Democratic National Convention begins today

theWhite House.

In 2004, doomed Democratic

Obama's stiffened rhetoric and

"I assume we are going to hear

"We are going to hear a lot of

more contrast between what

Democrats are about and what he is

about versus McCain," said Zelizer.

connecting between McCain and

dismayed with the direction the

country is headed, yet Obama,

still cannot put his rival away.

supposedly the candidate of change

This phenomenon was con-

formed Sunday by a new

Washington Post-ABC News poll,

which showed Obama with 49

percent support among most likely

to voters and McCain with 45 per-

be the candidate of change then we

are going to have a much much

tougher time," said Celinda Lake, a

Democratic pollster.

allowed too much of that."

and order on its streets.

"If Democrats allow McCain to

"In the last month we have

The four-day Democratic extrav-

aganza, to be followed by the

Republican National Convention in

St. Paul, Minnesota next week, will

take place under an intense security

As well as Obama, Biden and the

Clintons, it will feature the party's

greatest heroes, including a tribute

to liberal lion Senator Edward

Kennedy, who is fighting brain

event, Obama will take the event

outside to give his acceptance

speech before more than 70,000

supporters at Invesco Field, an

American football stadium on

candidate accepted the nomination

outdoors was in 1960 when John F.

The last time a presidential

In a spectacular coda to the

nominee John Kerry was doomed

for going too easy at his convention

pick of veteran bruiser Senator

Joseph Biden as his vice presidential

on President George W. Bush.

make a similar mistake.

AFP, Denver

Barack Obama will seek to bond with Americans still wary of his exotic life story and crusade for change, as he makes history by becoming the first black presidential nominee this week.

The 47-year-old son of a Kenyan running mate, suggest he won't goat herder and a white American mother will cap a stratospheric political rise by formally accepting his party's charge as millions of voters tune into the Democratic National Convention from Monday.

Amid razamattaz that only a White House race can whip up, Bush." Illinois Senator Obama will try to Opinion polls show overwhelm- late spark for the all-stars. recast the sprint to November's ing numbers of Americans are election, after a barrage from his Republican foe John McCain reduced the race to a dead heat.

A compelling subplot will also unfold, as Hillary Clinton, who saw Obama halt her own quest for history and bid to become America's first woman president, is embraced by a party carved in two by their acrimonious duel.

The former first lady, and her still smarting husband ex-president Bill Clinton, usurped after dominating Democratic politics for a generation, will be scrutinised for any sign they are thwarting party unity.

With millions of voters tuning into the race for the first time, Hawaii-born Obama has a priceless chance to flesh out his biography, and to portray his rags to riches story as the very embodiment of the American dream.

"He has to make people more comfortable with him as a person, said Andrew Dowdle, a political science professor at the University of Arkansas.

This is his real opportunity

Obama preaches a post-racial message of unity and hope, but his image and bid to court core bluecollar Democrats was rocked when tirades of his African-American former pastor exploded into public view early this year.

Recent McCain attacks have also set him back, painting his soaring rhetoric as the stuff of a vacuous and hubristic celebrity woefully lacking experience required of a US commander-in-chief.

Julian Zelizer, a history professor at Princeton University, agreed Kennedy spelled out the genera-Obama's White House hopes may tional call for renewal that many rest in defining himself, before Obama followers see replicated in Republican political shock troops doitforhim.

"If he doesn't, he is going to have a big problem," Zelizer said.

"He has had a really difficult month in August, and the Republicans have done a pretty good job in framing him."

The unknown Illinois state lawmaker who took US politics by storm with a stunning speech at the 2004 Democratic convention, preached an end to slash and burn politics.

But the Obama of August 2008 seems to have embraced some of those tactics, fighting Republicans who take a scorched earth path to

Taliban militants

said in a telephone call from unknown location.

"The jirga (elders council) insisted that Taliban should stop fighting in the interest of the

people of Bajaur." The jirga has "assured" that troops will also suspend shelling and bombing raids in the area, he

We are ready for talks with the government and the truce is an important development towards

dialogue," Omar said. Pakistan on Sunday rejected a ceasefire offered by Taliban militants in a troubled tribal region

near the Afghan border as troops villed seven rebel fighters, officials said. Pakistani forces moved into Bajaur, a known hub of al-Qaeda and Taliban militants, earlier this

month. The government says at least 500 militants have been killed since then.

