HuJi men holed up

Mujahidin, Bangladesh (JMB), Jagrata Muslim Ianata Bangladesh (IMIB). Shahadat Al Hikma, Ahle Hadith and a number of Arakan rebel groups as trainers in armed combat after 2000 following a crackdown on them. A number of their top leaders are now holing up in the different Middle Eastern countries.

The organisation has also opened a number of militant groups which have not been banned vet.

A senior intelligence officer yesterday told The Daily Star that they are yet to plan how to catch HuJi members as

they do not come to the open. But many, especially those in the media, recall how HuJi first came to light at the heart of the capital years back.

Wearing fatigues, the militant leaders sat shoulder to shoulder at the Jatiya Press Club and boastfully $described\ how\ they\ fought\ in\ the\ Afghan$ war. They demanded that Bangladesh be turned into an Islamic state.

The group, for the first time came to light as HuJi, then paraded through the Dhaka streets a day later after Jumma prayers to claim victory over the Soviet forces in Afghanistan

These happened in 1992. In 2002, the US blacklisted HuIi as an international terrorist organisation. It took the government three more years to ban it Tuesday after much denial of its existence in Bangladesh. The US went one step forward to

blacklist the Bangladesh chapter of HuJi in 2003, but the government's denial continued as Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan then said he had not seen "any activity of such organisation in Bangladesh" Lawmakers of Jamaat-e-Islami.

whose link with the militants is now becoming evident following bomb blasts, also denied HuJi's existence in Bangladesh. As mentioned in yesterday's issue,

Jamaat lawmaker Riasat Ali Biswas told parliament on September 11: "Reports of militant training of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and Harkatul Jihad to turn Bangladesh into an Islamic state are nothing but propaganda." And under such lenience and deni-

als, HuJi spread its wing in madrassas, set up training camps in the hill tracts and carried out killing attempts including that on former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and poet Shamsur Rahman. The militant leaders who attended

the 1992 press conference -- Abdus Salam, president of HuJi Bangladesh, field commander Manjur Hasan, Dhaka city unit president Maolana Delwar Hossain, publicity secretary Mufti Shafigur Rahman, Maolana Mufti Abdul Hye -- are now untraceable. Forty-one of the HuJi men arrested at a Cox's Bazar training camp with arms in 1996 and sentenced to life-term, were released on bail after the coalition government

Only Mufti Hannan, a central committee member of HuJi, who rose to a top rank has been arrested on October 1.

At the 1992 press conference, HuJi leaders in sleeveless olive war jackets over traditional Kabul dresses and ash traditional Afghan caps detailed its international link, which was overlooked by the successive governments including that of the Awami League.

HuJi leader Obaidur Rahman Nadvi read out a scripted statement at the press conference while a young Muiahidin commander, Manjur Hasan, $replied \, to \, questions \, from \, reporters.$

Manzur Hasan, who himself is an Afghan war veteran, told the reporters that Bangladeshi vouths went to Pakistan on study and tourist visas and

ioined Iihad (holy war) in Afghanistan. HuJi said the first Bangladeshi Mujahidin group was formed by commander Abdur Rahman in 1984, who later died in 1989 in the Afghan war.

Describing Bangladeshi militants

leaders said Bangladeshi mujahidins made great contributions to the wars in Urgun, Gazni, Khost, Gardez, Jalalabad Panshir, Kabul, Kandahar and Heerat.

