

## Convicted JMB militants

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"We're not afraid of execution or imprisonment. The Muslims of this country will establish Islamic rule here, no matter how many of us are executed," Sunny was shouting at the top of his voice as he was being dragged to the prison van along with Jewel.

When photojournalists rushed there for taking photographs, the police and Rab men assaulted them leaving several of them wounded.

Earlier in the day, Judge Monzurul Bachhid of the Fourth Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court handed the down the punishment to the convicts in a packed courtroom.

However, three other JMB men were acquitted of the charges, even though there were specific allegations against them, the prosecution alleged.

The cases, one under the Arms Act and the other under the Explosive Substances Act, were filed with Sabujbagh Police Station on December 14 last year.

The prosecution, unhappy with the verdict, would decide whether they would appeal against it after getting the judgement copy. Assistant Public Prosecutor Shahidul Islam Sardar said.

The acquitted are Sunny's friend Fariduzzaman Swapan, Kamrul alias Sermon alias Zaidul and Alangul alias Bijoy. Swapan provided funds to JMB and the other two safeguarded the arms, ammunition and explosives, the prosecution alleged.

On September 17, another Dhaka court sentenced five JMB members to 78 years' rigorous imprisonment in the same category cases filed in January this year.

In its verdict, the judge mentioned that the three were acquitted due to lack of proper investigation into the matters, saying the investigation officers (IOs) did not make the landlords of the acquitted witnesses in the cases. Moreover, the IOs failed to prove the allegation against Swapan as a money supplier to the JMB.

After his arrest on December 13 last year, Sunny confessed to Rab that he was close friend of Swapan is their fund provider and he lived at a rented house in Kalabagan. On his information, Rab arrested Swapan from there the next day.

Moreover, it was found that Swapan sent money through TT to Ashrafal Alam, another JMB leader,

who was arrested in Chittagong during the suicide bomb attacks on policemen.

During the trial of the cases, Sub-Inspector ABM Rashidul Bari of Rab-3 gave his statement saying that witnesses of the adjacent area told them that the Bijoy and Kamrul stayed at the rented house and they fled the scene sensing their presence.

In addition, three high officials including a vice-president of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited Local Office, gave their statements before the court saying that Swapan has a savings account with their bank and he sent Tk 1,42,000 through three ITTs to another JMB member in Chittagong on three dates last year.

On March 14, Rab pressed charges against Sunny and four others in the two cases, showing 36 people as prosecution witnesses.

Rab dropped the names of Monir and Abul Khair, the landlords of Sunny, from the charge sheet as their involvement with JMB could not be proved.

Sunny, also a member of the JMB top tier Majlish-e-Shura, master-minded the August 17 serial blasts across the country. He was arrested at the Polytechnic Institute in Tejgaon on December 13 last year.

Leads obtained from Sunny prompted Rab to seize 56 items of arms, ammunition, explosives, bomb-making materials, and books on jihad from the house of Abul Khair at South Manda in Sabujbagh area of the capital.

## Garment

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Ritan Kanti Barua, general manager Perfect Sweaters Limited, however, commented that the authorities could not meet the workers' demands as those were irrational.

The factory workers later withdrew their barricade at around 4:30pm after the owners promised the workers to sit with them for more discussions over their demands.

The factory owners will meet with the workers' representatives at BGMEA Bhaban today to review the nine-point demands of the workers.

Both factories are to resume operations today after three days of closure.

## Musharraf

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brave soldiers cried with me. It remains most sad and most painful day of my life," he wrote in his book 'In the Line of Fire'.

"It was nexus between Bhutto and small coterie of rulers that destroyed Pakistan. The myopic rigid attitude of (Bangladeshi leader) Sheikh Mujibur Rahman did not help matters ....., "he said.

Musharraf said he, along with a company of Special Security Group (SSG) commandoes, were tasked to go East Pakistan before it fell.

"My troops were brimming with confidence and we were all set to go when the ceasefire was announced and East Pakistan was forcibly torn away from us to form the separate state of Bangladesh. It was terrible day.

"When I was telling my troops about the ceasefire, the surrender of our 90,000 personnel, (military and civilian) came about," the Pakistani leader said.