Troops fired artillery shells and gunship helicopters pounded suspected militant hideouts almost daily since the operation was mounted on

August 6. The offensive displaced nearly 200,000 people in the region.

Pakistan's fragile coalition government, which forced US ally president Pervez Musharraf to resign on August 18, is under heavy international pressure to Tackle al-Qaeda and Taliban

militants. US and Afghan officials say the rebels have sanctuaries in the rugged tribal border regions of Pakistan that they use to train, regroup and launch attacks on international troops in Afghanistan.

Curtain falls

standing Martin Lel, a triple London marathon winner, faded to fifth and it was half-marathon specialist Wanjiru who pulled

China's Zou Shiming had a quick finish to the light-flyweight title for China's first boxing gold when Mongolia's Serdamba Purevdorj hurt his shoulder and his corner threw in the towel 19 seconds into the second.

There was success for Mongolia in the bantamweight final when Badar-Uugan Enkhbat won their first-ever boxing gold beating Cuba's highly fancied Yankiel

It was a miserable Games for traditional ring titans Cuba and

semifinals, while for the first time no USA boxer made the finals and they ended with a solitary boxing

The United States team of basketball multi-millionaires beat defending champions Spain as expected but the match was closer than the final 118-107 scoreline

Spain had closed to 89-91 with eight minutes remaining before Kobe Bryant provided a crucial

further gold beating Brazil 3-1 in the men's volleyball final. Earlier, Rogge said that overall

with the Games. "More than 40 world records were set, more than 100 Olympic

records, and of course we had the two icons of the Games, Michael Phelps and Usain Bolt.' Rogge pointed to heightened environmental awareness, greater

enthusiasm for sport among Chinese and the new stadia in Beijing as the legacies for China. But he skirted around questions regarding China's response

and Internet access, and diplomatically refused to be drawn into debate about the medals table. For China, the investment of

rewards. They not only topped the gold An estimated 3,000 to 5,000 police and security personnel to be deployed in Denver to enforce law

> Phelps, with his unprecedented eight gold medals and seven world records, and Bolt, the fastest man on earth winning three gold medals with three world records, were the headline

mony, the Olympic flag was passed to Johnson while London's position as the new host city was marked by Led Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page dueting with Leona Lewis on 1970s rock classic Whole Lotta Love.

Londoner, and former England football skipper, David Beckham booted a ball off the top of a London bus before the Olympic flame was extinguished.

their hero.

Janmashtami FROM PAGE 16

Thursday.

Bangabhaban yesterday morning. In the capital, thousands of men, women and children joined the historical Janmashtami rally and procession brought out from the Dhakeshwari Temple. It ended at Bahadur Shah Park after parading different roads.

According to the Hindu faith, Krishna, the incarnation of God, descended to this world some 5,500 years ago with a vow to establish love, truth and justice. Devotees on this day celebrate his 'birth' on earth.

Security was tightened at the festival venues and temples in different areas of the capital city. Members of intelligent agencies, plainclothes and uniformed police, Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) were deployed and metal detectors were used as part of the security measures

Inaugurating the rally at Palashi near Dhakeshwari Temple, Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka said people of all faiths in Bangladesh have equal rights to celebrate their religious festivals. Maj Gen (retd) CR Dutta, Prof Nim Chandra Bhoumik of Dhaka University also spoke on the

occasion Mohanagar Sarbojanin Puja Udjapon Committee organised a two-day religious festival at Dhakeswari National Temple with Geeta Jaggyam for the welfare of the country and its people.

Nirmal Chatarjee, joint secretary of the puja committee, said that the procession consisted of 135 trucks carrying devotees. They adorned themselves as Lord Krishna, Krishna's father Basudev, mother Deboki, borther Balaram and mater-

naluncle Kongsha. The day was also celebrated in the capital's many other temples including ISKCON temple at Swamibagh Ramsita Mandir, Radha Madhob Jeu Dev Bigroho temple in old Dhaka's Kailash Ghosh Lane, and Radha Govinda Jeu Thakur temple at

Sutrapur. Devotees gathered at the temples from morning to offer their prayers to Lord Krishna.

