25 Colombian troops killed in rebel attacks

At least 25 Colombian troops have been killed and 19 are missing after two devastating attacks by Marxist

Farc rebels on Saturday attacked troops in Putumayo province near the Ecuador border, and fought for control of a road near the Venezuelan frontier

The attacks left the worst death toll in a single day since President Alvaro Uribe came to power three

The BBC's Jeremy McDermott in Bogota says the rebels want to undermine Mr Uribe and ensure he

is not re-elected. The killings are part of a counteroffensive begun in February that

has killed more than 120 members of the security forces. In one incident, at least 19 soldiers were killed and 18 went missing after up to 300 guerrillas ambushed an army convoy during an attack apparently targeting oil

wells near Puerto Asis in Putomayo

Aircraft had been sent to the scene and were attacking rebel positions, army officials said, adding

that the Farc had also suffered casualties.

And in more fighting near the Venezuelan border, 400km northeast of the capital Bogota, six troops were killed as they fought with rebels to gain control of a road linking Ocana and Sardinata. **POLITICAL AIM**

said they had the rebels on the run and that the security policy of hardline president Alvaro Uribe had forced the guerrillas into irreversible

At the start of this year, the army

But our correspondent says the wave of attacks across the country since February has proven the

Buoyed up by hundreds of millions of dollars earned from drugs, the Farc (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) seem to have taken the initiative away from the security forces, he says.

The guerrillas hope to destroy President Uribe's re-election hopes by showing that his security policy, a cornerstone of his administration has failed.

The guerrillas want the next president to be more disposed to talk peace - but on their terms

US asks govt to protect

province.

enquired whether the government is investigating the deaths in

"He [Burns] expressed concern over the Ahmadiyya issue," Babar told reporters after the meeting, adding that he briefed the US delegate on the steps taken for the security of the Ahmadiyyas.

Burns described the 22-minute meeting with the state minister as satisfactory. He, however, did not answer reporters' queries.

Babar said the visiting US secretary assured him of increasing co-operation in various sectors especially in bringing reforms in the police department.

"The US delegates asked me about the government action in response to Friday's attacks on Ahmadiyyas. I told them that we are conducting extensive investigations to find out the persons responsible for the attacks, Babar told reporters.

He also told the under secretary that the police have already arrested eight people in connection with the arson and bomb attacks on the Brahmanbaria Ahmadiyyas

Babar said the US delegate had expressed satisfaction over the government investigations. "They are happy with us cooperating with Interpol and FBI (US Federal Bureau of Investigation) men, especially providing them with full access [to

Nicholas flew in Dhaka yesterday morning on a brief visit for discussion on political climate and bilateral issues. During his about 20-hour stay in Dhaka he will talk besides the government officials, to political party leaders. and representatives of the civil society.

This was his first visit to Bandladesh since his appointment as an under secretary to the Bush administration on March 17 this year. He will leave Dhaka early this morning.

In the meeting with Babar, Burns raised also the issue of deaths in 'crossfire'

"I've told them that we have directed executive inquiry into each such incidents of death. And in most cases, the magistrates are doing the inquiries," said

Babar. Burns was accompanied in the meeting by among others the outgoing US Ambassador in

Dhaka Harry K Thomas. Regarding Bangladesh's terrorism. Babar reiterated the government's resolve not to let any terrorist networks, be they external or internal, use its land. MEET WITH FOREIGN The US under secretary of state

stance on the US war against

had an 80-minute meeting with Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan at the foreign ministry yesterday.

He told reporters after the meeting that he had excellent talks with the foreign minister. He said he had reaffirmed

during the meeting that the US would do everything necessary to maintain its close relations with Bangladesh.

When the reporters asked Burns whether US concerns in Bangladesh were discussed during meeting with Morshed, the top bureaucrat at the US State Department ducked the question.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, Foreign Minister Morshed Khan said Burns and he agree that any political stalemate in Bangladesh should be resolved through discussion in parliament.

