schools put off

Alliance, student wing of the left

leaning political parties, called another strike at educational institutions across the country for today to protest police excesses on the DU

The Secondary School Certificate (SSC), Dakhil and SSC vocational examinations will remain out of the

At least 100 people were injured when police used batons and teargas to break up a student demonstration against the stabbing of the author of over 50 books, the latest targeted against fundamentalists.

The violence erupted when the university students tried to break through a barbed wire police fence to reach the secretariat and pelted

and equipment from around the world are on display.

Speaking at the launch, BTMA Chairman MA Awal said the show would introduce local entrepreneurs to the world's latest textile and garnent machinery, embroidery and knitting machines, accessories and

Awal said Bangladesh held only percent share of the global textile market, while meeting 90 percent of the domestic demand.

Textiles Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury and Chan Chao International General Manager Tiger Lin also spoke.

Sixty-nine exhibitors from 20 countries, including Taiwan, US, China, Germany, Switzerland, France, Italy, Japan, Korea, Singapore, India, Hong Kong and zech Republic, are participating in the event that remains open to visitors from 10:00am to 6:00pm

SC rejects govt's plea to review JTV application

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday rejected the government's review petition against its earlier order that had irected Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) to dispose of an application of Jamuna Television (JTV) for frequency allotment.

The Supreme Court on October 25 upheld the High Court order that directed the BTRC to dispose of the roposed private TV channel JTV's application for licence and alloca ion of frequency in a month.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court djourned till March 14 the hearing the contempt petition filed by the TV against the BTRC for not comying with the October verdict of e Supreme Court.

The BTRC sought time to reply to the contempt charge brought

Two traders gunned

FROM PAGE 12 (DMCH).

The gang including Kamal pushed his wounded brother onto a nearby drain and fled the scene,

Relatives rushed the victim to the DMCH where doctors declared

Hanif alleged the same group shot and injured the victim's younger brother Ali Hossain at Koratitola in January. They demanded Tk 15,000 from Anwar 10 days ago, but Anwar refused to pay them, he added.

The victim's father Abdul Halim filed a case with Sutrapur Police Station and said in the FIR (first information report) his son was

In another incident on Tuesday, armed assailants shot dead Amanullah Khan, a trader, at Saruliah cattle market in Demra.

Quoting locals, police said a ang called the 35-year-old out of home shortly before 11:00am and gunned him down, police added.

Demra police recovered the body and sent it to Mitford hospital

The victim's wife filed a case with Demra Police Station, but police failed to nab anyone over the killing until 6:30pm.

BODY FOUND

Police recovered the body of

Kamrul Ehsan Johnny, an SSC

B Chy FROM PAGE 12

before the march

"I have decided to form this national platform to introduce a Mirpur after locals found it covered The family said the 18-year-old

went missing on Monday. The victim's father filed a general diary, but the motive for the killing could not be known immediately.

examinee, from Balurmath in

1140 footprints

some of the teams who have been collecting the data are yet to submit their reports. We will come to know the final count tomorrow (Thursday) when all figures are tallied up," said Ali Kabir Haidar. coordinator of the 32 teams, each comprising eight members.

A given number of pugmarks do not necessarily indicate the pres-ence of an equal number of tigers since multiple marks can come from an individual animal. But the governments and the UNDF monitor the world's largest mangrove more frequently to ensure its sustainability.

The final result of the census will be disclosed in July after cluster analysis of the paw prints with computers.

The UNDP gave \$50,000 for the census that focussed on the Bangladesh part of the

Fish gets

was selling at Tk 7-9, beans Tk 10-12, tomato Tk 10-12, carrot Tk 10-12, cucumber Tk 15-16, aubergine Tk 12-14 and green chilli at Tk 30-

different type of politics," he said. Hasina promises

political opponents and overall human rights violation in Bangladesh. "Compile the incidents with supporting documents We'll send

them to international rights groups to unmask the fascist character of the coalition," she said

Minister Khaleda Zia, she asked: "Is the government the head of which threatens to confine the opposition to their houses is democratic?

She lauded the mainstream political parties for agreeing to simultaneous anti-government programmes and urged other like-minded parties to join hands.