Awami League acting President Zillur Rahman, BNP Secretary General Khandker Delwar Hossain, Gano Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain, Bikalpadhara President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, LDP President Oli Ahmed, CPB President Manjurul Ahsan Khan, Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon and Dhaka city Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka were among the political leaders who greeted the Hindus with separate messages on the occasion.

Leon 15-5.

the United States. Cuba failed to get a gold despite eight of their boxers reaching the

bronze.

suggested.

The United States picked up

"the IOC was extremely pleased"

on such issues as human rights

more than 40 billion dollars on the Games reaped handsome

medal count, but a near flawless organisation meant the controversies that marred the build-up largely slipped into the background

At the end of Sunday's cere-

ACC chief

FROM PAGE 16 Bandhu Sabhas from across the country attended the festival in the morning.

Welcoming the Sabha members, Editor of Prothom Alo Matiur Rahman said, "The members of Bandhu Sabha want to build a strong democracy in the country. They work to help establish rule of law in the country and are always found to be against injustice and they always come forward to help during disasters like acid violence,

floods and cyclones." "I expect this body will become a powerful social organisation and build a new and better Bangladesh," he said adding, "To make the country free from all kinds of corruption, Bandhu Sabha members will march ahead with Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury in the

leadership. The ACC chief said, "The spirit and determination I see in the youth of today gives me the courage to continue my job."

Together, we will beat corruption," he added. The festival was inaugurated at 9:45 in the morning by hoisting the national flag and releasing balloons in the air. Among others journalists Anisul Haque, and Saiduzzaman Roushan and singer Mahmuduzzaman Babu attended

theevent Writer Imdadul Haque Milon actor Afzal Hossain, TV personality Abdun Nur Tusher, singer Fahmida Nabi, psychologist and wirter Dr Mohit Kamal greeted all members of Bandhu Sabha on the occasion, a press release from the organisation

The festival was arranged in association with Matra, National Aids/STD programme and Save The Children. Earlier, Bandhu Utsab was held in Khulna, Barisal Chittagong, Dinajpur, Rajshahi Comilla, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Kushtia and Sylhet.

FROM PAGE 16 identity of the other could not be known immediately. The killers took away their

bodies. BSF men fired three rounds at the two Bangladeshis as they were trying to cross the border with cattle, killing them on the spot at about 9:30pm, according to a report received here from across the border.

BDR authorities sent a note to BSF authorities protesting the killings and asked them to return the bodies immediately.

Lt Col Sams, commanding officer of 41 rifles battalion, confirmed the incident.

25 spots get waterlogged

FROM PAGE 1 an official of Dhaka Wasa adding that the canal was filled with earth

due to unplanned urbanisation. Waterlogging on the south side of Bir Shrestha Shaheed Mustafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur occurs as a road and floodlights of the stadium fall under the align-DCC official. ment of Segunbagicha canal, the official said. Since the canal has been narrowed down considerably, rainwater recedes slowly, said the official.

The official said an initiative has been taken to acquire land from the National Sports Council and the Public Works Department to make way for water to recede. To improve waterlogging

around Mirpur Road it is necessary to widen the Kalyanpur Ka canal, he said. The official said drainage pipes need to be installed between Bijoy

Sarani-Rokeya Sarani intersection and the Pangu Hospital via the Nam flat buildings on Manik Mia Avenue. The pipes would be connected to the Kalyanpur Cha canal near the hospital, said the official. Drainage of water around

nected to the box culvert of Ebrahimpur canal, he said. outlet at west Monipur is the reason for prolonged waterlogging

there, the official said.

Rokeva Sarani would be improved

if a drainage line could be con-

Locals said ankle-deep water remains stagnant in the area for weeks after a heavy downpour. The drainage pipes of the area had a

coalition and that party leaders

One of those leaders, Javed

would meet on Monday to decide.

Hashmi, said Sunday that he was

willing to run in the Sept. 6 election

to succeed Musharraf if his party

Presidential elections by parlia-

ment were set for Sept. 6 and the

political infighting is a distraction

from militant violence flaring in

the volatile northwest, where 37

insurgents were killed Saturday in

retaliation for a string of deadly

Musharraf critic, he would likely

continue the former general's

But Zardari's climb to power

would dismay many in this nation

of 160 million who view him as a

symbol of corruption that tainted

its last experiment with civilian

Percent" for alleged graft during his

wife's turns as prime minister.

his election is far from certain.

