

Saddam still in Iraq, says Chalabi

Toppled Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein is still in Iraq, a key Iraqi opposition leader, Ahmad Chalabi, told BBC radio vesterday.

"Yes, he is in Iraq. Yes, he is moving around," Chalabi, who heads the Iraq National Congress, said in an inter-

"We have received information about his movements and the movements of his sons," he said, but added that the information reached Chalabi's sources too late for them to locate Saddam before he had moved on again.

"We cannot locate Saddam so that we would have a coincidence of time and position simultaneously ... But we are aware of his movements and we are aware of the areas that he has been to and we learn of this within 12 to 24 hours," Chalabi said.

Saddam tops the list of 55 Iraqi officials most wanted by the United States, seven of whom have been captured.

Reuters adds: The United States shows no sign of knowing where the toppled Iraqi president is, or even whether he is still alive.

Most speculation has focused on Syria as a hiding place, but Middle East analysts say it is unlikely Damascus would harbour him because of the risk that Washington would make it the next target of its global war on terror.

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Priority agenda on Buriganga fixed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The committee for implementing recommendations of the cabinet division on Buriganga river at a meeting yesterday fixed its priority agenda to save the river from pollution and encroachment on its banks.

The meeting felt the need for immediate implementation of six of the 31 decisions the cabinet earlier approved, according to sources. However, the meeting did not set any timeframe for the implementation.

Presided over by Shipping Minister Akbar Hossain, the meeting, the first

terms of reference of the ministries, divisions and departments concerned to protect the Buriganga.

'It would be a coordinated effort, and the committee would suggest the authorities concerned to make it effective," said a meeting source.

Also attended by Forest and Environment Minister Shahjahan Siraj, State Minister for Law Shajahan Omar, the meeting further agreed to sit at least once a month to monitor the progress on execution of the recommendations made by a taskforce formed last year on saving the

The meeting suggested implementation of a ban on brick kiln within 250 metres of the bank of the river, completion of the land survey according to the CF records and initiation of a river route around the city to reduce pressure on the Buriganga.

It underscored implementation of mandatory provision for obtaining permission from the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority for work on overhead line and the Removal of siltation



South Africa captain Graeme Smith (L) holds the TVS Cup with his Indian counterpart Saurav Ganguly after the teams were declared joint champions.

Rain calls final shot

India, SA joint champions

The TVS Cup tri-nation tournament that began in glorious sunshine on April 11 was blown away by rain at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yester-

It was a damp finish to the 10-day event after rain forced another futile attempt to hold the final between India and South Africa for a second successive

On Sunday the contest of between two worthy opponents did not take off because of heavy showers, forcing the match to go into Monday, a reserve day.

But after only 17.1 overs in front of a good crowd, the elements played spoilsport forcing a sad end to the competition, which had not seen a drop $of rain\,during\,the\,preliminary\,phase.$

Both India and South Africa were

declared joint champions

But South Africa could claim them selves morale victors after they had India on the ropes at 46-3.

Indian captain Saurav Ganguly won the toss and decided to bat. But his team's success ended at that point as opening bowlers Shaun Pollock and Makhaya Ntini bowled with precision.

Nitini took two wickets after Pollock removed dangerman Virender Sehwag in the seventh over. Ganguly (11) was fighting to hold the fort together with fellow southpaw Yuvraj Singh when the rain came down heavily

The bright blue sky turned ominously dark as a strong breeze started to blow over the big bowl. The nor'wester even forced an early

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BNP leader gunned down by outlaws in Khulna

Noor Hossain, 36, General Secretary of Phultala unit of BNP, was gunned down by unidentified assailants on Sunday

Noor Hossain came under attack while he was returning home at village Tartipur from Phultala Bazar along with his elder brother, Abul Hossain, 40, in a Witnesses said the assailants

stopped the vehicle near Shikirhat and sprayed bullets. Noor Hossain was shot in the chest and abdomen. He died on The slain BNP leader's brother Abul

Hossain and van driver Azim, 30, also received bullet wounds in the attack.

Abul Hossain was admitted to the Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) in a critical condition while

driver Azim succumbed to his injuries on way to the hospital.

The killers also exploded bombs during the attack. They left the scene raising slogans in the name of Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP).

