Digital Bangladesh

content for the general people,'

said Jabbar, adding, "They need

to do it in the language of the

general people. They need to

post contents for 150 million

people, not just the five or six

regular Internet surfers may

find the cyber waves to be

choppy. The website of the

Ministry of Chittagong Hills

Tracts Affairs, for one, has been

dead for some time now.

Ministry officials had no clue

until The Daily Star enquired

As of Sunday, the page

Experts say fishing out

remained blank except for a line

information through the maze

of ministries needs to be made

easier. The information pro-

vided on the websites lack

consistency and the pages of

most ministries are not linked to

each other. They say the

websites should reflect a com-

mon theme, present uniform

information and be connected.

in many websites with multi-

coloured, gaudy fonts blinking

and winking at different speeds,

said Amin Mahmud, a freelance

web developer. He jokingly

suggested that users put on a

pair of goggles before visiting

"I recall once an animation

"The message moved so

Water transport

everyone was confused

whether the strike would be

Minister Shahjahan Khan at a

press briefing at his office yes-

terday termed the strike illegal

and warned of taking legal

action against those who will try

to create anarchy in the name of

leaders to sit with the govern-

ment for negotiation before the

gazette notification of the wage

Bangladesh Noujan Sramik

Federation Shah Alam told The

Daily Star that Shipping

Secretary Abdul Mannan

Hawlader called him in the

morning to sit with the govern-

But they denied any negotia-

tion until release of eight people

arrested on Friday in a case

under Speedy Trial Act in con-

nection with vandalism and

creating chaos at Sadarghat

procession in the city for con-

tinuation of the strike and

demanding immediate release

Bangladesh Shipping Workers'

Federation and Bangladesh

Noujan Sramik League brought

out separate processions pro-

leaders of Sramik Karmochari

Oikko Parishad and Workers'

Party of Bangladesh urged the

government to fulfil the

demands of the workers

dent reports: as many as 21

cargo vessels remained

stranded at the outer anchorage

of the Chittagong port halting

activities of loading and unload-

ing of goods for the second

Our Chittagong correspon-

In separate statement,

On the other hand,

The federation brought out a

ment to settle the matter.

terminal, he added.

of their co-workers.

testing the strike.

through negotiation.

Vice-Chairman o

He also urged the federation

Meanwhile, Shipping

enforced fully or partially.

some of the home pages.

The visuals are also alarming

about it on Thursday.

of computer code.

But even the five or six lakh

lakh who use Internet."

FROM PAGE 1 for special programmes.

Instead, the websites are merely Windows dressing, say experts.

"Most of the websites are there just to be there," said Mustafa Jabbar, president of Bangladesh Computer Samity, a national coalition of technology-based organisations. "They do not do anything to help the people or organisations."

He said most sites simply list the names of department officials, messages from directors and historical information that sometimes requires scrolling through numerous screens.

In January, Badda resident Ali Akbar heard that anyone could download textbooks from the National Curriculum and Text Board website. He decided to download and print some out for his eight-year-old housemaid Khuku.

"I went to the website to download the books and the page was not there," he said, adding, "I kept checking back for the next three days and still found it not working. It got me frustrated so I gave in, and pretty much forgot about the whole thing later.'

A 2010 United Nations survey showed Bangladesh had improved its e-government but still ranked 134 out of 184 countries. That was above Pakistan, but below the Maldives, Sri

on a government site read, 'Let anka and India. The ranking your eyes live on. Donate your was based on criteria such as eves to someone'." the presence of web pages, information on public policy quickly from right to left, I and whether citizens could give thought I was going to need a immediate feedback. fresh pair of eyes," he said.

Government officials admit their websites are unattractive, clunky and a flop among citizens. They blame the lack of techno-savvy people to look after the websites, which require at least half an hour a day to update and maintain. So the task falls to administrators who work on the home pages in addition to their official duties.

