Tigers triumph

FROM PAGE 1

Ross Taylor and Daniel Vettori at crucial moments, provided their best support to Shakib.

New Zealand got off a flying start riding on Brendon McCullum and Jesse Ryder's scintillating batting as the pair contributed 53 runs in 6.5 overs before Shakib dismissed Ryder for 21.

The home side tightened their grip on the match when Shakib sent back dangerman McCullum and Grant Elliot in one over just before rain stopped play. McCullum hammered 61 off 45 balls with seven fours and two big sixes before being bowled while Elliot was trapped in front for naught.

Vettori, who frustrated Bangladesh on their last trip, joined Taylor to take away the Tigers' initiatives, but Naeem broke the 50-run fifth wicket partnership by removing Vettori (24), who played a paddle sweep against a full toss on middle straight to fine leg where Junaed Siddiqui made no mistake to bring joy to the local crowds.

Stewart fell victim to a run out and off-spinner Naeem killed the Kiwis' hopes by trapping Taylor, who hit a 56-ball 42 that saw one four and a six, in The match reached its

climax when New Zealand required 21 runs from the last

two overs, but Shakib conceded only three runs in the penultimate over to all but confirm the home side's victory. Nazmul Hossain then bowled the last over brilliantly before he cut his finger on the last ball of the match.

Earlier Imrul Kayes and Shahriar Nafees made a slow but steady start after Mashrafe had decided to bat after winning the toss.

Agonisingly all the toporder batsmen including Nafees, who returned to oneday cricket after a two-and-ahalf year gap, got starts but failed to carry on to put up a fighting total on the board.

Nafees was dismissed for 35 while his partner Kayes added 16.

Junaed (30), Rokibul Hasan (21) and Mushfigur Rahim were the other batsmen who threw away their wickets after settling in.

Shakib's stroke-filled innings and Mashrafe's 11ball 15 however gave the hosts a total to defend.

Kyle Mills was the most New Zealand's misery successful Kiwi bowler by mounted when Shanan picking up three wickets while Andy Mckay, Vettori and Ryder took two wickets each.

Bangladesh's celebration however was marred for the injuries to captain Mashrafe, who is unlikely for the remaining matches of the series, and pacer Nazmul, who is going to miss the next two games.

sent from the CUFL was

prepared carelessly and there

was not a single word about

the seizure of truckloads of

arms and ammunition. The

report mentioned that illegal

goods were seized. The then

general manager (admin)

signed the report. But,

according to rules the MD

would have to sign the

reports and talking with the

MD, I got the report prepared

by BCIC secretary and sent it

to the ministry. After sending

the report none of the minis-

ter, secretary, additional

secretary and joint secretary

of the ministry discussed with

the weapons were seized at

the CUFL Jetty and police

officials informed the matter

to my high officials who

expressed their unwillingness

Cop killing case

plea twice, especially when

the tribunal gave a clear direc-

tive to continue the trial just 12

days ago, PP Ayub Mia said he

relied on a recommendation

made at the 15th meeting of

the home ministry's legal

home ministry is the plaintiff

in the case and it considered

no need to continue with the

tribunal rejected his first plea

he was not able to place his

arguments properly. In his

second attempt he was able to

explain the contexts properly

before the tribunal, he added.

The PP claimed when the

case, he added.

The petition stated that the

in this regard," he added.

"It is my misfortune that

us".

"After watching media

report," he observed.

Nizami showed

n the statement, lmamuzzaman said he was at his home on the day of the seizure of the consignment, and around 10:00am a journalist of a local daily of Chittagong informed him about the incident.

"After hearing the matter, I phoned the then managing director of Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Ltd (CUFL) Mohsin Talukder and wanted to know why I was not informed about it earlier?" a source at the court said quoting lmamuzzaman's statement.

" CUFL MD said he thought to tell me of the issue after knowing details about it. As DGFI, NSI and police personnel were quizzing the CUFL officials they were not allowed to go outside. I asked him CUFL MD to submit a report within 24-hours in this connection," Imamuzzaman said in his statement.

