# ADB sets condition

The ACC sits today to take a decision

on the ADB proposal. "We have received a copy of ADB's proposal today and will sit tomorrow to take a decision," ACC Chairman Justice Sultan Hossain Khan told The Daily Star yesterday.

imposing conditions on the commission by proposing the appointment of four consultants despite ACC's

He said the government will take Shifting from the commission's

sent a letter to ADB's Bangladesh their detailed job description. resident mission on April 30, request-

According to the ToR, one of the consultants will review the ACC Act to see if there are any inadequacies or scope for further development of the act to strengthen ACC's independence and capacity in anticorruption

missioners, during a meeting with on January 8, opposed the ADB

> The ACC also has completed 70 percent work on the formation of the organogram. Sources said if the commission takes ADB assistance now, it will make further delay in finalis-

May 28, 29 and 31, action against Officer-in-Charge of Ramna Police Station Mahbubur Rahman, compensation for the injured students during the campus violence, peaceful coexistence of the leaders and supporters of different organisations on the campus and at the dormitories, and security of the students".

Sikder said they will not withdraw the strike until the authorities punish the real culprits responsible for the cam-

'an eyewash' and demanded impartial investigation into the campus vio-

No classes were held at the university in the last two days and administrative works were partially done. The DU authorities had earlier postponed all the examinations scheduled for July 2

scheduled to resume on July 1 after a month-long summer vacation.

He termed forming the probe body

The BCL yesterday took out a

Academic activities at the DU were

Sultan Salauddin Tuku and Genera Secretary Shafiul Bari Babu and DU Unit President Hasan Mamun and General Secretary Saiful Islam Firoz in a statement said the strike has been

# Aussie firm hired

FROM PAGE 1

fight Niko at any international court, he added.

### **ENERGY ADVISER'S WARNING TO NIKO**

Talking to the press at his Board of Investment (BoI) office. Mahmudur Rahman yesterday said the government expects Niko to begin paving compensation for the gas loss from the first week of the next month. "We will start formal compensa-

tion talks with the Canadian company after receiving the preliminary loss assessment reports by the investigation teams. We will get it by the end of this month." Rahman, the newly appointed adviser to the energy ministry, told The Daily Star.

The ministry has formed two committees to assess the gas loss and environmental damage caused by the two rounds of blowout on January 7 and June 24 in Tengratila gas field.

However, he ruled out the cancellation of Niko's contract. "If we cancel the contract, who will control the fire of the well? Presently, it's most important that Niko starts drilling the relief well as a remedial measure for the blowout," he

### explained **NIKO HIRES DRILLING** FIRM FOR RELIEF WELL

Niko Resources (Bangladesh) Ltd President Qasim Sharif in a press release yesterday said the company has begun mobilisation of a drilling rig from Moulvibazar gas field o Unocal. The rig owned by Century will be directly transported by a barge to the Tengratila drilling site.

"We have also been able to recover a significant amount of the major equipment we mobilised for the first relief well. The equipment has been shifted to a safe location. We will be able to use the equipment for the blowout control operation after we drill the second relief well, he said.

"We have submitted our proposal to Bapex, Petrobangla and the government on drilling the second relief well and control the blowout in the Chhatak [Tengratila] gas field. The drilling operation will commence after we receive the

approval," Sharif said. He said Niko has paid Tk 1.91 crore as assistance to the affected villagers living in the vicinity of Chhatak gas field. "In addition, we are continuing to pay Tk 8 lakh a month to the affected villagers of the area," he added.

Federer

and Pete Sampras as the only players

since World War II to win three-in-a-

and once again Roddick's muscular

might was no match for the sublime all-

court skills of the world's top player.

