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Fed喜欢

The World on Time

Federal Express

Down to Earth

Encouraging City's Green Belt

The need for a greater expanse of verdure is being increasingly felt for the Dhaka city. The city's geographic location itself is a helpful factor in this regard. Once the city was rich in natural beauty. On its south and east flows the Buriganga; on the other two sides, we have the Turag and Lakhya rivers and inside the city there were many pockets, large and small, of water areas which all contributed to enhancing the natural beauty of the city, in association with the pre-existing wealth of trees and greenary. But we have been witnessing the gradual denudation of the green landscape under the onslaught of the growing urbanisation with its concomitant brick and

concrete structures. Thus much of the patches of green within city areas have gone out of reach of the citizenry. Yet these patches of verdure have kept the denizens of the city interested by way of relief from a barren outlook. marked with the growing phenomenon of air pollution from various agents. According to an estimate of the Arboriculture Division of the Works Ministry. the total area of parks and gardens under its control in the city is only about 766 acres. This is admittedly quite inadequate for the teeming millions of the city.

There is another important aspect. The need for having a 'green belt' in the vicinity of the city was felt in the sixties. The idea was to ensure a steady sup-

Regional confce

From Page 1

Sung. Chairman, Youngone

Corporation, Sharif M Afzal

Hossen, President, BCI, Dr For-

est Cookson. President AM-

CHAM, Yh. Kim, resident repre-

sentative KORTA, Dhaka, Mr

Bamba, resident representative,

JETRO, Dhaka, Koya Harhara

of ESCAP, M Akhtar Ali, Secre-

tary. Ministry of Industries.

Shah A Hannan, Chairman,

NBR and Dr Harunur Rashid.

Chairman, Securities and Ex-

Mannan demands

shifting of Abbas

to PG Hospital

dul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday

demanded that Jubo Dal presi-

dent Mirza Abbas be shifted

from Dhaka Central Jail to PG

In a statement, Bhuiyan ex-

pressed deep concern at the

sickness of Abbas in prison. He

alleged that the government

was not making any arrange-

ment for proper treatment of

visited the residence of Mirza

Abbas in the afternoon and ad-

dressed a meeting of the party's

Motijheel and Sabujbagh thana

Meetings in Ctg

From Page 1

CBA on March 15 to force the

authorities to stop the use of

equipment brought by a private

shipping agency. The strike

ended after three days with the

postponement of use of private

equipment but the port users

then started a boycott of port

functions demanding permis-

sion for use of their own

on March 20 when the govern-

ment announced that it would

give a decision on April 5 about

PM

In a message sent to the

manager, coach and players of

the team, now in Kuala Lumpur,

she said, "The whole of

Bangladesh is with me in con-

gratulating you all at the mem-

orable win . . . 120 million peo-

ple are overjoyed and inspired

nation is very happy for the

team's win showing excellent

performance, patience and

courage, when the chance of the

semi-final berth was almost

uncertain in the rain-inter-

ning spree will continue and

you will bring the highest glory

for the country's cricket. People

are eagerly awaiting your final

greetings and that of the coun-

trymen." Hasina said. "May the

most merciful Allah be with

"Please accept my personal

She said, "I hope, your win-

The Prime Minister said the

by your victory."

rupted match.

the use of private equipment.

From Page 1

The port functions resumed

equipment.

The BNP Secretary General

Hospital, reports UNB.

the Jubo Dal leader.

BNP Secretary General Ab-

change Commission (SEC).

By AS M Nurunnabi ply of green vegetables to the city dwellers. For some reason or the other, it never got underway, and the city has to depend on the supply of vegetables from remote areas. This may explain, at least to some extent, why the prices of common vegetables, which once were cheap,

have gone up substantially. In the opinion of observers, a possible answer to the issue lies in developing a green belt somewhere near the city. As is obvious, the population in Dhaka is growing at an amazing pace with mounting pressure on lands of all kinds. The situation is destined to worsen further with the inexorable fillip to urbanisation.

It has been observed that people are trying to grow agricultural produce including vegetables on small patches of lands and even on roofs, but apparently this cannot contribute much towards boosting production in this sphere only because space constraint makes it impossible for them to try anything on a large scale. It is felt that it is not too late to look for some places around the city where a green belt can be developed. There is already a notable example in this behalf in the establishment of the large horticultural garden at Kasimpur near Tongi. Similar projects in the private sector can play a significant role in creating a green belt around the city. There are already some encour-

aging signs of growing interest

From Page 1

spondent last night that the

party's stand on issues like

power shortage and transit to

Îndia will be made "crystal

clear" to the people to remove

misgivings created by certain

quarters through spreading

false and baseless information.

people from outside the city to

show its strength at rally, other

Working Committee, ministers,

party MPs, presidents and sec-

retaries of party's units in the

city and adjoining districts at-

tended the meeting held at the

Prime Minister's Office yester-

deep gratitude to Allah for

Bangladesh's victory in a cru-

cial match of the ICC Cricket

Trophy in Kuala Lumpur yes-

terday, said a party press re-

leaders of city AL and those of

district units of Dhaka. My-

mensingh, Tangail, Manikganj

Narsinghdi, Narayanganj

Munshiganj, Gazipur, Comilla

(north). Comilla (south) and

Brahmanbaria and leaders of

AL's front organisations held a

meeting at the party's central

office at Bangabandhu Avenue.