Asked whether the issue of Ahmadiyya persecution came up for discussion, Khan said he himself raised the matter and told him that some people are trying to make an issue of it, but the government is determined to deal with it.

The foreign minister said Burns had appreciated the gov ernment initiatives for poverty alleviation, setting up of an independent anti-corruption commission, measures against human trafficking, legal reforms, law and order, and Bangladesh's contribution to UN peacekeeping opera-

Khan said he had requested the US official to incorporate Bangladesh into the Millennium Challenge Account, a special aid programme by the US to help the developing nations with better governance records.

Referring to Burns' visit to Bangladesh, Khan said such high-profile visit would definitely open a new chapter in Bangladesh-US relationship.

He also said the US does not pay attention to any propaganda against Bangladesh.

Foreign Secretary Hemayetuddin and the US Ambassador Harry K Thomas were present at the meeting.

one for a murder at Laxmikola

PP added.

FROM PAGE 1 Hossain and Tanjib-Ul Alam

Bidisha's counsels and family members expect that Bidisha, who s in the prison cell of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH), may be released today if her bail bond is furnished and no further case is filed

Bidisha has been granted ad nterim bail in all four cases, two of which were filed by her former husband Ershad.

the last to be filed against her on June 16

day went to the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka (CMM) at about 4:30pm to furnish bail bond in line with the direction of the High Court, only to find that CMM Jalal Ahmed had left his office by then. The bail bond may be furnished today

Disqualified firms

Whip Ashraf Hossain and Jamaat lawmaker Abdus Subhan observed that the time extension of money

BNP MPs

age illegal income.

whitening provision would encour-

get speech proposed an extension

of the time limit up to June 30 next

year for whitening black money by

Ashraf said, "It is not fair that

corrupt people should get immunity

by paying only 7.5 percent tax when

nonest taxpayers have to pay a

for whitening black money," he said.

minister's defence advisor, said the

finance minister in his budget

speech totally ignored the issue of

budget speech] did not utter a single

word about our national security and

there is no direction for the armed

He termed the allocation for

defence sector "inadequate" and

asked the government to double the

proposed allocation which is 6.71

Abdus Subhan of coalition

partner Jamaat-e-Islami also

opposed the provision for whitening

black money and demanded its

government for wholesale closure

of state-owned mills and factories

rendering thousands of workers

He contradicted the finance

minister's comment that there is a lot

of employment opportunities in the

country and said, "Hundreds of

skilled and unskilled workers are

now unemployed due to shutting

down of mills and factories in my

"Many of the jobless industrial

workers in Khulna are yet to get their

arrears though they lost their jobs

three to four years ago," he alleged.

anonymity told The Daily Star that

most probably they will entrust the

US firm Century with the responsi-

bility of drilling to seal off the burning

However, there is no possibility

Century, now working for Unocal

n Moulvibazar, earlier completed

drilling MB4 and MB5 gas wells

there and started drilling MB5 on

The First Special Tribunal Judge

ASM Jahirul Islam rejected the

separate bail petitions of Dr Galib

and JMJB members Shafiqullah

three other accused Abdul Kafi.

Abdul Baki and Abdul Gafur follow-

ing police report that they were not

Police yesterday morning pro-

duced Dr Galib, professor of Arabic

department at Rajshahi University,

and the other accused before the

His followers thronged inside the

Galib's counselor advocate

Kaisaruzzaman told the tribunal that

his client, a professor of a renowned

university, is a true believer of Islam

He was implicated in the case as

Opposing the statement, Public

Prosecutor (PP) Saiful Islam said,

"No incident of bomb blasts took

place in the country after Galib's

arrest, which proves his involve-

"There is much chance of casu-

As a photojournalist went to take

photo of Galib when he was getting

down from the police van, Galib

blamed the journalists for branding

charge-sheeted accused in three

cases two for bomb blasts at

Laxmilkola and Gabtali villages and

Dr Galib and Abdur Rahman are

alties if Galib is released in bail." the

ment in the earlier blasts."

him as a "militant leader".

and was never involved in bombing.

a result of a conspiracy, he added.

court premises when police got him

The tribunal also discharged

Court rejects

left one killed and 40 injured.

of Century men's reaching

Tengratila within three to four

weeks, he added.