In a first-ever display of opposition strength against the 28-month-old Khaleda administration the key opposition parties -- the Communist Party of Bangladesh, Workers Party of Bangladesh and Iativa Samaitantrik

Dal (Inu) -- will enforce a dawn-todusk national hartal on March 6. At yesterday's programme, Hasina challenged her arch-rival Khaleda to dence, prove your acceptance in snap

She said no BNP government could complete their tenures and the spread misrule, misdeed and persecution of political rivals. She also accused the government of carrying out a hate campaign

against the AL leadership among the armed forces and police. On deadly attack on Prominent

writer Humayun Azad, Hasina said angered by his outspoken works the anti-liberation, communal and fundamentalist forces made the attempt on his life.

scheming to save the real criminals by shifting the blame onto us," she

She accused the premier's family of empire-building through corruption and abuse of power.

Bangladesh, the government is now going to import fuel worth TK 300 crore from India without any tender. The prime minister's family is involved in the corruption," she

AL Joint-Secretary General Obaidul Kader, Jubo League President Jahangir Kabir Nanok and General Secretary Mirza Azam, MP,

45 slum huts burnt in city during eviction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 45 shanties at Mohammadpur were gutted in a fire allegedly set by police in an eviction drive vester-

The fire was spotted at 1:30pm at the Jahuri Mahalla slum near Babar Road when Dhaka City Corporation was carrying out a drive against unauthorised shops and thatched houses home to around 250 people.

The slum dwellers alleged police set fire to the shanties as it was taking 'too long' for them to vacate their

"They (police) cut off the gas pipeline which might have caused the fire," said M Kawsar Ali, an evicted slum dweller

Some others said the fire started when police tore some live wires off a nearby electric pole. One of them, Shahnaz, described, "Police cut off the electric wires after locals pelted them with stones.

But the police officers strongly denied the allegations. One of them said, "We were just present at the scene as the DCC people were bull-dozing the unauthorised shops and

"Police can't jump that high to cut wires hanging from a pole. How can torn wires create fire?" said another police officer. DCC Magistrate M Giasuddin, who was present at the spot, denied the allegations too, saying: "Somehow the fire started and now they are

trying to shift the blame onto us." A victim of the fire, Bakul Begum, said, "They didn't give us time to remove the belongings from our houses." She also claimed the police did not permit her to go near the rubble to salvage her things.

Sylhet ward commissioner, 2 others held for 'mugging'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Kotwali police yesterday nabbed a ward commissioner of Sylhet City Corporation (SCC) and two others for their alleged link in the snatching money from a local businessman.

Kotwali police held Jagadish Das, SCC ward commissioner and convenor of Sylhet Awami League, Projit Kumar Modak and Tipu Das on charge of mugging Tk 5 lakh from Karim Ullah Helal, owner of Moumita Confectionery, sources

took away the money from Helal at gunpoint near Sajid Ali Community Centre at Pathantola when he was returning from the bank with Tk 5 at about 12:30pm.

Locals caught Projit and Tipu from the area a few minutes later and turned them to police, sources

The ward commissioner reached the spot at 1:00pm only to be sury an angry mob sensed his alleged connivance in the crime after he assured them to retrieve the booty.

Police picked the trio in the face of public demand, they added. However, no case was filed till the

writing of this report at 6:00 last

Attack on Mayor

Mosharraf Hossain, Sub-inspector Faruque, Sergeant Mosharef Hossain, Assistant Sub-inspector Koushik and three constables of Khulna Police Station were among the injured. Thirteen were admitted to Khulna General Hospital with

Officer-in-Charge (OC)

serious injuries. Several cars and rickshaws were damaged during the clash. OC

Mosharraf Hossain said three blank shots had to be fired to disperse the KCC Employees Union said the attack on them was unprovoked. The mayor also denounced the "unprovoked" attack and "police excesses" saying it was a ploy to

divert people's attention from the grenade attack on him. Acting Police Commissioner Sajjad Ali refuted the allegation saying his men exercised maximum restraint in the face of brickbats hurled by KCC employees who formed the human chain violating traffic rules.

