Jamaat man linked

Officer-in-charge of the police

station said they freed him, as his links

to the serial blasts could not be estab-

lished. A police source, however, said

Rahman was arrested on confirmed

intelligence that he had been involved

in the August 17 explosions in the

Earlier, detained JMB regional

commander Kawser Alam Suman told

newsmen that Rahman had helped

him and five other JMB cadres in

renting a house in Kurpar area in the

town around one and a half months

hood said Rahman used to visit the

house rented by the six militants

People in the Kurpar neighbour-

Five of the bombers had been

staying in the district since one and a

half months before the near-

simultaneous blasts. Two of them

posed as small vendors selling honey

and ghee while the other three as

Rahman had convinced a rickshaw

"I rented out the rickshaws only

owner to rent out his three-wheelers to

the IMB activists opting to be in the

after Rahman had come to my garage

and requested me for the three

vouths," rickshaw owner Idris Ali told

that he had co-ordinated the August 17

blasts in Netrakona, Kishoreganj and

Mymensingh districts, passed Dakhil

examinations from Sreeharibali Dakhil

Suman, who has already confessed

before August 17.

including Suman.

rickshaw-pullers.

The Daily Star.

guise of rickshaw-pullers.

Bomb-like object

Jubaer, Mahbubur Rahman,

Rokonuzzaman, Mamunur Rashid,

Hasan, Nizamuddin alias Reza, Asad

Nurul Huda, Adam, Kawsar, Hasib

alias Arif alias Asif, Rasel and Abdul

Of the charge-sheeted

In another development, police in

Rukonuzzaman had made a confes-

sional statement before the court

Gaibandha arrested MA Kuddus, 55, a

suspected member of IMB, as

Kalirbazar in Phulchhari upazila on

Saturday. Details about the arrestee

Eleven people including seven chil-

dren died of diarrhoea in different

parts of Gaibandha district in last two

people have been admitted into

different hospitals of Fulchhari

Saghata, Sundarganj, Sadullapur,

Sadar, Gobindagani and Palashbari

has taken a serious turn in Nilphamari

district with 3,000 more attacked with

the disease over the past two days in

According to the official estimate

Meanwhile, most of the 70 diar-

Sadar, Domar and Syedpur upazilas.

five people have died of the disease

while local sources put the figure at 15.

rhoea patients admitted to the 10-bed

Sadar Adhunik Hospital are now

huddling at the entrance, corridor and

Meanwjhile, diarrhoea situation

upazilas in the district.

Some 300 diarrhoea-affected

Eleven die of

diarrhoea in

Gaibandha

BDNEWS, Dhaka

regarding the serial blasts.

have yet to be known.

including Abdur Rahman, Siddiqul Islam Bangla Bhai, and Rahman's brother Ataur Rahman alias Sunny for the August 17 blasts in Satkhira and Kushtia towns, however.

mitted vesterday

ted today or within the next two or

matter immediately.

action in future '

forces have been deployed in courthouses, deputy commissioner's office. residences of high officials, and other important points in the town.

functioning of the courts yesterday, said sources. BDNEWS from Gazinur adds: The

name of Ziaul Haq, who was taken on remand for a number of times, was dropped from the charge sheet submitted vesterday.

sheet placed before the court by investigation officer of the case Gazi

Ministers, MPs

Joint Secretary General Tarique

BNP's senior leaders, lawmakers of the three divisions and leaders of the party's front organisations also attended the programme held at the Prodhanmontri Bhaban.

The participants in yesterday's meeting also criticised the government for the spiraling price of essentials and electricity crisis across the country.

The party's senior leaders who attended the meeting, however, gave assurance that the crisis will be resolved soon as the government has already taken various mea-

"The price of essentials will be normal in three months," LGRD and Co-operatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan assured the

Bhuiyan, also the secretary general of BNP, asked the party men to start a campaign in their respective districts to project the successes of the government. But he did not say anything about the

Speaking at the meeting, SM Gaznavi, general secretary of Borhanuddin upazila unit of the party, said the party leaders who did not get any benefits are now aggrieved and those who have been benefited in the last four years are "acting cautiously."

country if the party fails to win the next election, but we will have to stay and face the adverse situation," Gaznabi told the meeting.

