JMB camp busted

work to trace the camp in deep forest," Rab's Additional Director General Col Mizanur Rahman Khan told a press briefing at the Rab headquarters in Uttara yesterday.

He said the camp, which has three earthen and tinshed rooms, was not complete for training yet.

Rahim was building it on blasts the following year. four acres of land purchased in the name of farming. Sajib, one of the arrestees, who owns a poultry farm in the area, had helped in the purchase.

Shahed alias Osman, a JMB Majlish-e-Shura member, oversaw things in this regard on instructions from the outfit's present head Saidur Rahman.

Comilla last year, told us their organisation had been shiftfar-flung hills, and since then

the JMB bought the Matiranga Comilla, Sayeem of Dhaka and land for around Tk 2 lakh.

"JMB activities are getting very limited. We are closing in and hope to arrest its current chief soon," he added.

as Zahid, Habib and Saiful, was allowed to speak at the news briefing.

He claimed he, Naim and wing Osman had planned an attack on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia during her election campaign in Comilla last year on orders from Shura member Osman.

Of the three, Naim was arrested, but Osman and Rahim managed to flee. The plan for assault on the former prime minister however bit the dust because of the Rab

Rahim said he joined JMB in 2004. He fled to Matiranga and took a job at Sajib's poultry farm after the countrywide

A Rab press release said Rahim is a key member of JMB suicide squad. He hurled a bomb on the Rab team during the Comilla raid last year and ran away.

He stands accused in three cases filed in this connection. **IMB STRUCTURE**

At the briefing, Rab officials said Moulana Saidur "IMB operative Naim, who Rahman's son Bashar plays a was arrested at Chandina in key role in running the organi-

Seven members of Shura, ing their training facilities to highest policymaking body, are Shiblu alias Shishir, Sohel we have been keeping a close Mahfuz of Kushtia, Mehedi watch on the areas," Col alias Abir of Barguna, Nazmul alias Bhagne Shahid of Natore, Around eight months back, Osman alias Shahid of Mahmud alias Asad of Panchagarh.

Of them, Shishir is in on those still out of dragnet charge of the military wing, Sohel Mahfuz dawat (invitation) department, Mehedi Rahim, who is also known southern districts, Nazmul northern region, Osman Chittagong division and Saveem takes care of the II

The duties assigned to Mahmud could not yet be

Mostafiz alias Siddique of Gazipur works as an adviser to the outfit.

Sugar 'hoarding'

FROM PAGE 1

and National Security Intelligence (NSI) led by NSI Assistant Director Tofazzal Hossain raided the three warehouses belonging to Joint Trading Corporation and Sheikh Brothers in Nawapara at about midnight on Saturday. It seized 74,340

Safina Begum told reporters, "We want to find out if the importers stocked sugar for market manipulation."

Two other members of the Superintendent of Police Khulna. Zakir Hossain and District Khan.

Contacted, Tofazzal the Jessore importers. Hossain said, " Sugar was in the market."

price at the time was only Tk sugar market.

27-28 a kg in domestic market. So, we had to stock it for a certain period. But we have already sold our stock at a price of Tk 42-45 a kg as allowed by the authorities."

Meanwhile, Officer-in-

Charge of Abhoynagar police station in Jessore Humayun Kabir, when contacted by our sacks of sugar each contain, staff, correspondent, in ing 50 kg and sealed off the Khulna, said the three warehouses were raided when hundreds of sacks of sugar were being loaded in trucks for dispatch to different destinations. He mentioned that 1,200 sacks were sold probe body are Additional out to Asha Traders in

Asked about this, owner of Marketing Officer Sujat H Asha Traders Sirajul Islam denied buying sugar from

Intelligence sources said stored in the three godowns over 150,000 sacks of sugar around one and a half years imported from India were ago. But it was not sold hoarded in the godowns despite the recent crisis of it prior to the month of Ramadan. And the importers Rafiqul Islam, one of the started selling it in the marowners of Sheikh Brothers, ket in the wake of the governsaid, "We imported sugar ment order for arrest of eight (now seized) about a year ago alleged members of the at a price of Tk 38 a kg but its syndicate for manipulating

Girl raped

Saturday, Mamun said in an emotionless voice the rape was "recorded secretly" to tarnish his political and business image.

