Hundreds gathered at the National Mausoleum at Savar, queuing since early morning amid tight security to pay homage to the freedom fighters. By noon the ground in front of the mausoleum became all covered with flowers.

President Professor Dr lajuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia laid floral wreaths at the altar of the memorial at 6:34am and 6:40am. They stood in solemn silence in respect for the martyrs as the bugle played the last post. A smartly turned out contingent of the army, the navy and the air force presented state salute on the occa-

Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar. Chief Justice Syed JR Muddassir Husain, cabinet members, diplomats, chiefs of the three armed services, freedom fighters, and high civil and military officials were present.

Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina laid wreaths at 7:40am.

On December 16, 1971, the Pakistani occupation forces surrendered to the joint command of Indian Army and Bangladeshi freedom fighters at the then Race Course (now Suhrawardi Udvan) Maidan in Dhaka after a nine-month bloody war for independence of the coun-

try.
The Victory Day this year is being celebrated in the context of rising militancy across the country. The day's programmes have been curtailed due to security concerns over the recent spate of suicide blasts.

The day began with a 31-gun salute to the war heroes on the old airport. National flags were hoisted at all government, semigovernment and other important establishments

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia placed wreaths at the graveyard of late president Ziaur Rahman at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the morning. Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina along with her party leaders and workers placed wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at 6:30am.

President lajuddin Ahmed and his wife hosted a reception at the Bangabhavan in the afternoon Cabinet ministers, diplomats, judges, chiefs of army, navy and the air force, leaders of various political parties and members of parliament attended the ceremony.

Special prayers were offered at mosques, temples, churches and other places of worship seeking divine blessings for peace and progress of the country on the occasion. Improved diets were served at hospitals, jails, orphanages, children's homes and vagrant

The state-run Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar and private TV channels broadcast special programmes while national dailies brought out special supplements highlighting the significance of the day.

District administration, political parties and their front organisations. educational institutions, trade unions, professional bodies, and scores of socio-cultural forums across the country organised attractive functions to celebrate the day.

Discussions, exhibitions of documents on the Liberation War, essay and drawing competitions for

and cultural functions were some of the highlights of the day.

Thousands of spectators thronged Bangabandhu National Stadium to see the girls and boys on parade and cultural functions. A total of 84 educational and cultural institutions took part in the programmes

The ruling BNP has taken elaborate programmes to celebrate the Victory Day. National and party flags were hoisted on its offices across the country.

main opposition AL has arranged a two-day programme. They placed wreaths at the National Mausoleum, 'Shikha Chirantan' (Eternal Flames) in Suhrawardy Udyan and garlanded the portrait of Bangabandhu.

Besides, the party brought out a colourful procession in the city from Engineers' Institute at 3:00pm. It paraded different streets before ending at Bangabandhu Museum in

leading cultural organisation, also took out a vibrantly coloured procession from the Central Shaheed Minar at 10:30am as part of its three-day Bijoy Utsab.

the procession ended at the TSC on Dhaka University campus

spectrum began to mass at Savar National Mausoleum after the placing of wreaths by the president and the prime minister.

Bangladesh, Jatiya Party (Ershad), Workers Party of Bangladesh, leftleaning 11-party, factions of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal and Bangladesh Samaitantrik Dal. Jaker Partv. Bangladesh Tariqat Federation, Sramik League, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Bangladesh Chhatra League were among the political parties and the front organisations placing wreaths at the memorial.

Association, Muktijoddha Sangsad, Muktijoddha Kalyan Trust, individual freedom fighters, educational institutions, various socio-cultural and non-governmental organisations, and associations of teachers, officers and employees of different universities also laid wreaths.

of different universities, Bangladesh Bar Council, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society. Dhaka Reporters Unity, Crimes Reporters Association, Press Institute of Bangladesh, Dhaka Palli Bhidyut Samity, Bigyan Shilpa Gabeshona Parishad, Shilpakala Academy, National Museum. Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralysed Jatiyatabadi Muktijuddher Prajanma, Bangladesh Hindu Parisad, Bangla Academy, Mohila Parisad, Nazrul Institute and Dhaka Officers Club placed wreaths at the

4 held

Sources said the detainees are being

interrogated at the Rab-5 office and are coming up with information vital to national security. Rab officials were too busy con-

ducting one operation after another since the arrests to talk to the press. Despite repeated attempts, commanding officer of Rab-5 Major Salauddin could not be reached.

A highly placed law enforcement official, declining to give any details, just said, "We are keeping the thing secret for certain reasons. But, you [the media] will know everything later on.

