Advisers agree

the electoral roadmap, sources

In his introductory speech at yesterday's meeting, Fakhruddin described the current situation and challenges and apprised the advisers of the appointment of especial

At one stage newly appointed Adviser Shawkat Ali raised the issue of holding dialogues with the political parties. "I think time has come to hold dialogues with the political parties to gain their trust," a meet-

caretaker governments also held dialogues with the parties at the beginning of their tenures.

Echoing Shawkat's view, other advisers underscored the need for holding talks with the political

disagreed with the demand for holding the election in between June and July and immediate with-

the state of emergency when the

infrastructural reforms for holding a free and fair election," Adviser AF Hassan Ariff, who was given the

charge of the law ministry, said.

and declared the state of emergency suspending all sorts of outdoor political activities. On March 7, the government banned indoor

Then the issue of reforms within the parties surfaced and top leaders of Awami League (AL) and BNP became divided over the matter. The BNP was split in the absence of party Chairperson Khaleda Zia, who was detained on September 3. The AL remained united, but it faced rifts within the party regarding running it in the absence of party chief Sheikh Hasina who was

A number of advisers, particularly Mainul Hosein who resigned on Tuesday, launched broadsides at political leaderships labelling them as corrupt. They also outright rejected the demand for holding

On repeated requests of the EC the caretaker government finally allowed indoor politics in the capital on September 10 so that the EC can hold talks with political parties on electoral reforms. The EC talks began on September 12 "It is my duty to move forward and some political parties, includthe work of legal and ing the AL, urged the caretaker government to open dialogue with political parties over political

ACC presses graft charges

Memorial Trust (BMT) curator Sayed Siddiqur Rahman was also included in the charge sheet.

Besides Hasina and BMT curator Siddique, six others persons in the charge sheet are former energy secretary Dr Toufiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, former Power Development Board (PDB) chairman Noor Uddin Mahmud Kamal, Managing Director of Summit Industries and Mercantile Corporation Private Ltd Aziz Khan and Director Farid Khan, United Group Chairman Hasan Mahmud Raja and Director Abul Kalam

ACC Deputy Director Sabbir Hasan lodged the case with Teigaon Police Station on September 2, complaining that Hasina and the six others, through their mutual understanding and using their influence, helped a foreign company and its local partners win a deal for setting up the 100MW barge-mount power plant in Khulna and thus deprived the lowest bidder from being

Sections 161, 163, 164, 165, 165 (a)/109 of the Penal Code and 5 (2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1947. Later, the ACC brought the

Rab man injured FROM PAGE 20

was rushed to Combined Medical Hospital while drug peddler Shah Alam was admitted to Orthopaedic Hospital at Sher-e-Banglanagar in the city.

Rab-1 officials said Rab personnel and police went to raid a drug den on the Badda Link Road at about 8:30pm. Sensing the presence of the law enforcers, the armed drug dealers opened fire on them. The law enforcers also retaliated.

During the gunfight, both Maj Haider and Shah Alam received bullets in their legs. At one stage, the criminals fled leaving the injured Shah Alam.

1 killed

FROM PAGE 1 filling station 'Dhaka CNG Ltd' and the windows of a nearby house.

"I could not hear anything for five minutes after the explosion," said Zakir Bin Samad, a resident of the house, adding that he found all the windowpanes of his house

It is suspected that use of substandard gas cylinders and faulty installation caused the explosion.

Earlier, three people were killed and several others injured in Manikgani when part of a CNG-run bus went up in flames in December.

Similar explosions in a private car and a bus also left one dead and many injured in Joykali Mandir area in Dhaka and Gazipur.

A worker of the filling station seeking anonymity said they inirially refused to refill the defective

gas cylinder after they sawit.

would happen," he said. A number of officials of the filling station visited the spot but they refused to make any comment

over the matter. Sub-inspector Alam of Badda Police Station said they drove the van straight to the filling station after getting the gas cylinder

at Tikatuli in the city. Asked whether they would take any action against the CNG conversion plant, the police official said he was yet to receive any directive our party chief has been kept

in this regard.

power and corruption by taking

Salahuddin and lawyers of both the defence and prosecution were present when the judgment was

