Suu Kyi

former military rulers, a

It is the first sign of seri-

ous discord between Suu

Kyi's National League for

Democracy (NLD) and the

reformist regime since April

1 by-elections that gave the

former political prisoner her

first-ever seat in parliament.

rejected the NLD's appeal to

change the wording of the

swearing-in oath from "safe-

guard" to "respect" the

presidential office to ask the

authorities to reconsider,

but a resolution to the row is

unlikely in time for the open-

ing of parliament on

Monday, said party spokes-

a visit to Japan, where he is

set to hold talks with Prime

Minister Yoshihiko Noda,

who is reportedly set to

announce that Japan will

forgive Myanmar's \$3.7

billion debt and resume

guished for decades under a

repressive junta, has

announced a series of

Myanmar, which lan-

financial assistance.

President Thein Sein is on

The party will write to the

The authorities have

party spokesman said.

FROM PAGE 20

constitution.

man Nyan Win.

Biman MD

FROM PAGE 20 when the Biman chairman raised the issue at a board meeting.

The meeting of the Board of Directors began while over 200 Biman employees were protesting outside.

"The board has decided that if the MD [managing director] does not want to continue, it will allow him to quit. In that case, the chairman will appoint an acting MD and publish advertisements for appointing a new MD," a board member told The Daily Star last night wishing anonymity.

Asked whether Zakiul would have to work anymore, the board member said he has to go to work to complete some formalities.

The Daily Star could not reach the MD on his mobile phone for comments despite repeated attempts. He did not reply to the text sent to him. Zakiul was appointed

Biman's MD and chief executive officer around three years ago and his tenure is supposed to end in the first week of May, sources said.

During his term, the national flag carrier incurred huge loss in subsequent years and has been facing a severe fund crisis, which led to the movement by employees under the banner "Biman Banchao Oikya Parishad".

Since March, Biman employees have been demanding resignation of all the board members, including the chairman, "for their inefficiency, and incurring Tk 1,000 crore

Yesterday's board meeting was held amid tight security ensured by over 50 law enforcers. Over 200 hundred

pilots, officials, and employees of Biman masked in black clothes demonstrated before Balaka Bhaban when the Biman chairman and board members went in.

On April 3, pilots and Biman staff had called for a 48-hour strike from April 16 to press home their demand but they later called it off after the civil aviation minister assured them of meeting their demand.

Upgrade

From page 20

"As the project is a priority for the prime minister, we are expecting that it will get approval at the next Ecnec and Cabinet Purchase Committee meetings," a Caab engineer, who is involved in the project, recently told The Daily Star.

According to Caab officials, the wide-body aircraft operation at the airport will kick off soon after the purchase committee award the work order to one of the five foreign companies, who earlier participated in the project's bidding process.

Of the five companies, two are from Malaysia, one each from Turkey and China and the other is Ital-Thai, a company owned by Italy and

"We have completed the bidding process, and necessary documents on selection of the lowest bidder have been sent to the ministry concerned for their approval," the Caab engineer, preferring not to be

had also been completed.

project in 2009, aiming to

maintain communication

with costal areas in quickest

possible time during emer-

gency situations including

Under the project, the

length of runway of the

airport will be extended to

structed under the project.

will come from Caab.

natural calamity.

6,675 feet.

Lines. named, said. Earlier, Yooshin Engineering, a renowned Korean company, carried out detailed design work of the project, while 682 acres of land had been acquisiaccompanied the minister. tioned and rehabilitation

work for the affected people Of the total project cost, the government will sponsor Tk 274 crore while the rest The government took the

around 1:00am Wednesday.

Lt Col Ziaul Ahsan, chief abandoned near his house around one hour after the

9,000 feet from the existing Moreover, a powerhouse, a pump house, a fire station, water supply lines and drainage system etc will be con-

Graft in free

FROM PAGE 20

The scheme (Jan '10 - June '11) aims to plant 1.83 crore wood, fruit and medicinal tree saplings across the country at a cost of Tk15.78 crore.

Raising a seedling costs Tk 5 in Rajshahi and the BFD has grown 3.24 lakh seedlings at a cost of Tk 16.20 lakh under the project, said forest officials.

Lawmaker Omar Faruk Chowdhury at the monthly meeting of Godagari Upazila Parishad on February 19 alleged that BFD officials have distributed only 21,742 seedlings out of 54,000 allocated for him.

