Raw jute prices fall further due to Export Price Check

A government decision to reimpose Export Price Check (EPC) on raw jute, which came into effect from today, is likely to leave an adverse impact on already shrinking jute industry. Private traders' sources told

UNB raw jute prices have already fallen by Tk 20 to 30 per bale in the local market with the reimposition of EPC

The authorities had withdrawn EPC on August 27 to facilitate free export which has mostly been dominated by the private sectors.

But at a review meeting Tuesday, EPC was again made compulsory because the government felt the easing of restriction had failed to achieve desired result.

Available statistics suggest that jute exports without EPC fetched larger foreign exchange than the earnings with EPC regime. EPC sale for

to workers will

ruin industry,

say jute spinners

Star Economic Report

Association (BJSA) Wednesday

said any further concessions to

the jute mills workers would

have an adverse effect on the

said the jute industry is already

burdened with a 2000 crore

taka loss and is on the verge of

ruination due to low produc-

tivity, high production cost

and competition from synthet

Sramik Karmachari Parishad

(BPSKP) is pressurizing the

government on different de-

mands and threatening strike

which is contrary to Labour

Laws of the country and also to

ILO conventions. It said this

organisation is not registered

and has therefore, no right to

represent the labour's de-

in the past, granted several

concessions to different unreg-

istered organisations like

SKOP. Workers demands could

be settled in talks between the

owners and the workers and

the government could hold

tripartite negotiations only if

such talks failed, the BJPA

Ex-Pak Minister

barred from holding

public office

for 7 years

former Pakistani Cabinet

Minister was disqualified

Wednesday from holding pub-

lic office for seven years for

abusing his powers, reports

convicted Ghulam Ahmad Khan

Maneka of misconduct while

he was Minister for Manpower

and Overseas Pakistanis in the

government of former Premier

Banazir Bhutto, the official APP

ber of Bhutto's Pakistan

People's Party to be disquali-

fied since her government was

ousted by President Ghulam

Ishaq Khan in August last year.

Weavers gherao

UP office

1200 handloom weavers today

gheraoed Belkuchi Upazila

Parishad office in the district

demanding food, work and

boycott of foreign goods, re-

BDR-BSF confce

concludes

commander level border con-

ference between Bangladesh

Force (BSF) was held

November 4, reports BSS.

Rifles and Border Security

Mahdipur of Malda, India on

Rajshahi Col MM Jahangir led

the Bangladesh side while

Sector Commander (DIG)

Malda (India) GC Panth led the

cordial atmosphere discussed

bilateral problems particularly

on border crimes and smug-

Maida assured at the confer-

ence that he would "instruct

his forces that no untoward in-

cident happens in the Indo-

Bangladesh border areas in fu-

The conference held in a

The sector commander of

BDR Sector Commander

RAJSHAHI, Nov 6 : A sector

ports UNB.

Indian side.

gling.

ture."

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 6 : About

Maneka is the third mem-

news agency reported.

A special court in Lahore

ISLAMABAD, Nov 6 : A

It said the government had,

It said Bangladesh Patkal

In a statement the BJSA

jute industry.

mands.

Reuter.

Bangladesh Jute Spinners

1991-92 season was registered at 4.75 lakh metric tons till November 5 compared to 3.25 lakh metric tons during the same period in 1990-91.

Reimposition of EPC is likely to discourage foreign buyers as the prices have been fixed higher compared to other neighbouring countries,

which was being sold at 340-380 US dollars per metric ton have been fixed at 425 USD. Similarly prices of BWD C, D and E grades which were being sold at 290-330, 275-320 and 250-300 US dollars respectively have now been fixed at 395, 365 and 335 US dol-

Three private jute mills in Pakistan, namely Alipur Jute Mills, Khalil Jute Mills and Sunshine Jute Mills which bough large amount of raw jute from Bangladesh, have report-

edly been searching for new import market, sources said.

The reimposition of EPC is likely to affect the country's small and medium jute exporters making a heyday for the monopoly quarters, the sources said adding it also defied the World Bank recommendation which suggested for freeing the jute sector from bureaucratic tangle.