The HuJi leaders asked then BNP

government to recognise the Muhajidin vernment in Afghanistan and send all necessary aid to the war-torn Afghanistan. They also demanded of the govern-

ment to show appropriate respect to the Bangladeshi 'martyrs' in Afghan war and establish a complete Islamic state in

A list of Bangladeshi 'martyrs' in Afghan war between May 10, 1989 and April 7, 1992 were given in the press LIST OF BANGLADESHIS KILLED IN

AFGHANWAR Commander Abdur Rahman

Faruki, Jessore Maolana Nurul Karim, Jessore

Maolana Quamruzzaman

- Hafez Motiur Rahman, Gazipur Hafez Abdul Momen,
- Momenshahi (Mymensing)
- Raihan Uddin, Gazipur
- Maolana Sheikh Ismail,
- Gazipur Maolana Abdul Matin,
- Faridpur Badrul Alam, Faridpur
- Hafez Rahmat Uillah, Dhaka Maolana Abdul Hamid.
- Momenshahi (Mymensing)
- Saifullah, Barisal 13. Mosharraf Hossain, Comilla
- 14. Rabiullah, Dhaka 15. Professor Rafigullah, Noakhali
- 16. Siddigullah Chowdhury,
- 17. Mufti Obaidullah, B. Baria Nurul Islam, Khulna Mohammad Faruk, Khulna
- 20. Abdullah, Khulna Nurul Islam, Bogra
- 22. Faizullah, Noakhali
- 23. Abdul Gafur, Chittagong
- Mohammad Ali, Barisal

Tarique FROM PAGE 16

being discussed widely in the diplomatic circle.

However, a top official of an intellience agency accompanied Tarique in those meetings, the source said. A week after his meeting with

Tarique, the high commissioner of a Commonwealth country while talking to a top BNP leader referred to his scussion with Tarique. Sources said the high commis-

sioner told the BNP leader that he could not agree with Tarique's interpretations of the August 17 blasts and the extremist activities in the country.

'Killer' Faruq dies

FROM PAGE 16 Mirpur area and also accused in two

dozen cases including eight for murder, sources in the Shah Ali Police Following the information Faruq

gave during quizzing in custody, a DB team set out with him in the hunt for arms and ammunition around 1:35am yesterday morning, a press release

As soon as the team reached the intersection near Nababerbagh Faruq's accomplices opened fire on the DB team, the press release

As the DB team returned fire Faruq tried to flee but fell in the line of fire and received bullet wounds in the head and chest, the police note read. Faruq's accomplices, however, fled the scene.

Farug was rushed to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) and the duty doctors declared him dead at 2:20am. The injured policemen were taken to Rajarbagh Police Hospital for treatment.

The police also recovered an shells from the spot.

automatic pistol, five rounds of ammunition of different types and two bullet

to compel them to establish Islamic Sharia in the judiciary. Witnesses said when the judge

driver noticed a young man in front of the car. As the driver, Abdus Salam, asked the man to leave the

reached near his Kumarpara house, his

The bomb hit the car and the judge sustained minor injuries in his legs.

When the driver chased the fleeing bomb thrower, he blasted another bomb and ran away. Pedestrians caught

Battalion teams visited the spot and recovered a live bomb in front of Malancha Community Centre, a few yards off the judge's house.

The investigators collected splinters of the bomb, but could not ascertain the motive behind the attack. A police officer said the bombs were homemade and not very powerful.

stepped up at courts and other key in stall at ions in the city.

Meanwhile, the judge yesterday sentenced five people to life term imprisonment in a

murder case of Biswanath upazila The investigators could not say if the

deployed at the judge's house. Akhtar Hossain told the police that

he hails from Sarishabari upazila of Jamalpur. The Mayor of Sylhet City

Corporation, Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran, also visited the judge's house

the water stinks and fishes start to die, we sprinkle lime into the water to reduce the pollution," said Abul Mia an employee of the Ahad and Company, a leaseholder of the lake. When asked, Anwar Alam, general

secretary of the Gulshan Society, said they have already taken a move to restore the lake. The society held a meeting with the chairman of the Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) on Sunday in this regard, he

"The major discharge of sewage is occurring in the Badda and Shadatpur parts of the lake. We told the Rajuk chairman to demarcate the lake and find a solution quickly," he said.

On the drainage connection from the two roads to the lake, Anwar pledged to take steps in this regard.

Hannan taken on fresh 7-day remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Mufti Abdul Hannan, operations commander of the banned Harkatul Jihad's Bangladesh chapter, was placed on a fresh seven-day remand yesterday on charges of August 17 countrywide bomb blasts.