JS body questions

chief, did not elaborate on the issue, but said: "We have discussed [at yesterday's clothes along with their regular meeting] whether the Armed Forces Division under the Prime Minister's Office NIGHT-COACHES is consistent or not.' The meeting also directed the

The defence secretary and the principal staff officer (PSO) briefed the meeting about the activities of the ministry and the AFD. They said the AFD discharges most of the important and sensitive tasks in coordinating the armed forces.

After the briefing the lawmakers of the main opposition Awami League (AL) raised a number of questions. "I wanted to know what task the Joint Chief of Secretariat had done in 1978, but the PSO did not answer," AL lawmaker ASHK Sadeque told The Daily Star.

Shawkat Ali asked the PSO if any organisation like AFD exists in any other

The PSO however claimed that there is no problem in co-ordinating the armed forces and they are successfully sending troops to the UN peacekeeping missions.

Shawkat Ali said if the prime minister does not hold the defence portfolio and a defence minister is appointed, then $conflict\,will\,arise\,in\,exercising\,the\,power\,of$

Water Resources Minister Hafizuddir Ahmed, who is on the committee, told the meeting that no question was raised in the last 15 years about the activities of the Armed Forces Division. "Why has this

Hafiz however suggested further discussion on the agenda before any recommendation to be made by the committee, meeting sources said.

The meeting was adjourned and the issue will be discussed at the next meeting. The defence ministry and AFD sub

mitted separate reports to the committee. The reports say the AFD is exercising the executive power of a ministry and doing policymaking tasks including formulation of budget and defence procurement.

On the other hand, the defence minis try is doing merely some administrative work such as record keeping. It plays minor role in the allocation of budget.

The AFD has more manpower and higher budgetary allocation compared to

The process of ignoring the defence ministry started back in 1975 with the formation of the Chief of Defence Staff and completed through the formation of the

"soft to the government" and "anti-

Meanwhile, prisoners cannot watch

Saturday castigated the media for not projecting "positive news" and showing interest in "subjective journalism".

Resources has initiated the plan following concerns of the business community over the acute gas crisis, especially $faced\,recently\,in\,the\,Tongi-Savar\,belt.$

and sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

four people were captured in isolated raids from Jurain, Mohammadpur and Fatullah areas for smuggling, selling drugs and possessing illegal firearms. During the raids, Rab also recovered a marble stone statue of an idol, two

Old city dwellers FROM PAGE 1

On contact AKMA Hamid, execu-

"Now we will try to solve the problem", he added. He also said there are about 120 houses in $Teker hat \, that \, have \, no \, reservoirs.$

Meanwhile, Wasa said to ensure

tube-wells, 15 newly installed and nine repaired, in different areas of the city including Narayanganj. Wasa men are also supplying The Daily Star yesterday on condition of anonymity. Foreign Affairs Adviser and Saarc Chief Coordinator Reaz Rahman yesterday told diplomatic reporters

Security teams

that Bangladesh has speeded up the pre-summit work after Pakistan had reconfirmed its participation despite the October 8 devastating earthquake. "Pakistan has clarified that they are

committed to come... so far this is like the green signal we have received," he Pakistan has already postponed the

October 21-22 Saarc Commerce Ministers' Meeting in the wake of the quake, that left around 4,000 people killed. The 11th Committee of Experts (CoE) Meeting on South Asian Free

Γrade Area (Safta) slated for October 18-22 has also been put off. The meeting is now going to take place in Kathmandu from tomorrow. The commerce ministers' meeting

is due to be held by January 1 next year. Replying to a question, Reaz Rahman said four agreements for

promoting trade and investment among the Saarc countries are expected to be signed during the He said the truncated 2-day sum-

mit would end up with Dhaka Declaration seeking cooperation in seven critical areas like poverty alleviation, economic cooperation, social charter, disaster management, terrorism and strengthening of the Saarc Secretariat.