The attack won't go unchallenged, leaders of KCC Employees' Union threatened, and demanded removal of policemen responsible for the mayhem. Normal work at the KCC came to

halt following the clash. The KMP withdrew all traffic posts from the city at 12:00 noon yesterday for unknown reasons. 3-decade

FROM PAGE 1

On checking, they found that it was

by. The retrieval of the bombs created panic among the officials of the airport who informed the home ministry and other officials of the Army bomb experts found two of

them live on examination and defused them, sources said. The batch numbers of the bombs

showed that those were made in 1960. The bombs did not explode as they hit a low-lying water-body, an

JCD men, cops charge

the head and were taken to hospital for treatment," a journalist on the

the campus," said a woman student, requesting not to be named.

bleed underfoot and picked them up after their harrowing ordeal close to

as the demonstrators under the banner Humayun Azad Mancha decided to hold a solidarity gathering at Aparajeo Bangla at 10:00 am today and the ICD announced a programme at the same venue to foil

JCD activists also threatened that any demonstration protesting the attack on Azad, remarkable for his outspoken comments, often against fundamentalists, would be resisted.

The trouble flared up when police in riot gear swooped on students who removed a barbed-wire barricade near the High Court Mazar on their way to the secretariat from the Aparajeo Bangla at about 12:30am.

As police used baton indiscriminately, the demonstrators hurled stones at the law-enforcers, injuring four of them

by rampaging policemen', the stu-dents ran for cover in the Curzon Hall and police fired volleys of teargas canisters in an aggressive bid to dislodge them from there. About 15 minutes later, nearly 100

policemen entered the hall breaking open the gates and batoned the students dragging them out of class-rooms, library and washrooms, largely from physics and soil science departments, 'unleashing unspeakable horror in the highest seat of

"Three to four male policemen caught me at the physics department and beat me in the back savagely like marauders," said Taslima Akhter, president of Bangladesh Chhatra Federation.

Daily Ajker Kagoj Staff Reporter Mainul Hossain Chowdhury suffering severe head and leg injuries in Mainul, who sought police mercy

head and a fractured leg.

them up and fired some teargas shells into the residential halls.

FROM PAGE 1

FURTHER MAYHEM After the Curzon Hall mayhem,

Pathanatak Parishad will hold a citi-

concern over the brutal attack on Azad. The organisations include Bangladesh Jubo Moitree, Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal, Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation, Jativa Samaitantrik Dal Bangladesh Awami Sechhashebak eague, Gonoshanhati Aandalan Jativa Chhatra Dhara, 11-Party

programmes including formation of a human chain, student strike and rally for today to protest the incidents and demand the release of the students picked up by police. Colonel Taher Sangsad also condemned yesterday's police atrocities. An emergency meeting of the

Supreme Court Bar Association yesterday chaired by its President Rokanuddin Mahmud also condemned the attack on Azad.

FROM PAGE 12 sources added.

Choppers will be kept ready to fly

education ministry officials at examination centres, where cheating is reported.

examinations under seven education boards, 1,80,546 in Dakhil examinations under the Madrassah Education Board and 31,452 in SSC Vocational examinations under the Technical Education Board.

On the first day, examinees will sit for the test of English first paper.

Police excesses

Bhuiyan, also secretary general of ruling BNP, however said if it was a case of police excesses, actions would be taken. But Bhuiyan quickly added police had the right to take countermeasure if they came under attack. Unlike on other recent occasions

Home Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury yesterday refrained from issuing any statement on the day's incident in the House. Earlier in his statement, Kader Siddiqui warned the government against beating females and also

treated at the Combined Military

Hospital in Dhaka for lifethreatening wounds. active for the development of the Bhuiyan told the House in Later, Khaleda had a brief meeting carry out their additional duties to

Tk 87 lakh gold, cellphone sets, drugs seized at ZIA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials at Zia International Airport (ZIA) seized large caches of cell phone sets, importbanned medicines and gold ornaments worth about Tk 87 lakh on Monday and Tuesday.

One kilogram of gold ornaments and 425 mobile phone sets were confiscated Tuesday night from a home bound passenger of Singapore Airlines flight SQ-436. The customs team on duty at the ZIA challenged the passenger when he was passing through the green channel and found the goods in his luggage.

