Top 10 trade bodies

auspices of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (Saarc) or the bilateral free trade agreement will be difficult until there is a clear resolve and commitment at the political level to overcome the current impasse.

They said on behalf of the business community of Bangladesh, "We urge upon the political leadership of the sub-region that the summit should be reconvened at the earliest."

They said after three decades of its existence, it is time for the Saarc to deliver the goods ensuring economic cooperation and welfare for the people of the region.

The postponement of the 13th Saarc summit came as a shock to the business community. The summit would have been a catalyst for resurgence of economic cooperation within the Saarc region in its 3rd decade of existence, the leaders said in the

The summit was first postponed due to the tsunami, which resulted in the death of thousands of people in some of the Saarc member countries.

The business leaders said the postponement of the summit does not augur well for the region and the cooperation expected to foster in various areas, particularly in trade and investment. In fact, the immediate casualty of the postponement of the summit is the implementation of South Asian Free Trade Area (Safta).

Besides, the business leaders said, the negotiation for implementation of Safta now appears to have taken a back seat. Similar uncertainty prevails with regard to bilateral free trade agreement between India, the dominant economy in the subcontinent, and some of the smaller neighbours like Bangladesh.

ket through Safta and also by launching bilateral free trade is of crucial importance in view of the increased investment and the resultant employment opportunities that would mean a

at least 10 opposition men and

dispersed the human wall. The

injured include Noman. Russell.

In Fulgazi upazila of the district

JCD and Jubo Dal cadres swooped

on the opposition men injuring at

least five of them including AL

upazila unit President Ruhul Amin

and Krishok League President

the attackers later damaged the

main opposition's upazila unit office.

Porshuram was foiled, as the ruling

coalition supporters chased away

the opposition gathering.

The opposition leaders alleged

The human wall programme in

However, the programme was

observed peacefully in Feni Sadar,

Chhagalnaiya and Daganbhuiyan

Our Pabna correspondent reports:

At least 10 people were wounded in

a clash in the district town betweer

Witnesses said a band of unruly

vouths reportedly belonging to BNP

intercepted an AL procession near

C&B bus stand. At one stage, physi-

cal assault ensued and both the

parties started to chase each other.

Our Madaripur correspondent

reports: At least five people were

injured when BNP activists hurled

brickbats at Al men gathered in

front of the party office at Kalkili

wall participants to abandon the

According to our Bogra correspon-

dent, after the human wall

programme, BNP and AL activists

locked in a clash in Dhunat upazila

of the district. Police baton-charged

After the incident. Al. activists

and dispersed the combatants.

The assault forced the human

the activists of BNP and AL

MADARIPUR

upazila in the district.

programme

BOGRA

Abdul Qaivum.

upazilas

PABNA

Sohel, Sumon, Sabuj and Sohag.

higher standard of living for South Asia's 1.4 billion people, added the

Such prospects are being hampered now presumably due to the lopsided pattern of inter-regional trade flows, which has created a problem of huge trade imbalance within the Saarc countries. The situation will not improve unless the larger economies of the region demonstrate their willingness to allow smaller and relatively less developed partners greater trade

Safta and bilateral free trade and removal of all non-tariff and para-tariff barriers can help to bridge the trade gap among the Saarc nations, said the isiness leaders.

These can also be helpful to allay fears and distrust that the Saarc's least developed countries (LDC) may have about their larger neighbours and contribute to bringing peace and harmony in the region, they added.

Signatories to the statement include Mahbubur Rahman, president of ICC-Bangladesh; MAnis Ud Dowla, president of Bangladesh Employers' Federation: Manzur ur Rahman. acting president of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry; MA Awal, chairman of Bangladesh Textile Mills Association; Annisul Huq, president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association; Kamaluddin Ahmed, acting president of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry; Kutubuddin Ahmed, president of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mahbub Jamil, president CASE

of Foreign Investors Chambers of Commerce and Industry, M Ali Enlargement of the regional mar-Behrouze Ispahani, chairman of Bangladesh Jute Mills Association and Fazlul Hoque, president of Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association.