Ahead of the meeting, the officials went to the legislator for signing the related documents showing all the seedlings distributed, Faruk told The Daily Star.

They had even prepared a list of fake organisations and individuals, he mentioned. "So it is clear that they have embezzled money from the project. I have asked the upazila administration to take necessary action in this

Contacted, Upazila Nirbahi Officer Julia Moyeen said the meeting had asked the upazila forest officer to respond to the complaint within 15 days. But the official didn't reply even in the following meeting on March

A reminder was issued on April 12 and the matter will be discussed in the monthly meeting today, she noted.

Asked for comment, Upazila Forest Officer Mozammel Haque confessed to making a mistake for not having the lawmaker's recommendation. "We are understaffed and so I couldn't visit the MP."

The Daily Star has obtained the related documents of the scheme which show lawmaker Meraj Uddin Mollah distributed 49,500 seedlings in Poba and Mohonpur upazilas.

Inquired about this, the MP said the forest officials in their documents included an additional 9,500 saplings though those young plants were distributed under a usual tree plantation programme last year. According to project data,

tributed the highest 66,516 seedlings among the six lawmakers in Rajshahi. Shahriar, however, said he was unaware of the distri-

Shahriar Alam MP has dis-

bution beyond the allowed Saplings were distributed among the local people and organisations without recording their complete

addresses, though the gov-

ernment rules made it man-

datory. Besides, an additional 12,516 seedlings were mentioned in handwriting alongside the MP's signature on the printed recommendation for 54,000 seedlings in Bagha and Charghat

Asked about the complaint of lawmaker Omar Faruk Chowdhury, Forest Ranger Rabiul Islam said as the MP was abroad, they could not contact the legis-

upazilas.

"The rainy season was drawing to an end last year and we in good faith had distributed the saplings," argued Rabiul.

If the MP does not endorse the distribution now, the forest official concerned will have to pay for the losses, he added.

5,000 sued

Swechchhasebak Dal and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal.

They have been implicated in arson attack on private and police vehicles, vandalism, obstructing police from duties and creating anarchy.

On Thursday at Nayapaltan, activists of main opposition BNP fought pitched battles with law enforcers, who stopped a procession pressing the government to immediately locate Ilias.

They smashed nearly 40 vehicles and set fire to five others.

Former lawmaker Ilias Ali, an organising secretary of BNP and president of its Sylhet district unit, along with his driver went out of trace from Tuesday night.

Despite repeated claims by the Ministry of Home, law enforcers and intelligence agencies of frantic search for Ilias and his driver Ansar Ali, no breakthrough has been announced even after four days.

Home Minister Shahara Khatun yesterday said apart from Banani police, separate committees formed by the Rapid Action Battalion and the Detective Branch of police will look into the

matter. "All the law enforcing and intelligence agencies are trying their best to find out the BNP leader and his driver as well as to solve the mystery behind the incident," she said, speaking at a function in Rajarbagh Police

The inspector general of police, Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner and top officials of Rab, Criminal Investigation Department, Special Branch and DB

Ilias Ali went out of his Banani residence around 10:00pm Tuesday by his car. The vehicle and the mobile phone of his driver were found abandoned around 400 yards off his house

BNP suspects some government agencies have picked up the two.

of the intelligence wing of Rab, told The Daily Star that Ilias Ali's car was found BNP leader left Ruposhi Bangla Hotel at Shahbagh.

"From the hotel's security camera footage, we know that Ilias Ali accompanied by three party men entered

Ruposhi Bangla Hotel around 10:30pm and left at 11:50pm," he said.

The three party men were Juba Dal Assistant General Secretary Monayem Munna, Joint Secretary Ali Newaz, and Assistant Organising secretary Meer Amjad Hossain, sources said.

It could not be known whether Ilias was accompanied by any person other than the driver on his way home.

Contacted, Monayem Munna said, "We [Munna, Amjad, Newaz and three junior activists of the organisation] went to Ilias Ali's house by three motorbikes around 9:30pm.

"At Ilias Ali's request, we [Munna, Amjad and Newaz] went to Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in his car while the juniors went there by the motorbikes," he said.

"We were inside the hotel; the juniors waited outside the lobby."

Ilias Ali went to the hotel to meet advocate Ahsan Habib, a central member of BNP, for a discussion. He returned home after around an hour. The lawver did not come, Munna said.

