Bomb materials

Meanwhile, the main opposition Awami League (AL) yesterday called a half-day hartal in Jhalakathi for today.

In another development, Iftekhar Al Hassan Mamun, the injured assassin who was admitted to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) on Monday night, was transferred to Orthopaedics Hospital yesterday afternoon.

Jhalakathi police raided Mamun's rented house at Krishnakati in Jhalakathi town in the early hours Tuesday.

They recovered the bomb-making materials, seven books, documents and leaflets of IMB from that house where Mamun stayed for two weeks preceding

the bomb attack. Malek and Khalek brothers, who are now settled in Chittagong, own the house while a woman takes care of it in their absence. Mamun rented the

The people held by police for suspected links to the judge killings include Maolana Abdul Mannan, 47, principal of Krishnakati Kutubnagar Azizia Madrasa, Abu Salem, 35, Saiful Islam, 30, Hafizul Islam, 27, Majedul Islam, 25, Ripon Mallik, 35, Samir Hossain, 26, Kamal Hossain, 50, Bachchu Howladar, 28, Shahidul Islam, 25, and Sultan Khan,

Meanwhile, special teams of the army, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and Criminal Investigation Department (CID) have arrived in Ihalakati and collected evidence from the scene of the suicide bombing

Superintendent of Police (SP) Mahfuzul Huq of Ihalakati said bomb and explosives experts vesterday defused the live bomb that was recovered from Mamun.

Inspector Mandal of CID said the bomb resembles those used in the August 17 countrywide blasts. However, the one, which exploded in the microbus on Monday, had more explosive effects.

Doctors at the DMCH referred Mamun to the Orthopaedics Hospital as they deemed the condition of his right leg critical. They fear the leg may have to be amputated.

Mamun while talking to the reporters at the DMCH described the country's judges as 'anti-Islamic'. "When many of us got arrested, they [the judges] straight away placed them on remand and tried," he added.

"I wanted to be a Shahid [martyr] by killing them," he observed. Sultan Ahmed, driver of the slain

Ihalakathi judges, lodged a murder case on Monday night with Jhalakathi Sadar Police Station, accusing Mamun and his unidentified associates of killing the men he used to chauffeur Mamun had already claimed him-

self to be a member of JMB suicide squad. **FUNERALS OF THE JUDGES**

Jagannath Pandey and Shahid Sohel

Ahmed Didar, the two judges killed in the militant attack, were cremated and buried in their hometowns yesterday with thousands of people gathering in Jagannath Pandey was cremated at

Maha Smashan Ghat (crematorium) in His body had been sent to his village

home at Patharghata before it was returned to Barisal town yesterday The body of Sohel Ahmed reached

Bhola on Monday and his namaj-ejanaza was held at Bhola Government Boys School ground at 9:30am yester-

People from all walks of life including judges, lawyers, government officials, local socio-political leaders, iournalists attended the funeral services

in Barisal and Bhola. MANHANDLING OF MINISTERS

the news of assaulting Law Minister in-laws' house.

National dailies yesterday ran the news item that said the ministers were manhandled while they were visiting the bereaved family in Barisal.

day in memory of the slain judges in Barisal, Jhalakati and Bhola districts.

immediately arrest the culprits in the heinous attack and deal out exemplary punishment to them.

tion decided not to attend courts on Thursday. They also decided to hoist

continue boycotting the courts till Thursday.

sions. The party enforces a half-day hartal in Ihalakathi today to protest the Jhalakati district BNP also took out

programme.

student wing of ruling BNP, barred the opposition-backed Chhatra League activists from holding a condolence rally in Bhola town.

Meanwhile, round-the-clock security measures have been taken in and around the judges' quarters and residences in Jhalakathi, Barisal and Bhola Besides, police have been deployed

escort the judges from their resi-

Our staff correspondent from Rajshahi adds: Mamun's father and brother during primary interrogation told police about JMB suicide squad and ruling alliance partner Jamaat-e-

Police yesterday took Mamun's father Kamruzzaman Lal Chand and brother Sagar on a five-day remand

The two shown arrested under Section 54 were held at their house in

family members are loyal to Jamaat and they live in a Jamaat stronghold.