The JCD activists assaulted Firoz Chowdhury, chief photographer of the Daily Prothom Alo, as he tried to The phone sets were seized the carrier had no no-objection certificate from the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory They dragged him near a bus Commission for importing those. parked behind the administrative

> officials seized contraband medicines worth about Tk 18 lakh from two bags that arrived by Gulf Airways flight GF-458 and lying near a con-Scanning the bags on suspicion, the customs team unearthed and confiscated 24 kinds of import-

In another raid Tuesday, customs

banned medicines, including Methergin, Nolvadex, Neoral, Gynaecosid and Aldactone tablets and Neoral injection. The carrier of the banned medications melted away in the crowd of passengers sensing the detection, officials said. Earlier, on Monday night, customs officials seized 289 mobile phone sets and 20 walkie-talkie sets worth about Tk 26 lakh from some

luggage that arrived by Bangladesh Biman flight BG-079 and left abandoned on a conveyer belt. Separate departmental cases were filed over the incidents.

POLICE RAID AT KCC OFFICE

punishment to police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Leaders of three associations of Khulna City Corporation (KCC) yesterday threatened to start work stoppage if their demand to punish the police personnel, involved in yesterday's raid on the corporation office, was not met in 72 hours in 72 hours. Leaders of Ward Commissioners'

Welfare Association, Officers' Welfare Association and Employees' Union of the KCC at a press conference at the local press club gave the local administration the ultimatum, which expires on Friday morning. Led by Sajjad Ali, acting police commissioner in Khulna, a police team crushed the locked collapsible gate of the KCC office at noon and clubbed agitating staff in the presence of Mayor Tayebur Rahman, they alleged.

immediate arrest of the culprits who hurled a grenade on Tayebur's car on Sunday and scheduled a two-hour Parkfortoday. The assistant police commissioner alleged the demonstrating KCC staff attacked Khulna Police Station during

Rising inflation

expired on December 31 last year. IMF also asked the government to

cut down the interest rate in post office

savings equipment. During a series of meetings over the last 12 days, the mission observed the projected GDP target of 5.5 percent is achievable, thanks to the booming harvest this year. But at the same time, IMF warned that frequent hartal may

The six-member commission, led by IMF's Asia Pacific Assistant Director Champen Puckahtikom, leaves Dhaka today

IMF disbursed the first instalment of the PRGF loan in June last year and the second in the middle of January.

If the review report goes in favour, the third instalment should be disbursedby June 15.

Plate final

FROM PAGE 1 have to bat better than they have ever

donein the competition. "Our frontline batsmen will have to

> Cricket Stadium yesterday. The Australian coach believed that if his team could post a total beyond 250

then the spinners would be able to "They (Australia) are weak against spin and that's why we will go with four pinners in the final. But before any-

Bennett King admitted that his boys are still uncomfortable going on the front footwhilefacingthespinners.

But I hope they will come good in their final game," said King, who is also the head coach of the famed Commonwealth Bank Cricket

Megaplan to build

ment during the prime minister's

question time. Khaleda said separation of the udiciary from the executive will be completed in time as her govern-ment still has two and a half years of

Opposition lawmaker Hafizuddin of Jatiya Party (Ershad) reminded the primeminister that nalf the tenure of this government has expired and wanted to know how ong it would take the nation to see an independent judiciary. Khaleda replied the task would be completed in time as her government still has two and a half years of its term.

Earlier, replying to a question of ruling alliance lawmaker Kazi Alauddin, the prime minister said a five-member cabinet committee neaded by Agriculture Minister MK Anwar was examining various aspects of separating the judiciary and that necessary steps would be taken n receipt of its recommenda-

Khaleda referred to the recent developments on the formation of the Judicial Service Commission and of judge would be filled soon to redress the problem of delay in dispensing justice.