Detective Branch (DB) of police produced Hannan before the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka at 5:00pm on completion of the fiveday remand in the case filed for the blasts on the Supreme Court premises.

Two Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) members took a glum looking Hannan to the court of Metropolitan Magistrate Mir Ali Reza. He was wearing a helmet and a bullet proof vest.

The forwarding report placed by police before the court said Hannan gave nicknames of many people involved in the bombings. He needs to be further quizzed for the full names and addresses of those people, the report said, appealing for a further 10dayremand Hannan was arrested at Madhya

Badda in Dhaka on October 1 after several years of absconding. He was later arrested in the bomb blast case filed with Tejgoan Police Station. Hannan, who is yet to appoint a

lawyer, told the reporters that no

When asked about the government ban on his organisation, Hannan said, "I have no organisation. It does not matter whether the government bans it

lawyers agreed to defend him.

Govt to set up

It was discussed in the meeting that the next summer would be a very crucial time from the political point of view, as the tenure of the present government concludes in October 2006.She also instructed the Energy

Division to improve the gas supply situation as soon as possible by taking some emergency measures. Meanwhile, the power sector

experts questioned the decision on

installation of five IPP plants within the next 6-7 seven months. They said it will be simply impossible to implement any power generation project within a short time, as setting up of a power plant is a time-consuming

Chairman of Khulna Barge Mounted Power Plant Mohammed Aziz Khan said it needs at least 15 months to implement a power plant project. The 110MW Khulna Barge Mounted

first IPP plant in 1997. However, Chairman of Westmont Power (Bangladesh) Limited Taiul Islam Faruque said setting up of a power plant is sometimes possible within a short time if the government is

Power Plant was set up as the country's

determined to do so. Westmont Power installed a 90MW PP plant at Baghabari in 1998.

PDB Chairman ANH Akhtar Hossain said his organisation plans to invite tender for the proposed 50MW PP plants within the next month. 'We'll start our job from tomorrow

for the proposed plants," he said.

Security teams

Bangabhaban, Dhaka Sheraton Hotel mazar of late president Ziaur Rahman, Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre (BCFC) and International Conference Centre

will stay and attend the programmes in these venues during the November 12-13 summit. The teams will inspect Zia

International Airport, National Mausoleum at Savar and Brac Centre at Gazipur today.

practice ahead of any such summit.

all-out measures to ensure foolproof security for the heads of the state and government and the other delegates. All the heads of the delegations will be given equal security, protection and protocol during their stay in Dhaka.

nalists are expected to be in Dhaka for the summit. Four agreements for promoting

trade and investment among the seven Saarc countries are expected to be signed during the summit, officials

They said the two-day summit will conclude adopting the Dhaka Declaration, seeking cooperation in seven critical areas such as poverty alleviation, economic cooperation, social charter, disaster management, terrorism and strengthening of the Saarc Secretariat.

Dhaka when the heads of state and government of the association formally adopted its charter on December 8, 1985. The Saarc Secretariat was estab-

lished in Kathmandu on 16 January 1987. Its role is to coordinate and monitor the implementation of Saarc activities, and serve as the channel of communication between Saarc and other international organisations. The Dhaka summit will focus on

mentation of decisions taken by the previous 12 summits. The last summit was held in Islamabad in 2004. The 13th Saarc summit, which was originally scheduled for January this year, was postponed twice - first due to

brutal crimes," said a source who was

When agony ends

on October 16.

Armina, daughter of peasant Mamunur Rashid of Tetulia village in Dhamrai, was studying in her house when Mahbub, son of Mizanur Rahman of Gazipur, called her to his room at around 10:00am on January 27 this year.

