### KL to recruit

FROM PAGE 1

He was briefing newsmen at the ministry's conference room about signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Malaysian government.

The Southeast Asian country will appoint the workers for five years in three phases. The first two phases will last two years each, while the last phase will take a year.

Registration of the interested workers will begin this month through the website of Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET).

"After registering online, the workers will be called up at the 13 BMET Technical Training Centres across the country for verifying their applications," noted the minister.

The workers would be selected on district quotas based on the requirements of the recruiters. If needed, the job seekers would be able to take loan from Expatriate Welfare Bank, he added.

Secretary of the ministry Zafar Ahmed Khan said an unskilled worker would get a minimum salary equivalent to Tk 25,000, while the skilled workers would get more. "The workers will have to work eight hours a day, six days a week and they will enjoy overtime facility." The minister warned the

job seekers not to give money to any middleman or recruiting agency.

Against the backdrop of brokers' meddling and some recruiting agencies' irregularities in the recruitment process, Malaysia had stopped recruiting Bangladeshi workers at the end of 2008.

From now on, Bangladeshi workers will be sent to Malaysia under government-togovernment arrangements. It will cost a job seeker a maximum of Tk 40,000 to land a job there, mentioned Mosharraf.

Investigations had earlier revealed that workers were charged over Tk 2 lakh each for a job in Malaysia, though the governmentfixed rate was Tk 84,000. To maximise their profit, some manpower syndicates even sent additional workers, leaving them (workers) in trouble abroad.

On November 26. Mosharraf and S Subramaniam, human resources minister of Malaysia, signed the MoU on manpower recruitment at Putrajaya International Convention Centre.

The Bangladesh government held detailed talks with the Malaysian human resource minister in Dhaka in September to start sending Bangladeshi workers under state arrangements.

### JMB back!

alias Shafique, 27, Amit Hossain alias Ajmeri, 26, and Shariful Islam Shohag alias Milton, 23, and gayeri ehsar (part-time) member Saidur Rahman, 40.

FROM PAGE 20

A senior intelligence official of the Rab told The Daily Star that JMB men regrouped, targeting to kill BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Awami League leader Suranjit Sengupta and Foreign Minister Dipu

A good number of books, leaflets, CDs and pen drives containing the party's organisational directives were seized from the possessions of five arrestees.

During a press briefing at Rab headquarters, its Legal and Media Wing Director Captain M Sohail said the leaders of the banned organisation have been getting together under the umbrella of some religion-based political parties.

"In collaboration with these parties, the outfit members are trying to destabilise law and order, aiming to foil the war crimes trial and save war criminals," he said.

"Besides, JMB leaders and leaders of the likeminded organisations have targeted some top ranking

leaders of the two major political parties," Sohail told reporters.

The militant outfit has targeted to recruit Rohingyas in Myanmar to conduct militant activities, Capt Sohail said adding that JMB men were trying to keep contacts with the detained war criminals. Rab officials said Sura

member Masum, who hails from Narayanganj, had been working as the second man to JMB's chief Sohel Mahfuz, who is now hiding in India.

"As per the directives of Mahfuz, Masum came to Bangladesh on November 10 from India through a border point in Rajshahi, said a Rab source.

Masum was convicted to 17 years' imprisonment in an arms case in addition to six years in an explosives case. He is also accused in several other cases, including a robbery in a Brac office at Gopalganj in 2005.

After he came out of prison on a High Court bail in 2011, he had fled to

Ehsar members Shahinuzzaman is the chief of Khulna district JMB, Shariful of Satkhira district JMB while Amit Hossain is the finance secretary of the banned

# Japan okays

metro rail will begin by June next year and end in 2017,

Muhith said

Metro rail will help reduce the perennial traffic congestion in the capital and facilitate quick movement of commuters. Implementation of this project will be a historic step, he said.

Officials of Bangladesh government and Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) will start negotiations on the approved loan by the end of this month. They expect an agreement in this regard would be signed next month, communica-

tions ministry sources said. "The government is now ready to start loan negotiation with Jica as both the sides are very sincere about moving first made in 2010 to avoid fast with building the 20.1 kilometre metro rail starting from Uttara Third Phase to Motijheel," said an official of

the ministry. The project recently gained momentum after a nearly three-year delay over change of route of the metro rail with the government deciding to appoint a consultant to prepare a detailed

design of it. Several international companies short-listed for the job now await approval of Jica.

