Land reforms

FROM PAGE 1 economist Sajjad Zohir.

"The government can modernise the land records, management and registration system using its own resources. Plus, it will create huge job opportunities and in the end it will reduce land related problems and increase government revenues," said one of the members of the commission requesting anonymity.

serve our valuable cultivable and forest land," he added.

In their proposal, the taskforce enormous problem. said the entire activities of land purchase and registration should be done by Directorate of Land Records and Surveys and registration department while the assistant commissioner (AC) of land should act as a monitor rather than a service provider.

Right now there are six government agencies including cadre. Directorate of Land Records and Surveys, registration department, district administration, divisional commissioner, quasi-judicial and judicial systems dealing with land

The taskforces said most of the existing land survey records in land offices, including the Cadastral Survey (CS), conducted in 1890-1940, and Revisional Settlement (RS), conducted in 1969-83, are in printed form. They have worn out and are easy to forge. The land survey documents should be digitised immediately to provide prompt service as well as keep records updated.

At present, the department of land records and survey conducts survey activities after a few decades and takes a few years to finish its work.

Right now the government land offices have CS records of 59,293 Mouzas in print on 95,736 worn out sheets of paper. Even though the map was drawn maintaining scales but the measurement of lines is not mentioned in those old maps.

Following the East Bengal State Acquisition and Tenancy Act-1950, the government received a large area of land from traditional feudal lords. But the government did not have ownership and proper records of those lands due to lack of proper survey and records preservation system.

The system of land survey is so sluggish that no survey was conducted in Dinajpur and Patuakhali, since the CS and the East Bengal State Acquisition. No survey was done in the three hill districts, Rangamati, Bandarban and Khagrachhari, the taskforce report

Under the proposed system,

will be able to keep land records

All Mouza maps and registration forms have to be scanned and saved as read-only so that no opportunities for tampering exist.

The computerised land record system will bring transparency in the sector, help government earn more revenue and ensure proper use of land, which is necessary in a densely-populated country like "This is also important to pre- Bangladesh. The modernised land record system will reduce the number of land related cases, an

The taskforce also proposed updating current land valuations in different categories so that no one can show lower value of a land, a key factor in land related corruption.

The taskforce also said the proposed commission may work on introducing specialised land

The taskforce said in their report that the present land management system has been causing not only economic losses but social unrest, corruption and chaos in family life.

Land disputes are the main reason for no less than 70 to 80 percent civil and criminal cases. At present about 32 lakh land dispute cases are pending with courts.

What is most astounding is the fact, reported earlier in newspapers, that 15 crore people are accused in land-related cases when the country's population is a crore less than that. The wonder has its roots in the plaintiffs' habit of accusing the same people over and over again in as many cases as possible.

The taskforce said the modernised system will up land revenue mainly by updating land categories. Many areas were recorded by the RS as agricultural or residential areas and those areas were turned into residential or commercial areas but remained agricultural areas on paper.

The difference in terms of tax is immense. The rate for agricultural land development is Tk 1 per decimal, it is Tk 22 for residential plots and Tk 125 for commercial ones.

City mayors

former AL leaders -- echoed what Khoka and Kamran said.

Meanwhile, major political parties including Awami League and BNP want enough time between parliamentary elections and upazila polls.

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed announced on Monday that the ninth parliamentary election will be held on December 18, and polls to upazila parishads will be held on December 24 and 28.

Khaleda

the Zia family, democracy and human rights," she said in a statement signed yesterday by Maruf Kamal Khan, former deputy press

"I was released on bail after spending about a year in jail. But many political leaders are still in prison," she said.

individual can be punished if he or she is found guilty through trial. But it is not acceptable that a person is punished without convic-

Bangladeshi expatriates across the globe for playing an active role in protecting human rights and restoration of democracy in the country.

"I express deep sympathy to those who have suffered physically, mentally and financially to protect their basic human rights in recent days," Khaleda added.

BCS exams

Though 10,412 candidates passed the viva, the commission had to recommend 3,239 of them, including 822 females, for lack of vacancies, said a handout.

were recommended for health cadre.

the selection process made the rounds so much that the reconstituted PSC cancelled the viva results on May 30 last year, following recommendation of the advisory council. Fresh viva voce was held from

July 27 last year through May 18 this year. As many as 2,253 candidates, however, shied away from

The aggrieved candidates, who had earlier made it to the final list, challenged the move in the High Court, delaying the publication of the results, PSC sources said.

