### Market turns

operatives of outlawed parties and local criminals use some shops there as their dens and safe havens, where they start gathering since nightfall.

A drug peddling syndicate also operates in the market that houses 573 shops and 160 residential flats, they added.

An official of Special Branch (SB) of Police said they have information that members of banned Sarbahara Party from greater Jessore and Rajshahi regions used to frequently assemble in the shops and flats "But," he admitted, "We could not identify them, let alone arrest, as no one provided us with specific information about them and we also don't have their file photos."

"We can guess who they are but, fearing attack, don't dare to challenge or bar them from entering the building, said a security quard of the market requesting not to be named, about outlawed partisans' frequent visits.

A visibly alarmed executive of Aziz Co-operatives Society said the whole market has turned into a den of 'Sarbahara men' causing drastic slide in business. "Law enforcers are informed of the comings and goings of outlaws, local criminals and drug peddlers," he said, "but they hardly take any action. Manager of the society Shari

Kabirul Islam said as the shops had been sold out so the society has no jurisdiction to monitor who are coming to those or going out.

In two separate operations in May, police arrested four operatives of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) named Mahfuzur Rahman Jewel, Abdur Razzak, Ali Tareq and Shafi Sarker in Shoumo Enterprise of the market.

Police also recovered a sack full of Phensidyle, a linctus abused as a narcotic, six months ago from another shop but could not arrest anyone.

Sources said, posing as students, medical professionals, etc, outlaws from different parts of the country took shelter in some of the flats

The society executive said he had heard about it and believes it to be true, but claimed the society did not know in which flats the political extremists had stayed.

President of the society Nazmul Ahsan however said they would soon take an initiative to collect details of the shops' title deeds and their nature of business, so that the shopowners could be readily identified whenever

#### **BOMB BLAST**

Police until yesterday could not arrest the chief of Manabmukti Samajkalyan Sangstha (MSS), professedly a non-governmental organisation that has its office in the market where a bomb went off last Friday during fabrication.

Ramna police went to 220/B, Outer Circular Road, the address MSS chief Waliur Rahman gave while renting the shop, only to find it to be a fake address.

Neighbouring shopowners said allured by promises of support in receiving higher education at foreign universities and NGO jobs, many vouths used to visit the first-floor MSS fice every day.

Police have kept the office, with its floor littered with shards, gunpowder and stone chips and a half of its steel shutter twisted by the blast, off-limits

They started interrogating Kazi Mohammadullah Sohag, one of the two youths injured in the blast, but could not get any lead from him until

Sohagh told his interrogators, after he started living in Panthapath area a few months ago, he came to know Khorshed Alam Ripon, his covictim and a criminal on the run. Ripon grew up in that area.

The nature of Sohag's injury suggests he was not making the bomb. Ripon was doing it," one of the investigators said, adding details would be known after police start quizzing Ripon who is under treatment of his critical wounds at BDR Hospital.

Police are also looking into possibilities of the pair being involved with any outlawed group.

#### Police pick FROM PAGE 12

arrested in robbery case and inter-

rogate him. 'Rony is not involved in politics and there is no charge against him.

Police arrested him for no reason, Maya told The Daily Star. On August 27, Gulshan police arrested Sajedul Islam Dipu, the eldest

son of Maya at a buying house office. Jobu League Chairman Jahangir Kabir Nanak and General Secretary Mirza Azam MP protested the arres

They also demanded immediate

terming it a conspiracy.

## Verdict on jail killing

FROM PAGE 12 prosecution witnesses. The trial of the case took 278 workdays to complete.

In the case filed with Lalbagh Police Station, it was alleged that an army officer in khaki uniform came to the Dhaka Central Jail gate at about 4:00am on November 3 1975 Accompanied by four other army personnel also in khaki fatigues, he dentified himself as Captain Moslehuddin and claimed to be attached to Bangabhaban. Equipped with stenguns and SLRs, the five entered the jail and killed the four prisoners Syed Nazrul Islam Tajuddin Ahmed, M Mansur Ali and AHM Quamruzzaman.

Kazi Abdul Awal, former deputy inspector general (prisons), filed the case the next day.

