NEWS

Other side of OSD

MoU with India

FROM PAGE 16 initial agreements reached

during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to India back in January.

Under the MoU between the two national companies, the large coal fired power plant will be set up under equal partnership. A joint venture agreement for the coal plant will be signed later and a board will be formed comprising equal members from both the countries. The chairman and the managing director's position will be periodically rotated between the two nations to maintain equality.

The MoU also outlines the fundamental areas of power sector cooperation. These includes NTPC's assistance in developing human resources in Bangladeshi power sector, improvement of efficiency and the scope to go for more joint ventures by the two state companies in power projects in both India and Bangladesh in the future.

"Such future ventures could mean joint ventures in hydro power or renewables," said a top PDB official. The MoU will be signed this

morning in presence of the Bangladesh high commissioner and counselor, Indian foreign secretary and high officials of NTPC. Sources said that India

earlier had some reservations on Bangladesh's proposals in the draft MoU. In May, India had sent Bangladesh a draft agreement outlining that the NTPC would manage and finance the two-unit coalbased plant in Khulna that would be jointly built with the PDB. Under this joint venture, the board of directors will be headed by Bangladesh. The

Four factories FROM PAGE 16

who led the drive told The Daily Star that because of ensuing Eid-ul Fitr the demand of vermicelli is very

high in the market.

ries, one puffed rice [Muri] and two vermicelli factories were found producing the popular items fulfilling the requirements of BSTI.

In the raid on seven facto-

The mobile court fined the rest four firms. Of those Khushi food products, a vermicelli factory, owned by Mofizul Islam of Ashrafabad in Kamrangirchar was fined Tk 50,000 for drying vermicelli in an unhygienic environment on a house roof, Abul Hossain's Nasir food industries on Madrasa Road o Kamrangirchar was fined Tk 50,000 for the same irregularity.

Kazi Sumon of Chawk Bazar Champatuli Lane was fined Tk 1 lakh for buying vermicelli from open market at Kamrangirchar and marketing them under the name of famous companies. As he did not pay the fine the mobile court gave him two months' jail sentence.

Shahidul Alam at Chawk Bazar was fined Tk 1 lakh on charges of making spurious Maggi and Fuji noodles and marketing those items.

Ship-breaker

Standards and Testing

Institution (BSTI)

FROM PAGE 1

Myanmar.

of the countries.

The mobile court led by magistrate Kulapradip Chakma fined the firms, Metro Lachcha Semai and Mens' Corporation, at East Muhur Para. A team of Detective Branch of police led by Assistant Commissioner Hasan Chowhdury and BSTI officials assisted the mobile

governor to pursue the

Chinese government to use its

good offices to agree

Myanmar to join in the ven-

governor said the Yunnan

province is very much inter-

ested to setting up direct road

and rail link with Bangladesh

and said it needs involvement

of third country that is

He hoped that both the

to join with the connectivity

for harnessing the maximum

mutual benefit of the people

The MoUs signed are: MoU

on Agricultural Cooperation,

MoU on Civil Aviation and

Tourism, MoU on Energy

Cooperation and MoU on

Educational exchanges,

Yunnan province will provide

20 full scholarships to

Bangladeshi students in dif-

ferent universities and col-

Besides, the province will were also present.

Under the MoU on

Educational Exchanges.

leges from next year.

In response, the Chinese

number of NTPC representatives will be higher than those of Bangladesh by one.

In June, a high-powered committee headed by adviser to prime minister on economic affairs Dr Mashiur Rahman reviewed the Indian proposal and decided to suggest that the Bangladeshi share in this plant should increase gradually.

As part of cooperation between the two countries, the NTPC is already conducting a feasibility study for the coal-fired plant while the PDB has acquired land in Khulna and Chittagong to build a couple of large imported coalbased power projects.

The PDB is already acquiring 1,800 acres opposite to the Chalna port in Khulna for the joint venture with India.

It is planned that the Khulna plant would use highquality coal imported through the sea from countries like Indonesia or Australia. The government is not considering import of Indian coal as it is generally low in quality and comparatively more environmentally harmful.

