More illegals to leave

Home Minister Tan Chai Hosaid.

He said from next week onwards. about 7,000 to 10,000 illegal immigrants were expected to return to their home countries in a day. Until Saturday afternoon, more than 30,000 illegal immigrants left the country while the target was some 400,000, he said after launching the Rumah Charis Community Centre

The amnesty programme, which began on Oct 29, will end on Nov 14. Immigration Department enforce-

International Airport.

In Kepala Batas, Prime Minister Bambang Yudhoyono.

to be referred to the Cabinet for a final decision, he added after presenting Raya goodies to the poor on

Eid passengers

staffers said no ticket is available.

the ticket clerk of Parabat2, a Dhaka-Barisal launch, directed this correspondent to a black marketeer who berth cabin and Tk 1,000 for a single-

During yesterday's visit to Sadarghat launch terminal the ticket clerks were also found to be charging almost double the normal fare from the deck passengers.

A number of passengers said if the government does not take corrective measures, the launch crews would charge many times higher than the normal fare during the couple of days immediately before

AT BUS COUNTERS

Staff of most of the passenger bus services said all tickets from November 9 to November 13 have been sold out. Many passengers however alleged transport workers have hoarded most of the tickets and would charge almost double the fare as the passengers would have no alternative to buying them at any

the bus staffers that they are not charging more than the usual fare, a number of passengers told The Daily Star transport workers are charging Tk50 to Tk60 more a ticket.

Though the Hanif Paribahan 50 more than the normal fare.

ager of an insurance company, said the staffs of Satkhira Express at its Shyamoly ticket counter charged

Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the Government had agreed in principle to extend the deadline for the amnesty period to illegal Indonesian workers following a request by President Susilo However, the matter would have

After a short negotiation, Sumon, demanded Tk 2,000 for a double-

the Eid.

Contrary to the claim by most of

staffs told The Daily Star correspondent that there were not a single ticket left for November 11 for Rangour, moments later a staff at the counter sold a ticket to a construction contractor at Tk 250, which is Tk

We are charging Tk 250 per ticket for Rangpur at the directive of our owner," said Mohammad Dulal, at Shyamoly.

Alauddin Al Azad, general manhim Tk 330 for a ticket for November

To evade any legal consequences, he said, the bus services are writing the authorised fare on "The transport workers and owners are really forcing us to pay

13 against the actual fare of Tk 260.

higher, taking advantage of the lack of government monitoring," Azad RAITWAY

A large crowd was queued up yester day morning in front of the ticket counters at Kamalapur Railway Station well ahead of their opening to buy advance tickets. But many of them would be returning empty-

"I came here at 7:00am. After waiting for over five and a half hours in a long queue I managed to buy a ticket of Parabat, a Sylhet-bound express train," Rahim Mian said.

Ashraf Hossain, however, is not as fortunate as Rahim. "I don't know whether I will be able to go home in Noakhali as I could not get a ticket standing in queues here for the last two days," said Ashraf in visible anger.

During the visit to the railway station yesterday The Daily Star correspondent found a beefed up security at the station, with a mobile court, Government Railway Police, Bangladesh Rifles and police contingents deployed to check any unwanted situation. Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) were also patrol-

ling the station frequently. Apparently no irregularity is taking place. But from my experience I can say that brokers have already grabbed a good number of tickets, which they would sell at much higher rates just before the trains' departure," said Tushar, a Sylhet-bound passenger.

"The homebound passengers have repeatedly complained of not getting tickets. But they have not yet complained of any irregularity," said the magistrate of the mobile court on duty at the station.

F28 crash probe

recovered all valuable parts including two engines from the plane. The fuselage of the plane will be salvaged

After the incident, the civil aviation ministry formed a threemember probe body headed by Chairman of Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) Zahed Quddus while Biman formed another six-member committee headed by Chief of Flight Safety Captain Selim.

Members of both the probe committees visited the crash site several times, talked to the officials and staff of the control tower and other officials at Sylhet airport and collected documents related to the landing system.

The investigation, however, did not proceed further. The probe committees are still waiting for clues from the black box recovered soon after the crash.