This is the second such incident after a gang in Faridpur in July raped a schoolgirl, recorded the scene and released the footage. Faridpur police could not arrest the culprits two months into that incident.

Mamun said he was "in a relation" with the class X student of Karimunnessa Girls' High School for the last

one year. He added he met the girl on her way to school a week shop in the town. before the Ramadan and lured her to the house of a lawyer, an acquaintance, on something important".

At one stage of their con- behind it. versation Mamun raped the girl. He claims Monir Hossain alias 'Ganja' Monir, local locksmith Altaf Sheikh's son and a BNP activist, "secretly" recorded the rape in his

cellphone. footage recorded by Monir but at the same time pins the blame on Monir for its release with the help of a cellphone repairer on

Pourashava Road. Alamkathi ward Jubo League leader Ramiz Sarder and district BCL joint general Md Shahidullah Chowdhury secretaries Sajib Khan Rana and Badsha Howlader for "spreading" the footage to

sideline him in business. "The girl is my close rela-

tive and my family would soon arrange our wedding after consultation with her

family," he claims.

Asked about the matter, 'Ganja' Monir said though he is member of a rival political group, he has been a very close friend of Mamun since childhood.

Monir admits the rape and recording it but says he had done it as "instructed" by Mamun. He says he has no idea how the footage hit the

The Daily Star correspondent acted as a buyer of pornography Saturday morning and bought a CD from a video

Speaking anonymously, the video shop owner said the CD was available in the mar-Shikarpur Road to "discuss ket soon after the Eid but he does not know who are

> The family of the victim demanded exemplary punishment of everyone involved.

They said they would go for legal action, adding Mamun, an addict, is their He claims he 'deleted' the close relative who used to tease the girl on her way to

Asked over phone, Officer-in-Charge of Sadar police Mir Fashiar Rahman expressed his ignorance but He also points finger at said he would look into the

> Superintendent of Police told The Daily Star they would seize the video footage from the market and take necessary action against the persons responsible.

Jalil earns

FROM PAGE 16 partylike Awami League.

Sajeda, also deputy leader of parliament, was talking to journalists after offering prayers at the grave of AL leader Moezuddin at Banani in the capital.

If one abandons "boat" he or she can never board it again, she added.

General Khandaker Delwar Hossain and its standing committee member Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain hailed Jalil for his remark on the polls saying his statement proves that the election was stage-managed.

"We alleged that the December 29 election was stage-managed. It has been proved now through Abdul Jalil's statement," said Delwar while talking to reporters at the party's Naya Paltan office.

He said Awami League leaders and conspirators at home and abroad had reached an "understanding".

"His [Jalil] statement given in London made it clear that BNP's claims are true and Awami League was responsible for the January 11 changeover. We welcome his statement," said the BNP secretary

"People are aware of election rigging and Abdul Jalil has made it clear. Senior Awami League leaders also know the truth. We expect that they would divulge them for the sake of the people and the nation," he said.

Terming Abdul Jalil's remark correct and true, BNI leader Mosharraf Hossain said his party's claim of election engineering is becoming clear, reports private TV channel ATN Bangla.

He made the comment after placing wreaths at the graveyard of party's founder late president Ziaur Rahman on the occasion of 17th anniversary of Zia Sangskritik

Mosharraf said BNP would go for a movement in December after organising the party against the present government's anti-state activities.

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area for long, said police.

Our Magura correspondent adds: Three snatchers were beaten to death by agitating locals on Magura-Jessore highway in Magura district headquarters.

Police said two youths hired a ride by motorbike of Wazed Ali at Khajura bazar in Jessore sadar upazila at around 8:00pm yesterday for a ride to Magura.

When the motorcycle reached Gaidghat area on the highway, the muggers snatched Tk7 thousand from Wazed and escaped the scene leaving him on the highway.

The hijacker s also picked up one of their accomplices on their way to Magura.

Wazed instantly informed one of his relatives at Jagla area in Magura sadar upazila of the incident over cell phone.