ROAD ACCIDENT

Tabani Beverage asked to pay **Tk 3.52cr in** compensation

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered Bangladesh Tabani Beverage Company Ltd to pay Tk 3.52 crore as compensation to the family of deceased Mozammel Hossain Montu, former news editor of the Daily Sangbad.

Judge Mohammad Rezaul Karim of the Court of Third Joint District Judge issued the orders following a suit claiming Tk 3, 52, 97,000 in compensation against the death of the news editor.

The court directed Tabani Beverage to pay the sum in 30 days from the date of delivery of the judgement. In default, the plaintiff will realise the money through legal process with the court's permission.

In the suit, the victim's wife Rawshan Akhter, said her husband was run over by a mini truck loaded with Seven-up and Pepsi-Cola on December 3, 1989 when he was crossing the road in front of Ananda Bhanban at Shantinagar, Later, the victim was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment in critical condition. After a nine-day fight for survival, her husband died on December 16.

Rawshan sued the company and its truck driver on January 1, 1991

JUDGE'S CERTIFICATE

HC verdict today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) today will pass judgment in the contempt case against two national dailies for running reports on an HC additional judge's alleged tampering with his LLB results.

Hearing in the contempt proceedings, which began in December last year, was wrapped up on last Tuesday. The same day division bench comprising Justice MA Matin and Justice AFM Abdur Rahman fixed the date for the judgment.

The Prothom Alo and the Bhorer Kagoj, two Bangla dailies, on October 30 last year ran reports that said that Additional Judge Faisal Mahmud Faizee's LLB examination results were allegedly

Dhaka to ask

FROM PAGE 16

from Bangladesh led by Ruhul Amin, director general of the Saarc desk at the foreign ministry, left for the Maldives yesterday.

Similar negotiations will also take place bilaterally with other Saarc member countries, a ministry official said. India and other Safta members will also request Bangladesh to exclude items of their interests from

At the meet, Bangladesh will also propose to relax 10 percentage points for the least developed countries (LDCs) from the valueaddition requirement of 35 percent, an official said, adding Bangladesh will call for instituting a fund to compensate for the revenue losses of the LDCs to the free trade.

Pakistan

his seventh 10-wicket haul in Tests to help to dismiss Pakistan for 226 after tea on the final day, giving India a 1-0 lead in the three-match series The hosts had set an imposing

fourth-innings target of 422 runs, never before achieved. Pakistan were reduced to 223 for eight at tea after Kumble took four

wickets after lunch following his twin strikes early on the final morning. Off-spinner Harbhajan Singh bowled last man Danish Kaneria 23

minutes after tea, setting off wild celebrations among the Indian players

their narrow defeat in an Asian Test Championship match against Pakistan at Eden Gardens in 1999.

10:00am from Mirpur Police Station.

When contacted. Additiona nspector General of Police and Chief of the Special Branch Abdul Kayum declined to make any comment.

"Yakub's case should not be published in the media: it's only for he intelligence men," he said.

eastern region, transport leaders are taking preparations to announce fresh action programmes demanding Yakub's rėlease.

Home probes FROM PAGE 16

illegally ordered the OC to be closed in the police after getting his own transfer order.

ASI Rashedul as well as constables Nuru and Israfil, also complained that they were suspended

or their denial to pay Mia money. that he was kept closed in the police a posting since he could not fetch

4-nation forum

Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (Bilia) organised the meet at its Dhanmondi office ahead of the Chinese prime minister's visit to Bangladesh early next month.

Xi said a total of five preparatory meetings were held under the initiative, but the forum could not be formed, because India was not ready for it. According to sources, after

Kunming in 1999, three meetings were held in Delhi, Dhaka and Yangon in preparation for the quadripartite BCIM. The fifth meeting took place in Kunming in August last year, and that was the In that last meeting, the delega-

tions from Bangladesh, China and Myanmar were very much eager to transform the initiative into a permanent body, but the position of India was lukewarm, a Bangladeshi researcher, who participated in the meet, told The Daily Star.