 $Police\,said\,ten\,rounds\,of\,bullets\,were$ sprayed on BNP leader who was proprietor of 'Shihab Fish Company' at

According to a source in police super's office, Noor Hossain was also ringleader of notorious 'Jalil Bahini' of Phultala. On July 7, 1999, he surrendered to police taking advantage of On February 14, 2001, OC of Phultala

submitted a charge sheet against him under the Public Safety Act. But he joined BNP after the charge sheet was

Engineer murder in Chittagong

Noor Hossain was arrested on SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

JCD leader shot dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An armed gang gunned down a Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leader and injured two others at Pallabi in the Mohammad Sharif Hossain, JCD

general Secretary of Ward-5, was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared him Of the injured, JCD president of the

ted to the DMCH and JCD activist Mosharraf Hossain to the Orthopaedic Five armed elements allegedly led by a criminal from the area shot the three

ward Nausher Hossain Dilu was admit-

inside a telephone service shop owned by Mosharraf Local people said the incident was a sequel to previous enmity. Some sources

however attributed it to a row over 'domination' of the area. Pallabi police said at about 9 pm that they were aware of the incident but they could not give details as their men were yet to return from the place of occur-

sued for

extortion in

Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Sunday for extortion.

take charge of inquiry

One inspector and another 12 of the

Detective Branch (DB) of Chittagong

Metropolitan Police were sued on

Kohinoor Cosmetics Company

filed the case with the Chief

Metropolitan Magistrate's Court,

Chittagong under the Speedy Trial

Act. The court directed the deputy

commissioner of police (north) to

DB Inspector Enayet Kabir and 12

others in plainclothes handcuffed

the manager, eight shareholders and

staff of the company and demanded

a toll of Tk 5 lakh from them on April

10, according to the deposition of the

case. The law enforcers threatened to

THUNDERCLOUDS ARE ON THE MOVE! The skies above the Bangabandhu National Stadium send ominous signals during the Indian innings in the final of

2 more Saddam aides captured

The US Central Command in Qatar vesterday announced the capture of two more men on its list of 55 wanted former Iraqi officials, bringing to seven the number seized since the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime.

higher education minister Human abd al-Khaliq al-Ghafar was captured Saturday and was in US custody, Lieutenant Herb Josey said.

The Command added the Iraqi opposition was reportedly holding Jamal Mustafa Abdullah Sultan, a sonin-law of Saddam and deputy head of the tribal affairs office, and would turn him over to coalition forces in Baghdad.

A spokesman for the Iraqi National Congress in London said Sultan and a member of Saddam's elite Republican Guard who surrendered with him, were in INC custody in Baghdad and would be handed over soon.

Sultan is the nine of clubs in the most wanted deck of playing cards issued by the US military, while al-Khalig is the four of hearts. Saddam, number one on the list, is the ace of

Tk 1.35 cr gold haul at ZIA

STAFF CORESPONDENT

Customs at Zia International Airport (ZIA) seized gold bars worth about Tk 1.35 crore Sunday night.

Officials detained an incoming passenger, Mohammad Javed, when he was about to pass through the green channel in the late hours of Sunday. Iaved arrived at Dhaka by a Bangladesh Biman flight, BG-018, from London via

The passenger was taken to the customs counter and was thoroughly searched. One hundred and sixty five gold bars weighing 10 tola each were found wrapped in a cloth fastened to his

Javed was handed over to airport police and a case was filed in this regard The gold bars were deposited at the customs warehouse. A departmental

case was also filed.

Mother of Srikanta Rakshit, the slaughtered computer engineer, lodged a murder case accusing 11 persons with the Doublemooring Iraq's former scientific research and Police Station on Sunday night.

Listed criminal of Raozan, Azimuddin Mahmud, who is an accused in 14 criminal cases including seven murders, has been accused in the case as the prime suspect, police said. Of the 11, four, including Azim, are

known as professional criminals and they are from Raozan, and the seven others are relatives of the victim, police

Srikkanta's mother Shikha Rani

364/302/201/34 of the CrPC. Public prosecutor Abdus Sattar and senior lawyers of the Chittagong Bar were present at the time.

The case was filed with the Doublemooring PS. The slain engineer was missing from the city's Ice Factory Road area from Saturday night, Sub inspector Monirul Islam of the Doublemooring PS has been made investigation officer (IO) of the case. The cremation of Srikkanta was

done at the Avoymitra Crematorium on Sunday night. Although police conducted hunt for the suspected killers of Srikkanta, none of the 11 accused in the case could be arrested till filing of this

Srikkanta,27, son of senior lawyer

Mridul Rakshit, was kidnapped by unidentified miscreants while he was going to Agrabad Commercial area on Saturday evening from his Hazarigoli residence in the city along with one of his friends to buy computer accessories. Hathazari police recovered the beheaded body of Srikkanta from Tandrabil area of Shikarpur union $under\,Hathazari\,PS\,the\,next\,morning.$

Family sources said a land dispute with a neighbour, Azimuddin Mahmud, who is accused as the main suspect in the case, might have been the reason behind the killing.