Twelve months ago it was all over in

four sets; on Sunday it needed only

The win was Federer's 36th in a

row on grass, five short of Bjorn Borg's

record of 41, and it left Roddick still

seeking a second Grand Slam win to

The 23-year-old Federer dropped

ust one set on the way to his third

Wimbledon final and he peaked in the

semifinals where he saw off the chal-

lenge of old rival Lleyton Hewitt in

far more eventful road to the title

match enduring two tough five-

setters, the worst of the rain delays.

and a semi-final against Swede

Thomas Johansson that robbed him

Judiciary suffers

Bangladesh (ICAB) at its auditorium

"What is left if the judiciary itself becomes corrupt?" Moudud ques-

tioned, adding that only the judiciary

reform is not enough, rather many

other related factors also have to be

law and accounting are different

from others as these professions

are a combination of knowledge,

legal obligation, social evaluation

company or an institution depends

on the financial statements of that

organisation prepared by the public

accountants. Urging the public

accountants not to compromise with

morality he said "You have to be

honest, responsible and liable in

your profession. And I believe that

President Sheikh A Hafiz said a

public accountant is responsible for

ssuing an independent opinion on a

set of financial statements without

He alleged that some small

accounting firms are not doing busi-

ness in proper way and may create a

MA Baree, former ICAB presi-

dent, presented the keynote paper

at the seminar while former deputy

prime minister and ex-president of

iCAB Jamal Uddin Ahmed con-

sections take bribes for releasing

Of the imported goods, the

electronic gadgets are the costliest

them from the Customs House.

threat to the whole profession

ducted the session.

Iraders

FROM PAGE 1

Addressing the function, ICAB

money is not everything in life.

He said the tax payment of a

The minister said professions of

Chartered Accountants of

Roddick, a year younger, had a

It was a repeat of last year's final

rowat the All England Club.

go with the 2003 US Open.

straight sets.

of a day's rest.

FROM PAGE 16

improved.

and ethical aspects.

being biased.

FROM PAGE 16

The ADB informed the ACC about the possibility of a follow-up ADB governance technical assistance in

The follow-up assistance for next ar may accommodate training of the ACC officials and procurement of

The ADB also informed the ACC about the possibility of a future governance project in 2007 for support of further facilities requested by ACC

The ADB also informed the commission about the proposed terms of reference (ToR) of the consultants and

The commission, meanwhile, has completed first phase screening of Bac staff and has already absorbed 20 out of 67 ex-Bac anti-corruption officers and 30 out of 116 Bac inspec-

ing the organogram.

## Indefinite strike

procession and held a rally on the

## called to create backlog at DU and destroy congenial atmosphere on the

compensation today. Parishad

leaders said only 165 of the 616

families living within the one kilo-

metre radius of the January blowout

spot are on the list prepared by the

made the list, though there are only

They said 118 businessmen

local administration.

Of the money needed to release containers from the port, 47 percent is its real value while the rest 53 percent is spent on bribes. The other problems include port

officials' tendency to take excessive bribe, procedural complications. age-old rules, monopoly domination of the operators and pilots, and excess labour unions, the report

of suggestions to resolve the problems. They are: giving Stevedoring Company the authority to appoint workers, engaging private sector for equipment handling, taking statements of assets of the employees and officials, and entrusting the port authorities with full power to solve

The TIB report was made on the basis of newspaper reports, direct observation and through the process of asking specific questions to the people concerned.

## No int'l flight

FROM PAGE 1

weather. The jet fuel loaded in the aircraft has been taken away

that Peter Tyrer, a representative of Lloyd David Insurance Company, a British company with which the aircraft was insured, reached Dhaka from Singapore on Saturday night.

Tyrer visited the spot yesterday morning.

Sources said that the DC-10 aircraft would be declared write-off officially if the representative of the insurance company gives a 'green signal'. In that case, it will be much easier to carry out the salvage operation, cutting the aircraft into pieces.

"Peter would sit with the Biman officials today and submit his report after returning to Singapore," said a Biman official

Meanwhile, the president of Bangladesh Airlines Pilot Association (Bapa) Flight Captain Nasim dismissed the rumour that the pilot and co-pilot of the flight were on drugs.

People with no technical expertise in this field should not make any comments regarding the incident, he said in a statement yesterday The investigation committee should not be biased with such information. and the pilots should be given a fair chance to defend themselves. he added.