A high official at the Indian high commission in Dhaka, who took part in the roundtable, said he was not aware of India's position in this regard, as he was not present at the latest meeting under the initia-

JIABAO'S VISIT

Chai Xi presented a keynote paper on 'Peace, Development and Cooperation: China and Its Foreign Policy' at the roundtable held ahead of the Chinese prime minister's visit to Bangladesh on April 7-

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao is coming to Dhaka at the invitation of Prime Minister Khaleda 7ia. The visit will also mark the 30th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two Asian countries.

Xi said the Chinese PM's visit to Bangladesh would spur new developments in the Sino-Bangla partnership based on all-round cooperation A direct flight between Dhaka

and Kunming is likely to start soon, heralding a new era in the bilateral relationship, the Chinese ambassador told the roundtable. Establishment of direct road

links and development of tourism and transportation are also on the card, he announced, elaborating the latest developments in Sino-Bangla relationship.

Jiabao will have "candid and indepth exchange of views" with Khaleda Zia on Sino-Bangla relations as well as major regional and international issues. Xi said. adding, "We're confident that this visit will surely further consolidate and strengthen the friendship between China and Bangladesh."

Describing China as a proactive participant of Bangladesh's economic development with many contracted projects in energy, communications and transportation, the ambassador said, during

Jiabao's visit, several more accords would be signed on cooperation in economy, agriculture,

countries have risen steadily two peoples' friendship."

On bilateral trade. Xi said Bangladesh has become the third largest trade partner of China in South Asia, recording a two-way year, 43.5 percent up from that in 2003

his country will continue to deepen and enrich its foreign policy of building up good relations with neighbouring countries. Under this foreign-policy focus, Beijing will materially and morally assist Bangladesh within its capacity.

co-operation with Bangladeshi contribute to Bangladesh's economic development.

would, as always, support the regional co-operation and wishes resumption of the Saarc summit in Dhaka within this year.

Clampdown FROM PAGE 16

General of Police Abdul Quiyum to investigate and track down the dishonest travel agents immediately.

According to sources, a section of middlemen belonging to different travel agencies send people abroad particularly in European countries after luring them by the prospect of high-salaried jobs. An inter-ministerial meeting to

formulate a comprehensive policy to track down those middlemen and travel agents is likely to be held on Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan's return from Singapore, the source

In the wake of the recent Mediterranean tragedy, in which 11 Bangladeshi youths perished at sea. the foreign minister had assured reporters that an inter-ministerial meeting would be called to 'look seriously' into the matter.

Besides, the manpower ministry has urged the home ministry to take immediate action against the crooked manpower businesses.

In the latest incident of such manpower racketeering, 24 youths returned home with the help of International Organisation for Migration (IOM) after serving 11 months in prison in Mali. Some travel agents had sent them to the West African country promising to get them

PM reaches Singapore

FROM PAGE 1 Khaleda Zia will be accorded a ceremonial reception at the Hotel Istana today when Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong will formally receive her before official talks between the two premiers.

The two leaders will review the entire gamut of bilateral relations following a tete-a-tete between

Officials said cooperation in the fields of trade, investment, shipping and maritime matters, consular and visa services, manpower export and information and communication technology, membership in the ARF and security will dominate the talks. Khaleda is leading a 35-member

delegation that includes Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan. It also includes a 16-member business team comprising leaders of apex

39 killed

FROM PAGE 1 off, witnesses said.

"The food was being handed out amongst the devotees when there was a huge, loud blast," pilgrim Mohammad Midhal told AFP.

"Everyone was wailing, they were

covered in blood, staggering around and lifting up people to see if they were injured or even alive. "It was total chaos because every-

thing was so crowded."

A second, unexploded bomb was found near the shrine shortly after the first device detonated, Mohammad Amin Umrani, the mayor of neighbouring Naseerabad, told AFP. It was removed safely.