The black box contains conversations of the crewmembers that could reveal a strong clue to the accident. The black box also records information about the plane's engine, weather and other condi-

tions of a flight. Talking to The Daily Star, Civil Aviation and Tourism Secretary Akhtar Hossain Khan yesterday said the probe committee is working hard to find out the cause of the crash. "The probe report will be available after decoding of the black

He said the decoding process of the black box, which includes cockpit voice recorder and flight recorder, takes some time.

A source, however, said the probe bodies are in a dilemma over giving reports fearing possible repercussions. The detection of any technical problem in the crashed F28 aircraft will surely put the Biman management in an embarrassing situation as Biman has long been defending purchase of outdated F28s.

The day after the crash, pilots went on a wildcat strike in protest at State Minister of Civil Aviation Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin's reported comment that the crash had occurred due to fault of the pilots. So

the probe bodies also fear pilots'

Earlier, the pilots blamed bad condition of the runway for the crash. But sources said the probe committee of Caab, which maintains country's airports, is unlikely to point at bad condition of the runway, which may damage Caab's

Biman Bangladesh Airlines meanwhile received \$2.65 million from the Lloyds Aviation Insurance Company Ltd of the UK as insurance coverage of the crashed aircraft. According the settlement agreement, Biman also retained the

Bangladeshi businessman abducted in W Bengal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Bangladeshi businessman named Nazrul Islam was abducted in the Indian border town of Malda in West Bengal on Thursday.

Nazrul Islam, 32, was on a twoweek business tour in India and was staying at a hotel in Malda before being kidnapped on the outskirts of

His relatives in Bangladesh told police that they received a \$17,400 ransom demand from the abductors, reports AFP.

'One has been arrested in connection with the abduction. We hope to make a breakthrough in a or two," local police chief Sasikanta Pujari told AFP.

Traders in the export-import zone of Malda have called strike in protest against the abduction.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Deputy High Commissioner in Kolkata told The Daily Star last night that they are yet to get any information on the

Harkatul Jihad again threatens to kill Hasina

lihad has again threatened to assas-Sheikh Hasina and two local leaders of its Kotalipara chapter.

Two separate letters containing the death threat reached Kotalipara Upazila AL Joint Secretary Lal Mohon Biswas and Radhaganj UP Chairman Bhim Chandra Bagchi on November 5. The letters were written on behalf of the principal of Harkatul Jihad Central Command.

Bhim Chandra Bagchi mentioned in the general diary (GD) filed with the Kotalipara Police Station that Harkatul Jihad threatened to kill Sheikh Hasina at any cost in the third attempt, although

two previous attempts failed.

They also asked Lal Mohon
Biswas and Bhim Chandra Bagchi to get ready for death.

In the middle of this year Harkatul Jihad threatened twice through letters to blow up the tomb of father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur

Absconding leader of Harkatul Jihad Mufti Hannan who was awarded life term for threatening to kill Sheikh Hasina when she was prime minister, often enters his native village Hiron under Kotalipara Upazila along with some companions at night, Lal Mohan Biswas said.

When asked about the death threats, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Kotalipara Police Station said,

"We have taken all necessary security measures in this regard."

Concern founder passes away

Raymond F Kennedy passed away peacefully on November 3 at Princess Royal Hospital, Sussex, UK, after a short spell of illness. His wife Dr Yasmin Khan, son Raymond and daughter Miriam were by his side.

Kennedy was born in California in 1926 and brought up in Dublin, Ireland. Well known as one of the founders of Concern, an Irish NGO, and later of Concern Universal and Concern USA, he devoted his life to alleviating human distress and poverty and promoting education across the world.

He worked in Nigeria during the Biafra war and in Bangladesh, Malawi, Ireland, UK and USA. He will be remembered by many in Bangladesh for his work as the director of Concern during and after the Liberation War. Later, he returned to Dhaka to work for Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) and continued to support the DAM and Nijeri Shikhi from the UK.

A requiem mass will be held at burial in Clayton churchyard, Sussex. There will also be a memorial service in Dublin in early

93 boys rescued from Dublar Char

UNB, Bagerhat

Coast Guard yesterday rescued 93 boys engaged in forced labour by fishermen at remote Dublar Char.