But the Indemnity Ordinance of 1975 blocked the case until Awami League, forming government after 21 years, repealed the infamous law in November 1996.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) opened investigation into the case on August 18

Investigation Officer Abdul Kahar

Akand pressed charges against 21 people including KM Obaidur Rahman on October 15,1998. The names of former president Khandaker Mushtaque Ahmed and former secretary Mahbubul Alam

Chashi were deleted from the charge sheet as they died during the probe. The court framed charges

against Obaidur and 20 others on October 12, 2000 and the trial began on April 12, 2001 with the deposition of complainant Awal.

Of the accused, Obaidur, Nurul Islam Manzoor, Shah Moazzem Hossain, Taheruddin Thakur and retired army major Khairuzzaman were released on bail soon after the present four-party alliance came to power in October 2001

Lieutenant Colonel (dismissed) Syed Faruk Rahman, Lt Col (retired) Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan and Major (retired) Bazlul Huda, however, are now behind bars.

Resalder (retired) Moslehuddin

Lt Col (dismissed) Khondaker Abdur

Rashid, Lt Col (relieved) Shariful

Haq Dalim, Lt Col (retired) SHMB agents views. Noor Chowdhury, Major (retired) AKM Mohiuddin Ahmed, Lt Col (retired) AM Rashed Chowdhury are Besides, Major (relieved) Ahmed Shariful Hossain, Lt Col (relieved) Abdul Aziz Pasha believed to be

dead, Capt (Retd) Abdul Majed, Capt (relieved) Mohammad Kismat Hasem, Capt (relieved) Nazmul Hossain. Dafadar (dismissed) Marfat Ali Shah and Dafadar (dismissed) Mohammad Abdul Hasem have been evading capture since AL assumed power in 1996.

### Sylhet blasts

FROM PAGE 12

arrested 24 people in the case, which was later transferred to the CID, but nothing was found. In March 1999, an explosion

rocked the house of former BNP lawmaker Muhibur Rahman Manik at the Chhatak upazila headquarters, when a bomb went off in the making, killing three people.

#### Robber killed

FROM PAGE 12

robbers of the Sundarbans, in Nishan Khali and ran into a hail of bullets. Most of the robbers ran away, as the cops returned fire. police said.

Police sources said ringleader Ariful Alam Akkas was a close associate of recently killed criminal Asaduzzaman Litu and also has a link with Jativa Party (Manzur). Akkas is now carrying Litu's firearms, they added. Wounded OC Nasiruddin

Assistant Sub-inspectors Shujayet Hossain and Hares Mollah, constables Mamun Reza and Shah Alam were admitted to Dakop Upazila Health Complex.

## Probe body biased

Criticising the members of the law

under the AL rule, Jalil said the fundamentalist forces masterminded the attacks to destroy the Bangalee culture.

He accused Prime Minister

Ahmed said a sense of insecurity was prevailing among the common man as the government failed to ensure security.

AL President's Political Secretary Saber Hossain Chowdhury alleged the government was trying to hinder the investiga-

Bangabandhu Parishad Dr SA Malek said the grenade attack took place at a time when people across Bangladesh stared uniting against the misrule of the fundamentalistsallied government.

AL leader Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir alleged the government had direct links with the grenade attack to destroy the pro-liberation forces.

AL Presidium Member Sajeda Chowdhury, Dhaka City AL General Secretary Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya and leaders Abdul Mannan, Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin and Mukul Bose also addressed the rally.

#### Counter-terrorism

FROM PAGE 1 nothing will be excluded and all will be

taken into consideration," said Morshed, adding Dhaka would consider what it needed and did not need during its assessment of the proposals. He said they talked about various levels and areas of cooperation on counter-terrorism for which details

said further details for collaboration on capacity building of law enforcement agencies and a legal framework at various levels would be discussed later. "We have many instruments in

Programme and would soon realise the memorandum of understanding signed n May to install Pisces (Personal

Pisces is sophisticated computer software to document passengers travelling into and out of the country and check movement of suspected terror-

Referring to the hostage crisis in Russia that claimed over 350 lives, Black said: "We don't want to have that ever happen here, and that's where we

"We would like to participate in the development of counter-terrorism to help them build their will and capacity to

deal with terrorists," said Black. But he skirted questions on the resence of any terrorist outfit in

with you (the press)." "Do not kid yourselves, America is very good at gathering intelligence and

what is happening," Black said. "We trust Bangladeshi security agencies to give you that information

Asked about an interview Black gave to an Indian magazine where he said the US would look closely at the potential of Bangladesh being used as a platform to launch terrorism interna-

said, adding Bangladesh's potential as a terrorist platform was also being looked at from that global threat of