Bangladesh Jute Association

Sharif orders enquiry into loan scandal

ISLAMABAD, Nov 6 Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif announced a judicial inquiry today into a multi-mil lion-dollar financial scandal and pledged to quit if he was found guilty of any wrongdoing, reports Reuter.

Speaking in a television address on the first anniversary of taking office, he said he was unafraid of the accountability demanded by opposition politicians who accuse his government of "loot and plunder".

"If the commission establishes even a single charge against the Prime Minister, I will bow before the law. But if these allegations are proven false then I will leave it to Allah and the court of the people," he said.

Shartf and Interior Minister Shujaat Hussain have been accused by the opposition of taking massive loans for their family business empires from financial cooperatives that collapsed earlier this year.

Both paid back the loans and denied any wrongdoing, but a number of politicians from the ruling Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) had connections with cooperatives based in Sharif's home province Punjab.

The scandal has put the government on the defensive and given opposition leader Benazir Bhutto the opportunity to exact revenge for being accused of corruption and sacked last year.

Leading opposition politi-cian Malik Mohammad Qasim told an Islamabad seminar entitled "One year of IDA misrule" today that commissions of inquiry were unacceptable.

The Midnight File

Mujahideen team starts for USSR today

ISLAMABAD, Nov 6: A delegation of Afghan Mujahideen will leave Friday for their first ever talks in Moscow with the Soviet government on the civil war in their homeland, rebel sources and authorities here said today. The 11-member delegation is to arrive in Moscow Sunday after spending 24 hours in Saudi Arabia for a pilgrimage to Mecca, a spokesman for the Pakistani Foreign Ministry said, reports AFP.

Suu Kyi in good health

NEW YORK, United Nations, Nov 6: Aung San Suu Kyi, the Burmese dissident who won the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, is in good health and is free to leave Burma, Burma's ambassador to

20 killed after taking adulterated liquor in India

NEW DELHI, Nov 6: At least 20 people were killed after drinking adulterated liquor during a Hindu religious festival, health officials said Wednesday. Twenty people were admitted in serious condition to the government-run Hindu Rao Hospital in north Delhi, said Om Prakash, an official in the hospital's emergency ward, reports AP.

From Page 1 Col. 5

Various political and sociocultural organisations have drawn elaborate programmes to observe the day.

Besides, milad mahfil and special munajat will be offered be offered at temples. churches and other places of worship for the peace and

served to the inmates of the hospitals, jails, orphanages, children centres and vagrant

Newspapers and literary magazines will bring out special supplements and publish articles befitting the occasion. Bangladesh television and radie will put up special pro-

The Shilpakala Academy will hold a session of patriotic songs in the afternoon. Documentary films show will be arranged for the students in

JS body for resolving CU impasse

The Chittagong University Teachers' Association (CUTA) has appealed to the parliamentary committee on campus vio-

lence to sincerely look into the 'anarchic situation' prevailing on the CU campus and find out ways to resolve it. The CUTA President Prof

Hamida Banu and the General Secretary Dr Istekharuddin Choudhury submitted the written appeal to the parliamentary committee at the Jatiya Sangsad (parliament) Bhaban

The CUTA alleged the CU had been kept hostage in the hands of a few terrorists of a student organisation which is being backed by a section of CU teachers with vested interest. The December 22, 1990 killing occurred on the campus when the majority of the teachers and students protested the terrorism, it

trail, it regretted.

rorists was the only out of the crisis and hoped direct, legal and realistic interference by the parliamentary committee into the affair in the greater interest of the university and the democratic rule in the

tivities by the identified

Those include: illegally using the students from their Besides, bands of Army. Navy. Air Force, BDR, Police, Ansar and VDP will be played at different places of Dhaka. Ansar-VDP will also hold a

Exhibition football matches will be held in Dhaka and other district towns.

cultural show in the city.

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has chalked out an elaborate programme to observe the 16th anniversary of the Revolution and Solidarity Day.