(ACC) Deputy Director Shafiqul Islam filed the case against Salahuddin and Saleemul with Dhanmondi Police Station on May 25 for taking Tk 1 crore bribe from Mir Zahir Hossain, owner of construction firm Mir Akter Hossain

ACC Assistant Director Ashraful Islam investigated the case and the charge sheet was submitted on

September 9. Salahuddin took the bribe from Mir Zahir through Saleemul's account in exchange for letting Zahir continue uninterruptedly the construction work of Rajshahi-Natore, Rupganj-Gulta, Kayetpara-Faridpur roads under DFID pro-

The bribe was taken in a cheque on February 14, 2005 and the cheque was encashed on February 17 from the Moghbazar branch o NCC Bank, the prosecution lawyers

Tamil Tigers

FROM PAGE 20 Prabhakaran, in his annual policy statement, signalled they were

"Thousands of our fighters are standing ready to fight with determination for our just goal of freedom and we will overcome the hurdles before us and liberate our

Sri Lanka's military began the New Year with a vow to crush the Tigers by June. They set a target to kill 3,000 guerrillas in the first six months and dismantle the rebels' mini-state in the north of the

President Mahinda Rajapakse also ruled out any negotiations with the Tigers before crushing them militarily. The authorities are confident that they enjoy the upper

FROM PAGE 1

supply had sharply fallen as the husking mills across the country stopped crushing rice. Moreover, in view of the situation, many people went on panic buying and stored huge amounts of rice at their

"The price of rice shot up suddenly without any specific reason, but the price came down within 24 hours with the efforts of the army,"

General Moeen also called upon the businessmen not to give any chance to anyone to create panic among the people.

"At present, our duty is to ensure adequate supply of fertiliser and diesel to the farmers so that Boro cultivation is not hampered for lack of the agri-inputs," he told his audience.

The army chief also informed that the Machine Tools Factory under army management has innovated a new method to convert diesel-run water pump into gas-fired pump, which will reduce 50 percent operating costs. The cost of transformation is Tk 1,000

The Army Fund has so far received Tk 23 crore, of which, Tk 16 crore has already been disbursed among the cyclone-hit

Robbers kill man

FROM PAGE 1 my husband," she said adding that she then rushed to the room where her parents were sleeping and found another group of robbers

She requested the robbers not to gag her father's mouth as he needed to breathe through his mouth due to illness, said Shabnam. "The robbers did not pay heed to my request. They dragged me to another room, tied my hands and legs and gagged me as they did to all six other members of my family," she said bursting

The robbers, all armed with large knives, then threatened the family members with death unless the keys to the almirahs were handed over to them, Shabnam said adding, "Finding no other way, I gave them the keys to all the almirahs."

The criminals then opened the almirahs and looted 35 tolas of gold ornaments, four diamond finger rings, five cellphone sets and Tk 45 thousand in cash.

clothes, beds and garbage cans to make sure no valuable item was left behind.

After taking around two and a half hours to accomplish their mission, the raiders left the building with the main entrance locked | UNB. from outside.

By the time neighbours from two nearby houses came to know of the incident and untied all the residents of Shabnam's house, her ing crisis of the country at the | father had already breathed his

dialogue and raise question why last. A case was filed with Uttara detained and why the prices of | Police Station. The police are yet to An unnatural death case was essentials have skyrocketed," he arrest anyone or recover any of the stolen goods.

human rights organisations, also called for the immediate release of four detained Dhaka University teachers, calling them "prisoners

for the government to lift restrictions on press, freedom of expression and right to assembly, adding that the government has assured her of considering the withdrawal.

Reviewing the current administration's rights situation, she said, "AI has seen some familiar patterns of human rights abuses continuing under this regime that this government must address with more

responsible for new examples of human rights violations and for not addressing the matter.

corruption and political abuse."

Act, 1974, she said the same law is being used to detain politicians and businessmen charged with rather an impartial and transparcorruption as well as journalists ent attempt to seek 'truth, justice and bomb-blast plotters.

it is being invoked as grounds "for arbitrary deprivation of liberty or denial of fundamental principles of fair trial," she said.