Habigani killings

FROM PAGE 16 Abdul Qaiyum, Habiganj district BNP vice president and president of Zia Gabeshana Parishad before it to examine the legality of his deten-

An HC division bench comprising Justice Shah Abu Naiyeem Mominur Rahman and Justice Moinul Islam Chowdhury issued the

Qaiyum was arrested on February 5 in connection with January 27 Habiganj grenade attack that left former finance minister Shah AMS Kibria and four others

business bodies and top business nersonalities

She will draw attention of the business people and entrepreneurs of the highly industrialised country Bangladesh.

wherein Bangladesh's export bill is a meager figure of US \$ 137 million as against Singapore's US \$ 850 million.

About 40,000 Bangladeshi workers employed in various service sectors in Singapore are contributing to its economy.

She will pay a courtesy call on President S R Nathan and have a meeting with Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew. She will attend a dinner to be hosted by the Singapore Khaleda Zia will deliver a speech

on "Bangladesh Economic Priorities and Challenges" organised by the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) at the Suntec Convention She will also attend a lunch

hosted by the business community of Singapore and give a short speech "Business prospects and Opportunities in Bangladesh". The PM is expected to return

The team has tied up eight cows

Land phone FROM PAGE 16

Post and Telecommunications Minister Barrister Aminul Haq declared the launching of the service at a function in Dhaka also attended by State Minister for Finance Shah Md Abul Hussain, the US Ambassador Harry K Thomas and cultural personality Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed.

approximately Tk100 crore in the year 2005 for the network. Subscription fees have been

fixed at Tk15.000 for WLL connection and Tk9.500 for wired ones. he said adding that the charges would be less than that of BTTB by 10 per

Countrywide ban

FROM PAGE 16

the second national conference of Center for Sustainable Development (CFSD) at the engineers' institution auditorium, he said. "As far as environment issue is concerned, you can not separate a region or a country from another."

"We, the people, have pushed the earth towards present catastrophic situation through unscrupulous extraction of natural resources and brutal behavior to nature," he said, adding, "The government certainly has a great role in protection of the environment. However, the people have to be made aware about preservation of environment through categorical scientific explanation and logic.

Noted journalist and Advisory Editor of the daily Amar Desh Ataus Samad, country representative of ICUN, Bangladesh chapter Dr Inun Nishat. Chairman of Forum of Environment Journalists. Bangladesh Quamrul Islam Chowdhury, among others, took part in the discussion where President CFSD Anwar Hossain presided

The state minister said population burden, unplanned urbanisation, increased salinity of water in southern region, industrial pollution, unrestrained use of pesticides, contamination of surface water, depletion of ground water level and air pollution have been accumulated to pose a grievous threat on overall environment of Bangladesh.

The position of Bangladesh is more vulnerable in terms of environment because of its geographical location and many regional and local problems, he said

let it march towards the BSS office.

The demonstrations were planned to condemn the BSS for running the 'baseless' news on Joy.

17 claiming that Jov and AL chief's Chowdhury had a meeting with Pranab in New Delhi. Joy repeatedly refuted the BSS claim, but the state-run news agency has stood by its report. BSS ran another report on that Joy paid a courtesy call on him.

Our New Delhi correspondent reported yesterday that no Indian media had any report of Joy meeting

Jov had earlier clarified his position and said that he had not

day, Saber outright denied of having news 'completely fabricated'.

the news with an ill motive to mislead people," Saber said. Meanwhile, an official at the foreign ministry said Bangladesh

The BSS managing director could not be reached last night for his comments after India's labelling of the BSS report as baseless.

Tigers

FROM PAGE 16

coast of the subcontinent.

October found 668 Royal Bengal tigers, deemed critically endangered by the Swiss-based International Nature Conservation Union, in the Bangladesh and Indian

assistant conservator of Sundarbans forest. "Despite tigers living in the Sundarbans for ages, their behaviour is still a mystery to us. Hopefully, that is about to end," he

and Wildlife Service, Hassan said.

at different places at Neeelkamal forest range in the Sundarbans to lure tigers into the traps so they can be tranquilized and the collars fitted. Hasan added. Through a satellite antennae and

by tracking the sensor, he added. months before the tiger is tranquilized again to remove the sensor for

on the brink of extinction worldwide because of poachers who kill tigers for their pelts and bones which are used in traditional medicine.

acceptable.