They have been asked to submit their technical and financial proposals for the

job of preparing the detailed

design and supervising the

construction. Meanwhile, the three-year delay has increased the project cost to \$2.7 billion from

\$1.7 billion. The metro rail project, the country's second largest infrastructure project next to the \$2.9 billion Padma bridge project, became uncertain last year when the proposed rail route was modified for the second time following objections from the air force. The route running across Bijoy Sarani was diverted towards Khamarbari, which

irked Jica. A change in the route was overlapping with the underconstruction Gulistan-Jatrabari flyover.

Jica, however, did not desert the project and waited for the government to finalise the route, find a place for a depot and form a company that will eventually operate the metro rail.

Earlier, Jica had conducted a study on metro rail. The study said the metro rail will operate every three minutes and carry 60,000 passengers an hour.

Golam Rouf, director of industrial police, said workers of adjoining garmen factories also took to the streets then but police promptly dispersed them The workers were only interested in dodging a day's work using any excuse available, he claimed.

Rouf said just before 11:00am, 25 garment workers attacked the Rose Dress factory. The 25 workers had been suspended by Hyun Apparels Ltd, now temporarily closed, in connection with assaulting a factory official. Workers of Rose Dress

then rushed out and started vandalising adjoining factories including Sterling Creations Ltd and Setara Garments.

They broke windowpanes of the factories.

Industrial police rushed to Jamgara, chased the workers, lobbed teargas canisters, fired rubber bullets and brought the situation under control around 11:30am.

Fearing vandalism, the authorities of different factories in the neighbourhood stopped production and let the workers go home for the A chaotic situation was

created in the area with the sudden rush of hundreds of workers on the highway and its adjacent roads. TAZREEN WORKERS'

#### SALARY All workers of Tazreen

Fashions would get their salaries by Thursday, Labour and Employment Minister Rajiuddin Ahmed Raju yesterday said. However, there is a dis-

pute over the number of workers to be paid and how many months of salary they would get.

The government would sit with the leaders of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association to discuss these issues, TV channel ATN Bangla quoted the minister as saying.

The minister was speaking to the press after a meeting with US Ambassador Dan Mozena.

The US ambassador said the US hopes the government would ensure the security of the workers and their right to unionise. Otherwise, Bangladesh might be deprived of the potential preferential access to the US apparel market, he added.

Meanwhile, survivors of the Tazreen disaster said they would not accept just one month's salary since they might have to be out of a job for a long time.

They demand that they get paid four months and 13 days' salary altogether, which, according to the workers, factories have to pay to workers in case of any closure.

However, according to the government rule, a garment factory has to provide its workers with the salaries of three months and 13 days if it is closed or a worker is dismissed.

Tazreen Fashions has 1,700 employees, of whom, 1,630 are workers, according to the website of Tuba Group, which owns the factory.

### Aman price

FROM PAGE 20 Talking to journalists after a meeting of the Food monitoring committee chaired by him at the Cabinet Division yesterday, Razzak mentioned that the governmen had already set a target of procuring three lakh tonnes of Aman rice.

Production cost of Aman this season is Tk 24.76 a kg but its market price is Tk 22-

23 a kg, Razzak said. Boro rice now sells at Tk 28 per kg. Production cost of Aman is less than that of

about farmers getting less price for rice and how the government is going to address this problem, the minister said these were discussed at yesterday's meeting but no decision was taken.

The minister said considering the overall food situation, the government will decide after 15 days whether rice will be exported.

The government's stock of rice now stands at 14.5 million tonnes.

## Ashulia region | Picture perfect at Tigers' den | Who will they

FROM PAGE 1

the Royal Bengal Tiger of the nearby Sundarban mangrove forest.

A more apt finish there could not have been --Shohag, the outlandishly impressive newcomer taking his third wicket to seal Bangladesh's biggest win, and Tamim, who has in the past been derided for his sluggish fielding, pulling off the catch of the series so far. It was apt because this series is changing perceptions about what this team is capable of. That is not to say that

Bangladesh set out in this series to change perceptions; they merely continued on the level of performance set in the Asia Cup in March -- a mode of operation that depends on every team member, superstar or not, pulling their weight in the same direction, and underscored by a mental resilience that was on ample display yesterday.

Anamul's 145-ball 120 will get due column space, but what may be buried in the felicitations is the crucial part Mashrafe Bin Mortaza played in the Tigers' spectacular defence of 292. Chris Gayle was the one major thorn that had to be removed if victory was to be achieved. The West Indian started ominously and targeted Mashrafe, the Tigers' best bowler. He smashed a six and a four in Mashrafe's third over, and followed it up with a gunshot boundary through covers in his fourth.