The result is that many websites are lagging behind. When the nation was on a swine flu alert last August, a review showed the websites for the health ministry and other government offices carried nothing on the scare.

Even for more mundane matters--paying taxes or making an appointment to get a car fitness certificate--government websites fall far short, say experts. The portals for the 64 districts launched in January are not interactive, and mostly contain a collection of parebones information.

Citizens using the otherwise well-designed sites for the National Board of Revenue (NBR) or Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) still face analogue procedures. They have to download applications, print them, fill them out by hand and then bring them into the respective offices.

Many of the websites are also not available in Bangla, making them nearly useless to the bulk of the population.

"The government needs to realise when they are providing

BNP leaders ask FROM PAGE 16

government remains busy repressing opposition instead

of working for people's welfare. Dhaka city unit BNP organised the rally as part of a countrywide programme to protest the killing of BNP leader Zakir Hossain in Natore. He was

allegedly attacked by AL activ-

ists on his way to Khaleda Zia's

Bogra proves that the govern-

ment remains isolated from

at the party's central office in

Naya Paltan in the afternoon.

He was talking to journalists

Meantime, BNP brought out

processions that marched

towards Election Commission

offices across the country

demanding cancellation of

Bhola by-poll results and resig-

nation of the three election

commissioners, report our

correspondents from different

Party leaders and activists

gathered at the party office in

Chittagong at about 11:00am

and marched towards the EC

Police intercepted them in

lamalkhan, about 100 yards off

rally there with city unit

President Amir Khasru

Mahmud Chowdhury in the

BNP leaders and activists

marched towards the EC office

in Barisal and held a rally on the

office premises. BNP district

unit General Secretary Nazrul

Meanwhile, police inter-

cepted a BNP procession near

Islam Khan presided over it.

Bazar in Rajshahi.

office at Rahmatganj.

districts.

grand rally in Rajshahi on May 5. consecutive day. The party observed half-day Our Bagerhat corresponhartal in Bogra in protest of the BNP Secretary General

dent reports: Activities at the Mongla port were seriously hampered due to the strike halting trade with India through Khandaker Delwar Hossain said waterways the success of the hartal in

Our Barisal correspondent reports: Six launches left the terminal for Bhola and Patarhat vesterday while two launches were scheduled to leave for Dhaka.

ACC to quiz

FROM PAGE 16

Earlier former communications minister Nazmul Huda gave his deposition before the commission.

ACC issued notices on nine former ministers for their statements on the issue. The rest sought time on various grounds. ACC will submit the report without their statements, as it does not have that much time.

When Khaleda Zia was prime minister, about Tk 7.5 crore of public money was the EC office. They held a brief laundered in the name of land purchase for Zia Charitable Trust and funds for the construction of Bhairab Bridge misappropriated causing a loss of Tk 100 crore to the state exchequer, sources men-

tioned. The money laundering probe also involves Khaleda's sons Tarique Rahman, senior vice-chairman of BNP, and Arafat Rahman Koko as they are also trustees of Zia

the EC office at Laxmipur Kacha Charitable Trust. As per ACC code of practice, once its inquiry finds ATN cameraman FROM PAGE 1 Injury marks on Mithu's throat

indicated that he was strangled, said a morgue assistant. Abu Saleh Mohammad Ansar Uddin, officer-in-charge

of Turag Police Station, said the murderers might have killed Mithu somewhere else and dumped the body near the dam. The motive behind the killing remains unclear, said

However, Pavel Islam, press and publication officer of ATN Bangla, said Mithu fell victim to muggers while returning home by a rented microbus from his office at Karwan Bazar at about 10:30pm Saturday. The muggers boarded the vehicle in guise of passengers.

Mithu's brother-in-law Shawkat Hassan Khan said Mithu had been missing since Saturday night.