Commander Abdul Matin of Coast Guard told UNB that his force raided the fishermen's hamlets in the island and rescued the boys aged between 7 and 12.

Engaged in forced labour in drying fishes, these boys were kidnapped from poverty-stricken areas of the country. More others have been held hostage in some other

Dublar Char is located in the Bay of Bengal, far across southern side of

The rescued boys were being brought to Mongla. They will soon be sent to their homes.

Earlier on October 25, Coast Guard rescued 36 boys from Dublar Char.

N'ganj fire guts 60 shanties

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A fire Saturday burned down 60 shanties in a slum, a furniture shop and bamboos in Banshpatti in Mandolpara, leaving some 200 people homeless.

Locals alleged some people set fire to the slum to evict its dwellers and grab the land.

Eight units of firefighters from Haziganj, Demra and Postogola rushed to the spot and put out the fire at around 12:00 midnight.

There were different versions on the origin of the fire. However, a witness claimed to have seen two youths setting the fire at around 10:30pm. Joynal Khan, a class four

employee of Narayanganj munici-pality and slum dweller, said the youths ran away when he challenged them. He alleged Jabbar Ali, Muiibar

and Nazma in connivance with a

locally influential person have been

trying to evict them and blamed the incident on them. Fire service sources said the fire damaged valuables worth about Tk

Kashmiris cautiously

dialogue process.

Home Minister Shivraj Patil, visiting India's only Muslimmajority state, said on Saturday he was ready for unconditional talks with separatist leaders, and had no objection if they wanted to visit Pakistan before talks were held.

Most Kashmiri separatists have either not been given passports or have had them impounded by Indian authorities, but Patil said they could apply for travel documents.

"It is definitely a welcome step," said Moulana Abbas Ansari, a senior leader of the moderate wing of the separatist All Parties Hurriyat (Freedom) Conference. "But if they are sincere, they should first issue our Pakistan, which disputes Indian

rule over Kashmir, also welcomed This is a step in the right direc-

Masood Khan told Reuters in Islamabad. "It will enhance interaction between the Kashmiris and should ultimately facilitate their dialogue with Pakistan and India."

Moderate separatist leaders held two rounds of talks with the Indian government this year, for the first time since an insurgency broke out in Kashmir in 1989. But talks stalled after Patil's Congress-led government took power in May. Patil's ministry had initially

insisted any talks should take place

"within" the Indian constitution,

which says Kashmir is an integral

Delhi from hardline groups, who broke away from the Hurriyat alli-

Before a third round of talks, paratists have demanded the right visit Pakistan and talk to Kashmiris on the other side of the Line of Control dividing the troubled Himalayan region.

Rab nab Tokai Mizan's aide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) last night arrested an infamous gang-leader and associate of Tokai Mizan with a revolver and five rounds of bullet in the city's Palashi area.

A team of Rab-2 held Abdul Jabbar, chief of 'Jabbar and Gandu Anwar' gang operating in Lalbagh and Kamrangirchar, at around 7:30pm. Jabbar is accused of several murders, extortion and possession of illegal arms and explosives.

A Rab contingent later took him to Kamrangirchar area in search of hidden arms and were in action till filing of this report at 1:00am today, sources at the Rab said.

The Rab team nabbed Jabban acting on information given by Tokai Mizan under interrogation. Mizan died in a 'crossfire' between Rab and his accomplices at Kamrangirchar last Tuesday, eight hours into his arrest.

Local sources said Jabbar's gang operates under protection of a law-

Solidarity Day

in Dhaka, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said November 7 would always inspire the nation to foil any conspiracy, protect the sovereignty and democracy in the country.