The alleged rapist went to visit his grandfather Dudu Miah, a village

As Armina entered the house Mahbub's two accomplices--Rakib and Rabiul--locked the door and played music on cassette player from the adjacent room. Mahbub raped the girl and

released her at around 1:00pm. Three days later, having failed to get justice at a village arbitration, as Mamunur Rashid was readying to file a case with the Dhamrai Police Station the three culprits set fire to a sleeping

Armina in her roadside room.

Swasthya Hospital and later shifted to the burn unit of the Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH).

The DMCH authorities released the girl on October 1 as they found she had no chance of survival.

Armina died at her house at 3:20am

Dhamrai police arrested Rabiul soon after the incident but failed to capture prime accused Mahbub and his other accomplice Rakib, who is also his uncle. The police said they are trying to catch them.

Three months ago, the family of Mahbub offered Tk 5 lakh through a village arbitration, which the victim's father spurned. Mahbub's family then started to threaten him to withdraw

However, Mamunur Rashid does not see any hope of justice as Rabiul has recently come out of jail on bail.

Judges' retirement

be the next chief of the caretaker government, has always been loval to BNP-Jamaat. During his term as the judge he had felt embarrassed to hear the Bangabandhu Murder case, she added.

Addressing a discussion on the 41st birth anniversary of Sheikh Russell, Hasina accused the BNP-Jamaat led coalition of shielding the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Muiibur Rahman. Sheikh Russell Jatiya Shishu

cussion at the city's Osmani Crowded mostly with children of different ages, the auditorium went completely silent as the former prime minister in an emotion-choked voice

Kishore Parishad arranged the dis-

The voungest child of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib, Russell was slain along with others of the family on August 15, 1975. "My brother was not a politician. I

wonder why they [killers] had to take

his life. Instead of bringing the killers

reminisced the days with her brother

to book, Major Ziaur Rahman and his accomplices had enacted the infamous Indemnity Ordinance to save the killers," Hasina observed. The opposition leader said the four-party alliance has failed misera-

"Lawlessness has reached such a point that even children like Noushin

and Shihab had to die at the hands of ruling party-backed criminals," the opposition chief stated.

She said the plight of children is not a cause of concern to the BNP-Jamaat alliance, which is rather busy conspiring how to cling to power Price hike of essentials has gone to such an extent that the poor mothers are now forced to go from door to door, begging food to feed their hungry children

Hasina said the government has distorted the history of the Liberation War. "Textbooks these days are full of distorted information to mislead our She urged the teachers and guard-

ians to stay alert so that their kids do not get confused with the history twisted to the advantage of the antiliberation forces. Describing the present government as "uneducated and greedy"

she said the nation cannot expect

anything better from these 'despotic Besides the discussion, the Parishad organised contests in various arts for the children. Hasina handed over the prizes to the winners. Some were awarded for their excel-

lence in this year's SSC examinations. Presided over by Mahamudus Samad Chowdhury, the programme was addressed also by Barrister Amir-Ul Islam, Daily Jugantor Editor Abed Khan, Prof Mustafa Nurul Islam Advocate Tarana Halim and Parishad President KM Shahidullah

Karwan Bazar

FROM PAGE 1

minister, expressing his confidence that the summit will be held neacefully. mentioned that visiting Indian and Maldives security experts are also satisfied with the steps.

told reporters after the meeting.

About 20,000 policemen and 1,300 Rab members along with the paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles (BDR), Special Security Force (SSF), President's Guard Regiment (PGR), Ansar, and intelligence men will form a security blanket during the summit, sources in the home minis-

The SSF will be responsible for security of the VVIPs and VIPs who will be flying in a few days before the sum-

Five subcommittees on security apprised Babar at the meeting about the details of their security measures.

