Sadr suspends militia activity indefinitely

al-Sadr said yesterday that he has suspended indefinitely the activity of his feared 60,000 strong militia, the Mahdi Army.

will be valid indefinitely and anyone who does not follow this order will not be considered a member of this group," said a statement issued by Sadr in the Shia shrine city of further six months in February.

"We have set a cultural programme for the Madhi Army and we have named it Al-Mumahidun (Supporters of the Mahdi), and everybody should abide by it and whoever does not agree with it will be expelled from

nation for Sadr's decision which came after he promised earlier this month to dismantle the once feared militia if a planned security pact between Baghdad and Washington provides for the with-

The two sides are still negotiating the planned pact that would govern US troop levels and allow them to operate after a UN mandate expires at the end of the year.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki said this week that they had agreed there would be no foreign forces in Iraq after 2011, setting a

Maliki stressed however that despite the progress, there were still points of disagreement crucial to both sides in the proposed secu-

The White House has repeatedly echoed that no deal has been final-

ised. Sadr ordered a six-month freeze

in attacks on rival armed groups

and US forces in August last year after allegations that his fighters

shrine city of Karbala. The decision came at the same time many Sunni rebel groups in western Iraq decided to join forces with the US military to fight al-Qaeda and amid a "surge" in American troop numbers.

had been involved in bloody

clashes with security forces in the

Sadr extended the freeze for a

The Iraqi prime minister ordered an offensive against militias in the second city of Basra in late March, which sparked fighting between the security forces and Mahdi Army fighters in Shia areas across central and southern Iraq.

Hundreds were killed in street battles in the Baghdad Shia district of Sadr City, which ended only with the signing of a truce on May 10.

Sadr forces have also clashed with other Shia factions, notably the Supreme Iraqi Islamic Council (SIIC) a Shia religious party led by Abdel Aziz al-Hakim, a key government ally of the prime minister.

Currently believed to be in Iran, Sadr led two uprisings against USled coalition forces in 2004 and had repeatedly vowed to fight on until US troops leave.

One shot dead

FROM PAGE 16

home in the locality on a motorbike at around 12:15am. The killers fled the spot immediately.

He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

The officer-in-charge of Sabujbagh Police Station said they were yet to ascertain the motive behind the killing.

Tarique secures bail

Sobhan Sanvir, son of Bashundhara Group Chairman Ahmed Akbar Sobhan alias Shah Alam, from charges of killing Sabbir.

Tarique filed a petition with the HC for quashing the proceedings against him and for his bail in this case. On August 7, the HC rejected the petition and permitted him to appeal with the SC against the order. Tarique filed the appeal with the SC recently.

The Appellate Division yesterday heard the application and granted him bail on health grounds.

Tarique's lawyer barrister Mahbub Uddin Khokon yesterday told newsmen that the SC granted bail to Tarique after examining his medical report prepared by a medical board.

"Tarique has secured bail in all the 13 cases filed against him and the High Court also stayed the proceedings against him in all these cases. So, there is no legal bar to his getting released from jail now," he added.

On August 4, NBR Deputy Tax Commissioner Samia Akhter filed a case with the Senior Special Judge's Court in Dhaka against Tarique on charges of dodging Tk 26.86 lakh in income tax during 2002-2006.

On August 12, following Tarique's petition the HC stayed the proceedings of the case for three months.

The government filed an appeal with the SC against the HC order but the Appellate Division vesterday dismissed the government appeal and upheld the HC stay order. CASES AGAINST KHALEDA

An HC bench comprising Justice Sharif Uddin Chaklader and Justice Md Emdadul Haque Azad yesterday granted Khaleda ad interim bail for four months in the Barapukuria coal mine graft case.

Responding to a petition filed by Khaleda, the HC bench also issued a rule upon the government, asking it to explain within six weeks why she should not be granted regular bail in

Another HC bench comprising Justice Khademul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Mashuque Hosain Ahmed extended for three months its earlier orders that stayed the proceedings against Khaleda in the

On August 26, the former prime

All elected mayors

Mir Mojibur Rahman, Barisal director of the local government ministry, told The Daily Star that all 40 councillors-elect of Barisal City Corporation submitted similar huge funds to Galib from Saudi

Khaleque, president of Khulna resignations and affidavits, reports

our Khulna correspondent. Khaleque did not say whether he would file a writ petition with the High Court to hold his post. "I will abide by the decision of the central committee about this

Detained Sylhet City Corporation Mayor Kamran has seven days to resign after Kamran's Wife Asma Kamran filed an application before the divisional commissioner requesting time. Asma told reporters the commissioner granted her request.