A lesser-hearted bowler may have been cowed, but as Gayle skipped down the track for a repeat, Mashrafe pounded the ball in short for it to kiss the edge of the danger man's bat on way to a

had been removed. At 2 for 32 in the eighth 293 seemed a distant dream. Once Shohag -- who had

opened the bowling to limit Gayle's carnage -- had Samuels caught behind 31 runs later, the match was in the Tigers' paws. It was evident from the first match, which Bangladesh won by seven wickets, that apart from Gayle and Samuels West Indies did not have the personnel to negotiate the skilful spinners. But the manner of capitulation still came as a surprise. Veteran spinner Abdur Razzak got into the act, dismissing Darren Bravo, who put up some resistance, and Dwayne Smith and Devon Thomas, who put up none being dismissed leg-before and bowled in the same over. When Thomas exited West Indies were 6 for 78 in the 19th over. Part-time twirlers

Naeem Islam and Mahmudullah Riyad accounted for Kieron Pollard and skipper Darren Sammy respectively to leave the visitors in the throes of 8 for 111, beyond any possible recovery. Andre Russell was run out on 132, which was the score when Tamim's catch sealed the Earlier, a Bangladesh record third-wicket partnership of 174 at almost a

run a ball between skipper Mushfigur and Anamul rescued the Tigers from the shaky position of 21 for two. Star opener Tamim Iqbal could not continue his redhot streak of form as he was first out, caught off Russell on the square-leg boundary. But the duo of Mushfigur and Anamul brushed the setback aside as they crafted delighted Mushfigur a smart partnership, picking Rahim's gloves. The thorn the gaps with ease and punishing everything loose. Mushfigur scored 79 off

87 balls with eight fours and a six. His departure with the score on 195 was followed by a rare singledigit score by Nasir Hossain, but that brought to the wicket talented newcomer Mominul Haque, playing his second match and his first innings. Anamul approached his century with caution, but once reached with a single in the 47th over he opened up, scoring 20 off his last seven balls before being caught on the fine-leg fence to give Ravi Rampaul his fifth wicket. Anamul hit 13 fours and two sixes. That brought to the

middle Mashrafe, who hit two massive sixes in the last over bowled by Samuels to take the score to 292. In a perfect display of powerful batsmanship Anamul, Mominul and Mashrafe plundered 68 runs in the last five overs, including three fours and six sixes. Bangladesh will be look-

ing to seal the series in the third ODI, scheduled to take place in Dhaka's Shere-Bangla National Stadium on Wednesday.

### Pak landslides toll rises to 15

Rescuers have found three more bodies after landslides in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, officials said yesterday, taking the confirmed death toll to 15, with three people still missing.

rescue operation was launched after heavy snows on Friday triggered two landslides at a remote outpost in the Kel area of the disputed territory near the de facto border with

### Witness 'never heard of Mollah'

"I have never heard the name of Quader Mollah until today [Sunday]," she said during her one-hour cross-examination.

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But her claim contradicted with her earlier answer when she said Quader Mollah's son had asked her to testify in favour of his father three to four days ago.

Sahera was an additional prosecution witness and she was not produced before the tribunal, as the prosecution thought 10 public witnesses, who had already testified, were sufficient to prove the charges brought against Mollah, Prosecutor Mohammad Ali told The Daily Star.

But the defence yesterday filed a petition to allow Sahera testify as their witness in the case, which the

prosecution opposed. The three-member International Crimes Tribunal-2 headed by Justice ATM Fazle Kabir with members Justice Obaidul Hassan and Judge M Shahinur Islam granted

the defence petition. The tribunal, however, brought a slight amendment to its earlier order, which directed the defence to produce their witnesses from their 965-witness list.

Sahera was not on the list

of 965 defence witnesses. The 60-year-old witness from Taltala slum of Pallabi said she along with her husband, mother-in-law and brothers-in-law took shelter in Savar during the

She added one of her brothers-in-law Pallab alias Tuntuni was a student of Mirpur Bangla College in 1971. "Akhter Gunda and

Biharis killed Pallab during the Liberation War in 1971," In reply to a question said Sahera, adding, "I the prosecution. heard about the killing of my brother-in-law from people. "I heard that my brother-

in-law was on his way to India to take part in the war, but they [Akhter Gunda and Biharis] killed him at Muslim Bazar Eidgah [at Mirpur-12] after picking him up from Nawabpur," said Sahera. According to the prosecu-

tion, Akhter Gunda shot Pallab to death on Quader Sahera. Mollah's orders.