Bangladesh trainers would use Al Muntada Al Islami Mosque to conduct militant training with support from local Jamaat, he added.

get out of abject poverty had driven him JMB suicide squad. We take only two meals a day,

nale behind joining the militants.

student of Dasmari Darus Sunnat Madrasa, inducted into the squad.

He also said that Mamun took part in

London wants

of law and thus want to jeopardise democratic atmosphere. Bangladesh advanced a lot in establishing democracy, but the terrorists who are launching attacks do not want economic development under democratic atmosphere." Referring to his visit to the government

Alia Madrasa at Bakshi Bazar and Baitul Mukarram National Mosque in the city, the UK minister said. "I cannot believe that any religion allows innocent people to be blown into pieces in the name of religion. This is an obscenity.

Islam...we all need to know each other's religion and philosophy for tolerance," he added.

Mosharraf Hossain Shajahan and Religious Affairs Secretary Rafiqul Islam were present during his visit to Baitul Mukarram.

On his arrival at the Alia Madrasa Principal Mohammad Islam Goni received him. Howells discussed the $system\ of\ education\ being\ used\ there\ and$ was impressed to see the Computer Science Department in the Islamic educa tional institution.

students can compete in the world.

Speaking of economic advancement $he \, said \, Bangladesh \, needs \, huge \, number \, of \,$ technicians, designers and scientists and the madrasa students should be built up through providing such education to

who got the rights to live like the rest of us,'

Muslims live in Britain and Islam is a religion recognised in England, and they are well protected there. Muslims of the

The Pandey family yesterday rebutted Moudud Ahmed and State Minister for Home Lutfozzaman Babar at Pandey's

CONDOLENCE AND PROGRAMMES Condolence meetings were held yester-

Lawyers demanded the government

Barisal Bar Association in a resolu-

black flags on the Bar Association building for seven days.

Jhalakati Bar Association decided to

Besides, Jhalakathi district and town unit AL brought out protest proces-

protest processions vesterday as part of its four-day long mourning

In Bhola, the cadres of JCD, the SECURITY BEEFED UP

Major Mamun, in charge of Rab-8 in Barisal, said activities of Rab have already been stepped up for investiga-

Islami's 'support to militants' cam-

each for further interrogation.

Kamruzzaman said he and his

Galib's Ahle Hadith Andolon

A father of five sons and two daughters, he also told police that the urge to to let his son Mamun be a member of

whereas JMB offers minimum Tk 50,000 for getting inducted into the suicide squad," an investigator quoted Kamruzzaman as explaining the ratio-

He was ready also to get Sagar, a

the August 17 bomb attacks in Tangail. Investigators said JMB might have some 20,000 suicide squad members at

> checking with metal detectors. The law enforcers were also seen checking the vehicles entering the court com-

BNP plans

Ranking leaders of the BNP are hoping to sort out the intra-party conflicts that have been plaguing them as well as work out a guideline to prepare for the upcoming elections.

Prime Minister's Bhavan (official residence of the PM) at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar will be the venue for the nine day long conventions where leaders from union to district levels will join.

reserved for six divisional conventions while the remaining day has been slated for a convention of leaders from the six city units of the party.

BNP's Chairperson also Prime Minister of Bangladesh Khaleda Zia is expected to preside over all the meet-

The party chairperson's office at Hawa Bhavan has already started preparing a list of delegates from different levels and identity cards for them. Senior Joint Secretary of the BNP Tarique Rahman is supervising the entire affair.

secretary of each union, thana, municipality, and district unit are going to be nvited to the conventions. The party held its first round of divisional conventions lasting for six

days in December 2002 after assuming power in October 2001. Sources said the party is also going to hold a convention of representatives from its 11 front organisations.

Meanwhile, severe rifts have surfaced in the ruling party's grass roots level committees in at least 27 districts and ongoing conflicts have intensified in more than 25 of its 78 district units, said the sources.

The party had to dissolve its Khulna district unit last month in the wake of sharp discord among its activists and leaders there.

the journalists after the meeting that they discussed logistics of how to make

harassing, arresting and torturing their

residents under the slogan 'Lets go to Paltan Maidan'. Maya told The Daily Star last night

that they have decided to form several committees to ensure security and discipline, and to provide medical services and reception to the leaders and activists who will come from the

He said they will start a two-day publicity campaign using loudspeakers in the city on November 19.