"What happened in East Pakistan is the saddest episode in Pakistan's history," Musharraf said, adding that it was due to 'inept handling' since independence.

"Blame ultimately fell on the army. As events developed, the army was confronted with an impossible situation -- mass popular uprising within and an invasion from without by India supposedly non-aligned but now being overtly helped by Soviet Union under a treaty of peace and friendship. It was actually an alliance of war," he said.

Blaming the US of failing to help Pakistan, he said, "..... our long time ally, USA, apart from making sympathetic noises and wringing its hands was nowhere to be seen."

"No army in the world can sustain such a multi-dimensional threat. Nonetheless, the operational handling of the troops by the army's senior leadership was simply incompetent."

## AL walks out

**FROM PAGE 1**  
rules of procedure and the constitution. The speaker created a bad precedent by allowing Mujahid to place the bill," AL Lawmaker Suranjit Sen Gupta told reporters after the walkout.

"It is a finance bill so the minister could not table it without the permission of the president," he said adding, "But he placed it without taking permission from the president."

Earlier, AL lawmaker KM Jahangir repeatedly pointed out the anomaly while Social Welfare Minister Ali Ahsan Mujahid was placing the bill. But, Speaker Jamir Uddin Sircar, who presided over the session, ignored him.

After the bill was placed, AL lawmaker Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim on a point of order drew the attention of the speaker to the matter and said the social welfare minister has no right to place the bill according to the constitution.

But the speaker said the law will take its own course. "He (Mujahid) tabled another bill earlier so it is nothing new," the speaker replied.

Following the speaker's reply Law Minister Moudud Ahmed said, "The remedy to the alleged anomaly is in the bill itself if the opposition cares to find out."

After the law minister's reply, opposition lawmaker Suranjit Sen Gupta stood up to speak but the speaker did not give him the floor, following which AL lawmakers walked out of the House led by the deputy leader of the opposition.

Later Education Minister Osman Farrukh placed Karmichael University Bill 2006, Shaheed Ziaur Rahman University Bill 2006, Islamic University (Amendment) Bill 2006 and Madrasa Education (Amendment) Bill 2006.

After the bills had been placed in the House all were sent to respective standing committees to finalise them through scrutiny. The committees will place their reports to the House following which they will be passed by parliament.

According to Karmichael University Bill 2006, Rangpur Karmichael College would be transformed into Karmichael University. According to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman University Bill, a new public university would be set up in Barisal which would be named after late president Ziaur Rahman.

But, opposition lawmaker Fazlul Karim Selim said in the House that the name of the university should be Sher-e-Bangla University.

"All of these are election bills and the government just tricked the people of Barisal as it had failed to set up a university there in the last five years," Selim said.

Denying the allegation of the opposition, Education Minister Osman Farrukh said it is a demand of the people of Barisal and the government has taken the initiative to fulfil their demand."

Opposing Islamic University (Amendment) Bill and Madrasa Education (Amendment) Bill, AL lawmaker ASHK Sadique said, "Islamic University has already become ineffective due to terrorist activities and corruption there, it cannot take any more burden. Giving it more responsibilities will only harm the interest of madrasa students."

Rejecting the allegation the education minister said, "We have just provided the university with the power to award affiliations to Fazil and Kamil madrasas and nothing else."

## Power offices

**FROM PAGE 1**  
The supply situation aggravated on Tuesday after a 210MW unit at Ghorashal Power Station tripped due to technical faults, bringing down the total power generation to below 3,000MW.

Sources in the PDB said the power supply situation worsened when 110MW power plant at Haripur tripped at 5:57am yesterday, but the plant resumed power generation after a quick repair.

Like the previous day, Dhaka city and its adjoining areas experienced 600MW load shedding. The situation in other cities and rural areas deteriorated further. Many rural areas had been without electricity for hours together.

In Cox's Bazar, at least 4,000 Muslim devotees attacked Palli Bidyut Samity (PBS) office after 'tarabi' prayers for power outage during Iftar and Tarabi prayers in the last two days.

After the prayers, devotees from PM Khalli, Bangla Bazar, Muhuripara and Linkroad areas attacked the PBS office at College Gate in the district town with sticks, prompting Ansars to fire blank shots.

On information, police rushed to the spot and charged baton on the power-hungry devotees.