Over 1.38 lakh candidates took the preliminary test on November 18, 2005, about 26,500 candidates did the written exams in March-April 2006, and 16,418 candidates attended the viva voce, later cancelled, between September and December in 2006.

The establishment ministry will give appointment letters to the recommended candidates after they go through medical test. The 7920th candidate on the merit list and the 7315th on the priority list were the last of those

the handout said. the publication of the results.

BDR shops

outlets.

and the rest will be up for an auction after the Eid," Col Huq said,

Statistics show that only a few hundred pairs of conjoined twins

powder milk on auction, he said. leaves the partially separated egg to mature resulting in conjoined

FROM PAGE 1

"We are hopeful about the approval. of the ordinance... work is going on. From my position I have nothing to do but express hope," the IGP

When asked yesterday where the draft ordinance is stuck, Nur just gave a smile and did not make any comment.

Referring to traffic police and patrol police, the IGP said, "Despite their hard work, if any crime takes place or traffic jam is created on a road, every one blames police done this.

public have a negative perception about police department, which traditionally has a bad reputation.

The IGP said once police stations were rendezvous of criminals to conduct such complex opera- and miscreants but that situation has now changed. He, however, Pro Vice Chancellor Prof MA admitted that people still feel Majid and other doctors who conhesitant to complain against those ducted the surgery on Banya and police personnel who cause them

Banya and Barsha were born to come forward to participate in Golam Kibria Sarkar and Shahnaz community policing, and join the Police Station on September 2 last Begum on March 24 at a clinic at Open House Day meetings held at year, accusing Hasina and six other police stations to hear complaints the couple brought the conjoined from them and seek their advice in

(DMP) Commissioner Naim | bidder. gery. Doctors at DMCH sent them Ahmed said activities of brokers and middlemen in police stations Following a long-term investi- have declined.

decided to carry out the operation gallbladder, chest bone and abdo- against him/her. The number of Barsha died seven and half 100 from 400 in the past.

FROM PAGE 16

secretary to Khaleda.

The BNP chairperson said an

She thanked party leaders and

FROM PAGE 1

This time the PSC published the BCS results under merit and priority categories.

Almost half of the select few

The PSC had published the results of the 27th BCS exams on January 21 last year. But allegations of corruption in

recommended for appointment,

PSC Chairman Saadat Hussain said 16 months of efforts went into

FROM PAGE 16

He, however, denied any kind of government's pressure to close the

"We will continue to sell essentials at the outlets till September 28 adding, "The makeshift outlets will be removed gradually after

September 29. Another BDR official said they imported 500 tonnes of powder milk from China last year after a thorough examination but they had sold only about 100 tonnes. They will sell the rest 400 tonnes of

Consumers, however, alleged that the quality of most of the products including rice being sold in most outlets is substandard and stinky and which is why consumers are reluctant to buy them and prices of them are almost same comparing to other markets except for the rice price which is a bit low at the outlets, they said.

Hasina's bail

bench of Justice Md Anwarul Haque and Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury in this regard. We will submit the petitions to this bench for hearing on September 29," he said.

Another counsel for Hasina, barrister Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh said that the hearing of the petition filed on behalf of Sheikh Hasina seeking bail in the extortion case filed by Noor Ali would be held today.

Earlier on July 7, the HC had stayed for two months all proceed ings against Hasina in connection with the two cases and issued separate rules on the government and the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to explain why the cases should not be quashed.

ACC Deputy Director Sabbir Hasan filed the barge-mount power plant case with Tejgaon people of helping Wartsila Power Development Ltd Consortium and its two local partners win a power-

The ACC official filed the other case with Tejgaon Police Station on December 9 the same year, accus-He also said harassment of | ing the AL chief and six others of people through arrest has also | corruption and abuse of power to separate the twins on August 6. decreased as no one is now arrested while awarding three abandoned They were joined at their livers, without verifying the allegation gas fields to Canadian energy company Niko Resources Ltd, daily arrests has now declined to | causing a loss of Tk 13.6 crore to the state exchequer.