"Timing of this summit is very important as the Saarc is beginning its third decade into operation," the foreign affairs adviser said, adding, "The Dhaka summit will focus on South Asian orientation and implementation of decisions taken by the

On another question, he said some of the programmes, like retreat for the spouses of the Saarc leaders, were reorganised considering the security factor. The retreat will now be held in Dhaka, which was planned to be held outside the capital before the second postponement.

He said the plan for a cultural evening by Saarc member states was also dropped from the programme schedule

Regarding security issue, Reaz Rahman said six sub-committees have been working to ensure maximum

security during the summit. Some 250-300 members of the official delegations of the Saarc countries are expected to arrive in Dhaka for the summit. Besides, around 300 foreign media personnel are likely to

Saarc was established when the heads of state and government of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka formally adopted its charter on

December 8, 1985 in Dhaka. Saarc provides a platform for the peoples of South Asia to work together in a spirit of friendship, trust and understanding. It aims to accelerate the process of economic and social development in the member states.

The 13th summit was postponed twice--the first time in January in the wake of the December 26 tsunami tragedy affecting three Saarc countries and the second time due to India's denial to attend the summit in February following a coup in Nepal and alleged security problem in Bangladesh.

Under the Saarc Charter, participation of the top leadership of all member nations is mandatory for the

Ex-Motijheel OC

Razzak filed with Kafrul Police Station on September 14.

He argued although Rafiqul was named the prime accused in the beginning of the FIR, the complainant mentioned three others -- Habibur Rahman

Taaj, Mintu and Shamsuddin Howladar --

as the architects of the killing. Moreover, one of the accused Hasibul Hag Johnny, who made a confessional statement before a magistrate on September 22, did not point his finger at

The advocate said Rafiqul had been at a lower court to make his statement on a duty call when the murder was commit-

He also disputed feuds between the

cop and Momin's family over land property as stated in the FIR, terming those 'all He mentioned the killing of Panu, an

accomplice of Mirpur top goon Taaj, as the reason behind the murder. Momin's family held Panu and handed him over to Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) that led to his death in 'crossfire'

Meantime, Metropolitan Public Prosecutor Abdullah Mahmud Hassan, on the contrary of practice, upheld the contradictions in the FIR instead of objecting the bail petition. He also left the issue into the judge's consideration.

But the lawyers appointed by the complainant raised their voice against the Advocates Habibur Rahman Shawkat

and Mujibur Rahman said Rafiqul was directly involved in the killing and the victim's family are on the run as he is threatening them to withdraw the case.

They also said two other accused -- Zia and Jewel -- made extra-judicial confession to the Rab. They named the former OC the mastermind behind the killing, but somehow it disappeared from the forwarding report submitted to the court.

After the hearing, Judge Momin Ullah directed authorities to bring the copy of Johnny's statement and announced to

Hearing the judge's declaration, around 1,000 waiting people, lawyers and litigants yelled and shouted for an immebefore the same court in another case also chanted slogans "hang the OC" from the

The judge later ordered from his chamber to send the ex-OC to jail. Police handcuffed and sent him to prison in tight

Dhaka Metropolitan Police closed Rafiqul on September 15 and suspended him on October 2 for not reporting to

Rajarbagh Police Lines.

Rafigul surrendered before the High Court on October 2 for an anticipatory bail but the court asked him to surrender before the metropolitan sessions judge's

court in two weeks.

Ctg port

by CPA and Chittagong Customs Authority while the concerned shipping agent, Humayara Shipping Agency, will remain the custodian of the wheat until its disposal.

SM Nurul Haque, acting president of CCCI, presided over the meeting.

The meeting was held in two sessions. In the first session the port users discussed wavs and means to solve the problem that prompted the strike and put forward the 11-point recommendation. The recommendations were discussed with the striking lighter vessel owners and workers in the second session.

Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Noman directed the concerned authorities to release the stalled lighter vessels after unloading the wheat to CSD in a meeting on

Meanwhile, the unloading of the wheat could not start yesterday as the

warehouses are vet to be selected.

Rice gives London

Iran meanwhile on Sunday said that it would not return to a full freeze of its disputed nuclear activities, but nevertheless voiced confidence it would not face referral to the UN Security

resolution on Iran's nuclear programme which -- while falling short of an immediate call for the issue to be taken to the UN Security Council - set out the steps that could lead

is willing to resume talks, but reiterated its right to process uranium.

nity for the Iranians to get back into negotiations to find an acceptable solution that allows them to have a civil nuclear power that does not raise questions", Rice said Sunday.

British are saying.'

Washington later Sunday after a weeklong official tour that began with a four-nation tour of Central Asia, before moving on to Paris, Moscow and finally London, where she held a working dinner Saturday with her counterpart Jack Straw.

Blacks march in US

Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and rap $mogul-activist\,Russell\,Simmons, among$

The rally was held on the anniversary of the "Million Man March" held ten years ago, which focused on encouraging black men to take responsibility for improving the lives of their families and

The 1995 rally attracted a much larger crowd and organisers declined to estimate how many had attended Saturday's event.

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority said 294,765 people rode the capital's subway as of 5 pm, compared to more than 800,000 ten years ago. The rally occurred at a time when

racial divisions and poverty have reentered the national debate following the disturbing scenes that emerged from the flood waters of New Orleans. In a September 15 speech on rebuilding New Orleans, Bush acknowledged

"has roots in a history of racial discrimination, which cut off generations from the opportunity of America." The president said the government

that the hurricane revealed poverty that

had "a duty to confront this poverty with

our people. Bush hasn't done anything The rich keep getting richer and the poor keep getting poorer," said Ernest Twyman, a spry 86-year-old Washington resident.

A poll released this week showed Bush's standing among African-Americans, which has never been high, had plunged to an all-time low. Only two percent approve of his performance as president, according to the NBC/Wall Street Journal survey.

rioting erupted in an impoverished neighbourhood of Toledo in the state of Ohio after a planned march by a neo-Nazi group provoked a counter-protest.

paged through streets wrecking cars and setting a liquor store on fire. Toledo Mayor Jack Ford blamed African-American gangs for the violence.

the government should investigate a rumour that a bomb may have triggered the collapse of the levees around New

Jews and homosexuals that were seen as African-Americans made up 12.9

Farrakhan recently speculated that

controversy, making remarks about

percent of the total US population in 2000, government date show.

at Miah Khan Nagar in Bakalia, where

his first namaj-e-janaza was held. His body was taken to the Shah

The IOJ brought out a procession demanding arrest of the killers of Iqbal who was buried at his village home at

Addressing the rally, IOJ Central Secretary General Abdul Latif Nizami termed the killing of Iqbal a 'political and 'pre-planned' murder. "Iqbal was supposed to compete in the next general elections from Fatikchhari constituency and the killers might have

killed him," he alleged at the rally Iqbal was the second among seven sons and two daughters of Mohammad Yakub. Also the joint convenor of the four-party alliance in Chittagong, Igbal filed his nomination for the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) polls on May 9

on behalf of the IOJ, but pulled out of

DEATH THREAT Igbal's family, meanwhile, received a death threat by phone around noor

"An anonymous caller from a mobile (no-0187 032247) called me and brother will be killed within a week.' said Sabbir Bin Yakub to journalists on

The matter was informed to the

Home secretary, Inspector General of Police, Director

and sell phensidyle. Law enforcers

termed this a new strategy to ped-

dle drugs by constantly changing

"Tomorrow morning (this morning) at around 10:30 am, we shall first check if Faizee is there. If he's there, it will not be possible for us to make this courtesy call," he added.