The Inspector General of Police (IGP) heads the subcommittee on law and order, the director general (DG) of the SSF

The SSF and PGR will be responsible for security of the main venue, the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre at Sher-e-Bangla

While briefing the minister about their measures, high security officials expressed concern about Karwan Bazar several hours each day.

refuge in the area, easily mingling with hundreds of market-goers, the officials As the officials also expressed concern over the proximity of the market to Dhaka Sheraton Hotel and Hotel

ordered the market closed for four days. The meeting said the concerned ministry would arrange for the shifting of the market to a suitable place. Expressing concern at the activities

The meeting was told that, as many top criminals have gone into hiding because of the operation of law enforcers, teenage criminals have filled the position and are carrying out criminal "Besides, it does not require much

at different slums, hotels, guesthouses and rest houses in the city to arrest these criminals He also ordered for keeping watch

on the movement of criminals who are

moving freely in the city after receiving

bail from the higher courts. The meeting also emphasised that movement of new faces to Dhaka should he on the watch list

Babar cautioned that there might be possible threats among those coming to

Dhaka on religious purposes. "Many people are coming to Dhaka from other districts as well as from abroad on religious purposes, especially to the Tablig Jamaat mosque in Dhaka

ties," said the source. The movement of foreigners, especially those from India, Sri Lanka and Nepal, will come under watch as the meeting expressed apprehension that

some of them may pose a threat. Besides, the movements of students from Saarc countries who are studying at different educational institutions are also to come under watch for the same

Law enforcers will keep vigilance at all entry and exit points, especially bus and rail stations and airports.

The Coastguard will patrol water bodies and Rab men the sky with two helicopters. Traffic will be kept off-limits to the

The road from the Sheraton to the summit venue will be cleared of traffic Security at the borders will be heightened to stop infiltration of criminals into Bangladesh. "We're also aware that Bangladeshi criminals hiding outside

The VVIPs and VIPs will stay at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, which will be cleared of borders during the summit. Other delegates, including newsmen who will cover the summit, will stay at

another meeting source.

secretaries and arranged training for the chairmen and members to educate them on the system, the statement said. "For the first time in the country's

history, this government has started allocating funds for union parishads. It has allocated Tk 60 crore in the last fiscal year and Tk 100 crore in the current fiscal year," it added. and Uzbekistan.

BNP, AL trade

FROM PAGE 16 on the basis of some newspaper reports

exemplifying yellow journalism," Communications Minister Nazmul Huda told the BBC.

The TI report is part of a plot to term the country "non-functional", he added.

"The country became champion in corruption because of massive nepotism, politicisation, partisanship and other corruptions by the four-party alliance government," said Awami League Presidium Member Tofail Ahmed. who is also a former minister.

All should come up and become united to oust the present government to save the country from ruination, he

The ruling party has already made the country champion in corruption for four times and it should now make a commitment that it would not make the country champion in corruption in the next year, said Obaidul Kader, a former minsiter and present presidium member of the AL.

nor of Jatiya Oikya Mancha Dr Kamal Hossain also blamed the four-party alliance government for becoming champion in corruption for four times. General people are not corrupt, rather a section of people belonging to

Gono Forum President and conve-

the ruling party are mainly involved in massive corruption," he said. He demanded a national government in order to come out of this corrupt cycle. President of Bikalpadhara Bangladesh AOM Badruddoza Chowdhury said the massive corruption

image with the world. To come out of this shameful position, a national government comprising honest, brilliant and patriotic forces should be formed, he said.

of this government is reflected in the TI

report that tarnished the country's

Huge urea

international market price.

To make up the massive nine lakh $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MT}}$ supply shortfall, the government has already issued work order for importing two lakh MT and floated another tender yesterday for two more lakh MT urea fertiliser. Besides, the government also plans to procure 3.5 lakh MT urea more from Karnaphuli Fertiliser Company (Kafco) in Chittagong at the

BCIC officials told The Daily Star yesterday that shutting down of Palash urea fertiliser factory until December this year would mean a fall in domestic urea production by at least 50,000 MT further putting pressure on the country's foreign exchange reserve to meet up huge fertiliser import bills. As against the domestic produc-

to buy it from the international market at as high a price as Tk 18,000 to Tk 19,000 an MT. The government also provides large subsidies in urea and, so, the BCIC has to sell it at Tk 4,800 per MT to the dealers across the country against

the production cost of Tk 6.000.