M Habibullah Khan, the chief of the probe body, said they are contin-

# Vast swath of land

Since the explosion, villagers in the area have been spending sleepless nights as the tremor caused by the blast continued to shake the ground Signs of damage are everywhere Buildings and fields near the wellhead are cracked and some of the tin-roof

"No-one can sleep in the night within a radius of one kilometre, as the shaking of ground is felt more during the night," says Rabiul Alam of Tengratila village

Rabiul, who lives roughly half a kilometre away from the burning well, claims at least 90,000 fishes in his fisheries died following the second Niko Resources disaster. Only five months ago, on January 7, a severe blowout almost destroyed the ill-fated gas field.

"I constructed a building spending 16 lakh taka just a few months ago. But the blast and relentless vibration have made large cracks at many places of the house," says Rabiul.

The impact of the blast is felt even at Sharifour, a village two and a half kilometres away from the gas field in Doarabazar upazila, where water is bubbling. Bubbles of gas are also seen in the nearby Surma River.

Villagers say flocks of birds that used to rest here now no longer come this way. The repeated blowouts threaten the fishes with extinction, for whom this remote lowland dominated by haors (lakes) and marshes has heen a safe haven for long.

"Our life has become miserable due to the repeated blowouts," says Tengratila Union Parishad Member Abdur Rahman, adding, "we don't want to see any more fire in the future." According to Abdur Rahman, the

ras exploration activities of Niko Resources (Bangladesh) Ltd have not brought any benefit for the locals. "Rather, we are always in panic of a fresh explosion and fire," he says adding, "these accidents have forced our boys and girls to stop going to school for many days."

The day before yesterday, the height of the flame lessened a bit but its girth spread further to all the nearby wells. The well that exploded in January was also burning. A nearby pond was boiling.

Shahara Khatun says all the children of her family are suffering from various diseases like fever, headache and heat stroke. Her daughter Zarina Khatun, a student of Class Six, became so frightened seeing the furious fire that she has been trembling Shahara shifted her family to a

nearby village after the accident. Even there, Zarina had been feverish for No Niko official was available for

comment on Saturday. However,

Ashraf, chief security official of Tengratila gas field, claims Niko is

trying to arrest the fire, "But it's not easy to douse such a fierce fire. It would require digging another relief well beside the burning one." Ashraf says company officials are going to hire rigs for drilling the relief

well. However he does not know how many days would be required to According to him, a total of 80 families living in the nearby areas were

evacuated to other places after the He also says a non-governmenta organisation is assessing the environ-mental damage of the fire and the

actual picture would be known after

### the study is complete Rab crossfire

FROM PAGE 16
yesterday said while unveiling the cover of 'Rab: Santrash Nirmul Na Rashtrer Santrash (Curbing terrorism or State-run terrorism) at the VIP

lounge of National Press Club The book published by Ain-O-Salish Kendra (ASK) is mainly a compilation of essays by different persons, expressing concern over extrajudicial killings by Rab'.

It also contains investigative reports, newspaper-clippings, and statistics for the number of victims, and relevant laws and amendments

Meanwhile, some 100 people from different districts gathered in front of the press club vesterday. They demonstrated in favour of Rab and its activities while the publication ceremony was going on inside the press

The demonstrators entered the club as well, and spoke at the programme glorifying the Rab activi-They termed the incidents of crossfire self-defence.

Claiming themselves to be victims of crime, they blamed the human rights organisations for raising voice against the crime-busting force. ASK Executive Director Sultana Kamal described the deaths in

ossfire' as murders. "We can cite names of at least seven people, who we found by investigation that were not killed in crossfire, rather were murdered by

Rab," Sultana Kamal told reporters. Advocate Ruhul Kuddus Babu said there are loopholes in the act under which Rab was formed and operates. Abdul Hakim, the father of Sumon

[of Goran], who was killed allegedly by

Rab, spoke at the programme. He narrated the tragic end of his son and demanded punishment of the killers. Monir Ahmed Majumder, father of Sumon Ahmed Majumdar of Tongi

was also present. Sumon, who was a key witness to the murder of Ahsanullah Master MP died at a hospital allegedly after torture in Rab

## Comes waterlogging Land Abdus Sattr and lawmakers of

and Cooperatives Ziaul Haq Zia vesterday formed a seven-member committee in the face of water logging in vast city areas due to incessari rainfall since Saturday night

The committee headed by Dhaka City Corporation chief engineer has been asked to submit its report within a

"The committee will identify the waterlogged areas in the capital and causes of water logging," the minister told The Daily Star after the meeting

"We will sit again after getting the

committee report." he said. The meeting noted that narrowing down of three drains through Kamalapur area that carry water from the Secretariat and Motiineel commercial areas is the cause of water logging in those areas, the state minister said, adding, "We asked the authorities concerned to take immediate steps to widen the drains.