The party's programme includes hoisting of the national and party flags at the central office of the party in the morning, offering of prayer and placing wreaths at the mausoleum of Ziaur Rahman, at

The party's front organisation Jatiyatabadi Sangskritik Sangstha (JASAS) will organise discussion meeting and cultural function on the occasion at 4 pm on the day at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium. Documentary films on the significance of the day will

The "Zia Gabeshana Kendra" has drawn a three-day programme in observance of the day. The Kendra's programme include holding of a discussion meeting on the significance of the day on November 8 which will be presided over by Speaker Shatkh Razzaque Ali. The discussion meeting will be participated by eminent intel-

Shaheed Zia Adarsha Bastabayan Parishad" has chalked out elaborate programme on

the occasion. Islamic Foundation has arranged Quran khawani at 11 mosque. Special prayers will

Ganatantrik Juba Shakti will organise a discussion meeting at 3.30 pm at National Book Centre. Anwar Zahid, KM Obaidur Rahman and others

Progotishil Gonotantrik Shakti (Progosh) will observe the day through hoisting of national and party flags at the

sion meeting will be held at 10 Bangladesh Jana Parishad has arranged a discussion meeting at the organisations

Siddheswari) at 4 pm. Tamaddun Majlis will hold a

discussion meeting on Friday at the auditorium of National Book Centre at 4 pm.

to review implementation of JEC decisions

ISLAMABAD, Nov 6 Bangladesh and Pakistan have decided to set up committees at each others' capital to review the implementation of the decision of the Joint Economic Commission between the two countries, re-

The three-day fourth meeting of the JEC ended here today with the signing of agreed minutes.

From Page 1 Col. 7

spiracy against democracy at its nascent period. The people wants peace and political stability in the country which is inevitable for the economic

She alleged that the ruling party was politicking with relief materials in the northern area where a large number of people were passing their days of starvation.

Sheikh Hasina also alleged that the present government was misusing huge money on foreign visits in the name of gaining international favour. The Prime Minister did not inform the Parliament or the people anything about her Harare visits. "Such was the democracy she was demonstrating," the AL chief added.

private traders pointed out.

The BWD B grade raw jute

lars respectively.

sources said they strongly oppose reintroduction of EPC because it will have harmful effect on the country's economy

Jute Ministry officials said, the EPC committee will review the situation at a meeting

scheduled for Sunday. Meanwhile, Bangladesh Pat Sangram Committee which led the movement for lifting of EPC, in a statement today condemned the decision to reimpose EPC and urged the au-

thorities to withdraw it.

More concessions | C. Summit postponed

From Page 1 Col. 4

security problems at home. South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation since its creation in 1985.

The cancellation also was an embarrassment for Sri Lanka. which budgeted 1.2 million dollars for sprucing up its capital and paying for a massive security net against terrorism by Tamil guerillas fighting for independence in the north-

The sixth annual meeting was called off by its Chairman, President Maumoom Abdul Gayoom of the Maldives, according to a statement from the Indian delegation. No new date was announced. The three-day meeting was to have

opened Thursday morning. India, in effect, ensured the collapse of the summit by refusing to accept an envoy as a replacement for King Jigme

unable in attend due to "unexpected developments pertaining to the internal security situation."

He did not elaborate, but the Bhutanese government has been in conflict with citizens of Nepalese origin who are kingdom.

delivered to him by hand in his capital, Thimpu, by the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, as was done with the other participants. The invitation to the King was dispatched through diplomatic channels.

Identify elements disrupting

Biswas Wednesday called upon the people to identify the elements disrupting peace and order in the society and help establish rule of law in the country, reports BSS. He was speaking as chief

guest at the biennial conference of Bangladesh Law Students Federation at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium

not the duty of the law enforcing agencies alone to maintain peace and discipline in the society rather, he added, the people should also come forward to contribute their mite

He underscored the need for a congenial atmosphere to promote national progress and said violence and terrorism would only hinder the growth social development.

The president said the previous government had no support from the masses and that was why it had ignored the rule of law.