He said, "The government has prohibited giving information to journalsts about militants after it felt embarrassed by some newspaper reports and TV news interviewing militants."

An official order dated December 1 signed by AIG Abu Hasan Muhammad Tarik was distributed among all the Rab and police offices across the country early this month. The order was for the law enforcers not to provide journalists with any information about the arrested militants and not to let them take pictures or video footage of them without court order.

Another source guessed that the fact that the haul was made in Galib's area might have something to do with the law enforcers keeping mum about

Elaborating on his theory, he said it s evident that an attempt is on to prove Galib not linked with militancy after State Minister for Home Lutfuzzaman Babar remarked in September that Galib was not responsible for the August 17 countrywide blasts. The home ministry also sent lists of Galib's followers to police stations instructing not to harass them, the source said, adding Galib's associates even participated in an anti-militancy seminar with Babarin Dhaka on December 4.

However, he also accepted the possibility that the government might be keeping the matter secret in order to gather information about JMB linchoins and masterminds behind the attacks as well as their explosives

Ulfa threatens

round of peace talks in New Delhi with an 11-member team of civil society eaders nominated by the rebel group. Singh later said he was ready to

discuss "all issues relating to the Ulfa". The Ulfa designated 11-member People's Consultative Group (PCG) held talks with the Prime Minister to prepare the ground for a bilateral ceasefire and then direct talks between the rebel leadership and Government peace negotiators at a

Netrakona blasts

while running for cover further bruised his splinter-riddled hands.

When Munna was rushed to Netrakona Sadar Hospital, his relatives were looking for the injured or dead ying on the street with no knowledge of /lunna's injury.

Failing to treat Munna's serious injuries, doctors referred him to Mymensingh Medical College and Hospital where he was given first aid and then was sent to Chest Diseases Hospital in the capital at about 9:00pm the same day. The doctors there operated on Munna's abdomen and then sent him to DMCH on December

The doctors at the DMCH said Munna needs more operations for removing splinters from his hands and

said the family has already spent Tk 28,000, but needs more money immediately for further operations. Nanda Lal, however, does not have any clue where the six-member family will collect that money from.

A class IX student of Dutta High School in Netrakona district town Munna also used to work as a part-time expenses as well as to supplement the meagre income of his family. His father Dulal Debnath is a grocer and tailor.

to witness the 'battle royale' between the two best teams of the Saarc region as chief guest.

successful team among their neigh-

Bangladesh 2-0 in Goa. However, the they have won all three previous meet at the 1985 SAF Games final in Dhaka by a solitary goal in the Madras SAF

Team Bangladesh, however, are not only the holders of the title but also won the SAF Games title in Kathmandu in 1999, when the national teams last played in the regional Games. They would also take inspiration from their 1-1 draw against India in the group stage last week despite fielding the whole

Under Argentine coach Diego Cruciani they have already earned opposition's respect inside two months and the local fans are expected to back Arif Khan Joy and company against Baichung Bhutia's men.

Bangladesh were forced to wear their second-choice all-white jersey for the three group matches but having wearing the same, they have decided to stick to their lucky outfit for the finale

The champions will pocket a purse of 50,000 dollars and the runners-up 25,000. Bangladesh have already won Bangladesh Football Federation for reaching the final



Mausoleum at Savar paying homage to the Liberation War martyrs on the 35th Victory Day yesterday.

Compensation from Niko

exhausting the gas production

A Niko study on the gas field claimed it has only 110bcf gas. But a 1996-97 study by Petrobangla identified a resource base of 1.9 trillion cubic feet (tcf) there, of which 1.1tcf can be commercially produced.

that, even on the basis of Niko's study, the company should furnish the government with a Tk 250 crore bank guarantee valid until the gas production zone is exhausted. At the final stage, the exact gas loss will be calculated on the basis of hard data and if additional gas loss is detected the government will deduct its price from the bank guarantee. "This is a good solution,

because it uses solid data backed by several committee reports," noted an energy ministry official.
"This gas-for-gas formula for

compensation apparently offsets Niko's threats to stop gas supplies from the Feni field," he said. "The price of Feni gas has not been fixed as yet and therefore Niko cannot argue over the claimed amount of money.

Niko last month threatened the government with shutting down gas supply from Feni field due to non-payment of arrears. Under a joint venture agreement with Bangladeshi Bapex, Niko has been supplying gas since November 2004 to Petrobangla from the previously-used Feni field without fixing a price or makng a contract.