High officials of the Dhaka Wasa, Dhaka City Corporation (DCC), Water Development Board and Rajuk were present at the meeting.

Last year, when most of the city went under water for several days, the government formed an interministerial committee headed by LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan.

Housing and Public Works Minister Mirza Abbas, Forest and Environment Minister Tariqul Islam, Dhaka City Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka State Minister for Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment Quamrul Islam, State Minister for Home Lutfozzaman Babar, State Minister for city constituencies were members of the inter-ministerial committee. On August 7, 2004, the committee

meeting decided to demolish illegal structures from 26 canals and rivers in and around the capital for smooth functioning of the drainage system, but little has been done so far. The meeting formed an expert

committee to prepare plans for recovering encroached water bodies in and around the city. The expert committee submitted its report with 26-point recommendations

canals. A land ministry report in October last year also identified illegal encroachment of city canals as

responsible for water logging and warned that the situation would deteriorate if such practice is not stopped. Of the 35 canals, only 14 could carry away water while illegal struc-

Dhaka district administration are necessary to make the canals live by demolishing the illegal structures, said the report submitted to a parlia-

But the recommendations are still unmet other than Dhaka Wasa's scanty efforts to demolish a few illegal structures on the canals.

# DND damned

trapped by a fresh waterlogging after Saturday's heavy overnight downpour that continued yesterday, though

intermittently. Many people have already left their homes and took shelter in their relatives' houses as the vast DND area has gone under knee to waist-deep

The residents in the waterlogged area are suffering from scarcity of pure drinking water. Gas and electricity crises have added to their miseries In the Dhaka portion of the DND embankment area, the water supply

line developed leakage, locals alleged. They complained of dirty water with bad smell, possibly emanat ing from the sewerage line attached to the waterline. "I have sent my wife and children to a relative's house outside the DND

water." said Shamsul Alam, a resident of Sastapur area. "When I woke up vesterday morning, I found my house reeling under knee-deep water. In many houses in the DND area, gas burners have gone under water," said Jamil Khandoker,

area as my house is now in waist-deep

Many industrial units located inside the DND embankment area have suspended their operations due to waterlogging. Most of the educational institutions were also closed yesterday as teachers and students were

Belayet Hossain, sub-assistant

now nine feet in the pump house

river. But these pumps cannot work uninterruptedly due to frequent power outages," said the engineer.

The area experienced a prolonged waterlogging last year due to torrential Bangladesh Water Developmen

Board last year planned to make the 45-kilometer cannel inside the DND embankment area suitable for free flow of water, but the plan has not beer mplemented, resulting in further SM Harunur Rashid, deputy

steps have been taken so that water of the west side of Dhaka-Narayanganj link road could reach the pump house located on the east side of the road.

## Grenade 'smuggler immediately encountered the attack

at 4:16am, the release said. Nazrul, an accused in six cases including three for murders. tried to flee during 'crossfire', it claimed.

from different areas in Amin Bazar. Rab sources said Nazrul had supplied the grenades and led a syndicate of drug peddlers and

HC stays

advisor to the caretaker government and National Board of Revenue (NBR) Chairman Abdul Muyeed Chowdhury and ordered the government not to arrest or harass him

during this period. A High Court division bench passed the order after Muyeed moved a writ petition, challenging the validity of incorporating name in the charge sheets of the cases filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC). The now-defunct Bureau of Anti-

Corruption (Bac) on February 2, 2002 had filed a case with the Tongi and Tejgaon police stations accusing Akiz Group of Industries Ltd of dodging taxes of Tk 536 crore and Tk 32 crore.

