Yunus questions banks | 15 injured

He suggested finding innovative solutions to the problems of the "missing middle" who are deprived of funds.

Prof Wahiduddin said the greatest limitation of the formal banking system is its inability to cater to the credit needs of the small entrepreneurs.

"Pro-market reforms of the financial sector can do little to address this problem," he said in the fifth Nurul Matin memorial lecture at the BIBM auditorium.

The former Dhaka University professor sounded a note of warning to some problem banks and excessive expenditure by banks on decoration.

"In general, the banking sector in Bangladesh is good but some problem banks can create instability any time as it happened in many countries," he noted, suggesting merger, closure or taking over the problem banks to improve their conditions.

Bangladesh Bank Governor Salehuddin Ahmed, Palli Karma Shahavak Foundation Managing Director Fakhruddin Ahmed and BIBM (Bangladeshi Institute of Bank Management) Director General Ruhul Amin also took part in the discussion.

Prof Wahiduddin said banks may jeopardise their long-term financial viability by offering excessively high salaries to attract skilled managers or by declaring too high dividends to improve their standing in the share markets

He also warned the commercial banks about engaging in the warfare of hiking up interest rates to attract deposits. "There are important issues of social responsibility for banks beyond merely engaging in market competition."

Bimstec sets Dec

and the 10th senior official meeting and 8th foreign ministers meeting in December 2005.

A decision was taken to enhance people-to-people contact through exchange of cultural and youth delegations and observe Bimstec

tourism year 2005.

On FTA, Hemayet said the Bimstec Framework Agreement was signed last February, covering goods, services and investment. The technical committee made progress in negotiating the rules of origin and dispute-settlement

He said the technical committee was asked to complete early the negotiations, taking into account the interest of LDCs within the Bimstec realm, which encompasses parts of South and Southeast Asia.

Bangladesh as the lead country placed report on trade and investment, India on transport, communications and tourism, Myanmar on energy, Sri Lanka on technology and Thailand on fisheries at yester-

Another week

Dhaka "she said

Met office sources said the average temperature this year has increased by nearly four degrees Celsius, as the monsoon is delay-

The highest temperature ever recorded in the country - 45.4 degrees Celsius in Rajushi in 1972 occurred when the monsoon delayed, met office sources said.

The highest temperature in the country was recorded at 42.4 degrees Celsius in Rajshahi, when the temperature in the capital was 35.5 degrees Celsius. The temperature recorded in Sylhet was 23.4 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile the met office forecasted that a moderate to severe heat wave may continue over Khulna division and the regions of Rajshahi, Dinajpur and Ishwardi during the period.

The met office also forecasted that rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusts of wind are likely at one or two places over Sylhet, Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions. The weather elsewhere may remain mainly dry in the next 24 hours until 6:00pm toda

unresolved questions regarding financial market's role in supporting a broad based and pro-poor growth in Bangladesh.

He said: "Could commercial banking adopt an approach to absorb the genuine losses incurred for giving collateral-free loans to small entrepreneurs and remain profitable?"

"Could there be some kind of social insurance to cover such

The professor of economics said how could one ensure enough supervision to avoid wilful default by small borrowers? He suggested bank-NGO collaboration in this regard.

Prof Wahiduddin said some NGOs engaged in microcredit programmes could be turned into rural banks under an appropriate legal framework.

BB Governor Dr Salehuddin said there should be a moral pressure on the loan defaulters and application of the central bank's rules and regulations to reduce classified loans.

Banks will have to think about how the poor people could be served through various banking products, he said.

His predecessor Dr Fakhruddin suggested a code of ethics for the banks. He said the laws in the banking sector are not being practised properly.

Mohiuddin

FROM PAGE 16

Mujibur Rahman at Tungipara in Gopalgani tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Mohiuddin has finalised the draft of his muchtalked-about 'city government' for greater development of the port city, and will soon submit it to the government for approval.

