# NEWS

stake.

leaders.

independence and sover-

eignty of the country at a

Sheikh Hasina on the eve of

The verdict of the

the day prayed for the

departed souls of the four

Bangabandhu killing case has

been executed partially and

efforts are on to bring back the

remaining killers to imple-

ment the verdict fully, said the

prime minister and added that

in the same way the govern-

ment is pledge-bound to

ensure justice for the killing of

passed, the family members of

the assassinated national

leaders are yet to get justice as

the case is pending in the

Supreme Court following

government's appeal against a

High Court verdict on the case.

Bangladesh Television,

Bangladesh Betar and other

TV channels and radio sta-

tions will air special

programmes while the news-

papers will publish special

him detained for fair investiga-

tion into the allegations against

him, the prosecutor said, add-

ing that investigation will be

hampered if he is released from

said his client is a very popular

religious leader, and he was not

involved in any offence during

tion could not produce any

document before this court on

Sayedee's involvement in any

crime against humanity. So,

there is no necessity of keeping

prosecutor how long will it take

to complete investigation into

the charges against four other

detained accused--Jamaat

Ameer Motiur Rahman

Nizami, Secretary General Ali

Ahsan Muhammad Mojahid

and assistant secretaries gen-

eral Muhammad

Kamaruzzaman and Abdul

investigation is progressing but

it cannot be specifically said

Board says the price offers in

both these bids will now be

evaluated to see if there was

any mistake in the calculation.

"Our target is to forward

within this week to the power

ministry our recommenda-

tion to award the bids to the

lowest bidder," the officia

recommendation, these

would be forwarded to the

cabinet's purchase committee

for approval, preferably before

the Eid vacation. The PDB

wants to conclude signing of

the agreements by December

so that these power plants

could come into operation in

actually handle two such

major investments had been

one question raised by indus-

Muhammad Aziz Khan notes,

'The Bangladesh Bank as well

as international multilateral

agencies such as IFC, ADB,

IDB, all have provided us with

letter of support to debt-

finance these projects. The

capital market in Bangladesh

has full confidence in the

Summit Group and will be

supportive to raise part of the

substantial cash reserves to

invest in these projects," he

much needed electricity can

be provided at low cost in an

environmental friendly way

by utilising the combined

produces around 700 million

cubic feet gas per day (mmcfd)

now is expected to be produc-

ing 1,000 mmcfd by 2013,

while the Shahbazpur gas

field, situated in the island of

Bhola, remains unutilised due

to lack of pipeline infrastruc-

ture or any large power plant

The PDB floated the tender

cycle technology," he said.

two dozen bidders.

tively.

installation.

"Summit itself is sitting on

"Summit is privileged and

Chief of Summit group

try insiders.

equity.

Whether Summit-GE could

If the ministry approves the

when it will be completed.

Summit

FROM PAGE 16

adds.

Sayed Haider Ali replied that

The tribunal also asked the

He further said the prosecu-

the Liberation War.

him in jail.

Ouader Molla.

Savedee's lawyer Tajul Islam

August 15 in 1975 to make the articles on the four national

Keep Sayedee

Marking the day

Though long 35 years have

four national leaders.

Jail killing day

FROM PAGE 1

on November 3, 1975 -- 79

days after Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and

most of his family members

were killed on August 15, 1975.

and many other organisations

are planning elaborate

programmes including dis-

cussions, placing wreaths at

the portrait of Bangabandhu

at Bangabandhu Bhaban and

graves of the four national

leaders and 'milad mahfil' and

feeding of the destitute to pay

tribute to the national leaders.

Minister Sheikh Hasina will

attend as chief guest in the

discussion meeting at the

Bangabandhu International

Conference Centre at 3:30pm

and the prime minister have

conveyed separate messages

his message said, "The anti-

liberation forces killed the

four national leaders after

they had killed Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on

detention has to be extended

The tribunal gave the direc-

tives and also disposed of two

petitions -- one filed by the

prosecution and the other by

petition on July 21 for showing

the Jamaat leader arrested on

charges of committing crimes

against humanity in 1971, and

Sayedee filed on August 2 for not

issuing arrest warrant against

before the tribunal yesterday

morning as per its earlier order.