In his writ petition, Muyeed also challenged the validity of an ACC gazette notification forming a factfinding committee. In the petition, he said as per the rules, the ACC cannot form a committee with the officials of now-abolished Bac. Besides staving the proceedings

of the cases, the High Court bench also issued a rule upon the government and the ACC to show cause in two weeks why the charge sheets and the ACC gazette should not be declared illegal. The respondents are the ACC

chairman, cabinet secretary, principal secretary to the prime minister and the investigation officer (IO) of the cases.

In the gazette notification, the

ACC had formed a committee comprising 10 Bac staff to probe the corruption cases on March 6 this vear and appointed one of the committee members as the IO of the The IO submitted two supple-

mentary charge sheets to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court on June 21, incorporating the name of Abdul Muyeed Chowdhury who is currently serving as the executive director of Brac. The IO said in the charge-sheets that Tk 568 crore tax was not recov-

ered from the Akiz Group since Abdul Muyeed Chowdhury as the NBR chairman had not directed the authorities concerned to file cases against the company.

Barrister Omar Sadat moved for the petitioner.

### TCB reports FROM PAGE 1

The TCB report also showed that prices of some essentials have gone up substantially in last one month alone. According to the report, prices of fine rice increased by 6.82 percent, lentil 7.95 percent. onion 14.28 percent, garlic 13.1 percent and broiler 14.81 percent in during the last month.

The TCB prepared the report by comparing yesterday's essentials' prices with those of a week, a month and a year ago.

Advisor to the commerce ministry Md Barkat Ullah Bulu. Chairman of the National Board of Revenue Khairuzzaman Chowdhury, secretaries of the commerce, food and agriculture ministries, representatives from the prime minister's office, finance, home and communications ministries, and law enforcing agencies attended the meeting.

"Rice supply in the market is not the expected level despite a bumper harvest," Altaf told newsmen after the meeting at the ministry's conference room.

The meeting blamed hoarding by millers for the rice price hike.

The farmers also stocked up rice apprehending floods in the coming weeks, he said.

Transport cost hike because of fuel price increase also resulted in the market heat up, the meeting observed, and extortion and prolonged rain have only aggravated the situation.

market sale of rice to ease prices and duty cut on some essential items such as soybean oil, sugar and gram well ahead of Ramadan to avoid an 'embarrassing' situation. A national taskforce on essential

price will sit on July 6 to further

The meeting proposed open

### review the price situation. Iata investment

FROM PAGE 16 coal field on the basis of its "set blocks awarding system". All the issues will be finalised

after a viability study on the Ruppur site for Tata investment. The government and the Tata Group on May 9 agreed to kick off formal negotiations on May 25 and wind it up by August 31 to clear the way for signing the investment contract before November 30. Tata on April 20 formally submitted a

\$2.5 billion investment proposal for

setting up a 1000 MW power station,

a steel pant with an annual produc-

tion capacity of 420,000 tons and a

### Iniured woman FROM PAGE 16

1-million-ton fertiliser unit.

died at 9:25am. DMCH sources said Earlier on June 13, her daughter

Rowshan Ara died from burns she suffered in the plane crash at the same hospital. An F-7 MB fighter of Bangladesh

Rowshan accompanied by her mother was feeding her 18-monthold daughter Albina The accident left four others injured, but the pilot, Ahsanul Kabir,

cheated death by bailing out of the

# Govt to decide

meeting and hopefully, a decision will be taken," Ziaul Haque Zia, state minister for local government rural development (LGRD) and cooperatives told The Daily Star yester-

The BNP-led coalition government since assuming office in 2001 has declared on several occasions to hold the UP elections, but there has not been any progress to this end as yet. Political observers believe if the government declares the UP elections

schedule, local leaders and grass roots workers of the opposition parties will busy themselves preparing for the polls, thus undermining the main opposition's efforts to rev up the anti government movement. The state minister however dis-

missed such allegations. He said, "It is not true. The government has made the move for the polls in line with the High Court directives. Since the introduction of the upazila system, two elections have

been held, one in 1985 and the other

one in 1990. Successive governments did not discharge the responsibility to hold the elections, instead they practised spin control on the issue Former military ruler HM Ershad nad introduced upazila system. But the previous government of Khaleda

Zia had cancelled the system after Awami League (AL) government

revived the system in 1997, a year after it took the office. It, however, did not hold elections to the local government bodies.