tion cost of Tk 6,000 an MT of urea, the

government is now being compelled

government would have to bear a subsidy to the tune of Tk 13,200 per MT, the sources pointed out. The government is now hurrying up to replenish the buffer stocks of urea, as much of the bulk has already on used up for Aman while th

So, in case of imported urea, the

prime demand period is just about two months away. During the irrigation-fed winter rice, Boro, season, from late December through March, farmers usually require up to 15

TI brands

corrupt countries Even after forming the Anti Corruption Commission in 2004, Bangladesh could not improve its position in the last five years since 2001 when Bangladesh first got the lowest position, Ahmed said.

International investors may hesi-

tate to come to Bangladesh, Mozaffar

Ahmed said, commenting on the impact of the country's championship in TI's corruption index for five times. "If we could improve our situation. the donors would not have tagged so many conditions while giving loans, he said, adding that poor people are the worst victims of corruption while

the bureaucrats, businessmen, and politicians are its main beneficiaries. The performance of Anti-Corruption Commission in Bangladesh is still questionable, Ahmed said.

He expressed the hope that the

government and political leadership

including the opposition would come

up to do something for reducing corruption in the country. Responding to a query, Ahmed said information gathered for making TI corruption index was not supplied by the TIB, which is a separate body.

Rejecting the allegation of any

partisanship, he told journalists that

there are at least 16 sources for collect-

The TI observed that more than two thirds of the 159 nations surveyed in the index scored less than 5 out of a clean score of 10, indicating serious corruption in most of the countries.

"Corruption is a major cause of

ing information about a country.

it," said TI Chairman Peter Eigen. The TI suggested low-income countries to increase resources and develop political will for anti-

budget, revenue and expenditure to reduce corruption. Next to Bangladesh and Chad Turkmenistan secured the second highest position in corruption, followed by Myanmar, Haiti, Nigeria,

Charge sheets accuse

Shaikh Abdur Rahman and his brother Ataur Rahman alias Sunny for blasts at

nine places in the district on August 17. In both the Satkhira and Kushtia charge sheets, ASP of Criminal Investigation Department (CID) Munshi Atigur Rahman, also the investigation officer (IO) of the blasts cases, remarked that outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP)-Janajuddhdho faction had connived with the banned Islamist outfit to stage the August 17 blasts, said sources.

He also mentioned that the August 17 attacks were in reprisal for the government ban on JMB and JMJB.

Meanwhile, three IMB memberstwo in Chittagong and one in Khulna-vesterday made statements before magistrates, confessing their involvement in the blasts on August 17 in the two cities. Our Satkhira correspondent reports:

The IO submitted the charge sheet before the magistrate's court yesterday morning amid tight security Twenty-three people have been

named as prosecution witnesses in the charge sheet. The other IMB members accused in the charge sheet include Nasir Uddin,

Maniruzzaman Munna, Monwar Hossain Ujjal, Anisur Rahman Khokon, Mahbubur Rahman Liton, Nayeem, Fakaruddin Raji, Abul Khair, Habibur Rahman, Asadullah alias Hazari, Momtaz, Asadul, Noor Ali Member, Belal, Mahmood and Indian national Gias Uddin.

Six of the accused -- Nasir Uddin, Maniruzzaman Munna, Monwar Hossain Uijal, Anisur Rahman Khokon, Mahbubur Rahman Liton and Gias Uddin are now behind bars while the rest are on the run.