Sayedee was produced

During the hearing on the

petitions, Prosecutor Syed

Haider Ali prayed to the tribunal

to issue warrant of arrest against

the Jamaat leader, saying that

the investigation agency has

received allegations of his

There are evidences and

documents of Sayedee's

involvement in various

offences, including killings,

arson and rape, in Pirojpur

during the Liberation War, he

Asked what made them

unhappy, 70 percent of the

Facebook generation said

finances topped their list of

More than a third were

One in three said they were

worried about holding down a

job, compared to a quarter of

tormented by family or rela-

tionship problems, and they

were also the age group that

were most likely to struggle

biggest cause of unhappiness

across all age groups, above

work, relationships and lone-

shared the Facebook genera-

tion's finance fears, they were

more fulfilled in other areas of

Almost a third of the youn-

gest generation reported they

had relationship problems,

which dropped to just eight

percent among 55 to 64-year-

Jo Hemmings said: "Real

friendships are made through

shared experiences and

bonds. Some social network-

ing "friends" are barely even

acquaintances, without any

Domestic help

Habibur had moved from

Banani to a house at Banani

DOHS and got into an alterca-

tion with Solema as she was

unwilling to take on the addi-

tional burden of work,

Mohammad Salahuddin,

officer-in-charge of

Cantonment Police Station

ment Habibur beat Solema

with a stick and hit her hard on

Islam told The Daily Star that

his sister had been working at

At one stage of the argu-

Solema's brother Saiful

told The Daily Star.

the head.

real meaning or intimacy."

Behavioural psychologist

But while older age groups

Overall, money was the

over their social status.

middle-aged respondents.

Facebook

So, it is necessary to keep

mentioned.

concerns.

their lives.

involvement in war crimes.

The prosecution filed the

further or not.

Sayedee.

nation leader-free and put the leaders.

President Zillur Rahman

President Zillur Rahman in

to mark the day.

to mark the day.

AL President and Prime

Ruling Awami League (AL)

# Justice kept in wait

Being held convicted, they

have been executed on January

27 this year following the

Supreme Court verdict in

acquitted Dafadar (dismissed)

Marfat Ali Shah and Dafadar

(dismissed) Abdul Hashem

Mridha who were sentenced to

death by a trial court. Farooq,

Shahriar, Huda and Muhiuddin

Ahmed were given life impris-

Hashem are absconding.

Marfat Ali and Abdul

Earlier, a Dhaka court on

October 20, 2004 sentenced

three to death and awarded life

imprisonment to 12 and acquit-

ted five in the long-awaited

maker KM Obaidur Rahman,

Shah Moazzem Hossain, Nurul

Islam Manzoor, Taheruddin

Thakur and the then additional

secretary to foreign ministry

Major (retd) Khairuzzaman

were relived of the charge.

Interestingly, all of them were

freed on bail soon after BNP-

Jamaat led coalition came to

In the first information report

(FIR) filed with Lalbagh Police

Station on November 4, 1975,

Kazi Abdul Awal, deputy inspec-

tor general (prisons), accused

Captain Moslemuddin and four

army officers of the November 3

blocked the investigation and

trial for about 21 years until

officers of the Criminal

Investigation Department

(CID) opened a probe on August

18, 1996 following scrapping of

the black law during the Awami

Kahar Akand, assistant superin-

tendent of CID, arrested Syed

Farooq Rahman, Sultan

Shahriar Rashid and

Khairuzzaman on September 9,

Moazzem, KM Obaid and

Manzoor on September 29,

1996. Taheruddin, shown as an

arrestee in the case on

November 3, 1996, gave a con-

charges against KM Obaid and

20 others on October 12, 2000

and began its trial on April 12,

Anti-stalking

IGP to take immediate steps to

ensure protection and secu-

ies to the education, and

women and children affairs

ministries to ensure that the

media, particularly television

channels and radio stations,

broadcast programmes about

the serious consequences of the

for further orders on the issue.

HC bench observed that spe-

cific rules and laws should be

formulated to address the

problem, as existing laws are

know what is going on with their

children, as stalking of women

and girls has been taking a new

Fahima Nasrin told The Daily

Petitioner's lawyer Advocate

dimension lately, it said.

Parents of youths should

not sufficient.

The court fixed December 6

Passing the directives, the

It also ordered the secretar-

rity of stalking victims.

The trial court framed

fessional statement.

2001.

The IO also arrested Shah

Investigation officer Abdul

League government's rule.

The Indemnity Ordinance

power in October 2001.

CASEBACKGROUND

killings.

The then ruling BNP law-

verdict of the jail killing case.

onment.

The HC in the verdict also

Bangabandhu killing case.

FROM PAGE 1 holding retrial of the jail killing

case runs counter to AL's pledges during its campaign for the ninth parliamentary election on December 29, 2008.