The proposed city government was a priority pledge in the 40-point manifesto of Mohiuddin in his may-

The proposal contains formation of an administrative structure comprising 24 departments to ensure development of Chittagong.

Sources said Mohiuddin would seek a suitable time from the PM to submit the proposed structure of city

Crackdown

FROM PAGE 16

police, the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and the Coast Guard to assist the DNC in their operations at the borders with India and Myanmar.

The meeting proposed providing firearms to the DNC officials about which the home ministry will take decision after scrutiny. There was also a proposal for providing the DNC officials with cell phones

The meeting also formed committees at three levels--17-member upazila committees led by Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNO), 23-member district committees led by deputy commissioners (DC), and a 14member national committee led by the home secretary--for controlling and raising awareness about narcotics.

The government will also set up billboards at bus and launch terminals and railway stations to raise awareness.

Asked to comment on a recen-US State Department report that said there are "unconfirmed reports' that opium and cannabis are cultivated along the border with Myanmar and cannabis in the southern delta region, Babar said, "This is not true."

The meeting was also attended by Information Minister M Shamsul Islam, Social Welfare Minister Ali Ahsan Mojaheed Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan. State Minister for Planning Maj Gen (retd) Anwarul Kabir Talukder, DNC Director General Kamaluddin Ahmed, secretaries for home and law Safar Raj Hossain and Alauddin Sarder

The main opposition that returned to the House in May last year ending an 11-month boycott again started keeping off parliament proceedings from the 15th session this year.

They boycotted the 15th session

The party first joined the present parliament on June 24, 2002, after an eight-month boycott protesting what it said was mass rigging in the October 2001 general elections that sent the BNP-Jamaat-led coalition

to power. Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina.

after a minister cast aspersions on time might continue for long as there is no risk of loss of membership of

the highest number of absence from House proceedings.

2 'robbers' killed

The Rab said after the 30-minute gunfight, they found the bullet-hit bodies of Mainuddin and Mehedi. Rab constable Mashiur Rahman was injured in the shootout, they

The team seized two LG, one SBBL gun, one pipegun,10 bullets and seven used cartridges from the

Mainuddin and Mehedi were robberies, murder and extortion police said

in blast at

A suicide bomber attacked the main checkpoint to Baghdad International Airport yesterday, wounding at least 15 Iragis, the military said.

The explosion shortly after 9:00am destroyed several vehicles, sent up a huge cloud of black smoke, and was followed by militants firing machine guns at security forces. It also underscored the difficulties U.S. and Iraqi authorities face in curbing the rampant insur-

In New York, Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari said U.S.led forces must remain in until the country's own soldiers and police can take responsibility for securing the nation amid its continuing insurgency.

U.S. soldiers captured four wanted militants in a number of separate raids since Monday, including a former spy in Saddam Hussein's secret service believed to be financing several terrorist groups n western Baghdad's Ghazaliyah district, the military said.

The former spy, whose identity was not revealed, also was suspected of working as a cameraman for a terrorist group, apparently filming attacks on coalition forces that later were posted on Internet sites or distributed to the media.

Iraqi authorities are trying to take the fight to insurgents, who have launched attacks that have killed at least 765 people, including U.S. troops, since the new government was announced April 28, according to an Associated Press count. Many of the killings have come as a result of suicide bombings, with about 100 attacks being carried out in May, according to an AP count.

An ongoing massive Iraqi-led offensive dubbed Operation Lightning is aimed at curbing the constant violence. According to Iraqi government figures obtained Wednesday, 670 Iraqis were killed n May, a 38 percent increase from April, when 485 died. The Iraqi figures do not include U.S. troops.

Some 297 insurgents also were killed in May, an almost 400 percent increase from the 60 militants killed in April. U.S. forces killed almost 140 during two May offensives in western Iraq, while many others were suicide bombers.

The government did not provide figures for every year or the months before April.