On his comments that he had received the Indian view of the presence of terrorist in Bangladesh, Black said, "The Indians have made some allegations and the Bangladeshi government has denied them. Shamsher earlier said he told Black

that "Bangladesh does not allow its territory to be used by terrorists, especially against neighbouring countries." Black marked as a problem the lack of information on terrorists who carried

responsibility for the attacks. This is a problem, because as a counter-terrorist expert I like to know my enemy; I like to know where they are and how they think," Black said, summing up his and several top intelligence

Terming the situation of finding terrorists who kept up the spate of bomb attacks as challenging, he said: "You have to remember that we are dealing with clandestine groups that are hid-

"You need sophisticated investigative skills and members to search out the groups, and we (US) are happy to provide them," Black said

Shamsher said: "Black told us that the US can rely on Bangladesh as a reliable partner in the fight against global terrorism and further cooperation is necessary and he was willing to work

ment ministers and officials that they would heed to the US request of swiftly aggressively and fairly arresting the perpetrators.

In his opening statement, Black had said, "There is a disturbing trend of accelerating political violence in Bangladesh

democracies, we urge all Bangladeshis to resolve their political differences peacefully and lawfully," he added.

Black also met State Minister for

Home Affairs Lutfozzaman Babar where they spoke of greater capacitybuilding for law enforcement agencies. Black will depart early today for the Nepalese capital of Kathmandu.

with leaders of left-leaning parties including Workers' Party of Bangladesh, Communist Party of Bangladesh, Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal, Sammyabadi Dal, Shramik Krishak Samaibadi Dal. Gono Azadi League and Gonoforum.

They claimed the ruling coalition leader has succeeded in creating divisions within the leaderships of leftist groups and believes the AL would not be able to forge any powerful anti-government alliance with them. most of whom have responded negatively to the AL's

been taken steps to strengthen party activities and to hold public meetings and mass contact programmes before and after the month of Ramadan.

According to sources, the BNP is also in touch with the bigwigs and lawmakers of Jativa Party led by H M Ershad, besides holding talks with other smaller rightwing parties including the Jatiya Party led by Anwar Hossain Manju and Krishak Shramik Janata League of Quader Siddiqui.

are putting constant pressure on Ershad to abstain from aligning with the AL and, if he makes such an attempt, they plan to create further splits in the JP, the BNP sources

## Janmastami today

Mahanagar Sarbojonin Pooja Committee has chalked out a twoday programme including the historic Janmastami rally from the Dhakeshwari National Temple. City Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka will inaugurate the rally this morning.

President Dr lajuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina have given separate messages felicitating the members of the Hindu community The president said, "Purging

society of jealousy and cementing its

bonds with fraternity is the ideal of Lord Krishna and this is the inspiration to his disciples. Prime minister wished people of the community happiness, peace and progress on the occasion.

Different organisations including Bangladesh Hindu Parishad, Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad, Geeta Sangha have greeted all on

Sheikh Hasina said the ideal of

Lord Krishna is memorable in the

movement against torture and

the occasion and also chalked out detailed programmes including special prayer in temples.

### Alliance, AL

Blue Panel candidates Prof Kazi Shahidullah, Dr Sadeka Halim and Mohammad Rahmat Ullah bagged the posts of professor associate professor and lecturer polling 585, 512 and 530 votes. Shahidullah polled the highest

In the academic council election White Panel candidates Dr SM Mostafa-Al-Mamun, Nevin Farida and Dr Hafiz Tareque Abdullah Khan have won all the three associate professor posts by polling 486 527 and 516 votes.

The same panel's Dr Abul Hasnat and Dr Mohammad Mezbah-ul-Islam and Blue Panel's Md Aftab Ali Sheikh have bagged the assistant professor/lecturer posts. They won 515, 509 and 500

Dr Shamsuddin Ahmed of the White Panel has defeated his rival by polling 536 votes for the sole post in the finance committee.

# Discord, indecision

FROM PAGE 12 oust-government camp.

But the JP announced a monthlong programme, including a road march across Bangladesh from October 3 to 10, against 'welldesigned terrorist acts', signalling its move-alone' policy.

Some JP leaders said the party was facing dilemma with the pending cases against its chief and was trying to keep a distance from the government and the main opposition.

