## China evacuates tens of thousands

AFP, Beijing

China said yesterday it had evacuated more than 60,000 people in the nation's southwest after torrential rain triggered floods that killed one and left another 15 missing.

The floods in Guizhou province also damaged or destroyed thousands of houses, the Ministry of Civil Affairs said in a statement.

During the downpours, water levels on a river in Guizhou's Wangmo county rose over three metres above the safe level, before dropping back to a normal range, the official Xinhua news agency said.

State television broadcast images of water raging through towns, cars piled up and motorbikes covered in brown sludge. It also showed people being evacuated in the eastern province of Jiangxi, also hit by floods.

In neighbouring Hunan, meanwhile, around 16,000 people were evacuated in Loudi city during rainstorms, Xinhua said in a separate report. The province has

recently been hit by a severe drought, and the recent rains had helped alleviate the situation, the report said. China suffers from seri-

ous summer rainfalls every year. In 2010, torrential downpours across large swathes of the country triggered the nation's worst floods in a decade.

### 50 hurt FROM PAGE 20

Tower area at aroun 4:45pm.

The clash began when police barred the procession in front of its Nasimon Bhaban office. Police claimed that the BNP activists pelted the law enforcers with brickbats leaving around 25 police men injured.

Police charged baton to disperse the activists. The clash then spread to other adjacent areas at Lalkhan Bazar Road and New Market Road as small processions were heading towards the party office.

The clash also reached SS Khaled Road, Kazir Dewry and Love Lane areas when police barricaded those streets. The law enforcers later

lobbed teargas shells and fired several rounds of rubber bullets to bring the chaos in control, said Manjur Morshed, assistant commissioner of Kotwali Police Station.

Thousands of commuters remained stranded for hours in parts of the port city as pickets went berserk on streets.

City BNP President Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury and Secretary Shahdat Hossain were among the injured who were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital and different other hospitals and clinics, reported UNB.

During the fights, three journalists -- Didarul Alam of The Independent, Mohammad Alamgir of Channel-i and Mohammad Nasiruddin of Diganto TV

Special Public Prosecutor Mosharraf Hossain Kajol were injured. The clashes ended at around 7:00pm when addi-

tional police forces were deployed, Manjur Morshed

Meanwhile yesterday in a separate incident in Narayanganj, police charged batons on a BNP protest procession without provocation leaving at least 40

opposition activists injured, reported news agency UNB.

Police charged the procession when it was proceeding towards Mandalpara leaving 100 activists injured at 5:00pm, claimed Narayanganj BNP leader Taimur Alam Khandakar.

The procession was brought out against police atrocities during Sunday's hartal, demanding release of detained party activists and withdrawal of false cases against them.

# Shut illegal sawmills

FROM PAGE 20 petition as public interest litigation yesterday on the basis of a report headlined "52 MILLS sawing reserve forests" published in The Daily Star on June 5, and sought court directives to protect the reserve forest.

The HC bench of justices AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Gobinda Chandra Tagore ordered the government officials concerned to submit in 10 days a report on actions taken in compliance with the court order.

It issued a ruling upon the government to explain in three weeks why it should not be directed to remove the sawmills from the reserve forest area and why its inaction to protect the forest should not be declared illegal.

Secretaries to the prime minister's office, environment and forest ministry, chief forest conservator. deputy and assistant forest conservators (development), director general of gally causing severe damage Department of to the environment.

Environment, deputy commissioner (DC), superintendent of police (SP), divisional forest officer of Tangail, Sakhipur range officer (forest) and officerin-charge (OC) of Sakhipur Police Station have been made respondents to the ruling.

According to the HC directives, DC, SP and divisional forest officer of Tangail, Sakhipur range officer and OC of Sakhipur Police Station have to shut down the sawmills and submit a report to the court.

The SP and OC have to file criminal cases against the people responsible for chopping down trees in the forest, and the SP, divisional forest officer and range officer have to monitor the forest area to prevent further cutting of trees, said the court.