The coalition will hold rallies in Manikganj on November 17, in Savar and in Keraniganj on November 18 at in Brahmanbaria on November 19 to leaders of the coalition will participate in the rallies that will be led by AL Presidium Member Abdur Razzak.

Coalition leaders including Abdul Jalil, Rashed Khan Menon, Hasanul Haque Inu, Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, Abdur Razzak, Motia Chowdhury, Tofail Ahmed, Obaidul Quader, Sharif Nurul Ambia, Abdul Mannan, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, and Mostafa

The committee that had been formed earlier to prepare the draft political programme of the coalition also held two separate meetings with Peshajibi Samonnay Parishad, a platform of professionals, and Shilpa Sramik Karmachari Rakkha Committee, a platform to protect the rights of workers and employees in industries, in the office of the Workers Party with the committee convener Rashed Khan Menon in the chair.

Members of the committee said professionals including teachers. journalists, lawyers, cultural activists, doctors, engineers and others should be included in the process of formulating a minimum common programme for the coalition which aims to rule the country in the future. Professionals including Principal

Mohammad Ali Chowdhury, agriculturist Nazrul Islam, engineer Nazrul Islam, journalist Igbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Dr Rashid-e-Mahbub, Dr Ruhul Haque, Dr M Iqbal Aslam and Dr Qamrul Hasan Khan were present at

the meeting. Shilpa Sramik Karmachari Rakkha Committee leaders urged the draft programme writing committee to take proper steps to develop the industrial sector of the country. Shafigur Rahman Majumder, Abdul Kader Hawlader, Roy Ramesh Chandra, Zakir Hossain, Saif Uddin Ahmed Manik and others attended the meeting.

Both the meetings condemned the killing of two judges and said the militants have been relentless in their terrorist activities under patronisation of the alliance government. The meetings also said the government did not take any step against its partners Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Oikkyo Jote who have links with the Islamic mili-

Universities

deprived of promotion in jobs, he said, adding, "Lack of uniformity in the grading systems of different faculties of public universities is also creating problem in many cases.

The UGC discussed the new system with the vice-chancellors of different public and private universities several times and got very positive response the UGC chairman said.

duce a uniform grading system for all universities, Dean of Business Studies Faculty of Dhaka University (DU) Prof Md Serajul Islam said, "It will be helpful to evaluate the competent students for

immediate introduction of a uniform grading system to keep pace with other universities of the world," Dean of DU Social Science Faculty Harun-Or-

Correction

Our yesterday's front-page news story headlined 'Enayetullah laid to rest' inadvertently mentioned that the prime minister's parliamentary affairs adviser, Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, had received journalist Enayetullah Khan's body at Zia International Airport. In fact, Chowdhury was not

Murder accused

accused in the case filed for the murder of Dhaka Commerce College student A close associate of top criminal Kala

Jahangir, Alam stood accused in 16 cases including five for murder and four Hasibul Haque Johnny, detained in

onnection with Momin killing, told a magistrate under 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) that some one had hired Alam to kill Momin

gang to kill Momin over a land dispute between Rafiq and Momin's family. Momin's brother Shamsul Islam said if Alam were alive, he could have

helped in identifying the mastermind behind the killing. "Rab told me that they tried to nab Alam alive, but failed," Shamsul told The

Daily Star. A team of Rab-4 arrested Alam at the north gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque on Monday afternoon.

spoke about his accomplices, arms and ammunition, said a Rab press release. Following up the information, Rab men took him to Bou Bazar Dhal in

Kafrul area at around 4:00am yesterday

to recover firearms. As the Rab team reached the area, Alam's accomplices opened fire on them. The law enforcers under attack returned fire, setting off a fierce shootout, added the press release. At one stage, Alam got in line of fire while trying to escape from Rab. He

received five bullets in the chest and died on the spot. Police recovered the body of Shah Alam at about 10:00am and sent it to Dhaka Medical College Hospital

morgue for autopsy. Rab recovered one firearm, three bullets and two empty bottles of

phensidyle from the scene. HUMAN CHAIN Iativa Samaitantrik Dal-hacked Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) vesterday formed a human chain at

Muktangan, demanding exemplary

punishment to the killers of Momin

including the alleged mastermind

Members of Momin's family took part in the 30-minute human chain which was followed by a rally.