The suicide bomber exploded his vehicle at the main checkpoint to Baghdad's airport, the U.S. military and police said. The airport is located at the end of a 10-mile-long highway dubbed by many Iragis the 'Street of Death" because it is the frequent target of suicide bombings and ambushes.

The al-Qaeda in Iraq terrorist group claimed responsibility in an Internet statement that could not be

40 injured

FROM PAGE 16

Faisal and Mafi -- involved in arms smuggling in the border area had a ong rivalry over various issues including domination of the area.

Lovalists of Faisal allegedly assaulted a local woman named Hiratunnesha and mugged her belongings when she was returning home from her father's house on Tuesday night. The victim complained to Mafi about this

Mafi then asked Faisal to return the woman's belongings snatched by his men.

This led to a gunfight between the two sides that lasted about two hours from 10:00 pm. They exchanged about 100 shots, and the fight stopped when Faisal suf-

Ten of the injured were admitted to various health centres. The rest were taking treatment at secret places to evade arrest Police rushed to the spot at about

midnight and chased the two groups. They fled across the border, sources said.

Faisal's men later ransacked 12 nouses of Mafi's supporters. Tension was prevailing in the

Police however claimed the

3 BNP men

FROM PAGE 16

Mohiuddin from the rooftop of a twostorey building near the BNP office. Witnesses said the attackers threw the bombs when Mohiuddin

was coming out of the upazila BNP

office at 11:40pm. Mukul and about

12 followers of Mohiuddin were

accompanying him, they added.

The explosions blew up the left hand of Mukul and the right leg of both Rahim and Ismail. They were rushed to Chuadanga

General Hospital and to Kushtia General Hospital. Mukul was shifted to National Institute of Traumatology &

Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor) in

Dhaka as his condition deteriorated. Police rushed to the scene. sealed the entire area and arrested five BNP men. They are Hamidul Azam, president of Alamdanga municipal unit, his son Hasibul Azam, nephews Rajib and Real and

BNP activist Abul Kashem. Ronny Biswas on behalf of the Communist War claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement sent to the Mathabhanga office. The outfit termed Mohiuddin a class enemy but regretted the attack on

WB wants effective

education sector development. STOCKTAKING

FROM PAGE 1

"At the moment, we are taking stock of the progress Bangladesh has made in the last two years using the DSC. We have been discussing the situation with the government. Ahmed told the press after the final round of talks with the finance

minister. The stocktaking mission will report back to the WB top management. It will also monitor the government initiatives in June and July to meet the conditions. And, considering all these, the WB board will take the decision on the credit.

Ahmed said they have briefed Saifur on the outstanding issues. Among those ending corruption, structural reforms in the energy sector and poverty reduction feature most prominently. The WB emphasises elimination

of corruption not from a political perspective, he said, but from a purely economic one. For example, tax evasion, bank loan default and non-payment of electricity, gas and water bills are just different kinds of corruption. He cited a WB analysis that shows how acutely corruption hampers development, quipping, "The more corrupt a country the less developed it is."

Besides, without ending corruption, poverty eradication remains a remote possibility, he said, adding that is where lies the real importance of having a fully staffed and operational ACC

He appreciated Bangladesh's achievements in human development and GDP growth but also pointed out that about 50 percent of the population are still poor. "So, the rate of GDP growth needs to be further scaled up.'

Following the meeting, Saifur Rahman said the discussion with the WB mission was guite satisfactory. "They are happy with the steps we have taken in different sectors excepting a couple or two," he

mission has some reservations about the energy sector, but

claimed, "At the same time, they

also appreciated the progress we

have already made in this sector". On the team's stance on the ACC, Saifur said, "They are neither happy nor unhappy about it.' Terming the present crisis at the ACC as 'birth pains', he said like any other new organisation it too will need time to function smoothly.

Among the other WB conditions for the credit are drafting a financial reporting law providing for an independent financial oversight body reducing loss of state-owned enterprises by at least 10 percent and limiting all arrears to PDB and Desa to three months, all by June.