60 'militants' killed

NEWS

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there, government official Iqbal Khattak said.

Maj Murad Khan says the clashes since Monday also killed a

He says security forces Tuesday are carrying out the operation in the town of Darra Adam Khel and surrounding areas close to Pakistan's tribal regions. He says the security forces have retaken control of a key tunnel in the Kohat

The US has urged Pakistan to crack down on al-Qaeda and Taliban militants sheltering in pockets of its northwest.

The offensive in the Bajur tribal region has won praise from US officials worried about rising violence in Pakistan and Afghanistan, but has triggered retaliatory suicide bombings elsewhere in Pakistan. Some officials believe the week-

end bombing of the Marriott Hotel that killed 53 in the capital Islamabad was in response to the operations, which the army says have left more than 700 suspected militants dead since early August. The latest casualties came early

Tuesday when 10 suspected militants died in a shootout with security forces on the outskirts of Bajur's main city of Khar, government official Iqbal Khattak said. He said some security forces were wounded, but he would not say how many.

Meanwhile, Pakistani police shot dead five people in the volatile northwestern Swat Valley during a protest against the alleged killing of children in a military operation, police said.

Hundreds of people ransacked a police station and several banks in Mingora, the main city in Swat, after troops allegedly killed three children during an offensive against Taliban militants, they said. Earlier Pakistani forces Monday

killed more than 30 Taliban-linked

militants in clashes in the troubled northwest of the country bordering Afghanistan, police and security officials said. also died as soldiers backed by helicopters attacked extremists and after militants launched an

rity personnel were killed Monday dispute.

assault on a police station, they

in a suicide car-bomb attack on a

"Nine security personnel were killed and a couple more were slightly injured in a suicide attack,"

check post in northwest Pakistan,

the military and security officials

the military's media wing said. Security officials earlier put the toll at four dead and several wounded.

Washington says the operation in Bajur a rumoured hiding place of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden and other militant leaders appears to have reduced violence across the border in Afghanistan. Pakistan's chief army spokes-

man Maj. Gen. Athar Abbas has said Bajur had turned into a "megasanctuary" for militants and the military was determined to flush them out. However, a rash of US crossborder operations in neighbouring

tribal regions, including suspected missile strikes and a ground assault, underscore Washington's concerns that Pakistan is either unwilling or incapable of rooting out extremists on its own. Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari was expected to discuss the cross-border attacks with

President Bush on Tuesday on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York. In the latest such alleged breach, two US helicopters crossed one mile into Pakistan late Sunday in the Alwara Mandi area in North Waziristan, two intelligence offi-

cials said on condition of anonym

ity because they were not authorised to speak to the media. Citing informants in the field, they said Pakistani troops and tribesmen responded with small arms fire, but it was not clear whether the bullets were aimed at the choppers or were warning shots. The helicopters did not return fire and re-entered Afghan airspace without landing, the officials said.

That account was denied by Pentagon officials: "There was no such incursion, there was no such One soldier and a policeman event," said Defence Department spokesman Col Gary L Keck.

Pakistan has protested US cross-border operations, calling them violations of its sovereignty But its government has called for Meanwhile, at least nine secu- diplomatic measures to resolve the

BNP flip-flops

FROM PAGE 1

statement under pressure from BNP's partners in the four-party alliance, especially from Jamaat. Anwar was supposed to get the

details of the relaxations on parties' registration criteria that the EC had promised to bring to the new elec-Jamaat told The Daily Star.

irked by MK Anwar's earlier statement, they said.

in his Elephant Road resident at 7:00pm said if the BNP secretary general had claimed the announcement had been his personal opinion, the secretary general's statement must be official. "I should not say anything after his comment," Anwar commented.

"I made the comment to reporters after the meeting with the Election Commission, as the BNP chairperson after her release on September 11 had said that BNP will take part in dialogues and elections,' Anwar said.

"I have nothing to say after Khandaker Delwar's comment in this regard," MK Anwar said adding his comment might create unneces-

Khandaker Delwar told reporters that they will make their position on the question public after discussing the matter with their alliance part-

Party (JP) already said they will apply for registration by amending their

On Monday, the EC said it finalised a set of proposals for the government to relax the registration procedure and to bring a few other changes to the revised Representation of the People Order (RPO).

discussions at the commission around 4:00pm, BNP Vice-president MK Anwar said, "We came to know what changes they are working to bring in the RPO.

