## BCL crimes

FROM PAGE 1 face stern departmental actions."

Earlier on Thursday, Mahbubul Alam Hanif, prime minister's special assistant, conveyed prime minister's directives to police and Rapid Action Battalion officials.

"They [police] have been regard.' asked not to consider requests by any minister, lawmaker and he said, "Some actions have party leader in favour of Chhatra League wrongdoers," to allegations of disobedience he told The Daily Star that day.

At a police conference in the

capital on May 4-5, officers

from the districts blamed the

ruling party men for the deteri-

orating law and order situation.

an additional inspector general

of police on Thursday told The

Daily Star, "We told our field level

officers that interference from

ministers, ruling party lawmak-

ers and influential leaders is

nothing new. We have to work

ensure that my subordinates

work professionally braving all

ence also observed that a

Youth stabbed

and back Thursday at 3:00pm.

He was soon shifted to the

succumbed to his injuries at

came to the hospital alone by a

CNG-run auto rickshaw. He

only managed to tell his name

Saju was never involved in

Sylhet Kotwali Police Station

Mohammad Ali Bhuiyan went

with the claim of Saju's father

but said that Saju was a charge

sheeted accused in a robbery

in a different incident." Police

found a six-inch knife and two

mobile phones sets with him,

was sent to his village under

police guard yesterday after-

president Abdul Ahad Khan

amal, also one of the Ilyus Ali-

faction leaders, claimed that

their rival group stabbed Saju

at the city's Taltola area

this faction also tried to get

hold of the body from the

hospital but their attempt fell

flat due to police obstruction.

Police also foiled their attempt

Meanwhile, a Sylhet magis-

Police said they are process-

ing a case against 24 JCD activ-

ists and around a hundred

unidentified people in this

BNP Chairperson's advisory

council, said Khaleda hadn't

whitened a single taka and the

government and revenue

board has no document

About Khaleda's whitening

black money BNP senior joint

secretary general Mirza

Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yester-

day at a programme, however,

said that everything had been

While addressing a public

meeting at Barguna on

Thursday Sheikh Hasina

alleged that Khaleda and her

two sons had whitened black

"Without corruption how

BNP leaders also lam-

basted Hasina for giving 'false

statement' regarding power

generation during the BNP

Sheikh Hasina in her

Barguna address blamed the

then BNP-Jamaat government

for power and gas crises in the

Survey of Bangladesh pub-

lished by the finance ministry,

former state minister for

power Iqbal Hasan Mahmud

Tuku claimed at the press

conference that 1271

Megawatt power was added to

the national grid during the

Referring to Economic

could you get this huge

money?" she questioned.

done lawfully.

money in the past.

regime.

country.

trate court sent 13 people, who

were arrested during the clash,

to bring out a procession.

The leaders and workers of

l hursday afternoon.

After autopsy, Saju's body

Sylhet District JCD Vice-

added the OC.

He said, "Saju was stabbed

Father of the deceased said

Officer in Charge (OC) of

and address, they added.

Participants at the confer-

difficulties.

FROM PAGE 1

11:45pm.

The same day, Inspector

professionally through it all."

Preferring not to be named,

influence.

against a number of OCs. Meanwhile, top brass of the "From now on, I will directly police have asked officers to see to every allegation of influtackle violence by ruling party ence and political blessings to men professionally.

policemen. They have told their grass-On condition of anonymity, roots level colleagues that another additional IGP said maintaining law and order is a they were trying to give the field challenge they must see off. level officers a signal that the They should not be cowed and government is against unscrucompromised by political pulous leaders and their cadres

and also rogue cops.

section of police officers enjoy

political blessings, which is a

threat to the chain of com-

"It is my responsibility to main-

tain the departmental chain of

command and the government

has nothing to do in this

already been taken in response

Replying to another query,

Asked about it, the IGP said,

An SP from a northern district told The Daily Star, "Our bosses have asked us to maintain closer ties with people. They also directed us to make sure none of us takes undue benefits and blessings from any quarters."

Another SP said, "It's true that political leaders have OCs transferred at will. But we must not deny that some crooked officials at the police headquarters are also involved in the transfer trade."

### General of Police Nur Delay for faulty Mohammad told The Daily Star, "As the IGP, it is my job to

The design was first revised in February 2008, keeping unchanged the original estimated cost Tk 20 crore.