Replying to another query, Munna said, "Ilias Ali started for his home along with his driver; we went our home by motorbikes."

Talking to The Daily Star, Lt Col Ziaul Ahsan said they were yet to know why the former lawmaker went traceless. "Intra-party feud business or politics could be the factor."

DB's Additional Deputy Commissioner Mashiur Rahman, who is investigating the matter, said Ilias Ali last talked to a person in Sylhet at 12:02am on Wednesday only for two minutes while he was crossing Eskaton area in the capi-

"We even could not find the mobile phone of the former lawmaker," ADC Mashiur said.

Dubai deports

FROM PAGE 1

The Bangladesh embassy in Dubai assisted their repatriation by collecting passes for them from the Dubai authorities, he said, adding that this was the biggest repatriation of Bangladeshis from Dubai for working

illegally. Their visas were declared illegal as they had changed their employers, for whom, they were recruited, the immigration officer added.

PM in Doha

FROM PAGE 1

Doha where she will be staying during the four-day

The six-day Unctad XIII

will begin in the Qatari capital today. Earlier, a VVIP flight of Qatar Airways carrying Hasina and members of her

entourage took off from

Hazrat Shahjalal

International Airport in Dhaka at 8:45am yesterday. The premier is leading a high level Bangladesh delegation in the conference of Unctad, a permanent intergovernmental body of the UN General Assembly dealing with trade, investment

and development issues.

During her stay in Doha, Hasina will attend different events of the Unctad conference and will hold bilateral meeting with her Qatari counterpart Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jaber Al-Thani tomorrow. She will also attend the

World Leaders Investment Summit on 'How Can Investment Foster Sustainable Development' and a high-level interactive discussion on the issues of women development. The premier will join a reception accorded by expa-

Qatar at the Diplomatic Club. She will also visit Bangladesh Mashhur Ul Haq Memorial School and

triate Bangladeshis living in

College in Doha. The Bangladesh delegation includes Industries Minister Dilip Barua, Commerce Minister GM Quader, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, and State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Shirin Sharmin Choudhury.

Hasina is set to return home on Tuesday morning.

127 feared

FROM PAGE 1

site, Brigadier Sarfraz Ali, who is heading the recovery efforts, told reporters. "We cannot identify them

because some of the bodies are not recognisable," he said. Debris from the crash was

scattered over a two kilometre (mile and a half) radius, he said, adding that lights had been brought to the site to allow work to continue through the night. Torn fragments of the

fuselage, including a large section bearing the airline's logo, littered the fields around the village of Hussain Abad, where the plane came down.

Saifur Rehman, an official from the police rescue team said the plane came down in Hussain Abad village, about three kilometres from the main Islamabad highway.

"Fire erupted after the crash. The wreckage is on fire, the plane is completely destroyed. We have come with teams of firefighters and searchlights and more rescuers are coming," Rehman told Geo television.

A military official said army rescue teams with ambulances and special equipment had been dispatched to the

scene. An airport source said the plane had been due to land at Islamabad airport at 6:50pm but lost contact with the control tower at 6:40pm and crashed shortly afterwards

before reaching the runway. A probe has been ordered into the crash, Pakistan's Defence Secretary Nargis Sethi said, warning that traffic caused by people trying to get to the site was hindering rescue efforts.

Nadeem Khan Yusufzai, director general of Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority, said initial reports suggested the bad weather was to blame for the crash.

Bhoja Air relaunched domestic operations with a fleet of five 737s in March, according to newspaper reports, when the airline was planning to start flights connecting Karachi, Sukkur, Multan, Lahore and Islamabad.

Bhoja had been grounded in 2000 by the Civil Aviation Authorities amid financial difficulties, the reports said.

The worst aviation tragedy on Pakistani soil came in July 2010 when an Airbus 321 passenger jet operated by the private airline Airblue crashed into hills overlooking Islamabad while coming in to land after a flight from Karachi.

All 152 people on board were killed in the accident, which occurred amid heavy rain and poor visibility.



Two rhinos Dhaka Zoo brought from South Africa graze in their enclosure yesterday.

ICU at CMCH

FROM PAGE 1 equipment.

Yet, due to its low cost and high reliability, patients of the Chittagong region keep on queuing up at the hospital. CMCH is the only government hospital in the Chittagong region that provides ICU services, and for cheaper than private hospi-

CMCH introduced the ICU services in 2005 with six beds. Under popular pressure the number of beds was increased to nine in 2011 without increasinglogistical support.