Addressing the rally, BCL leaders said some ministers, ruling party lawmakers and police officials are out to shield OC Rafiq. They also alleged that Criminal Investigation Department (CID) is harassing the witnesses in the name of investigation.

Car bomb

FROM PAGE 16 time), gutting the restaurant on the ground floor of the six-storey office block, and shattering all the windows in the building which houses several oil and gas exploration firms, including Pakistan Petroleum Ltd (PPL) which runs Pakistan's largest gas field in

national as well as regional problem."

Saifur however on Monday said law and order situation in Bangladesh is the best among the South Asian countries and the recent bomb attacks are isolated incidents.

Communications Minister Nazmul Huda said it is a matter of national security. "A sense of insecurity may grip anyone following such incidents. The nation never expects such event, but reality is that it has happened, " he told The Daily Star yesterday. He said the government must find

out the causes and take actions.

government provided gunmen for the udges of the Supreme Court and the High Court from yesterday.

to The Daily Star, he said everybody

needs a gunman in the prevailing

situation. "I am very much worried about myself and people of my constituency in Rajshahi where the JMJB men are running their activities," Abu Hena

Another BNP lawmaker Abdul

Mannan Talukder also said he is not feeling insecure and will seek security from the home ministry.

minister for home and seek security for myself," the lawmaker told The Daily

"Personally I'm feeling insecure. Anyone can be victim of such an attack," a BNP whip told The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

from a unanimous caller on October 27, has also sought security for him. "I was deeply shocked at the news of killing of two judges in a bomb attack. I made a phone call to the state

The state minister however assured him that he would take steps to ensure his (Ali) freedom of movement, the election commissioner said.

The election commissioner filed a general diary with Mirpur Police Station on October 28 a day after receiving the death threat. "But the police did not carry out any investigation and did not inform me about it."

BBC poll FROM PAGE 16 politicians, 53 percent in the armed forces, 61 percent in intellectuals and 70

percent in religious leaders. "Eighty-three percent feel that politicians are interested in their situation during election time," the survey revealed, while 59 percent respondents disagreed with the statement that the country's politicians are accountable to the people.

The survey comes at the beginning of the Bangladesh Sanglap project undertaken by BBC World Service Trust and BBC Bangla Service in conjunction with various universities and media organisa tions of Bangladesh BBC World Service Trust Research

Manager Lizz Frost Yocum and BBC Asia Pacific Region Acting Executive Editor Sabir Mustafa presented the report of the countrywide survey conducted in August 10 to 31 this year to a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. While naming the area where the government's performance is the poor-

More than half the respondents however, said the government has done well in education, promoting equality between men and women, and providing

Seventy-four percent respondents said they are happy with their present life. Among those surveyed, 72 percent are family-oriented, 97 percent faithful to religion and 96 percent proud of their

identities. The persons most admired by them are Prophet Mohammad and Poe Kazi Nazrul Islam. The respondents represented both urban and rural areas and the gamut of professions of all the six divisions to cover the entire country. Frost told the press.

While Sabir Mustafa said, "The project is

eight radio programmes titled 'Bangla desh Sanglap' at 8:00pm on Thursdays starting from tomorrow

BBC Senior Audience Research Executive Mazharul Islam, Bangla Service Acting Editor Masud Khan, South Asia Regional Unit Senior Broadcast Journalist Alastair Lawson-Tancred and Bangladesh Sanglap Consultant David Prosser were also present at the press

Ensure

bombing incidents in the country.

paper offices following the insecure environment created by the bomb attacks, BSP and Noab said in a joint letter to State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfozzaman Babar vesterday.