In its election manifesto, which largely contributed to the overwhelming victory of AL-led grand alliance in the polls, promised to execute verdict of the Bangabandhu murder case, hold retrial of jail killings and punish people responsible for the grenade attack on AL chief Sheikh Hasina in a rally on August 21, 2004 after investiga-

Five convicted killers of Bangabandhu were hanged on January 27 this year following the apex court's verdict. Reinvestigation of the August 21 grenade attack case also began on August 3 last year.

Justice for the jail killing has not been served yet.

LGRD Minister Syed Ashraful Islam, son of Syed Nazrul Islam, yesterday said the government would soon take measures to ensure the retrial of jail killing case.

"We are examining the ways

how a fresh trial can be started. People will see the progress within a few days," said Ashraf, also the AL general secretary. Mohammad Nasim, son of

Quamruzzaman, said they didn't get justice due to the farce of justice in the past. "We rejected the verdict

delivered by the trial court and High Court. We want a retrial during this government's tenure," Nasim, also a ruling AL leader, told The Daily Star yes-Tanjim Ahmad Sohel Taj, son

of Tajuddin Ahmad, said: "As family members we feel justice should be served for the well fare of the nation. We hope the retrial of the jail killing case will begin soon.

However, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam on Monday told The Daily Star his office would very soon take initiatives for hearing of the appeals challenging the High Court verdict that acquitted the six.

The next target of his office is to have the HC verdict cancelled as it was flawed. So, he said, the trail can start afresh. "The nation wants the killers

of the four leaders to be punished. My office will approach the Appellate Division within a very short time for holding hearing on the appeals in the case," the attorney general said.

He said he could not move to dispose of this case, since he was busy with some other important issues including Bangabandhu murder case, the fifth amendment to the constitution and the allotment of Khaleda Zia's cantonment

On September 14 last year, the attorney general's office filed the leave-to-appeal petitions on behalf of the government with the apex court against the 2008 HC ruling.

An assistant attorney general recently said the appeals pointed out many grounds upon which the SC can rescind the HC verdict. There is evidence that the acquitted army men had plotted the killing of the four leaders, he added.

He said the HC delivered its verdict disbelieving the statements of almost all the witnesses who said the accused persons were directly involved in the killing of the four national leaders inside Dhaka Central

Star yesterday that the court directives will play a significant The HC judgment accepted role in reducing such stalking. the allegations against only one accused, Risaldar (retd) Muslemuddin, who is still on the run, and upheld his death

Farooq Rahman, Lt Col (retd)

Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan,

Major (retd) AKM Mohiuddin

Ahmed and Major (retd) Bazlul

Temperature

Generally, the winter sets in

The highest temperature

was 32.2 degree Celsius

recorded in Sitakunda while it

was recorded 18.7 as the low-

In the capital the tempera-

ture was in between 21.5 to

The rule also asked the govern-

Wing Commander (retd)

Hamidullah Khan filed the

writ petition in September as

another HC bench rejected a

Supreme Court lawyer, saying

Earlier on August 22,

public interest litigation.

est in Dinjapur yesterday.

27.5 degree Celsius.

FROM PAGE 16

put them on trial.

this matter.

HC bench

the middle of December.

sentence, he said.

FROM PAGE 16

the country by

Only enactment of laws or formulation of a policy cannot stop stalking of women and girls, she said adding that moral values of the population The acquitted army men must also be awakened. include Lt Col (dismissed) Syed

The highest punishment for stalking women and girls is one-year imprisonment, which is inadequate as a deterrent in the face of increasing instances of the

crime, she said. During the hearing of the petition, senior lawyers --Advocate KS Nabi, Advocate Abdul Baset Majumder, Barrister Rokanuddin Mahmud, and Barrister Fida

M Kamal placed arguments as amici curiae [friends of the court] before the bench.

They told the court that mass awareness about the problem should be raised to prevent the scourge.

State Minister for Home

## MOBILE COURT

Affairs Shamsul Hoque Tuku yesterday said the government is planning to deploy ment to explain why it should mobile courts to stop such not be directed to bring the 195 stalking. POWs back to Bangladesh to

He said the process to form the mobile courts is already underway. "A proposal to bring necessary amendments to related laws has been sent to the law ministry," he told reporters at the Bangladesh

similar the petition, filed by a Secretariat. Tuku said the government that the petitioner does not is also thinking of taking meahave substantial interest in sures to put pressure on stalkers' families.