He said the "autocratic government" had no respect for rule of law because they feared that their illegal power could be challenged if the rule of law

was honoured. President Biswas said it was a sacred task for the nation to extend cooperation to the present democratic government for the success of democracy.

the dispute, apparently because of lingering bad feelings between the two countries. India was still annoved that Sri Lankan President had failed to attend last year's SAARC summit in the Maldives.

ing at Indian army forces stationed on the Indian Ocean is-

members in open conflict with each other.

Lankan version

Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan government expressed regret today that the sixth South Asian leaders' summit could not go ahead as scheduled

in a statement that they could not "secure agreement on the principle of unanimity which governs decisions" taken by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

Sri Lanka regrets that it will not be possible for the sixth SAARC summit to take place,"

SAARC would not go ahead as scheduled Thursday. The current SAARC Chairman Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, in a statement said he

call off the summit but would pay a visit to Colombo on a purely bilateral "goodwill ba-

86," Civil Surgeon of Lalmonirhat Dr. Abdul Huq told the Daily Star over telephone on Wednesday. An UNICEF official in Dhaka also said only that the EPI programme was

geon said that three medical assistants posted to two villages there failed to join duty and were now working else-

even know if anybody in those areas has been suffering from diarrhoea or other diseases as

we have no entrance there." the Bangladeshis of Dahagram and Angurpota are sometimes allowed to enter India but barred to come to the mainland," he said. "The Indian border security force has tightened its cordon ground the enclaves during the past several months following agitation by the Indians in Mekhliganj protesting handing

He said that the EPI programme would begin if the situation improve and Indian authorities permit the medical

over of Tinbigha coridoor, he

on Sunday

neral of press tycoon Robert his speech urged all those who witnessed historical incidents in the sea off Tenerife on Tuesday is due to take place in Jerusalem on Sunday, a spokesman for his Mirror Group newspapers said here

Normally, results are announced within 100 days of completion of the examinations.

Like three other education boards, Comilla Board also granted 25 grace marks for a single subject (including its two papers) where pass marks is lacking. The grace mark remarkably increased the percentage of pass in this year's SSC examinations under the education boards of Dhaka, Rajshahi, Jessore and Comilla this year. The grace mark was increased to help more student pass the examinations as a new system of examinations

A total of 1,26,642 students (male and female) appeared in the examinations of whom 82,699 came out successful. Of the successful candidates 8,463 passed in the first division, 38,507 in the second di-

Liton murder From Page 1 Col. 8

October 27, which also caused Mizan and an unidentified

and 12 other BCL (S-A) acother JCD activists of killing

Nirmal's arrest was, however, the first made by the Detective Branch of police 10 days after the killings.

Nirmal is a final year student of the Political Science Department of Dhaka University and a resident of

and a close aide of Golam Faruq Obhi joined the BCL after the fall of the Ershad regime with some other JCD members expelled from JCD for their alleged involvement

Shantibahinimen kill five

CHITTAGONG Nov 6: Shantibahinimen shot dead five non-tribals including three women and injured five others at Burighat lake of Naniarchr upzilla under Rangamati district today, law enforcing agency sources said.

The insurgents opened

indiscriminate fire from a nearby hill top bush on the people aboard a boat on their way to Naniarchar bazar killing five on the spot. Those killed were identified as Selima Begum (30), Amena Begum (50), Saleha Begum (45), Chan Miah (40) and Mohamed Selim (20). The bodies were recovered by police. The rest five with bullet wounds were rushed to the Rangamati hospital

Of the total candidates,

85,072 were male student and 41,570 female students. The percentage of pass of the male students is 64.78 and that of the female students 66.35. Of the total candidates,

68,629 were from Social Science group (39,529 male and 29,100 female) and 58,013 (45,543 male and 12,470 female) from the General Science group. The total candidates of the board include 1,21,003 regular and

5,639 private examinees. In the examinations of the board, held in 131 centres, 5,420 examinees were expelled for adopting unfair