Rice comment draws mixed reaction

BDNEWS, Dhaka

The remarks of US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Bangladesh evoked mixed reaction among the political circle.

The news agency ran a story

Saturday on Rice's remarks, which she made in an interview with Raj Chengappa of India's leading magazine 'India Today'. It draws attention both from

government's policy-making high-

the USA and India could do. "There is more that we probably need to do on Bangladesh which is, I think, a place that is

Health and Family Welfare Minister and ruling BNP's standng committee member Dr Khondoker Mosharraf Hossain said it was nothing new that Bangladesh, as a developing country, has many problems and the government is approaching towards development and progress overcoming all odds and

achieved Millennium Development Goal in education, our life expectancy has increased efforts," Dr Mosharraf said.

and all these took place for our He said as a populous country,

tomorrow with hard work and dignity," he said.

Main opposition Awami League's senior leader Tofail Ahmed found Rice's remarks legitimate. "What we are talking

exposed in her remarks," he said. Tofail, the former industries minister, said the alliance government was taking the country into a verge of destruction establishing armed militant fundamentalist forces in the country. "Same remarks were made by European Union diplomats several times

about for last three years was

and also other donors," he said. The AL leader said it was "very unfortunate" that the "misdeeds" of the alliance regime draw such remarks from the foreigners.

Jamaat-e-Islami assistant secretary general Muhammad Kamaruzzaman said they do not think that the remark was made based on proper information. "It was not a proper evaluation of Bangladesh's situation. Such a remark could be made as part of an anti-Bangladesh media campaign," he said.

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) general secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim said the remark was not anything new. "The USA is the enemy of Bangladesh, India, the whole subcontinent, and also the world people. They are patronising this alliance government in one hand and on the other hand making critical comments on some issues.

Jatiya Party (Ershad) lawmaker GM Kader said what Rice has said was based on their own information and worries. "The way fundamentalism is brewing up here and the government patronising militant forces, it was really a matter of concern. It is really sad for the government and such a comment came due to the failure of the alliance government.

10 BNP men charged

confessional statements to the

magistrate Quaiyum, also president of Zia Gabeshana Parishad (Zia Research Council), planned the attack and finalised it at a meeting with the accused, except Jamir and Mumin, at his Habigani house a few

Dhaka to raise

The Daily Star over phone.

FROM PAGE 16

Tipaimukh Proiect He told reporters, "The project is now at the paperwork stage and its

implementation is far away.' "Indian prime minister assured his Bangladeshi counterpart in July last year that they would not take any project that harms Bangladesh," he added.

But they are yet to discuss with us their mega-plans, meant to divert water of the common rivers to its water-scant states, the minister added.

Hafiz said if India does anything without informing Bangladesh, it would be a violation of the proceedings of the 35th JRC meeting. He said the foreign ministry

conveyed an official protest to New

Delhi on August 13 last year. Dhaka has also communicated its deep concern to the World Bank and Asian Development Bank. "We've also formed a taskforce comprising the secretaries of the water resources and foreign minis-

tries to observe the matter." Hafiz

He however expressed his dissatisfaction in this regard, saying there is enough room for improving the monitoring work.

government for not showing interest in holding the JRC meeting. A meeting was scheduled for January but could not be held due to India's negligence', he said He gave a hint that the govern-

Hafiz also blamed the Indian

ment is considering reviewing the Ganges Water Treaty, saying there are several weak points in the water-sharing accord.

Asma rejects FROM PAGE 1

acceptable.