The letter requested the govern ment to strengthen the security at the newspaper offices by deploying law

3 held with M16

The arrestees have confessed to accused in several criminal cases including eight for murder with Dumuria and Batiaghata police stations of Khulna district and an

headquarters in Khalishpur. Secretary Babul Majumdar were gossiping in front of Hotel Paradise on Upper Jessore Road in Khunla when plainclothes Rab members raided the

at about 11:15am. Protesting the arrests, AL and its front organisations brought out a procession and laid siege to the office of Khulna Deputy Commissioner at

announced a half-day hartal in the city today and threatened to paralyse Khulna if the arrested are not released unconditionally

Jubo League leaders, locals said. **BOMB RECOVERED**

Thakurgaon Sadar Police Station. Police informed the army bomb experts in Rangpur to ascertain the type of the bomb, said a police officer.

Station recovered the one-foot shell but could not ascertain the country of

Explosives experts of the army and Rab asked the police to keep the shell for further examination.

Rout graft, violence

development initiatives of the government and help forge greater understanding between the government and the development partners on issues of poverty alleviation and socioeconomic

Khaleda also detailed her government's initiatives to curb corruption and to improve governance and law and order. About the Anti-Corruption Commission, she claimed, "After some initial teething problems, it has now become fully operational."

Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman, who chairs the forum, pointed out that the recent oil price hike in international market seriously affected the global economy, particularly those like Bangladesh. "To cater for the price-hike, we had to spend US \$600 million more on our import in FY 2004-05 compared to the previous year. This could not be met without destabilizing themacroeconommicstability,"he said.

He also mentioned that the situation also put the banks in liquidity crisis, adding, 'This has posed serious challenges to our PRSP target for deficit Saifur requested the donors to

particularly requested the WB to release the Development Support Credit (DSC) thesoonestpossible Referring to the Paris Declaration the finance minister said, "The aid committed should be disbursed in time to enable us to implement the budget framed on the basis of predicted aid. I must here mention the serious difficulties we have been put into due to the unpredictability

extend their support to overcome it. He

government is yet to fulfill a major condition of cabinet approval of a Public ProcurementLaw In his speech, Patel said the WB is committed to doing its part in translating the PRSP into action on the ground, adding, "we call upon Bangladesh's development partners to align their

million third tranche of the DSC as the

Patel said, "But even our best efforts will take us into difficult times ahead." Because, he said, apart from tough and unpredictable external environment with global energy prices remaining high.domesticchallengeswillinevitably focus around election. However, the WBVP maintained that f Bangladesh's reform priorities become a responsible part of election

He highlighted three areas -- infra-

good governance -- as tough reforms by anymeasuresforPRSPrealisation.

Emphasising infrastructure development, especially undertaking of a letailed power generation and financing plan, Patel said all procurement of generation capacity should be in line with the Public Procurement Regulations.

small power plant projects transparent and competitive. In this regard, he said, 'The least cost generation plan should be implemented with all procurements,

Managing Director Young Hoi Lee identified improving governance and law and order, uprooting corruption and making the civil service effective and functional as the major challenges for the implementation of the PRSP, "Improvements in these key areas are essential to achieve acceptable levels of public spending efficiency, effectiveness

fixes. The government's commitment needs to be backed by firm and tangible

Turning to corruption, which he termed a severe impediment to socioeconomic development, the ADB MD said its burden falls heaviest on the shoulders of the poor and the vulnerable. He said, "Bangladesh's poverty reduction strategy cannot succeed unless substantial progress is made in combating corruption.

and we welcome the involvement of other partners in aligning their assis-

Rumbaugh also emphasised strengthening the external debt management in order to ease external risks. such as balance of payment, and sug-

Representatives of bilateral and multilateral donors, government agencies, civil society and media were present

Blast probes stuck

themselves as JMB cadres and confessed to their involvement in the nearsimultaneous bomb blasts. However,

stuck at one stage as the JMB leaders of different levels have been able to evade arrest, investigators said. Investigators have meanwhile targeted the seven-member Mailish-e-

Sura, top tier of the JMB that supervised

The seven members are JMB chief Abdur Rahman, responsible for the entire operation, his younger brother Ataur Rahman Sunny, who was in charge of Dhaka, Abdul Awal alias Ashique of greater Rajshahi, Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (IMJB) operations commander Siddiqul Islam alias Bangla Bhai of greater Chittagong, Hafez Mahmud of greater Khulna region, Salahuddin of greater Sylhet, Shaikh Tariq of the Rangpur-Dinajpur