During hearing, petitioner's counsel Manzill Murshid told the court that trees in the Sakhipur reserve forest are being felled ille-

## Teesta draft

**FROM PAGE 20** A joint official statement

mentioned the two sides "positively discussed the developments since their last meeting held in January this year.' According to Wahid-uz-

Zaman, the water resources ministers of the two countries would approve the framework agreement when Indian Water Resources Minister Salman Khursheed visits Bangladesh soon. Asked how Bangladesh

looked at the inking of the interim treaty after the historic 1996 Ganges watersharing accord, he said since it's a lower-riparian country, river water-sharing is always significant for it.

Both the governments now have the political will to sort out the water-sharing of common rivers, observed the official. "We tried to understand

each other's positions on various related issues," noted Dhruv Vijay Singh, water resources secretary of Talking about the pros-

pect of reaching an understanding, Dhruv Vijay Singh said a lot of work has to be done on that as the data has to be collected on usage and availability of water in those

"We are positive and

framing against BNP Senior

Vice President Tarique

Rahman and his business

partner Giasuddin Al

Mamun will also be held

today in connection with

another money laundering

and Saimon were reframed

under Money Laundering

Prevention Act 2002 to avoid

legal complications as they

were indicted for activities

last year, the same court

indicted Koko under Money

Laundering Prevention Act

of the Special Judge's Court-3

framed the charges after

submitted an application.

the next hearing of the case.

Judge Mozammel Hossain

The court set June 15 for

In his petition, Kajol

pointed out the Supreme

Court's (SC) verdict on

February 9 which said the

case against Tarique and

Mamun will run under the

Act of 2002 as the offences

were committed before 2009.

Koko's case, he mentioned.

It is also applicable to

Earlier the court recorded

statements of 18 prosecution

witnesses, including the

complainant Deputy

Director Abu Sayeed of the

Anti-Corruption

against the duo on March 17,

2009 under the Money

Laundering Prevention Act,

2009 on charge of siphoning

offTk 19.7 crore to Singapore.

sition the accused had laun-

dered money they received as

According to ACC's depo-

The ACC filed the case

Commission (ACC).

Earlier on November 30

which occurred before 2009.

The charges against Koko

case.

2009.

confident of overcoming the difficulties by understanding the concerns and requirements of each other," he added. The meeting also dis-

cussed issues relating to sharing of waters of Feni, Manu, Muhuri, Khowai, Gumti, Dharala and Dudhkumar rivers and the dredging of Ichamati river and embankment protection work along the common rivers. The secretary-level meet-

ing was held as part of the groundwork the two countries are engaged in before the Indian prime minister undertakes his first visit to Bangladesh sometime later this year.

Wahid-uz-Zaman also called on Salman Khursheed and extended him an invitation from Bangladesh Water Resources Minister Ramesh Chandra Sen to visit Dhaka.

Meanwhile, Indian Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao arrived in Dhaka yesterday afternoon on an official visit to review bilateral relations between the two coun-

Sharing of the Teesta water will come up for discussion among other issues during her meeting today with her Bangladeshi counterpart Mijarul Quayes.

Bangladesh Ltd (SBL) for

against Koko and Saimon on

abroad for his treatment

Koko had earlier gone

Meanwhile, hearing on

charge framing against

Tarique and Mamun in con-

nection with a money laun-

dering case will be held today.

arguments from the prosecu-

Tarique's writ petition chal-

lenging the legality of the

the organisation started

marketing caller ID enabled

telephone sets, mobile

charger and batteries and

digital electric meter and

made a profit of Tk 14 lakh in

2009-2010 fiscal year, he

duction of laptop and

mobile phone sets and solar

ministry has taken 12 other

development projects which

costs over Tk 1,500 crore to

increase telecommunica-

Gradually it started pro-

The minister said his

Cheaper laptop

**FROM PAGE 20** 

added.

panels.

tions service.

tion and the defence.

The same court will hear

Earlier the SC rejected

ment contracts.

phone operator.

November 15, 2009.

### 109 BGB men

FROM PAGE 1

Money laundering shorter prison terms.

payments from China The court altered pun-Harbour Engineering Company Ltd and Siemens

helping them win govern-China Harbour got a Tk 351 crore contract to set up New Mooring Container Terminal while SBL a Tk 239 crore contract to supply and install equipment for Teletalk, the state-run cell The ACC pressed charges

apologised for that. while Saimon has been absconding since filing of the

> Havildar Delwar Hossain and Lance Nayek Yusuf Ali were acquitted as their guilt could not be proved.

ily members' participation

The jawans were

Nayeb Subedar Abdul



**FROM PAGE 20** 

government has recently initiated the probe after being aware of the money laundering through different newspapers. The government, however, has no further information to this end.