"After opening the office on Sunday, I had met the then industries secretary Shoeb Ahmed and came to know that additional industries secretary Nurul Amin was staying at the rest house of CUFL on the night of the incident. Shoeb Ahmed didn't direct me anything about the incident rather asked me to tell the matter to the then industries minister Matiur Rahman Nizami,"

lmamuzzaman said. "As soon as I went there and was about to tell something, the minister told me that he knew everything. Since the law enforcement agencies are handling the matter, the home ministry is taking step. So, we don't need to do anything in this regard,"

Bashir Ali, assistant comthe statement said. missioner of Chittagong "I thought that he [Nizami] Metropolitan Police, was shot was avoiding the matter. I dead during non-cooperation asked him twice or thrice--Do we have anything to do in movement against the then this regard? Will you form any BNP government in front of probe committee? He didn't MES College near GEC answer to any of my ques-Intersection. tions and was totally silent. The then officer-in-charge of Panchlaish police station He was seen in off-mood and

anxious," he said. MA Newaji filed a case accus-"The report which was ing 49 BCL leaders and activ-

Iwo more

FROM PAGE 16 had training on arms and militancy. Returning home in 2003,

nades for the August 21 attack

on Awami League rally, said

and Malek arranged Shafi's

However, the Rab DG could

not ascertain the motives

behind the outfit operatives'

presence in the country. "We

will try to find out whether the

operatives had any motive to

carry out any subversive activ-

Rab arrested 68 alleged

militant operatives, including

tions, sources at Rab said.

Pakistani national Shafi

against the 49 accused on November 13 the same year Malek kept relation with and 26 out of 45 witnesses of Hizbul Mujahideen leader the case gave their statements. Abdul Majed Bhat, who was Fariduddin made a petition involved in supplying gre-

Chowdhury.

ists including the then MES

College Students Union VP

Fariduddin Ahmed

The police pressed charges

to postpone the trial in 2003 and the petition was sent to the Appellate Division following objection from the then attorney general, said PP Ayub recently came to Bangladesh

> After hearing 113 such cases, a four-member bench of the Appellate Division led by the then Chief Justice Md Ruhul Amin in December 2007 ordered speedy disposal of the cases as per the laws of the

> speedy trial tribunal. The other three members of the bench were incumbent Chief Justice Fazlul Karim, Justice AM Ruhul Amin and

five foreign nationals, in over Justice Hasan Amin, said the nine months spanning from PP. January to October. The trial of Bashir Ali mur-Among the arrestees, 25 are der case started after the Appellate Division sent it to from JMB, 10 from Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami (Huji) and 33 the Chittagong Divisional from other militant organisa-Speedy Tribunal on August 12

this year.

170 doctors

FROM PAGE 16 and union parishad hospitals and found 170 doctors absent from work, Health Secretary

Humaiyun Kabir said. Surprisingly, some doctors have been found absent for months and some for weeks while a few of them just go to the hospital once in a month to sign the attendance sheet, ministry sources say.

A number of them never showed up since their joining in July this year.

"Initially, the ministry issued show cause notices to them and half of them replied. We're now reviewing their reply," said Kabir. At present, some 18,000

doctors are serving the country's 14.5 crore people at different public hospitals, said SM Ahsraful Islam, joint secretary (administration) of the ministry. On September 18, a vigilance team went to visit the

upazila health complex at Sirajdikhan of Munshiganj and found two duty doctors absent without prior consent of the higher authority.

The team also visited Gazipur, Comilla and Harirampur of Manikganj among other districts.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on August 4 at the inaugural ceremony of the World Breastfeeding Week warned the doctors of stern action for being irregular at work. Following this, the health ministry took up the surprise visit.

Every doctor must be responsible for his duties or face punishment as per rules, Amir Hossain, additional health secretary, told The Daily Star yesterday. Ten vigilance teams com-

prised of two to three health ministry and DGHS officials conducted the visits on every Saturday in the last two months, said Dr Hasnat.

The teams are continuing the visits at all state-owned hospitals, especially those in remote areas.

Apart from the doctors attendance, they are also monitoring the overall environment of the hospitals, patient's satisfaction and availability of medicines.

"We also cancelled all the consultants' attachment [junior doctors attached with consultants or professors in medical colleges] and all district level attachment doctors of union or upazila level attached at district level hospitals with permission from DGHS]," said the DGHS director.