Irene also said AI "is concerned

at the creeping role of the armed forces in a range of functions that should rightly be carried out by the civilian administration but with no clear rules about accountability."

concern' at continuing extrahave been released. "To our knowledge no member

of the armed forces has been ever brought to a court to be prosecuted for any of the killings," Irene said, adding that the situation has remained unchanged under the

ted by law enforcement agencies, Irene asked, "If the government

7 RHD engineers

Company officials asked them to

the arrest, Dhanmondi Police Station Officer-in-Charge Monowar Hossain said, adding that the task forces later handed

The OC said no case was filed in connection with the arrest as of 7:00pm yesterday and that enquiry into the allegation was going on.

Relatives of the detained RHD officials, several hundred RHD staff and a number of contractors thronged the police station early vesterday.

"made-up" and said the officials went to the coffee shop to discuss a case about a dispute over the Ashulia Toll Plaza.

BB projects FROM PAGE 20

fails to respond adequately in these

cases, then what is happening to

Battalion Ordinance provides

sweeping immunity to law

enforcement agencies by using

Irene said allegations of human

rights crimes, including torture

and ill-treatment, against law

enforcement and security person-

nel must be referred to civilian

of impunity and denial of human

rights abuses" can be traced back

to the war crimes during the libera-

tion war of 1971 and the govern-

Asking the government to try

war criminals, Irene said, "This

'un-elected' government should

have the courage to do what other

elected governments have failed to

do. It should seek advice and assis-

tance of the UN to open an inde-

She, however, warned that the

pendent commission of enquiry."

trial should not be a 'witch-hunt,

and reparations for the victims

and heal the wounds in the "na-

Reading out a summary of Al

recommendations, Irene reiterated

the calls for the National Human

Rights Commission to have 'teeth'

ensuring that judges are appointed

on merit, bringing further reforms

in the police and passing the right

ACC gets SC nod

right direction. The judgment should

be delivered after hearing from both

Appellate Division headed by Chief

Justice Md Ruhul Amin passed the

declared issuance of the ACC notice

to Sheikh Hasina "illegal". The HC

verdict also said the notice was

served on Hasina without maintain-

Hasina on July 17, a day after she was

detained, through the prison author-

ities of the sub-jail set up on the

premises of the Jatiya Sangsad

the HC on August 5, challenging the

legality of the ACC notice.

declared illegal.

days' hearing.

Hasina filed the writ petition with

On August 7, an HC bench com-

prising justices Shah Abu Nayeem

Mominur Rahman and Zubayer

Rahman Chowdhury stayed the ACC

instructions to Hasina and ordered

the anti-graft body to explain in four

weeks why its notice shall not be

Supreme Court (SC) and obtained a

also directed for disposing of the

matter in the High Court, which gave

its verdict on November 21 after four

stay order on the HC ruling. The SC

The ACC then moved to the

The ACC served its notice on

ing proper procedure.

A seven-member full bench of the

The HC on November 21 had

The AI head said the "red thread

vague language that institutional-

ises impunity.

justice now.

tional psyche."

to informational bill.

the sides."

Bhaban.

She leaves tomorrow.

She said the Armed Police

cases that are less well-known?'

flows to all productive sectors. They are needed especially to recoup the losses caused by natural calamities and improve the domestic supply situation.

"The policies would also facilitate the import of essential commodities to ease supply shortages in the domestic market," he said.

"At present, the excess liquidity does not indicate any significant demand side pressure on the economy. However, with expected increase in economic activities in the coming months, the demand for credit may go up and if such a situation arises the policy stance would be to contain the demand side pressures without hurting the investment demand in the economy," says the statement.

There are several factors that would be critical to effective monetary management during the second half of FY 08. Those include escalating subsidies on energy products, business confidence to accelerate private sector investments and reasonable socio-political stability, observed the policy statement.

BB deputy governors Nazru Huda and Ziaul Hasan Siddiqui and Executive Director Habibullah Bahar were present at the briefing.

President

FROM PAGE 1 and abroad, he said.

He thanked the government and all concerned for successfully implementing the relief and rehabilitation activities following the onslaught of cyclone Sidr.

The president called upon the countrymen to contribute from their respective positions to make "our independence meaningful and towards making the country happy and prosperous."

In another message, Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed has urged all irrespective of party and opinion to work together to establish a progressive and modern democratic state to fulfil the expectations of the people and the dreams of the Liberation War.

He said the present government took office at a critical juncture in the country's history. Conflict and clash among main political parties as well as hartal, siege and violence over holding election on January 22 last year led the country towards an anarchic and uncertain situation.