During the questionanswer period, Nurul Islam, an Awami League MP, said Mir Kashem in 2010 laundered the money to sign a contract with a USA consultancy firm. "We came to know that

Jamaat through Mir Kashem hired lobbyists to assist the party in the government's ongoing process of trying war criminals, under which several top Jamaat leaders are now behind bars," he told parliament. About loan defaulters,

the finance minister said Tk 23,306 crore was at the hand of loan defaulters until March 31, 2011. They took loans from 47 banks.

FROM PAGE 1

Hospital.

the station.

scene as onlookers crowded

been receiving phone calls

for two months in the name

of "Dakat Shahid," a criminal

gang, demanding Tk 20 lakh.

They were also threatened

with dire consequences

including blowing up the

station for not giving the

Informing the cabinet in

detail about the recommen-

dations, Hasina, also the

president of ruling Awami

League said, "Nothing one-

net that discussions must be

held if two more general elec-

tions are to be held under

caretaker governments with-

out involving the judiciary, in

line with the Supreme Court's

the chief adviser to the care-

She questioned who will be

"If we propose a name,

they [BNP] will certainly

oppose that person no matter

whether he or she is neutral or

even pro-BNP. Who will be the

chief adviser -- a civil bureau-

crat, a civil society member, or

any other professional? So

BNP will have to give its for-

mula," Hasina was quoted as

She also questioned what

will be the format of the new

the alleged Rapid Action

Battalion (Rab) sources as

now living in the capital on

financial help from people

and different organisations,

but for how long? We want to

ministry-assigned probe

committee yesterday sub-

mitted its report on Limon

case to home secretary. The

content of the report could

the home ministry Iqbal

Khan Chowdhury acknowl-

edged receiving the sealed

report. He said, "I will hand

the report over to State

Minister for home Shamsul

Haque Tuku and he will

April 29, the home ministry

had asked Mohammad

Shawkat Akbar, additional

divisional commissioner of

Barisal and also the lone

member of the probe com-

mittee, to submit his report

(Nitor) yesterday, Limon

told The Daily Star, "I would

like to continue my studies

and for this, I need support

from the government.

Before, I used to manage the

expense by working at brick

kilns and giving tuition to

children. Now that I am

within 15 working days.

29, to complete the job.

After the probe began on

reveal it later."

Additional Secretary of

not be known immediately.

Meanwhile, the home

Tofazzal said, "We are

saying over the phone.

saying by cabinet members.

FROM PAGE 20

go home.

The premier told the cabi-

sided will be done."

observation.

Azharul alleged they have

Of the money, the government has so far realised Tk 4165.19 crore. Various steps including alternative dispute resolution have been taken to realise the rest of the amount, said Muhith. About the share market,

he said, situation of the country's capital market is stable now.

Replying to another query, the minister told the Jatiya Sangsad that the government had signed nearly \$8,000 million deals of grant and loan with donor countries in the last two years. Of the amount, \$6825.83 million had been taken as loan while \$1,015.96 million as grant.

### 27 Tahrir men **FROM PAGE 20**

with the organisation and wanted to establish Khilafat state abolishing the present ruling system.

Of them, seven were accused on charge of their involvement with the activities of the Hizb ut-Tahrir at different points in the capi-

Legal action against them was underway as per the anti-terrorist act-2009 by supporting and taking membership of the banned organisation, posing threat to the sovereignty and security of the state.

Hizb ut-Tahrir continues their mission secretly even after the government banned it on October 22,

jawans were sentences to

highest seven years in prison while the others got

ishment of a convicted jawan twice while delivering the verdict at the Pilkhana headquarters.

It at first awarded signalman Sirajul Islam six months' imprisonment but changed the prison term to six years before adjourning the proceedings around 10:05am. Ten minutes later, the court again summoned the signalman and restored his earlier punishment term.

The court mentioned it as "clerical mistake" and

Among the four acquitted jawans, sepoy Wazed Ali Mollah and sepoy Kamor Uddin earlier pleaded guilty before the court and sought mercy.