"Senior leaders of the party are willing to ioin the antigovernment movement, but they fear that if they close ranks with the Awami League the government will revive the cases against Ershad and put him behind bars." a JP presidium member said.

Asked about unity with the left alliance, Saber Hossain Chowdhury, political secretary to AL President Sheikh Hasina, said the main opposition was trying to involve all opposition parties in the oust-government movement. "We are in the process and have regular contact with the left

The left alliance is confused over oining the broad-based united movement with the main opposition. Four components of the alliance -the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), Workers Party, Gano Forum and Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) -- held a close door meeting recently to take stock of the political developments, sources said. Leaders of the left alliance also discussed ways to mend the fences

"We discussed probable solutions to the differences and hoped everything would be discussed at the adjourned meeting of the left alliance scheduled for next Sunday, " Gano Forum General Secretary Saifuddin

Ahmed Manik told The Daily Star. Left alliance coordinator Haii Abdus Samad said there were 'some discords' among the alliance constituents to join the AL-led one-point oust-government movement. "Some parties of the left alliance want to

include some more points to the oustgovernment movement." he said

The adjourned meeting of the left alliance was held vesterday, but again failed to reach any decision on ioining the united movement led by the AL. The meeting was adjourned until September 7.

will not join the AL-led movement, it will rather try to build an alternative stream with the 11-party far from the AL and BNP polarisation, BSD leader Bazlur Rashid Firoz said. Gono Forum leader Dr Kamal is

The BSD led by Khalequzzaman

determined to go ahead with his plan to strengthen Oikya Mancha (unity platform), which he floated a few months back Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh led by former president Badruddoza

Chowdhury and Krishok Sramik

Janata League of Abdul Kader

Siddqui are trying to gear up the antigovernment movement under the banner of Oikva Mancha. The Mancha on Friday held a meeting and decided to widen the platform. Dr Kamal also plans to engage civil society members and professional bodies in the platform

parties, sources said. "We hope the 11-party alliance will strengthen the Oikya Mancha," Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, a leader of the Mancha, said.

Meanwhile, the AL expressed

dissatisfaction over the poor partici-

apart from progressive political

pation of its front organisations in the post-August 21 agitation Senior leaders of the party at a oint meeting with the front organisation chiefs on Friday night raised the issue and the front leaders assured

them of adding pace to their activities

in the coming days. A series of grenade explosions at an AL rally on Bangabandhu Avenue in Dhaka on August 21 killed 19 people and injured over 200 others.

# Secular forces target

target of the attacks was the antifundamentalist people. The blasts took place on Awami League rallies, a Communist Party rally, Bangla New Year programme, cinema halls, cultural functions and the British envoy to Bangladesh," said Saber Hossain Chowdhury, political secretary to Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina.

On the highlight of the hour-long meeting with Hasina at her Sudha Sadan. Saber said: "It is a policy level meeting and we have discussed ways to fight terrorism at national, regional and international

The US side at the meeting told the AL leaders that they are waiting to see the immediate outcome of Bangladesh government's steps after the August 21 attacks on Hasina's rally that killed 19 people.

"They want to get down to the bottom of the incident -- whether or not the criminals are brought to justice through proper investigations," Saber said Apart from US Ambassador to Bangladesh Harry K Thomas,

senior embassy officials Dundas McCullough and Paul Agew were

present, while senior AL leaders

aided the AL president during the

An AL source said the opposition Describing serial bomb blasts in

Bangladesh, the AL side told the US official that there was a common link in every major bomb blast whether it took place before or now. Hasina was the target of the August 21 attacks and there is

criminals failed to assassinate her, the US side was told. He said none of the investigations into blasts could identify the attackers and people are in doubt

On AL's demand for an international probe into the attack, Saber said his party has no confidence in any investigation controlled by the vernment and added the United Nations or the Commonwealth could form a body with experts from

control. AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil, presidium member Kazi Zafarullah, advisory committee member AMA Muhit and former ambassador Ziauddin were also present.

# Black calls govt

FROM PAGE 1

Referring to the need for training of the country's law enforcers, US Ambassador Harry K Thomas said the US is working to provide training, communication equipment and other logistics supports to Bangladesh police.