Babar's remand FROM PAGE 16 same court on Monday, for

staying the court's remand order, showing Babar as seriously ill. The same court on Monday placed Babar on a 5-day

remand in the sensational case of arms haul in Chittagong in 2004. The court fixed yesterday

for hearing on the petition filed by the defence lawyers.

The defence lawyers argued that Babar needed proper treatment before the remand as he was seriously ill and was bleeding from his nose when he was produced before the court for his remand hearing on Monday.

Defence lawyer Advocate Abul Kashem said to have urged the court for staying the remand order for 15 days needed for Babar's treatment. However, the hearing was

withheld for 10 minutes after some pro-BNP lawyers created a chaotic situation at the court when the state lawyer began placing his argument. The court later heard the state lawyer's argument and

passed his order. Public Prosecutor Kamal Uddin Ahmed appeared as state lawyer.

## Truck crash

FROM PAGE 1 them after the plunge.

Muslimuddin, who

escaped unhurt, told The Daily Star the driver was recklessly driving the truck and at one stage, he lost control over the steering and the truck fell into the ditch. Police and fire brigade

personnel recovered the bodies in the morning and sent those to the hospital morgue for autopsy. Jasimuddin Sarkar, officer

in-charge of Tangail Model Police Station, said the driver and helpers also escaped the accident unhurt and managed to flee.

# A full meal

FROM PAGE 1

young", she cannot tell how young, and her mother married another man soon after her father's demise and started to live somewhere she does not know.

She was left with her street beggar grandfather, who, unable to bring her up, sent her to work as a domestic help at Titu and Lima's house. Ramna Police Station

Officer-in-Charge Shiblee Noman said he thinks that the couple used to torture the girl thinking that she has no one to complain.

None has visited Shohagi at the DMCH so far.

Prime Minister's Office, however, is in close contact with police on the development about the girl, Noman

Meanwhile, the chief metropolitan magistrate's cour yesterday recorded Shohagi's account of the torture by Titu and Lima.

## Transit facility

FROM PAGE 1

He said as per the international rules no duty can be imposed for giving transit but fees can be

On the journalists' query as to whether the NBR circular was an outcome of misunderstanding, he said a bit of misunder standing was there.

However, Muhith said though duty cannot be imposed for transit it can be charged for giving transhipment facilities. Bangladesh already has a rule in this regard.

The government had no ready statistics as to how much revenue it would earn, but there are several data available with other organisations. The government is going to hold a

seminar soon in this regard. The finance minister overruled the opposition's reservations about giving transit to India and said Bangladesh is a

geographically transit country. International Monetary Fund Mission Chief David Cowen led a six-member team at a meeting with Muhith. Prime Minister's Economic Affairs Adviser Mashiur Rahman Bangladesh Bank Governor Atiur Rahman and Finance Secretary Mohammad Tareq

were present at the meeting. Muhith said they discussed with the IMF delegation the extended credit facility and they (IMF) are likely to give \$1 billion.

He added it is normally given for balance of payment support. He said now Bangladesh's import has increased requiring money for balance of payment support.

during the talks, the minister

said those were on the table but

were revenue mobilisation,

power generation and budget

He said the major issues

were non-issues.

cost of subsidy.

Habibur's house for the last two years and suspected it to Asked whether the issue of be a murder. political appointment of direc-Police said, their primary investigation revealed Solema tors in the state-owned-banks (SOBs) came up for discussion

was actually beaten to death. DMC morgue sources also

said the victim's death was caused by head injury.

A murder case was filed yesterday in this regard by Shahin Miah, another brother of the victim.

# Khaleda

FROM PAGE 1 Quader Chowdhury.

Around 25 lawmakers,

including standing committee member Nazrul Islam Khan and former speaker Jamiruddin Sircar, were present at the office at the time. The demonstration contin-

ued till 2:30am.

A huge contingent of police and Rapid Action Battalion personnel went near the office around 11:00pm yesterday and removed some roadside makeshift shops. Khaleda's security official

Md Enam told The Daily Star that around 10 vehicles with Rab and Armed Police Battalion members and other police personnel, and three microbuses carrying plainclothes policemen went to the area and stayed in front of the office. Salauddin had gone to the

office around 9:30pm.

Officer-in-Charge of Gulshan Police Station and other officials of police and Rab told journalists that they went to the area to ensure security, as VIPs would be going to Banani graveyard through the area on the occasion of Jail Killing Day today. They left half an hour

Zainal Abdin Farroque, chief whip of the opposition, alleged that police and Rab personnel went there to harass and undermine the BNP Chairperson. Around 2:30am, Nazru

Islam Khan flanked by other BNP leaders at a press conference at the office strongly criticised the law enforcement agencies' "unprovoked aggres-They said the move was

unfair, and provocative and demanded an explanation from the government. Khaleda left the office at

undemocratic, unexpected

about 3:00am.