In Manikganj, local people attacked power offices in Daulatpur, Shibabaya, Satoria and Singair upazilas due to frequent load shedding in the evening.

The angry people in Singair upazila also beat up a lineman, Tajul Islam, during the attack.

In Sherpur, local people laid a siege to Tinani Bazar PDB office and asked its employees to increase electricity supply within 24 hours or face a tougher agitation.

PDB officials said they supplied only 4MW of electricity in the district against the demand for 14MW yesterday.

When contacted, the PDB officials said they have nothing to do with the load shedding as power supply in the district is being controlled by 132/33 kv grid substation in Jamalpur.

In Narayanganj, devotees attacked the Fatulla power substation and ransacked it on Tuesday night, protesting power failure during 'tarabi' prayers.

Locals said as power went off during the 'tarabi' prayers, hundreds of devotees took to the street and staged demonstration in front of Fatulla power station at Panchabati at 9:00pm.

They hurled bricksbats at the power station, forcing the employees to flee. The angry people also took away a wireless set of a power worker and damaged furniture of the office and a pick-up van.

They also blocked the Dhaka-Narayanganj highway, halting traffic for about an hour. Police later brought the situation under control.

The devotees alleged that power outage during 'iftar and tarabi' prayers has become a regular phenomenon, causing untold sufferings to them.

In Narsingdi, workers of Kararchar BSCIC industrial estate in Shibpur upazila yesterday put up a barricade on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway, demanding uninterrupted power supply.

Over 10,000 workers blocked the highway at about 8:45am, disrupting traffic for about three hours.

## Govt hurries to okay

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Earlier on September 14, another Ecneec meeting approved 16 projects worth Tk 2,745 crore. The agenda of the meeting had 14 projects but finally 21 projects were placed in the meeting.

With yesterday's approval, projects totalling around Tk 17,000 crore got government approval within only three months (July-September) of the current financial year.

Of the 18 projects approved yesterday, six were revised projects while 12 others were new ones.

Usually, the finance minister chairs the meeting convened for revised projects and the prime minister chairs those for new ones. But Finance and Planning Minister, M Saifur Rahman chaired yesterday's Ecneec meeting as the PM was busy and approved the projects with special permission.

Around 100 more projects are in the pipeline and will be place in the next two or three meetings of the Ecneec.

A new financial year normally starts with a very slow pace but gains momentum at the end as different ministries hurry to get Ecneec approval for development projects.

However, although the current fiscal year is yet in the beginning, the government is hurrying for the approval of different development projects as its tenure is nearing end. While in power last time, the Awami League government also did the same thing and got Ecneec approval for at least 20 projects even two days before handing over power to the caretaker government.

The present government is scheduled to hand over power on October 28.

### THE PROJECTS

Of the 18 projects approved yesterday, eight will be fully financed with the government's own resources while 10 others will be implemented with partial financial assistance of Tk 5,846 crore from the Asian Development Bank, UNDP, Opec Fund, and DFID.

Three projects--two for power generation and one for transmission

The workers, however, withdrew the barricade at about 11:45am as the deputy commissioner assured them of meeting their demand.

Hundreds of vehicles remained stranded on both sides of the highway during the barricade.

The upazila is experiencing load shedding eight to nine hours daily, hampering production in the industrial estate where workers get their wages on the basis of output.

In Sylhet, at least 20 people were injured when power-hungry people of Zokiganj attacked the Palli Bidyut office at 9:00pm on Tuesday.

Witnesses said load shedding in the upazila town from 6:00pm angered the residents. After the 'tarabi' prayers they came out in hundreds and attacked the Palli Bidyut office and officers' quarters.

As police intervened, the angry people swooped on the law enforcers, leading to a clash between the two sides. At least 20 people, including four policemen, were injured.

## Durga Puja

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Accordingly, Mahasaptami will be celebrated on Friday, Maha Astami on Saturday, Mahanabami on Sunday and Bijoya Dashami on Monday.

The ten-handed Durga, the slayer of demon Mahishashur, is lion-borne, wielding an array of arms including kirpan, chakra, gada, and bow and arrow.