A top level investigator seeking anonymity told The Daily Star, "Until the operatives of the militant outfit's higher echelon can be arrested, it is very difficult to pin down what is their exact

The IMB cadres, who confessed to being involved in the August 17 bomb blasts, belong to the field level of the organisation and only carried the bombs and planted them at specified spots, said sources close to the investi-

IMB threatens

Superintendent of Police Shafigul Islam told journalists that his high ups directed him to provide a gunman to the district judge only. About the other judges he said, "I cannot provide protection to them as they live in separate places in the

booklet by post yesterday that urged the Muslims to establish Quranic Ayeen (Islamic Law) in Bangladesh instead of laws framed by humans, as the country is a Muslim-majority one. The grey cover page of the booklet with stars printed on it resembles the

In another incident Rangamati

Municipality Chairman Habibur

Rahman received a parcel containing a

national flag of Pakistan. It urged the people of this country to celebrate Independence Day on August 14 terming March 26, 1971 as 'separation day' The 12-page booklet signed by Ashraful Huq of Nunu Dhighi in Comilla

as "father of the nation". "Only Mohammad Ali Jinnah will be honoured as 'father of the nation'", read the booklet, Habibur Rahman said. Habib received the parcel in his office

at the launching ceremony of the forum.

quite identical: someone asked them to meet at a certain place, gave them the packets of bombs, briefed them how to perate those and asked them to plant

 $leaders\, or\, the\, organisational\, network\, of$ JMB, he elaborated. "While some named the who provided them with the bombs, the names seem to be used only in the organisational circle. Moreover, most addresses we have forced out from the

Fakhruddin Raji of Satkhira Mohammad of Chittagong, and Rana of Chapainawabganj, but they are yet to The law enforcers have also failed to arrest those belonging to the second or

Abdur Rahman and Bangla Bhai has not "Our prime target now is to arrest at least one or two of the Majlish-e-Sura as soon as possible," said another investigating official, adding that they have already got photographs of five of the

seven members, except Tariq and

well as certain ruling party lawmakers. Bangla Bhai was once arrested on August 17, 2002 in Bagerhat, but was released four months later. He was again arrested at Joypurhat later, but

backing of the local administration as

masterminds behind these incidents. A high level intelligence official however, ruled out such doubt, saying they are sincerely trying to arrest them.

all the entry gates of the Judge and

Speaking of his visit to Baitul Mukarram Howells said it is a very famous mosque and the heart of Islam in Bangladesh. The people who run the mosque are extremely responsible people. "An example, which we all should follow, is of tolerance, of peace and of

British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury, who accompanied the minister, said Howells' visit is focused on engaging with Islam. "We want to understand better through Islam; we want to

support through Islam and stop it being

rverted by criminals and the terrorists."

Speaking on the killing of the judges the Bangladeshi-born British envoy, who himself bears wounds of terror in Sylhet said, "We must stop that. We must unite in Bangladesh and across the international borders to take on this minutely and see

Emerging from the meeting,

Admitting that it is not possible for the law enforcers alone to ensure security of all citizens, Quayum sought nelp and cooperation from the people.

Bomb attack on Khulna **BNP** leader

Ektarpur.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna A BNP leader in Khulna was badly injured in a bomb attack at about

9:30pm on Monday near his house at

A powerful bomb, hurled by unidentified miscreants, blew up the left hand and damaged his eyes of Farazi Matiar Rahman, the general secretary of BNP's Abhoynagar unazila unit and central vice president of the Sramik Dal.

The 48-year-old is now undergoing treatment at the Khulna Medical College Hospital but his condition has remained critical, doctors said. The attack on the BNP leader

triggered off high tension in the upazila, where shops were closed and transport services remained suspended for hours yesterday. The Abhoynagar BNP yesterday brought out a procession and held a rally at Noapara yesterday, demanding immediate arrest of the attackers.