Black appreciated Bangladesh's stance on terrorism at home and abroad and also the government measures to check human traffick-He said the US was happy espe-

cially with the steps taken against child and women trafficking and eventually upgraded Bangladesh to tier 'two' from 'three'. Bangladesh is also expected to be elevated to tier 'one' in near future, he added. He noted that Bangladesh has

devastating flood and achievements in different fields including women education. The US counter-terrorism coor-

million US dollars provided earlier, the US will send rice and wheat for the flood-affected people of Bangladesh in October-November. Black handed over a letter from US Secretary of State Collin Powel

Secretary Dr Kamal Siddiqui was present at the meeting.

### **Gang-raped** housewife commits suicide

UNB, Savar

gang-raped housewife of Naogaon Bilakisti village committed suicide Tuesday failing to bear her brunt of humiliation

A gang of four youths led by local terrorist Rahimuddin intercepted Shahnaz Begum,35, while going to her father's house at night with her husband Aminur Rahman, police said. Later tying up her husband with a

rope they violated her by turns. As local people hearing their scream rushed to the spot, the miscreants fled. After she returned home, failing to bear the terrible shock of the

incident she committed suicide by taking poison. A case was filed with the local police station.

#### More bomb

vice-chancellor that Islami Chhatra Shibir cadres will blow up the building, he added.

The DU security officer has filed a general diary (GĎ) and the university authorities informed Dhaka Metropolitan Police of the threats, the proctor said, adding that a vested quarter is trying to create anarchy in the country and panic in the university No classes were held at the three

departments at micro-biology building yesterday and a few classes were held at the Arts Building following the bomb threats. Presence of teachers and students was also minimal. Our Bandarban correspondent reports: The intelligence agencies

cultural and religious programmes of different ethnic groups of the The letters conveved the postage stamp of Bandarban Post

Thursday received anonymous

letters threatening to blow up social,

The anonymous sender in the letter has claimed to be a former member of the Al Hekmat, a source said. The letter has named Nahid Osman Gani, Ali Ahmad and Idris as the active members of the organisation, the source added.

the Marma community, the traditional 'Razpunnah' of the Bomang king and other festivals of different indigenous peoples. A probe is on to track whether

iust a hoax, sources said.

Council, and held a senior post on a government committee in charge of northern Irag when chemical weap ons were used against the town of Halabja in 1988, killing thousands of

The red-haired Ibrahim was born in 1942 near Tikrit. 160 km (100

married to Saddam's elder son Uday, bonding him within the ruling

If confirmed, the news will be a

welcome boost for Iraq's interim government as it tries to crush a deadly insurgency and grapples with a hostage crisis. France's government said yesterday it remained hopeful that two French hostages would be freed,

secure their release. "We have serious reasons to believe both of them are in good health and that a favourable outcome is possible," Foreign Minister Michel Barnier told reporters after discussing the hostage crisis with President Jacques Chirac.

### AL does not

FROM PAGE 12 bomb blast probe.

"BNP does not believe in power nolitics." the minister said adding "the government will continue to curb terrorism in the society and no terrorist will be spared.

Referring to the demand made

by some political parties for resigna-

tion of the government, Mannan

He urged the opposition to pursue constitutional politics for strengthening democracy and politics of development.

The meeting was also addressed by General Secretary (GS) of district BNP Tofazzal Hossain, GS of district Krishak Dal Shahidul Islam Bhuiyan. The minister distributed relief

plantation programme and rural electrification programme and

# Signs of discord

FROM PAGE 12

we need courage and boldness.' Kasuri's remarks were swiftly shot down by Indian foreign ministry spokesman Navtej Sarna.

"There is considerable disappointment here today at the unifocal statement made by the Pakistan foreign minister about India-Pakistan relations prior to his departure from Islamabad." he told reporters late on Saturday.

"This is not in consonance with the spirit in which we have conducted the composite dialogue so far. It also violates Pakistan's own call for a rhetoric restraint regime." Kasuri tried to calm the waters

yesterday.