She yesterday described the investigation into the gruesome killing of her husband as incomplete, and said a chargesheet based on an

incomplete investigation is not

"I didn't see the investigation report. The chargesheet on the basis of that investigation must be incomplete and partial," she said. The nation wants to know the

names of the people who had ordered to kill Kibria. But in no way the enquiry could reach that level as the investigators were not allowed a free rein, she added. Asma yesterday once again

demanded an international probe to

unravel the real story behind the

at the Takier Bazar open stage drama

three people. later arrested 17 militants, who confessed during interrogation that Galib

"I had no other option but to pay Tk 200 to the officer while submitting the form, as I had to go back home in Office said that, in the wake of this Jessore the same day," he said malpractice, they have employed "The officer said this money is an

this correspondent that he had to wait two days to submit the registration form, and finally succeeded in getting it through by paying Tk 20 to an employee. "The employee received Tk 500 from one and Tk 400 from another in front of me," he

entrance, an official said, "What can we do about that? And they are not inside the office." An official at the Bureau of Manpower, Employment & Training (BMET), meanwhile, said this has long been a practice outside the office. Contradicting this, BMET Director (Immigration) Md Monjurul Haque said the illegal transactions no longer exist, and that the author-

two staff members to stop entrance of the brokers. But during a visit on Another migrant from Feni told Monday this correspondent found no one posted to stop any of the brokers. Rather, these misdeeds are occurring under the nose of the

> registration cards on the same day the candidates submit registration forms. But he frankly shared that he found a forged registration card a few days ago when there were more The database process of registration began in June of last year to

keep detailed information on all aspirant migrants. But more people began registering with the office after the Malaysian government recently declared it would take back workers who returned to Bangladesh within three months under a general amnesty. A BMET source said more than 1 lakh people have already registered with the

Human wall staged tried to gather at Goshaibari bus stand, where police again batoncharged them. The AL activists in retaliation hurled brickbats at police, wounding a constable named Samsul Haque.

> AL office and damaged the photograph of Sheikh Muiibur Rahmar and some furniture. At least 15 AL leaders and activ-

ists received injuries in the attacks.

Our Shariatpur correspondent

adds: BNP activists with sticks

attacked and foiled an AL rally in the

town. They also stormed the local

Moudud

FROM PAGE 16

SHARIATPUR

publishing fabricated report. Then he distributed copies of his letter among the present journalists. ful that the treasury bench members are presenting private members bills. The merit and labour they have engaged to prepare these bills worth much appreciation. Then it must be said that this eagerness and initiative of the honourable

parliamentarians is contributing positively to the development of parliamentary democracy of Bangladesh." The letter also said, "It is worth mentioning here, though treasury bench members has the right to present any bill, but it may embarrass the government and the member concerned, if that contain anything vital to policy-making. Besides as the bill requires majority support

of the ruling members to become a law, it will be easier if it bears the consent of the Leader of the House." The minister also alleged that the press reports were prepared without

Frauds fleece fortune

office charge.'

added. transactions just at the office

ity had earlier transferred some officials for their involvement in these types of irregular activities. "I will immediately inquire into the matter," he said after this correspondent said he had witnessed such activities on the office premises

officials on the office premises. Mannan said that, to combat this problem, they decided to issue

office since June of last year.

Yakub

FROM PAGE 16 (DC-North) Majharul Huq said Yakub was taken to the JIC at about

Inspector Yusuf Ali told the team former SP his demanded

education and so on Xi said mutual economic and trade interactions between the two noting, "Projects on fertiliser plant and textile factory, five friendship bridges and the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre have all become symbols of the

trade worth \$1.968 billion in last The Chinese ambassador said

He said Beijing will encourage more enterprises with competitive strength to come to Bangladesh to invest and to carry out multifarious entrepreneurs, so that they could

About Saarc he said China

had asked Additional Inspector Delhi trashes

FROM PAGE 1 Police intercepted a procession taken out by AL's youth wing Jubo League near the Awami League headquarters on Bangabandhu Avenue in the afternoon and did not

BSS carried the report on March Political Secretary Saber Hossain

March 19 claiming Pranab as saying

visited India in the last 10 years. Joy. now residing in Washington DC with his US-born wife, made his position clear on the issue once again at a gathering that his mother attended in Orlando, US yesterday. Talking to The Daily Star yester-

had a meeting with the Indian defence minister. He termed the "There was no meeting with the Indian defence minister. The government-run news agency carried

High Commission to New Delhi is now trying to verify the BSS news.