Hindus clash over Kali puja: 2 killed

sons were killed in a rivalry between the two groups over 'kali puja' celebrations in the village Samarsing under Gazipur sadar upazila Tuesday

way to Dhaka Medical College hospital when at least 10 people from the opponent group attacked them with sharp weapons. The victims were going to attend the puja celebra-

The two groups erected two puja pandals at the same village and tension was prevailing in the village during past couple of weeks on the issue. Police officials visited the

Tejgaon College student shot at, wounded

By Staff Correspondent A student of Tejgaon college was seriously injured when his

The victim, Masud, a member of the College Student Union and a JCD activist, sustained bullet injuries on his back and leg. He was admitted to the Pangu Hospital in a seri-

had had an altercation with the college union Sports Secretary Shaheen on the campus at Later, a group of five students led by Shaheen called

Witnesses said, Masud and

gate at around 1:15 pm, witnesses added. Masud filed a case with Tejgaon thana accusing Anwar Bipul, Mamun, Shamim and Shaheen. All of the accused, except Anwar an outsider, are

cused are also said to be JCD activists. No arrests were made

GAZIPUR, Nov 6 : Two per-

Police said Dijendra Chandra (55) died on the spot while Surjamohan (45) on his

connection.

ous condition.

Masud outside the college campus and fired at him with a cut-rifle in front of the college

students of the college, police

till the writing of this report.

the United Nations said today, reports AFP.

Solidarity Day today

to protect the independence of the country. The day will be a public holiday and the national flag will fly atop all public and private buildings.

at all mosques and prayers will progress of the nation. Improved diet will be

cinema halls and other places.

CUTA appeals to

By Staff Correspondent

Tuesday night.

added. Those responsible for the December 22 incident were still continuing their terrorist acts as they were brought to

The CUTA viewed that effective steps against the tercountry.

The CUTA in its appeal also cited ten types of unlawful acterrorists on the CU campus.

seats in the residential halls and resort to repression on the general students, curbs on freedom of expression by the teachers in the name of religion, disturbing the congenial academic atmosphere and attempt to control all academic activities in a medieval manner, establish dominance on the campus in a fascist way and attempting to create deadlock in the university administration, turning the residential halls into den of illegal arms, throwing indecent comments to the female teachers and students, interrupting the activities of the CUTA and the cultural activities of the students, locking up the university motor garage and the gates without prior notice and armed attack on the meetings of various bodies of the university including the Syndicate, Senate, Academic Council, Board of Advance Studies, Selection Committee and

Finance Committee.

Editor : S. M. Ali

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Merit list

By Staff Correspondent **Mohammad Golam Sarwar** Talukder of the Comilla Cadet College secured the first position in the combined merit list of general science and social science groups in the SSC ex-

Talukder obtained 841

getting 835 marks with letters also in the above mentioned five subjects.

Mohammad Abdul Mannan of Foujdarhat Cadet College and Bijon Bihari Sinha of Sylhet Cadet College jointly secured the third position.

India was quick to seize on

Indo-Sri Lankan relations were set back two months ago by disclosures that Premadasa had supplied arms in 1989 to Tamil guerillas who were snip-

here because of the lastminute withdrawal by the King The Foreign Ministry said

"Hence the government of

statement by Colombo that the would, however, visit Colombo Thursday in view of personal appeals made by the would-be

summit host, President Ranasinghe Premadasa. Gayoom said he was sad to

From Page 1 Col. 8

The civil surgeon said that year but the unutilised fund

where under deputation. Dr. Huq said that "we do not

"We have information that

team to work there. Maxwell's funeral

SSC exams Powers bifurcated allout support to the govern-

From Page 1 Col. 8

The activists of Democratic Students Unity held a rally infront of the National Press Club on

Wednesday in observance of 'Save the Education Day.'

is going to be introduced next

vision and 35,729 in the third division.

the deaths of Mizanur Rahman

street urchin. Two cases were filed in this regard - one by JCD leader Khairul Kabir Khokon accusing an ex-JCD leader and alleged killer of Dr. Shamsul Alam Khan Milon, Golam Faruq Obhi tivists of killing Mirza and Liton while another case was filed by BCL leader Mozammel Huq accusing Elias Ali and 13

BCL leader Mizanur Rahman

Jagannath Hall. Nirmal, a DUCSU member

in anti-organisational activities.