The CA said misrule over a long period and unbridled corruption by a section of people had blocked the way to well-being in public life and flourishing of democracy.

In such backdrop, he said, the present government began its journey with a promise of change and amid great expectations by the Fakhruddin said discipline has

returned in public life across the country due to tireless and steadfast efforts in last one year. The government has taken

objective, he added. The CA mentioned that the caretaker government had taken a number of important steps, including separation of the judiciary from

the executive control He said: "We'll be able to reach the desired stage for establishing an accountable and justice-based sustainable system of state and discrimination-free and deprivation-less society with the support and assistance of both civil and military administration and coun-

DU Violence

FROM PAGE 20

and students on August 22 last year He gave those to Assistant Subinspector Anisur Rahman working at the Archives Department of

The four teachers and the student, who are in jail custody now, were brought to the court. The magistrate allowed them to sit on a bench during the hearing.

The accused teachers are Dhaka University Teachers' Association President Prof Sadrul Amin, its General Secretary Prof Anwar Hossain, Science Faculty Dean Prof Harun-ar-Rashid, and Applied Physics Department Chairman

The case was filed against 4,000 to 5,000 unnamed students and teachers of Dhaka University and outsiders on August 22 for violating private property, obstructing police from performing their duty and assaulting law enforcers on the university campus and its adjoin-

instigating violence on the campus and in Shahbagh area on August 21

Club might be interrogated in connection with the Nico scam

where he was kept.

The law enforcers took Selim to his office yesterday afternoon.

3 special assistants

FROM PAGE 1

demand for lifting emergency and holding elections by June, he said, "The government is working to address the issues politicians have raised. I think we'll have to advance step by step in implementing our

On the issue of detained Dhaka University teachers and students' release, he said he would talk with the

Primary and Mass Communication Adviser Rasheda K Chowdhury said she is well aware of the challenges of holding elections timely in line with the governmentannounced roadmap. "The process is already on. Two lakh people have already been enrolled in voter list."

On withdrawal of the state of emergency to restore fundamental rights of the people, she said, "It will not be correct to say that all fundamental rights remain suspended now. There are some improvements

drawn. Diverse issues are involved in

holding elections by the end of 2008 as pledged, Maj Gen (retd) Ghulam Quader said, "Economic challenges remain key issues to address. Prices too. We need to address these."

the demand for holding elections by June, he said.

"This is very illogical. Everyone had earlier accepted the roadmap for holding the elections by the end of 2008. What new development is there that the elections need to be held by June?"

gency, he said, "Emergency will not not needed anymore." Health Adviser AMM Shawkat Ali

also said the caretaker government's Editor, publisher

daily had run the news items on different dates on the basis of facts and with no intention to defame brought against the defendants are false, fabricated and concocted. So, they should be discharged from the

items published on different dates in the daily were done to defame him in the society. The lawmaker also said the daily had run a news item regarding his eligibility to be a

have the right to quote any conversation -- regardless if it is decent or

charges.

Mahbubul Haque, Ashraf-ul-Alam, Chaitanya Chandra Halder, Anwarul Kabir Babul, Emdadul Haque Lal, Shahidullah Miah, Belal Hossain Jasim, Prasanta Kumar Karmaker and Abu Bakar Farhad represented the defendants.

2006 mentioned that the daily published a news item on June 12 titled "Agitation in the Leather Technology College at Hazaribagh, local lawmaker Pintu took police to the col-

struction razing over 200 graves of Azimpur Graveyard, but Dhaka City Corporation knows nothing". The next day, the daily ran the news titled "Mayor's stay order on construction of a road through

Azimpur Graveyard," the complainantadded. These news stories were false and

intended to undermine him politically and socially, Pintu claimed.

Bashundhara in the names of his two daughters, and seven and half

He also owns a flat measuring 1880square feet at DHS in Banani he bought at Tk 28 lakh taking loan from Dhaka bank. He also owns one third of the house the government gave to the family of Ziaur Rahman in Gulshan.