The relative along with some other villagers at Jagla intercepted the motorcycle near Jagla high school area on the same highway and beat up the snatchers to death at around 11:30pm.

On information, police recovered the bodies and sent those to Magura sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

Father saves

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Sirajganj, succumbed to his injuries at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) two hours after locals admitted

place around 9:30am when an Uttara-bound bus hit Sohrab.

"Rony suddenly walked into the middle of the road while we were looking for an auto rickshaw. The bus hit my husband when he ran to save Rony," said Sohrab's wife Rina Begum.

Rina, who fainted several times after the incident, was waiting at DMCH's emergency section for release of Sohrab's dead body while Rony became speechless with tears rolling down his cheeks.

Sohrab left Hatia by launch on Saturday and was returning to Sirajganj along with his wife and four children to pass his belated Eid vacation.

Kotwali police station captured the bus and filed a case in this connection while the driver managed to flee.

PM outlines

NEWS

As a developing country, food security is of paramount importance to Bangladesh for the national development and for attainment of the UN-designated MDGs.

"Ensuring food security is also critical for eradicating Meanwhile, BNP Secretary | hunger and poverty from the planet, a goal we are all committed to," Hasina observed.

> "Therefore, Bangladesh attaches high priority to ensuring food security for the people. In our previous term of government Bangladesh attained food self-sufficiency for which the FAO presented us with the prestigious Ceres Award, she told her audience.

The PM further called for investment in Bangladesh's homespun development programs.

"It is critical to our efforts for food security ensuring national ownership. The programs we adopt must be driven by specific concerns of relevant countries," she

Hasina said there is no disagreement that sustained agricultural production is essential for ensuring food security. The 2008 food crisis revealed the importance of food security, particularly for the LDCs.

Bangladesh has, therefore, adopted National Food Policy to ensure sustained food security for all in the

Hasina said for affordable food prices to all, her government has initiated programs for increasing domestic food production, reduced prices of fuels and fertilisers used in irrigation, and ensured supply of other farm inputs. "Our initiatives have

ductivity and income of farmers, and bringing down food prices at affordable level for the commoners." The PM said Bangladesh

resulted in enhancing pro-

is looking forward to the World Food Summit on 'Food Security' in Rome in November this year. The summit would hope-

fully facilitate global agreement and support for development of agriculture, and attainment of food autarky in the developing countries, particularly in LDCs like Bangladesh.

"We will need to agree on and implement sustainable agricultural policies, transfer of technology and equitable and fair trade rules for food and agricultural products with special and preferential treatment for LDCs."

The Bangladesh prime minister then expressed deep concern over the catastrophic climate change, saying that it is also important to address climate issues to ensure food production.

Bangladesh is facing erratic patterns of floods, droughts and cyclones, direct offshoots of climate change. This is affecting sustained agricultural production, and thus food security, she told the function.

Hasina continued by saying that the demands for facing the challenges of climate change is diverting funds allocated for sensitive social sectors as health, education, etc.

In agriculture and food, paucity of funds has brought research to a standstill.

Therefore, no further breakthrough on high-

yielding rice or agro-based products, developed decades earlier, could be possible, though a growing need for varieties resistant to salinity, drought, and water

submergence has appeared. The PM informed the world leaders that her government has thus not only made plans for enhancing agricultural research but also for facilitating small holders access to sustainable agriculture technologies, promoting social entrepreneurship, enabling access of the poor to financial services.

Strengthening social protection system, ensuring public food-distribution mechanism, enhancing women and other vulnerable groups' ability to withstand unexpected shocks strengthening disaster preparedness and riskreduction capacity and investing in adaptation and mitigation measures in response to climate change are also part of the government plans to facilitate the small holders.

The premier said her government has already adopted climate-change strategic Action Plan-2009 with 44 programs for implementation within a decade to develop capacity for meeting the impacts of climate change of the next 25 years.

With this purpose, a Multi-Donor Trust Fund has been formed to attract the support of the developed countries.

"I urge, therefore, the international community, especially our development partners and donors, to cooperate in making this Trust Fund successful in fulfilling the multi-faced demands emerging due to climate change," she said.