Policy soon FROM PAGE 16

in the next 15 days, said

The meeting also formed a committee headed by a director of Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DHSE) to prepare a training manual for teachers about the issue, sources said. Meanwhile, the minister

clarified the issue regarding the propaganda surrounding the circular that directed the authorities of all educational institutions not to force female students to wear veil or religious attires. He said different religious

institutions are systematically misleading people by spreading distorted information regarding the circular. "The circular was not

issued against wearing religious attires or veils rather it was issued so that no one can be forced to wear veils against their will," he emphasised. The ministry issued the

circular following the High Court order, he said, adding, "The circular was not intended to hurt anyone's religious sentiments."

Education secretary; directors of DSHE, directorate of Technical Education (DTE) and Primary and Mass Education; Chairmen of Education Boards; representatives of Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust and Ain O Salish Kendra, among others, were present at the meeting.

Ershad

FROM PAGE 1 Hasina that he hopes unity of

the ruling grand alliance, where his party contributes 29 lawmakers, would not be affected by the judgment, added the aides. Speaking in return for

anonymity, a JP leader said, "Sir [Ershad] met the prime minister to know if the government would initiate any legal proceedings against him." He said the former presi-

dent felt frustrated after the HC verdict and was seeking an appointment with the premier to know what fate awaits him. An AL source said Hasina

and Ershad also talked about the overall political situation.

Immediately after the meeting, the JP boss left for his hometown Rangpur to address party men.

allow Bangladeshi students

every year, who will be going

for higher studies at their own

cost. In that case, the Yunnan

province will give scholarship

to five students among each

100. The Yunnan province will

establish an institute for sci-

ence and technological

research in Bangladesh in the

name after Chinese philoso-

Under the MoU on civil

Agriculture Minister Matia

Chowdhury, Education

Minister Nurul Islam Nahid,

Civil Aviation and Tourism

Minister GM Kader, Land

Minister Rezaul Karim Hira,

State Minister for LGRD and

Cooperatives Jahangir Kabir

Nanok, State Minister for

Energy Enamul Haq and high

officials of different ministries

were present on the occasion.

Yunnan province and

Chinese Ambassador in

Bangladesh Zhang Xianyi

High officials from

aviation and tourism, the

Yunnan province will provide

pher Confucius.

Bangladesh.

Four deals signed

countries would work training to the officials,

together to pursue Myanmar arrange fairs in Yunnan and

FROM PAGE 16 Besides, Zaker Party is still

occupying the Chairman Bari Khelarmath with a huge marquee of bamboo structure to continue party programmes with the DCC authorities keep ing silent. Tapan Kumar Saha, estate

Shops at Banani

officer of DCC, on August 22 said DCC gave Zaker Party permission to hold Tarabi prayers at the playground on August 25 and 26. Asked yesterday what DCC has done against illegal occu-

pancy of the playground, Tapan Kumar said, "I do not know anything about it, I have to "It is unacceptable that the playground has been occupied

for so many days depriving the local children of sport facility," said Mahmuda Hamid, a resident at Banani. Zaker Party started erecting the makeshift structure in mid-

August occupying the entire

playground. Sadeque Hossain Khoka, mayor of DCC, said last week that he forgot that other uses than sports of playgrounds should not be allowed, while giving permission to Zaker

Though the playgrounds are not supposed to be used for other purposes than sports, most of the capital's playfields and open spaces are now occupied illegally with the official custodian DCC allowing the malpractice for decades.

Prof Serajul Islam Choudhury, an eminent social analyst and head of an advisory committee on DCC's park development and beautification, said absence of wholesome sporting and recreational facilities is greatly responsible for artificiality, frustration, drug addiction, eve teasing and suicide of youths.

FROM PAGE 1

Star fitra fixed at Tk 100 is equal to the market price of 3.3 kgs of rice while Tk 45 is equal to the market price of 1.65 kgs of wheat. "The fitra was not re-fixed

in today's [yesterday] meeting. Only a minimum fitra was set at Tk 45. Both Tk 45 and Tk 100 can be given as fitra as the amounts are correct according to the Shariah," he said. An official of Islamic

Foundation, requesting anonymity, said the minimum fitra was set at Tk 45 in yesterday's meeting amid controversies over the earlier fixed fitra of Tk 100. Several religious scholars

protested against the earlier set fitra of Tk 100 saying it was unjust. They demanded fixing the fitra at Tk 45, the official Fitra is Wajib (mandatory)

and should be paid to the needy for all members of the family before the prayers of Eid-ul-Fitr.

Road, rail links FROM PAGE 1

Bangladesh and China as well as Yunnan province.