Tk 40 lakh on installment. Wife of Koko Sharmila Rahman

worth Tk 4.20 lakh, air-cooler worth Tk 2.80 lakh, and fan worth Tk 9,000. The ACC on December 18 served notice on Koko asking him to submit wealth statement. Koko was

biggest challenge is holding a free and fair election and handover of

Law Adviser AF Hassan Ariff said his first and foremost task is to ensure holding of a free, fair and impartial

"It's my duty to provide legal infrastructure and assistance for holding free and fair polls," he told

reporters while going to his office after taking charge of the ministry. Asked whether appointment of special assistants is in line with constitutional provisions, Shawkat

said he is yet to see necessary papers. "I'm a lawyer and I can't tell you anything without going through

REALLOCATED PORTFOLIOS

Dr Mirza Azizul Islam--finance and

planning ministry, Maj Gen (retd)

MA Matin--shipping, land and Liberation War affairs ministries, Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury-foreign affairs, and expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministries, M Anwarul Iqbal -- LGRD and cooperatives, textiles and jute ministries, AMM Shawkat Ali-health and family welfare, food and disaster management ministries, Maj Gen (retd) Ghulam Quader-communications, and housing and public works ministries, Rasheda K Chowdhury--primary and mass education, and women and children affairs ministries, Hossain Zillur Rahman -- education and commerce ministries, CS Karim-- agriculture and water resources ministries and AF Hassan Ariff--law and parliamentary affairs and religious affairs min-

AL again demands FROM PAGE 20

Hasina, he alleged that false and fabricated charges have been brought against her one after another. He urged the party men to go on with the legal fight until she is

adopt a strategy to get Hasina released. "Our strategy to free Hasina should be to take part in the coming election, and come to power," he said at the discussion held at the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh

The influential AL leader urged all concerned not to take any decision or make any statement that would misguide the party.

leader of the party, said the country is now passing through a very critical situation. He urged the government not to do any such things which could hinder implementation of its electoral roadmap. Implement the roadmap and hold the election as early as possible, he

TAKET BESTERN Terming former information and law adviser Mainul Hosein a highly controversial person since long, he came down heavily on the chief adviser for appointing him to this post. Mainul made the caretaker government controversial and the political parties opponents

of the government, he said. Suranjit Sengupta, another presidium member of the party, demanded that the government fix

He also demanded amending the emergency power rules to give back the courts' power to grant bail, and induction of an adviser

electoral process. Asking why it takes too long to

hold elections in Bangladesh Motia Chowdhury, another presidium member, said election is the only way to solve the current crises.

Acting General Secretary of the party Syed Ashraful Islam urged the government to broadcast the trial of Hasina to make it transparent. Otherwise, verdict in the case would not be acceptable to the

FROM PAGE 1 police, bleeding, scattered everywhere. They were asking for water. There were body parts on the

downtown area.

found about 100 metres (330 feet) from the blast site, which was littered with the dead and

Brac Bank heist

and his sister Moina. Raja admitted to his involvement in the heist and said his responsibility was to break

the ceiling were also recovered.

gang member tracking down his mobile phone. The gang members bought 10 SIMs of a mobile operator 15 days before they finally launched the operation at the bank.

A team of the Detective Branch of police raided Putfimari village of Shreenagar upazila in Munsiganj in the early hours and arrested the

who was one of the members of the DB team, said the gang members took 37 days to accomplish the operation successfully. Police said 10 members of an organised gang of robbers were involved in the robbery.

FROM PAGE 1 parliamentary polls according to

ing source said quoting him. Shawkat said the previous

parties.

drawal of the state of emergency. The government will withdraw

lenge of the caretaker government is to hold a free, fair and acceptable parliamentary election by December 2008 as per the electoral roadmap.

detained on July 16.

from life term to one-year impris-

Geeta Pasi

"We are in support of the effort being made by the caretaker gov

resignations and new appointments are internal matters of the government. "I think things are moving in the right direction," she said, welcom-

said the government tried to address the problem and observed that every government has chal-Pasi, who distributed certifi-

cates among G4S personnel, commended the G4S security agency for their prompt and efficient actions ensuring security as well as responding to emergency like fire.