Replying to a query about conflict of power between union parishads and gram sarkars, she said there is no such conflict and that these two components of the local government system would go hand in hand. The

some tasks of gram sarkars. Khaleda told a questioner her government will build more than one bridge over the Padma if financial capability permits.

government would soon specify

She also replied to some questions on tree plantation and on relations with South Asian neigh-

UNB adds: The prime minister said in parliament yesterday disciplinary action would be taken against government employees found guilty of violating the service

"Action will be taken only if there is any specific allegation of wrongdo-ing... We don't want to harass any one unnecessarily," Khaleda said replying to a question from Manzur

Writer talks

"He can sit with assistance. He is getting liquid food through a nasal tube. His level of consciousness remains unchanged. He can recog-nise people," the bulletinsaid.

He is still drowsy from medication and has yet not regained normal orientation of time and space, the

Moghbazar on Tuesday in connection with the attack on Prof Azad. "I have obtained some informa-

Police produced Golam Mostafa before the court yesterday. The court sent him to Dhaka Central Jail.

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leader Abu Abbas Bhuiyan arrested Saturday for his alleged involvement in the attack was sent to jail on Tuesday after being produced before the Court of the Chief

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban US arms experts on Tuesday visited Bandarban and Cox's Bazar and saw the arms and ammunition recently recovered by joint forces from the two boardering

They were also shocked and aston-ished to see that most of the arms are US-Official sources said the team led by Lieutenant Colonel Michel Petigro visited

Naikhongchhari headquarters of para-military Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and talked to Major Arshad, second-incommandof Naikhongchharizone. Security forces recovered three M-16 rifles, seven M-79 rifles, 12 extra barrels of

M-16 rifles and 451 bullets from

Naikhongchhari under Bandarban

district in the last six months till February

Metropolitan Magistrate the same

Abbas, joint secretary of Dhaka University's Sir AF Rahman Hall unit of the BCL, was remanded on

His defence lawyers said he was severely tortured during the five-day remand. "Despite brutal torture, police failed to make him say that Awami League planned the attack on Prof Azad. Abbas was neither involved in the attack nor knew anything about it, so he could say nothing," a defence lawyer said Tuesday.

The defence lawyers submitted a

bail petition for Abbas, but the court rejected it and sent him to jail.

Two unidentified youths stabbed Prof Azad in front of the Bangla Academy Friday night.

Two AL leaders

killed in N'gang, **Bagerhat STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

> and another AL leader shot dead in Narayanganj on Tuesday. A gang hurled three bombs at Fakirhat bus stand at about 10:00pm, killing AL leader Ruhul

police and witnesses said. Firing gunshots and blasting nore bombs, the gang fled the area

AL leaders blamed the attack on local BNP activists in an allegation local BNP denied. In another incident at Fatullah in

A 12-member gang with Ibu, Navan and Mokhter allegedly involved, sprayed bullets on the leader when he was watching television at his Shehrarchar home at around 9:30pm, police said.

Ashura turns bloody

and its allies

Pakistani officials did not believe the carnage in Quetta and Iraq was linked, although both countries harbour networks of radical Islamic militants with deep hatred for the United States

Shia cleric passed, draped in a black flag with verses from the Ouran. bystanders reached out to touch it and then held their fingers to their lips whispering "Hussein," the name of a revered Shia martyr. At least five bombs tore through Kerbala Tuesday morning, just as a major Shia religious festival was

In Iraq, as the coffin of one local

and wounding 235, according to a senior local cleric. The US military said one of the blasts was caused by a suicide bomber. Coordinated strikes against Shia worshippers in Baghdad killed 70, according to the latest Health

concluding, killing at least 115 people

Ministry figures. Unofficial casualty reports, how-ever, put the toll in the two cities as

high as 223. US officials and Iraqi leaders named an al-Qaeda-linked militant, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, as a "prime suspect" for the attacks, saying he seeks to spark a Sunni-Shiite civil war to wreck US plans to hand over power to the Iragis on June 30.

But some Shias lashed out at US

Kerry FROM PAGE 12

touted as a possible vicepresidential candidate. "There is no question that John

Edwards brings a compelling voice to our party, great eloquence to the cause of working men and women all across our nation, and great promise for leadership for the years o come," he said. But Kerry gave no indication of

is choice for running-mate ahead of the Democratic national convenion this July in Boston.