The SCBA received a letter on October 9 from the Chief Justice's office inviting its leaders to the courtesy meeting. On October 11, the SCBA executive committee at a meeting noted that the controversy over Faizee's LLB certificate and his real age have not been resolved and that the SCBA has been demanding the authorities not to assign Faizee in any judicial works. In such a situation, the meeting decided to request the Chief Justice to take steps to ensure that Faizee is not present at the

The resolution of the meeting was later sent to the chief justice. But the Chief Justice's office had not replied as "Our demand about the removal of

unchanged," Mahbubey Alam pointed

Faizee from the judiciary stands

"The government could have resolved the issue easily. The notification through which Faizee's appointment was issued could have been withdrawn to end this matter," he said. Mahbubey noted that some BNP-

last month. "At that place, Faizee gave a

speech in the manner of a politician," he

Through a directive, the High Court had earlier barred any gathering, procession or other agitation activities in the court premises. When the press asked Mahbubey whether the press conference violates that directive, he We are doing this to uphold the image of On the issue of the militants' bomb

attacks on the court, the SCBA leaders said they are concerned about the security on the court premises. As part of security measures, the

 $easily \, separated \, from \, SCBA \, members.$ Mahbubey noted that in the last couple of years they have seen the presence of a rising number of intelli-

"The government is using them to

gence agency staffs.

courtesy meeting with the judges, protesting the appointment process of 19 additional high court judges. Meanwhile, the pro-BNP

"We believe that boycotting all judges centring one judge is ignoring all the judges," said a statement of the forum, urging the SCBA to withdraw the decision and join today's meeting.

it to their homes using hired vehicles.

tive engineer of Dhaka Water and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) Zone-2, said, "The supply from the pump houses reduced due to power cuts. SCBA boycotted for the first time the Besides, we were not aware of the acute water crisis prevailing there."

water at 50 points in the city with water tanks before the time of Iftar, Wasa officials added.

programmes from any television channel other than the state-owned

Gas rationing

The Ministry of Energy and Mineral

One killed

incidents, extortion and grabbing

revolvers and two bullets

smooth water supply it has 24 deep

On September 24 the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) adopted a

Since then Tehran has indicated it

September's vote "was an opportu-

Council, she added.

tive at the UN in New York.

submitted yesterday against militants,

Assistant Superintendent of Criminal Investigation Department cases, had told the newsmen recently that the charge sheets would be sub-

Sources said they might be submit-

three days A correspondent from Gopalganj reports: A scavenger found the bomblike object at the Gopalganj district and sessions judge's house at about

A police team rushed to the scene and recovered the object, a recharge able battery wrapped in red tape, and the handwritten note.

show the note, but said it reads, "Conduct court proceedings as per Shariah [Islami Law], otherwise we will take

The incident disrupted the normal

The other accused in the charge

Top IOJ leader

Jame Mosque in Anderkilla and then to Jamiatul Falah Mosque in Dampara, where another janaza and a brief rally

Daulatpur in Fatikchhari after Asr

wanted to stop him and that's why they

the race afterwards.

warned me that my father and another

Jamiatul Falah Mosque premises.

his choice from outside.

spots to avoid arrest.

3 newspapers far allowed to obtain newspapers of

and "anti-opposition". Meanwhile, prisoners cannot watch programmes from any television channel other than the stateowned Bangladesh Television and

listen to any radio station other than

The government restriction on

mainstream newspapers inside the jails came after two senior BNP ministers on Saturday castigated the media for not projecting "positive news" and showing interest in "subjective journalism".

FROM PAGE 16 Other injured including the police received treatment at Ukhia Health

8 cops

Bangladesh Betar.

Meantime, sadar thana police arrested five robbers including

notorious bandit Jamaluddin, who is wanted in a dozen cases, at the town. The four others are Khorshed, Jafar,

Ameer Moulana Joynal Abedin and some top BNP leaders are among the people who went to the police station to have Rahman freed. Joynal Abedin, Sadar upazila Jamaat ameer, said Rahman was a former Jamaat activist. He left Jamaat soon after the Liberation War.

