Japan embassy in Beijing attacked

Thousands agitate over its wartime past

Thousands of demonstrators carrying Chinese flags and anti-Japanese banners marched through Beijing yesterday in a nationalistic protest that turned violent over Japan's handling of its wartime past and Tokyo's bid for a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council

Up to 10,000 protesters brought traffic to a standstill in the capital's Haidian district, and sometimes clashed with police as they marched around historic Beijing University and then headed into the heart of the city toward Japanese diplomatic com-

"Down with Japan," "Boycott Japanese Goods," and "Oppose a permanent seat for Japan on the UN Security Council," they shouted.

After marching for hours, protesters threw rocks, bottles and eggs at the Japanese embassy and smashed windows as they continued shouting slogans and intermittently singing China's national anthem.

Although a heavy police presence and fully armed riot squads appeared to be trying to maintain order, they made no effort to stop protesters from throwing projectiles at the embassy or at the residence of the ambassador which was bombarded with bricks.

"I am Chinese, I love China," Zhang Daili, a software engineer and a recent graduate of Beijing University, told AFP. "This is a patriotic rally, if you are a patriot then you must oppose Japan "

Along the route of the march they smashed windows in Japanese restaurants and pelted Japanese

companies and banks with stones. "Like probably 80 percent of the people here, I heard about this last night from an e-mail," a student outside the ambassador's residence, who would only identify himself as Tommy

"What has happened today far

Writ petition challenges legality of **ACC Act**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A writ petition was filed with the High Court (HC) yesterday challenging the legality of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Act 2004.

Supreme Court lawyer M Saleem Ullah and headmaster of a Chapainawabganj school Tariqul Islam filed the petition.

An HC Division Bench of Justice Shah Abu Naim Mominur Rahman and Justice M Moinul Islam heard the petition and asked the petitioners to submit a supplementary affidavit in a week citing specific sections of the act they are challenging, instead of the entire act.

Next hearing is likely on Saturday. Saleem tolď The Ďaily Star théy filed the petition challenging the entire act, appointment of Justice Sultan Hossain Khan as ACC Chairman and the ACC's serving a notice on Tarigul.

He said Section 7 of the act says the selection committee that recommended the commissioners does not have any authority to do so

Saleem also challenged Section 8 that mentions the eligibility of a commissioner. Terming the section vague, he said it should have specified details such as age, educational background and other qualifications

He said appointment of the ACC chairman was a violation of the constitutional provisions since Justice Sultan is a former chief election commissioner

BB scales down

the banks to take steps to cut down their

amounts within the specified limit. In case of continuous loans they have to do it by June 30 this year and in case of The central bank also demanded

that sanctioning, renewing or rescheduling of large loans must be approved by the boards of directors of the banks.

The protests were the largest in Beijing since about 10.000 members of the banned spiritual group

It was also similar to protests organised by the government after the the US embassy here.

Police Saturday refused to comment on the numbers or protesters or whether or not the march had been approved by the city, as required by aw. Protests are rarely approved in China and police usually need up to six

to their universities.

Officials at the Japanese Embassy said Tokyo planned to make represen tations over the demonstration with the Chinese government, especially after police refused to stop protesters from reaking embassy windows.

"Since the embassy glass was broken, we are going to protest," the embassy's spokesman, Keiji Ide, told

'Blast' hurts

the confectionery shop and three adjoining shops were crushed and mangled. The blast pitched two motorcycles parked nearby into the air. The road up to 15 yards of the scene was

Shop owners said goods worth Momtazur Rahman of Rab.

Three workers of the confectionery shop suffered severe burns. "The explosion occurred just about a minute after an employee had switched on the air conditioner," said Hasan, another employee of the shop.

Of the wounded, 21 were admitted to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital. The rest were released after

Doctors at the DMCH said that they

on which I was passing the area, was flung a few yards off," said Aslam, a passer-by who was injured as numerous broken glasses pierced his body.

FROM PAGE 1
The HC Division Bench of Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman and Justice Moinul Islam Chowdhury briefly heard the petition filed by Abdus Salam Mamun, the judge.

The bench adjourned for a week the petition's admissibility.

Court judges. However, Mamun's

confirming him as a judge. It authority to continue in his office.

May 1999 accidental bombing by Nato orces of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade, when tens of thousands of students hurled rocks and bottles at

Falungong encircled the Communist

Party's leadership compound in July

days to issue an approval, police said.