Liton along with elected councillors from AL yesterday sent copies of their resignation letters to Hadith mosques. the divisional commissioner. So far, 36 elected councillors out of 40 submitted their resignation papers, said Rajshahi City Corporation's Chief Executive

FROM PAGE 1

Meanwhile, Khaleda was granted bail in Barapukuria coal mine graft case yesterday and Tarique got bail in the last of the 13 cases against him.

sub-jail entrance after meeting Khaleda, the BNP secretary general said, "BNP along with its alliance partners will sit in government-sponsored dialogue, and take part in parliamentary polls if Khaleda Zia is released and Tarique is allowed to have

"We, the four-party alliance, want to participate in the election and in dialogue with the government with Khaleda Zia leading us," Delwar said.

"BNP is an-election oriented party. It has participated in all elections in the past and it wants to take party in the next elections

Delwar avoided a reply when asked whether they were allowed to meet Khaleda as part of some compromise with the govern-

But Mojahid, who was beside him, replied in the negative.

Asked if the BNP chief would this regard."

Responding to another question, he said, Khaleda Zia repeated her request to the government to allow ailing Tarique to

"As mother, I demand that Tarique be sent abroad immediately for treatment," Delwar quoted her as saying.

The former premier expressed concern that high prices of food items are causing immense sufferings to people, the BNP secretary general said.

Three men

FROM PAGE 16 into the sea for a swim near to

around 11.00 am. Meanwhile, upon a writ petition, the same HC bench issued a rule upon the government, asking it to explain within two weeks why the

first year students of North South University (NSU) and Tariq, a first year student of American International University of Bangladesh (AIUB) Electrical Engineering department, were washed away by the strong tides of the turbulent sea. Tourists on the beach later

rescued Tariq from Laboni Point while the other two could not be traced.

police SP said.

an official of Matrix Computer World of Gulshan, Dhaka and two of his colleagues, Abdul Malek and Yasir Arafat, were swept away by the tide when they went swimming

were able to rescue Malek and Arafat while Sujat could not be found till 5.30pm yesterday, Banaj added. Malek, Arafat and Sujat had

been visiting a relative in Cox's Bazar and had only arrived shortly before they went down to the beach for a swim.

away seven college students as they went swimming at Laboni Point of the beach on July 26 this year. Four of them were later rescued while the bodies of three others were found later.

ACC okays

charge sheet against the law adviser of the President Iajuddinled caretaker government and the filing of case against the former diplomat.

judge will be charge-sheeted for acquiring wealth worth Tk 1.8 crore beyond his known sources of income and concealing information of wealth worth about Tk 91 lakh.

officer of the case, will submit the Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court either Monday or Tuesday.

The charge sheet in the case filed on April 13 this year will be submitted under sections 26(2) and 27(1) of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2004 and section 15 of the Emergency Power Rules 2007.

Justice Fazlul Haque submitted his wealth statement to the ACC on November 26, 2007. Hanif Iqbal told the briefing

that the immediate-past ambassador to UAE would be accused of embezzlement of Tk 65 lakh by being in the service illegally for two years.

Nazim was supposed to go into retirement on February 9, 2003. But he was in service for two more years, as he gave "false information and made changes to his SSC certificate".

Punishment of killers Tac ordinance

on November 3, 1975, only 79 days

after usurpers in a desperate bid

killed Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman and most of his

uty inspector general (prisons)

filed a murder case in respect of the

jail killings with Lalbagh Police

the trial process by promulgating

an ordinance that indemnified the

assassins. The investigation and

trial of the killings remained

blocked for about 21 years until the

law was scrapped during the 1996-

Major parties

but the killers are yet to be brought

"This is unfortunate", he added.