"We reiterated that a free and fair election is not possible under a state of emergency."

At the meeting, the BNP side demanded that the EC defers the dates for upazila elections by at least a month. They said holding the national and local government polls in close proximity might jeopardise both elections.

come up after the national election. Anwar said the EC can declare the detailed schedule for upazila polls right now, but there must be a gap of at least a month between the two

He said he hopes the political national councils. parties and the EC will soon reach an understanding on the matter. Anwar, a former minister and a mission's time limit for registration

career bureaucrat, observed, "BNP is as impractical. They maintain it is not an election-oriented party. It will possible to organise councils to surely get registered and take part in amend constitutions at such a short the election in light of the proposed notice. amendments to the RPO."

municated those to Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Asked if BNP will hold its council to bring reforms in its constitution,

Anwar said they will submit a draft constitution for registration. About the arguments against having too small a gap between upazila and national polls, the CEC told reporters that the EC had

on the poll dates. It has no confusion regarding the matter. He said as they have two sets of ballot boxes, they will not have to depend on a single set for both elec-

days in transportation of the boxes. Besides, Huda added, the EC will print 24 crores of ballot papers in advance. The printing job will start once the candidates for upazila elections are selected. This too will

save them much time. He said, "The chief adviser wants to complete all elections before 2009. and we are working accordingly."

Asked about BNP's decision regarding registration, the poll chief said, "We hope that every party that we want will register with the commission.

EC, the political parties unable to hold national councils at this time to amend their constitutions can still get registered on meeting the criteria through provisional changes to their constitutions

the amendments ratified at national councils within six months of the first session of ninth parliament. On September 20, BNP and its allies told the EC that they will not accept the new electoral provisions

being implemented in the upcoming parliamentary polls. They demanded that the new laws and rules be scrapped or sus-

political parties must apply for registration by October 15. The caretaker government last month promulgated an ordinance

revising the RPO. The new provisions made registration mandatory for the parties to contest the general elec-The RPO stipulates a number of Besides, they argued, issues like conditions for registration. Those Chittagong. include, among others, severing ties

> cal parties need amendments to their constitutions which are usually not possible without convening Major parties like AL, BNP, and Jatiya Party (JP) dismissed the com-

Against such a backdrop, the However, he added, their party commission made the move to ease

ACC has no beef

FROM PAGE 1

Bangladesh's score which now stands at 2.1, raising the country' position from the seventh to the tenth from the bottom.

"The improvement is negligible. But the efforts taken so far against corruption are more important than the improvement. We have tried, kept the drive alive and at present trying to give it an institutional shape," Hanifnoted.

"The activities we initiated against corruption would not be reflected in reports right now, but those have laid a strong foundation for continuing the drive," he went on. The judiciary and the legal system

have not been that friendly to the drive, Col Hanif observed adding, "The commission has been trying to gain capacity starting from scratch." If the current working policy of the commission remains unchanged and no one intervenes from outside,

he said. "Had the judiciary and the legal system been friendlier to the drive, things could have been better," Hanif added.

the efforts taken so far to curb cor-

ruption will have a long term effect,

He said the ACC is optimistic about the future outcome of the drive, if the commission is allowed to continue the way it is functioning

Replying to a question regarding alleged lack of coordination among government institutions involved in the anti-graft drive, Hanif said, "It's not correct. We had coordination where it was necessary."

Regarding another allegation that necessary reform in the government administration has not been brought to help curb corruption, he quipped, "Bringing reform to the government administration does not fall within the commission's jurisdiction." EC may send team

FROM PAGE 1 Affairs Benita Ferrero-Waldner conveyed the EC's decision to Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed

Chowdhury during a meeting in

New York on Monday. Meeting sources told the news agency that Iftekhar and Ferrero-Waldner discussed the situation in Bangladesh, mainly the elections that had been stalled in January last year amid a political crisis over some election-related issues.