According to the indictment order of May 28, antiliberation people detained Pallab, an organiser of the Liberation War, from Nawabpur and kept him hanging from a tree at Mirpur-12 Eidgah field. On April 5, 1971, on

Ouader Mollah's orders, his accomplice Akhter, an Al-Badr member, shot Pallab dead and buried him near the Kalapani Jheel along with seven other bodies.

Sahera claimed that she did not give any statement to anybody in this case.

After her testimony, Mohammad Ali, the conducting prosecutor of the case, completed her crossexamination before the tribunal adjourned the case proceedings until today.

Replying to a question, Sahera said she did not get any summon or notice from the tribunal to testify.

Sahera said she was acquainted to Nasiruddin of Mirpur Jalladkhana Pump House and she had gone to the pump house around a year ago and had talked to

"In presence of Nasiruddin at Jalladkhana, Abdur Razzaque Khan and Manowara Begum [two investigation officers of the case] talked to you [that day]," suggested Ali.

Sahera denied. "Did you hear that Quader Mollah was a leader of Islami Chhatra Sangha [then student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami]?" asked

the prosecutor. "I didn't. I never heard the name of Quader Mollah

in my life," replied Sahera. Mollah, the then president of Dhaka University Shahidullah Hall unit Chhatra Sangha, organised the formation of Al-Badr with members of the student body in 1971, according to

presence of Nasiruddin at the Pump House of Mirpur Jalladkhana, you had told Abdur Razzaque Khan and Manowara Begum that Pallab was killed at Quader Mollah's directives," suggested Ali. "It's not true. I have not

gone to Jalladkhana in more him to jail. Meanwhile, the defence than a year. Many days ago, it might be five or six years of war crimes accused Delawar Hossain Sayedee when I went there," replied yesterday placed argument

"You have given a false all day long at the tribunal.

AFP, Muzaffarabad

A military and civilian

huge amount of money,' suggested Ali. "It's not true," replied Sahera.

On May 28, the tribunal

testimony due to life threats

made against you and you

have been allured with a

framed six charges against Mollah for his alleged involvement in murders and mass killings during the

Liberation War. PROBEAGAINSTAZHAR As the war crimes investigators have found alleged involvement of Azhar in mass killings, prosecutor Nurjahan Begum Mukta yesterday made a prayer to the International Crimes

probe. Following her submission, the tribunal fixed February 5, 2013 for submitting a progress report on

Tribunal-1 seeking more

time for completing the

the investigation. In her submission, Mukta said investigation officer SM Idris Ali had found evidence of involvement of Azhar in two separate war crimes incidents which were annexed to the petition.

She later told journalists

that during the war Azhar had regular access to Rangpur Cantonment and tipped the Pakistani army about eminent citizens of Rangpur. On the basis of his information, the Pakistani army picked up 84 people of

Syedpur including Zikrul Haque from Nilphamari and shot them dead near Jhalar Khal of Rangpur, she She said, "In another incident, with the direct assistance of Azhar, the Pakistani army picked up 50 people including lawyers Bijoy Chandra Moitra,

Purnachandra Sarkar and

Shankar Banik at Rangpur

and killed them on the

Ghaghot river on May 25." "Around a year ago, in Azhar was produced before the tribunal yester-

Police on August 23 arrested Azhar in connection with the crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War. The tribunal on August 24 sent

The panel wanted to see action, which means launching of an investigation, filing of case and submission of charge

FROM PAGE 1

"Mom, how are you? Don't you worry; pay attention to your study. I will see you and stay five days with you after I draw salary of the month, and will pay your tutor," Shahin Mian told his daughter Seema over phone in the morning on November 23. "It was my last conserva-

tion with father ..., " the voice of the 10-year-old girl chocked in unbearable said Seema. grief. Shahin used to call her every Friday morning, his day off from work. Tears rolled down her tender cheeks, as she was talking to The Daily Star at

Tazreen Fashions Ltd yester-She is now parentless. She lost them both in the November 24 blaze.