By early evening the protesters began returning home. Buses suddenly appeared to take students back

FROM PAGE 1 strewn with pieces of glass.

Fire fighters from Palashi, Tejgaon

and the headquarters reached the scene immediately after the blast and doused the fire.

around Tk 15 crore were lost in the fire. Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), different intelligence agencies and police visited the spot. Explosives experts of the Rab were investigating the incident. "Only after the investigation we'll be able to say exactly what caused the explosion," said Captain

did not find any shrapnel in the body of any of the injured, many of whom were

"The force of the explosion made me fall to the ground and my bicycle,

Ex-HC judge

The petitioner accused the chief ustice (CJ) of victimising and deprivng the petitioner of becoming a confirmed judge 'despite understanding

Mamun and 10 others were appointed additional judges to the High Court in July 2002 for a two-year

After the end of their terms, all the additional judges, barring petitioner Mamun, were confirmed as High enure as an additional judge was extended by another six months, but he was not confirmed even at the end of the extended period.

Mamun in his petition alleged inaction of the chief justice in 'tantamount' to violation of Article 95 of the Constitution, he said and claimed that the chief justice has no

RMP drops

under which they were arrested No fresh cases have been filed by

RMP against the three. Responding to a police praver.

Organising Secretary ASM Azizullah. Shah Mokdum police of RMP sought the discharge in two separate prayers, informing the court that the arrested persons were 'implicated in different cases in different other districts and at present kept in differ-

entialls over the cases'. The prayers concluded: "As the arrested persons were taken into specific cases in different other

was shown implicated in only the Kotalipara Brac office robbery case. while the three others were shown arrested in three separate cases: the Shahjahanpur murder involving a bomb attack on a Jatra show, the the Kotalipara case.

(arrestees) involved in any crime in the city," investigating officer SI Parimal Kumar Bali of the Shah Mokhdum PS told The Daily Star, Raishahi.

Asked why police delayed releasarrest, Parimal said, "It was for investigation purposes and we were waiting for arrest orders by the con-

directions from Government high ups, arrested Galib and his three associates under Section 54 in the early hours of February 23.

and his cohorts were implicated in seven cases from Gopalganj, Bogra, Naogaon, Sirajganj and Gaibandha districts. Rajshahi police later took three 15-day periods to investigate the arrestees, and even raided Galib's house, madrassah and offices in mid March.

Headmaster confined to office over his reinstatement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,

Hundreds of students, guardians and locals staged a demonstration on the Tanore Bohroil High School premises after confining the head master at his office for three hours in

The agitators demanded the removal of head master Lutfar Rahman, who was reinstated by the pro-BNP governing body of the school. Lutfar was dismissed from the school two years ago following a court ruling over a corruption case filed by the then governing body,

Later local BNP leaders brought

The current governing body of the school, headed by BNP leader Habibur Rahman, had reinstated Lutfar as the head master of the

Kushtia outlaw killed in 'crossfire'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Mirpur upazila in the district early

Police said they raided a field in Bot Toila village on information that a gang of GMF was conducting a

The hour-long gun battle ensued as the GMF men opened fire sensing that police had encircled them and

police also returned fire. Moinal Hossain, 35, son of Belal Hossain of Nischintapur village in the upazila, and a listed criminal accused in 13 cases including six for murder filed with Mirpur. Bheramara and Daulatour police stations, died during the shootout. His accomplices how-

Tokyo seeks

Talking to reporters, the foreign

countries on UN reforms, Bangladesh's position in this respect is neutral and independent," he told a questioner.

Asked about Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's official visit to Tokyo, the foreign minister said the tour could take place between early July and early August. The precise and dates would be worked out

Bangladesh has become a 'friendless country" under the alliance rule, he said the number of top-level visits to and from Bangladesh prove that "We're not friendless... Our foreign

Jiabao's visit to Dhaka was a "tremendous success" propping up the bilateral ties to new heights.

Asked about the alleged security concerns in Dhaka--on the grounds of which the Saarc summit was postponed--he said, "The unfortunate part is that the Indian leaders even know that Bangladesh is a safe country. Bangladesh is capable of providing protection for dignitaries from any

Emir of Qatar Shaikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani will pay an official visit to Bangladesh in the middle of

Naved, Butt

FROM PAGE 16

by 106 runs in the third one-day international on Saturday.