FROM PAGE 1

and Joynal Sarkar.

involved in the incident.

tribunal under tight security

down from van at 10:00am.

Gas leakage

Whip Ashraf also criticised the

forces," said the ex-army chief.

percent of the total budget.

withdrawal.

area [Khulna]."

"The finance minister (in the

"We should not allow more time

Mahbubur Rahman, the prime

paying 7.5 percent income tax.

minimum of 10 percent tax."

national security.

The finance minister in his bud-

Headed by Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman, the economic affairs committee took the exceptional decision to pay 10 percent of the cost for installation of the Fenchuganj 90 megawatt plant in advance to disqualified Chinese bidder Harbin.

Two years ago, the government through a circular restricted such advance payment to contractors as it leads to waste and misuse of funds and as contractors in the past even left without starting the works. The government did not make any

such payment in the last two years. But yesterday, the committee approved a power division proposal to pay Harbin Tk 52 crore in advance against the total project cost of Tk 524 crore.

The Fenchugani project went to Harbin after six rounds of bidding. The tender rule dictates that the bidder must have 10 years of experience in setting up and operating combined cycle power plants. But the Power Development Board overlooked Harbin's lack of such experience. In the last bidding, another bidder withdrew accusing the PDB of siding with the Chinese company. The fifth bid was cancelled although it drew an offer of Tk 500 crore.

Harbin was previously awarded the Tonai 100-mw simple cycle power plant of the PDB, which was launched in March, a year behind schedule.

Yesterday's meeting also gave the go-ahead for awarding the Meghnaghat-2 power project to a consortium of UAE's trading company Belhasa, Bangladesh's Orion Power Company and German Steag AG.

The cabinet purchase committee in March did not approve this tender, as the original winner of the bid was different. The committee sought the power ministry's clarification on how the government could approve the contract in favour of this joint venture when the original winner of the bid was another company.

showed the name of experienced Japanese power company Nissho Iwai Corporation as the "lead sponsor" to pre-qualify in the tender for this power plant back in September

But after the pre-qualification, Belhasa changed the name of the Steag AG as the lead sponsor.

However, the real player of this bid is Orion, alongside Belhasa, which were awarded the Saidabad-

Gulistan flyover last week. The Orion-Belhasa-Steag consortium has been asked to provide only \$10 million worth of performance bond. whereas in Meghnaghat 1 or in Sirajganj the bond was \$30 million.

The ministry's proposal outlined a power tariff of 2.78 cents per kilowatt hour for the Meghnaghat-2

The meeting also approved modification of the government policy on small power projects with a generation capacity of up to 50 megawatt. This policy, drawn to speed up power generation growth, will allow awarding contracts on a selection basis in lieu of tender

In April, the cabinet committee approved the revision of the existing small power project to withdraw the tendering process. Besides, it redefined the size of the small power project to 50 megawatt from The revision states that the

government will not give the power developers any guarantee of purchase. The developers themselves will determine their market. If they have excess power, the government may buy from them, but it would not be compulsory. However, when the revision went

to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) for approval, it was returned with the observation that without government guarantee, developers may not be interested in the scheme

Accordingly, the power ministry revised the policy again and the government is now guaranteeing purchase of excess power from small plants. However, the price of this power will be negotiated on a case-to-case basis. Such facilities mount huge risks

on the government, including paying demurrage to small power developers if the government fails to purchase the power due to lack of power distribution system.