School ground adjacent to

Seema lives at their maternal grandfather's house along with her fiveyear-old brother Zakaria at Mithapukur, Rangpur. They do not have paternal grandparents either. "We cried all night on

where both our parents worked," said Seema. The siblings came to Dhaka on November 30 with a distant uncle.

November 24, as we heard

about the fire at Tazreen,

"My grandfather anxiously made calls to my father's mobile phone, she said. "It rang....rang and then stopped, it never rang again."

"We had a happy time history.

with parents, as they visited us during Eid-ul-Fitr holidays," said Seema, a fourth grader at Latifpur Government Primary School of Mithapukur.

"He [father] bought us new clothes and books and left some money for us."

brought us to Dhaka and we stayed two months together with our parents,"

urge to eat or sleep." madrasa student, sought a Nishchintapur Primary

refuge in his elder sister's lap with a void look and appeared too young to understand the loss. The siblings have been

while their parents worked at Tazreen Fashions in Ashulia. Mushfiqur Rahman, the distant uncle who brought Seema and Zakaria to

centres but to no avail. Both the victims are presumed burnt beyond recognition and to be among 53 buried as unidentified at the Jurain

Claiming at least 111 lives, the Tazreen fire has been the worst garment factory fire in the country's

#### Three may be sued sheet, said Muhith.

FROM PAGE 1

completion and we may sue them on December 4." With the filing of a case,

the ACC's enquiry into the WB's corruption allegations in the project will come to an end and the ACC will then be able to start its probe, said the official. ACC Chairman Ghulam

enquiry team will quiz former communications minister Syed Abul Hossain and former state minister Abul Hasan today, and then submit its enquiry report. The ACC will take neces-

Rahman said the ACC

sary legal steps following the submission of the report, Rahman told reporters at his office yesterday.

Meanwhile, Ellen Goldstein, WB country director for Bangladesh, said, "If there is sufficient progress [in ACC investigation] then we are hopeful that indeed the bridge can be built."

Goldstein made the comment after the visiting WB external panel met with ACC officials in the latter's office in the capital.

"This meeting was simply to find out what progress was made in the investigation...we are very encouraged so far by the initial meeting...we expect to have more meetings over the next three or four days," she said.

The WB panel headed by Luis Moreno Ocampo, former chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, earlier visited Dhaka in October.

The two other panel members are Timothy Tong, former commissioner of the Independent Commission against Corruption of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and Richard Alderman, former director of Britain's Serious Fraud

Replying to a query on a recent meeting between the project's co-financiers in Manila, Goldstein said, "This was a set of preliminary discussion in order to determine how to revise the implementation arrangement for the bridge project."

Coming out of the meeting with the WB's external panel at his secretariat office, Finance Minister AMA Muhith said the panel now sees a ray of hope the way the ACC is conducting its enquiry.

"Several months back, father wanted to see us and

"Having lost both father and mother, I have lost the First grader Zakaria, a

staying with their grandfather for the last two years,

Dhaka, said relatives have searched for bodies of Seema's parents at every Dhaka clinics and medical

graveyard.

implementation will begin soon after the investigation gets started. The ACC chairman said, "The World Bank gave us a lot of information and we have to collect data in a

He said the project's

way that is acceptable to the court." The enquiry team has so far interrogated more than 30 people, including Abul Hossain and Prime Minister's Economic Affairs Adviser Mashiur Rahman, in connection with

the corruption allegations in the \$2.9 billion project. The ACC launched the enquiry in September last year after the WB raised corruption allegations in

the project. ACC sources said that unless the anti-graft body files a First Information Report, it cannot proceed from its enquiry to an investigation as expected by the global lender.

The WB cancelled its \$1.2 billion funding on June 29, saying it had proof of a "corruption conspiracy" involving Bangladeshi officials, executives of a Canadian firm and some individuals.

The global lender on September 21 decided to revive the loan after the Bangladesh government agreed to the WB's terms and conditions.

### Strong rattles Vanuatu

AFP, Sydney

A strong 6.4-magnitude earthquake struck off the South Pacific island of Vanuatu yesterday, seismologists said, but there were no immediate reports of damage and no tsunami warning was issued.

The quake struck at

11:54am, 108 kilometres

northwest of the capital

Port Vila at a depth of 34 kilometres, the United States Geological Survey said. Vanuatu lies on the socalled "Pacific Ring of Fire", a zone of frequent seismic activity caused by friction

between shifting tectonic plates. It has been rocked by

several large quakes in recent years, averaging about three magnitude 7.0 or above incidents every year without any major damage.