Our correspondent from Kushtia reports: CID submitted the chargesheet

Names of 26 people have been

The case was filed in connection

with the August 17 blasts under sections

3, 4 and 6 of the Explosive Substances

included in the charge sheet as the prosecution witnesses. Of the charge-sheeted accused Shamsul Islam and Akbar Ali remain detained in police custody. The others are Nizamul, Siddiqur Rahman,

Sangha, in the capital's Nawabpur area for suspected links to the serial blasts. During primary interrogation,

Kamal has admitted to being involved with JMB for the last one year. Our staff correspondent from Raishahi reports: The two charge sheeted JMB men, Moulana Shahidullah alias Faruk, is Obaidullah's brother and JMB's Dayee (Invitation) section commander in Chapainawabganj while Abul Kashem Tufan is an explosives expert. They were held on September 15 with four firearms and a huge cache of bomb-making

Both of them have confes having role in the August 17 blasts at Chapainawabganj court premises. In the charge sheets, police said the

materials.

Our staff correspondent from Chittagong adds: The two militants held during the October 3 terrorist attacks at courthouses in the port city yesterday confessed to a magistrate their links to

The two - Laltu alias Anas and Shahadatalso admitted to being involved in the courthouse blasts on October 3.

They said they had joined JMB after

Rahman and his brother Sunny around one and a half years back, said sources.

The two militants confessed to have oined the organisation through a local leader in Thakurgaon and later received military training in Thakurgaon,

Rangpur and Tangile. Our staff correspondent from Khulna adds: Mahbubur Rahman alias Palash vesterday made statement before a magistrate confessing his involvement in the August 17 bombing

at six points in Khulna city. He named seven other JMB cadres-Khalid Hasan Mintoo, Mamun, Arif, Shabbir, Shahid Ullah alias Lokman and Mehedi--to have been involved in the

He said Hafez Mahmud is the acting chief of Khulna division JMB while Asaduzzaman alias Arif is its operations commander. From Netrakona, our correspondent

adds: JMB cadre Sanaullah, who was arrested in Netrakona on October 6, was sent to jail yesterday. Netrakona Magistrate's Court ordered to send him to the jail after

police had produced him before it on completion of an eight-day remand. During interrogation, Sanaullah had admitted to having played a role in the August 17 blasts in the district, said

police sources.

Kawser Alam Suman, who earlier confessed to have co-ordinated the August 17 blasts in Mymensingh Netrakona and Kishoreganj, has divulged some important information on JMB and the countrywide explosions, said an investigator. Sumon told the investigators that

Meanwhile, detained JMB cadre

Kawser, the Greater Mymensingh unit chief of JMB, was involved in snatching firearms from law enforcers at Khetlal in Joypurhat in 2001. The investigator, however, declined

on trial in

Iraq today

AP, AFP, Baghdad Saddam Hussein and seven senior members of his 23-year regime will go on trial today to face charges they ordered the 1982 killings of nearly 150 people from the mainly Shia

Court officials have said they are trying Saddam on the Dujail massacre first because it was the easiest and quickest case to put together. Other cases they are investigating including a crackdown on the Kurds that killed an estimated 180,000 people involve much larger numbers of victims, more witnesses and

If convicted, Saddam and his codefendants could face the death penalty, but they could appeal before another chamber of the Iraqi Special tribunal. Saddam and his

more documentation.

procedural matters. The trial is then expected to be adjourned for several Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari complained Monday that the Iraqi court took an unjustifiably long time to prepare its case and brushed aside

the Shia Muslim leader, five of whose close relatives, including an older brother, were executed by Saddam's regime in the 1980s and 1990s

Rebels gun down

offices closed. Two groups, the Al-Mansurian and Islamic Front, both claimed responsibility in messages sent to various media. Violence by anti-India rebels has continued in Kashmir despite a massive

insurgent operations in quake-hit areas. The 16-year-old insurgency against Indian rule has claimed more than 44,000 lives by official count in the Himalayan region.

ers got through because police and army soldiers were focussed on relief operations for 150,000 homeless quake survivors. "We have to summon all our resources and the central and the state

the peace process with Pakistan, we have to be on our guard against these elements of terror.' He accused some militants of scant

rivals India and Pakistan. Kashmir politicians touring their added. In New Delhi, federal Minister of

State for Home Sri Prakash Jaiswal

security zone. HC stays

The petitioners complained that

controversies as the ACC allegedly appointed some of the former Bac actions were taken for irregularities.

the ex-Bac officials.