While small power suddenly got so much importance, last year the PMO cancelled a bid to award contracts for 15 small scale power plants in different parts of the country although the tender had found a number of responsive bidders.

Sources said the problems did not lie with the bidding, but with a "politicised decision", because the top policymakers view one of the dominant bidders as "connected to the Awami League".

The present system will allow awarding contracts to bidders who are close to or involved with the ruling alliance and not necessarily on their competence to build a power plant, industry insiders say.

Seven-Star Group

Investigation Department (CID) Munshi Atigur Rahman and several other officials were present inside the magistrate's room during the confession in violation of the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, sources said

George was remanded for 15 days in three phases since his arrest in connection with the attack. George told the magistrate that

all the 14 members of the group met at Robin's house at Maghbazar several days before the attack.

"Shuvro, Masud and Joy instructed us about the attack and assigned specific duty to each of us for the attack," he said.

The group met again on the National Baitul Mokarram Mosque premises on August 20 evening, a day before the attack, he said. Shuvro was not present at the meeting

"Joy and Masud grouped us into four teams and gave us the last instructions for the attack. The two then gave us Tk 5,000 each in advance, which was half the contract money," said George.

"Robin warned us not to throw

any grenade on the stage, otherwise Shuvro would be in trouble, George added.

On August 21, the group mem-Hall with a grenade.

dropped mine and ran for life, George said, adding, "I went straight to my home at Senbagh and stayed Several days after the incident

George said he went to Tongi to buy some phensidyle where he met his

"I told my story to Dalim and asked for money as I was in crisis after having spent the Tk 5,000 given for the attack," said George, He blamed Dalim, who knew his Senbagh and Dhaka addresses, for

India after the attack, George said.

He. however, did not mention anything about the involvement of Arman, a member of another underworld gang -- Five-Star Group -- in

DND people still live

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC-revenue) of Narayanganj district however said, "UNO [upazila nirbahi officer] and magistrates who are overseeing the drive so far have not made any complaints about obstacles to discharging their duties". The drive will go on to spare thousands of dwellers from

waterlogging, he added When asked about Demra portion of the DND dam. Salauddin Ahmed MP said. "I on my own initiative have duo canals in Matuail. Sharulia, and

now am digging at Shvampur." The lawmaker was not offered any assistance from the government. especially from BWDB in his effort, he

He said that a proposal for a Tk 70-crore project to solve the drainage problem of the DND area has been placed through Wasa before the Local Government, Rural Development (LGRD) ministry. It now awaits the approval of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecnec).

The locals however maintained that no tangible measures have been taken in the Demra portion of the DND dam. During the last year's

waterlogging, Dhaka Water and

Sewerage Authority (Wasa) installed more than 20 pumps to sewage away logged water but it took about a month to have the water flowed out of the area Managing Director of Wasa ANH

Akhtar Hossain said last vear on government's instruction Wasa drained out rain water from the DND area mostly belonging to Dhaka while the BWDB supervised the works at the DND portion in Narayanganj. The areas that usually go under

water during monsoon are Kajla, Matuail, Dhonia, Konapara, Basherpul, Dogair, Deilla, Hajinagar, Tengra, Boxnagar of Demra portion, and Shanarpar, Nemaikashari, Bagmara, Jalkuri, and other parts of Narayanganj portion of the dam.

restored fully," Hossain added.

while two to Shitalkhya.

said they have gathered much "We have conducted a study on information about the Friday's ways to solve the drainage problem attack. He however declined to in the DND dam area. We found that most of the irrigation canals have investigation. been filled and walkways developed on those. Besides, several drainage

canals in the area have yet to be have been kept in water at the police Of the canals yet to be restored "We have sought army assisthree flow to the River Buriganga

EU unionists

Javier Chercoles Blazquez, director of Indetex of Spain. were in the delegation which met the minister.