Hasina hoped that the Copenhagen Conference on climate-change outcome this December would include assured, adequate and easily accessible funding for adaptation and affordable eco-friendly technology transfer to LDCs, which are critical for ensuring food

She also proposed that all root causes of food crises be identified and addressed in a holistic manner for ensuring food security.

Hasina said a substantial fund would be needed for the purpose, which the developed countries would need to contribute, more so, "now that we are badly hit by current global financial crisis."

Indeed, if only the developed countries now fulfil their ODA commitment of 0.7 percent of their gross national income to developing countries, and 0.2 percent to the LDCs, by 2010, as affirmed in the Brussels Program of Action, much of the problems, including those challenging food security, would be resolved, she

"I believe international financial institutions (IFIS) as World Bank and IMF in recent times have received enhanced resources to mitigate the impact of the financial and economic crisis.

"It is imperative for developing and LDCs to get access to these funds quickly and predictably. IFIS also need to provide more concession during funding for the sustainable development needs of the LDCs," Hasina added.

Roads hardly

ting up a storm sewerage line about one and a half years The tragic accident took back and since then it had never been repaired, he said.

Shamsul Haque, a resident of Barabagh, said the roads from Barabagh Bazar to Manipur School and Barabagh Bazar to Barabagh Church are in dilapidated condition.

"Over the last ten years the roads have never been mended causing huge sufferings to the locals," he said.

Kartik Chandra Ghosh, a resident of Shewrapara, said the roads from Shewrapara to Bangla College via Pirerbagh and from Shewrapara to Kalyanpur via Pirerbagh are so bad that rickshaw pullers are reluctant to pass through it, not even for double the fare. Dhaka Wasa at the fag end

of BNP government set up a around Tk12 crore and very storm sewerage line digging the road but since then the road had never come under repairs. repair, said Biplob Chakrabarti, owner of a dispensary of Shewrapara. If there is a moderate rain added.

knee-deep water and the rainwater takes at least one day to recede. As the road is rough and narrow the traffic congestion is a regular phenomenon and

it intensifies during waterlogging, he said. The road at 36 Barobagh has an uncovered manhole in front of a shoe shop posing a huge risk for pedestrians.

Rajib, a worker of the shop, said every day most of the vehicles plying the road are trapped into the manhole and to avert the danger locals planted a bamboo in it as a warning but it too was stolen at night.

Executive Engineer of zone-7 Arifur Rahman said they had already submitted proposal to the Nagar Bhaban for its renovation and it is under consideration. UK have already received He said they are going to get

soon they will carry out Out-of-repair roads will come under renovation when they receive more fund, he Shafiq

FROM PAGE 16 about the necessary

changes. "All the matters with regard to recast of the Constitution--tailored over and again by the past juntas--will be resolved through discussion in parliament, the minister said while talking to reporters at his secretariat office. "People want that the

High Court (HC) verdict

declaring the Fifth

Amendment illegal is

upheld, as it has reflected the spirit of the War of Liberation," the minister observed. He made it clear that the repeal of the Fifth Amendment does not mean the resurrection of the Fourth Amendment introducing one-party rule, as it

was revoked through referendum. Referring to the introduction of martial law in the country, Shafique said the Constitution is the supreme law of the Republic and there is no provision of promulgat ing martial law in it.

"So, the Constitution cannot be amended by mar tial law regulations," he said.

He further argued, "since the parliament cannot promulgate martial law, it would not be justified for an individual to proclaim martial law and to make amendment to the Constitution by issu ing military regulations."

On August 29, 2005, the HC declared 'illegal' the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, adopted in Parliament, meaning the regimes of Khandker Mushtaque Ahmed, Abu Sadaat Mohammad Sayem and Maj General Ziaur Rahman since August 15, 1975 till April 9, 1979 were unlawful.