She also sought Chinese cooperation in introducing high-vielding varieties of rice in Bangladesh. Hasina thanked the Chinese

authorities for existing air link between the two countries via Kunming that made Kunming-Dhaka trip easier and comfort-

The PM reiterated Bangladesh's One China Policy saying that Bangladesh believes in friendly relations with all her neighbouring countries as its foreign policy is "Friendship to all, malice to none."

Hasina recalled her visit to China last March and expressed her gratitude to the Chinese government for receiving her and the members of her entourage with warm hospitality in

About the potentials of trade and commerce, the premier said Yunnan is a very rich province of China in terms of agriculture, tourism and mineral

She said Yunnan is also strategically very important as it connects China with the South Eastern and South Asian countries. "I hope regional cooperation will be enhanced through connectivity for mutual benefit of the peoples of this vast region," she said.

In reply, the governor thanked the PM and the people of this country for showing great hospitality to him and his delegation members since they arrived here.

Oin said the PM's visit to China last March has strengthened bilateral relation between Dhaka and Beijing to great extent.

He observed that after the PM's visit to Kunming, trade and commerce between Bangladesh and the province has increased significantly.

Now various quality Bangladeshi goods are available in the markets of Kunming, he

Communication Minister Syed Abul Hossain, Principal Secretary to PM MA Karim, PM's Office Secretary Mollah Waheeduzzaman and Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Zhang Xianyi were present.

nal managerial post and made him an OSD. Charges against

deserve a trial before being punished for their crime or misdeed; OSD, in these cases, is a mockery with the public funds," comments another bureaucrat, who was an OSD for several years because of political affiliation.

In his case, during the BNP-Jamaat rule, some ruling party informers reported that he met an Awami League leader at his house and carried a picture of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in his wallet.

FROM PAGE 1

Both the officers requested to remain anonymous for fear of further humiliation.

During a routine questionanswer session in parliament on August 25 it was disclosed that since January 1 last year 224 officials in different positions were made OSD. The number is a small fraction of the total administrators. But it is nonetheless intimidating to all the bureaucrats.

There is no hard number for how much they are costing the public, but based on salary records it could range between Tk 5.47 crore and nearly Tk 11 crore a year -enough to buy up to 2,000 tonnes of rice on average. A 1999 World Bank survey

report says OSD has been used "arbitrarily" to punish people who should be censured, suspended, dismissed or cleared of all charges.

In the bureaucratic arena, especially for those who are in cadre services, OSD is a wellknown, frightful and highly humiliating abbreviation. As soon as an official is made an OSD, they are automatically stripped of their power and attached to the controlling ministry where they are required to do nothing.

As originally conceived, OSD was supposed to be a temporary status assigned to those who went on leave, were engaged in training or were between assignments because of promotion.

But successive governments have used the provision for punishing bureaucrats mainly based on politics. Whenever a new government takes office one of its first jobs is to rid the administration of opposition sympathisers. M Hafizuddin Khan, for-

mer adviser to the caretaker government and former auditor general, said the provision of OSD has been abused. "Misuse of this OSD provi-

sion is slowly eroding the country's bureaucracy," he said, adding, "Why should we foster officials spending public funds for years if they are really guilty of any misdeed?"

However, not all OSDs are unhappy. There is an unofficial OSD "club" that has scores of members who meet at different places at the Bangladesh Secretariat.

They gossip, play cards and polish off cups of tea. Many others find lucrative sidelines like doing consultancy services for various private organisations. There are others who teach and earn hefty amounts at private universities. Many are found pursuing various personal matters with different ministries.

"This is a complete waste of public funds," said a top level official who has been OSD since the present government took over.

"Like me there are hundreds who are frustrated doing nothing but receiving monthly salaries without knowing what crime they have committed. I am ashamed of this situation."

In Shahidur's case, Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka stripped him of his bus termi- PPA.

The government's Rules of

Business 1996 strictly prohibits

ministries and divisions from

dealing with issues affecting the

foreign relations of Bangladesh,

without consultation with the

procedure for communicating

with foreign governments and

missions, and international

agencies. It also specifies mat-

ters which must be submitted to

the president and the prime

minister, through the foreign

But non-compliance by

some ministries and divisions

compelled the foreign ministry

to file a complaint with the

Cabinet Division, a senior

official of the foreign ministry

ministries and divisions dealing

with matters of trade and com-

merce, law and order, security,

and a large number of foreign

funded projects, have been

frequently bypassing the oblig-

atory consultation with the

communicating with foreign

He said they were directly

foreign ministry.