Under the influence of the then, and later ousted, state minister for energy AKM Mosharraf Hossain, Petrobangla made an illegal payment of \$40 lakh to Niko's account in April last. Since then there has been no

remained unresolved.

From November 2004 to April 30 last, Petrobangla received 4.6bcf gas from the Feni gas field and has consumed some 4bcf gas more since then It is assumed that the govern-

ment's gas-for-gas compensation formula will also apply for Feni field, the sources said. Niko is yet to respond to the

FENI GAS PRICE DEBATE The government's latest stand on the Feni gas field is a fixed price offer of \$1.75 per thousand cubic feet or a unit of gas, said one

Niko had asked for a fixed unit price of \$2.35 even before it started operations in Feni and has continued to do so since then.
Although Niko does not oper-

ate under any production sharing contract (PSC) and therefore does not shoulder the risks taken by a PSC operator. Niko has been trying to get a gas price as under a The unit price of gas under a PSC ranges from \$1.25 to \$2.9.

"Niko did not have to invest or take risk like Cairn or Occidental-Unocal for exploration of oil and

gas, since it is mainly dealing with three previously-used and one unexplored gas field. Bapex owns these resources, while Niko is the investor as a joint venture partner," a source pointed out. Petrobangla's initial calcula-

tion was that the unit price of Feni gas should not exceed \$1.4 Petrobangla buys gas from its

affiliates like Bapex and Bakhrabad Gas Fields Limited at the 'wellhead' price, which is typically much lower than the variable sales price of \$1.1 to \$1.4

AL procession

Rahman and party chief Sheikh

artificial tanks, guns and fighter planes and placed those on top of rickshaw vans. They posed as the freedom fighters attacking the Pakistani occupation forces in 1971 and Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh leaders Abdur Rahman and Bangla Bhai of

Bangladesh" and the historic "Joy Bangla, joy Bangabandhu".

Prior to the procession, the AL leaders at a rally chaired by presidium

law and order: it is rather hatching conspiracy against the country's sovereignty, they explained.

AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil said the Al-Badar and Al-Shams leaders, who opposed the Liberation War, are now in power, which is a threat to independence and secular

"The Liberation War was fought to establish a country where people of all walks including farmers and labourers would live with dignity and equal rights. But the defeated forces now in power have destroyed all the dreams of Bangabandhu," Jalil said.

Sajeda Chowdhury said the antiliberation forces came to power in whatsoever way and are now conspiring to scrap the constitution and the "Let us unite again like the times of

the Liberation War and eradicate all forms of inequality, poverty, dependence and communalism," she said.

Sengupta said the government dominated by the communal forces cannot hear the public outcry. They has to pay soon for not listening to the people gripped by repression, fundamentalism and extremism. AL leader Matia Chowdhury said

the "communal" government has to surrender to the patriotic parties of the country just the way Niazi, leader of the 96,000-strong Pakistani army, surrendered to the irresistible freedom fighters.

Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Mohammad Hanif, Obaidul Kader, Mukul Bose, Abdul Mannan, Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Mostafa Jamal Mohiuddin also addressed the rally moderated by Sultan Mohammad MonsurAhmed.

PM vows to find

'We wasted a lot of time after earning independence. Now we have to

Recalling the contributions of the martyrs of the Liberation War, the PM expressed her gratitude to the freedom fighters who had liberated the country. She also paid tribute to shaheed president Ziaur Rahman, who proclaimed the independence of the country.

Khaleda Zia said a nation's future depends on how efficiently the children are groomed.

She advised the children and uveniles to develop themselves as patriotic, disciplined, active, able and worthy citizens of the country. The prime minister said her

government is making relentless

efforts to safeguard country's inde-

pendence both for the present and the future. She urged the countrymen to contribute from their respective positions to safeguard the independence and make it meaningful. She recalled the contributions of national leaders, political and cultural activists, and others who

contributed in different ways during the Liberation War and worked at the preparatory stage. She also recalled the foreign friends who extended their support and cooper-

ation directly or indirectly in accelerating the victory.

The independence was earned through lots of sacrifices and shedding of bloods, but its benefits are yet to reach every citizens of the country, the prime minister said, adding that the nation had to struggle for establishing democracy and rights of the people and face multi-

farious ill-activities against peace,

stability and progress even after the

independence. The programme began with the prime minister releasing a number of colourful balloons and 34 pair of pigeons in the sky amidst thunderous applause from the jubilant spectators.