From Staff Correspondent

From Our Correspondent

area. None was arrested in this

acquaintances allegedly opened fire on him near the College entrance Wednesday afternoon

around 10 am.

Furthermore, all of the ac-

9 am.

grammes. also be screened.

lectuals and personalities.

am at the Baitul Mukarram also be offered after John

will participate in the discusparty central office. A discus-

office (115 New Circular Road,

Dhaka, Islamabad

Hasina

growth, she added.

attend because of unexplained

It was the worst setback for

One Sri Lankan diplomat who has studied the organization from its inception said This incident re-exposed the impracticality of this gang going on."

Singye Wangchuck of Bhutan. Wangchuck informed the organizers last week he was

demanding greater cultural freedom in the isolated and tightly controlled Himalayan Indian delegates said the King was offended that the invitation to the summit was not

peace: Biswas President Abdur Rahman

President Biswas said it was

in this regard.

aminations of 1991 under the Comilla Board.

marks out of 1000 with distinction in five subjects mathematics, geography, islam dharma (religion), general science and higher mathemat-

Mohammad Arif of Sylhet Cadet College stood second

From Page 1 Col. 4

ment during its formative

stage has now become worried

about the future functional

procedure of the government.

orandum on September 8,

pleaded for vesting all powers

as chief executive and princi-

pal accounting officer in the

minister for effective control

of the bureaucracy so that i

did not hamper the smooth

gested some drastic reforma-

tion in the existing Rules of

Business adopted in 1975 by

limiting the powers of secre-

Committee source said that

earlier, when the government

formed a committee to reform

the Rules of Business, the

Cabinet Division prepared a

draft suggesting replacement

of the word 'president' by the

words 'prime minister' which

would help nothing but estab-

lishment of a 'prime ministe-

rial dictatorship instead of a

The draft raised debate in

the political and administrative

circles. Later the committee

was recast and a seven-mem-

ber committee with four bu-

reaucrat representatives

formed to frame the Rules of

the bifurcation of power be-

tween the minister and the

secretary. But that also has not

As there is no gazette noti-

fication the secretaries are still

enjoying the power as per the

1975 Rules of Business in

which they were the official

Distortions

From Page 1 Col. 5

liberation struggle, and said

ate Bangabandhu and those

who were killed later," he

"History will properly evalu-

Presided over by the

Chairman of the Parisad

Colonel (retd) Shawkat Ali the

meeting was addressed also by

Awami League leader Abdur

Razzaque, MP, Captain (retd)

Humayun Kabir, General

Secretary of the Parisad, Flight

Sergeant (retd) Fazlul Huq,

Begum Nilufar Huda, widow of

Colonel Huda and M R Akhter

Rashed Mosharraf, MP, were

also present at the meeting

held at the Institution of

Abdur Razzaque, MP

pointed out that the reasons

for which they gave their lives

had been distorted. "The peo-

ple ever today do not know

why they were killed," he

added. He also called on the

people to unite in portraying

the history of the nation

truthfully and fight the distor-

Colonel (retd) Sawkat Ali in

Major (retd) Hafiz, MP, and

truth will ultimately prevent.

yet been gazetted for some un-

The committee suggested

presidential totalitarianism.

A BCS Coordination

taries.

Business.

known reasons.

heads of ministries.

added.

Engineers.

The memorandum also sug-

functioning of the ministry.

The Committee in its mem-

land off the south Indian coast The regional organization was a shaky proposition from the start, with many of its

of Bhutan.

the Ministry said. It was the first official

Dahagram started in the country in 1985

suspended there but made no future comment. the government had sanctioned Taka 20,000 for the programme in September last was returned. The civil sur-

LONDON, Nov 6 : The fu-

to come forward and help publish those correctly. The meeting was attended by a large number freedom fighters, members of their families and others.

tions.