Modasser

FROM PAGE 16

not reach you. Some journalists of your newspaper [Prothom Alo] are becoming what they call monsters.

"You should take note of what is happening in your newspaper," he said.

As the chief guest, the health advisor was addressing the European Commission's media workshop on disaster risk reduction at the Dhaka Reporters Unity.

He criticised the Bangla newspaper for not taking responsibility for the mistakes in its reports.

He claimed that the Prothom Alo report on an incident at Sharishabari in Jamalpur was not true. He also censured the editorial on the issue that fol-

lowed the report. He said, "People told me that the Prothom Alo does not like to admit its mistakes. I wonder why! Can't you take responsibility for your own mistakes? " request the Prothom Alo to take responsibility for its mistakes even though accepting mistakes may not be a part of its policies.

"Its not just the government officials who are accountable to the public, newspapers have accountabilities as well," he said, alleging that the newspaper seems to have declared a war against him.

He said, "I don't know why the Prothom Alo is after me. I do not have any power or authority. I am not rich or influential like

newspaper owners. "Mati bhai is a very powerful person with his writing and his influence. I am just an ordinary person.

The health advisor also went on saying that he is hurt by the harsh editorials published at the Prothom Alo, and requested the editor to be more considerate when writing the editorials.

"Have you seen how they [Prohom Alo editorials] are written? Even the president does not address us in this manner," he said.

Prof Modasser Ali reassured the media that the free flowing journalism is the country would persist under any circum-

He commended the media for its important role in reporting on natural disasters and possible epidemics such as

avian flu or anthrax.

He said, "Bangladesh is now globally accepted and well recognised for its disaster risk management activities. Human casualties in disaster have gone down in the country over the years although the loss of property is still high.'

The workshop, held under the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office's (Echo) Disaster Preparedness Programme (Dipecho), aims to train journalists so that they can write more effective reports on disaster management issues and create awareness in the process.

Rabindra University

FROM PAGE 16

celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore on 25 Baishakh 1418 at the PM's Office.

Hasina directed the authorities concerned to complete all necessary preparations to make the celebration programmes a success.

According to the Bangladesh-India joint communiqué issued during Hasina's Delhi visit in January, the two countries will jointly celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Tagore. Addressing the meeting,

the premier, also the chairman of the National Committee, proposed the name of the friendship train running between West Bengal and Dhaka as "Sonar Tori", a famous poem by Tagore.

She paid rich tribute to the memories of the poet, saying that Tagore is the lexicon of Bengali nation's flowing life. "We will celebrate the

Biswa Kabi's birth anniversary unitedly and universally," the premier said. The entire Bangladesh will observe various programmes

added. Briefing newsmen after the meeting, PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad said the national committee meeting also formed a working committee headed by Cultural Affairs Minister Abul

Kalam Azad. The working committee may consist of 15-20 members. The committee will hold regular meetings to complete all preparations ahead of the birth anniversary celebra-

tions, the press secretary said. The government in collaboration with various cultural organisations will observe the programmes marking the occasion, he said.

The cultural organisations will be helped financially by the government to arrange the programmes, Azad added.

A 32-point proposal paper was presented at the meeting.

The proposals include joint inaugural function of the celebration, involving some other countries like USA and UK to celebrate Tagore's birth anniversary, awarding Rabindra researchers and writers, publishing supplementary in the newspapers of Dhaka, Kolkata and Delhi, setting up Rabindra Chairs at the renowned universities of the two countries, and introducing Rabindra Scholarships for researchers

The proposals also included joint publication of various writings on Tagore by renowned artists and researchers of both countries, making documentaries on DVDs, providing 100 selected researchers, artists and organisers with Saarc sticker for easy travel, and arranging mobile train museum on the life and works of Tagore.

and students.

The meeting proposed to chalk out year-long programmes on the occasion of Tagore's birth anniversary. to celebrate the occasion, she

Music and dance programmes, dance drama, drama, poetry recitation, art exhibition, discussion meetings, seminar, theatre workshop, symposium and essay competition have been planned to mark the Tagore's birth anniversary.