Sylhet judge injured

whether Akhtar has any link to militancy, although the Islamist militants, after the October 3 blasts at courts, vowed to carry out attacks on the judges

place, Akhtar threw a bomb at the judge while he was getting down from

him after a few minutes on Chhadarpar Later, police and Rapid Action

Deputy commissioner of Sylhet told The Daily Star that security has been bomb attack had any link to the judge-Additional police have been

Pollution

Some fish farmers were also seen sprinkling lime into the lake. "When

FROM PAGE 1

Heads of state and government of the Saarc nations and other delegates

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said inspection is a standard He said the government has taken

More than 600 officials and jour-

Saarc was formally launched in

South Asian orientation and imple-

the tsunami disaster and later in February because of India's denial to attend the summit following a coup in Nepal and alleged security problem in

bly to deliver and as a result, there is no security for people's life, not even for the children.

"They have examined the total arrangement and so far we've heard, they've some sort of satisfaction," he

the subcommittee on security, the DG of Director General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI) on intelligence, the additional IGP of Special Branch (SB) on civil intelligence and the Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) on traffic

wholesale market, which houses numerous fish and vegetable depots, saying it creates heavy crowding for Criminal incidents are known to take place there, and many criminals take

Sonargaon, where the VVIPS and VIPs will stay during the summit, the minister

of teenage criminals, the state minister

ordered law enforcers to neutralise

money to hire them for committing

The minister cautioned that miscreants might mingle with them to hide their faces and carry out subversive activi-

road from 30, Hare Road to Sakura triiunction during the summit. when the delegates move may also come in during the summit and commit subversive activities," said

poverty as well as a barrier to overcome Clarification duced appointment of graduate UP corruption efforts and enable greater public access to information about

Equatorial Guinea, Ivory Coast, Angola

Meanwhile, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on Sunday night arrested Kamal, 21, a member of Ahle Hadith Jubo

the serial blasts in Chittagong and Cox's

FROM PAGE 16 A government spokesman said Tuesday had been declared a day of mourning in Indian Kashmir, with schools and

more than 1,300 and left 5,000 injured and a ceasefire by the United Jihad Council, an umbrella forum grouping 14 rebel organisations who called off

earthquake on October 8 that killed

government has to tackle these elements of terror," Baig said. "It shows that while we carry on with

respect for the peace process launched in January 2004 between nuclear-armed

quake-hit constituencies would be

to elaborate on the matter 'for the sake Saddam to go

town of Dujail following a failed attempt on Saddam's life.

are expected to hear the charges against them during Wednesday's

hearing, and the court will address

concerns that the court could be biased against the former dictator. "I don't think there are any more clear-cut crimes in the world than those committed by Saddam," said

described the attack as a "security

In Srinagar, where politicians paid tributes to Lone, provincial Finance Minister Muzaffar Baig said the attack-

accusing Rahman, Bangla Bhai [JMJB operations commander], Rahman's brother Ataur Rahman and 12 other militants.

Habibur Rahman, Lutfur, Mashiur, Enam and Shahadat.

JMB leaders had been planning antistate activities and extensive damage to life and property and for that purpose, they had stockpiled the explosives.

FROM PAGE 1

of the screening. the commission did not carry out the screening in line with section 35(2) of the ACC Act, which says the ACC will first formulate a rule and get it

The ACC letter asked for withdrawal of 263 Bac staff on completion

complications arose concerning the screening of the Bac staff. Finally the ACC did the screening in September this year but it created

approved by the president before going for screening. BNP lawmaker Advocate Khandker Mahbubuddin Ahmed

lapse", as militants broke into a highformer anti-corruption officers of the Bac who were discarded by the ACC.

moved for the petitioners. He was assisted by Barrister Omar Sadat. Since the formation of the ACC on November 21 last year, a lot of

officials against whom departmental Moreover, the commission discarded some officers who do not have any spots in their career, alleged