He said on this day in 1975 Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman united the nation, put the country on the path of development, restored law and order and became the architect of a modern The LGRD and cooperatives minister termed Zia the symbol of

unity, development and independence. "Zia restored democracy and freedom of press," he told the discussion organised by BNP at Mahanagar Natya Mancha. BNP leaders Oli Ahmed. Khondker Mosharraf Hossain. Moudud Ahmed, KM Obaidur Rahman, Akbar Hossain, Tarigul

Islam, Nazmul Huda, Mirza Abbas and Selima Rahman, Mayor of Dhaka Sadeque Hossain Khoka, Jubo Dal President Barkatullah Bulu and Sramik Dal General Secretary

Jafrul Hasan also spoke at the meet-

In Sylhet, the district administration organised a discussion at the conference room of the deputy commissioner's office. The speakers at the discussion

called upon all to unite the nation with the sprit of the 7th November to make the country a prosperous one. In Narayanganj, a discussion meeting was held to mark the day. State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Rezaul Karim, local MPs and

sion. Essay and art competitions for children were also arranged. In Mymensingh, the district administration organised a discussion meeting on the day. State Minster for Energy and Mineral Resources AKM Mosharraf Hossain and Delwar Hossain Khan Dulu, MP.

political leaders took part in discus-

were present at the meeting. In Faridpur, Food and Disaster Management Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yousuf was present at a discussion organised by the district administration. Local BNP leaders and professionals addressed the

BB sees poor FDI show

figures are based on calendar year. Although Bangladesh continues to be an under-performer in attract-

> through the banking channel, says quarterly economic update of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for September this year. Last year, the BoI started publishing data of FDI inflows and said

Bangladesh Bank figures are less than the actual inflow. It suggested that the central bank publish FDI data only after carrying out a survey. The central bank sources said to

accurately measure the FDI flows, the Statistics Department of Bangladesh Bank started conducting a semi-annual survey on FDI flow for a number of years on a test

Over the years, it has become apparent that these data did not fully capture the FDI inflows, missing out on elements such as intracompany loans, re-investments and in some cases, non-cash equity flows in the form of imports.

The method for measuring the inflow is in conformity with the International Monetary Fund's Balance of Payments (BoP) Manual and the methodology adopted is in line with standard international practice.

In line with international practice, the central bank incorporated the FDI survey data in preparing its BoP statistics. The BB published the FDI inflow data for the first time under the new system in its quarterly update for April-June this year. It shows actual FDI flows are substantially higher than data

reported in earlier BoP statistics, but the survey data show a declining trend in FDI during FY03 before it slightly improved in FY04. The Bol's second half-yearly survey shows a staggering 71 percent increase in the FDI inflow between January and June last year compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. Its third

for the whole year.

The FDI flow from FY01 to FY04 stood at \$553 million, \$380 million, \$ 376 million and \$385 million, according to the BB survey data. The

The BoI surveys said the FDI inflow in 2002 calendar year stood at \$328 million and in 2003 it was \$441

EMAIL THREATS Jalil files two GDs

Awami League (AL) General Secretary Abdul Jalil has filed two GDs with Tejgaon and Ramna Police Stations in the wake of e-mails recently sent to different dailies threatening to kill AL chief Sheikh

In the general diaries (GDs) filed on Saturday, Jalil mentioned the emails sent to the Janakantha on

s_ahamet@yahoo.com addressed the leader of the opposition, "Wherever you are, you will be killed soon. Get ready either in the USA or in Bangladesh." The poorly drafted e-mail sent to

The Daily Star reads: "Hello, Sheikh Hasina, this is Al-Kaeda Group from your surroundings. Very soon, you will be killed by Al-Kaeda Group wherever you are. We want to know you through this newspaper about you death process. Be ready in USA or in Bangladesh. Yours enemy, Al-Kaeda Group, Dhaka, Bangladesh."

A similar threat was issued on June

before the August 21 carnage on an AL rally on Bangabandhu Avenue, said a press release yesterday. Hasina survived the August 21 attempt on her life, but received a

survey put the increase at 34 percent Hasina's residence, received a letter that threatened to kill her.

BSF close to pushing in

them into Bangladesh at an opportune moment

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) sources and locals said the BSF on Thursday and Friday failed to push in those Indians. The Indian border guards on Saturday night halted their pushin bid in the wake of patrols by the BDR, Ansars and VDP and villagers, they added.