In the original design the main bridge was 42 metres long, and there were 215 metres long approach roads at both ends. Through the revision the length of the main bridge was increased to 350 surgery department where he metres, and the approach roads were shortened to 100 Hospital sources said Saju metres each, said Nazrul.

> The first revision was brought due to protests form the local people, as the support walls of the original approach roads would block traffic between the adjoining areas for too long a stretch, said Sayad Sekandar Ali, Deputy Project Director of MIR Akhtar DIRD IV. the contractor.

The work was delayed again for three months for a second revision of the design, he said.

The second revision came in October 2009 adding some new components to the project including beautification of the overpass and its adjoining areas, illumination, and construction of bus bays and service drains, increasing the government funded project's cost to around Tk 24 crore.

The amount of dust the local residents and traders had to inhale every day due to the prolonged construction work resulted in an increase of asthma cases in the area, said Giyasuddin, who owns a shop in Aziz Super Market in Natun Bazar.

Rezaul Karim, a resident of Haidrabad in Gazipur, said traffic congestion in the area increased since the construction started.

"A 10-minute distance between Station Road and Majukhan Bazar take about an hour to cover now due to the traffic congestion," said Alamgair Sarkar, another

Haidrabad resident. Raju Ahmed, the owner of Aziz Super Market, said the number of shoppers in his

He alleged that the present

"The way the government

government is destroying the

country's power sector by

is planning to set up new

power plants, it has to

sibsidise Tk9600 crore," he

said, adding that people have

to purchase power at a higher

including Delwar Hossain,

Nazrul Islam Khan and Mirza

Fakhrul Islam Alamgir

attended a "gayebana janaza"

(funeral prayer) of Zakir

Hossain in front of Naya

Zakir Hossain was killed in

an attack in Natore on his way

to the Wednesday's grand rally

The party yesterday

observed the programme

across the country and prayed

for deceased Zakir in the

mosques after Jumma prayers.

Saturday's agitation

programme until Sunday to

protest the killing of Zakir, one

the country on Sunday, BNP

leaders told journalists at the

party's central office in Naya

Paltan in the capital.

BNP will stage rallies across

PROGRAMME DEFERRED

SATURDAY'S

BNP on Friday deferred its

Paltan office.

of its leaders.

of BNP in Rajshahi.

Earlier, the party leaders

avoiding tender process.

connection. Photojournalist of a local newspaper Shyamol Sylhet market dropped by ninety Sabbir Ahmed Foyez also filed a case against 10 to 12 persons percent since the start of the for snatching his camera durconstruction, due to traffic jams and dust. ing the clash.

Delwar protests

BNP regime.

### BLASTS AT FAIR

## Benapole OC suspended

A CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Officer-in-Charge of Benapole Land Port Police Station Aslam Khan yesterday was suspended for his failure to properly investigate the two bomb attacks on a concert in a Baishakhi Mela.

Sources said the attacks killed one Zia, 26, on the spot and injured 10 others who were admitted to a local hospi-Police said the fair was

arranged without the permission of the district administration. The fair started on the first

day of Pahela Baishakh, which was stopped after the attack, said the sources.

The attacks took place following a dispute over distribution of money among Chhatra League and Juba League men.

Police arrested four people in this connection. Later, they arrested Sweet, a

Jubo League member, of village Dighir paar upon information of the arrestees.

Sweet said he made the attack as the fair committee refused to pay him toll.

## Tagore's birth

President Zillur Rahman and

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina have given special messages highlighting the colourful life of the poet and his contribu tions to Bengali language and literature. In a message, the president

said, "Our bonds with Rabindranath are getting closer with the passage of time as his literature has become a source of inspiration and courage for us during the days of our any crisis or debacle."

The prime minister, in a separate message, said the people of Bangladesh greatly owe to Rabindranath as his writings inspired the nation in all its movement including in the War of Liberation, reports

As part of the national celebrations, Bangla Academy and Shilpakala Academy will organise programmes based on various creative works of the great poet.

Besides, various programmes have been chalked out to mark the day a Shilaidah in Kushtia, Patisar in Naogaon and Dakkhindihi in Phultola upazila of Khulna --the three districts that harbour the memories of Tagore.

Local administrations across the country will arrange

programmes marking the day. Bangladesh missions abroad will also celebrate the day holding various programmes.