Commissioner Ferrero-Waldner welcomed the decision to condolences," said Bush. "I know hold the general election in that your heart went out to the December and also welcomed the invitation to observe the elections. She underlined that if the state

to be taken especially to remove restrictions on the freedom of expression, association and the media by the end of October. The sources said Commissioner Ferrero-Waldner would be ready to start the process of identifying a

suitable personality to head the Election Observation Mission. The European Commission does not send its Election Observation Mission to observe national elections in a country where the state of

emergency is in place.

Khaleda-Hasina

FROM PAGE 16 election cannot be ensured with

the state of emergency in place. Saifur, who earlier decided not to contest the next election, has changed his mind in view of the request of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia.

He rejected the Transparency International (TI) report placing Bangladesh in the 10th position, saying the report is not acceptable. He said during the BNP-led alliance rule corruption was not that massive and a lot of development

works had taken place. He said the incumbent caretaker government could not curb corruption. Rather, the level of corruption has increased compared with the past, he alleged.

Saifur said many reforms that were being talked about by the caretaker government were done during Khaleda Zia's rule.

Toxic milk powder FROM PAGE 16 Hossain led the drive in coopera-

tion with BSTI and Chittagong

Metropolitan Police. The court in another raid in Rajakhali area fined a factory Tk 20,000 for producing A-1 brand ghee in unhygienic condition.

Sources said although the fac-

tory got licence from the BSTI it

produced ghee in an unhygienic environment. The same court fined a Madhuban outlet Tk 10,000 for producing and keeping food items in dirty and unhygienic condition at its factory at Mohammadpur in

It also fined a nearby factory Tk 20,000 for producing chocolates mixing adulterated chemical and Our staff correspondent from

Sylhet reports: a surveillance team led by BSTI Assistant Director AKM Rezaul Karim seized 21 tins of Yashali-1, Yashali-2 and Sweet Baby brands milk from Banoful Confectionary & Pastry Shop at Dargah gate and Baksh Store at Bandar bazaar. The team also conducted drives

at Subidbazar, Ambarkhana, Shahjalal upashahar, Mir Bakshtola, Kalighat and Sobhanighat.

AL-led grand alliance

FROM PAGE 1

formed ahead of the stalled January 22, 2007 election to compete against

BNP-Jamaat led four-party alliance. "Other than the components of BNP-Jamaat led alliance we have invited all political parties, and they all have accepted the invitation," AL Presidium Member Motia Chowdhury said yesterday.

As preparations for the election

have started with the announcement of the specific date for the national election, there can be some informal talks among the grand alliance leaders, Motia told The Daily Star. She said the final steps for reawakening the grand alliance will start as soon as AL President Sheikh

Hasina returns home from abroad. Most of the senior AL leaders will attend the iftar this evening. Sources said the outcome of the primary conversations among the invited party leaders will be conveyed to

Hasina. in the grand alliance said their parties feel as the national election is approaching, there should be some primary discussions for jumpstarting the activities of the grand

electoral alliance. alliance leaders already talked to incharge of looking after party activi-Sheikh Hasina about seat sharing, the sources said adding that this time around the resurgent electoral alliance will pay more attention to policies instead of only sharing of

JP Acting Chairman Barrister didates should contest for some of Anisul Islam Mahmud told The Daily Star that their Chairman HM Ershad will also attend the iftar.

He said their party wants the grand alliance to become alive again based on policy negotiations. There should be concrete policies of the alliance regarding the anti-

corruption drive, reforms in govern-

ment administration, strengthening of the judiciary, economic development, health, and education, among other key national issues, he said. The JP leader also said they will seek around 60 seats, including all

seats in greater Rangpur, for 'good

candidates' this year.

In the meantime, AL Acting President Zillur Rahman and Acting General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam said their party will contest in the parliamentary poll under the

banner of grand alliance. A few new parties will be included in the alliance while at least one is likely to be kicked out, sources said.

Sources said although AL had given up a total of 96 seats for its alliance partners before the January 22, 2007 election was postponed, this time around it might reduce the number of seats it shares with them.