Jatiya Party acting Chairman

Workers' Party President Rashed

Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud

said, "We are not happy with the

verdict. But we have to accept the

was delivered ignoring reality. "We

are shocked at the verdict. If dark-

not be done," said Menon.

ness clouds the judiciary, justice can

President Hasanul Haque Inu said

"The national leaders were killed in

front of prison guards and all the

murderers were identified. We are

Bangladesh General Secretary

Mujahidul Islam Selim told The

Daily Star that the High Court

Mojaheed filed the petition, as a

public interest litigation, with the

HC challenging the legality of three

sections of the amended RPO

relating to the constitution of

political parties and politics based

on religion and party elections,

reserved posts, front organisations

and religious and other such dis-

crimination in party constitutions.

The amended RPO makes it

A party constitution must also

verdict did not reflect justice.

Govt asked

FROM PAGE 1

Communist Party of

not happy with the verdict."

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal

judgement of the highest court."

The trial was also delayed due to

2001 rule of Awami League.

judicial tangles.

to justice.

But the then government halted

Kazi Abdul Awal, the then dep-

family on August 15.

Station the next day.

Appellate Division will have to settle first the delay petition, said defence lawyer Barrister Abdullah Al Mamun.

"If the Supreme Court allows such convicts to appeal [against the HC verdict], then their fate will be decided after its verdict," he Mamun opined that the obser-

vation by both the trial court and the HC regarding "poor" investigation into such a historic case led to the failure to punish the real cul-In its verdict, the trial court

blamed investigation officer Abdul Kahar Akand for faulty investigation and said all the killers could ment due to his negligence.

reason behind damaging the merit of the case," the judge said in his October 20, 2004 verdict, adding, "The IO did not investigate many important aspects, failed to prove many things including conspiracy behind the assassinations and presented faulty documents."

Mamun, who was present in the Khan Menon said the judgement court to receive the verdict yesterday, told The Daily Star, "The High Court also made the same observation in recognition to the trial court observation (regarding flawed investigation].

"The High Court thinks the charges have been made not against the right persons," he

is a lame excuse that the investigation officer could not investigate properly.

"Why didn't the court make any observation regarding delay in trial of such a historic case for 21 years? Why was no investigation done into it?" he asked.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Kahar yesterday said, "I did my investigation properly and pressed charges against those who appeared to be guilty on the basis of evidence available. And the court punished those who it felt were guilty. I haven't seen the court verdict and have nothing to say about it."

It is very unlikely that an IO would be able to perform his duty smoothly 21 years after an inci-

"Although the killings took place in November 1975, the invesuntil-October 1996 for the Indemnity Ordinance. Moreover, there were attempts to destroy evidence of the case in the long

dent of the Bangladesh government in exile in 1971, Tajuddin Ahmed, prime minister, M Mansur Ali, finance minister, and AHM Qamaruzzaman, minister for home affairs, relief and rehabilitation, of the same government, were assassinated in Dhaka Central Jail

Design guidelines would be made

for the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT)

systems, including BRT and Metro

(underground railway) system, in the

major advancement in the city's

infrastructure and completion of

three elevated motorways will be

done in the second phase. "Final

design and finance plans for the first

Metro Line [5] will be completed in

The third phase, which has two

scheduled for the first part of the

The second and final part of the

third phase includes design and

construction of the 17 roads aimed at

completing the city motorway net-

The cost of BRT has been esti-

mated at \$5 million per km while the

cost of Metro Line construction has

been estimated at \$50 million per km

on structure and \$75 million per km

Terming the launch the begin-

ning of a new chapter, Fakhruddin

said managing fund for such a mega

Construction of 12 roads to have

first phase, says the report.

FROM PAGE 1

this phase."

third phase.

and 6, the report says.

underground.

second phases.

The petitioners said the ordinance which brings the truth commission into being is unconstitutional because no authorities other than the lawful courts have the jurisdiction to try and mete out penalties to criminal offenders.

They said though the ordinance has not declared the Tac a court, it provides for the commission to confiscate individuals' property which goes against the basic tenets of the country's constitution.

The petition argued that the president cannot promulgate such an ordinance other than the ones related to elections or emergencies during the tenure of a caretaker government.

The president's secretary, cabinet secretary, home secretary, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC chairman and Tac chairman were made respondents in the writ petition.