Gunmen

FROM PAGE 1 each of the families of the slain judges Sohel Ahmed and Jagannath

It also threatened to go for work abstention for an indefinite period from November 21 if their demands are not met by November 20. The BJSA team, led by its President

and Dhaka District and Sessions

Judge Mohammad Rafiqul Islam and

Secretary General and Dhaka

Divisional Special Judge Rezaul Karim Khan, went to the chamber of the CJ at about 3:30pm They appealed to the CJ for tightening security for all judges of the country and to provide police protec-

tion during their movement to and

Among others, Dhaka

Metropolitan Sessions Judge

Mohammad Momin Ullah, Judge of

from the courts.

justice.

the Public Safety Court Mohammad Salahuddin, additional judges Mohammad Shamsul Haq and Kamrul Hossain Mollah were present. "The attacks on the judiciary is a political issue and the government

has to deal it politically," said Rezaul

Karim after the meeting with the chief

The chief justice assured them of

taking initiatives and said he would

write to the government about their

demands within a short time.

The law ministry yesterday sent a letter to the home ministry, saying that they had sent another letter on October 10 for ensuring the security for all judges and courts. But the appeals were not granted as yet. Rezaul Karim Khan on Monday said that large number of the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and Ansar

members are now at their barracks

without any work. The government

can easily appoint 4,000 of them to

ensure security for 2,000 judges of the

Members of the Dhaka Bar Association yesterday wore black badges in protest against the killing of the two judges. Meanwhile, additional members of the law enforcing agencies, including Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), were deployed on the Dhaka court pre-

mises. Police have been deployed at

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate courts. Besides, one policeman was posted at each of the gates of court-All the people except lawyers and their clerks were permitted to enter the court premises after security

FROM PAGE 16 rally on November 22 in the capital

Sources said, eight days have been

President, secretary and organising

said.

Welcoming the initiative to intro-"We should give top priority for

to provide adequate security at the newspaper offices following the recent

Enamul Huq Babul, 32. their involvement in illegal arms trade and are still in possession of some automatic arms and ammunition, a Rab press release said, adding that Babul Majumdar is an FIR-listed

armed cadre of outlawed New

reports UNB. Informed by a farmer who saw the bomb when he was visiting his paddy field yesterday morning, police recovered the bomb and took it to

city yesterday. Locals informed the patrol police at around 10:00am noticing the abandoned shell in the drain of an alley near a salvage shop, witnesses

tancewith the PRSP.' At the session, Asia and Pacific Department Managing Adviser to International Monetary Fund (IMF) Thomas R Rumbaugh hailed the government's contractioning monetary policy, noting the credit growth is still very high

gested the government keeping its nonconcessionalborrowing within limits.

the bombs at certain places at a certain They do not appear to know anything beyond that-either about the top

confessors were found to be fake," he said, reasoning why the law enforcers cannot track them down Some confessors have provided the names of a few district level JMB leaders, including a divisional chief named

third tiers of the JMB. Even the government's bounty of Tk 50 lakh each for information leading to the arrest of yet proved helpful.

Bhai, are inside the country, but they have not been able to arrest them as they do not have any specific informa-The incidents of torturing and killing openly in Rajshahi region carried out last year by Bangla Bhai and his cohorts evidently shows that they enjoy

was released soon.

sufficient witnesses and no arrest could be made in some cases, leading to the possibility of submitting the final report in these cases. The government has also not lodged any sedition case against the JMB leaders and activists although it nned the militant organisation

The terrorists hate democracy and the rule

"Terrorism is not only limited within State Minister for Religious Affairs

He observed more investment and further upgrade to the curriculum is needed in the madrasa. He said the education being provided here should be modern and able to coupe with the needs of the present world, so that the madrasa

"We have to convince people that killing others is not the way to achieve some kind of holy spec. It is no sanity...it is about murder and victimization of people said the British minister. About Muslims in the UK he said many

UK love to live over there.

Howells visited the relatives of

Suicide bombers

inspector General of Police (IGP) Abdul Quayum said efforts were on to nab the militants. He also said charge sheets in 33

cases concerning the August 17 coun-

suspected to be involved in militant activities in the country, the IGP said. Although judges are apparent targets of the militants, anyone else

Shahana, victim of the recent London blasts, in Sylhet. He said, "We have to stand against all kinds of terrorism and all kinds of insanity that destroy good

realisation," he added.

at the home ministry

trywide bomb blasts have been submitted, and more than 400 suspects arrested so far. Some people who returned home after taking part in the Afghan war are

could also be target of their attacks, he cautioned.