The BSF detained about 50 such victims, mostly women and children, in a primary school near Lokma village in Dakshin Dinajpur in West Bengal near the pillar No. 277 along the Joypurhat border. The BSF also assembled over 200

Bangla-speaking Muslims in villages in India along Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchagarh Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram and Naogaon borders. The Indian border guards are, in

fact, moving the victims along the northwestern borders from one place to another almost every night to serve their purpose, sources said. The BDR, Ansars and VDP and villagers are on high alert to thwart any push-in bid, the sources added.

2 abducted freed on ransom

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

Two persons have bought their freedom for hefty sums after several days of their abduction in Kushtia and Chuadanga on Saturday night. In Kushtia, Rabiul 10, son of Nazir

Uddin of Sadarpur village in Mirpur upazila was freed after his family paid the captors a ransom of Tk 35,000, family sources said. Salam, son of Sattar Ali of Hogolkandi in Daulatpur upazila

six of Sadarapur Madrasa to an unknown place.

Later Salam and his gang demanded Tk 10 lakh for the boy's

and also a relative of the family,

came to Nazir's house on October 3

and took Rabiul, a student of class

"They will kill us if we disclose whereabouts of the criminals as they are staying around," a relative of In Chuadanga, some Indians

garment trader, from bordering village Hariharnagar in Jibonnagar upazila on Thursday night and demanded Tk 20 lakh as ransom. They released him when Razzak's family allegedly paid the

picked up Abdur Razzak, a

As many as 108 people including 43 school and college students were abducted in the district in last ten Of them 13 victims including

their freedom.

US Dy Asstt Secy
FROM PAGE 12
and opposition parties work He also said that the two largest

logue between them in the interest of democracy. Patterson also expressed serious concerns over the August 21 grenade attacks on the AL and the May 21 grenade attack in Sylhet on British

High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury. Patterson, who has extensive experience in Asian affairs, is likely

group on counter-terrorism.
US embassy officials, however, did not say anything about the purpose and itinerary of Patterson's visit due to 'unavailability of any

Tk 35cr

FROM PAGE 12

The complex includes a memorial built at a cost of Tk 8.19 crore, a floating bridge at Tk 16.62 crore and a memorial block at Tk 4.72 crore. Landscaping and others involve Tk 5.6 crore. Housing and public works ministry started the construction work in 2002.

National Revolution and Solidarity They paid respect to the late president standing in solemn silence for some time. A smartly turned-out contingent of the army gave state

A munajat was offered seeking divine blessings for the salvation of Zia's soul as well as the peace and prosperity of the country. Ministers, parliament members, political leaders, diplomats, repre-

salute to the memory of Zia.

sentatives of development partners who attended the function also paid respects to the late leader. deadoronlife support.

Iraq declares emergency

FROM PAGE 1
Kurdistan for a period of 60 days,"
Prime Minister Iyad Allawi's spokesman Thaer al-Naqib told a news

He said the state of emergency, equivalent to martial law, was intended to ensure security ahead of elections in January. The government gave itself emergency powers soon after

replacing Iraq's U.S.-led administration on June 28, but it has not yet used them despite a raging insur-Moments after the announcement carried on live Iraqi television, a car bomb exploded near the house of Iraq's finance minister in central

Baghdad. It was not immediately

clear if Adel Abdul Mahdi or anyone else had been hurt. Insurgents have launched a wave of violence in central Iraq to show their muscle before US-led forces assault Falluja and Ramadi. The Americans say they are only awaiting the word from Allawi, who returned from Europe on Saturday,

Police said gunmen killed 23 policemen in three attacks in Iraq. The bloodiest assault was in Haditha, 200 km (125 miles) northwest of Baghdad, where insurgents with rocket-propelled grenades and

AL, allies to stoke up anti-govt move from December

UNB, Dhaka

The main opposition Awami League and its allies at a meeting last night decided to further intensify their anti-government movement from

The decision came from a closed-door meeting at the residence of AL Presidium Member Abdur Razzak. Key leaders of the AL, Workers Party, Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Inu), Gono Forum and other left-leaning groups attended the meeting. Following their parleys, AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil said, "We sat informally and discussed

various issues relating to prevailing situation of the country at which all parties expressed their concern." He said, "We have reached at a consensus to further intensify the anti-government agitation from