Supreme Court lawyer Adilur Rahman Khan Shubhro, Ubinig, an NGO, executive director Farida Akthter, the Awami League's women affairs secretary Dipu Moni and rights group Odhikar's acting director Nasiruddin Elan had filed the petition as public interest litigation (PIL).

Dr Toufik Rewaz argued for the petitioners while Attorney General Salauddin Ahmed represented the defendants.

Kepco, Summit and Malaysian YTI late last year. Summit was conditionally selected at first, but in January this year it was arbitrarily disqualified and YTL was also disqualified. Previously qualified for Sirajganj 450 MW power project, Summit repeatedly requested the Power Cell to reconsider but it was ignored.

Powertek and Kepco announced its consortium and AES announced its withdrawal. Finally, Powertek appeared as the lone bidder on the bid submission date last month.

FROM PAGE 16 The projects are construction o jails in three districts (Tk 2 crore), construction of infrastructure in upazila headquarters (Tk 214 crore), upazila road development (Tk 510 crore), district town infrastructure (Tk 210 crore), Amin Bazar sanitary land field (Tk 64 crore), revised primary education stipend (Tk 4,753 crore), transparent ballot box (Tk 46 crore), Chars livelihood (Tk 667 crore), economic empowerment of the poor est (Tk 886 crore), Health, Nutrition and Population Sector Programme (HNPSP) (Tk 37384 crore), construction of regional passport offices in different dis-

Pension rules

FROM PAGE 16

The commission proposes drop ping the need for the would-be retiree to attach citizenship certifi-

A comprehensive form, which will contain all possible information, will have to be prepared in this regard.

The pension-sanctioning authority may only ask the public servant to provide essential papers filled-out pension form, bank account number and the option for one-time or monthly payment of

The letter sanctioning the pension will have to be sent to the accounts section three months before the LPR ends. The accounts department will then send a pension cheque to the recipient's bank account in 15 days after receiving the letter and inform the retiree accordingly.

As with the lump-sum pension grant, bank cheques for monthly pension will be sent to the recipient's account automatically.

A high-level cell headed by an official from the CAG office will settle appeal on audit objections in three months. In default, the employee will be entitled to getting

departmental cases against the retiring official in one year's time during the LPR period, and, in case of failure to do so, recommends paying off the pension on the assumption that there was no objection against them.

Public servants who worked 10 years in temporary posts under the mendations.

tralising the authority of granting pension. According to a Transparency International Bangladesh study,

have to go through immeasurable sufferings due to procedural complexities and a lengthy pension processing system. Many of them have to lead an inhuman life in the absence of any social security means," RRC CEO Apurba Kumar noted.

Lanka asks Tamils to flee to govt territory

42 killed in fresh fighting

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka yesterday appealed to minority ethnic Tamil civilians living in the line of fire in rebel-held towns to move to areas under government control, saying it Wednesday. would guarantee them safe pas-

Defence Secretary Gotabhaya Rajapakse said the military had cleared a route for people fleeing the island's embattled north, where troops are advancing on the rebel capital of Kilinochchi, 330km north of Colombo. "We plan to give passage to

(government-held) Vavuniya. We're dropping leaflets from the air, encouraging people to leave, giving details of routes to take to safety," Rajapakse said. Nearly 135,000 people have media access to frontlines. been driven from their homes

people from Kilinochchi to come to

months, according to UN aid agen-"It's better for civilians to come to government-cleared areas so we

Government agencies and the few aid groups who are allowed to can start to resettle them faster," operate inside rebel-held areas in said Rajapakse, the younger the north have reported there are brother of Sri Lankan President sufficient stocks of food and medicine, Rajapakse said.