The leaders, who are in Dhaka for the second time in three weeks' time, said the exporters and the government of Bangladesh should consider the present situation and the six-month deadline as a wake up call for the garment industry. They asked the minister to

ensure paying the female workers double in case of working extra time and granting them leave with full salary during pregnancy so that the exporters can continue to sell their products to the EU countries.

About the compensation paid to the victims of Spectrum factory collapse, they said the amount was inadequate to compensate a human life. They alleged that many of the victim workers did not aet their due salaries after the incident.

Responding to the EU workers' leaders and buyers, the minister said the government is going to form a trust fund for the workers "A national taskforce will

also be formed to look into the safety measures," he said adding that the prime minister has already given orders in this

The minister told them that the government and the private sector have resource constraints and sometimes it is very difficult for them to pay high compensation to the victims of an accident.

Ties with Dhaka FROM PAGE 1

He reaffirmed that ongoing US cooperation with Bangladesh would continue. The Dhaka-Washington relationship is direct, not influenced by others, he said.

The United States foreignoffice functionary rated the bilateral ties as 'very good, sound and strong". The relationship has been built up for the mutual benefit of the two countries, he said. In the perspective evolution

of US Foreign Policy, Burns

said, Bangladesh's position in

South Asia is increasingly getting important. He said an excellent relationship between Bangladesh and the USA has been maintained for long and they feel proud of the

way it is improving under the leadership of the prime minister. Burns said relations between the Bush administration and Khaleda government are excellent and that would continue as the US administration gives high value to this relationship

Khaleda also hoped that the ties between the two countries would further strengthen in the days ahead for the mutual welfare of the two peoples. The US under secretary

apprised the PM that he had constructive discussions earlier in the day with Bangladesh foreign minister, foreign secretary and state minister for home affairs.

He also appreciated Bangladesh's role in fighting against world terrorism and role in UN peacekeeping missions and progress in women empowerment in the country.

Youth held

FROM PAGE 16

and American Centre in the name of al-Qaeda, threatening to blow up the establishments. Police are investigating to detect

if he really has a link with the al-Qaeda network. He also sent email threats to the

Rab and police headquarters asking them to release one of the 23 most wanted criminal. Arman. The Rab filed a case against

Hasanul and handed him over to Mohammadpur police on Saturday

8 held for attack

beefed up security in and around the Ahmadiyya-inhabited areas since the incident.

A team of police is still keeping

close watch on the areas to maintain law and order. Officials from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and Special Branch (SB) of police have visited The superintendent of police of

the district, ATM Tareque, told The Daily Star different units of police are trying to trap the bomb attack-Officer-in-Charge (OC) Md Ismail of Kotwali Police Station

reveal anything for the sake of Three time bombs seized from East Kandipara and Bhadughar

tance for destroying the bombs," the OC said yesterday.

AL team meets

Ambassador in Dhaka yesterday

AL Presidium Member Kazi Zafrullah MP was other member of the two-member AL delegation while the outgoing US Ambassador Harry K Thomas and the national security advisor for South Asia aided the US under secretary at the meeting which lasted for about 45 minutes.

"The talks were positive, open and constructive, and we told the US delegate that Awami League will continue its dialogues with the US State Department," said Saber, the political secretary to the leader of the opposition in parliament. The main opposition leaders

said the next general election is critical for the country, and the people must be allowed to vote freely to elect a government of their choice. "People must have the chance to get rid of the prevailing situation and Awami League believes electoral process is the only way to do so," Saber said.