In the verdict the HC had observed that martial law as a whole is 'illegal and unconstitutional' and all the actions, laws, and rules made under martial law are 'illegal. In reply to a question, the minister said the appeal

hearing on the Fifth Amendment pending with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court (SC) might come on the list for disposal after resolving the appeals against the HC judgments on the Bangabandhu-killing case and the jail killings case. He said the original 1972

Constitution would be automatically re-established if the SC upholds the HC verdict proscribing the Fifth Amendment. The law minister said only the government would

decide whether it would continue its effort towards any recast of the Constitution, altered time and again. "If the government does it, appropriate procedure would be followed in this

Shafique. About the oblique remarks by BNP secretarygeneral Khandaker Delwar Hossain involving the law commission regarding amendment to the Constitution, Shafique said the law commission does not make any law, parliament

regard," said Barrister

makes. Law commission only provides recommendations as asked by government, he added.

Swine flu

FROM PAGE 16

under medical observations while the rest were treated at home confinement as their condition was not severe," Mahmudur Rahman claimed.

Of the total swine flu cases, 52.2 percent were affected in the capital. There was no mutation of the virus in last six months, experts said.

Following a meeting with education ministry, the government decided to initiate a teachers' training programme on how to identify and manage the infected students, which would begin from the middle of October.

Around 240 teachers of the capital will be brought to this programme by IEDCR, which will be extended gradually in other districts. Australia, China, USA and

licence to manufacture the vaccine of swine flu and Bangladesh would get the vaccine by December through World Health Organisation, the government officials said.

Bijoya Dashami

FROM PAGE 16 puja pavilions. images of Durga with her Gulshan Sarbajanin Puja

children.

Durga.

destructive.

Committee.

among devotees.

Bazar.

Mahishasur was defeated and

killed by Durga. Devi Durga

represents two forms of female

energy--one mild and protec-

tive and the other fierce and

sands of Hindu devotees will

procession today. A procession

will be brought out from

Dhakeshwari Temple at

3:00pm today and end at

Waisghat in old town after

are expected to be immersed in

the river Buriganga. Idols from

different puja temples of the

city will be gathered at Palashi

Intersection and then carried

to the Buriganga, said

Mahanagar Puja Udjapan

Mahanabami Puja was cele-

brated across the country

yesterday. "Nabami Bhog

comprising food and fruits

were offered to Devi Durga,

which were later distributed

walks of life visited different

puja places, including

Dhakeshwari Temple,

Jagannath Hall of Dhaka

University, Ramna Kali Mandir,

Siddheswari Kali Mandir, and

the temples of Tanti Bazar,

Shankhari Bazar and Bangla

Sahara Khatun, State Minister

for Health Mujibur Rahman

Fakir, Water Resources

Minister Ramesh Chandra Sen.

Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka

Siddique, former water

resource minister Abdur

Razzak, adviser to the Prime

Minister HT Imam, BNP

Secretary general Khandaker

Delwar Hossain, leaders of

other political parties, diplo-

mats and other top level gov-

ernment officials visited differ-

ent puja temples in the city

Distribution of Prasad and

Anjali offerings were arranged

at the puja mandaps. Fairs were

Home Minister advocate

In the city, people from all

Meanwhile, the

Around one hundred idols

parading different city streets.

In the capital city, thou-

Udjapan Parishad organised Most of the Hindu mytholthe Durga puja at the Banani ogy talks about the struggle Society Ground, which is the between good and evil and the most attractive puja mandap in ultimate triumph of good over the city. They also arranged evil power. According to the different cultural programmes myth, on the day of Ashwin in the evening. Shukla dashami, Ram returned Mahanagar Sarbojaneen to his kingdom "Ayodhya" with Puja Committee will arrange wife Sita and brother Laxman voluntary blood donation after having defeated Ravan in programme today at 11:00am a great battle that lasted for 10 on Dhakeswari National days. Since then the victory of Temple premises. Ram is celebrated as "Bijoya

Different political, social Dashami." Ram killed Ravan and cultural organisations, with the blessings of Devi some eminent personalities including Speaker of the House Dashami is also the celebraadvocate Abdul Hamid greeted tion of victory of Goddess the countrymen on the occa-Durga over Asuras. On the sion of Bijoya Dashami. tenth day of Ashwin shukla paksha (new moon), the evil

Lifters feast

FROM PAGE 16

The initiative turned the library into a safe haven for drug addicts and vagabonds. The authorities later stopped the service in March 2004.