Butt slammed 10 fours in his 116ball 101, sharing in a 145-run stand for the second wicket with Shoaib Malik (75) for the visitors, who now trail 2-1 in the six-match series.

and then bowled India out for 213 in 41.4 overs. Naved ending with six for 27. Naved struck a vital blow in the

second over, having in-form opener Virender Sehwag caught for two as he cut straight to Afridi at point.

missed Sachin Tendulkar for six. edging to second slip, before Naved ran through the Indian line-up. sending back Souray Ganguly (4). Mahendra Dhoni (28 off 24 balls) and Yuvraj Singh (1) in quick succession to make it five for 66.

A fighting 64 by Irfan Pathan, for his maiden one-day half-century, was India's only consolation.

second one-day century with a single to long off, kissing the pitch in celebration.

The 20-year-old was run out soon after, stranded in mid-pitch after a misunderstanding with Yousuf Youhana, who blazed a 31-

JS body criticises speaker

prompted the executive to interfere in the parliamentary affairs, which is unprecedented in the history of Bangladesh parliament.

The committee in its next meeting on April 23 will finalise a summary of its activities since its formation three and a half years ago. Based on the summary, it will take a resolution which will be sent to the speaker giving a certain deadline for taking steps

"If the speaker does not initiate steps by the deadline, the committee will take its decision in this regard," Committee Chairman Justice Mozammel Haque yesterday told The Daily Star after the meeting, without elaborating.

Members of the committee

however hinted at the possibility of

taking hard decisions like resigna-

tion from the committee if proper steps are not taken. The lawmakers said the speaker's letter to the law minister and the minister's reply are detrimental to the sovereignty of parlia-

ment and rights of the lawmakers

Speaker Jamir Uddin Sircar on October 27, 2003 sent a letter to the law minister seeking his recommendations on 15 private members' bills instead of giving his (speaker) goahead to place the bills in parlia-

But on February 3 this year, Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed in a letter to the speaker suggested taking prior approval from the leader of the

House before tabling any private members' bill.

As the speaker is vet to take a decision on the matter, the committee members said, the fate of the 37 private members' bills is now in a

. state of uncertainty. Moreover, the committee has become dysfunctional as it stopped scrutinising all bills submitted by lawmakers or sent by the House since January this year. The members have decided to refrain from scrutinisng bills until the crisis is resolved.

The parliamentary body mem-

bers yesterday expressed strong

resentment when they started

discussing the much talked about bill titled Jatiya Sangsad, standing committees and lawmakers (privileges and power) bill 2003. The committee on July 10, 2003 recommended passage of the bill piloted by ruling BNP lawmaker Abu Hena. But the speaker asked Hena

ing it a finance bill. But the committee said it is not a finance bill. Hena, also a member of the committee, yesterday read out the law minister's letter at the meeting and said the speaker should have made a decision based on the letter. "But he did not take any decision,

to get the president's consent term-

rather sent the letter to us," he said. The ruling party lawmaker also criticised the speaker for seeking recommendations of the law minister about the private members' bills, sources said.

"It is humiliating for parliament.

Why should the speaker seek opinion of the law minister? Being the head of parliament himself, he has allowed the executive to interfere in the parliamentary affairs," the sources quoted Hena as saying at

the meeting. "If the executive (will) dictate and decide which bills will be passed in parliament, then why shall we in the committee work," he questioned.

Echoing him, another ruling BNP lawmaker and committee member Abu Yousuf Mohammad Khalilur Rahman told the meeting that the committee has been "strangled". "The law minister's letter has

interfered in the affairs of the parliamentary committee," he said. "Ruling party lawmakers have lost their interest in attending the meeting after such interference," the sources quoted him as saying at the meet-

Talking to The Daily Star, committee member and Awami League lawmaker KM Jahangir Hossain said every member of the committee criticised the speaker and the law minister for making the committee dysfunctional.

"The law minister has interfered nakedly with the sovereignty of parliament."

"Parliament will decide whether any private members' bill will be passed or not. The executive does not have any jurisdiction to interfere in it. The law minister does not have any jurisdiction to issue such letter.'

