

War to push ocean freight rates by \$255

ABDULLAH -AL MAHMUD, Ctg

Ocean freight rates to Middle Eastern and North European countries are going up by US\$ 255 per 20-foot container from April 1 due to war on Iraq.

The Main Line Operators announced a War Risk Surcharge (WRS) of US\$ 100 on the containers along with increases in General Rate Increment by US\$ 150 and Bank Adjustment Factor by US\$ 5.

IPBCCL (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Ceylon (Sri Lanka) Conference Lines) - the alliance of Main Line Operators (MLO) at a meeting in Hong Kong announced the WRS and increased rates. There would be an additional charge of US\$ 250 for each 20-foot container bound for Kuwait.

The increased GRI and BAF rates are due to fuel price hike in international markets due to the war.

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Road accident kills 7 at Satkania

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Seven people including minors were killed and five others were critically injured in an accident on the Chittagong-Cox's Bazar road at Satkania yesterday.

Of the dead, five were identified as Abul Kashem, 32, Selina Akter, 10, Nazu Mia, 11, Jagodish Das, 12, and Abul Kalam, 40, while two remained unidentified.

Police and witnesses said the accident occurred when a Cox's Bazar bound passenger bus and an overloaded tempo collided head-on at Keranirhut cattle market area under Satkania Police Station at around 10.00am.

In the accident, caused by reckless driving, five were killed on the spot and two succumbed to their injuries on the way to hospital. It also left five others critically injured. They are undergoing treatment at Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

The injured, reportedly members of the same family, are: Raju, 11, Rasheda Begum, 26, Abdul Aziz, 18, Nazim Uddin and Hazera Begum, 55. All the victims were passengers of the tempo.

Police seized the bus, and the tempo driver managed to flee. A case was filed with Satkania PS in this connection.

'Criminal' shot dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An alleged criminal was shot dead by his rivals in front of his residence at Shahjahanpur yesterday.

The victim has been identified as Shahidul Islam Masud, 25, son of Nurul Islam.

Witnesses said Masud had come out of his residence at around 11:00am and about get into his car when gunmen shot at him indiscriminately. Masud died on the spot.

According to the victim's brother Atiqul Islam, he came out hearing gunshots and saw his brother lying in a pool of blood. He took him to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where the attending doctors declared him dead.

Eight bullets hit different parts of the deceased's body. The body was kept at the hospital morgue for autopsy.

Motijheel police said Masud was a listed criminal of their police station and might have been killed following a feud with his rival criminal faction.

"A dozen murder and extortion
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	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Mar 31		6-14 pm
April 1	5-51 am	

Prayer Timings		
Mar 31		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-00	5-30
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-15
Maghrib	6-18	6-23
Esha	7-35	8-00
Source: Islamic Foundation		



PHOTO: AFP

An Iraqi boy, left, carrying his father's loaded Kalashnikov and wearing a helmet, poses for a TV camera at his father's request in Baghdad. Waves of attacks on the Iraqi capital and its surrounding continued yesterday, with at least one missile crashing into the information ministry. A boy, right, holds an anti-war placard as protesters gather in a Beijing park to march to the US embassy yesterday.

Rivals gun down 2 brothers in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Two brothers, listed with police as criminals and toll collectors, were gunned down by their rivals in Madanpur area under Bandar thana yesterday morning.

Four construction workers were also injured in the incident.

The dead are Babul Akter 40 and Naruzzaman Naru 27. The injured are Mashraf 12 Anwar 32 Mannan 30 and Monir 32.

Jasimuddin, Officer-in-Charge of Bandar thana, said rivalry over toll collection and supremacy in the area were the reasons for the

killings. There were 34 cases against Nura and four against Babul 4, he said. The killers are also listed criminals, having several cases against each, the OC said.

At about 11:30 am, Babul and Nura were supervising a construction work on the Dewanbagh-Madanpur road, a contract they managed to get, defeating their rivals led by Surat Ali.

Suddenly, a gang of 10 including Surat Ali, Rauf Bhuiyan, Amanullah and Awlad came in two autorickshaws and attacked Nura with firearms, police and witnesses

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Housewife shot dead, youth killed in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A housewife was shot dead and a youth was stabbed to death at Hathazari and Patiya upazila in the district on Saturday night.

Four miscreants broke into the house of Islama Khatun, 35, a mother of five, at dead of night and fired point-blank at her, sources said.

Her husband Abu Salek is an expatriate.

In the other incident, Shamim, 28, was stabbed to death at Fateyabad under Hathazari thana.

Police suspected that the killing of Shamim, an alleged miscreant, was a sequel to a dispute over sharing of booty.

Raise voice against US aggression

AL urges world community

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the main opposition Awami League have condemned the US-led war on Iraq and urged the world community to raise its voice to stop the aggression.

They were speaking yesterday at a rally organised by the city Awami League to observe the 'anti-autocracy day'. The previous BNP government stepped down in the face of a movement on March 30, 1996.

Abdus Samad Azad, former foreign minister and a senior leader of the party, called upon the US- British coalition to stop the war saying the killing of innocent people amounted to a genocide.

While addressing the rally of about 5000 people in the city's Muktangon, he urged all to protest in a loud voice the bloodshed in the holy places like Karbala.

Presided over by Mohammd Hanif, the rally demanded a mid-

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