Tagore, born in 1861 at Jorasanko mansion in Kolkata, was a poet, visual artist, playwright, novelist, and composer whose works reshaped Bengali literature and music in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

He became Asia's first Nobel laureate after winning the Nobel Prize in literature for

his book Gitanjali in 1913. Two songs from his canon are now the national anthems of Bangladesh and India -Amar Sonar Bangla and Jana

Gana Mana, respectively. His verse, short stories, and novels, which often exhibited rhythmic lyricism, colloquial language, meditative naturalism, and philosophical con templation, received global acclaim.

## CCC aspirants

FROM PAGE 16 Giasuddin may file nomination to run in the mayoral race, if senior leaders like Noman and Khosru don't vie for the post, said a source in BNP.

Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami are likely to lend sup port separately to a few candidates in the CCC poll.

Meanwhile, Chittagong Divisional Deputy Election Commissioner SM Ezharul Haq said they are preparing a panel of 14,931 polling officials in line with the directive of the Election Commission secretariat.

He said they have already asked different government organisations and educational institutes to arrange

officials for the panel. The election schedule could be announced any time with at least 15-day gap between the polling date and the last date for withdrawal of

nomination papers, he said.

A total of 674 polling centres would be set up. The number of voters is 16, 94,955 in the CCC, according to the voter list finalised on April 15, said District Election Officer Dulal Talukder.

# Pending district

NEWS

**FROM PAGE 16** Of the 16 units, three impor-

tant ones -- Dhaka city, Dhaka and Manikganj units-- even do not have convening committees to run organisational activities. BNP sources said

Chairperson Khaleda Zia herself is likely to supervise election of leadership of these They also said organising

secretaries of the party will take necessary steps to hold councils of 13 district units after the party's grand rally in the capital scheduled for May 19. Contacted, Senior Joint

Secretary General of the party Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said, "After the grand rally on May 19, we will hold councils of district units which have no committees."

Replying to a query on Dhaka city unit, he said they are working on it. "A convening committee or council preparatory committee or even a full-fledged committee might be announced after our decision is finalised."

Besides, the seven organising secretaries of the party have been asked to submit organisational reports on the district units they are responsible for.

Party sources mentioned that only the names of president and general secretary were announced at the councils of many of the district units but their full-fledged committees are yet to be formed.

After the Dhaka grand rally, initiative will be taken for holding council of 13 district units. These Comilla (north), Joypurhat, Bogra, Sylhet city, Rangpur, Chapainawabganj, Narail, Patuakhali, Barisal city, Barisal (south), Pirojpur, Netrokona and Rajbari units.

Party insiders said the process of forming committees of Dhaka city, Dhaka and Manikganj units will start soon under the direct supervision of party chief Khaleda Zia as many influential leaders are involved in conflicts for estab-

FROM PAGE 16 Pramanik of Alokdiar village in Santhia upazila.

Officer in Charge of Ataikula Police Station Sirajul Islam Chowdhuri said a group of cadres of outlawed PBCP's Janajudhha faction hurled bombs at Mithu Thursday night when he was on the way to Binnabari field of Vulbaria union in Ataikula at 7:00pm. He died on the spot.

On information, police rushed to the spot the same night and sent the body to Pabna General Hospital

morgue for autopsy on Friday. Mithu was accused in

Pabna Superintendent of Police Jamil Ahmed said the victim was an associate Abdur Rashid, chief of Red Flag faction.

The internal feud is the reason behind the incident, the SP said.

Hasina sees

## lishing their supremacy in these units.

Party unit in Manikganj home district of BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain, is running without any committee since 2002. Many locals however said the unit has no committee since 1998.

A six-member committee for Dhaka district unit headed by Nazmul Huda for a twovear term was announced in 2002. But it could not form a full-fledged committee in the last eight years. BNP announced conven-

ing committees for 71 organi-

sational district units by June last year. Later, Sunamganj district unit committee was announced. And Manikganj, Dhaka

district and Dhaka city units still do not have convening committees.

## PMO to deal

**FROM PAGE 1** 

The new appointments would be made to speed up the investigation process in a bid to bring the war criminals to book within a shortest possible time, according to the officials. "As the issue is very sensitive

by nature, the Prime Ministers' Office has been dealing with the matter so that no controversy arises further regarding the appointments," one of the highly placed sources told The Daily The PMO is constantly keep-

ing its eyes on the appointments since a few of the earlier appointments drew criticism from different quarters, said a senior home ministry official preferring anonymity. "This time we will appoint

very qualified investigators after examining their educational qualification, competency in investigation works, political background and honesty."