Govt blasted

AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil told

the grand rally a success. He alleged that the government is

activists and leaders ahead of the rally. The meeting chaired by the city AL general secretary Mofazzel Hossain Chowdhury Maya also urged the coalition's city leaders to hold meetings of their activists to unite the city

districts adjacent to the capital.

10:00am and 3:00pm respectively, and agitate for the grand rally in Dhaka. Top

Mohsin Montu attended the meeting.

Kamrul Islam Momin. Former officerin-charge of Motijheel Police Station AKM Rafiqul Islam is the prime accused

Momin's family has all along been alleging that OC Rafiq had paid the Alam

During interrogation by Rab he

"I will communicate with the state

Election Commissioner AK Mohammad Ali, who received a threat

the eleciton commissioner added.

Biplobi Communist Party.

noon yesterday. Later in a rally, AL leaders

The government should also pay attention to the security of the news-

Secretary Babul Majumdar, 32, and

area, opened fire and detained them

A bomb was found at Singia village near Thakurgaon TV and Radio Transmission Centre yesterday,

Madarbari of Doublemooring in the

of DSC-III." The WB has decided to defer discussing disbursement of the \$200

support to the strategic priorities identified by Bangladesh.'

Forecasting on the coming days.

and choices, "then ideas articulated in excellent plans like the PRSP stand a

the mystery behind these coordinated attacks remains unearthed. The investigation of the attacks has

warned that the country would experience more destructive activities if Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the leader of the war of independence that gave birth to Bangladesh, continues to be honoured

at noon vesterday and saw the booklet

"I then informed intelligence officials and police who collected a copy of the booklet", he told journalists in the

 $He\,urged\,the\,government\,to\,make\,all$

large and small, following the public procurement regulations, and/or the soon-to-be approved procurement Asian Development Bank (ADB)

andaccountability,"he said. According to Lee, "There are no quick

 $Referring \,to\,the\,country\,strategy\,and$ programme jointly developed by the

ADB, WB, DFID and Japan, Lee said,

'This joint approach is an open process,

He recommended more steps to control

tion gleaned from the confessors is

Intelligence sources said they still believe the Majlish-e-Sura members, including Abdur Rahman and Bangla tion about their hideouts.

Mahmud.

So, it also remains doubtful if the investigators will be able to arrest the

submitted. Some cases meanwhile did not find

Bomb attacks

After Monday's brutal killing, the "I am not feeling secure," ruling BNP lawmaker Abu Hena said. Talking

The ruling party lawmaker said the

He stressed the need for collective

minister for home affairs on Monday night and asked for security," the election commissioner told The Daily Star vesterday.

"My freedom of movement guaranteed by the constitution has seriously been impaired on security grounds

efforts to address the rise of militants.

est. 29 percent of the survey respondents

named fighting corruption, while another 28 percent named electricity supply and safeguarding land ownership. appreciate the state of imbalance and

Sixty-nine percent respondents said they prefer to be recognised as Bangladeshis to any religious or other

aimed at creating greater awareness and increased quality of debate on the key governance issues and their relationships with development of Bangladesh.' BBC Bangla Service will broadcast

campaigning, engaging the electorate in understanding the reform challenges

They are being quizzed at the Rab Meanwhile, AL sources said district Jobo League President Qamruzzaman Jamal and Publicity

Enamul Haq Babu was nabbed and taken to the camp along with the two

RECOVERED AT CTG Our staff correspondent from Chittagong adds: Police recovered a mortar shell from a sewer at West

A team of Doublemooring Police

 $\hbox{``I\,will\,file\,a\,general\,diary\,tomorrow\,as'}\\$ the matter is not negligible", he said.

Although the JMB launched the August 17 attacks, they are none but the same leaders who last year emerged under the name of Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh in Rajshahi region Γhe government also banned JMJB. A total of 152 cases were lodged in connection with the 459 bomb blasts of August 17 among which the charge sheets of 33 cases have so far been