#### PM suggests FROM PAGE 1

She gave the directives while

passing "Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University's further development project" at the Executive Committee of National Economic Council (Ecnec) meeting held at the National Economic Council (NEC). It would reduce the hassle

of students having to endure traffic, lessen the pressure on parents who take their children to school and help reduce congestion, she said.

She asked the ministry to chalk out a work plan on the Education Minister Nurul

Islam Nahid told The Daily Star the premier mentioned the system while talking about developing infrastructure and standardising education. "She had discussed the

issue earlier," he said.

He said introducing the system will require time because the system cannot be introduced until all schools have become of the same standard and quality.

There are 24 public high schools, around 372 private schools and colleges, and numerous kindergartens in Dhaka.

# Top Jamaat

FROM PAGE 16

League Chittagong (north) unit, filed the case against ICS President Rezaul Karim Jamaat Acting Ameer Maqbul Ahmad and Acting Secretary General ATM Azharul Islam.

The others sued in the case are Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP) Secretary General Shamim Al Mamun, secretary general of a faction of Islami Oikya Jote Abdul Latif Nezami, Jatiya Gonotantrik Party (Jagpa) President Shafiul Alam Prodhan, National People's Party (NPP) President Sheikh Showkat Hossain Nilu and Bangladesh National Awami Party (NAP-Bhashani President Sheikh Anwarul

The case was filed with 5th Judicial Magistrate's court of Judge AKM Akhter Hossain around 12:30pm.

excited to be a part of solving Taiyab in his complaint the power crisis existing in stated that ICS chief Rezaul at Bangladesh. We believe the a discussion at Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka on October 28 made the "threatening and derogatory remarks," referring to BDR carnage and Paltan killings. The Shibir chief reportedly

for these two projects in May told the discussion, "You (PM) and initially drew interest of relinquish power. Pilkhana carnage and Paltan killings are The Bibiyana-2 and Bhola waiting for you. You (PM) have power projects would use gas committed the most crimes from the Bibiyana and against humanity... One Shahbazpur gas fields, respecswallow doesn't make a summer." The Bibiyana field that The accused were involved

stated the plaintiff.

in creating hatred against the PM and home minister in a pre-planned way, read the complaint, only to oust a democratic government. The November 13. other accused were sued as they were present at the discussion as speakers and involved in the conspiracy,

# Kalim Sharafi

FROM PAGE 1

He was laid to eternal rest at Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard around 10:00pm. Earlier, as his body was

taken to Central Shaheed Minar around 6:00pm, several thousand people irrespective of their class, profession and political affiliation gathered there and froze into condoling silence. A 14-member team of

Bangladesh police gave him gun salutes. People including representatives from President Zillur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid their last tribute to the lifelong fighter by placing wreath. Both the premier and the

president gave special message paying tribute to Sharafi, a freedom fighter and one of the founding members of Bangladesh Television (BTV) and Bangladesh Betar.

Born at Birbhum in West

Bengal in 1924 in a Pir (spiritual leader) family, where practice of music was forbidden, Kalim Sharafi began developing revolutionary characteristics since early childhood with his love for music, defying his family tradition of treading along the path of religious rituals. Instead, Kalim trod along

the cultural way for making people politically conscious, especially during the struggle against British colonial rule, the liberation war of Bangladesh in 1971 and movement launched in independ ent Bangladesh in 1991 against the war criminals. Naturally, Gono Sangeet

was the life of Kalim Sharafi to achieve his goal. He, however, attained prominence among Rabindra Sangeet singers of the Indian subcontinent introducing a new style of rendition.

Sharafi's pro-mass activism, his lifelong pursuit, actually began in 1940 with his participation in "Hallwell Movement". Police arrested him in 1942 for participating in 'Quit India' movement. It was in jail where Sharafi's attention was drawn to Tagore's song.

He got his first lesson of politics from comrade Muzaffer Ahmed, revolutionary and pioneer of communist movement in India, in 1943, the time of famine when Sharafi sang Nobojiboner Gan (song of new life) traveling

# Bring no-trust

FROM PAGE 16 backdrop of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's call for resigna-

tion of the present govern ment and other BNP leaders demand for interim election.