Quoting Mithu's wife Farhana Hossain Khan, Shawkat said Mithu last called Farhana at about 9:00pm. Mithu told her that would

soon leave the office for his Dakkhin Khan residence and later call Farhana, who stayed at her sister Bristi's house at Dhalpurthat night. Farhana contacted the ATN

Bangla office at about 11:00pm after she found Mithu's cell phone switched off. She was told that Mithu left the office at about 10:30pm. Mithu's younger brother Rahmatul Islam Khan said on

information from police, he went to the spot at around 10:30am and identified his brother's body. Farhana, who is expecting, has a twelve-year-old daughter

Mehrin Islam, student of class-VI at Civil Aviation High School. Mithu had been working with ATN Bangla for the last seven years. He previously worked for Bangladesh

He had no enmity with anyone, said Rahmatul, who filed a murder case with Turag Police Station.

Khaleda

Television for a year.

FROM PAGE 1

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain resorted to lies in this regard, Hanif alleged at a press conference at the AL president's political office at Dhanmondi in the capital. Earlier on Friday, Delwar

said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's reported remark on May 6 that former premier Khaleda whitened black money is motivated, a blatant lie and reflection of unhealthy mental-Hanif mentioned that

according to the National Board of Revenue, Khaleda legalised undisclosed Tk 1,30,94313 for fiscal 2002-03 by paying Tk 30,31,044 in taxes and fine, Tk 22,03,279 for 2003-04 by paying Tk 1,17,168, Tk 21,19,051 for 2004-05 by payng Tk 82,790, Tk 21,19,051 for 2005-06 by paying Tk 83,356 and Tk 21,05,564 for 2006-07 by paying Tk 72,667.

The AL leader questioned how a former premier legalised undisclosed money, and what were the sources of earning it? She was compelled to legalise the money during the last caretaker government's tenure, Hanifsaid.

And he urged the BNP secre tary general to "behave" and give up "falsehood".

Hanif, also a special assistant to the prime minister, said BNP is resorting to falsehood on power generation and attacks on its workers with the motive of tarnishing the government's image and halting development activities.

He accused BNP of killing its activists and blaming AL for this in a bid to destabilise law and

He urged the main opposition party to cooperate with the government so that people could evaluate its role ahead of the next election.

The other AL leaders present at the press conference included AFM Bahauddin Nasim, BM Mojammel Haque, Ahmed Hossain, Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, Mrinal Kanti Das, Afzal Hossain and Aminul Islam Amin.

Biman

FROM PAGE 1

which the engines might shut down," a high official of Biman Bangladesh Airlines told The Daily Star.

"The pilot soon made contact with the Shahjalal airport and on consultation, he decided to return," added the Biman official.

Wishing anonymity the Biman official said, as the aircraft was loaded with a huge amount of fuel, pilot dumped 30 tonnes of fuel to lose some weight of the plane.

After around two hours, the pilot managed to land the airport at 5:30am, sources at the airport said. Such technical glitches might cause major accidents, they added.

Stranded passengers of the

Shooting

FROM PAGE 1

He said when the first shot was fired at the Darbar Hall in the morning, it hit the neck of an officer of the engineering core. A soldier instantly reacted saying there was no plan of shooting, he added.

Asked about his findings regarding the reason behind the mutiny during his 14month job, Gen Mainul said rumours were created in such manners that everybody liked to hear those and some over enthusiasts spread those rumours mindlessly. In reply to another ques-

tion, he said the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) may find something about patronising the mutiny as BDR has some limitation over interrogating any suspects.

The CID has been investigating the case filed with New Market police in connection with the carnage in Pilkhana. On the other hand, BDR is conducting trials for the mutiny setting up six special courts led by the DG as per the law of the force.

As Gen Mainul left BDR, the new DG would be the president of the courts, while other members would remain unchanged. Talking at the briefing, the

outgoing DG said, "We hope

CID will submit the charge sheet of the case by this month."