Fresh hike soon in power tariff

percent tariff rise, though it finally

. stalled the move. The Power Division told the WB the tariff hike has been postponed due to the delay in launching an energy regulatory commission (ERC). However, it said, by April it would push the price up covering the total additional cost since 2003. the last time it increased the power

Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman last month said power tariffs need to be adjusted to reflect the increase in costs, mainly as a result of higher "The necessary adjustments are estimated at a relatively modest 2 to

3 percent. It would be better to make

WB Country Director Christine I

Wallich in a letter to Finance and

such adjustments promptly, rather than waiting until larger adjustments become necessary," she said. The government is currently discussing the matter, among other issues, with a visiting IMF mission. sources said. It will soon inform the WB and the IMF about the exact

increments in tariffs Power experts however believe that power is already too costly for

land. A number of companies are

The state minister's company, the

putting up installations on those lands

Acme Group of Industries Ltd, has

occupied 30 acres of forest land at

Habirbari mouia. BNP lawmaker MA

Hashem's firm, Partext Group Ltd, 48

acres at Habirbari and Mintoo has

illegally occupied 131.94 acres at

Habirbari, sources quoted the report

Besides, Bangladesh Cat Fish

Company has illegally occupied 95

acres at Habibari mouja, Square

Spinning and Knitting Mills 58 acres at

Jamirdia, Social Marketing Company

3.70 acres at Jamirdia, PCIL 102.06

acres at Meherbari, BRAC Nurserv

and Poultry Farm 6.47 acres at

Kathali, Synthetic Spinning Mill 4.50

acres at Habirbari, Hamid and Sons

Ltd 8.13 acres at Habirbari, Hasina

Begum 4 acres at Habirbari, Jamuna

Sugar Mills 18.70 acres at Habirbari.

Asia Textile Ltd 3 acres at Habirbari,

Madina Spinning Mill 9 acres at

Meherbari, NSK Mills Pvt Ltd 1.80

acres at Meherbari, Keybita Pvt Ltd

13.70 acres at Dhamsur, Dynamic

Textile 14 acres at Dhamsur and

Bangas Co Ltd 7.61 acres of land at

Family Welfare Mizanur Rahman

Sinha brushed aside the allegations

and said Acme Group does not have

land at the address mentioned. "We

had initiated steps to purchase land

there but dropped the idea as we

found there were disputes over the

land," Sinha told The Daily Star yester-

of Bangladesh Chambers of

Commerce and Industry, said the

forest department does not own the

said land. "The forest department has

filed case against my ownership, but

they lost the legal battle. Now it is

settled that the land is mine," Mintoo

The Daily Star claiming that the land is

under his possession legally. He cited

a judgement of the Forest Settlement

Court that savs he is the legal owner of

the land. He also referred to Supreme

Court ruling that says the decision of

the forest settlement officer is final

He, however, alleged that the forest

Mintoo also sent a document to

told The Daily Star.

Mintoo, president of the Federation

State Minister for Health and

Dhamsur mouja.

the report adds.

as saying.

the consumers, who are facing heavy pressure from price hikes on

Instead of hiking up the power tariff, the experts argue, the government should eliminate pilferage and cut down on systems loss to increase its revenue from the power sector and to ensure power supply to people who pay for it. 'The World Bank and the IMF do

not look into the fact that systems

loss and pilferage are eating up Tk

400 to 600 crore of the Power Development Board (PDB) a year," said a Power Cell official on condition of anonymity. A PDB official said the existing power tariff is at par with those in the western countries. For instance, excluding the Vat (value-added tax) and other taxes, a Canadian

(less than Tk 2) per kilowatt hour for up to 700 units. In comparison, a domestic consumer in Dhaka pays Tk 2.50 per kilowatt hour for up to 100 units. Tk 3 for 101 to 400 units, and Tk 5 for over 400 units of power. Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (Desa) buys this power from the PDB at Tk

2.12 per unit flat and is supposed to

domestic consumer pays 5 cents

make a minimum monthly profit of Tk 25 to 30 crore.

But, plagued with a high level of pilferage, Desa cannot even fully pay its dues to the PDB. Each month its arrears with the PDB rise by Tk 10 to 20 crore. Now Desa's dues with the PDB stands at Tk 3.500 crore, minus tax or tariff.

per unit to rural consumers. However, for agricultural consumption, the tariff is a subsidised Tk 1.84 For small industries the rate is Tk

3.83 per unit, for medium industries Tk 3.62 and for heavy industries Tk 3.41 per unit.