Building of the puja mandaps and preparations for the rituals are already complete as goddess Durga will be displayed in the act of killing Mahishashur. Offerings of delicious foods, fruits, incense etc will be made to the goddess and later distributed among the assembled devotees.

The main puja mandap in the capital is at Dhakeshwari National Temple. Large mandaps have also been put up at Jagannath Hall in Dhaka University, Ramkrishna Mission, Ramna Kali Mandir, Siddheswari Kali Mandir, Tanti Bazar, Shankhari Bazar, Bangla Bazar, Mohakhali and Farmgate.

Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad has directed its district committees not to use loudspeakers and musical instruments during Iftar, Tarabi and Sehri so as not to disturb the fasting Muslims. The parishad leaders said 'dhak' can be used only for a while during the worship and Sandhya Arati.

Meanwhile, leaders of Bangladesh Hindu-Bouddha-Christian-Oikya Parishad, Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad, Mahanagar Sarbajaneen Puja Committee, Bangladesh Jatiya Hindu Parishad and Bangladesh Christian Association yesterday alleged that the images of Durga had been damaged at several places in Dhaka, Jessore, Pirojpur, Narail, Narayanganj, Kushtia, Sunamganj, Natore and Sirajganj districts.

Identifying 'vulnerable' puja mandaps, the government has formed a monitoring cell and set up a security control room while around one lakh and 22 thousand ansars along with police, BDR and Rab will be deployed to maintain security of the mandaps during the puja celebrations, home ministry sources said.

President Iajuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina have felicitated the Hindus on the eve of the festival.

## Fresh suicide bombing in Kandahar as troops kill 14

AFP, Kandahar

A suicide car bomb exploded near a Canadian military convoy in southern Afghanistan yesterday while officials reported they had killed 14 Taliban rebels elsewhere.

The suicide attack in the southern city of Kandahar missed the Canadian convoy and wounded an Afghan civilian, police said.

The blast was so powerful that it tore the car containing the explosives into chunks, an AFP reporter at the scene said. Pieces of the attacker's body were strewn across the site.

The incidents followed a major attack on Tuesday that killed 18 people in the town of Lashkar Gah, about 145 kilometres to the west.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for that attack, one of the deadliest in a surge of suicide blasts this year.

The Kandahar blast was near a busy intersection that sees most of the city's regular suicide attacks aimed at foreign troops.

There are around 2,300 Canadian soldiers in Kandahar province as part of a NATO-led force which is operating alongside the US-led coalition to help Afghan forces defeat the resurgent Taliban militia.

Meanwhile Afghan and coalition soldiers killed eight Taliban and captured 16 others during a major operation under way in the country's eastern provinces along the border with Pakistan, the Afghan defence ministry said yesterday.

The rebels were killed in Paktika province on Tuesday as part of Operation Mountain Fury involving 7,000 Afghan and coalition troops, the ministry said in a statement.

On Wednesday Afghan security forces killed six Taliban rebels and captured two others in a remote village of the eastern province of Laghman near Kabul, police official Yar Mohammad Khan said.

An Afghan soldier was wounded and captured by the rebels, he said.

The Taliban are waging a virulent insurgency in its bloodiest phase this year. The rebels, who are allied with Al-Qaeda, have attacked troops in large numbers and intensified a campaign of suicide and roadside bombings.

## Bus passenger killed, 5 injured by robbers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Robbers inside a bus killed a passenger and injured five others -- one critically -- early hours yesterday at Agargaon in the capital.

The dead was identified as Taiz Uddin, 37, an employee of a barber-shop at Gulistan. He was on his way to his residence at Pallabi, Mirpur aboard a Mirpur-bound bus.

The critically injured, Shakhawat Hossain, 45, is undergoing treatment with severe abdominal injuries at intensive care unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The others received first aid at the same hospital.

Sultan Ahmed, an eyewitness, told the journalists that five or six armed robbers in the guise of passengers forced the driver of the Mirpur-bound bus to drive towards Mirpur Bangla College after it reached Agargaon.

The robbers took money and valuables from the passengers, forced them to get out of the bus near Bangla College area and sped away with the empty bus.

Taiz Uddin's relatives filed a case with Mirpur Police Station.

## EC ready

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Replying to a query, he said the voter list is not going to be printed centrally this time, rather it will be printed in 38 zones.