However, locals said Rahman had

Abedin also said that Rahman is

Asked why the Jamaat leaders

joined BNP only four to five months

ago and before that he was involved

now a member of the nine-member

convening committee of South

rushed to Sadar Police Station soon

after his arrest, Abedin said they went

there rather to convince police not to

South Nishiura union, told The Daily

Star vesterday that Rahman is a mem-

ber of the convening committee. He

said Rahman had been a Jamaat activ-

ist before joining ruling BNP around

Abdul Khaleq, BNP convenor of

with Jamaat politics.

Nishiura union BNP.

release Rahman.

militants' rented house before the

serial blasts. He had persuaded a

rickshaw owner to rent out his rick-

Netrakona Sadar police arrested

Rahman, an assistant teacher of

Sreeharibali Dakhil Madrasa, on

October 6, but had to free him within

the next 18 hours under huge pressure

from local Jamaat and BNP leaders,

Iamaat district Secretary Moulana

Enamul Haq, Sadar upazila Jamaat

shaws to three of the bombers.

grassroots level leaders.

internal conflict of the party.

"The ministers will leave the

All cases

and end of Ramadan. It directed the detective branch (DB) of police and Rab to patrol the areas in plain

as robbers take the chances of robbing during Ramadan, especially before the Eid. It also asked the law enforcement agencies to use metal detec-

tors to search the passengers and to

take footage on DV cams when they

board buses

BLOCK RAIDS

owners of night coaches to be alert

The law enforcement agencies said they have conducted one and a half thousand blockraids in the last month. Rab said it has conducted 550 block-raids in the 28 police stations

in the last one month until October

15. The criminals might have fled the city fearing arrests for the raids. said a Rab official in the meeting. Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) said they have conducted

1,022 block-raids in different areas under 28 police stations in the capital in one month and arrested 4,720 people DRUG-PEDDLING

The law enforcing agencies marked Mirpur as one of the major issue been raised now?" he asked. areas for drug peddling. Police informed the meeting that there are around 63 floating spots alone in Mirpur where the peddlers roam

The meeting directed police to continue the block-raids in those areas to curb the peddling. Generals of Rab, Detective Branch and Special Branch, DMP Commissioner and other concerned officials were present in the

The three newspapers permitted for reading inside prisons are perceived as "soft to the government" courtesy meeting. Otherwise, the SCBA will not participate.

> He added, the SCBA secretary on June 30 wrote to the president to resolve the Faizee controversy. The president's office then forwarded this letter to the Law Ministry to take "appropriate actions as per the law". But since then, no steps have been taken.

> Jamaat leaders under the banner of Datmara Madrasa in Fatikchhari of Chittagong accorded Faizee a reception

appeal we make to the court."

Govt seeks The Daily Star, "Let the deadline expire

[today] first. Then we'll say what

Replying to a question, he said, "We have not yet received any advice from the government to file an appeal." However, sources said the soliciors wing of the law ministry has written to the AG Office to file an

appeal seeking another extension for four months. The SC in 1999 issued a 12-point directive for the separation of the judiciary. But neither the previous Awami League government nor the

incumbent BNP-led ruling coalition has shown importance in implementing the directives. Bar body won't meet

> replied, "The court did not restrict us from speaking. We are not doing anything in violation of the court verdict

SCBA members have decided to wear identity cards so that outsiders can be

check out who speaks against the government when it should have used them to find out the bombers. This proves that the government is not sincere about arresting the bombers,' he said. After last year's annual vacation, the

Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum Supreme Court unit held a meeting saying that in the name of the Bar Association, a quarter has unethically announced a boycott of the courtesy meeting over the issue of a judge.

sources to meet the cost of implementing the PRSP. BSS adds: Prime Minister Khaleda Zia said the PRSP is the document of the government's development plan to ensure social stability, economic

growth and poverty reduction. The formulation of PRSP does not mean the end of poverty, but a primary and remarkable step toward removing poverty, she added.

However, the document has not

specifically said anything about the

NEC okays

The PRSP has been adopted in line with the objectives of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Bangladesh by 2015, she said, adding that her government is committed to attaining the MDGs by

that time.