He won the nickname "Mr. 10

Despite the backing of the PPP,

Sharif, who heads the second-

largest party in parliament, was

one of Bhutto's bitter rivals and has

been threatening to bolt in a strug-

with Zardiri's lieutenants Saturday

that the PPP agree to sharply

reduce the powers of the new presi-

dent before he'd support their

be deprived of the constitutional

right to dissolve parliament or to

appoint chiefs of the armed forces

but Zardari's name was thrown

into the race without any such

during his 1999 coup, also pushed

up a middle-of-the week deadline

for the restoration of judges fired by

Musharraf late last year to avoid

challenges to the former strong-

He wants an agreement by

chief justice Iftikhar Mohammed tions against them.

EC scrambles to resolve

Monday that all including former

The HC on August 7 stayed for three

months the EC's gazette notification

that had finalised redemarcation of

the constituencies, and issued a

ruling on the government and the

But with the court's scheduled

vacation knocking on the door, the

EC is in a scramble to get its reply

heard by the court, as the time for

preparations is also running out fast

ahead of the tentative schedule for

holding the next parliamentary poll,

order on August 7, Attorney General

Salauddin Ahmed said the stay order

mentary poll. Preparations for the

poll might be hampered by it, he

The EC already asked its lawyers sus.

might affect the upcoming parlia-

Immediately after the court's stay

the EC officials said.

Sharif, ousted by Musharraf

Sharif wants the head of state to

He demanded after meeting

Though Zardari is a longtime

asks him to.

suicide bombings.

rule in the 1990s.

gle over power.

candidate.

man's rule.

FROM PAGE 1

said.

Pak ruling coalition

link to the Kalyanpur Ga canal but it has been snapped due to

unplanned urbanisation. The drainage system of the area has been maintained by Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) and it has launched a project this fiscal year to improve the situation, said a

Since Begunbari canal has been narrowed and a large water body next to Bangladesh Bank in Motijheel has been filled up, waterlogging at Motijheel is a common scene after a downpour, said an Wasa official. The large water body has become almost nonexistent due to unplanned urbanisation after a box culvert was built on Segunbagicha canal in

This is the main reason behind the waterlogging in Fakirapool, Motijheel and Arambagh areas, the official added. Dhaka Wasa plans to connect a drainage line to the box culvert to reduce waterlogging in Motijheel. Many residents of Islambagh,

especially those in Dokkhinpara, have been facing severe waterlogging for about two years as there is no drainage system of Wasa in Islambagh and the DCC surface drains are inadequate.

Mojibur Rahman, a local, Non-existence of a rainwater blamed the filling up of a large water body in the area two years ago which helped drain out rainwater before. He said now it takes about 2-3 days for water to recede after heavy raining.

> As for Islambagh, the Wasa official said they have as yet no plan

Chaudhry will be back on the

bench, saying a surprise Sept. 6

presidential election date forced

judges reinstated, is not quite as

enthusiastic. Like Musharraf, he

has accused Chaudhry of being too

political, and says it should be up to

that the former chief justice would

revive corruption cases killed off by

Musharraf as part of a failed effort

to form a pro-Western power-

sharing deal with Bhutto before her

chalition partner, has already

increasingly threatened by extrem-

primarily in their hatred of

with the militants soon after taking

power five months ago, something

the former president briefly tried as

have increasingly relied on military

force to try to beat back al-Qaeda

and Taliban-linked insurgents in

the remote and rugged tribal

regions along the border with

with force in recent days.

The militants have responded

The Taliban claimed responsi-

bility for one of the country's dead-

liest-ever terrorist attacks, a twin

suicide bombing at a massive

government weapons complex

that killed 67 people and injured

explosives rammed into a police

station in Swat, a former tourist

destination, killing six officers and

injuring several, said local police

village of Bari Kot killed one civilian

and injured four, said Muslim

Khan, a spokesman for the Taliban

militants, threatening more vio-

lence unless the army stops opera-

to initiate urgent measures so the

matter can be heard before the

Supreme Court goes on vacation.

The EC's counsels also began the

process to that effect, the commis-

constituency delimitation cannot be

A roadside bomb in the nearby

On Saturday, a car packed with

more than 100 on Thursday.

official Mohib Ullahn.