Various government ministries and departments, cultural organisations and educational institutions will be involved in celebrating the birth anniversary of the poet. Teachers, poets, authors,

educationists, artists and intellectuals attended the meeting.

The Indian government also formed a 36-member committee to work with Bangladesh to celebrate Tagore's 150th birth anniver-

Govt now tries

FROM PAGE 1

petition and set Wednesday for passing order on it.

On June 25 last year, the HC directed the government to remove all structures from the four rivers. The court on March 21 this

year modified the directives and ruled that the structures set up by the government in public interests will not be removed.

Some commercial companies challenged part of the HC verdict and sought a stay on the government notice asking them to remove their jetties and other structures.

The HC in its June 25 [last year] verdict said the exact boundaries of the rivers have to be marked out through surveys. It also ordered the government to designate the rivers as "Ecologically Critical Areas" to facilitate the demarcation.

Once the demarcation is complete, the authorities concerned must have the riverbanks lined with pillars, tree plantation, walkways and pavements by November 30

this year, the verdict said. It directed the government to constitute a National River Protection Commission with the experts concerned within three months to properly preserve and develop the

The Attorney General's

Office supported the HC during hearing of the petitions. Even Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on different occasions

commitment to save the rivers from pollution and grabbers. The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court on May 3 this year upheld the HC verdict after dismissing seven appeals

spoke of her government's

filed by seven companies. The companies are City Group of Industries, Heidelberg Cement Bangladesh Ltd, Kamal Vegetable, Akij Cement, ACI Cement, Cimex Cement and

Molla Salt Industries. Attorney Genera Mahbubey Alam yesterday told The Daily Star that the government will remove the jetties for saving the rivers, but it needs time to do that.

Manzill Musrhid, the lawyer for Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh, however, said the government has changed its stand on the four rivers.

The government has filed the petition seeking time from the HC, and praying for modification of its judgment so that the jetties are not removed, although the apex court has upheld the HC verdict, he added.

BDR mutiny trial

FROM PAGE 16 Col Luthfor, the then commander of the battalion.

Luthfor was one of the 57 army officers killed during the February 25-26 BDR mutiny last year. A total of 74 people were killed in the two-day-long mayhem.

Asif said soon after he heard gunshots, he called Gofran Mallick who asked him to stay at his Pilkhana residence. Afterwards, a group of jawans raided his house around 10:00am on February 25, and accused Sepoy Faisal Bala broke a portion of the door of his house and brush fired through the hole.

"Later, they forced me and other members of my family including my 85-year-old mother to central quarter guards in an indecent way and kept us confined there," he He said some of the accused

also slapped him and beat him with rifle butt. A video footage was

screened at this stage displaying Asif advancing towards the central quarter guard, his seven-year-old daughter in his lap, and his other family members following him. His mother was being taken in a wheel chair.

The court will resume the hearing at 10:00am today, and allow the accused to crossexamine Asif.

Before Asif's deposition, Nayek Motaleb Mian, another witness, gave deposition and placed evidence against 30 BDR jawans including Gofran.

He named the accused who went out of Darbar Hall on February 25 ignoring the then BDR director general's order, took arms and dragged away bullet-wounded Major Mamun. Mamun's body was later recovered from behind the kitchen of 24 Rifles Battalion. Education Minister Nurul

The accused jawans crossexamined him, and pleaded not guilty saying the allegations Motaleb brought against them are "false and fabricated".

On September 6, the special court-5 adjourned the crossexamination of witnesses till yesterday. After reconstitution of the special courts, the judges of the special court-7 began yesterday's proceeding at 10:30am.

During the September 6 hearing, plaintiff of the case Subder Motiur Rahman and Major Zayedi Ahsan Habib gave deposition and placed evidence against 36 BDR jawans.

War trial

FROM PAGE 1 government had even pardoned the anti-liberation

forces," she said. The BNP chief was addressing an Eid reunion organised by Jatiyatabadi Muktijoddha Dal and Jatiyatabadi Muktijuddher Projonmo at a city hotel. Khaleda said freedom

fighters are being used for "political business" these days. She claimed no other government except hers has done anything for the welfare of the freedom fighters. The former prime minister said propaganda was spread during the war to create divi-

sion among the freedom fighters, and many were arrested after independence. "At least 30 thousand freedom fighters had been killed,"

she claimed without elaborat-

Khaleda also said late president Ziaur Rahman had taken steps to preserve the real history of the Liberation War. But later false stories about the war took over.