The BGB director general said the court considered jawans' work performance, achievement during their working life, family condition and their participation or their famin the Liberation War in giving punishment.

accused of carrying firearms, taking part in the mutiny, dumping bodies of slain army officers and not informing the higher authorities of the mutiny that killed 73 people including 57 army officers.

Matin Mia filed the case on May 6, 2010 against 113 BDR men including former RSU JCO Subedar Saidul Haque.

Extortionists run amok coming from local and for-At one stage, he was hit in the eign numbers, he added. chest. Doctors declared him About two weeks ago, dead after he was taken to unknown miscreants Dhaka Medical College

exploded three to four cock-

Ansar officials visit Dhaka Medical College Hospital to see the body of their

colleague Saidur Rahman shot dead by unidentified criminals yesterday.

tails inside the filling station. The attackers fled the Just a few days after, several blank fires were shot at their Malibagh station in the capital. The company filed four general dairies with different

> nection. The owners informed police about the threats following which six policemen were deployed in two shifts at the Jatrabari station.

> > If the parliament says that

Hasina told the meeting

that the case challenging the

legality of the caretaker gov-

ernment system was not filed

by AL, nor was it filed during

can be held under a new

discussed, she said.

The phone calls were A patrol team was also

police stations in this con-

assigned to keep an eye, said AKM Abul Kashem, officerin-charge of Jatrabari Police Station. The police team, how-

COURTESY

ever, was not on duty during the occurrence.

Ansar and Village Defence Party filed a murder case with his PS, Kashem said, adding that they are investigating into it. On Saturday, Detective

Branch of Police arrested two top members of "Dakat Shahid" group from Babu Bazar in Old Dhaka when police said they were trying to catch its other members.

## **Jilted**

**FROM PAGE 20** knife from her possession.

The girl, Labonya Akhter, was taken by neighbours to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors gave her 22 stitches. Doctors said she was now out of danger.

Labonya's father Abdul Matin is the assistant director of a pharmaceutical company at Dhanmondi.

Bilkis, a diploma in nursing from Rangpur, confessed to the stabbing.

Talking to The Daily Star at Kalabagan Police Station, she said she had entered the Crescent Road house with a plan to kill Matin's wife and their two minor children. She hatched the conspiracy

moments after around 11:00pm of Sunday when Matin backtracked from his decision to marryher. She identified herself as a

colleague of Matin to pass the security of the six-storey building. Matin and his family live on the second floor. Labonya's mother Rita Shabnam told this correspon-

dent, she was out at the time of the incident and her mobile phone was inactive. Laila, the domestic help of the house, opened the door

after Bilkis pressed the calling

bell, Shabnam quoted Laila as Entering the house she asked Laila, who was cuddling Matin's younger son 10-yearold Aronya, to fetch a glass of water. Labonya was in the

When Laila went to bring water, Bilkis took Labonya to the bedroom and hit her with the knife. Hearing Labonya's scream,

her uncle Azad Patwari, who

drawingroom.

was in washroom, came out and caught hold of Bilkis. The domestic help went to the neighbours and called for

help. They rushed to the flat immediately. 'A TWO-YEAR AFFIAR'

Bilkis said it was two years ago when she went to refill her mobile phone credit, Abdul Matin was seated there and collected her number. At night, the man rang her,

University student, and wanted to start a relationship with her. She gave consent aftersix months.

In April this year, they together went on a three-day trip to Cox's Bazar.

that he is married and has two children. He told her that he ived in the house with his mother.

dren in Matin's mobile phone set. Asked by her, he admitted that he is married and has two However, Bilkis agreed to

accept Matin's marital life and at one stage, he promised to marryher.

Enamul Haque Enam, officer-in-charge of Kalabagan Police Station, told

at DMCH, Labonya's father declined to say anything.

# student Limon has been

expressed their satisfaction over the verdict.

the fugitives and execute their death sentences.

The punishment of the

fugitives will be effective from render, the judge said.

and the defence had completed their arguments and the court recorded statements of 19 prosecution witnesses.

general secretary of Bangladesh Nursery Owners' Association and his wife Romana Nargis, 45, were shot dead in their flat at Kalachandpur in the capital's Gulshan area on March 24, 2010 as they declined to marry their daughter Nilufar Yesmin

as the charges were primarily proved. Meantime, Rubel and

hiding.

the bail order and after the hearing the HC found the documents of getting bails of the two accused forged and it cancelled their bails.