But after limited success, they

Musharraf dabbled in peace talks

The PPP, fearing the loss of its

The crisis comes as Pakistan is

The ruling coalition united

Analysts say he also might fear

Zardari, though he wants the

him to push up his deadline.

parliament to decide.

assassination.

smaller parties.

ist violence.

Afghanistan.

support for the US-led war against | started seeking support from other

to solve the problem in that area.

The residents of Razarbagh Mouchak, Shantinagar and Siddheswari are facing waterlogging due to the filling up of Shahjahanpur canal, said another

The situation in the areas was even worse as rainwater took 3-4 days to drain out and the situation has improved a bit when drainage pipes were installed a few years ago. It now takes 4-5 hours after a heavy downpour, he said.

"To improve the situation even further, we have a plan to set up a drainage line to Begunbari canal from Siddheswari via Moghbazar," hesaid

Residents of Shahjadpur Dokkhinpara face waterlogging at many spots as there is no drainage network of Wasa. It takes 4-5 hours time for water to recede after a moderate shower, said Khalil, a resident of the area.

The DCC during construction of a road there did not elevate the road and this is the main reason for waterlogging, he claimed.

Executive Officer of DCC Zone-9 Samsuzzaman said the residents of the area did not leave space for water to recede while building their houses and this is one of the major reasons of waterlogging there.

He said water would have gone into people's houses had they made the road higher.

"We have plans to take similar initiatives, after the rainy season is over, to improve waterlogging at many areas in the city," he said.

Foreign workers FROM PAGE 16

On July 27, some 80,000 workers mostly cleaners joined a work stoppage to demand proper wages and respect to their rights.

attacked the workers at the US in late July.

During their five-day detention, the workers were beaten up again They were deported without \$5,000 or more in arrears.

government did little to enforce its own labour laws or put an end to rampant abuse and exploitation of hundreds of thousands of guest workers. But its response to the labour unrest was harsh and swift, observed the NLC account.

Kuwaiti police beat and arrested hundreds of workers while 1,129 were deported to Bangladesh, it

"It would be a horrible turn of events if Operation Desert Storm and all the sacrifices made by US troops have in some way freed Kuwait to traffic in hundreds of thousands of foreign guest work ers, who are stripped of their passports, forced to work long hours, cheated of their wages, and then beaten and deported when they ask that their most basic rights be respected," NLC Director Charles Kernaghan told English language

The NLC says the irony is that international coalition to liberate

"Now it is time for the full State Department and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice as well as the US Military to press Kuwait to immedi ately take concrete steps to end human trafficking and to guarantee respect for the core internation ally recognized labour rights of the foreign guest workers," it con cludes.

BSF says sorry

The BSF DG said, "The BDR and the BSF guard more than 4,000km o border and therefore it would be quite unreasonable to expect that nothing is going to happen on this long border guarded by more than 100,000 armed people on both

"However, as far as this incident is concerned, I can only say that it is highly regrettable, it should not have

alternative to legalising cattle trading in border areas. The conference also agreed to

find out ways to stop cattle smuggling which they termed the main reason for most of the shooting The BSF DG said, "Movement across the border is not allowed from

athis or her own risk.' He said BDR and BSF would share information on cattle smuggling would help BDR arrest illegal cattle

shelters Indian insurgents, the BDR chief said, "We do not shelter any insurgents in Bangladesh.' BSF also sought permission from

once a month

BGFCL wants

FROM PAGE 1

to the national exchequer Tk 1,332 crore in fiscal 2002-'03, Tk 1,551 crore in '03-'04, Tk 1,566 crore in '04-'05, Tk 1,566 crore in '05-'06 and Tk 1,587 crore in '06-'07. Its contribution in 07-08 would also be close to Tk 1,600 crore, sources leakage detected in 2003, but was

But the company gets only 10 percent of its total earning. "Given the nature of the company, an annual net earning of Tk 150 crore might not be a big deal. Sometimes, development work might need huge investment, forcing the BGFCL to resort to donors," notes a source in Petrobangla, mother organisation of the BGFCL.

After spending a lot of its funds to stop alarming gas leakage from Titas field, the BGFCL is set to spend around Tk 427 crore from its own funds to drill a new well (No-9) and conduct workover of two wells (2 and 5) in Bakhrabad field, drill two new wells in Titas field (17 and 18) and install gas processing plant. It is spending Tk 19 crore for workover of a well in Meghna.