The AL government had asked the EC to hold upazila elections in 2000 amidst an anti-government movement by the then BNP-led opposition. The EC had started preparing for the polls in line with the government directive.

But in the end, no schedule was declared and no election held. The present ruling alliance immediately after the onset of its rule had asked the EC to hold upazila elections. The alliance leaders also said that it would give the power to declare election schedule back to the EC by

amending the existing law. Following the assurances, the EC had announced a date to declare the upazila election schedule. But later as the government deviated from its words, the EC could not declare the

schedule. The BNP-led government then formed a cabinet committee on the upazila system, but senior ministers split over reintroducing the system. The differences over the issue have yet to be settled.

The BNP Standing Committee at a meeting in November last year informally agreed to hold the upazila

# City reels under rainwater

"I got on a Farmgate-bound bus from Jatrabari at 7:30 in the morning and reached Karwan Bazar well beyond 11:00am, as the bus got stuck n knee-deep water at Motijheel," said Reaz Hossain, an office-goer.
"It took me more than three hours to

reach the judge's court at Sadarghat from Mirpur 10, as the road from Mirpur to Sheorapara went under water, prompting buses to remain off, Chaitanya Basak, an advocate, told The Daily Star. Water ran into exhaust pipes of

office goers, although the number of the non-motorised vehicles was few. It has been drizzling for the last three days due to active monsoon, but heavy rains poured down the capital since early yesterday and continued

in the 24 hours until 6:00am and 59 mm during 6:00am to 12:00pm in The highest rainfall in Dhaka was recorded 60mm on July 19 last year,

monsoon this year began late, but the amount of rainfall is higher than the same time last year," an official at the He added that medium range

according to Met Office. "Though the

Most educational institutions were forced to remain closed as the students failed to attend classes Mamunur Rahman, a teacher of

Bangladesh Institute of Science and

Most banks and offices in the city's commercial district Motifheel remained closed, as clients failed to make their way to the business hub.

than 50 percent as compared to a normal business day," said a banker in

Transaction in our bank was less

The street beside the Secretariat was also submerged under kneedeep water, while some lifts went out of order, as water entered the buildings. Fire service men were called in to pour water away from the ground floors and re-started only one lift.

Outside Dhaka, the rainfall was recorded 63 mm in Faridpur, 62 mm in Cox's Bazar, 42 mm in Bhola, 39 mm in Khepupara, 31 mm in Chandour and Maizdi Court, 28 mm in Bogra and 19

## NARAYANGANJ

Our Narayanganj correspondent reports that rain-induced waterlogging affected around 20 lakh people living on Dhaka-Narayanganj-Demra (DND) embankment and forced thousand others to take shelter at their relative or neighbours' houses outside the embankment.

Scarcity of gas and drinking water was acute in the DND area. People are having trouble with cooking as many cooking stoves went under water. Frequent power snaps added to their

TELEPHONE TROUBLE Hundreds of telephones of the staterun Bangladesh Telegraph and

Telephone Board (BTTB) went dead in the capital, as rainwater leaked into old cabinet boxes and underground cables, officials said. A large number of subscribers made complaints to BTTB camp

offices after their telephones went ou Subscribers under the Nilkhet, Mirpur, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar and Basabo exchanges mostly suffered the malfunctions. A substantial number of telephones were out of order

The subscribers of these exchanges said most of their telephone connections could not be econnected.