In reply to a question Jalil said they exchanged views on various options relating to action programmes, including formation of a cross-country human chain from Teknaf to Tentulia. He, however, said nothing has

been finalised, they are still in discussion. They will meet again on December 11. AL leader Obaidul Kader and left leaders Rashed Khan Menon, Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, Hasanul Haque Inu, Mujahidul Islam Selim

and Shahidullah Chowdhury among

mortars attacked a police station at

dawn. After a 90-minute battle in which six policemen were wounded, the attackers took 21 captured policemen to the K-3 oil pumping station area and shot them dead execution-

Brigadier Shaher al-Jughaifi, security chief in western Iraq, died in an attack on a police post in

nearby Haglaniya Gunmen killed another Iraqi police officer and wounded one in the town of Baquba, northeast of Baghdad, police said. A suicide car bomber attacked a US convoy on the highway to Baghdad airport. A US spokesman could not confirm the

In Falluja, residents said fighting erupted on the eastern edge of the city near the highway leading to Baghdad after intense overnight air strikes and artillery shelling.

On Saturday, bombings and attacks on police stations killed 34 people, mostly police, in the restive city of Samarra, some 100 km (60 miles) north of Baghdad. Allawi's office said 49 people were also wounded. All the casualties were

US troops enforced a round-theclock curfew in Samarra and nearby villages yesterday, paralyzing nor-mal life.

Al Hiqma 'chief'
FROM PAGE 12
The CMM's court yesterday, however, set the driver and the helper of the microbus free on bail. The arrestees were detained at Boalia Police Station under Section 54 of the Criminal Procedure Code

FRESH SEDITION CHARGES A top police official said they are considering bringing sedition charges afresh, this time more serious, against Al Hiqma activists for continuing anti-state speeches "We will seek the home minis-

try's permission, a prerequisite to filing a sedition case," said the police official. Requesting anonymity, the official explained that the question of slapping fresh sedition charges arose as the bigots were freed in

almost all the three cases including a sedition charge against them. POLICE INTERROGATION Under interrogation, the arrestees gave the police names of some other Il Higma associates and information about activities of the outfit,

said the officer in charge of Boalia

Of the quizzed, Anwar was the

convenor of Nachol upazila BNP, thile Mujib is the nephew of Nachol BNP President Mainul Islam. Mohsin is the brother-in-law of Nachol BNP leader Abdur Rashid Kawsar and his group have been

on the police list since he was

accused of plotting an armed move-

ment to turn the country into an

Islamic state in the sedition case

"He is under strict medical obser-

Doctors have not yet made public any diagnosis, but the Palestinian envoy to France, Leila Shahid, said Friday that the 75-year-old Arafatwas in a coma and "at a critical point between life and Hospital spokesman Gen. Christian Estripeau described Arafat's condition

as unchanged from Friday, when he said there had been no change -- for better or worse--inhishealth. Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Oueri, in a bid to preserve calm, made a rare visit to the Gaza Strip for talks with

factions, including Hamas and Islamic Jihad, as well as security chiefs, lawmakers and officials of Arafat's Fatah faction. Suchabroadgatheringisextremelyrare. He was accompanied by Parliament Speaker Rauhi Fattouh, who would step

in as a caretaker president of the

Palestinian Authority if Arafat dies.

An Israeli newspaper reported Sunday that Queri asked Hamas to halt operations inside Israel to forestall Israeli retaliations and allow a new Palestinian Arafat first fell ill nearly a month ago with symptoms of vomiting and diar-

and he was moved to an intensive care His ailment and condition have rgelyremained amystery eversince. Mohammed Dahlan, a former Gaza

French doctors. Dahlan said he would return to Ramallah via Amman, Jordan, later Sunday to brief the Palestinian leadership on Arafat's health. He declined to provide details, other than to again deny

Arafat has liver failure

Palestinian flags. Dozens of others marched through the streets in the southern city of Marseille. On Friday, Palestinian Foreign Minister Nabil Shaath denied that Arafat was clinically dead or on a life-support system. But he also expressed concern at the lack of improvement in Arafat's

Shahid said Arafat was in a coma and

suggested it occurred after he was put under anesthesia to have additional medical tests, including an endoscopy, colonoscopy and a biopsy of the spinal Endoscopy and colonoscopy, where a camera is inserted through the throat or into the colon to inspect the intestine, involves sedation but not a general

anesthetic, which would induce uncon-

sciousness. However, a spinal cord

biopsy is often done under general In a coma, brain cells react as if a sleep because they are not getting enough blood, oxygen or sugar. The condition is either repaired during the state of coma, orthepatientdies.