These work will add 120 mmcfd gas to the national grid. Of this, 30 mmcfd will be transmitted to the national grid from December.This will gradually rise to 150 mmcfd by

But side by side, the BGFCL is seeking a \$100 million loan from the ADB to completely end the gas leakage from Titas field and to drill four wells there. This will increase gas production by another 120 mmcfd from 2012.

This means BGFCL's total output will go up to 970 mmcfd by

In addition, the company is jointly developing Begumganj gas field with Bapex and Sylhet gas field with an initial investment of Tk 187 crore. Of this, the BGFCL has committed to pump in around Tk 90

This gas company has given so much to the nation, it is time the

nation helps this company grow further," commented a Petrobangla high official.

TITAS FIELDWOES

According to a conservative estimate, Titas field has lost at least one billion cubic feet of gas through the left alone neglected. After a lot of hues and cries by experts, including former Bapex high official Mir Moinul Haque, a project was undertaken.

After a series of events, faulty gas well Number-3 was sealed at a cost of \$10 million several months

"But you can still see gas leakage, there are gas bubbles in the Titas river. This time however the emitted gas is nothing but gas that remained charged underground due to the past leakage. Perhaps there are some other undetected problems with the field. We are monitoring all the wells and data shows no anomaly in the producing wells," said a BGFCL official. "I should say the field's condition is not as dangerous as it had been."

He wet on, "We believe the three dimensional survey now being undertaken will reveal whatever faults this field has developed. We can take remedial actions after that. Otherwise, it is impossible to address this leakage problem."

Titas field is considered as the lifeline of Bangladesh's energy. Initially assessed to have five trillion cubic feet (tcf) of gas, the field has already produced 3 tcf from the

Judging from the gas pressure trend, which remains the same as in the sixties, Petrobangla experts believe this field still has four to five tcfofgas.

"There are still parts of this gas field which have not been tapped. For instance, the field extends to the Salda river. There have been no drilling on that side. We are considering drilling of six wells on that side," said the BGFCL official.

Khaleda's release

"But such conditions of the government are not acceptable to Khaleda Zia. Even people won't accept those," Delwar said at a news briefing after a two-hour-long meeting of the BNP-led four-party alliance at his Namapartment in the capital.

Various issues including the planned human chain programme and current political scenario were discussed at the meeting that began at 11:00am.

that it would hold a human chain programme on August 27 to press home its demand for immediate release of Khaleda and her ailing elder son Tarique Rahman. Delwar slammed the ity,"hesaid. Representation of the People (amendment) Ordinance 2008,

which bans political parties from having front organisations. "This (amended) ordinance is unconstitutional, "he said. Delwar also alleged that it has been designed with a motive to hold

to a blueprint. The BNP leader said the provision of "no vote" has been inserted into the amended RPO to divert people's

the next general election according

"The amendments have been made to keep the four-party alliance away from the election process," he

Delwar said the Election Commission and the government have no mandate to make such a law in the absence of parliament. But the government has promulgated the ordinance with the president's signature.

"We (the four-party alliance) reject the ordinance (RPO). The next general election will be illegal if it is heldunderit," Delwar said.

Zillur demands

FROM PAGE 16 after offering special prayer at the

grave of Ivy Rahman in Banani graveyard. Party leaders, activists and family members joined him. In a faltering voice he said Ivy

sacrificed her life to protect party

president Sheikh Hasina. Leaders of Jatiya Mohila Parishad, Mohila Awami League and Jubo League paid homage to Ivy Rahman at the grave.

Zillur Rahman's Gulshan house in of waste, is going to come under the the afternoon. AL presidium members Amir this year, said Anis. Hossain Amu, Syeda Sajeda

Chowdhury, Motia Chowdhury, among others, attended the milad.

AL man killed

FROM PAGE 1 Shamsul and Mokles. They were admitted to the

Jhenidah hospital. Police and villagers said a clash

between the followers of local BNP leader Ishaq and AL leader Nayeb Ali over a ha-du-du match occurred at Jaduria village in the evening leaving Ariful dead on the spot and 10 others wounded.

Jahangir Hossain Matabbar said additional policemen had been deployed in the area to avert any untoward incident.

He also accused the government of pursuing a double standard. "Sheikh Hasina is free but

Khaleda Zia is behind bars. Tarique

Rahman's condition is deteriorating.