42 Zambian 558 acres forest land students die

At least 42 high school students returning home in northern Zambia at the end of term were killed when their truck missed a curve and

overturned, police said yesterday. Many of the dead were thrown out of the truck and had limbs severed, state television quoted a local policeman as saving.

late on Friday, police spokeswoman "The number of the students who have died has risen to 42 from 38 after four more students died in hospital. We still expect the death toll to rise as some students and

"Some pupils had their heads crushed while several ... also suffered broken arms and legs." state

Air tare

FROM PAGE 1

Airlines Representative (BAR) Samsed Ehsan said that the compa nies were selling tickets at the rate of Tk 59 per dollar, subsidising crores of taka "considering the interest of the passengers." "But if we continue

of Bangladesh Biman's Dhaka-London-Dhaka flight costs \$851 and was being sold at Tk 50,209 but now the price stands at Tk 52,336. The price of a ticket of the British

Airways for the same route has been increased by about Tk 2,500 for the \$950 ticket. The Emirates sells the ticket for the same route at \$860. meaning that the present price stands at Tk 52,890 from the earlier Tk 50,740. A \$1,194 ticket of Biman's New York-Dhaka-New York route was

mercial and medical wastes a day. Earlier, it was estimated at around has been fixed at Tk 83,640.

at Tk 30.750.

Act tough to recover

divisional commissioners and 64 DCs attended the inaugural session that lasted about three hours

The prime minister mentioned that her government has made or amended 122 laws to remove obstructions to implementation of development. Besides, rules and procedures have been simplified to expedite development activities.

On law and order. Khaleda said people now feel greatly relieved and secure due to a marked improvement of the situation.

Enactment of speedy trial law setting up of speedy trial court, Operation Clean Heart and Rapid Action Battalion's drives against criminals and extortionists are among the steps that improved the law and order, she said.

Khaleda said police, BDR and Ansar-VDP have been strengthened by increasing their manpower and supplying them modern equipment. The Coastguard is also being modernised.

The PM mentioned her government's achievements in the fields of economy, education, health, export-

2 slum kids die in wall collapse

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two 22-month-old children of a slum were killed and two others injured yesterday after a shabby boundary wall of Fulbaria Government Karmachari Railway Hospital collapsed on them in the morning.

The two children, identified as Alamair and Emon, fell victim to the tragic accident as they were playing with several other children in the morning at 9am. They and the two injured children lived in a slum

Alamgir died on the spot while Emon died at the Pongu Hospital in run the body. the evening. The identity of the two injured children could not be known.

CCC Polls

FROM PAGE 16

the latest developments. Iqbal said that from now on the four-party alliance should be called three-party alliance, and that they will protest if anybody calls it a four-party

alliance anymore. IOJ Member-Secretary Moulana Moinuddin Ruhi read out the statement at the press conference. He said. "We wanted to contest the CCC polls from the four-party alliance and demanded only five nominations for ward commissioner posts. But both BNP and Jamaat turned down our request. And to our dismay, they didn't agree to leave even a single

"Besides, a few days ago when our chairman Amini came to Chittagong, Mir Nasir refused to meet him," he said at the conference. Iqbal said, "We tried our best to

avoid the situation, but the boorish behaviour of Mir Nasir and Jamaat forced us to dissociate ourselves from them The IOJ leaders claimed to have a

large number of voters on their side and said the number will be around 5 Earlier on April 5, Fazlul Haq

Amini during a visit to the port city

warned BNP that any indifference to

IOJ would not do any good for Mir Nasir and his party in the CCC polls. "No one would be able to go or remain in power by ignoring IOJ," Amini observed during a meeting at

Chittagong Circuit House. Miladunnabi

Committee at the Islamic Foundation yesterday evening. The committee set the date after reviewing information received from district administrations, its unit

sighting of Raibuil Awal moon. It said the Rabiul Awal moon was not sighted yesterday and hence the month will begin from April 11.

offices and the met office about the

Princess Diana more than 20 years

reception at next-door Windsor Castle to follow

for the day.

In comparison, around 600,000 had turned out in London in July Paul's Cathedral.