BTTB official asking not to be named. "Our employees will work extra hours to reconnect the telephones once the rain is over," he added.

complaints, they added

Habiganj DC FROM PAGE 16

The DC is working in favour of the criminals instead of paving the

is not helping the probe team and he should be interrogated." "The DC of Habiganj is playing a nasty game by not allowing accused Qaiyum to give his statement,

Asma Kibria also blamed the government for diverting the investigation and hiding the mastermind behind the killing of her husband. She alleged that the government

district administration, she added. On seeking help from the international community into the killing of

from the government." Terrorism-Free Bangladesh and

Justice of Political Killings" Talking to the UNB Habiganj, DC Emdadul Huq, however, vehemently denied the allegations

# Egypt ambassador

sands of Iraqis have been kidnapped in the chaos that followed the US invasion of Iraq in 2003. Some have been killed. Many have been released after the payment of ransoms to criminal gangs

several days. Those kidnappers released a statement condemning an

Egyptian offer of assistance to the US-

made public. The kidnapping of the envoy was an uncomfortable reminder of insecurity in Iraq as the new, Shia-led government strives to encourage investment following a tour abroad last month by Prime Minister Ibrahim Jaafari and other ministers.

A suicide bomber killed up to 20

under Maghbazar, Uttara and Chawkbazar exchanges as well.

"It's not possible to reconnect the telephones as rainwater may snap other connections if the boxes are opened during rain." said a senior

Subscribers alleged that the BTTB telephones regularly malfunction after rain due to improper ducting and cabinet placement. BTTB officials and workers often do not pay heed to

Dhanmondi residence.

killing," said Reza Kibria, son of late SAMS Kibria, while addressing a oress conference at their

way for a neutral investigation, Reza Demanding removal of the DC he said, "We have proof that this DC

Asma Kibria, wife of SAMS Kibria, said at the press conference.

is not helping them in holding their "blue for peace" programme and intimidating people not to participate in the programme. They could not hold any programme in Habigan due to the non-cooperation of the

Kibria, she said, "I sought international help as I did not get any help Asma Kibria later announced a new programme of her campaign, an open essay competition on

saying, "This is absolutely wrong...I have no role in this.'

Others have been taken by insurgents from Iraq's Sunni Arab commu-

nity -- a minority in Irag but the majority in most other Arab states -- who have made political demands. A senior Egyptian diplomat was kidnapped in the Iragi capital a year ago and released unharmed after

installed Iraqi government. Full details of the incident, however, were never

the mainly Shia town of Hilla, to the

south, killing nine people and wound-

authorities since the launch of a wave of slamist violence in May 2003. "One of the fugitives was killed in the raid," he said, declining to name him.

Hayari, 36, entered Saudi Arabia on a

A witness told AFP the dead man was ing the raid

pilgrimage visa in February 2001 accompanied by his wife and daughter.

### people, mostly would-be police recruits, in Baghdad on Saturday More than 200 foreigners and thoumorning, close to the main government compound in the capital. In late evening, two suicide bombers struck at police and Iragi soldiers in

man

FROM PAGE 16 security forces raided a house believed to have been used by militants on the new wanted list, the third issued by the Saudi

believed to be Hayari and that a number of wanted militants had been arrested follow-

### uing the investigations, but he within a week. Other wise, the forum declined to elaborate on their findannounced, it would launch a tough engineer at Shimrail pump house of Siddhirganj, said the height of water is **DEMANDS, PROTESTS**

Asource in the ACC said the ADB is

request for two. the final decision on ADB's proposal. previous stand against appointment of ADB consultants, the ACC chairman

ing for appointment of two consultants. He was learnt to have made the move without discussing the matter with the two commissioners. Sources said the chairman briefed commissioner Prof Maniruzzaman Miah about the matter after sending the letter.

The chairman and two ACC com-

cabinet secretary Dr Saadat Hussain

proposal for assistance The commission did not make positive response when officer-incharge of ADB's Bangladesh resident mission Hua Du met the ACC top officials on January 11. Commissioner Miah openly

opposed the idea of appointing ADB

consultants and said: "I do not think

hiring foreign consultants at this moment is necessary." But Justice Sultan later asked for immediate appointment of a change management consultant/advisor and an organisation development consultant for the commission. The management consultant

would provide professional advice and

technical support on day-to-day and

operational matters of the ACC and

help develop short, medium and long

term actions and strategic plan for the anticorruption watchdog. His tasks also include assisting and maintaining liaison with the government and taking a lead role in the screening of former staff of Bureau of Anti-Corruption (Bac).