"Only the supplementary list will be printed," the EC secretary told a questioner, adding that the whole voter list will be printed in the areas mainly in Dhaka city where more than 50 percent of the names included or deleted or amended.

In reply to another query, he said, "I hope the task of printing voter list will be completed within the first week of November."

Asked about the budget for printing the voter list, he said it will cost maximum Tk 15 crore.

About the possible date of the election, the EC secretary said this is for the EC to decide, but it appears that the elections may be held between the end of December and early January.

On the possible polling stations, he said the returning officers will determine this after the announcement of the election schedule.

Asked about graffiti, posters and billboards for electioneering, Sarker said he will hold meetings with police and city corporations to address the issue. "The EC cannot take any action against them until the election schedule is announced," he added.

## Confusion over JMB

**FROM PAGE 1**  
but also in the case of the other person or persons for whom, or whose behalf, no such intimation has been received."

But top jail officials themselves are not fully aware of this rule.

Inspector General of Prisons Brigadier General Zakir Hasan said he has heard about it and will check it. "But we will take the steps according to the Supreme Court order," he said.

"We are yet to receive the registrar's letter stating Mamun's execution, and will stay the process of his execution only once we get the letter," said a top jail official.

"We will continue our process for execution of those who will not file any leave to appeal petition against the verdict," he said.

After Mamun filed a leave to appeal petition last week through the authorities of Kashimpur Jail, SC Registrar Fazlul Karim sent a letter to the home ministry and authorities concerned for staying Mamun's execution until disposal of the petition.

After issuing of the registrar's letter, many legal experts interpreted that execution of all the condemned militants will be stayed for staying execution of any of them.

The registrar, on the other hand, yesterday told The Daily Star, referring to Rules 5 of Order 24 of Appellate Division Rules 1988, "Only Mamun's execution will be stayed since he filed petition for only his relief from execution."

The rule says: "In the case of a petition for leave to appeal involving a sentence of death the Registrar shall as soon as the petition is filed or received from the officer-in-charge of the jail, intimate effect of the petition having been filed/received in the court to the government of Bangladesh and thereupon the execution of the sentence of death shall be stayed pending the disposal of the petition, without any express order of the court in this behalf."

Provided that unless otherwise ordered by the court this rule shall not apply to the petitions filed on behalf of

a condemned prisoner, who has exhausted all his legal remedy by way of petition for leave to appeal, appeal or review in this court and whose mercy petition has been rejected by the concerned authorities."

Government law officer Helal Uddin Mollah, a deputy attorney general (DAG), who moved during hearing of the case at the High Court death reference bench, told The Daily Star that the registrar's letter will only stay Mamun's execution while the process for six others' execution will go on.

"Only he who has applied for leave to appeal against the verdict can enjoy the relief, those who will not apply for it can definitely not enjoy it," a former Supreme Court judge yesterday said.

So, the SC registrar's move will only stay the execution of Mamun, he added.

The former judge, however, said the SC can examine the entire record of the case or stay the verdict or execution of all the convicts since "the Supreme Court has a long arm".

Referring to the rule 991 of the Jail Code, he said the jail authorities, on receipt of the registrar's letter, can refrain from execution of all the condemned militants of the case while acting on its code.

Talking on the confusion over staying all the militants' execution, Law Minister Moudud Ahmed said in parliament yesterday, "The rule is to execute the court verdict for those who did not make any appeal."

As per Rule 6 of Order 24 of Appellate Division Rules 1988, the filing section of Supreme Court Appellate Division will prepare a paper-book following Mamun's leave to appeal petition, said DAG Helaluddin.

To quicken the process, the filing section will send it to the chief justice today for an order on fixing the date of hearing, he added.

Earlier, the registrar told about the possibility of sending it to the chamber judge on October 5.

The filing section will also appoint a lawyer for Mamun.

## Caretaker govt can

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Nagorik Committee 2006 Prof Rehman Sobhan presided over the dialogue in the CIRDP auditorium in the capital. CPD Executive Director Debapriya Bhattacharya conducted the dialogue. Eminent citizens of the country took part in it and expressed their opinions.

Yunus said, "The people have many expectations from a caretaker government since it is a neutral government, and it should take some necessary actions using the support of the public, which a political government would hesitate to do."