Edwards, who had been under ncreasing pressure to throw in the towel, was to officially announce his withdrawal on Wednesday in North Carolina, which he represents in the Senate, campaign staffers said.

not providing security. A letter purporting to come from Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network denied any role in Tuesday's anti-Shia Muslim explosions in Iraq and blamed the attacks on the US.

oased al-Quds al-Arabi newspaper. It In Pakistan, most of the Quetta

victims were shot in the cross-fire, the intelligence official said. "There were people carrying weapons within the procession, they probably targeted the police," he said

President, PM

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia visited

University (DU) teacher, the prime minister said the culprits must be arrested and brought to justice. Prof Azad talked to the prime minister and expressed his gratitude

to her for the government's coopera-

tion and support for his better treat-

Responding to a request from the

family members of Prof Azad, Khaleda assured of sending Azad abroad for better treatment, if necessary, and said the efforts to ensure

tinue. Physicians and surgeons engaged in the treatment of Azad informed

were present when the prime minister visited the DU teacher of Bangla

department. The prime minister was accom-

On February 29, Chowdhury said he would unveil a national committee for 'alternative stream' from a public rally at Paltan.

In a veiled reference to Prime

prove her political strength in mid-term polls, saying, "If you have confi-

"But this is not the final figure as

number of paw prints found so far is encouraging enough for the two (United Nations Development Programme) to want to jointly

resent administration was riding for a fall for what she said were its wide-

"Government high-ups are now

"Creating an artificial shortfall in

a bomb and found three others near

demonstrators marched towards

tingent of police.

Vice-chancellor SMA Faiz's office at

about 2:20pm to protest the police

building was locked, they staged a sit-

in there, hemmed in by a large con-

About half an hour later, a proces

sion of about 100 JCD activists led by its President Sahabuddin Laltu and

General Secretary Azizul Bari Helal

barged to the scene and jumped on

slapped, kicked and beat up the students with rods, sticks and tree

branches and tore the clothes of

women students, injuring 30 protest-

building and beat him again before

snatchinghis camera and cellphone.

College Hospital with chest and leg

injuries and later shifted to Shamrita

The demonstrators broken up by the violence regrouped at the Fine Arts

Institute at about 3:00pm where they

became the victims of another raid by

podium on the institute premises, torched the coffins used in previous

demonstrations in symbolic protest

against the attempt on the life of

activists searched for students who

joined the recent protests and beat

them in the style they unleashed in

front of the registrar's office building.

join any further agitation on the campus in protest against the attack on the 56-year-old writer.

camera crews of two private televi-

sion channels from the scene.

They also threatened them not to

The JCD activists also forced

Some 12 attackers dragged Bablu,

Prominent among the injured

a student, to the street and showered

him with slaps and kicks before using

included Bangladesh Chhatra

Federation General Secretary Kaniz

Fatema, Samajtantrik Chhatra Front

central leader Anupam Saikat Santo,

Biplobi Chhatra Maitro Joint convener Mahbub Liton, Dhaka univer-

sity Chhatra Union General Secretary

Sayeda Akhter, Pahari Chhatra

Parishad leader Anju, Sashi and

Pro-BNP cultural organisation

Jativatabadi Samajik Sangskritik

Sangstha held a cultural programme

last night on one of the daises the JCD

captured from protesters last night.

Subrato Kumar.

Entering the institute, the JCD

They attackers damaged a

ARSON

Firoz was taken to Dhaka Medical

Witnesses said the activists

the agitators as police stood by.

capture the scenes of violence.

As the gate of the registrar's office

"Many students were bleeding from

"A policeman kicked me and beat me with his baton when I fell in the Curzon Hall corridor. I don't know whether they are employed to sully

Police trampled six students to

Tension ran high on the campus

MINDLESSVIOLENCE

In the face of 'mindless violence

About 60 students and four journalists were injured in the raid, with

giving his identify, was undergoing treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital with four stitches in the Police chased down some students near the pond between Fazlul Haq and Shahidullah halls, beat

DU students

zen's protest rally at and take out a 'black flag' procession from the Central ShaheedMinarat4:00pm today. They urged all socio-cultural and political organisations to make today's ogrammes successful. The SSJ and the allied organisations called the programmes to protest the recent deadly attack on writer

Oikya Prochesta, a socio-political platform, said the people are gravely concerned about the rising violence and a trend towards confrontation. Presiding over a meeting of the platform yesterday in the city, Kamal, also president of the Gono Forum, said thebrutalattackonAzadisanattackon

the country's progressive forces, which

Meanwhile, different organisations

Humayun Azad, unprecedented rise in

incidents of murder, repression and

human-rights violations in the coun-

Dr Kamal Hossain, convenor of the

yesterday also condemned the police brutality on Dhaka University students and demanded punishment of the police officials responsible for the attack. They also expressed grave

no-oneshould undermine.