On-duty physicians in the ICU said there are four ventilators and three medical monitors instead of required nine of each category. They added that the unit

needs 30 syringe pumps immediately. It is now functioning with five to six such pumps which are in bad condition.

Prof Mehtab Khanam of DU

psychology department said

it would be better for the

children to be attached with

families although shelter

cerned should ensure that

the children grow up in a

healthy environment, she

said, adding that they should

also make sure that the terms

and conditions for adoption,

if the court allowed, are being

tor of BNWLA, said they were

also in favour of the children

a family stepped up to adopt

any of the children, it should

be made certain that the

households did not treat the

In 2006, newspaper

child as a domestic help.

growing up in families.

Salma Ali, executive direc-

Prof Dilruba Afrose said if

The authorities con-

homes teach discipline.

FROM PAGE 20

maintained.

All they need

"The CMCH ICU is serving patients of the Chittagong region where around four crore people live," said Dr Maswood Ahmed, in-charge of the ICU, explaining why full logistical support is a must to run such a high tech-

"We are trying our best to provide proper treatment to the patients despite all limitations," he said. Compared to around Tk 15,000 per day cost for a

CMCH.

including a professor, an associate professor, three assistant professors, seven junior consultants, and eight anesthesiologists." The ward also needs six more trained nurses, he said.

Anisur Rahman and his wife

Anwara Rahman had been

living in a house with 14

children, of whom, seven

and his wife had stolen the

children to traffic them

scribed by the High Court,

the children went through

whether the couple were

That day the children were

moved from the ex-DIG's

On July 30, 2008, as pre-

months.

abroad.

"We now have a professor, three consultants, and twelve nurses in the ward," he said. Explaining how the shortcomings are affecting the

to alternate the monitors from one patient to another. ICU is expensive all over Three out of nine beds also need immediate replacement, he said. Director of CMCH Brig Gen Mohammad Fashiur Rahman is aware of these problems. "I will take steps

services, Dr Tapan

Bhattacharjee said they have

necessary ventilators, monitors, and syringe pumps," he told The Daily Star. He said he will also immediately send a proposal to the health ministry to appoint the required doctors and

nurses to the unit. "Expansion of the ICU is also under our consideration and I will send a proposal to the ministry regarding the matter as well," he said.

reforms since a controversial 2010 election brought a civilian government to power -- albeit one with close links to the military.

Observers say the regime immediately to procure the needs Suu Kyi in parliament to bolster the legitimacy of its political system and spur an easing of Western sanctions. However, the Nobel Peace

Prize winner has made it clear that she would push for an amendment of the 2008 constitution, under which one quarter of the seats in parliament are reserved for unelected military officials.

Analysts say that may put her into a collision course with the former junta government.

Swine flu

FROM PAGE 20

A medical board composed of physicians from local hospitals will conduct a medical check up on them this morning, on the concluding day of the five-day dosage of the drug.

Umme Hafija, a 3rd year student of the institute, said, "I was suffering from headache, high fever, vomiting and upset stomach before taking the medication. Now I feel like I am totally cured. I

am weak physically though." Begum Anjumanara, nursing instructor and incharge of the institute, said "Almost all the patients are now moving around the institution, though some of them complained of weak-

ness and nausea. Earlier, they were not allowed to go outside the institute following caution urged by the medical board and the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research

(IEDCR). Dr Aminul Islam, Kurigram sadar upazila health officer, said "I talked with some of the patients this morning and they all told me that they were feeling well. Some of them also wanted to go outside the

institute.' As for physical weakness of the patients, he said it was probably induced by the antiviral drug.

"After tomorrow's [today] medical check up, we will send our report to the office of the district civil surgeon to take necessary steps" Dr Aminul said adding that resumption of classes in the institute will also depend on the recommendation of the IEDCR.