Brain function is dulled to a certain extent for a short time in people under anesthesia and returns once the anesthetic clears the body. But when patients are already critically ill, they may fall into a coma if their bodies do not eliminate the anesthetic properly, said brain expert Dr. Eric Braverman, director of the PATH Medical Foundation in New

If anesthesia was the sole cause of

Arafat's coma, it is likely he will recover

once the anesthetic wears off. However, if the coma was the result of serious medical problems, the chances of recovery would be smaller, Braverman said. (Reuters, AP)

Tiger kills fisherman in Sundarbans

Police said Entaz Ali Gazi, 37, of Mele Kakuraikati village of Paikgachha in Khulna with his fellow fishermen went to the canal

to fish Saturday. A Royal Bengal Tiger swooped on him and dragged him away into the deep forest. The other fishermen

later recovered his body.

ing foreign direct investment, the banking data put the figures at \$174 survey data show that actual flows of million, \$65 million, \$92 million and FDI are remarkably higher than earlier reported data collected

UNB, Dhaka

October 28 and The Daily Star on Shahid Ahmet in the e-mail to the Janakantha sent from

series of threats thereafter.

Earlier on September 18, another GD was filed with Dhanmondi Police Station after Sudhasadan,

three school students were killed, 12 are still missing and the rest bought

together to resolve present crisis. political parties, ruling BNP and main opposition Awami League, should not take democracy for granted and that as the head of government, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia should arrange a dia-

to bring up the issue of a possible US-Bangladesh joint working

After the opening function both the president and the prime minister placed wreaths at the tomb of Zia marking the 7th November, the

Leaders and workers of BNP and its front organisations thronged into the memorial complex to pay respects to Zia, the founder of BNP, by placing wreaths. and held portraits of Arafat and

filed on March 20, 2003. others were present at the meeting.

intensive care unit. vance. We hope that in the coming few dayswewill be able to know exactly what heissufferingfrom. So far, nobody could diagnose the situation," he said at about midnight, adding that Arafat's condition

"Rightnowheissleeping."

rival Palestinian groups. Queri met for four hours with representatives of the 13 major Palestinian

leadership to establish itself. rhea. He was flown to France from his West Bank compound in Ramallah a week ago after briefly passing out. On Wednesday, his condition deteriorated

security chief and potential Arafat successor, was with Abu Rdeneh at the hospital, where they had an extended meeting with Arafat's wife, Suha, and

persistent rumors that Arafat was brain About 100 Arafat supporters again turned out in front of the sprawling hospital outside Paris to show their support. They chanted "Palestine Lives!"

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira A fisherman was killed by a Royal Bengal Tiger in Natikhali canal in the Sundarbans yesterday.

welcome India offer Malaysia next week 250 Indians BSS, Rangpur STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna part of India. But on Saturday the REUTERS, Srinagar ment director Ishak Mohamed said minister insisted there was "no in a statement that most of the illegal The Border Security Force (BSF) has Outlawed Islamist outfit Harkatul condition from our side" More illegal immigrants are immigrants left the country using Kashmiri separatists gave a cautious detained some 250 Bangla-speaking Moderate separatists had been expected to take up the amnesty welcome yesterday to India's offer to the exit points in Stulang Laut, Indian Muslims in the villages along sinate Awami League (AL) chief under pressure not to talk to New allow them to visit Pakistan and said offer from next week after receiving Malacca Port, Port Klang and KL the northwestern frontiers to push it could help to restart a stalled their salaries, Malaysian Deputy