Bangladesh has already achieved significant progress in various fields of poverty reduction, but there is no scope for complacency and the PRSP has taken into consideration the need for making multi-dimensional approach to remove widespread

poverty, Khaleda said. UNB adds: Expressing her government's will to translate PRSP into

a great charter of rights of the poor, the prime minister asked all concerned to work sincerely to implement its provisions for transforming Bangladesh into an abode of

The PM said key objective of her

government's development

programmes is quick alleviation of

peace and plenty for all.

poverty, ensuring people's overall socio-economic development. The PRSP has been formulated fully on "our own initiative" and through massive participation of

all stakeholders, she noted.

brickbats during the clash.

15 hurt

FROM PAGE 16

student wing of main opposition of Awami League, and the Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) joined hands with ICD to resist ICS on the campus. Both the sides used stick and

Police rushed to the spot and

The clash turned fierce as the BCL, the

Additional police were deployed on the campus to avoid further untoward Sources said Shibir is amassing outsiders on the campus sparking off

panic among the students of the

university apprehending further

brought the situation under control.

3 newspapers FROM PAGE 1 of his choice from outside. The three newspapers permitted for reading inside prisons are perceived as

Bangladesh Tele-vision and listen to any radio station other than The government restriction on mainstream newspapers inside the jails came after two senior BNP ministers on

The press release also said that a pistol and five bullets were recovered The body was recovered by police

In a separate press release by Rab,

"I am not (going) to set deadlines .. At the time of our choosing, we will push for a referral" to the Security

Rice was meanwhile equally supportive over Britain's accusations that a series of deadly attacks on troops in group Hezbollah. "I have every reason to believe that the British are right about this," the secretary of state told BBC radio.

southern Iraq provided evidence

leading back to Iran and the militant

"I trust the British on this issue

because the British are operating in the

south (of Iraq). They know the situa-

tion there. The British are our allies, I

have every confidence in what the

Rice told reporters: "We have tried to get over a message to them about The United States does not have an

ambassador in Iran, where its interests

are represented by Switzerland, while

Tehran has a permanent representa-

"We have channels. We use them

rarely, specifically, to deliver messages," Rice added. She was due to return to

Ruhul Imam include Nurul Islam

(CID) Munshi Atiqur Rahman, also the investigation officer (IO) of the blast

9:20am and informed the judge of the

Superintendent of Police in Gopalganj Fazlul Karim declined to

Following the recovery, additional

left ear, and around his throat, police Igbal's younger brother, Ashraf Bin Yakub, blamed Jamaat-BNP goons for the murder, saying his brother was

the four-party alliance from the

Chittagong- 4 constituency

(Fatikchhari) in the next general elec-

Islamist militants might have a link to

the murder of Igbal, who openly took

stand against militancy in Chittagong.

But police sources suspect that

During a recent probe by police, Iqbal reportedly identified a principal of a Kwami madrasa at Hathazari upazila as one of the masterminds behind recent serial blasts. "My brother went to Dhaka on Thursday noon for party and business purposes. At around 2:30pm on Saturday, he informed me over his cell

phone that he was about to board a

Chittagong-bound bus," Ashraf told

The Daily Star. "He spoke with our

mother at Fatikchhari at 9:30pm and

family."

Abdus Sattar Road.

that was his last conversation with the "At close to the midnight, Subinspector Harun of the Kotwali Police Station telephoned me to tell that Iqbal's body was found beside the KB

They immediately rushed to the

spot and took his battered body to the

Chittagong Medical College Hospital,

nothing was found on the spot," the

younger brother said. After a post-

mortem at the Chittagong General

Hospital in the morning vesterday.

Iqbal's body was taken to his residence

"Except for his mobile phone,

where doctors declared him dead.

While the rally was under way,

But those attending the rally accused the White House of failing the country's

"There is not much being done for

Scores of mainly black rioters ram-

Farrakhan has often provoked