"Those who took shelter in India instead of fighting the war [in 1971] now portray themselves as the champion of the Liberation War." Others who spoke included

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain, Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Prof Emjuddin Ahmed, Prof M Mahbubullah Shah Moazzem Hossain, Maj (retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed, Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, Khandaker Mahbub Hossain and Suhrabuddin Ahmed.

27 AL men

FROM PAGE 1

25 accused Jubo League and BCL leaders and activists.

The district administration on September 17 filed two cases with Pabna Sadar police station accusing more than 100 people including 31 Jubo League and BCL leaders and activists.

On September 26, 21 Awami League, Jubo League and BCL men were sent to jail after they surrendered before Pabna Judicial Magistrate Court. The accused were shown arrested in this case.

EC Sohul

FROM PAGE 1 September 28 filed the contempt of court petition against Sohul for his comment regarding HC order staying the effectiveness of an Election Commission (EC) gazette that had declared the constituency vacant.

Sohul earlier reportedly told the media that the EC had issued gazette notification cancelling Jatiya Sangsad membership of MK Alamgir in accordance with law and the EC will challenge the HC order with the SC.

Lawyers for Sohul did not say anything whether the election commissioner has to appear before the HC on October 7.

A lawyer preferring anonymity told The Daily Star that if the Appellate Division stays the HC order in the morning of October 7, Sohul would not appear before the HC.

Advocate Mahmudul Islam and advocate Shahdeen Malik appeared for Sohul.

6-month jail

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Defending the enactment of the legislation, the state minister said in most cases women are being subjected to physical and mental harassment in houses, which ultimately causes severe damages to their physical and mental health.

"Therefore it is imperative to build social awareness by enacting the law to prevent family violence," she said.

The House also passed another bill yesterday paving way for setting up an International Mother Language Institute, which will work for developing and preserving mother languages and publicising Bengali language abroad.

Islam Nahid proposed to pass Meanwhile, the parliamen-

tary standing committee on the LGRD ministry yesterday recommended for passage of a bill aiming to amend the union parishad act. The bill proposes to drop a

provision from it for redrawing boundaries of the wards under a union parishad, maintaining population disparity of more or less than 10 percent from one ward to another.

The Chairman of the body, Rahmat Ali placed the committee report in parliament with recommendations after scrutinising the bill.

Nobel in physics

DHAKA WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 6, 2010

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the creation of faster computers and transparent touch screens.

Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov, professors at the University of Manchester in Britain, in 2004 isolated graphene, a form of carbon only one atom thick but more than 100 times stronger than steel, and showed it has exceptional properties, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said.

Experiments with graphene could lead to the development of new superstrong materials to make satellites, airplanes and cars, as well as innovative electronics, the academy said in announcing the 10 million kronor (\$1.5 million) award.

"Graphene transistors are predicted to be substantially faster than today's silicon transistors and result in more efficient computers," the academy said in the citation. "Since it is practically transparent and a good conductor, graphene is suitable for producing transparent touch screens, light panels and maybe even solar cells."

Geim, 51, is a Dutch national while Novoselov, 36, holds British and Russian citizenship. Both are natives of Russia and started their careers in physics there. They first worked together in the Netherlands before moving to Britain. Novoselov is among the

youngest winners of a prize that normally goes to scientists with decades of experience. The youngest Nobel laureate to date is Lawrence Bragg, who was 25 when he shared the physics award with his father William Bragg in

Geim told The Associated Press he didn't expect to win the prize this year and had forgotten that it was Nobel time when the prize committee called him from Stockholm.

The two scientists used simple Scotch tape as a crucial tool in their experiments, peeling off thin flakes of

graphite, Geim said. "It's a humble technique. But the hard work came later, he said, comparing the material to plastics in its ability to

graphene from a lager piece of

revolutionize the world. "It has all the potential to change your life in the same way that plastics did," he said. "It is really exciting."