Khaleda Zia witnessed the impressive march-past and acrobatics display presented by children and iuveniles from different educational institutions, and socio-cultural organisations from across the country that was broadcast live by Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar along with the PM's speech.

Noted vocalists performed songs on the occasion.

Ministers, MPs, high civil and military officials, socio-cultural organisations and the elite were present among thousands of view-

Bomb scare forces

FROM PAGE 16

Indian Home Minister Shivraj Patil told reporters here that a security alert was issued and the parliament was emptied of its members and ministers soon after information from Chennai had been received by the Intelligence Bureau and the American Embassy here about the presence of explosives in the com-

He said efforts were on to check whether the information about a bomb in the parliament had originated in Chennai city or a place

Initial reports suggested that the American Embassy had alerted the Indian Intelligence Bureau about the presence of explosives in the parliament and the bureau in turn put the parliament security establishment

David Kennedy, a spokesman of the US mission here, declined to confirm or deny whether it had received any e-mail regarding the presence of explosives in the parliament or had it alerted the Indian authorities about it. "We do not discuss in public security cooperation between India and the US.'

Within minutes after receiving the security alert, the prime minister was escorted out of the parliament complex and soon after that all members of the parliament belonging to different political parties including the home minister, Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Priyaranjan Dasmunshi left the parliament

The security officials with mine detectors and sniffer dogs searched every nook and cranny of the parliament complex but found nothing after the first round of thorough check, Shivraj Patil told reporters. He said to be doubly sure the

security personnel conducted a

second round of search of the entire premises, where 543 members of Lok Sabha and 250 members of Rajya Sabha besides the ministers and senior government officials are present on any given day. "After the first search, the officers

told me that the entire complex has been checked and everything is alright and nothing has been found. There is nothing to worry," Patil said.

resumed their sessions at 3:00pm after the two rounds of intensive search that went on for nearly three Initially, the parliament was

later extended to 3:00pm to enable the security officials to conduct the

The security alert came just three days after the parliament had observed the fourth anniversary of the December 13, 2001 terrorist attack on it, which had left 11 people

Asked if the information about bomb was a hoax, Dasmunshi told reporters here, "I cannot say if it is hoax or real. Only security person-

JMB's 'next targets'

placed on a 10-day remand vesterday in an arms case.

"We are trying to learn about the

next targets of JMB so that we can intervene and resist them from making any further attacks," said an investigator seeking anonymity. "We also want to find out their

will cut down their planned operations," he added. Another investigator said, "We

have concentrated on knowing the whereabouts of Rahman.

Quoting Sunny, an investigator said, "My brother (Rahman) has

hide somewhere in the capital since it is more safe to reside there than moving around in different places. Meanwhile, acting on information gathered from Sunny, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) carried out

raids in Khulna and Rajshahi, and made one of the biggest hauls of bombs and explosives in Rajshahi. CHITTAGONG Metropolitan Magistrate Maksudur Rahman yesterday placed

Mohammad and three others on a 10-day remand as the investigation officer (IO) prayed for it for interrogating him. An arms case was filed against him with Pahartali Police Station. The three are JMB chief of Cox's

Bazar Naimuzzaman alias Sagar. Monirul Islam alias Roman and Rafigul Islam alias Javed, secondin-command of Mohammad. The arrestees were produced

before the court amidst tight security by Rab and police. They were taken back to Rab office where they are likely to be interrogated by Joint Interrogation Cell.

Two cases -- an arms case and another filed under explosive substances act -- have been filed

against them with the port city's Pahartali and Cox's Bazar police

A source linked to the probe said police might seek further remand on expiry of the 10-day remand. **SYLHET**

The two JMB suicide squad members and their landlord in Sylhet

trate's court fixed December 18 for hearing the police's petition for each of the three to be placed on a sevenday remand. The police have brought charges of anti-state activities against the arrestees.

and Nazrul Islam, 27 of Dakshin Surma in Sylhet.

They were arrested at Sayed Miah's colony in the city's Kazitola-Loharpara area Thursday morning. Nazrul sheltered them on their arrival in Svlhet.

the arrests.

Police recorded their statements under section 161 on Thursday night. Both the JMB operatives have admitted that they had come to Sylhet on a mission to launch attack on Victory Day programme and on the Shahjalal (RA)'s shrine area, the SP said.