He has not been released for medical treatment although many others with minor complications have been freed," hesaid ---The BNP secretary general also criticised the government for ignoring the suggestions by the medical

board, which is treating Tarique at

ment will have to bear all responsibil-

The alliance earlier announced the prison cell of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) "We are worried that he (Tarique) is partially paralysed ...the govern-

> BNP Joint Secretary General Nazrul Islam Khan, Jamaat-e-Islami leaders Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid, Mohammad Qamaruzzaman, ATM Azaharul Islam and Rafiqul Islam Khan, BJP Chairman Andaleeb Rahman and Secretary General Shamim Al Mamun, IOJ Secretary General Abdul Latif Nejami and Khelafat Majlis Secretary General Ahmed

Hospitals, clinics

Abdul Quader, among others, were

price, he said.

cause a cut or puncture to passers-by, Waste like used syringes and gloves is picked up by scavengers and sold to unaware patients or their family members at a much lower

management has constructed a dump on one acre of land in Matuail. Four units -- chemical disinfecting, burial pit, Incinerator and Autoclave -- have been set up there. All kinds of plastic materials are sliced first and then dumped in the

chemical disinfecting unit, said Tarit

The DCC as part of medical waste

Kanti Biswas, programme coordinator, hospital waste management of Prism Bangladesh. Liquid waste is treated in the burial pit unit to make it hazard free

and then discharged in drains, he Tarit said infectious plastic waste is burned in the incinerator, while blood bags, gloves and other things

are disposed of at the Autoclave unit. Dhaka Medical College Hospital Later, a milad mahfil was held at (DMCH), which is the major source waste management by September

> He said they have already trained up nurses, ward boys, and management staffs of DMCH through a training programme.

A tender process is on to purchase

some necessary items including bins and trolleys in this regard by September 30, he said. "If everything goes well, we'll start our waste collection work at DMCH

dumped. The yellow-coloured baskets are for dumping hazardous waste, red baskets for sharp waste, green boxes Superintendent of Police for recyclable waste and black boxes for general waste, he said.

from October 1," he said. "We keep

four buckets of four colours in each

hospital and clinic where the waste is

Three vehicles collect the waste in two shifts from the clinics and hospitals every day, he added

commission to show causes in two If the stay order remains in force weeks as to why the gazette should for three months or more, officials in not be declared unconstitutional the EC Secretariat fear that the comand illegal. mission will find itself in a difficult Since the ruling, the EC has been situation regarding holding the poll preparing a reply through its lawyers. in December. In the reply, the commission is likely The previous gazette regarding to mention the provisions of the

delimitation of constituencies ordiused for the next poll due to its inefnance, and the electoral roll ordi fectiveness, they added. nance. It will also refer to the consti-That gazette notification was tutional provision that provides the published in 2006 in a bid to hold the EC with a blanket immunity from ninth parliamentary poll, which had prosecution for redemarcating the been originally scheduled for constituencies, sources in the EC January 22, 2007. But the poll could not be held due

sion sources said.

Legal experts said the 2006 gazette notification has automatically become ineffective since the census report of 2001 was published in 2007, compelling the EC to redemarcate the parliamentary constituencies afresh. The Delimitation of

to political turmoil in the country

that led to the declaration of the

ongoing state of emergency.

Constituencies Ordinance 1976 says the EC shall redemarcate parliamentary constituencies after each cen-

rights body observed.

By and large, the strike was peaceful. Still, the Kuwaiti police military base. They fired teargas shells and kicked and clubbed the workers at their dorms, said the report, the first by an international rights group after the labour strike

Over the years, the Kuwaiti

daily Kuwait Times. Bangladesh contributed 2,300 soldiers, who fought as part of the

happened,"he added. On cattle smuggling in border areas, the BSF DG said there is no

incidents. sunset to sunrise. Curfew-like situation remains at night and if anyone wants to cross the border... will do so

under a pilot project. He said this traders if the BSF failed to arrest About the claim that Bangladesh

BDR to erect fences at 46 places on borders between the two countries. The two sides also exchanged a list of alleged criminals reportedly hiding in their countries. India handed over a list of 263 people to Bangladesh while Bangladesh handed over a list of 1,464 people to

The conference also agreed to have commandant-level meets