Sources said except one or two ex-officials, most of the new appointments would be made from the in-service Crimina Investigation Department (CID) of Police. The number of new appointees could be around

There is discussion in the home ministry and PMO to appoint investigators from National Security Intelligence (NSI) and Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI). But they prefer to appoint only from CID, which has professional expertise to work only in the field of criminal investigation.

Home Secretary Abdus Sobhan Sikder told The Daily Star his ministry would appoint some more investigators who are not politically biased and much experienced in investigation. More investigators are needed to expedite works.

He said the agency after completing their investigation would submit a report to the International Crimes Tribunal and then the prosecution panel would move for prosecuting the accused.

return home at any cost.

country," she said.

"I took a vow if I were to die

Hasina said some leaders

I will die on the soil of my

of AL had threatened that

those who would go to airport

to receive me would be

home only for the sake of the

people and democracy. I knew

if I didn't return, democracy

many did not protest against

wrong and injustice. "But

raised my voice. Whenever 1

was brought to court I pro-

tested the wrongdoings.

protested the arrest of unmar-

She said she was arrested

The PM alleged that the

BNP-led alliance wanted to

retain power by stealing votes

in 2007. There were 1.23 crore

fake voters on the voters' list.

In the face of the AL's demand,

the election commission was

pledge to ensure economic

emancipation of each citizen

and their voting rights, which

would lay strong foundation

of democracy in the country.

"Without democracy, no

The prime minister said

country can achieve develop-

that after receiving the mas-

sive electoral mandate in 2008

elections, it is the responsibil-

ity of the AL-led grand alliance

government to improve socio-

Hasina reiterated her

when she protested against

the torture unleashed by an

ried girl without warrant."

intelligence agency.

reconstituted.

ment," she said.

She said that being scared

"Taking life-risk I returned

expelled from the party.

will be killed forever."

vigilant against the antidemocratic evil forces," the PM said.

Hundreds of leaders and workers of Awami League and its front organisations thronged the Gano Bhaban to greet their leader with bouquets. Hasina enquired about their well-being.

Hasina said she went to USA to see her expectant daughter and meet with her daughter-in-law after the 1/11 changeover.

While staying there she came to know that she would not be allowed to return to the country. She took the decision to immediately fly back home.

The premier recalled that one advisor of the caretaker government told her that BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will leave the country and she was also asked not to return home. Hearing this, she protested why Khaleda Zia will go out of the country and why she will not return.

Hasina said that when she wanted to fly from Florida to London by a British Airways flight, she was told by the airliner that the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh put restriction on her flying back home. Such steps were taken so that she cannot fly from USA to London.

Expressing her gratitude to the expatriate Bangladeshis and people and her party at home for launching movement and mounting pressure on the caretaker government, Hasina said some 100 expatriate Bangladeshis accompanied her from London to Dhaka.

economic status of the people "I was told that I will be and establish digital kidnapped on my arrival and Bangladesh by 2021. kept confined untraced," she AL leaders Syeda Sajeda said, adding that the threat of Chowdhury, Amir Hossain Amu, Suranjit Sengupta, the caretaker government and Matia Chowdhury, among unflinching support of the people encouraged her to others, were present.

## Gamblers beat up cops

Torch their bikes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Gamblers beat up two assistant sub-inspectors and a constable, and burnt down their motorbikes in Kaunia upazila of the district Thursday night.

A police team rescued the injured--ASI Rashid Kundu and Ataur Rahman, and constable Kabir Hossain--from Char Chatura village of Haragachh union in Kaunia upazila early yesterday. The police arrested three

alleged gamblers, Emdadul Islam, Rezaul Karim and Emdadul Karim, yesterday in connection with the incident. Officer-in-Charge of Kaunia Police Station Rezaul

Huq said the gamblers

attacked the policemen when

they went to the village to stop gambling. Earlier on Monday, the policemen stopped gambling and warned the gamblers of strong action if they repeat the

same, the OC added.

However, villagers of Char Chotura said police collect toll from gamblers very often.

Thursday night the policemen demanded a large amount of money. When the gamblers refused to pay the amount, the policemen stopped gambling. The gamblers then attacked them and set fire to their motorbikes.