Geim last year won the

prestigious Korber European Science Award for the discovery, the University of Manchester said. "This was a well-deserved

award," said Phillip F Schewe,

spokesman for the American Institute of Physics in College Park, Maryland. "Graphene is the thinnest material in the world, it's one of the strongest, maybe the strongest material in the world. It's an excellent con-

ductor. Electrons move

through it very quickly, which

is something you want to

make circuits out of," Schewe

He said graphene may be a good material for making integrated circuits, small chips with millions of transistors that are the backbone of all modern telecommunications. Its properties could also lead to potential uses in construction material, Schewe said, but added it would take a while "before this sort of technology moves into mainstream application."

Gas venture

FROM PAGE 16

two wells inside its territory. The Salda gas field is situated in Sagortola village

under Koshba upazila in

Brahmanbaria district. Ecnec yesterday approved a Tk 306 crore project to dig two wells at Salda gas field under Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Company (Bapex). This will increase Salda gas extraction

Under the same project two more gas wells will be dug at Fenchuganj in Sylhet. These wells will help extract 35 million cft of gas every

by 25 million cft a day.

told Ecnec that once the project is implemented, gas crisis in Chittagong and Sylhet industrial areas would be reduced to a great extent. It hopes that the project

will start extracting gas from

the new wells by June 2012.

Meanwhile, Ecnec also approved a Tk 1,101 crore project for re-launching railway communication at Bhatiapara in Goalondo and setting up new rail tracks from Kashiani to Tungipara via Gopalganj. The tracks would be connected with the

proposed Padma Bridge.

The planning ministry

report said visitors and tour-

ists would be able to visit the

mausoleum of Bangabandhu

at ease once the rail tracks

20,000 registered nongovernment primary The planning ministry schools. But the decision was taken considering the everincreasing number of new entrants at the primary level.

Airport.

A planning ministry offifrom Osmani airport.

project of Tk 1,720 crore for setting up two power transmission lines in Sylhet and Fenchuganj. The Ecnec has also passed a Tk 350 crore Second Diversification Project yesterday.

to an international consul-

tant-- DDC and Associates

Ltd-- to conduct a feasibility

study of the project at a cost

ment will invite tender for

construction of the barrage

in April 2012 and the prime

minister is expected to inau-

Ramesh said the govern-

of Tk 34 crore.

Ganges barrage

project as its feasibility study that began last year is progressing ahead of the schedule. The consultant assigned to do the job has completed 37 percent of the task till now instead of 33 percent as per schedule.

He was upbeat about the

Briefing the press after the second meeting of the Feasibility Study and Detailed Engineering for Ganges Barrage Project Steering Committee Ramesh said when the barrage is constructed, water will flow through the now dead Gorai river.

The Gorai ran dry following India's construction of Farakka barrage in the upstream in the sixties. This barrage greatly affected Bangladesh's agriculture, fisheries, forest resources and river transportation, and the rivers also started losing navigability.

Against this backdrop, the government in 1972 took the initiative to construct Ganges Barrage. But the project was shelved following the killing of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975.

sharing treaty with India by June next year. State Minister for Water

Resources Mahbubur Rahman Khokon and high officials were present at the

briefing.

gurate construction work in December the same year. Experts say implementation of this project will greatly help ensure environmental balance and preserve forest and biodiversity of the

salinity-affected

And it will also help restore navigability of the southern rivers fed by the Ganges system, and preserve sweet water fish resources. In this connection, Ramesh said the government

Sundarbans.

will organise workshops with experts and people concerned with environmental issues. In reply to a question, he said the government is hopeful of signing Teesta water-

The present government revived the initiative last year by awarding a contract

Ecnec also gave nod to another Tk 983 crore project

as an alternative to Trans-Asian Railway and it will also be linked with Padma Bridge. Yesterday's Ecnec meeting also approved a project for building 1,500 primary

to build a new rail connec-

tion from Ishwardi to Pabna.

When the rail network is

constructed it could be used

schools at an estimated cost of Tk 738 crore. According to the planning ministry report, the country has 37,672 government and

A Tk 42 crore project has been taken for the construction of refuelling facility for modern aircraft at Sylhet Osmani International

cial said the initiative would facilitate international flights to land in and take off Ecnec also sanctioned a