FROM PAGE 1 as part of their duties. BNP Secretary General Maj (retd) Hafiz Uddin Ahmed termed the initiative a good move. "If dialogues are arranged, then the

prevailing misunderstandings

between the political parties and the government will be cleared," he told The Daily Star. "We will discuss the burning issues of the present times at the dialogue," Hafiz said adding that they would emphasise holding the

the election," he added. Hailing the initiative, Acting Chairman of JP Anisul Islam Mahmud said that they would discuss price hike of essentials, holding of the next polls and lifting of state of emergency as well as the

should arrange it as early as possible," he told The Daily Star. Menon, a key leader of the ALled 14-party combine, said that they would highlight the point of bringing back democracy in the country through holding elections soon. "We will also put emphasis

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's Homecoming Day at the Institution of Engineers' Sengupta demanded the government announce the date for dialogue with the political parties in "We want to discuss the prevail-

Salahuddin jailed | HR record poor Corruption Act 1947 for abuse of

The AI, one of the largest global

of conscience."

She also held the government ment should heed to a 'fresh call for

Under emergency powers rules,

present regime. human rights violations commit-

come to Coffee World to receive the money. They also informed the task forces of the matter.

over the RHD officials to Dhanmondi police.

The relatives termed the arrest

pone the probe as an SC stay order in this regard was in effect.

FROM PAGE 1 reserve and flow of remittance. It also hailed the institutional reforms including establishment of a regulatory reform commission, separation of the judiciary and the

While foreign currency reserves,

ments in the area of prices, export, and investment are undermining the prospect of achieving the GDP target for the FY2008, the CPD analysis said. It noted that due to the depressed domestic investment foreign direct investment (FDI)

energy situation, inflation trends, hesitant mood of domestic investors, indecision about a number of big proposals are possible reasons for this," the CPD report added.

Four out of 22 state-run jute mills have been closed down and 84 out of 142 jute procurement centres wound up, throwing some 14,000 workers out of job.

Referring to shutdown of four

state-run jute mills in the first half

of this fiscal, CPD said it was a

wrong decision especially when

the importance of jute and jute

recent days. Responding to a question, Mustafizur Rahman said the inflation goes up to 50-80 percent if the rice prices are taken into account.

financing the rehabilitation programmes for those affected by floods and cyclone. Mentioning the food grains in

required, should contact the Indian high-ups to ensure the rice is bought at that country's domestic market price. About a possible way out of inflation in a short time, he said,

work plans.

persons concerned. "There is no lack ofgoodwill.

Keeping in view the global and national realities, the caretaker government will try to address the price hike and inflation issues to reduce general people's sufferings,

in some areas. For example, extrajudicial killings have come to an She went on, "Collective decision is needed for withdrawal of emergency, when and how it will be with-

of essentials have gone up, inflation He does not see any rationale in

On the demand for lifting emerbe there even for an hour when it is

Quoting the meaning of defamation from different books and dictionaries, the magistrate of the court said the reports published in the daily were based on facts and he did

whether a reporter is allowed to quote conversations taken place during a session of the Jatiya Sangsad, Mahfuz Anam told the court that reporters are permitted to enter the parliament building and

indecent -- that took place during a session of the Jatiya Sangsad. After the hearing, the court discharged the two of the defamatory

Pintu in his complaint on June 25,

another news headlined "Pintu has a project of Tk 1 crore for a road con-

kathas of land bought in the names of his daughters in Bogra.

He also has shares of several crores with different companies. He also has Tk 5.93 lakh in AB bank, 24,000 in Dhaka bank, 59,000 in IFIC bank, and 35,000 in southeast bank. Koko also bought a car worth

received as gift during her marriage and on different occasions. Besides, he also owns funitures

tion with the Gatco graft case.

AL Presidium Member Amir Hossain Amu said the AL should

Tofail Ahmed, another key

a date for starting dialogue with political parties.

Suraniit urged the Election Commission to avoid redrawing the parliamentary constituencies saying this will hamper the entire

people, he said.

26 killed

Police said the head of the suspected suicide bomber had been

wounded.

saw blade, an electric drill machines, three mobile phone sets and several other equipment for breaking the lockers and cutting The police first detected one

STATEOFPOLITICS AND PARTIES

politics too.

talks with the parties.

case under Emergency Power Rules. If the charges are proved, the

ernment and we are closely working with the government," she said. Replying to a question about resignation of five advisers to the caretaker government, Ms Pasi said

About the price hike of rice, she

Former Adviser Akbar Ali Khan also spoke on the occasion. AL, BNP, JP

election within the announced electoral roadmap. "We will also urge the government to fix the code of conduct for political parties detailing how they would act after

ban on politics at the dialogue. Workers' Party President Rashed Khan Menon said that the initiative points to the good sense of the government. "As the political parties have been demanding the government sit for dialogue, they

economic crisis at the dialogue," he Addressing a discussion on Quoting the wounded driver, Bangladesh in the capital, another AL Presidium member Suranjit Irene reiterated her demands

vigour than it has done so far."