Earlier, AL gave 50 seats to JP, 29 to LDP, four each to Workers Party and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, three to Gono Forum, one to Gonotontri Party, and five to Islamist political parties Misbaur-led IOJ, Zaker Party, and Bangladesh Khelafat Majlish. Talking to The Daily Star, some of

the grand alliance leaders said they do not want the number of seats that Talking to The Daily Star, sources had been allocated for them earlier to be reduced. Sources said AL might not give all the seats in the greater Rangpur area

to Ershad's JP due to grassroots level

ALleaders' opposition. AL Organising Secretary Meanwhile, some of the grand Mahmudur Rahman Manna who is ties in the area said this time around their position in the area is better than any time before.

Pointing out that there are 22

constituencies in the greater

Rangpur area, he said some AL can-

those seats as they have strong local The sources said the seat sharing issue will be finalised in consultation

secretaries have been carrying out a survey to see who has the most popularity and possibilities of winning in different parliamentary constituencies across the country. "I am carrying out a survey. Our

party chief Sheikh Hasina asked me

do so," said Manna adding that the

outcome of the survey will be sub-

Bush later held his first face-toface talks with Zardari, offering his condolences over Saturday's devastating suicide attack on the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad, in which at least 60 people died.

"I want to express our deepest

families of those who suffer and so does the collective heart of the American people; we stand with "Pakistan is an ally, and I look forward to deepening our relationship," Bush said amid tensions between Washington and

Islamabad over alleged US strikes at extremists inside Pakistan along its border with Afghanistan. "Your words have been very

We have a situation. We have issues. We've got problems. But we will solve them and we will rise to the occasion," said Zardari, widower of slain Pakistani leader

and do the right thing for the people of our country and our two great nations. We should come together in this hard time and we will share the burden and the responsibility with the world," he The New York Times reported

duct ground operations in Pakistan without Islamabad's prior approval -- drawing anger from Pakistan. Meanwhile, US Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke and Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson

unprecedented steps already taken in the crisis, global financial markets "remain under extraordinary Nervous global markets were looking to both Bernanke and

Paulson to aggressively push lawmakers to give the Treasury the authority to borrow 700 billion dollars to buy toxic mortgagerelated assets from struggling financial institutions, in a bid to

Sri Lanka

FROM PAGE 16

remarks.

record 1.5 billion dollars into this year's war efforts. Security forces say they are now on the outskirts of Kilinochchi town, the political capital of the LITE

January and has since poured in a

advancing troops, his office said. The LTTE, which has been fighting since 1972 for autonomy in the north and east for minority Tamils, did not comment on Rajapakse's

ment from the Norwegian government on the bilateral discussions. Some 26 Tamil Tigers were killed in ground fighting across Sri Lanka's

wrest control of the rebel capital of Kilinochchi, the defence ministry said yesterday. The military reported one soldier was injured during Monday's clashes

and was later translated into He said they will seek feedback on the draft from stakeholders,

were present at the meeting.

Rab members detained former BNP lawmaker from Gazipur AKM Fazlul Huq Milon, who had been on the run since the joint forces launched the crackdown on corruption suspects, in the capital's

Milon has been accused in nine cases on different charges including land grabbing, extortion and corruption.

the upazila or zonal land offices Conjoined twins

hospital after she was born conjoined with her twin sister Barsha and brought here for the surgery to separate the two girls. At a press briefing at the BSMMU Milton Hall, Chairman of the Paediatric Surgery Department Prof Shafiqul Haque said that

Banya's condition is good now and

she will be able to lead a normal

The six-month-old baby girl has

passed most of her life so far at this

FROM PAGE 16

She will however have to follow up with the hospital in two weeks' time and also continue with some regular checkups after that. Though she weighs only 4.5

kilogrammes at present instead of

an ideal 6.5 kilogrammes, one has

to remember she was born prema-

ture and had to go through difficult

stages like surgery and post opera-

He however added that the miracle baby has been gaining weight over the past month and her spine, which was slightly curved at birth, is now almost all right. Meanwhile, the doctors who have carried out the surgery say

that the success of this operation is

a credit for the hospital and its

expertise.