As the prospective advisers to the next caretaker government have yet to know that they will have to take the responsibility of the country, it would help them in taking decisions if the citizens provide them with advices and point out the works that need to be done, said Yunus who is also a member of Nagorik Committee 2006.

A caretaker government, which has both advantages and disadvantages, can take 'unpopular but needed decisions', since it does not have to worry about who is going to win the upcoming election, said the banker who is also a member of CPD Board of Trustees.

Citing examples of some of the government decisions, Yunus asked the next prospective caretaker government to implement pending works, and urged the people to make an advisory list to pinpoint the issues that need to be addressed.

About the next elected government, Prof Yunus suggested that it should take the most unpopular decisions within the first 100 days of its tenure as people remain more generous during that period. He also asked the next prospective elected government to take courageous and exceptional decisions, such as declaring the date for upazila elections.

He also expects that unlike other periods the opposition will not boycott the next parliament while the victorious parties will also not engage themselves in the 'madness of taking revenge'.

He requested the members of the civil society to start preparing a wish list to be implemented in the first 100 days of the next elected government, which could be discussed at roundtables, discussion meetings, and different forums. He also asked them to make a list of the shortcomings of the present government during its first 100 days.

In addition to the suggestions for the newly elected government's first 100 days' programme, political alliances can also announce their suggested programmes for the same period for every ministry and department, he added.

He, however, also asked the civil society to monitor and evaluate how the next government carries out the suggested action plans, and asked the would-be elected government not to go in a mode of relaxation after winning the election.

Former adviser to a caretaker government Major General (ret'd) Moynul Hossain said a caretaker government has very little power as it works under the guidance of the president.

Referring to the constitution, he said the main job of a caretaker government is to carry out the routine work of the government and help the Election Commission to conduct the national election.

"Although the tenure of a caretaker government is 90 days the working days reduce to only 58 after slashing the weekly and other holidays. So, what can a caretaker government do in only 58 working days?" he asked.

A caretaker government cannot do anything regarding policy related issues, he said adding that everything has been policed in the country. CPD Executive Director Debapriya Bhattacharya conducted the dialogue. Eminent citizens of the country took part in it and expressed their opinions.

Former member to a caretaker government Hafizuddin Khan criticised successive government's practice of making government officials officers on special duty (OSD). He said the practice causes misuse of government funds.

M Sydzazzaman suggested increasing the retirement age of government officials to 62 years, which is now 57. He suggested that the retirement age should be extended instead of extending retired officers' tenure to curb politicisation of civil servants.

Former president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association Anisul Hossain suggested strong monitoring of the candidates election campaign spendings for restricting the influence of black money. He also suggested immediate separation of the judiciary from the executive branch of the government and strengthening of the Anti-corruption Commission.

Prof Asif Nazrul of Dhaka University suggested stricter punishment for violating the electoral code of conduct.

Former Ministers Nur Uddin Khan, Brigadier General (Rtd) Shakhawat Hossain, Rokeya K Chowdhury, Feroz M Hasan M Aminuzaaman, S M A Hossain, Major (Rtd) S M Mannan, A K M Shamsuddin, Kazi Saleh Ahmed also took part in the discussion.

## Thaksin & Co

**FROM PAGE 16**  
leading to seizures of assets and political bans.

"Having their assets seized will ban them from holding political office for five years," Meechai said.

Another channel to bar Thaksin, now in London, from returning to politics was through the Constitutional Court, which would rule on allegations of election law violations by his Thai Rak Thai (Thais Love Thai) party, he said.

If found guilty by the court, the party would be dissolved and party leaders involved in the allegations would be barred from holding political office for 10 years, Meechai said.

The probe panel, newly appointed by the military council, was told to find out if Thaksin and his ministers, their wives and children had abused their power "for the benefits of themselves and others".

It was given the power to demand listed companies hand over any information wanted by the panel, headed by a former Supreme Court chief judge and including the head of the central bank and the government's chief prosecutor.

### NEW PM BY THIS WEEKEND

The ruling generals said yesterday they would name a new prime minister this weekend as they pressed ahead with plans to revamp the nation a week after seizing power in a bloodless coup.

A popular retired general and a former head of