Jail killing case

Marfat Ali and Abdul Hashem are

Justice Nozrul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Ataur Rahman

The eight, believed to be holed up abroad, are Lt Col (dismissed) Khondaker Abdur Rashid, Lt Col (relieved) Shariful Haq Dalim, Lt Col (retd) SHMB Noor Chowdhury, Lt Col (retd) AM Rashed

The killing of liberation moveand AHM Qamaruzzaman came a little over two and a half months after the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Abdul Awal filed a case with Rahman.

to release those in jail if there are no other charges against them.

in Bangabandhu Murder Case. death in the case. Their appeals against the convictions are now pending with the Appellate

In its judgment, the HC yesterday observed that the evidence and statements of the witnesses did not prove beyond doubt the allegations except those against Muslemuddin.

the register at the jail gate on November 3 and all the witnesses testified that he was involved in the

properly investigated the Jail Killing Case. Some persons had been wrongly implicated, it added. The relatives of those with

Sweety, Mohiuddin's relative,

He said they were deprived of justice in the lower court as the previous BNP-led coalition government interfered in the trial of the case. They could not get justice this time too, he

get justice," said Nasim, also a former assets worth 69.33 lakh from the homeminister. Khairuzzaman Liton, son of slain

leader AHM Qamaruzzaman, expressed resentment over the verdict.

and my family members. We reject it," said Liton, also the Rajshahi mayor-elect.

ing that they would challenge the verdict in the Supreme Court. former health minister and AL leader

national leaders who were behind the creation of the nation is conducted in such way, what would happen to common people," she

His comments came as the defence ministry said at least 37 rebels from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and five government soldiers were killed in the latest clashes in the north on Troops advancing deeper into

territory held by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) killed the 37 rebels and wounded another 18 in clashes on Wednesday, the ministry said in a statement.

It said five soldiers were killed and another 33 wounded.

The latest fighting brought the number of rebels killed by troops since January to 6,167, according to government figures. The government says 581 of its troops have died over the same period. Casualty figures cannot be

verified as the military blocks Sri Lankan troops have been

because of fighting between gov- advancing deeper into rebel-held ernment forces and Tamil Tiger territory as they push to dismantle separatist rebels in the past two the LTTE's northern stronghold after ejecting the guerrillas from the east of the island in July 2007.

said, "We have got justice from the

Mahinda Rajapakse.

fugitives and the rest behind bars. The HC bench comprised of

Khan however did not pass any orders on the eight lifers who had not filed any appeal. This means their convictions by the lower court remain valid.

Chowdhury, Major (relieved) Ahmed Sharful Hossain, Captain (retd) Abdul Majed, Captain (relieved) Kismat Hashem and Captain (relieved) Nazmul ment stalwarts Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed, M Mansur Ali

The court asked the authorities

Farook, Shahriar Rashid, Huda and Mohiuddin are detained also They have been condemned to Division of the Supreme Court.

The convicts appealing against the verdict get the benefit of the doubt as per principles of natural justice, it continued. Muslemuddin's name was on Mohiuddin, who was brought

murders. The bench also observed that the investigation officer had not

convictions quashed expressed satisfaction with the HC decision.

Families

FROM PAGE 1

"But today or tomorrow, we shall

"The verdict has disappointed me his Mymensingh residence.

"We had earlier rejected the Director Niru Shamsunnahar, also verdict of the trial court. We expected justice from the High Court. But it has also disappointed us," he said, add-

Simin Hossain Rimi, daughter of former premier Tajuddin Ahmed, said people would never accept the High Court judgment.

asked.

from the ACC.

saying that he has wealth worth Tk 5.13.98,000.

AFP, Najaf

Iraqi Shia radical leader Moqtada

"The Mahdi Army suspension

There was no immediate expla-

drawal of US troops.

timeline for a US withdrawal.

rity pact.

minister secured ad interim bail from the HC in the Zia Orphanage

Trust corruption case.

initiation and continuation of the Tk 3 crore extortion case filed by Azam J Chowdhury against former prime minister and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina should not be declared illegal. **CASES AGAINST OTHERS** The SC also dismissed another government appeal against the HC order

that stayed the proceedings against

BNP leader and former health minis-

ter Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain in a tax evasion case filed by the NBR. Upon a petition, the HC bench of Justice Sharif Uddin Chaklader and Justice Md Emdadul Haque Azad extended for six months its earlier orders that granted bail to BNP leader and former agriculture minister MK Anwar in the Gatco graft case.