The WB also wants the government to announce a time-band plan for the financial restructuring of the power sector and to increase the prices of gas and electricity.

JS body accuses

FROM PAGE 16 submitted its report to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD) recommending realisation of the

"We will discuss the report at the next meeting and then take decision," Committee Chairman Abdul Mannan Talukder told The Daily Star after the meeting held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban

All members of the committee

were sent copies of the probe report submitted by the convenor of the probe body, BNP lawmaker nahiduzzaman Beltu. "In the investigation, we found him guilty and asked the parliamen-

tary body to take action against Shahiduzzaman told The Daily Star. The parliamentary body also

discussed different on-going projects on arsenic mitigation across

DU campus under JCD

FROM PAGE 1

campus, while the JCD activists of Sir Salimullah Hall roughed up and drove out at least two BCL activists from the hall in the early hours

The JCD men beat up Imaul Hague Sarker Titu, a third-year student of Islamic studies, in front of the Bangla Academy in presence of the police. He was admitted to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital with serious head injuries. The other injured are Joy, Naser and

The police clubbed and chased the BCL leaders and activists who gathered at the High Court intersection and tried to take out a procession. Two BCL activists -- Titon and Limon -- were injured while Anjan, a BCL activist of Jagannath Hall, was arrested during the police action. JCD GUARD

The JCD men of Bangabandhu Sheikh Muiibur Rahman Hall, Haii Mohammed Mohsin Hall and of the road from Bangla Academy to the Institute of Fine Arts, Ziaur Rahman Hall unit JCD took position at Shahbagh intersection, Jasimuddin Hall in front of Institute of Fine Arts, Jagannath Hall at Central Shaheed Minar and Bakshibazar, Fazlul Hague Hall at Chankhar Pool, Ekushey Hall at Curzon Hall, Shahidullah Hall at High Court intersection, Salimullah, Hall at Palashi and Sir AF Rahman and Sergeant Jahurul Haque Hall at Nilkhet to prevent the BCL men from getting to the campus

POLIČE EXCESSES The police stopped the car of Prof Haripada entering the campus at about 11:00am at the Nilkhet entrance. Constables barred his entry to the campus on the pretext that his car had no DU sticker on it An altercation ensued and Sergeant Azhar behaved rudely with teacher Morshed Hasan, who was with Prof

Haripada, saying that he has the authority to do anything on the Following Saturday's fatal bus accident near Shahbagh intersection in which Dhaka University student Shammee Akhter Happy died, sparking violent protests, the police put up barricades at the entry points to the campus and are letting

vehicles only with DU stickers on. DU Treasurer Prof Sved Rasidul Hasan and Proctor Prof AKA Firoz Ahmed rushed to the scene on information and brought the situation under control.

The teachers as well as the JCD leaders including DU unit President Hasan Mamun protested the incidents and demanded immediate punishment of the sergeant. "PUNISH JCD MEN"

Progotishil Chhatra Jote, a combine of six left-leaning student bodies, Bangladesh Chhatra Union Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and Samajtanrik Chhatra Front took out processions and held rallies on the campus demanding punishment of the JCD men who attacked them. They also reiterated the

demands including resignation of the vice-chancellor (VC) and the proctor for what they said was their failure to ensure security of the

JCD SEEKS APOLOGY

The JCD brought out a procession and held a rally on the campus demanding immediate arrest and punishment of the BCL activists for plasting the bomb on the campus on Tuesday. JCD President Azizul Baree Helal told the rally that "the students would continue their resistance against the BCL" if it does not apologise to them for the Helal said Awami League chief

Sheikh Hasina had directed the BCL high-ups to fire gunshots on the campus, but they blasted a bomb and because of this, she has given a statement to the media where she condemned gunshots instead of the

JCD General Secretary Shafiul Bari Babu said, "We cannot say 'no' to the Chhatra League men if they want to come back to the campus, provided the general students forgive them. **BCL VERSION**