Irene also said AI has observed that a "new pattern of manipulating due process has emerged in the context of dealing with cases of Referring to the Special Powers

Calling for its suspension by the caretaker government, Irene said a new parliament can consider its

The AI head expressed 'deep judicial killings by law enforcement agencies with 'impunity' and that no report on these matters

Citing a number of cases of

A magistrate was present during

On December 3, the SC stayed the HC order until Jan 2 after ACC challenged the order. The SC later fixed yesterday for delivering verdict when ACC filed the leave to appeal. Hasina submitted her wealth

CPD on state of economy decision," observed the CPD exec utive director. He stressed the need for mea

"We don't have any magic wand to

various steps for holding a free and fair election, which is its main

trymen.

Detective Branch (DB) of police.

Prof Neem Chandra Bhowmik. the EPR, vandalising public and

Dhaka Club FROM PAGE 1

Family sources said the task

There they conducted a search and seized various documents including passports, the family sources

force members earlier picked up Selim on Tuesday afternoon from his office but they were not aware

Saying that the process is on for

Pintu. Moreover, the charges charges, the lawyers added. Pintu told the court that the news

not find any element of defamatory nature to be able to frame charges against the defendants. In response to the court's query

Advocates Sayeed Ahmed Gazi,

lege and beat the students". On June 14, the daily published

Koko tells ACC

owns 150 tolas of gold which she has

arrested on September 2 along with his mother Khaleda Zia in connecfrom religious minorities.

ground. A wounded officer with his clothes apparently blown off by the force of the blast lay in the street screaming for help as security forces scrambled to cordon off the

open the lockers. Twenty duplicate keys, a hack-

Inspector Mahbubur Rahman,

assistants, sources said.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, the new advisers however

time comes," Adviser Quader said. The advisers said the first chal-

awarded the deal. The case was filed under

"We finally agreed to refill it as Khashru assured us that nothing

installed at a CNG conversion plant

filed with Badda Police Station.

Amidst the growing political crisis over parliamentary polls, President Iajuddin Ahmed on January 11 resigned from the office of the chief adviser along with other advisers

accused face sentences ranging

ing the chief adviser's renewed commitment to hold free and fair elections by the end of 2008.

on the current food, fertiliser, and

Reading out excerpts from the judgment, the judge said the act of Saleem, who is currently absconding, in abetting Salahuddin either by instigating or conspiring or aiding was not proved and he is not

Anti-Corruption Commission

jects worth Tk 4.16 crore.

ready for all-out war. motherland," Prabhakaran said.

hand on the battlefield. Gen Moeen

remittance inflow, revenue collection and stock market performance give some hope, alarming develop-

The robbers even sifted through

We don't know whether there was a study before closing these mills or not. The government shut down

proposed coal policy and consumer protection acts.

declined by 4 percent to \$236 million in the July-October period of FY 2007-08 against \$274 million in the previous fiscal. "Uncertainty about future, political development, weak infrastructure, particularly disquieting

goods took an upturn, reported "The decision was inhumane. sures to reopen the mills in the interests of the country's economy as the apparel sector's income is showing some stagnant figures in

stock and in the pipeline of import, Mustafizur said the amount is satisfactory and sufficient to tackle

the present food demand.

curb the higher inflation rate.

readjustment might be needed in the mills before paying the arrears the near future," said its executive to the workers. It wasn't a justified director.

agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It suggested that the government use block allocation in

control the inflation right away." He, however, discouraged using contractionary monetary policy to

CPD is also against any readjustment of fuel prices now. "The

statement after the SC stayed the HC order. The ACC initiated an investigation into the statement. Later, i instructed its investigator to post

To get out of the trap of high inflation rate of rice, he said, there is no alternative to increasing the domestic production at lower cost. CPD cautioned the government against signing any new loan

About the proposed import of: lakh metric tons of rice from India, he said the government, it

However, police pressed charges against four teachers and 15 students on September 9 for