Six more BDR FROM PAGE 12 Ministers, MPs, diplomats, senior civil

and military officials, incumbent and

retired BDR officers and soldiers, and

their family members, among others,

Home Minister Altaf Hossain

Chowdhury, State Minister for home

attended the function.

Lutfozzaman Babor and BDR Director General Mai Gen Jahangir Alam Chowdhury received the prime minister on her arrival. Apart from carrying out the sacred duty of safeguarding the country's borders, the prime minister said the other important responsibilities of the BDR personnel are to protect the

country's resources and national

economy by curbing smuggling and

to give equal importance to maintain

an atmosphere conducive to eco-

nomic development besides safe-

"The BDR personnel will also have

checking the inflow of foreign goods.

guarding the borders," she said. She appreciated the successes of the BDR so far achieved despite inadequate manpower and various limitations. Describing the government's various initiatives. Khaleda said a decision had already been taken to provide rice instead of ruti, border allowance, oil and sugar at subsidised rates to the BDR personnel. The prime minister assured that

her government would always remain

with sector commanders and senior

officers. She asked them to sincerely

paramilitary force.

Alliance, Bangladesh Student's Union and Bangladesh Communist Party. They have announced different

SSC, Dakhil

This year, a total of 9,73,958 candidates are appearing at 1,723 examination centres across the country. Of them, 7,61,960 appear in SSC

FROM PAGE 1 that he did not know until then what exactly had happened on the campus

spoke about the rumour of death of writer Humayun Azad, now being

response that whoever had made the attack on Azad would be haunted down and handed down punishment. He alleged 'an identified clique' was spreading the death rumour to create public anger.

Staff threaten work stoppage, demand

The demonstrators also demanded

the clash and damaged doors and windowpanes of its officers' quarters.

FROM PAGE 1 understanding (MoU) with the four NCBsup to December 2004, which was

affect the GDP growth, finance ministry

bat exceedingly well if we are going to throw a serious challenge to the Australians," said McInnes after the final practice session at the Dhanmondi

thing else we need to win the toss and grab the opportunities that come our way," said the Bangladesh youth coach whose boys have so far fared badly against two Test-playing teams they played in the first round. McInnes' Australian counterpart

"We are yet to get used to the condition here and that's why the players are finding it difficult to face the spinners. assured lawmakers that vacant posts

respiration and blood pressure.

Meanwhile, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) arrested another youth, Golam Mostafa alias Mostafa Mahbub, from

tion from him which is now being verified," said CID inspector Kazi Abdul Malek who investigating the attack, but refused to comment on identities of the attackers at this

A local Awami League (AL) leader **US experts inspect** was killed and three others were injured in a bomb attack in Bagerhat seized arms in Ctg

Amin Khan instantly and injuring Mannan, 28, Sujon, 26, and Arif, 22,

on motorbikes

Narayanganj, a gang shot dead Nizamuddin, an AL leader, Tuesday

forces. Iraq's most powerful Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Hussein al-Sistani, blamed the Americans for

> The letter, signed by the Abu Hafs al-Masri Brigades with "al Oaeda" in parenthesis, was sent to the Londonwas obtained by Reuters yesterday.

Three of the four gunmen were shot dead while the other was wounded by a bullet in his head. He survived and is under arrest.

Talking to the injured Dhaka

Prof Azad at the CMH at noon.

his best treatment would con-

the prime minister about his improving condition and briefed her about his injuries. Azad's son, sister and brother

panied, among others, by her Political Secretary Mohammad

AL, suffered injuries in a police raid on the party headquarters on Bangabandhu Avenue on Monday evening. Hasina said her party would write the international rights groups about the government persecution of