### Junior schools FROM PAGE 1

More deserving institutions

will be brought under the scheme within two-three months depending on allocation in the upcoming budget, said an official handout. Directives of a high-

powered committee, the finance ministry, an interministerial committee and the Prime Minister's Office were strictly followed while selecting the new institutions for MPO. The education minister monitored the whole procedure, it said.

The government provides the financial support to private educational institutions to help them run the institutions smoothly. Around 26,340 educational

institutions including 2,386 colleges, 15,515 secondary schools, 7,344 madrasas and 1,095 technical institutes are currently receiving MPO facilities. The annual listing of edu-

cational institutions for receiving MPO facilities was suspended in 2004 in the wake of massive corruption and irregularities in the process. The teachers and employ-

ees of private institutions have been facing financial difficulties since then. Soon after the Awami League assumed power, its lawmakers in parliament

diate resumption of MPO. In June last year, the government formed a committee to devise a policy for the MPO and set some criteria for MPO

raised the demand for imme-

To finalise the new list, ministry officials had to work till night outside the ministry to avoid the pressure of lobbying by ruling party lawmakers and influential leaders for including institutions of their choice in the list.

Over 7,000 educational institutions applied this year for being included in the list.

## Ex-army

enlistment.

Qur'an. I did it as the criminals held all my family members hostage by pointing sharp weapons," Lt Col (retd) Faizul Huq said last night. Faizul said: "The criminals

looted gold ornaments and cash and then asked us to take the holy Quran for the swearing. They also threatened us with death if we go to police."

"I don't care for the threats but what bothers me is the swearing," he said. Kafrul police said two of the

robbers entered the ground floor of the three-storey building by cutting open grills of the balcony. The criminals held the 11year-old daughter of Faizul

hostage by pointing a sharp

weapon at her throat around 3:00am. The robbers stayed about one hour inside the house to loot the valuables and cash. Some of them took position

outside the house. Sub-inspector Khairul Islam of Kafrul Police Station said the criminals gathered all the family members in a room and forced them to get into a mosquito net.

Police suspect local criminals might have committed the robbery.

Officer-in-charge of the police station Delwar Hossain said no case was filed till 9:00pm yesterday and none arrested in this connection.

# Kim reaffirms nuke talks on trip to China

AP, Beijing

North Korea's reclusive leader reaffirmed yesterday that he was willing to rejoin longdelayed nuclear disarmament talks while on a not-so-secret trip to China, but gave no firm date for restarting the process that Pyongyang abandoned more than a year ago.

Kim Jong Il's private, armoured train the eccentric leader shuns air travel crossed the border back into North Korea midmorning after leaving Beijing on Thursday follow-ing talks with Chinese leaders that touched on the six-nation talks aimed at ridding the North of nuclear weapons.

"Kim said that the DPRK will work with China to create favourable conditions for restarting the six-party talks," the official Xinhua News Agency said in a report on his meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao.

to go hand-in-hand with new aid from China, including the implementation of economic agreements reached during the Chinese premier's visit to North Korea last year. Xinhua said Wen told Kim the two enjoyed "big potential for developing economic and trade cooperation."

Kim's regime which is flailing from years of interna tional sanctions and a recent failed currency revaluation has grown ever more dependent on Chinese aid and diplomatic support. Beijing appears eager to provide such support to prevent his impoverished country's implosion, which could touch off severe unrest on its border.

The visit began Monday and has been shrouded in secrecy, as is typical whenever Kim travels. In footage run by Chinese state broadcaster CCTV on Friday, Kim, 68, who reportedly suffered a stroke in 2008, appeared thin but relatively vigorous in meetings with Chinese President Hu Jintao, Premier Wen Jiabao, and other officials. The footage was the first official Chinese confirmation that Kim had visited the

### UK election

FROM PAGE 1 election campaign.

Conservative leader David Cameron has offered to make a deal with the Liberal Democrats to form a government, and Brown has agreed to wait for those talks, while holding out a hand to the Lib Dems in case they fail.

The result was predicted by polls but Britain has not had a hung parliament since 1974 and the next few days are highly uncertain, with some commentators already forecasting another election if no government is formed.

Conservative leader David Cameron said Labour had lost their right to power, after the Tories gained the most seats in the election.