Asked about the JCD contention that the BCL will have to apologise to the students to enter the campus BCL General Secretary Nazrul Islam Babu said those who committed crime should offer an apology to the students. He warned that they would launch a united movemen along with the countrymen in a bid to force the JCD to apologise to the general students for committing the atrocities on the students

Babu accused the JCD of damaging the culture of student politics by repeatedly attacking the general students and activists of other opposition student organisations. BCL TO FILE CASE

Babu said he would file a case today against 21 JCD men including its DU unit President Hasan Mamun and General Secretary Saiful Islam Firoz on charges of beating up the BCL leaders and activists on the VC SEEKS CO-OPERATION

sations to maintain a congenial atmosphere on the campus. He said he would resign from his office when he would feel that he failed to handle the npus situation

Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz sought

co-operation of all the student organi-

DU GOES ON VACATION The university went on a scheduled summer vacation from yesterday, with authorities postponing all scheduled examinations in the wake of continued campus vio-

15 cheated

FROM PAGE 1

licence on May 11. The cheated fortune seekers are Mosharraf Hossain from Faridpur. Saiful Islam, Mohammad Faruque Abdur Rahman, Firoz Alam, Tara Miah and Golam Sarwar form Comilla, Abdur Razzaq from Satkhira, Borhan from Gopalganj Habib from Rajshahi, Sarajahan from Munshiganj, Sujan Acharya from Chandpur, Shah Alam from Tangail and Imam Hossain from Gazipur.

Earlier, they arrived at Zia International Airport (ZIA) by a Gulf Air flight at 8:30am.

"We tried to change our fortune and paid Tk 1.7 lakh to Tk 1.8 lakh to Golden View International each. With work permit and visa, we left Dhaka in November and December last year," a victim told reporters. They were assured of handsome

dation, but only a hand full of them The Bangladeshis alleged 10-12 of them had to stay in a single room with minimum food. Asked, the executive director of

salary with free food and accommo-

not employed the Bangladeshis. "We've compensated the victims and made payment for their return

home," he told the news agency. "We would send them abroad at our own cost if the government gave us a fresh licence," he claimed.

AL wants judicial
FROM PAGE 1
no objection if any of its leaders participate in the by-polls under the banner of Nagorik Committee.

Party presidium members will decide whether advocate Asaduzzaman, the Nagorik Committee candidate backed by opposition parties, will be allowed to contest the election with AL's election symbol boat, meeting sources

Accusing ruling BNP's student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) of the recent attacks on general students of Dhaka University who were protesting the death of a fellow student in road accident, Jalil said government backed cadres are destroying atmosphere in the country's highest seat of learning. "We demand judicial enquiry into

the recent incidents of attacks on general students and opposition backed student leaders and work ers by the Chhatra Dal cadres." the AL leader said while briefing newsmen after the meeting. AL also demands judicial enqui-

ries into all extra-judicial killings involving the Rab and in the name of crossfire. Jalil said. "The government is using the

Rab to eliminate its political opponents." he said. Tuesday's killing of Jubo League leader Suman in Khilgaon is the latest instance that Rab is being

used against the opposition, he About 4000 people were killed in launch disasters in last three and a half years, but it seems that the government is totally indifferent to it. the AL leader said, adding, "How can the shipping minister continue in his office despite repeated launch disasters due to his ministry's negli-

Judicial enquiry is necessary to find out the real culprits whose negligence led to deaths of people,

AL leaders at the meeting also criticised the government for hiking prices of fuel three times in recent days and observed that all sectors including agricultural will be affected

3 killed

electric poles twisted and extensive damage caused to standing crops

and vegetables. The dead are Hasina Begum, 35, Mariam Begum, 38, and Abiran Nessa. 45

Of the injured, Saleha Khatun. Kadiluddin. Naravan Chandra. Jitendra Nath Roy, Śudhannya Roy, Morshedul, Matiar Rahman Habibur Rahmanm, Fazlur Rahman and Ainul Hag were admitted to health complex or clinics. Identity of others could not be known.