"I want to clarify that we are not unifocal," he told reporters. "We want good relations with India. That is in the interests of Pakistan, and I hope India feels the same way.' The neighbours, who were on the brink of war in 2002, embarked

on a peace process in January with a new sense of purpose. But some of that hope has dissipated in recent months, especially after Singh's Congress party returned to power in May polls, replacing the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party. Since then, the two sides have

the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir. "We are not afraid of discussing Jammu and Kashmir, but we do not buy the argument that is the only issue affecting our two countries,

aired decades-old differences over

"I think we will make progress in dealing with the complex issues ... but progress has to be measured step-by-step.

from Sri Lanka," BEPZA Executive

Singh told a news conference late

on Saturday marking 100 days in

militants and implement what was promised in January. "The process can only move

he said. Foreign secretaries from both

counterpart Natwar Singh.

through, Pakistan has insisted that the two sides seek a quick result on For the past two months, officials

glacier, trade and nuclear security. Indian officials say they have

Some of these are aimed at making a ceasefire line in Kashmir known as the Line of Control 'softer" -- to let Kashmiris cross more easily and reunite divided

man, who was gunned down in the Motijheel area in October 2001. Jahangir Hussain, another lifer, set free on bail by the High Court,

has gone into hiding, said a govern-

FROM PAGE 1 agro-based industries at the the remaining 148 acres of Chittagong Steel Mills land and 57.5 shwardi EPZ has been received acres of land of Central Storage

ment law officer

reporters after the meeting. The BEPZA gave permission earlier in the country's different EPZs for setting up 291 industrial units of which 203 units have gone into production in six EPZs at Chittagong, Dhaka, Comilla,

people are presently employed in six EPZs of the country. Of them, 39 per cent are women A total of 2 lakh people are expected to be employed when all

industrial units in the EPZs would be

Bangladesh earned \$1354 million in 2003-04 FY -- \$ 129 million more than the targeted export earning of \$1225 million. The amount is 17.8 percent of the total exports of the . country, sources said. Presently, total volume of

The BEPZA governing body

after full utilisation of the existing

bypass road permanently from now Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed Industries Minister Motiur Rahman Nizami, Food and Disaster Management Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Foreign Minister Akbar Hossain, Commerce Minister Altaf Hossain, State Minister for

# Russians weep, bury

for the solemn post-burial meal. Some 22 people were expected to be laid to rest Sunday and the Patriarch of Russia's Orthodox church, Alexy II, asked that a mass be held in every church across the

Toll figures continued to swing wildly, with the official toll standing at 338 people, with more than 400 others hospitalised.

"As of yesterday, we have tagged 394," said Vita, a medical worker at the Vladikavkaz morque. "Some of the bodies are so

Amid a wave of attacks linked to Chechnya that have now killed hundreds in just over a week, President Vladimir Putin -- who rose to power on a law and order ticket -vowed before the nation to toughen up security and admitted to some

'weakness" in the past.

taking in southern Russia ended in carnage, Putin admitted failings by law enforcement agencies and said he would act to bolster the country's security. The interior minister of North

Ossetia resigned within hours of

Putin's comments. Putin, who despite tough talk and

linking them to the blast: Enamur, Saleh, a tenant of the house,

Mostafa Kamal said the three women would be interrogated on recovery.

expected Pakistan to make "an honest effort" to counter Islamic

forward if terrorism is under control.

countries said they had agreed to broaden and deepen the peace process after talks on Saturday to pave the way for two days of talks between Kasuri and his Indian

While New Delhi has been trying to dampen expectations of a break-

from both sides have held talks on a range of disputes, encompassing a military standoff on the Siacher

presented 72 proposals to Pakistan r "confidence-building measures".

### SC stays

FROM PAGE 12 for killing Abdul Kader, a business-

EPZ agro-based units

Depot (CSD) Halishahar in

Chairman M Zakir Hossain told Chittagong for the new EPZ. Earlier, the Chittagong Steel Mills handed over 74.2 acres of land to the EPZ. On a proposal for setting up two new EPZs in Gazipur and Feni, prime minister said the proposal for new EPZs would be considered

> EPZ plots in the country. The BEPZA meeting was informed that the existing 132 KV power line would be removed from Chittagong EPZ while the Ishwardi EPZ would be allowed to use its

Home Lutfozzaman Babar, BEPZA executive chairman and other senior officials concerned were

### present in the meeting. meeting also decided to hand over

FROM PAGE 12

remand.

the two, they added.