"People have mandated us for a five-year term and I can assure you [BNP] that the government won't stay in power more than a day of the tenure," he added. The governing AL enjoys an

absolute majority in the par-Ashraf, also the LGRD and

cooperatives minister, said BNP's main political objective right now is to save war criminals, Khaleda's cantonment residence and her two 'corrupt' sons. "The BNP leaders and workers will have to understand whether interests of the country and its people are important than that of a family.' He also mentioned that the

opposition leader has occupied the cantonment residence without obeying any rules and regulations. As a former prime minister and present opposition leader, she should have vacated the house much earlier, observed the AL Accusing the BNP-Jamaat

leaders of making provocative statements against the armed forces for mere political interests, he urged them to refrain from such act.

Replying to a query the minister said BNP and Jamaat have been issuing direct and indirect death threats to the prime minister.

He also informed that AL would organise a two-day workshop from November 5 for its district level information and research secretaries and publicity affairs secretaries to update them about the party's publications.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will lead off the programme at her official residence Gono Bhaban.

On November 7, she is scheduled to inaugurate a 50 MW power plant in Titas upazila of Comilla.

The premier might start view exchange meeting with grassroots level leaders, first of Cox's Bazar district, from

AL leaders Dipu Moni, Mahbubul Alam Hanif, Bahauddin Nasim, Mrinal Kanti Das, Ahmed Hossain, among others, were present.

across the country.

Later he joined Indian Popular Theatre Association (IPTA), also known as Bharatiyo Gononatya Shangha, a cultural platform, and continued organising music and drama programmes against imperialism and communal riot.

His dedication to IPTA allowed so little time for his personal life that he had to leave his medical study half-

During the Calcutta (now Kolkata) riot he had to take refuge with Debabrata Biswas in 1946. Sharafi migrated to Dhaka in 1950 and joined Bangladesh Betar. Pakistan detective branch blacklisted him for singing pro-mass songs and banned him from the radio after martial law was imposed by Ayub Khan.

During liberation war, he participated in different programmes in the UK and US to drum up support for the war. In 1983 he established music academy 'Shangeet Bhaban,' a Gano Sangeet organisation. He served as its Principal till death. He also organised and

groups, namely 'Bahurupi' and 'Prantik' and performed as a playback singer, Adhunik (modern) singer and music director. He also directed an autobiographical documentary and a film named "Sonar Sharafi, an adviser to Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul

established different theatre

pions the demand for the war crimes trial, received numerous awards including the national award Ekushey Padak in 1986. Sharafi's life is a sketch

Committee, a body that cham-

drawn out of the ink of love for mass people and it can be summarised from Sharafi's own book Smriti Amrito, where he wrote, "I have received so much love from people all over It is this love that has kept me breathing till now."

# CCC mayor

Sholoshahar. The drive cre-

ated a misunderstanding among the related persons involved in billboard business. I talked with them and removed the misunderstanding," the mayor said.

The association adviser Mohiuddin Bachchu, also a Jubo League leader, told the reporters that all the billboards were erected on public lands and billboard owners were paying model tax to the

city corporation. "City Corporation illegally removed the billboards. We came here Nagor Bhaban to bring the matter to the notice

# No promises

of the mayor," he added.

FROM PAGE 16 conducted by Pakistani agen-

cies before 1971 in Mainamati, Chittagong, etc. Mijarul led a seven-

member Bangladesh delegation at the foreign secretary level consultations, which covered the entire range of bilateral relations. Bangladesh High

Commission in Islamabad which issued a media release yesterday about the outcome of the consultations, however said the two sides agreed to give fresh thrust to promoting bilateral relations, and Pakistan suggested moving towards a comprehensive

partnership. Both sides recognised that there is an abundance of goodwill and potential for further development of relations. Pakistan agreed to the proposal of the Bangladesh foreign secretary for holding regular directors general level bi-annual meetings of the two

foreign ministries. They agreed to redouble efforts to achieve US\$1 billion target set for bilateral trade, and to address the issues of market access, trade facilitation, and removal of tariff barriers for export of Bangladeshi products to

Pakistan. Bangladesh specifically sought duty free market access for value added jute products, and urged Pakistan to review its sensitive list. But there was no specific word from Pakistan regarding duty

Both sides agreed on the need for easing visa procedures, and for enhancing connectivity through direct shipping and increasing the number of flights between the two countries.

free access.

Pakistan foreign secretary welcomed Bangladesh's proposal for undertaking joint initiatives to celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Bangla poet Rabindranath Tagore, and the 100th birth

anniversary of Urdu poet Faiz Ahmed Faiz.