Deputy commissioner along with local officials visited the affected areas yesterday. He distributed Tk 500 and rice to each of 300 families who have suffered most. Officials said a message was sent to the relief ministry for sanc-

CI sheets and 20kg rice for each of the affected families. Another report from Bogra said a severe storm swept Kahalu upazila on Tuesday evening, injuring 25 people and damaging about 100 houses

tion of Tk 6000 in cash, two bundles

Dhanmondi office.

Hasına FROM PAGE 1

Hossain, joined the AL Former BNP lawmaker and former chairman of the Pariatan Corporation SA Reza Hossain also joined the AL at the same programme held at the AL's

The AL chief alleged that the Rab

killed Sumon, a Jubo League leader of the city's Khilgaon area, in the name of "crossfire", adding that these extra-judicial killings by the Rab and police have tainted the image of the country abroad. Referring to the prevailing unrest on the Dhaka University campus. Hasina blasted BNP's student wing

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) foi

attacking the general students and

activists of the Bangladesh Chhatra

League (BCL) adding that the JCD wants to control the educational institutions across the country through muscle power. 'Chhatra Dal did not let the general students bring the dead body of Happy [who had died in a road accident Saturday] and attacked the agitating students," the AL chief said

adding that even the female students came under the JCD attack. Rejecting the finance minister's claim of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth, Hasina asked, "How can the GDP growth occur while this government has failed to see success in even a single sector?

Criticising the fuel price hike, she said the life of common people has become difficult as prices of essentials are increasing day by day. The AL chief urged the people to

be united to unseat the BNP-led coalition government. Senior AL leaders Abdur Razzak Amir Hossain Amu, Tofail Ahmed and AL Joint Secretary Obaidul Quader also attended the meeting.

Bus fare shoots

FROM PAGE 1 sources said

"Roadstar Company plying Uttara-Motijheel route increased their fare from Tk 25 to Tk 30 from yesterday," ABC convenor Abdul Hamid Sharif said. "We would not survive if we do

not increase the fare by at least 25 percent. Earlier the government increased the fuel price but we did not increase the fare. Now the value of Tk has also decreased against dollar and we have to buy the motor the agency, Rafiqul Islam claimed they should not be blamed, as the parts, tyres and tubes at increased rates," Abdul Hamid said justifying Jordanian company, Al Shahed, had the increase of bus fare. The price of iron has also

increased, much to the worry of the bus owners, he added.

The rate of government fixed bus fare is Tk .72 per kilometer in the city, but most of the companies charge more than that.

Ex-FBI top boss

FROM PAGE 16 the mysterious source who has been the subject of intense specula-

tion for more than three decades. "I'm the guy they used to call Deep Throat," Felt, who is now 91 and living in California, told Vanity Fair in an article published Tuesday. Family members of the former

Federal Bureau of Investigation official told reporters outside Felt's home in the California town of Santa Rosa that he was relieved to finally be able to speak out and see the 30-

Bob Woodward, the Washington Post reporter whose clandestine briefings by the world's most celebrated anonymous source in an underground garage helped unravel the Watergate cover-up, at first declined to confirm the identity.

Woodward and fellow Post reporter Carl Bernstein had always maintained that they would only reveal "Deep Throat's" identity after the source's death. But the two reporters and their editor of the time, Benjamin

Bradlee, said they had decided to confirm the identity following the

year veil of secrecy lifted.

family's statement.
"W. Mark Felt was 'Deep Throat' and helped us immeasurably in our Watergate coverage. However, as the record shows, many other sources and officials assisted us and other reporters for the hundreds of stories that were written in The Washington Post about Watergate, Woodward and Bernstein said in a

statement. Bradlee. who was the Post's executive editor during Watergate, said: "The thing that stuns me is that the goddamn secret has lasted this

long."