The other consultant's task men-

He also mentioned in the letter the

tioned by the ACC chairman is prepar-

ing job analysis of the approved ACC

organogram and assisting the man-

necessity of logistic support for the

agement consultant.

In reply, ADB named four consultants -- Mujibul Huq (Team Leader/Change Management Advisor-Domestic), Chua Cher Yak (Organisation Development Consultant-International), Sakhawat Hussain (Organisation Development Consultant-Domestic) and Abdul

Matin (Legal Trainer and Capacity

the scope of its assistance in the short

run would focus on the development of

legal framework for ACC

operationalisation, criteria and proce-

dures for screening of Bac staff and its

In the aide-memoire, the ADB said

Building Consultant-Domestic)

resignation of DU vice-chancellor and proctor for their "failure to ensure Meanwhile, BCL President Liaqat

Meanwhile, JCD Acting President

Tengratila Dabi Aday Sangram Parishad (Tengratila association to realise compensation) vesterday alleged irregularity in listing the people affected by the January 7 explosion who would be given

85 shops at Tengratila Bazaar near the gas field. At a rally in the gas field, they alleged inclusion of fake names and exclusion of many genuine names in the list of compensation recipients. The Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) also held a rally in the gas field yesterday afternoon

demanding immediate legal mea-

sures against Niko Resources

(Bangladesh) Ltd that, it said, "de-

stroved gas resources worth thou-

Sunamganj Bachao, a citizens

forum of Sunamganj district, held a

view-exchange meeting of cross-

section people at Sunamgani

Pourashava auditorium. The speak-

ers in the meeting called upon the

Earlier on Saturday morning,

sands of crores of taka."

government to take immediate steps against Niko, which has proved its inefficiency by causing two major disasters in only six The forum will organise a protest

rally in the district town on Thursday

afternoon. It also may announce a

hartal from the rally, said a source. Sylhet Bibhag Unnayan Sangram Parishad, a Dhaka-based forum of people hailing from Sylhet Division, also held a rally at Court Point in Sylhet yesterday afternoon, after a fact-finding trip to Tengratila. The forum had organised a 'long march' from Dhaka to Tengratila on Saturday and returned to Sylhet The speakers at the rally pro-

tested the government's failure to

stop destruction of national gas

resources. They also alleged that

some powerful quarters within the

government are active to protect

They demanded of the government to scrap what they said was unacceptable contract signed with 'such an irresponsible company'

2006, subject to progress under the current technical assistance.

some equipment for the commission.

Chairman in his April 30 letter.

FROM PAGE 16 attacking students on the campus on

n terms of bribe as Tk 3,000 is spent for per tonne electronic goods, the report revealed On the other hand, vegetables are the most expensive among the export goods as per tonne vegetable needs Tk 1,700 as bribe.

The report recommended a host

Bangladesh Biman sources said

another resident of Sastapur.

to resolve water logging problem of Dhaka city that emphasised demolishing illegal structures from the city

tures like houses and roads grabbed rest of the canals halting flow of water, the report said. "United efforts of Dhaka City Corporation, Rajuk, Dhaka Wasa and

mentary body.

"We are now operating four pumps to pump out water from the water logged DND area to the Shitalakhva

waterlogging this monsoon. commissioner of Narayanganj, said

the shootout and was killed in Earlier, the Rab seized four antiersonnel hand grenades on January February 16, June 16 and July

Air Force (BAF) had nosedived into their house in Uttara in the capital.

Rowshan's husband Al Amin received Lily's body in presence of BAF officials from the DMCH vesterday. Morque sources said they were not allowed to perform her autopsy.

motorised vehicles, causing them to break down and induce traffic snarlups on the main streets. Rickshaws were in great demand among the

until 1:00pm The meteorology department recorded 101 millimetres (mm) of rain

> Met Office told The Daily Star. rainfall with intervals would continue for the next few days. However, there is no possibility for heavy wind or low overthe Bay of Bengal.

Technology at Malibagh, said he had gone to take classes, but found no students.

Dhaka Stock Exchange also failed to resume trading due to quorum

ing 33, police said. Top Qaeda