The HC also directed police to arrest them, but police

### "The case was filed during politics and politicians. taker government now after The premier also informed your [BNP's] tenure, so we the Supreme Court's observahave nothing to do with the the meeting about the protion that judges should be posals for maintaining Islam's issue after the judgment, and kept out of the interim govstatus as the state religion, ernment.

its tenure.

we can't be blamed for the cancellation of the caretaker government system," Hasina

She said her government wanted improvement of the caretaker government system constitution. About the prosince many untoward incidents took place during all caretaker regimes, and politicians were massively victimised under those untoward circumstances.

A coup was attempted

maimed, things are alike no

Family tells of threat

"I want prime minister's interference regarding the threats the Rab personnel are issuing to my family. I requested the government to take steps so that my family can return home and continue farming," he added demanding withdrawal of

two cases against him. He claimed that the Rab sources -- local criminals Ibrahim, Manik Jamaddar, Jongi Badsha, Dilip Jamaddar, Rogkata Tuhin and their accomplices -threatened his family that the media and National **Human Rights Commission** would not be with them

He also complained of chest pain while drinking water and defecating. His weakness is so severe that he can hardly continue talking for several minutes. "I have fever and pain every night and need thorough treatment," said Limon. Naima Ferdousi, clinical

assistant (Pink-2) of Nitor, The committee was given said Limon was supposed to seven more days, May 23 to be released from the hospital yesterday but as the in-During a visit to the charge of their medical team National Institute of was away it postponed. Traumatology and Limon's treatment in this Orthopaedic Rehabilitation

Nitor.

hospital is over but he needs This decision was taken to "encourage a return to treatment for his other normality," a military official health complicacies, she added. told AFP yesterday. Tofazzal said Limon will A three-hour curfew from be shifted to Gano Shasthya

2 am (0000 GMT) to 5 am Kendra after his release from (0300 GMT) is still in effect in Cairo, Alexandria in the Sixteen-year-old college north and Suez in the east.

No one-sided decision type of caretaker government. during the tenure of Justice Habibur Rahman-led caretaker government in 1996; a the next two general elections massive number of governformula then that has to be ment officials were transferred and put on special The door is still open for duties during Justice Latifur the opposition to place their Rahman-led caretaker govformula, said the prime minernment in 2001; and a politi-

cal parties, and continuing to

keep the Arabic phrase

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

above the preamble of the

posal for not scrapping those

three provisions from the

constitution she said the

reality has changed in the 38

years since the enactment of

the original constitution in

bail on May 9 from a prison

ward at Sher-e-Bangla

Medical College Hospital in

Limon's left leg on March 23,

which drew a lot of flak at

home and abroad. Rab filed

two cases against Limon

accusing him of possessing

illegal firearms, and of

obstructing law enforcers

from carrying out their

duties and attempted mur-

a case against the Rab per-

sonnel who went to Limon's

village to hunt the notorious

crime gang led by Morshed.

Egypt to lift

Egypt will on June 15 com-

pletely lift a curfew which

was slapped on Cairo and

two major cities in late

January at the height of a

popular revolt against for-

mer president Hosni

curfewon

June 15

AFP, Cairo

Mubarak.

Limon's mother also filed

A Rab team shot in

1972.

Barisal.

introducing himself as a Dhaka cal crisis occurred in 2007 after Iajuddin Ahmed appointed himself as the chief adviser to a caretaker government, said the prime minister adding that those incidents

were not at all pleasant for Matin, however, hid the fact A few days back, Bilkis allowing religion based politifound pictures of his two chil-

children.

this correspondent that they were probing into the inci-Approached for comments

### 2 to walk gallows undergoing treatment for **FROM PAGE 20** his amputated left leg at the who were present at the court, hospital after his release on

They urged the government for immediate arrest of

the day of their arrest or sur-Earlier, the prosecution

Sadequr Rahman, 55,

Iti off to Rubel. Following the incidents, police arrested Rubel, Mithun and several others for their alleged involvement with the killings. But the investigation officer pressed charges against Rubel, Mithun, Altu and Rabbi

Mithun were released after

getting bails from the High Court (HC) making forged documents and went into Later, a writ petition was filed with the HC challenging

failed.