They also told the State Department official that AL and other opposition parties here are working to devise a number of electoral reform proposals. The meeting also discussed

the recent spate of grenade attacks including the August 21 blasts in an AL rally, and also incidents like arms hauls in Chittagong. The AL delegate told Burns that it is not the question of

incompetence of the government

to investigate these incidents, rather it is about the ruling parties' complicity in these acts of On the question of joining the parliament, the AL leaders in the meeting reaffirmed the party's commitment to parliamentary democracy. "But, mere attendance at the parliament does not necessarily ensure the effective

functioning of the House. The

opposition must be given the

opportunity to play its due role,"

They then alleged that it is rather the government's attitude that accounts for the stalemate

over parliament The AL delegate told the meeting that standing committees on different ministries are important in a parliamentary democracy, yet the present government formed the commit-

first sitting of the House. Moreover, the main opposition's demand for chair of the committees in proportion to its seats in parliament is also ignored, they observed during the meeting.

tees about two vears after the

Road crashes

FROM PAGE 16 tempo on Dhaka-Chittagong high-

way at Rampur. Two of the tempo passengers died on the spot and five were

A Chandpur-bound bus from Dhaka collided head-on with a tractor near Baburhat, leaving two

persons seriously injured. The driver of the tractor. Rahman Mizi. 19, was pronounced dead on arrival at Chandpur General

AL human chains

FROM PAGE 16

Elephant Road, Shahbagh, Kakrail, Bijoy Nagar, Purana Paltan, Zero Point, Gulistan, Motijheel Shapla Chattar, Tikatuli, Sayedabad and Demra. The central leaders of AL held

talks with the city unit leaders yes-

terday to make the programme a

success. The meeting discussed preparations for the hartal, the human chain and the public meet-The meeting, held at AL president's Dhanmondi office, finalised six places for the public meetings --Mirpur Outer Stadium, No 32 Dhanmondi Russell Square, Uttara

Anwara Model High School ground, Motijheel Ideal School compound, Azad ground of Lalbagh and Jurain

Sagir murder

his criminal activities and the gang he is tied to, the police said.

Geshu's father Altaf Uddin, nother Amirunnesa and sister Maksuda could only tell the police that they threw Geshu out of the house some four years ago after he had taken to criminal activities. They said since then they had no contact with him.

They also said they knew that Geshu had married and has a child but could not say where they lived.

Earlier on Saturday, Geshu's

father identified him at the morgue of Mitford hospital. However, other sources said Geshu had been involved with a gang patronised by the brother of a

part of the city. Meanwhile, Sagir's brother Syed Ahmed filed a case with Sutrapur Police Station late Saturday night, where he mentioned that four to five unidentified criminals gunned down his brother. He, however, did not cite any reason for the killing.

ruling BNP lawmaker from the old

Assailants gunned down Sagir. general secretary of Dhaka City (south) Jubo Dal near his Nasir Uddin Sarder Lane house Friday. The law-enforcers intercepted the killers while they were fleeing off and shot dead Shaon after the gang had allegedly shot and wounded a

said Shaon was fatally wounded

after he had taken a bullet fired by

police havilder. New police version The Police Headquarters in a press statement vesterday, meanwhile.

his associates when they were fleeing on being chased by a mob and members of the police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab). It maintained that Havilder

Rafiqul Islam of a police patrol caught Shaon, who managed to break free by shooting and wounding Rafigul. As the locals, police and Rab chased the killers, they fired indiscriminately and Shaon received the bullet during the shooting. The mob eventually got hold of him and beat him up.

The statement -- which came two days after the media criticised the killing of Shaon who it said could help expose the real perpetrators of the murder -- further claimed that the police and Rab men "rescued" and sent him to Mitford Hospital where the doctors declared him

Interestingly, Sub-Inspector Shahid of Sutrapur Police Station told journalists on the day of the incident that Shaon was killed in the police and Rab firing at Raisahebbazar crossing in Old Dhaka after he had shot Havilder Rafigul.

Protest A few thousand leaders and activists of Jativatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) took out a silent procession. organised on Dhaka University

campus yesterday to mourn Sagir. Before the procession, the JCD held a brief rally at the foot of Aparajeyo Bangla and demanded immediate arrest and exemplary

Suicide bombers

people on the street, officials said.