He gave a written speech about his main tasks and achievements since taking the charge amid a severe crisis after the carnage in Pilkhana where 57 army officers were killed.

Asked about his views on frequent tension across the frontiers, Gen Mainul said some people get financial benefit when tension escalated on the border. They are likely to contribute to creating tension, he observed.

But he expressed the hope that the border would remain peaceful in future. Some people also want to

hinder the smooth functioning of development process of Bangladesh by creating unrest along the border, he said. Gen Mainul added the

scale of losing lives and goods of Bangladeshis by the firing of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) has declined after the last DGlevel conference between He said from his knowl-

edge that BSF has already completed a trial for killing Bangladeshi citizen on the border and some other trials are pending for such types of

"We know forests are

meeting public demand of

timber, fuel wood, bamboo

and other minor forest prod-

ucts. So we like to conserve

forest for future generation,'

he said, adding the concept of

Production Forestry of the

forest department has been

changed to Conservation

boost up eco-tourism, wild

life conservation, recreation,

education and research his

ministry has declared 23

protected areas covering

258,703 hectares, seven eco-

parks covering 7,861 hectares

and two safari parks covering

Wildlife Sanctuary covers an

area of 4,716 hectares under

Khurosia and Dhopchari

range of Chittagong South

Forest. This is also a part of

IPAC (Integrated Protected

Area Co-Management) pro-

try of environment and forest

(MoEF) to establish a co-

management committee

consisting of people living in

and around the new pro-

tected areas to manage them.

people, the IPAC project is

working together with the

MoEF to better manage 50

wetland and forest protected

areas throughout Bangladesh.

assist the government of

Bangladesh to establish a

transparent governance

system in and around the

protected areas and ensure

participation from the local

government as well as the

local community in manag-

Denise Rollins and Chie

Conservator of Forests Abdul

Mutaleb also spoke at the

After the inauguration,

Hasan and Moriarty released

three Maya Deer into the

Gas station

USAID Mission Director

ing these protected areas.

The US government will

Benefiting 2.5 million

IPAC will assist the minis-

Dudpukuria-Dhopachari

2,442 hectares.

ject.

The state minister said to

Forestry.

New reserve to rest

FROM PAGE 16

This declaration added almost 10,000 hectares of severely threatened natural areas into the country's protected area network. With this declaration,

about 260,000 hectares of land across Bangladesh are now protected, according to a press release of the US Embassy.

The US government, through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded Integrated Protected Area Co-management (IPAC) Project, promoted the Bangladesh government's declaration of these four ecologically significant natural areas.

At the inaugural function, Moriarty said Bangladesh needs to vigorously expand the protected forest areas to conserve natural resources and wildlife as the country has already lost over 90 percent of its forest cover.

"Millions of people are directly dependent on its forests and wetlands. For the good of these people, Bangladesh must expand protected areas to conserve natural resources, while at the same time ensuring people who live in and around these areas can make a living," he said.

He said the US government helps to train local people and local governments for better management of natural resources, restore degraded areas, raise public awareness and increase earnings from these natural resources.

The state minister said the government will enact a new wildlife protection act soon and introduce wildlife conservation award this year.

He said due to population pressure overuse of natural resources, deforestation, degradation, habitat loss, killing and hunting of wild animal, animal biodiversity is reducing day by day. Most of the plants and animals are threatened or endangered.

BCL postpones FROM PAGE 16

strike since April 20 demand-

ing arrest of the killers of Asad,

a BCL activist, and the resigna-

tion of vice- chancellor of the

all academic activities.

sides Saturday night.

began to operate as usual.

The strike forced the uni-

BCL men also vandalised a

number of university trans-

Uddin said BCL agreed to

university.