Hazare, Ramdev to hold joint

campaign against corruption and black money. They have decided to

together go on a one-day fast at Jantar Mantar here on June 3 to press their demands.

conference at Gurgaon, they

fast on June 3 THE HINDU ONLINE Yoga guru Ramdev and social activist Anna Hazare yesterday declared joint

Addressing a joint press

"Nobody [government charged the government with being scared of getting and opposition] will benefit back black money stashed in safe havens abroad and of accepting the Jan Lokpal Bill drafted by members of Indian Against Corruption (IAC) movement.

reports revealed that ex-DIG On August 14 that year,

FROM PAGE 1 set to enforce a nationwide dawn-to-dusk shutdown

tomorrow. After tomorrow's hartal, the BNP high command may announce blockade programmes in Dhaka and Sylhet if Ilias Ali still remained missing, party insiders told have The Daily

"Ceaseless hartals will be called if Ilias Ali remains untraced," warned BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir at a party meeting in the

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has already approved such programmes in consultation with her party colleagues, insiders said, adding that the issue had also been discussed with the leaders of the newly-formed 18-party alliance, which the BNP leads.

apart, Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh of Bodruddoza Chowdhury yesterday extended support for tomorrow's hartal, added the Ilias, 51, was on his way to

The alliance partners

capital by his private car when he went missing. Ansar Ali, the driver of the car, also remains traceless since. The car was found abandoned near Amtali of Banani with all its four doors wide open.

not do anything to find him out in the last three days, Mirza Fakhrul said, adding: "We've no option but to wage an oust-government move-

had claimed to be.

house to Proshanti.

Reacting to Home Minister Shahara Khatun's call to withdraw tomorrow's hartal, he said his party

ing party leader returns. The BNP Chairperson on Thursday alleged some government agencies had picked up Ilias Ali. On the same day, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said Ilias might be hiding himself on

Law enforcers have launched a probe into the

Protesting the missing, Swadhinata Forum, a pro-BNP organisation, formed a human chain in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday morning, demanding immediately rescue of Ilias Ali, a former lawmaker from of political ideologies and Sylhet-2.

Abbas and Goveshwar Chandra Roy, among others, were present. Speaking at the programme, MK Anwar said

power, it would try Sheikh Hasina and her cabinet colleagues on charges of "kid-

would do so only if the miss-

Khaleda Zia's instructions.

In the wake of growing concern over the issue, Khaleda has postponed her Monday's programme in Rajbari. She has been holding a series of meetings with leaders of her party and alliance partners to decide on her next move, party sources said.

BNP standing committee members MK Anwar, Mirza

if the BNP was voted to napping" Ilias Ali.

nology based unit. the world, Maswood said.

patient in a private hospital's ICU, the cost is negligible in "It's a high dependency unit," Maswood said adding,

"We need twenty doctors

according to the DNA test

results, the HC ruled that the

seven were not siblings and

the couple were not their

were apparently of the same biological parents. One of the rescued, age, between 18 and 24 Jannatul Nafiza Rahman, died of fever at a clinic in the On June 15, 2006, lawyer Alena Khan, the then execucapital on November 16, tive director of Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement Last Wednesday, a Dhaka of Human Rights, filed a case stating that Anisur Rahman

court sentenced the former DIG and his wife to 31 years rigorous imprisonment on charges of stealing the children and keeping them confined with an intention to traffic them abroad. Alena Khan said the chil-

DNA tests to ascertain dren are now living in a shelter home under strict rules their biological parents, which was an impediment to which Anisur and Anwara mental development. While deciding on the children's future the authorities should consider how much space they can ensure for their normal development.

leaders of the 1990s

demanded that the govern-

driver without further delay.

ment return Ilias and his

Dhaka University Central

Students Union and BNP

leader Amanullah Aman told

the press conference that

Ilias may have fallen victim to

national and international

conspiracies for protesting

the border killings by the

Indian border force and also

the construction of

Tipaimukh Dam by the

Sylhet for the second consec-

unit in Sylhet put up barri-

cade on the Dhaka-Sylhet

highway at 4:30pm and held

a protest rally. Police cleared

Veteran Awami League

leader Abdul Jalil has said

the authorities concerned

should find out Ilias Ali for

creating a congenial politi-

cal atmosphere in which

opinions among us but none

has the right to kidnap any

"There can be differences

democracy can flourish.

the street an hour later.

FIND ILIAS: JALIL

Protests also continued in

BNP's Biswanath upazila

neighbouring country.

utive day yesterday.

Former vice-president of

BNP threatens

capital yesterday.

his Banani residence in the

The government could

at the press club, student maker.

political worker," said Jalil, also the former general secretary of the ruling party, at a discussion at Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday.

through blaming each other. As we're in power, it's our responsibility to unearth the matter and inform the Later at a press conference nation," added the AL law-