In another attack in the same region, insurgents rounded up eight police officers at a checkpoint outside the western city of Ramadi, then marched them into their office

and shot them to death, police said

Saturday. The attack was on Friday. The US military also confirmed the deaths of two more Marines in Thursday's ambush in Fallujah. That brought the death toll from the suicide car bomb and ensuing small-arms fire to at least four Marines, with a Marine and a sailor still missing and presumed dead,

the military said. The lethal ambush on a convov carrying female US troops in Fallujah underscored the difficulties of keeping women away from the front lines in a war where such boundaries are far from clear-cut. At least one woman was killed, and 11 of the 13 wounded troops were female.

The attacks in Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad, and Saturday's suicide bombing in Samarra, 60 miles northwest of the capital, were startling indications that two major American military campaigns last year to eradicate insurgents in those cities may have failed. Both attacks signaled the reappearance of militants capable of carrying out

But it was the Fallujah ambush that may prove the most troubling

punishment to the killers.

for the military. The ambush suggested Iraqi insurgents may have regained a foothold in Fallujah, which has been occupied by US and Iraqi forces since they regained control of the city seven months ago. Fallujah is a former insurgent stronghold invaded by US forces in November It also is the city where an Iraqi mob hung the mutilated bodies of two US

contractors from a bridge. The women were part of a team of Marines assigned to various checkpoints around Fallujah. The Marines use females at the checkpoints to search Muslim women "in order to be respectful of Iragi cultural sensitivities," a military statement said.

The group al-Qaeda in Iraq claimed it carried out the ambush, one of the single deadliest attacks against the Marines and against women in this country. Thursday's attack, which raised the death toll among US military

members since the beginning of the war to 1,734, according to an Associated Press count, came as Americans have grown increasingly concerned about a conflict that shows no sign of abating.

Omar gives Tigers

qualifying for the July 2 Lord's Javed Omar, dropped on 19, made 81 as Bangladesh restored some pride after being bowled out

for 139 in Saturday's 10-wicket

defeat against world champions

Australia at Old Trafford.

had to win to have any chance of

But their total was still below par with Khaled Mashud's near run-a-ball 42 not out the only other major contribution. Flintoff took two wickets in two

Bashar won the toss and batted. Darren Gough, returning to his Yorkshire home ground, bowled a testing first over but finished with none for 59 off nine However, Simon Jones - fit

again following a right knee injury

and in for the rested Stephen

Harmison - bowled four succes-

sive leg-side wides at the start of

balls after Tigers captain Habibul

the second to left-hander The Glamorgan quick did though have the consolation of having Nafees caught cutting on 11 by first slip Marcus

Tushar Imran, was twice given a life early on in his innings, firstly when he turned Gough through

saw Paul Collingwood diving at backward point put down a low onehanded chance off a square cut. hattrick lbw shout from Flintoff but

Tremlett's second ball Imran on 10

Bangladesh's first boundary in 16 overs when he lofted Ashley Giles over long-on was then beaten in the flight by the left-arm spinner. Giles bowled tightly, taking one

the all-rounder reduce Bangladesh to 189 for seven when he clean bowled Mashrafee-bin-Mortuza for one.

Vikram Solanki's hands at square And off first change Chris

Bashar survived a confident was run out for 10 by Collingwood's direct hit from cover.

Aftab Ahmed (15), who scored

for 28 from his full 10 overs. Omar and Khaled Mashud then added a handy 45 before Omar

four short of his career-best, was yorked by Flintoff having faced 150 balls with five fours. And another quick yorker saw

Bidisha assisted him.

against her.

The money laundering case was The lawyers for Bidisha yester-

Belhasa and Orion Power

lead sponsor to BN Consortium while submitting the bid. This time the Belhasa consortium replaced Nisso with a German company

bers took positions according to instructions, he said. George was posted in front of Gulistan Cinema "When the first grenade blasted,

there since then "

friend Dalim, a police informant.

The other gang members fled to