Following separate petitions, the

HC granted bail to Salauddin Quader

Chowdhury, former parliamentary affairs adviser to former prime minister Khaleda Zia, and former state ministers Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir and Obaidul Kader in sepa-

Galib freed FROM PAGE 1 guilty in an explosives case. Six months back, the HC ordered that Galib would be awarded bail in two other cases (one for explosions in Shahjahanpur and the other for murdering a person in the explosions) unless the trial of the murder

case is completed within three months and the trial of the explosion case in six months. Galib was released on bail at around 5:30pm yesterday following

the HC order as both the trials could not be held in time. GALIB'S MILITANTTIES In 1978, Galib formed Ahab's youth wing Ahle Hadith Jubo Shangha (AHJS), said AHJS workers.

While forming the AHJS, Galib

argued that they needed to engage in

Jihad against Islamic fallacies including the mazar culture to bring an Islamic rule in the country. Galib received funds from the Middle East through an Indian Islamist leader named Moulana Abdul Matin Salafi. In 1988 the Ershad government expelled Salafi, who had been working as a Muballig (religious preacher), for anti-state activities. Abdul Matin Salafi sent

Arabia, sources said. The mainstream organisation Ahab was formed in late 1994. With Galib's help and funds from Revival of Islamic Heritage Society (RIHS), the JMB militants used 700 mosques across the country. The

bank accounts of RIHS in Pakistan

were seized after the 9/11 incident.

and Pakistan with fake travel documents. He had close relations with Islamist militants in Kashmir. He visited India in 1998 with a business passport. Police and intelligence sources said Ahab is just a cover-up of the

Galib toured Afghanistan, India

Militants arrested in Thakurgaon, Joypurhat, Bogra and Natore told police that Galib was their leader and he used to meet with them at Ahle IMB chief Rahman and Ahab Amir Galib were well-known to each other. Rahman studied at Madina

University in Saudi Arabia on Galib's

recommendation and after complet-

ing his course, he joined with Galib.

JMB and most of the Ahab members

are involved in JMB activities.

FROM PAGE 1

not be awarded capital punish-"Faulty investigation is the

About four years later, Barrister

On the other hand, Anisul Huq blasted such an observation. "This

tigation could not be launched course of time," he added. Syed Nazrul Islam, acting presihave provisions to meet the goal of reserving at least 33 per cent of all committee positions for women and successively meet this targe by the year 2020. According to the sections of the RPO, a political party will not qualify for registration if any discrimination regarding religion, race,

caste, language or sex is apparent

in its constitution, or if it threatens

to destroy communal harmony or lead the country to territorial disin-The government published the gazette on the RPO on August 19.

Barrister Abdur Razzak

appeared for the petitioner.

Mega transport project

implementation. "It is a landmark step for Dhaka residents," he added. Mahbubur Rahman, secretary to Roads and Highways Department of the communication ministry, gave the welcome speech at the cere-

mony which was also attended by a number of advisers, senior government officials and donors' representatives. "It is time to make the capital city

He said his government has given an important consideration to the matter of increasing scope and facilities of city life alongside resolv-

ing people's problems and fulfilling

their expectations.

"As a result, intolerable traffic jams, air and noise pollution and so on became a matter of city life. Civic amenities have decreased increasing suffering," he said. The present caretaker govern-

Construction and reconstruction of about 330km of roads and highways, including 50 new roads, flyovers, elevated motorways, Metro Lines, circular waterways, "We will also revive the rivers in Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), Rapid and around the capital to integrate Mass Transit (RMT), bus-route those with the land transport sys- rationalisation, traffic-system development and protecting the Presiding over the function, environment are the major com-

Power tariff

FROM PAGE 16

Soon after pre-qualification,

tricts (Tk32 crore).

cate, fingerprint and bond to the pension form if they have national identity card or birth certificate.

"This government already has taken initiative to further expedite The RRC also proposes settling

> revenue sector will be entitled to pension under the new recom-Proposing the introduction of a computer-based pay roll accounting, the RRC draft speaks for decen-

the average public servant has to pay Tk 7,660 in bribe and spend Tk 3,720 for transport and meals to get their pension documents pro-"Despite several streamlining steps, government officials still

High Court in this case and hope the same will happen to other cases Anisul Hug, chief state counsel, termed the verdict "unfortunate and a farce".

> we believe we'll get justice there," he told reporters on the court premises. Abdullah-al Mamun, counsel for the defence, said the verdict shows that some innocent persons

"It proves my clients were not

"I'm disappointed with the

judgment. We will go to the

Supreme Court to appeal against it.