Charles's younger brother, Edward, also in Windsor, attracted around 20.000 well-wishers. The couple smiled and waved as

they emerged arm-in-arm through the red front doors of the Guildhall

import, per-capita income, foreign direct investment, joint venture

investments and other sectors. Cabinet Secretary Saadat Hossain conducted the meeting while secretaries of the establishment and home ministries were

Briefing reporters later, the cabinet secretary said the prime minister ordered all officials at the field level to attend office timely and implement all government decisions, projects and programmes to serve people. The government has decided to initiate departmental cases if any officials are found absent from office, he mentioned.

and 17 DCs spoke on the occasion and pointed out various logistic problems like dilapidated collectorate buildings and inadequate transport facilities.

Four divisional commissioners

The DCs were happy that they were provided with Internet facilities and cell phones, Sadaat said. Asked whether the DCs raised

administration, the cabinet secretary replied in the negative. There is no such interference at local level, especially on the issue of land grabbing, he claimed. In reply to a question, he said the

the issue of political interference in

DCs' direct contact with the PM means they can contact or inform the principal secretary, secretary and private secretaries to the PM on urgent issues

ACC rejects

FROM PAGE 1

he commission will itself screen the Bac staff after preparing guide-lines for this." ACC Chairman Justice Sultan Hossain Khan told reporters at the end of a meeting that was adjourned on Wednesday. The meeting discussed the

advisory committee's four-point

recommendations that include

recruitment of fresh staff for the commission, without absorbing any from the now-defunct Bac. Justice Sultan said the commission faces obstacles as the ACC Act provides for taking president's approval after formulating rules to

Asked if he wants amendment to the act, the chairman said, "We will ask the government to amend the ACC Act if necessary." The six-member advisory committee, headed by M Hafizuddin

Khan, former adviser to caretaker

government, submitted its recom-

mendations on April 5.

Yesterday's meeting also rejected the organogram proposed by the experts of Dhaka University following ACC's request. manpower proposed in this ornagogram is not sufficient for the commission," Justice Sultan said.

The ACC chairman last month told

reporters about flaws in the ACC Act

out Law Minister Moudud Ahmed said

he did not find any flaws in it. Asked to comment on the law minister's views, Justice Sultan yesterday said, "There is no structural defect in the act, but we face obstacles as the rules that we

prepare for the commission need

Other bodies of the like of the

the president's approval

ACC do not need to take such approval after formulating any rules. They can go for publishing gazette," On the first day of the meeting, the ACC took a decision not to talk with the press but the commission

chairman amid adverse reaction

among journalists yesterday faced

reporters at his office and briefed them about the meeting.

press release.

Asma **FROM PAGE 1**

justice for the brutal killing of her husband. The letter should be addressed to the prime minister demanding a neutral investigation into the killing of Kibria and trial of the killers, said a

Asma Kibria urged all people from home and abroad to write a letter to the prime minister, addressing it to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) at Old Airport Road, Dhaka. She also requested people to

send a duplicate copy of those

letters to her address at 'Malancha'.

House No.58, Road No. 3/A,

after the 25-minute ceremony and

climbed into a dark Rolls Royce

limousine for a three-minute ride to

Windsor Castle, the royal family's

Highness the Duchess of Cornwall

wore an ivory-cream dress, match-

ing full-length coat and a broad,

lace-brimmed hat topped with

Camilla, now officially Her Royal

Charles, Camilla

weekend residence.

Dhanmondi, Dhaka

Charles, 56, the heir to the British monarchy, and Camilla, 57, were married at the 17th century Guildhall in Windsor, west of London, with an afternoon service of blessing and

Some 15,000 people, many cheering and waving Union Jack flags and hats, lined Windsor's picturesque streets under blue skies to catch a glimpse of the new royal couple, police said. Many were foreigners who had come specially

1981 when Charles wedded Diana inside the domed splendour of St Even the 1999 marriage of

feathers. The groom opted for a classic black morning suit. Charles and Camilla, both divorcees, were declared man and wife by local registrar Clair Williams inside the Guildhall before 28 spe-

cially invited guests and no media at

previous marriages, Prince William

The couple's eldest sons by their

and Tom Parker Bowles, acted as witnesses Notable by their absence, how-

ever, were the groom's parents. Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, who were to be at the grander and televised -- 45-minute Analican service of blessing in St George's Chapel, within Windsor

metropolitan magistrate Yusuf Ali ordered the discharge yesterday afternoon of Ahle Hadith Andolon Bangladesh chief Dr Asadullah Al Galib, second-in command Shaikh Abdus Samad Salafi, General Secretary Moulana Nurul Islam and

districts, the case under section 54 dose not need to continue. In the prayers, however, Galib

Gabtali explosive case in Bogra and

explaining why no case was filed in ing the arrestees from Section 54 when specific cases had been filed against them within days of their

Within days of the arrest. Galib

"We have not found them

cerned court in the districts. Shah Mokdum police, following

said the agitators.

the situation under control.