FROM PAGE 16 at 12:00noon with the pres-

function.

forest.

ence of State Minister for Power Brig Gen (retd) Enamul Haque and energy and power adviser of the prime minister Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury. The government accepted

four out of 13 demands. These are checking the papers of tank lorries at the petrol versity authorities to suspend depots, issuing arms licenses to petrol pump owners, renovating tank lorry terminals and appointing representa-CU Proctor Professor Jasim tives of state-run oil companies to the mobile courts.

suspend the strike after a "We called off the strike as meeting between the two our demands are partially met and the rest will be met within "We asked them to put off one month," said convenor of Petrol Pump and Tank Lorry the strike assuring them of Owners-Workers Unity discussing their demands," he Council Mohammad Nazmul The proctor said the uni-Haque.

The government formed a versity circumstances came committee to look into the back to normal. Transports for demands, sources at the meetthe teachers and the students ing said. The thirteen-point

Classes and examinations demand also include raising were also held at the respeccommission on the sale of tive departments accordingly, petrol from the present two percent to seven percent, ing tank lorry fare.

India destroys

FROM PAGE 16

Mukti Bahini, all appreciation and assessments made by the Indian army during the war period, the orders issued to fighting formations, and other sensitive operational details, according to the report published on the front page. Quoting 'authoritative

army sources' the report said all records of the period, held at the Eastern Command of the Indian army headquarters in Kolkota were destroyed immediately after the 1971 war. "This had remained secret until now," the daily claimed. At least two former chiefs of the Eastern Command and

other senior army officers told the newspaper that the destruction might have happened when Lt General Jagjit Singh Aurora, the Indian army's commanding officer on the eastern front, had headed the Eastern Command. "The sensational fact that the files were missing became

known only recently when the Eastern Command was searching for details of the Mukti Bahini camps in order to organise a reception for Bangladeshi veterans," the report said.

The Indian Army had housed the freedom fighters in different camps across India where army instructors trained them in warfare. Later, Mukti Bahini fighters were part of the operations led by the eastern command.

The newspaper quoting an unnamed senior army source as saying, "We were looking for the details of Mukti Bahini camps. We wanted to know where all were the camps, who were in charge etc. When those files were not available, the eastern army command launched a hunt for the records of the war. That is when we realised that the entire records are missing." Lt Gen (retd) JFR Jacob,

who was chief of staff of the eastern command during the war and later its head, admitted the records were missing, when asked if these were true. "When I took over as Eastern Army commander in

August 1974 I asked to see the records. I was told that they have been shredded," he told the newspaper. He refused to discuss who ordered the destruction of the records. The records of the

Bangladesh Liberation War are significant as this operation is one of the great success stories of Indian intelligence and the

Ctg city polls

invited high-ups of the armed

forces division, police and Bangladesh Rifles to attend a meeting at its conference room to review law and order ahead of the election, said a senior EC official. "Let's see what they say [at

the meeting]. We will take decision on army deployment, based on their opinion,' Election Commissioner Brig Gen (retd) M Sakhawat Hossain told reporters yesterday at his office. the meeting.

Earlier, May 5 was fixed for

The senior EC official said a schedule might be announced this week to hold the polls a few days before expiry of the existing CCC's tenure on June The EC has to declare the

poll schedule keeping so far 40 days time gap from the announcement of the schedule to the polling day, he added. The current CCC was con-

stituted through election on May 9, 2005.

According to the Local Government (city corporation) Act 2010, a city corporation election must be held in 180 days before its tenure expires.

Aug 21 probe FROM PAGE 16

Abdul Kahar Akand, also the investigation officer of the case, submitted a petition with a Dhaka court seeking the time as he could not complete the investigation in due time. Judge Fozila Begum of

Second Additiona Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court will hear the petition today. The CID has been given

eight months in three phases to complete the investigation. The other case filed under

the explosives substances act is pending with the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court. On March 4, Judge ANM Bashir Ullah of the court gave the CID three more months to submit the probe report of the case. On August 3 last year, a

Dhaka court ordered the inspector general of police to reinvestigate the cases and submit its probe reports within two months after identifying the persons who had procured and supplied the grenades used in the carnage of August 21, 2004.