Suraiya Setu, a fourth-year join the traditional immersion student of the History department of Dhaka University, told The Daily Star, "I bought a book on American History from Nilkhet with a seal of the Central Public Library."

The cultural affairs ministry planned to begin stocktaking annually. "If you have the total number of the collection you can easily ascertain how many books have gone missing," said a ministry official. More than 200 people were

for pinching books but as it did not prove effective the library authorities now hardly hand over anyone to police. The penalty for lifting book is Tk250. Drug addicts on and around the Dhaka University campus come to the library,

handed over to law enforcers

steal books and sell those to buy drugs, employees of the library said. "We found empty bottles of Phensidyl dumped into the toilets that clogged the sewer system several times," said

There are some genuine readers but a lot of youths use it as a safe haven for taking drug and stealing rare reference books, said a senior "Petty thieves in the guise University Prof AAMS Arefin

another employee.

of readers also steal taps, bulbs and other goods from the library," he added. With limited manpower, the library authorities are not capable of keeping vigilance

library, said an employee of the library. The Central Public Library was opened to the public on March 22, 1968 with 10,040 books. On an average, 2,200

people visit the central library

on so many people visiting the

Iran's missile

also held on the premises of the every day.

FROM PAGE 16

yesterday.

Salami said the Guards will not launch any new type of missile during the exercise, which is expected to last several days, but he added that Iran "has boosted the number of missiles and can contain long-

Earlier, state media reported that the three shortrange missiles fired were of the Tondar-69, Fateh-110 and Zelzal type. All three weapons, pow-

term missile conflicts."

of between 150 and 200 kilometres (90 and 125 miles). State-owned Press TV broadcast footages of sandcoloured missiles being fired

in desert terrain. The missile manoeuvres come after US President Barack Obama decided earlier this month to scrap a defence shield in Europe promoted by his predecessor George W Bush.

Obama ended Bush's plan Netanyahu called for more to deploy missile interceptors in Poland and a powerful calls with US congressmen tracking radar in the neighbouring Czech Republic by 2013. He said he had decided to

mobile system using mainly sea-based missile intercep-In taking the decision, Obama emphasised the threat of Iran's short-range and

medium-range missiles

instead of the potential danger of its longer-range weapons. The White House said the intelligence community now believed Iran was developing shorter-range missiles "more rapidly than previously projected" while progressing more slowly than expected

with intercontinental missiles. US ally Israel, most Arab states and parts of Europe -including much of Turkey -are within range of the Shahab-3.

Over the past two years, when Bush was still in office, Iran stepped up work on its

ballistic missiles, testing a more advanced mediumrange missile using solid fuel, and also said it had successfully put a satellite into orbit. Iran stages regular military

manoeuvres in strategic Gulf waters, showcasing its missiles and other weaponry. In the past it has threatened to target US bases in the region and to block the strategic Gulf Strait of Hormuz waterway for

oil tankers if its nuclear sites are attacked. ered by solid fuel, have a range Israel and the United States have never ruled out a military option to thwart Iran's nuclear drive, which they suspect of having a military aim. Tehran denies the charge.

> Israel is also lobbying Western powers to impose harsher sanctions on arch-foe Iran after Tehran disclosed the existence of a second uranium enrichment plant, Israeli news reports said on Sunday. Prime Minister Benjamin

sanctions in a series of phone

and senators after Iran's announcement, the leftleaning Haaretz daily said. "Action must be taken in all replace the shield with a more areas to increase pressure on Iran and impose crippling sanctions on it," the report quoted him as saying. "If not

> On Friday, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said Iran was building a second uranium enrichment plant, sparking concern by Western leaders. But Iran's nuclear chief Ali

Akbar Salehi said the new

plant on the road from Tehran

now, then when?'

to the holy city of Qom will be put under the supervision of the IAEA. US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton welcomed his announcement.

The disclosure of the new plant came just days before an October 1 meeting in Geneva between Iran and six world powers to discuss Tehran's disputed atomic programme.

FROM PAGE 16 the road goes under ankle to The Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) damaged the road while set-