The official alleged that the

ministry, for approval.

The rules clearly specify the

foreign ministry.

him of allocating shops without the mayor's knowledge were never investigated. The mayor and his entourage control allocation of DCC shops, ticket counters and other interests. The whole process is widely known to be

corrupt and highly politicised.

"Almost every day since my father was made OSD he expressed his disappointment at Nagar Bhaban bosses who unjustly made him OSD," said Shahidur's daughter. "Life was even tougher for

him as we live at the DCC staff quarters where he met colleagues every day and had to answer the same question again and again for over a year," she added. "He was very upset every

time neighbours asked him how long he would remain an OSD. 'He saw no immediate exit from the OSD predicament.

Frustrated, angry and helpless, my father decided to end his life. I think the Nagar Bhaban bosses must share the blame for his death." His wife Farzana Shahid said, "A day before his death

saw him sadly staring at his paralysed hand. He told me he was sure he would start writing again if he got back his With other members of his family Shahidur woke up to

take sehri on that fateful day. Nobody knew when he took out the pistol from Farzana's almirah. Having said his morning prayers, he shut the slide door of the living room, seated himself on the sofa and with his left hand shot himself in the head.

2nd int'l airport A high official of the cabinet

division said the final selection will be made after consulting with the private inves-

The cabinet committee also okayed four projects of Bangladesh Railway involving Tk 900 crore to reinstate two rail routes and develop a third one to ensure smooth supply of fuel for the upcoming rental power plants. Of the total amount, Tk 280

crore will be funded available Indian credit under a deal signed recently. The communications

ministry also sought permission of the cabinet committee on economic affairs for 10 percent advance payment for the contractors. Re-establishing rail link on

Panchuria-Faridpur-Pukuria

route and setting up of rail track on Pukuria-Bhanga route will cost Tk 267 crore. Under another project, renovation of Sholoshahar-

Dohazari and Fatehabad-Nazirhat rail routes will be implemented at a cost of Tk 203 crore.

These routes will be used for supplying fuel to Dohazari, Hathazari and Faridpur power plants.

Under another project the ministry will procure 10 broad gauge (BG) diesel electric locomotives costing Tk 217 crore. The ministry will also spend another Tk 183 crore for collecting 180 BG bogey oil tank wagon and six brake

The government is going to import one lakh tonnes of rice from Vietnam through government-to-government negotiation without floating any tender.

The cabinet committee has exempted the food ministry from following the rules of

governments and missions, and

Prime Minister's Office also

Some senior officials of the

"The trend of bypassing the

foreign ministry has increased

recently. So, we wrote to the

cabinet division to stop the

practice," the official told The

Daily Star on condition of ano-

the Cabinet Division on August

including the PMO to comply

dealing with issues independ-

ently though the foreign minis-

try is involved in the matters.

This is unwarranted and in

breach of the rules of business.

ministries and divisions to

maintain discipline and dyna-

mism in the administration by

strictly adhering to the rules of

business, the circular added.

with the rules.

On receiving the complaint,

international agencies instead.

Rules of business

added.

with landmark army reshuffle The scale of Myanmar's secre-

ensures loyalty

tive military reshuffle, its largest in decades, reveals the junta chief's determination to maintain his superiority as a rare election approaches, analysts say. More than 70 senior mili-

tary positions have changed,

and top brass including the

army number three have

retired from their posts to stand in the November 7 poll --20 years -- unnamed officials But uncertainty remains leader Than Shwe himself, who has controlled the country since 1992. Initial reports

later denied by officials. A source close to the regime has since said the 77-year-old and his deputy Maung Aye are "likely to retire soon", but it is not known when they will shed their uniforms, or what roles they will then assume in the political sphere.

down from the army -- a move

"The country is awash with rumours," said Myanmar academic Aung Naing Oo, based in Thailand. "There are more questions than answers right now."

High on the list is whether Than Shwe will take on presidency of the country after the elections, which have been widely dismissed by activists and the West as a charade to legitimise military rule with a civilian guise.