60 criminal cases

FROM PAGE 1

Earlier the government had decided to withdraw around 4,500 cases saying those were "politically motivated and meant for harassment." Of the cases, two were filed against former law minister Moudud Ahmed and BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman. The charges Selim is now

facing include murder, attempt to murder, extortion, theft, holding unlawful assembly, and obstructing police from discharging their duties. Most of the cases withdrawn

earlier on different dates were filed during the last BNP-led government. Former BNP lawmaker of

Lalbagh constituency Nasir Uddin Ahmed Pintu, political rival of Selim, was acquitted in 76 lawsuits during the BNP-led government, sources at the metropolitan public prosecutor's office said. Selim, also joint secretary

general of Dhaka city unit AL, was sent to jail on May 20 last year after he surrendered before a Dhaka court in a graft case in which he was sentenced to 13 years' in absentia. He was later

released on bail from the High

Of the 120 cases filed against Selim, three cases have been filed for killing while seven for theft, one for extortion, 10 for attempting to murder, 28 for holding unlawful assembly and damaging vehicles, nine for obstructing the work of police and seven for keeping illegal

The cases have been filed

under the law and order disruption offences act, special powers act, arms and explosive substances act, company act, anticorruption commission act and the Penal Code with different police stations. Terming the cases "fake" in

his petitions filed with the Dhaka district magistrate, Haji Selim said the cases have been filed against him and his political colleagues with "political motives to harass them."

"The government had decided to withdraw false cases with political motives. Following the government's decision, the cases filed against me and my political colleagues need to be withdrawn," Selim said in his petitions.

There will be a meeting of

Meanwhile, Cameron has

The talks between Cameron

Conservative MPs at 1800 BST

on Monday, the BBC under-

told Tory supporters, via e-mail

that the negotiations will "inev-

and Clegg at Admiralty House

itably involve compromise".

UK Conservatives with the Conservatives.

FROM PAGE 16 Conservative leader David

Cameron "came so near and yet so far," said experts Colin Rallings and Michael Thrasher, the directors of the election centre at Plymouth University in southwest England. "Just 16,000 extra votes for

the Tories, distributed in the 19 constituencies in which the party came closest to winning, would have spared us a weekend of negotiation and speculation," they wrote in The Sunday Times newspaper. "The result shows that it is Labour which continues to

benefit mostly from a 'biased electoral system, winning inner-city seats with relatively small electorates and constituencies with lower turnouts,' they said. Had the positions of the parties been reversed (36 per-

cent to 29 percent), Labour

would have been returned with a majority of 64 seats, they "In the constituencies where Labour captured between 30 percent and 40 percent of the total vote, it won the seat in 39 percent of cases.

By contrast, the Tories won in just 26 percent of constituencies where their vote was in this range", they wrote. The big losers continue to be the Liberal Democrats, who

accumulate 'wasted votes' across the country." They won only one in eight seats in that Senior Conservatives and Liberal Democrats are holding

of their parties forming a new government. The parties' negotiating teams are currently meeting, after their leaders also met

more talks about the possibility

vesterday for private talks. Michael Gove, who said he would give up a cabinet seat for a Lib Dem, said the Lib Dems would not be "manoeuvred" into accepting an unsatisfac-

tory deal. Lib Dem leader Nick Clegg said "everyone was being constructive".

His negotiating team includes Danny Alexander, home affairs spokesman Chris Huhne, Laws and Andrew Stunnell.