A top cadre of the outlawed Gono Mukti Fouz (GMF) was killed in a "crossfire" between police and his accomplices at Bot Toila village of

secret meeting there at about 4am.

ever managed to escape, police said. Five hand bombs and 15 rounds

minister said Japan sought Bangladesh's support during the meeting yesterday and they did it in Being a coordinator for Asian

through diplomatic channels. Refuting opponents' views that

policy now stands on a firm footing than ever before," he said. Khan said Chinese Premier Wen

country, including China and India." In reply to a question, Khan said

Pakistan piled up 319 for nine after electing to bat on a flat wicket

Mohammad Sami then dis-

Earlier, Butt brought up his

department is harassing him by filing cases against him. Talking to The Daily Star, ruling BNP lawmaker MA Hashem, also chairman of Partex Group, denied the

regarding the forest land.

allegation of having illegally occupied

"I bought 27.03 acres of land about

8-10 years ago by following all legal procedures. Now the land is under my possession and I am setting up industries there. Asked why the forest department put him on the list of illegal forest land occupiers, Hashem said, "I do not know why they (forest department) did so. But you know many things happen

in our country...Without legality, how

do I possess a piece of land?" he

DCC launches

FROM PAGE 16 graffiti will be removed, the mayor said. From now on, the last Friday of every month will be observed as a Special Cleanliness Day, he announced, to clean the houses in the city and get rid of any potential breeding ground of Aedes mosquito responsible for dengue fever. Media professionals, mainly editors of news dailies, participating in the meeting suggested a permanent

sustainable system for managing the

solid waste in the city, removal of

indiscriminate billboards and freeing

footpaths from hawker occupancy.

They also recommended recovering

the parking lands and checking random parking on roads by buses. Jugantor Editor A B M Musa, Prothom Alo Editor Motiur Rahman, The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam. Ittefag Editorial Board Chairman Moinul Hossain, Manabzamin Chief Editor Motiur Rahman Chowdhury, Faridur Reza Sagor of Channel-I, Amar Desh Editor Amanullah Kabir, National Prof M R Khan and several BNP lawmakers spoke in the meeting.

current 7.000 and at least 650 heavy trucks for solid waste collection and dumping whereas it now has 350 trucks only According to a recent study by the Japan International Co-operation Agency (Jica) the capital generates more than 3,500 tons of solid waste including domestic, industrial, com-

4,500 to 5,000 tons. The DCC every-

day collects only about 45 to 50 per-

cent of the total waste, with the rest

remaining scattered on roadsides and

other places.

The mayor said the DCC needs at

least 12,000 cleaners against the

According to the present power tariff structure, Rural Electrification Board (Reb) buys electricity at Tk 2.05 per unit and sells for over Tk 3

With a total power consumer base of around 8 million under the PDB, Desa, Desco (Dhaka Electric Supply Company) and Reb, the main power supplier PDB last year fetched Tk 4,000 crore in revenues. Experts say this earning can be raised to Tk 5,000 crore, if power

pilferage and systems loss could be

reduced to a tolerable level

in road crash REUTERS, Lusaka

The truck was carrying more than 100 students when it failed to turn at a curve at Ntumba Chushi, 800 km north of the capital Lusaka Brenda Muntemba told journalists

also the driver of the truck are still are unconscious," Muntemba said. television reported.

it any longer, the companies will have to incur huge loss," he said. The aviation sources said a ticket

previously available at Tk 70,446 but would now cost Tk 73,431. The British Airways earlier used to charge Tk 85.550 for \$1,450 per ticket to fly the same route but now the price has been fixed at Tk 89,175 while the Emirates' previous fare of Tk 80,240 The price of an Emirates ticket for

the Dhaka-Dubai-Dhaka flight was Tk 29,500; the new tariff has been fixed