FROM PAGE 16 There are inconsistencies

between the statements of Kala and others made during interrogation. Even Shaon acted mysteriously as he did not immediately report the incident to police or Ibrahim's family members rather he asked his driver Kala to file an unnatural death case, the official said. The investigators said they had information that Shaon

negotiate a settlement with Ibrahim's family by paying compensation. The DB official said as the behaviour of Shaon became mysterious following the

made several attempts to

out whether he had any link to the incident.

this way. The investigators said that they gleaned some important information regarding the murder but for the shake of investigation, they are not

be left in such a manner that someone could reach it easily and use it. Such type of activity is a violation of arms act, they

taken to Mirpur police station for questioning. One of the arrestees was identified as Safiul of Ailchhara.

Police said the abductors intercepted a motorcycle near a field at Ailchhara village in the upazila and abducted its riders Mirazul Haq Titu, 25, and his brother Matiul Haq Mitu, 23. They were returning home from their shop in Bheramara upazila at about 10:30pm on Saturday.

Later, the abductors called their father Mahbubul Haq and demanded Tk9 lakh as ransom Hearing the news hundreds

of people of the village came out of their houses and encircled the entire area. They found four abductors

in the field at about 1:30am

yesterday along with Titu and

have been encouraging the PMO to bypass the foreign At one stage, the angry ministry in some cases, he people started beating the abductors, leaving two of them

> On information, police reached the place and brought the situation under control.

Pay wages

"I gave the directive to the 18 issued a circular reminding all ministries and divisions The circular said some Muslim," he said. ministries and divisions are

overtime dues and bonus. The government expects the

FBCCI President AK Azad, BKMEA President Selim Osman and BGMEA President Abdus Salam Murshedy, among others, were present at the meeting.

AFP, Bangkok

the country's first election in over the future of reclusive on Friday said he had stepped

Ibrahim 'killing

killing, they were trying to find

According to the postmortem report, the bullet went through Ibrahim's face and into his neck, he said, adding that a stray bullet usually cannot hit a person in

willing to disclose anything. A licensed pistol should not

Mob beat

FROM PAGE 16

dead on the spot.

RMG owners so that workers can share their happiness with their dearest family members and others on the occasion of the biggest holy festival o The minister also urged

both the owners and workers to keep alert to guard against any unrest in the sector following the distribution of salaries,

gated in this connection.

Myanmar chief AL leaders

FROM PAGE 16

"We can't accept the same guys [who were entrusted with the scheme] to conduct the probe. It's absolutely ridiculous," said Al Faruque.

Members of the Gauripur Socheton Nagorik Committee, a citizens' platform, also rejected the probe body. They said such investigation would hide truth. The UNO, Abdullah Al

Mamun, said the committee members are all top government officials and would perform their duties honestly. "Moreover the three probe

were field-level supervisors during the project's implementation, didn't work in the areas where they are investigating," said Abdullah Al Mamun. The project came under scrutiny when hundreds of

committee members, who

deprived labourers from different areas, including Achintapur, Bangnamari and Maoha, of the upazila brought a number of allegations against the supervisors. What most angered the labourers were tampering

books, inserting fictitious names, providing jobs for only 20 days and employing less than half the number of people fixed by the project. Sheikh Mujir Rahman, a labourer who joined the

village, said he worked for 22 days and received wage for 20 days at Tk 120 a day. His fellow workers Kamal Hossain, Rafigul Islam, Abdul Kadir said that after 22 days Dewan Md Khasruzzaman Khan Babul, secretary of the Maoha union project and also

the general secretary of

Maoha union Awami League,

asked them to stop the work.

programme in Tatir Paya

The work never resumed. The local Awami League leaders masterminded the whole scheme and nobody in the area dared speak a word, the labourers said.

sources said the UNO, upazila project implementation officer (PIO) and field-level supervisors were mere spectators as the ruling party men came up with new ideas to steal the project money. Probe body member

Golam Azam, who was a pro-

before the investigation ends." Azam, however, admitted that some ruling party men got involved in the project. He

declined to say any further. Ex-BCIC chief

FROM PAGE 16

He was interrogated at the CID headquarters at the city's Malibagh about his role in smuggling the arms and ammunition to Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Company Limited (CUFL) jetty on April

2, 2004, CID officials said. Talking to The Daily Star, a CID official, who was there during the interrogation, said they have specific information about the involvement of the then BCIC chairman and the criminals who used the jetty with his connivance.

Sources said the former BCIC chairman was being interrogated till filing of the report around 9:00pm.