They have met the Tory team Shadow Foreign Secretary William Hague, Shadow Chancellor George Osborne, policy chief Oliver Letwin and chief of staff Ed Llewellyn three times, assisted by civil servants as agreed in the arrangements for a hung parliament. Former Lib Dem leader Lord

Ashdown said it was important that the party talks to the Conservatives at the same time as "listening to Labour". The Tories won the most

election, but are short of a majority and are seeking support from the Lib Dems to form a government. Gordon Brown remains prime minister, and govern-

votes and MPs in Thursday's

ment business continues, with Chancellor Alistair Darling attending a meeting of finance ministers in Brussels later. Brown has offered the Lib

Dems talks if no deal is reached

Train crushes

FROM PAGE 1 Mohakhali level crossing at about 3:00pm and looked for a washroom.

the wheels of Dhaka-bound Turga-4 while crossing the railway line. An unnatural death case

They were crushed under

was filed with Kamalapur GRP

Govt readies **FROM PAGE 1**

According to a report by the

Trading Corporation of Bangladesh yesterday, the price of sugar dropped by 3.45 percent over the last one month and stood at Tk 40 to Tk 44 per kg.

However, compared to one-year back, the sugar price was 7.69 percent higher yesterday.

in Westminster, on Saturday night, were described by both sides as "constructive and amicable" and followed an earlier brief conversation at the VE day commemoration event in London.

Meanwhile, Labour frontbencher Peter Hain said it was "clear" that the Lib Dem leader and Brown had "a lot in common" on the need for electoral reform - Labour has offered a referendum on changing the voting system. A couple of Labour back-

benchers have called for Brown to step down, but Labour party treasurer Jack Dromey said: "This should not be a discussion about who gets which Cabinet seat, or who gets a

ministerial car. He said the "big choice" was for Clegg about whether to be a progressive party or "get into bed with the heirs of Thatcher".

Helal

FROM PAGE 1

inconsistent with Helal's known sources of income. The court fined Helal Tk 50 lakh, in default of which he would have to suffer two more

years in jail, and Rupa Tk 50,000 and she would have to serve an additional month in jail if she failed to pay the fine. On September 24, 2007, ACC Deputy Director Manzur

Ahmed filed the case with

Ramna Police Station accusing

Helal and his wife of concealing

Tk 7.60 crore in their wealth

statements and amassing Tk 16.22 crore through illegal On January 15, 2008, ACC Assistant Director Syed Ahmed also the investigation officer of the case, submitted the charge sheet against them before the Chief Metropolitan

Magistrate's Court showing 23 people as prosecution wit-On February 12, 2008, another Dhaka court had in another case sentenced Sheikh Helal to seven years' rigorous imprisonment for extorting Tk

1.02 crore from a construction Helal was shown arrested in the case yesterday following an

application filed by his lawyer. On January 12 last year, the High Court granted them bail in the case and stayed all the proceedings of the case for three months. But the ACC had filed an appeal against the HC order with the Supreme Court, which is now pending, sources said.

Jman

FROM PAGE 16

reasons.

the president prior to his departure for Oman.

Chowdhury apprised the president that Oman recently deported 26,000 Indian 17,000 Pakistani and around 10,000 Bangladeshi overseas workers showing various

Bangladeshi envoy in Oman assured the president that his first job in Oman would be to pave the way so that the deported Bangladeshi labourers could return to Oman. "Besides, I will do my level

best to increase the number of

The newly appointed

overseas employments for the both skilled and unskilled manpower of Bangladesh," he He also apprised the president that the Bangladeshi workers are showing high

performances in the agriculture sector in Oman. The president gave him a

patient hearing and asked him to work with utmost sincerity for ensuring all kind of welfare of expatriate Bangladeshi residing in Oman.

Later, BNP leaders led by city BCL General Secretary enforcing the decision for Ershad Hossain said they unit General Secretary Shafigul sufficient information about aircraft were sent to Riyadh by setting up testing laboratories postponed the strike consid-Islam Milon submitted a memoa leased aircraft of the national an allegation it goes for filing a at the petrol depots and raisrandum to election officials to ering the sufferings of general case and carrying out a fullflag carrier yesterday around press home their demand. fledged investigation. 10:00am, Biman sources said. students.

said.

he added.