Reading a family statement, Felt's grandson, Nick Jones, described his grandfather as "a great American hero who went well and above the call of duty at much risk to himself.' "We all sincerely hope the coun-

pleased at finally being "honored for his role as 'Deep Throat' Felt's name was no stranger to the perennial Washington dinner party game of identifying

Woodward's source.

try will see him this way, as well," Jones said, adding that Felt was

included former Nixon White House aide Diane Sawyer, who is now a television presenter, Nixon's chief of staff Alexander Haig and FBI director of the time Patrick Gray. Some even argued that "Deep

Throat" was in fact several people,

previously expressed deep reserva-

tions about revealing his secret

over concerns that his actions would

Jones said his grandfather had

or merely a literary invention.

The list of likely suspects has

not have been deemed appropriate for an FBI official.

"But as he recently told my mother, I guess people used to think 'Deep Throat' was a criminal. But

now they think he's a hero," he said. Felt's family had no idea of his secret until 2002, when Felt's close friend and frequent social companion, Yvette La Garde, told his daughter Joan that Felt had confided to being Woodward's source.

The Vanity Fair article said Joan confronted her father, who initially denied it, but after she explained La Garde's disclosure responded: 'Since that's the case, well, yes I am.'

"Deep Throat" met with Woodward several times to help break stories about the involvement of Nixon administration officials in the June 17, 1972, burglary of the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate complex in Washington.

The burglars, who were seeking to plant listening devices to spy on the Democrats during an election campaign, were tried and found

guilty.

With public pressure mounting over his deceit, Nixon became the first US president to resign in August

Watergate made celebrities of Woodward and Bernstein, whose exploits were immortalised in the 1976 movie "All The President's

Part of the enduring appeal of the

"Deep Throat" mystique was the decision to name him after the culturally iconic porn film of the Following Felt's disclosure, his daughter Joan told Vanity Fair she had pleaded with him to announce

have some closure, and accolades while he was still alive. Joan recounted how she tried to elicit further information from her father as they were watching a Watergate TV special.

his role immediately so that he could

dates, she said she deliberately questioned her father in the third "Do you think Deep Throat wanted to get rid of Nixon?" she

of the possible "Deep Throat" candi-

When his name came up as one

"No, I wasn't trying to bring him down," Felt responded, insisting that he was "only doing his duty". Felt finally conceded to family pressure to go public when his daughter persuaded him that that the story could bring some financial

benefit that would help pay for his

grandchildrens' education.

Afghan mosque blast

bomber also died.

FROM PAGE 16 Hamid Karzai, who was gunned down on Sunday after recently speaking out against fugitive Taliban leader Mullah Omar.

"We have received 40 wounded

and 20 dead bodies in the hospital,

Dr Naseer Ahmed Niazi, director of

Kanadar's Mirwais hospital, told Afghan interior ministry spokesman Lutfullah Mashal told AFP that 16 people including the police chief of the capital Kabul, General Akram

enemies of Afghanistan and Islam. The investigation into the case has started," added Mashal, who had said earlier that more than two dozen people were killed. A man in a police uniform approached the police chief and

bent over pretending to prepare

Khakraizwall's shoes, which he had

"It was a suicide attack by the

taken off to enter the mosque in line with tradition, said survivor Mohammad Afzal, 35. "That was when he detonated his bomb. It was a terribly big explosion which killed Khakraizwall and his bodyguards and people around him," the witness told an AFP corre-

spondent at the scene. "There were some 50 to 60 people inside the mosque when the explosion occurred. This was a very big explosion and there is blood everywhere in the mosque and outside it," the correspondent said.

over the mosque compound.'