Phony Bhushan Chowdhury, additional inspector general of police, and CID special superintendent Abdul Kahar Akand among others, were present during the interrogation. Earlier, Hafizur Rahman,

prime accused in the case, in his confessional statement before a court hinted at involvement of high officials of National Security Intelligence (NSI), Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI) and the CUFL. Following the statement,

CID officials arrested two former NSI director generals (DGs), Major Gen (retd) Rezzaqul Haider Chowdhury and Brigadier Gen (retd) M Abdur Rahim, former NSI director (security) wing commander (retd) Sahab Uddin, former deputy director (technical) of NSI Maj (retd) Liakat Hossain, NSI field officer Akbar Hossain, former CUFL managing director Mohsin Talukder and General Manager (Admin) Enamul Haq.

Besides, the then home secretary, Omar Faruk; former industry secretary Nurul Amin; former managing director of CUFL; former Chittagong Metropolitan Police commissioner Sabbir Ali; former DC (port) Abdullahel Baki; former assistant commissioner (port) Mahmudur Rahman and two former investigation officers, Ahadur Rahman and AKM

Another member of the probe committee, Rafiqul Islam who oversaw the project at Moilakanda union, simply refuted the accusations.

Former UNO of Gauripur AFM Alauddin Khan, who headed the project for the entire length, said although he headed the project its function was in the hands of the PIO.

then disbursed the money on the basis of his proposal. The PIO is officially in charge of the project," said Alauddin. Abdul Latif, PIO of the work generation programme, said every step of the project was

selected the beneficiaries and also the site of the proposed work and submitted their proposals to the PIO. "We accordingly issued cheques for the work. If there

"The complaints come from people who were not with their daily attendance beneficiaries [of the project]. For instance, if we have fund for 500 people against a demand of 5,000, a large number of people would be left aggrieved and unhappy," he

> anomalies might have been there in the selection of labourers. The deprived ultra-poor people also submitted a complaint to Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, minister for food

conference. On the alleged corruption, State Minister for Health and Family Affairs Captain (retd) Mozibur Rahman Fakir, also the president of Gauripur AL, said it is not his concern. "If local Awami League leaders are involved with the corrup-

Pak players FROM PAGE 16

The issue has already escanotice of the spot-fixing scan-

dal and has asked the PCB to submit a detailed preliminary

44 workers

tor was arrested in a case, he They went to a labour court in Sharjah after nine months without any salary, said

Habiganj new jobs due to legal bindings.

Rawshan, who is from

from relatives at home to survive while others try in vain to

A few workers returned home without waiting for court "We do not go outside Sharjah because police may

Rawshan. reports on their sufferings, he

Bangladeshi worker Abdur Rashid at another camp in Sharjah said they used to work for Jose Contracting LLC, a

Their Indian employer sold the company and left UAE

In March 60 workers of the company filed a case against their employer with a Dubai labour court for not paying salaries. The court is yet to deliver verdict, he said.

Thirty of the workers had left

the camp in search of jobs or

returned home. Now 15

camp, he said.

Jessore. They have no money to return home, he said.

income.' Nasreen Jahan, Bangladesh's labour councillor

Jose Contracting LLC could not be contacted despite

repeated attempts.

"When the PIO submitted his requirement, he provided me with all necessary proofs. I

taken following procedure. The government supervisors

were any anomalies, an audit would have revealed it," he

Jahangir Hossain, upazila election officer who supervised the project at Bangnamari union, said a few

and disaster management, in May. They also held a press

Upazila administration tion, you can write about it."

lated to the highest levels of the PCB. PTV, Pakistan's state ject supervisor at Gauripur broadcaster, quoting official union, said, "We can't say sources, said that the anything about the allegations President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari, who is also patron of the PCB (who appoints the chairman), has taken strong

Details on Page 17

FROM PAGE 1

mid-2009 after its Indian direc-

workers had not been paid from

They discontinued work since then but could not find Some take financial help

get temporary jobs that are hard to come by in Sharjah, he said.

arrest us for wandering outside our working area," said Several local charities come to their aid following news

Dubai-based company.

without clearing their arrears.

Bangladeshi, two Indian and 13 Pakistani workers live in the The camp is in a bad shape as their employer no longer maintains it, said Rashid, who is from

"You can't image how painful life is here without any job or

in Dubai, said some workers in Dubai are facing problems and they were trying to solve those. She did not say any further.

Kabir Uddin, were interro-