GAZIPUR

resembling JMB Operations Commander Bangla Bhai. After a tip-off, police stopped a train at Gazipur junction yesterday morning and held the man.

himself as Ganesh Ghosh, a jewellery trader in Tantibazar of old

children, reunion of freedom fighters Tour operators

ment could curb terrorism and

develop the infrastructure. "Immense potential and prospects lie in Bangladesh's tourism sector as the country is blessed with its natural beauty and many archaeological sites," said Syed Mahbubul Islam, managing partner also chief executive officer of

Referring to the increase in the number of domestic tourists he said earnings from this sector could have contributed significantly to the national economy if the government paid attention on developing the sector and cooperated with the private tour opera-The co-organisers of the fair are Tour Operators Association of

Bangladesh (TOAB) and Bangladesh Hotels and Guest House Owners' Association while The Daily Prathom Alo. The Daily Star, ATN Bangla and SKYbd are the media partners. Universal Media is the event manager.

With 58 organisations partici-

pating in the fair, 80 stalls and five pavilions are set up in the venue. Different private tour operators, food and beverages companies including Tommy Miah's Institute of Hospitality Management, guesthouses, one stop service providers, airliners including the Kuwait Airways, boutique shops, fashion houses, leather shops, international institutions on hotel and hospitality management, and even jewellery

"Visitors will get everything related to tourism in the fair," said AA Mursalin Shena, assistant manager of operations of Universal Media The Department of Forest has

shops are participating in the fair.

set up a stall to make people aware about eco-tourism. Two stalls for which the organ-

did not allocate any fund in the fiscal years 2004-05 and 2005-06 for the tourism sector.

In observance of the day, the

Sammilita Sangskritik Jote, a

Dressed in different traditional Bengali clothes, youths and juveniles sporting different giant masks danced to the rhythm of drums. Parading through different streets,

SAVAR NATIONAL MAUSOLEUM People from across the social

can learn about the war of liberation and the places with archaeological significance in Bangladesh. A number of participating organisations particularly private tour operators and the organisers of the fair said they hope that the

positive response from the visi-

isers did not charge any fee are

the stalls for the Liberation War

Museum and for the Department

of Archaeology, where the visitors

tors will continue through the remaining days of the fair. The tour operators said the number of foreign tourists decreased significantly after the latest wave of bomb blasts began in August. "Many foreign tourists are cancelling their bookings on grounds of security concerns in Bangladesh," said a private tour

operator. Seeking anonymity he also said the Parjatan Corporation of Bangladesh actually is doing nothing to explore the potential of tourism sector in Bangladesh and alleged that the corporation never cooperates with the private tour operators.

expressed their resentments, as two ministers who attended the inaugural ceremony of the fair did not visit their stalls. "The chairman of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation should have brought the ministers to our stalls as we are also co-organisers," said a member. They also criticised the govern-

ment for not paying due attention

to the development of tourism

industry and said the government

Some members of the TOAB

Communist Party of FROM PAGE 16

Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar

Among others, vice chancellors

egs.
Munna's brother-in-law Nanda Lal

"All the money we have spent was borrowed at high interest," he said.

SAFF final FROM PAGE 1

While the Bangladesh tent looked confident to retain their title ahead of the final, two-time winners India also vowed to recover their pride as the most

India have not won any title since their 1999 SAFF Championship triumph at home when they beat history of finals will speak for India as ings against Bangladesh -- in tiehreaker Games in 1995 and again four years

eserve bench.

beaten Pakistan 1-0 in the semifinal

Tk 3 lakh as bonus from the

Duty and quota-free FROM PAGE 16

The LDC text which Indian negotiators have termed as "comfortable", is expected to be made final tomorrow. The EU trade chief Peter

Mandelson said he was "hopeful

that an agreement would be

effective

finalised and then adopted for-

mally by the trade body to become

reached." Among the 149 WTO members, 32 fall into the category of least developed, with per capita incomes of less than US\$750. The agreement came after

negotiators from least developed

countries dropped their demand that all of their products should be allowed duty-free access, the Indian official said. In return, negotiators from the US and Japan agreed to limit the exemptions to a fixed percent that will be worked out later. Such exemptions would be transitory

and would end by a set date, he

According to the draft text of

the agreement, developing economies like India, Brazil and China will allowed more flexibility than the rich nations. On Thursday, the least developed countries said they planned to meet with other developing countries to forge a common strategy at this week's global

trade talks. The EU had blamed

the US and Japan for holding up a

For instance, the United States

deal on duty-free access.