We have faith in the apex court and

involved in the killing," he said. The HC began delivering the verdict on August 18. Hearings on the appeals and death references in the case began on July 13, around four years after the trial court's judgment. They

continued for 26 workdays.

were implicated in this case.

A day after the killing, the then deputy inspector general of police Lalbagh Police Station against four persons including Muslemuddin.

After 23 long years, police

submitted charge sheet against 23

people including Farook and

Muslemuddin on October 15, Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court in Dhaka passed the verdict in the case on October 20, 2004, sentencing three people to death and 12 to life in prison.

Five of the accused--KM

Obaidur Rahman, Shah Moazzem Hossain, Nurul Islam Monzoor, Taheruddin Thakur and Khairuzzaman--were relieved of the charges. The convicts filed appeals with the HC immediately after pronouncement of the judgement.

back home from the United States

on June 18 last year, appealed against his conviction from jail. **AKM Mosharrat**

FROM PAGE 16 statement from the commission.

CASE AGAINST MOSHARRAF Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Golam Rabbani passed the order after ACC Deputy Director Golam Shahriar Chowdhury, also the investigation officer (IO), submitted a petition for showing him arrested in the case and interrogating him at jail

The ACC filed the case with

Ramna Police Station against the

former lawmaker on August 14 this year for accumulating wealth worth Tk 68.56 lakh illegally and concealing information about his commission. The joint forces arrested Mosharraf, also an accused in Gatco,

Niko and Barapukuria Coal Mine

scam cases, on February 8 last year at

The same court yesterday passed the order after ACC Assistant the IO of the case, submitted a petition for showing Selim arrested in the case. The commission filed the case

CASEAGAINSTSELIM

gally and concealing information "If the trial for the killings of the about his wealth worth Tk 22.39 lakh Selim submitted his wealth state-

with Ramna Police Station against

Selim on April 23 this year for amass-

ing wealth worth Tk 3.38 crore ille-

ment to the ACC on July 22, last year

Gatco and Niko graft cases.

resignation letters and affidavits. city AL, said he sent his resignation letter to the central AL committee. Councillors belonging to AL, BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami also sent their

matter," he said.

Officer Korban Ali.

Delwar

the Secretariat.

Talking to newsmen at the

treatment abroad.

too," he added.

ask the government to release her, Delwar said, " We have already asked for her release and we have also got court verdict in

get treatment abroad.

Laboni Point of the beach at Ashiqur Rahman and Sajib, both

"Tariq is in severe shock and unable to recollect when the three young men came to Cox's Bazar or where they were boarding," the In another incident, Sujat Selim,

-- also near Laboni Point -- at around 3.30pm. People present on the beach

Strong receding tides swept

parts, includes the designing and construction 16 roads aimed at opening up the eastern and western FROM PAGE 1 fringe areas. Preliminary engineering on 17 roads to be constructed in the second part of the third phase, final design and financing plans for the second and third Metro Line [4 and 6] and completion of the con-The former Appellate Division struction work of Metro Line 5 are

According to sources, ACC work, completion of Metro Line 4 Assistant Director Mohammad Ibrahim, also the investigating charge sheet to the Chief

> project would be a challenge. He urged the donors to come forward. The plan, however, has the option to launch concerted move to mobilise fund from government and private sectors.

> > short presentation on the 20-year plan.

"The Mass Rapid Transit system

will be complete when the first part

of the third phase is done," said SM

Salehuddin, additional executive

director of Dhaka Transport

Coordination Board, while giving a

Quader said the plan was endorsed in 2006 and blamed the previous government for not approving it for

habitable by cleansing it of environment pollution and traffic jam," the chiefadvisersaid.

the Dhaka Transport Coordination Board and laid special importance on advancing the STP which had been stuck for long," he said. Alongside increasing population, economic activities and industries have increased and so has the number of vehicles on the road, he

said. Roads have not increased in

proportion to the rate at which the

number of vehicles increased.

ment approved the project this year against the backdrop of commuters' abject suffering for outmoded transport system of the capital compounded with nagging traffic congestion that causes waste of valuable time in this high-speed

Communication Adviser Ghulam ponents of the STP.

mandatory for political parties to elect members of committees at all levels, including members of the central committee.