FROM PAGE 12 stood silently on the sidelines according to local tradition and prepared huge pots over a wood fire

country to remember the victims of the siege

But one worker at a main morque n the region said that nearly 400 bodies have already come in.

of hair and blood," she said, refusing to give her last name.

nearly five years of conflict in Chechnya has failed to rein in separatist rebels or stop a spate of attacks across Russia, faces the most serious challenge of his fourand-a-half-year presidency with the Anxious relatives were scouring

The three-day hostage drama ended in nightmarish scenes described by the press as the "worst

M Morshed Khan, Shipping Minister

the dead rushed out on stretchers Uttara arrestee

local investigators in the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) head-

suspicious. Rahman might be one of

Meanwhile. Interpol experts vester-

discussed the necessity for more of their staff ioining them. Uttara police produced Rahman before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court. Dhaka, at about 3:30pm and petitioned for a 10-day

In the remand plea, they said they

suspect Rahman possesses a large

The Interpol experts yesterday also

he should be intensely interrogated about the sources of arms and also about his accomplices. Metropolitan Magistrate Nani Gopa

#### absence of the defence granted the Bomb blast

Some of their body parts were found vards away. The explosion left a two feet deep crater on the verandah of the dilapi

bore several splinter marks. Five families have been living in the low-cost house for years, said Enamur Rahman, a homeopath who sold the house just 3 weeks ago. They are low-income people like truck drivers, housemaids, day

dated house. The walls and ceiling

Kulsum, Fatema and Jyotsna. The three women were all seriously injured and under treatment at MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.

#### enforcement agencies on duty during the carnage, he said: "They charged baton on AL supporters tion by misleading statements. instead of concentrating on nabbing

Khaleda Zia's son Tarique Rhaman of 'creating chaos in the country's

Referring to the bomb blasts

"Politics has become chaotic after he stepped into it," Jalil charged. AL Presidium Member Tofail

General Secretary of

would be worked out. But Foreign Secretary Shamsher

consideration at the moment." Black said currently the US trained Bangladeshi law enforcement agencies under their Training Assistance

Identification Secure Comparison and Evaluation System).

can help Bangladesh."

Bangladesh, saying: "I get comprehensive intelligence, which I can't share

they have a very good understanding of (on the presence of terrorists)."

tionally, Black said, "It is not a condition specific or unique to Bangladesh.' "We are looking at all countries," he

out a number of bomb attacks for the past years and that nobody claimed

with us on the matter " RALLYBOMBING Asked about his suggestions to the government about the August 21 grenade attacks on a rally of the main opposition Awami League. Black said he received assurances from govern-

"In the best tradition of moderate

**BNP** desperate FROM PAGE 12

BNP leaders said they also have

The ruling party policymakers

leaders painted a detailed picture of fundamentalist activities under what they said was direct patronisation of the BNP-Jamaat coalition govern-

possibility of further attacks as the about the probe into the August 21

different countries under their

established a reputation as the largest provider of peacekeepers to different UN peace missions across the globe. Black praised the government's role in tackling the recent

dinator said in addition to the 8 to the prime minister.

Prime Minister's Principal

Office. The authorities did not reveal any more details about the letters.

The letter has reportedly targeted the programmes of Buddha Purnima, also called 'Waggah' by

70 killed FROM PAGE 12

miles) north of Baghdad, the son of an ice seller. Ibrahim was one of Saddam's top aides and most trusted confidants. His daughter was briefly

although its foreign minister returned empty-handed from a Middle East mission intended to

said, "Government will not resign a day before its tenure."

among the flood victims at Baraoitala of Shibpur and Brahmandi Advocate Suruj Ali High School organised by the Roads and Highways Contractors Welfare Association. He also inaugurated a tree

distributed old age allowances and grants among the acid victims.

Mongla, Ishwardi, and Nilphamari. The BEPZA executive chairman told the meeting that about 1.39 lakh

operating, he said. The EPZ enterprises in gangsters have sent the letter or it is

> as against \$4823.79 million in June 2001. Exports from the EPZs have

> exports in the EPZs is \$8455 million

mutilated the relatives can't recognize them, so we are taking samples

Addressing the nation on television a day after the school hostage-

horrific end to the hostage-taking. ists of names, desperately searching for their loved ones still missing after Friday's chaos and bloodshed.

possible scenario", with half-naked bloodied children fleeing from the school and the mutilated bodies of

Sylhet Superintendent of Police

day held a series of meetings with the quarters and in a city hotel room. They analysed the information and evidence

gathered so far, sources said.

number of arms and ammunition. So Biswas after hearing the plea in

FROM PAGE 1 mutilated bodies were found lying on the narrow verandah of the house

labourers and rickshaw-pullers. The house is only 30 yards from the barbed wire fence of Jalalabad Cantonment. The police arrested five people