He promised to act in "the

national interest" to bring strong, stable, decisive and good" leadership, as the UK appeared set for a hung parlia-Gordon Brown has promised to play his part in securing

"a stable, strong and principled government" after the UK election resulted in a hung parliament. Labour won fewer seats

than the Tories but nobody gained a majority Nick Clegg said the election

result was "a disappointment" for the Lib Dems, and it was for the Tories to prove they were "capable of seeking to gov-

He acknowledged many voters "decided to stick with what they knew best", despite his pre-election surge in the polls after the leaders' TV debates. Meanwhile, the "special

relationship" between the United States and Britain will not be affected by the uncertainty over the outcome of the British elections, the White House said Friday. "We look forward to work-

ing with whoever is the prime minister," said White House spokesman Robert Gibbs, after a knife-edge election left Britain in political limbo. He added that US President

Barack Obama had seen the reports of the outcome of Thursday's parliamentary elections, which showed the opposition Conservatives had won 306 seats, just short of the 326 needed to govern alone. The Conservatives were

seeking a power-sharing deal with the small Liberal Democrat party, after the ruling Labour Party of Prime Minister Gordon Brown won 258 seats. The Liberal Democrats won 57 seats.

Kim, wearing a pea green leisure suit, was shown shaking hands with Chinese leaders at Beijing's Great Hall of the People, in footage apparently shot Wednesday night. He spoke with Hu in a conference room, then stood and read from a piece of paper at a banquet table and offered toasts, wine glass in hand.

Other footage showed him on an excursion to Beijing's Zhongguancun high-tech

## Schoolteacher

**FROM PAGE 16** 

His injured daughter Yasmin, 18, and son Monir, 12, were admitted to Tangail General Hospital.

A group of unidentified miscreants wearing masks entered the teacher's house around 3:00am and chopped him with sharp weapons.

They also chopped A return to the talks is likely Yousuf's son and daughter as they tried to save their father, police said. The miscreants looted Tk

17,500 breaking the almira. Hearing the hue and cry of

the victims, neighbours

informed the police. The law

enforcers later sent the injured to the hospital where Yousuf succumbed to his injuries. Sufia Begum, wife of Yousuf, told The Daily Star that she opened the door at night to enquire about the talks of

some people who gathered

near their house and as soon

as she opened the door, the miscreants entered the house and swooped on them. "We had no enmity with

anyone," she added. Police arrested Mazeda Begum, a tenant of the house, in connection with the incident.

## Rushanara

FROM PAGE 1

ments," she told UNB in her instant reaction. Expressing her deep gratitude to her electorates Rushanara said it is the day of fulfilment of dream. She also

expressed her gratitude to

Labour Party for giving her the

so I can fulfil my commit-

party ticket to contest in the Bethnal Green and Bow con-"My first task is to repair the split in the Bangali commu-

nity as quickly as possible,' she also said She polled 21,792 votes in Thursday's general elections defeating his nearest rival Ajmal Mashrur of Liberal

Democrats who got 10,210 Abjal Mia of Respect Party got 8,532 votes while Zakir Khan of the Conservative

Party bagged 7,071 votes. With Rushanara's victory, the entire Bangali community in London was excited with joy that their dream--sending a Bangali representative to the British parliament--has come

Bangladeshi expatriates in Brick Lane, the heart of London's Bangla Town, embraced each other and distributed sweets in celebra-

graduate Rushanara was born in Sylhet. She left her home at the age of seven and moved with her family to the East End of London where she attended Mulberry School and Tower Hamlets College.

Thirty-five-year-old Oxford

Growing up in Tower Hamlets, she was the first in her family to go to university. Rushanara studied politics, philosophy and economics at

the University of Oxford. Rushanara caught the attention of the British media after becoming the first student from her college to be admitted into Oxford

### University in London. Nepalese

**FROM PAGE 16** situation under control. No information on casualties was

of renewed bloodshed in Nepal, where the Maoists ended their decade-old insurgency which left an estimated 13,000 people dead and joined a peace process in 2006. The communists won elections in 2008 and briefly led a coalition government. A dis-

immediately available.

The unrest has raised fears

tion, leading to the formation of the current administration that the Maoists are trying to topple. Residents opposed to the strike began lashing out on Thursday, assaulting strike supporters and setting a car

pute over the army chief's

firing, however, split the coali-

on fire in scattered clashes in the capital and other towns. The unrest comes as Nepal's Constituent

Assembly, elected to draw up a new constitution, struggles to draft the charter before its term expires May 28.