"Human limbs are scattered all

The attack will raise fears that Taliban militants, who continue to wage a guerrilla revolt in southern and eastern Afghanistan, are further stepping up a renewed onslaught which which has left more than 250 people dead this year. Most of those killed have been militants themselves

The hardliners claimed responsibility after two armed men on a motorcycle on Sunday gunned down cleric Favvaz, who was chief of Kandahar's Islamic Council Favvaz organized a meeting of

revoked the title of Amirul Mominine the leader of all believers, given to Mullah Mohammed Omar. Two years ago a bomb exploded

other Afghan Islamic clerics in

Kandahar last week in which the

council of ulemas, or scholars

in the same mosque, which is named after the cleric's father, wounding Fayyaz and 23 others. Kandahar has been hit by other previous bombings, including twin roadside blasts on March 17 that killed five people and wounded more than 30 while US Secretary of

State Condoleezza Rice visited Kabul. On Monday up to 16 militants and four police officers were killed in series of attacks in southern

Afghanistan. More than 18,000 coalition troops, including about 16,000 US forces, are in Afghanistan hunting

said they would file a case against

the Rab men today. Earlier at 9:00pm Tuesday,

Taliban and Al-Qaeda militants.

Rab now blames

FROM PAGE 1

from the scene of Sumon's killing. It also lodged another case against the unknown assailants for

with Khilgaon police. "Rab-3 Senior Warrant Officer Rahim Ullah filed the two cases at 6:00pm yesterday," Sub-Inspector Borhan Uddin, duty officer at Khilgaon Police Station, told The Daily Star over telephone at 7:00 yesterday evening Borhan said Rab accused unknown

Another officer of the police

station who acted as the duty officer Tuesday night, however, told The Daily Star at 8:30 on that night that no case was filed until then. Sumon, acting joint convenor of ward No 25 unit of Awami Jubo League, the youth front of the main

opposition Awami League (AL), was

gunned down at Banasree Project in

assailants of the murder.

Rampura at 3:30 Tuesday morning. Branding Sumon as a notorious criminal. Rab claimed he was killed in a "shootout" in Rampura, but witnesses and sources said the anticrime force arrested him in Goran at 9:00pm on Monday and killed him later in its custody.

There is no proof of the Jubo League leader's crime link and sources said Jubo League leader Sumon is not "Goailya Šumon", as Rab claimed. Three cases are pending against "Goailya Sumon" with Sabujbagh police. Sumon's relatives, meanwhile,

Sumon's uncle Surui Ali received his the murder at around the same time body from Dhaka Medical College morgue on completion of autopsy. The body was later kept at Birden Hospital mortuary.

held at Baganbari in Goran near Sumon's house after Johr prayers yesterday. The second janaza was held in front of AL headquarters on Bangabandhu Avenue at 4:00pm before he was buried at Azimpur Activists of the AL and its front

The first namai-e-ianaza was

Avenue office after Sumon's burial but the police dispersed them. They later held a protest rally there with Jubo League city unit President Mohiuddin Mohi in the chair. AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil Organising Secretary Saber Hossain

Chowdhury and Jubo League General

Secretary Mirza Azam, MP, among

organisations tried to take out a procession from Bangabandhu

Jubo League later announced a four-day programme to protest Sumon's murder. Protest processions will be

brought out and demonstrations staged in the districts on Saturday and in upazila headquarters the following day. On Monday, the youth wing will bring out a procession from its central office.

others, addressed it.

AL won't join budget AL lawmakers in months due to

AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil however told journalists yesterday that a final decision on the budget session would be taken at a meeting of the party's parliamentary wing prior to the session

in protest against the speaker's refusal to adjourn the session after adopting an obituary reference on former finance minister and AL lawmaker Shah AMS Kibria.

The AL lawmakers stormed out of the House on June 25 in 2003 Sources said the boycott this

Parliament secretariat sources said the AL chief's membership will be in danger only after her absence for at least 49 working days. Among the AL deputies, Sheikh Hasina has

absence from parliament proceed-

ings. The constitution provides that

membership of a lawmaker will be

cancelled if he is absent from the

House for 90 consecutive working

and drove away the attackers.

accused of committing highway

Iraq airport AP, Baghdad