Vice Chancellor of BSMMU Prof Tahir said, "The rate of separation and survival of the conjoined twins is very low across the globe and more so in this country. Banya's success story shows that the BSMMU now has the total technical, surgical and medical expertise

Barsha were present at the press sufferings. briefing. Gaibandha. Soon after their birth, twins to Dhaka Medical College addressing those. and Hospital (DMCH) to see if they could be separated through surto BSMMU on April 4.

gation, the doctors at BSMMU

hours after the operation. Banya has been taken to her aunt's house at city's Mohammadpur. She will go home to her village after the Eid festival,

family members said.

are born across the globe each year -- with odds of about one in every 100,000 births. Experts say that when an embryo is about to split into identical twins but is stopped midway due to some kind of a problem, it

tion complexities," Prof Shafigul Haque said.

> as if police department itself has He noted that members of the

The police chief urged people to

Dhaka Metropolitan Police | plant deal depriving the lowest

toral law, some leaders of BNP and BNP high-ups got annoyed as their alliance partners had been MK Anwar in a press conference

sary bitterness.

Awami League (AL) and Jativa constitutions after the Eid-ul-Fitr.

Talking to reporters after the

by-elections and re-polling might

has something to say about the theregistration process.

electoral provisions and they com-

thought long and hard before settling

tions, and it will save them at least 20

According to new proposals of the

But their highest policymaking bodies must pass resolutions to have

pended till the national election is As per the EC announcement,

with front organisations and chapters abroad. To meet those, most of the politi-

Bush 'confident'

FROM PAGE 16 doctors told him to rest. ment financial intervention since

of emergency could not be lifted in time, concrete legal steps needed

> strong about Pakistan's sovereign right and sovereign duty to protect your country, and the United States wants to help," Bush told Zardari. "We will solve all the problems.

Benazir Bhutto. "That's what my wife's legacy is all about. That's what democracy is all about, to take difficult decisions

recently that Bush secretly approved orders in June allowing US forces in Afghanistan to con-

urged Congress yesterday to swiftly pass a 700-billion-dollar financial bailout or put the economy at risk. Bernanke warned that despite

counter a credit crisis.

(Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam). During the talks, Rajapakse accused the rebels of using civilians as human shields in the face of

There was no immediate comnorth, where troops are trying to

across the embattled regions of Weli Oya, Kilinochchi and Vavuniya.

But lawmakers have signaled

they will not be hurried into

approving the largest US govern-

mitted to Hasina.

the Great Depression. Democratic congressional leaders and some Republicans have insisted that a massive bailout for the US financial system must include safeguards.

UNGA DEBATE: BAN CALLS FOR

World leaders opened their annual.

UN debate here yesterday, with top

'GLOBAL LEADERSHIP'

general debate.

geopolitical issues like the crisis in Georgia, Iran's nuclear ambitions and rights abuses in Darfur overshadowed by the global financial

More than 120 heads of state or

government are attending the

week-long General Assembly's

UN chief Ban Ki-moon yester-

day stressed the need for "global leadership" as he pressed world leaders not to pursue narrow national interests in the face of hard economic times. "I see a danger of nations look-

ing more inward, rather than

toward a shared future," he said at

the opening of the UN General

Assembly's annual debate. He spoke of a "challenge of global leadership" to tackle the world's worsening financial, energy and food crises. "We see new centers of power and leadership -- in Asia, Latin America and across the newly developed world," Ban told more

than 120 heads of state or govern-

ment, including Presidents George W. Bush of the United States and Nicolas Sarkozy of France.

Home adviser FROM PAGE 1 passing the ordinance. "No government official is hindering, halting its implementation.' The meeting decided to submit charge sheets in two cases filed in connection with the bomb attacks

on Pahela Baishak celebrations at

Ramna Batamul on April 14 in

2001, inside sources said. The grisly

attacks killed 10 people.

caretaker government.

Bangla.

The adviser instructed the officials concerned to further investigate the murder of former finance minister SAMS Kibria and the death of ActionAid country director Nasreen Hug.

He said the police are working

independently under the present

"There's no influence from the government or any other quarter over the activities of the police department, "he told reporters. Matin said the proposed police ordinance was prepared in English

including lawyers and police regulatory committee. "We'll move to the next steps after getting their opinion," he

Home Secretary Abdul Karim

and senior officials concerned

FROM PAGE 16 former state minister for energy at his Mymensingh residence on February 8 last year.

Gulshan on September 4 last year.

with Hasina after her return home. In the meantime, AL organising