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People prepare graves yesterday for children killed in an Israeli strike on a primary school in Iran's Minab. The strike on Saturday killed at least 165 people.

PHOTO: AFP

## ACC chief, his two deputies quit en masse

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It was hardly a resignation. It was a walkout.

Not just one, but all three members of the Anti-Corruption Commission, led by Chairman Mohammad Abdul Momen, submitted resignation letters to Cabinet Secretary Nasimul Gani yesterday, effectively dissolving the commission.

Momen declined to cite any specific reason, claiming that there was none. The decision was taken in "public interest", he said.

"We felt that the new government may require a more competent commission to implement its vision and plans," Momen told reporters while leaving his office.

"A political government will naturally want to work according to its own manifesto and expectations. I do not see anything unusual in that," he said.



Abdul Momen

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## Rivals dig in for 'longer war'

US embassy in Riyadh hit; Israel seizes land in Lebanon, bombards Tehran, other cities; Iran closes Strait of Hormuz

AGENCIES

Explosions tore through Tehran, Beirut and elsewhere across the Middle East yesterday, as the United States, Israel and Iran escalated attacks, raising fears that the conflict could drag on.

Hours after US President Donald Trump warned that his attack on Iran could run longer than initially planned, Tehran stepped up its attacks as drones and missiles crashed into oil facilities and US embassies in the Gulf.

US and Israeli strikes also pummelled targets across Tehran, as Trump warned it was "too late" for Iran to seek talks to stop the attacks.

Israel also bombarded Lebanon and pushed troops deeper into Lebanon to battle the Tehran-backed militia Hezbollah.

Meanwhile, Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps yesterday said the Strait

HOW KHAMENEI WAS KILLED -- PAGE 7

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Iran warns West against joining war

IAEA says Iran nuclear site hit

Iran's death toll reaches 787

China tells Israel to end war

6 US soldiers killed in Kuwait

'Too late' for Iran talks: Trump

## Strait of Hormuz closure threatens LNG supply

ASIFUR RAHMAN and FEDA AL HOSSAIN

The closure of the Strait of Hormuz by Iran amid its escalating war with the US and Israel has raised fresh concerns over liquefied natural gas (LNG) supplies to Bangladesh, which relies heavily on the narrow maritime corridor for its energy imports.

Nearly all LNG shipments from Qatar and Oman destined for Bangladesh transit

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## BB governor offers mega incentives to businesses

Continuous loans for industries, soft loans to pay workers' salaries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Bank yesterday offered major incentives to the business community through two decisions aimed at tackling loan defaults and facilitating the payment of workers' wages for the month of February.

In two separate directives, the banking regulator relaxed rules for the renewal of continuous loans and allowed a special loan facility for February wages for export-oriented industries.

A continuous loan functions like revolving credit,

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