Royal Bengal

the world's largest mangrove forest and a United Nation's heritage site that stretches along the eastern A UN-funded census last

sides of the Sundarbans. "The collar sensor will keep data of how far the tiger goes to look for food, its sexual habit, its leisure and its lifestyle," said Mahmudul Hasan.

David Smith, an expert in wildlife studies from the University of Minnesota, is leading the study team with funding from the US Fish

a computer programme, the team will observe the tiger's whereabouts The tracking will go on for three

Authorities say the big cats are

slayings. She said that no investigation except one by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation will be

allegedly executed the plan. Mumin threw the grenade at the rally of Kibria at Baidder Bazar Government Primary School in Lashkarpur. According to the chargesheet Quaiyum brought a grenade before

known face in the locality. Then they asked Jamir to find a 'trusted' person for perpetrating the attack and Jamir hired Mumin pledging to give him Tk 50.000. Jalal handed the grenade over to

the chargesheet yesterday evening. After throwing the grenade, Mumin melted in the crowd and left the scene hurriedly along with Jalal. Two days later, Mumin and Jalal

Detectives and Rab arrested

BNP, had planned to kill Kibria, local ary elections. Quaiyum thought that other leaders who dominate the local BNP

politics would have to face public

wrath after Kibira was killed, which

would put him (Quaiyum) in an

advantageous position, the IO The IO said Quaivum wanted to clear his way to contest future polls as BNP leaders Abu Leis Mohammad Mobin Chowdhury, Chowdhury Ashraful Bari Noman and Habiganj Municipality Chairman GK Gaus are in a leading position to get party ticket from that

an earlier rejection of a bail prayer in a blast case i which a Palashbari jatra was bombed. Galib, who was shifted to the Gopalganj jail on Saturday night in

militants arrested earlier in connection with two bomb blast incidents. On December 26, three locally made powerful bombs were exploded

In a joint drive, Gaibandha police

and a large holiday crowd of some The victory helped India to avenge

A number of selected personnel from different intelligence agencies are quizzing Yakub, said JIC

Meantime, after enforcing a daylong transport strike in the

to the investment-friendly environment and opportunities in Currently the two-way trade amounts to one billion US dollars

The Bangladesh PM will discuss with Singapore leaderships a proposal for recruiting more Bangladeshi workers and extending more facilities of sending remittance to Bangladesh.

Dhaka on May 22 midnight.

further study. The company would invest

> Experts have estimated only 5,000 to 6,000 Royal Bengal tigers are left in the world, down from about 100,000 in 1900.

ups and also from the opposition The US Secretary of State said Bangladesh is becoming "quite troubling" and there is more that

becoming quite troubling. So in the region, there is a great deal that we can do," she said in the interview with 'India Today'.

"We have problems no doubt ike many other countries of the world. Even though, we have overcome many problems. As you know we are practicing parliamentary democracy, we have

we have many problems and the government is working hard relentlessly to fulfil the aspirations of the people. "There are many challenges that we are facing and

approaching towards a better

Mumin, Lashkarpur union ward 2 BNP secretary, Jamir Ali, union BNP president, and Jalal, a BNP activist,

days before Eid-ul-Azha, the IO told Eid-ul-Azha and gave it to Jalal a day after the Eid. But Jalal declined to carry out the attack, as he was a

> ımin immediatel attack and instructed him on how to throw it, investigator Munshi Atig told The Daily Star after submitting

met Jamir and claimed the pledged money. Jamir told Mumin that the payment would be made later as Quaivum had not given the money

Mumin, also a postman at Baidder Bazar Post Office, six days after the incident

MOTIVE

The IO mentioned that Quaiyum being an ambitious leader of ruling lawmaker, two years ago to secure a strong position in the local politics as he had a plan to contest parliamen-

constituency.

Galib denied bail FROM PAGE 16 Galib that the court rejected, following

connection with a bomb blast incident. robbery and murder, was heard in Galib was shown arrested following the confessional statement of 15

under Palashbari Upazila. In another incident on February 10, two bombs were exploded at the Mohimaganj BRAC offices, injuring

is their central leader

When contacted, Assistant Director Abdul Mannan of the District Employment and Manpower

When asked about money