Customs officials check a seizure of gold bars worth about Tk 1.35 crore at Zia International Airport Sunday night.

Three awarded death penalty for murder COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Speedy Trial Tribunal-4, Dhaka Division, yesterday awarded death penalty to three people in the sensational Badsha murder case.

The convicts are Sohel Dewan, Billal Judge Jahangir Alam Mollah gave the

verdict yesterday afternoon. The court also awarded life imprisonment to two persons -- Imran Rana and Sharif Rana in the same case and also fined them Tk 5,000 each, in default, they have to suffer one more year in jail.

According to the prosecution, at around 5:30pm on August 8, 2002 Badsha Mia, a businessman of Mirpur (Section-13) under Kafrul police station, was shot dead in front of the Badsha Community Centre by the accused. Nuriahan Begum, mother of the

victim, filed a murder case with Kafrul police station the same day Investigation Officer (IO) submitted the chargesheet against the convicts on

The court framed charges against the convicts on March 4 under Section 302/34 of the panel code

Sixteen prosecution witnesses out of 30 were cross-examined during the trial.

killed, two abducted in Rangamati UNB, Rangamati

A leader of the United People's Democratic Front(UPDF) was gunned down and two of its activists were kidnapped by their rivals at Chouchalabil in the hill district on

The dead was identified as Sundar Chakma, 28

Police and locals said the gunmen

abducted UPDF activists Nil Chandra Chakma, 25, and Kajija Chakma, 27 Some 15-20 cadres allegedly

belonging to Parbatya Chattogram Jano Snaghati Samity (PCISS) attacked the house of Sundarban Chakma and sprayed bullets on him. He died on the spot.

They kidnapped Nil Chandra and Kaijja from the house at gun point. On information, a joint team of

police and security forces rushed to the scene and recovered the body.

ay Garner, the retired US general

overseeing Iraq's reconstruction,

arrived in Baghdad yesterday to see for

himself the devastation suffered by the

repair the damage failed to convince

Iraqis who faced the worst nightmare

In a sign of tensions with Iraqi

leaders emerging after the fall of

Saddam Hussein, Garner's team said

the United States did not recognise the

authority of an Iraqi who has declared

during the US-led bombardment.

But his promise to work all out to

None arrested, 11 sued UPDFleader | Ministry ditches 13 DB men Petrobangla, forms body on recruitment

The Ministry of Energy last week unilaterally formed a five-member committee on recruitment of executives on contract to restructure three gas companies

State-owned Petrobangla had advertised in the press in February to hire executives to make Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Ltd. (TGTDCL), Gas Transmission Company Ltd (GTCL) and Rupantarita Prakritik Gas Ltd (RPGCL) more commercial and competitive.

The advertisement sought managing directors for the companies, and general managers for operation and

himself governor of Baghdad. And not

all Baghdad residents welcomed the US-

led team tasked with rebuilding their

have than to be able to help somebody

else, to help other people, and that is

what we intend to do," Garner, head of

the Office of Reconstruction and

Humanitarian Assistance (ORHA), told

by looters and deprived of electricity,

and an abandoned sewage treatment

He said his priority was to restore

Garner visited a hospital ransacked

"What better day in your life can you

Russia insists on UN arms inspectors

reporters on arrival

declaring Iraq free of WMD

The Petrobangla, which owns these companies, is supposed to oversee the recruitment, but the ministry arbitrarily formed the committee with a professor of the Bangladesh University o Engineering and Technology (BUET) as

Interestingly, the chairman of Petrobangla himself is now a member of the five-man board.

The legal structure designates Petrobangla as the authority to appoint the managing directors.

The cabinet on April 6 had observed that interference into the running of the

basic services such as water and elec-

tricity. Asked what the greatest chal-

lenge was, he said: "Everything is the

At the Yarmuk hospital in southern

Baghdad, Garner was led through dark,

dusty corridors littered with broken

glass and shown wards stripped by

file an arms case against them upon The plaintiff of the case gave Tk 40,000 and promised another Tk 60,000 for release of his colleagues Iraqis sceptical about Garner and shareholders and to avoid

rassment, they alleged. But the company's failure to pay the rest of the demanded money incited the DB men into harassing the manager and shareholders again.

The company staff closed their office in Sholoshahar, Chittagong,

looters of everything except beds. "What we need to do from this day forward is to give birth to a new system in Iraq," he told doctors at the hospital. "It begins with us working together, but

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hard

Sun Rises | Sun Sets April 22 6-23 pm **April 23** 5-31 am **Prayer Timings** April 22 Azan Jamaat Fajr 5-10 12-45 Zohr 1-15 5-00 5-15 Maghrib 7-35 8-00 Source: Islamic Foundation

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