has voiced reluctance to give duty-free access to textile products from Bangladesh. Japan has problems with putting rice on the list. These concerns appear to have been addressed in the new The issue of duty-free and quota-free access is a key compo-

nent of the current Doha round of

trade talks that were launched in

Qatar's capital in 2001 particularly

to address the concerns of poor

nations, which say they had lost

out in previous WTO negotiations. But in agriculture, India has made it clear developing countries will not move forward without industrial nations agreeing to a AKM Mosharraf Hossain, the

set of definite dates for eliminating all forms of farm subsidies as it pertained to livelihood concerns of millions of poor farmers. Indian Commerce Minister Kamal Nath said here. "Unless the criterion on agri-

culture market access is taken up.

non-agriculture market access

(industrial tariffs) cannot be taken

up," he asserted, demanding all

the flexibilities required to protect sensitivities of the domestic industries should be given. Apart from the LDC package, there has been very little movement on other thorny issues of services, farm subsidies and

NAMA as the fourth day of the

Articulating developing coun-

conference draws to a close.

tries' stand, Nath said farm subsidies in developed countries have kept prices of agricultural commodities in international market artificially at low levels. This adversely impacted interests of poor farmers in developing countries like India, he said. Nath has also written a tough

letter to WTO Director General

Pascal Lamy and made it clear

that India would not budge in

industrial goods until its sensitivi-

ties in agriculture and industrial

goods are addressed. The EU and US have come together on industrial goods and are pushing for the Swiss formula in the Ministerial text on NAMA even as India and other developing countries of the G-9 formed at Hong Kong are resisting any such

Swiss formula leads to higher

cuts in higher tariffs and lower

cuts in lower tariffs. India has very

high bound tariffs at WTO though

its effective tariffs are lower and

thus will have to take huge cuts, Indian officials said. India wants multiple coefficients based on the average of each countries' tariffs, while Pakistan has proposed a formula with a coefficient of 30. The underlying principle is higher the coefficient, lower the tariffs cut.

government in the Second Round Block Bidding for oil and gas exploration under PSCs in 1997. But it kept on trying to enter Bangladesh's gas sector through

the backdoor and finally got the

access through a hush-hush joint

venture deal with Bapex and also

through purchase of shares of an

then state minister for energy, had

been pushing Petrobangla to agree to Niko's price offer. This

pressure forced Petrobangla to

At this point, the then state

minister formed a ministry-level committee earlier this year. The

committee suggested a \$2.15 unit

price for the Feni gas. But such a

price would perpetuate

Petrobangla's loss from gas

Petrobangla progressively larger shares of the gas fields discov-

ered and developed by oil compa-

nies as per a pre-set timetable

the Bapex-Niko deal is different

For instance, the actual unit price

of Unocal's Jalalabad gas under a

PSC is only 98 cents, because

Petrobangla gets 70 percent gas

free. But Petrobangla gets no free

The joint venture agreement

gives Bapex 40 percent share of

the Feni gas, but the tricky deal

contains many conditions for

raising Bapex shares. Besides,

Feni field has a small gas reserve,

which may exhaust within a few

years, even before Bapex gets a

chance to have higher stakes,

Niko was disqualified by the

gas from the Feni field.

sources said.

While a PSC gives

raise its unit price offer to \$1.75.

American oil company in Block 9.

Some enthusiastic activists made

Boarding trucks, horse carts and motorcycles, they chanted the slogans: "Jamaat-Shibir-Razakar, leave the country immediately". "No space for communalists and militants in

member Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury called for unity to topple the BNP-Jamaat-led alliance government. The four-party coalition government has failed to establish the rule of

democracy.

AL presidium member Suranji

AL leaders Abdur Razzak

Both houses of the parliament

adjourned till 1:00pm, which was searches.

divisional commander of the outfit Javed Igbal alias Mohammad, were

Sunny, the man behind the suicide bomb attacks, is now being quizzed by investigators. He was placed on a 10-day remand a day after his arrest on Tuesday.

explosives warehouses quickly as it

already come to know that I am arrested, and he must have changed his hideout." Sunny, one the seven members of the JMB's highest committee, told investigators Rahman is likely to

stations

who were arrested by Sylhet Kotwali police Thursday, were sent to jail Sylhet Sadar Cognisance magis-

The arrestees are Masidul Islam alias Masud alias Bhutto, 25, of Chapainawabganj Sadar, Abdullah alias Khairul Islam alias Selim, 22, of Fulbaria upazila of Mymensingh

SP of Sylhet Ansar Uddin Khan said acting on a fax message received from Gazipur, a police team raided the colony and made

Police, meanwhile, picked up a man

The man, however, identified Dhaka, and said he went to Mymensingh for business purpose.