AL sub-committee on 'constitu-

tion amendment and declara tion' was held yesterday evening at the Awami Founda-

tion, at Dhanmondi, in the city

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Meanwhile, a meeting of the

Earlier in the morning,

The meeting also expressed

party sources said.

day afternoon.

AL has planned to mobilise

Members of AL Central

Apr 7 meeting

in this field by private parties

with small projects. While the experts should decide how a green belt can be developed, there is no doubt that the idea deserves a closer look.

Another dimension to the issue has lately been highlighted by a newspaper report that on account of scarcity of trees and greenery in big cities like ours, birds and animals find reduced opportunities for roosting. According to an expert opinion, the more roosting places a city provides for the bird, the better its physical environment will be. It is said that the answer to our city's environmental deterioration lies in creating paths of artificial forests and parks which are likely to provide abode and sanctuaries for the species under the threat of extinction. Besides helping to enhance the city's natural beauty, these measures may play a positive part in saving whatever rare species of birds and animals there are in getting a new lease

In some big cities of the world, we may find charming existence of green belts around them with many gardens and large stretches of greenery. In our soil, trees grow up even without much care and help. In this situation, if we make planned and coordinated efforts, achieving the objective of creating a green belt for the city

with carefully tended tree plantation programmes may not be a difficult proposition. Austrian minister in city Josef Mayor, Austrian De-

terday on a two-day mission to explore bilateral trade and economic relations, reports BSS. At present Bangladesh and Austria have no major fields of economic relations and during his stay, the Austrian minister

Shine Pukur

From Page 1 with a view to raising the price of the share at a very high level. This will be evident from the fact that its share price was below par i.e. Tk 73 on 30.6.96, Tk 94 on 31.7.96 but it rose to Tk 754.19 on 28.11.96."

The report dissected the sta-

The report deducted, "It thus appears that the management of the company has a tendency to deviate more from than to follow it strictly. These come with mischief under Section 17 of the Securities and Ex-

water of Faridpur, Tungipara

Arsenic found in

Experts found excessive level of arsenic in the water of Tungipara thana in Gopalganj district and in eight villages of Faridpur Sadar thana, reports

The experiment was conducted by experts of Dhaka Community Hospital led by Dr Deepankar Chakrabarti, Director of the School of Environmental Studies of Yadavpur University, India.

The experts tested the water of 65 tubewells in 10 villages of Tungipara thana and detected arsenic above normal level in the water of 47 tubewells, said a press release of the hospital.

The team also tested the water of 69 tubewells of eight villages in Faridpur Sadar thana and detected high level of arsenic in the water of 57 tube-

Young man killed in Demra

By Staff Correspondent A young man was killed by an unidentified gang in Shanir Akhra under Demra thana in the city yesterday.

Police recovered the body of the young man aged about 30 from in front of a super market in Shanir Akhra at about 5 am The victim could not be identi-

Demra police said a mark of a deep cut injury was seen in the head of the victim. The body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy. However, none was arrested

NCN contce

From Page

in this connection till last

cellor of the Dhaka University will preside over the inaugural session.

The conference will discuss consolidation of the spirit of Bangladeshi nationalism and national sovereignty, according to the NCN.

NCN sources said last night that leaders of all political parties including the ruling Awami League have been invited to attend the conference. But the left leaning parties have declined to attend the conference on the ground that the Jamaat-e-Islami would also be there, NCN sources said adding that the Jamaat has already confirmed the organisers that it would attend the conference.

The conference has been convened by a galaxy of intellectuals and professionals. They formed a 62-member national committee with Prof Emajuddin as convenor to make the conference a success.

The conference will be split into five sessions: (1) Nationalism and national identity, (2) Regional cooperation and national sovereignty and security, (3) State terrorism and human rights, (4) Government, parliament and democracy, and (5) Current economic condition of

Bangladesh. Prof Aftab Ahmad, Sadek Khan, Prof Emajuddin Ahmed. Dr Mohammad Abdur Rab. Ahmed Humayun, Enayetullah Khan, Prof Mohammad Asaduzzaman, Nazim Kamran Chowdhury and Prof Mamtajuddin Ahmed will present keynote papers on the subjects.

eminent personalities are expected to take part in the dis-

Ahsan, former Agriculture Minister Azizul Haq. Barrister Mainul Hosein, Prof Talukder Moniruzzaman and Prof Abdul-

puty Minister for Economic Affairs, arrived in the city yes-

will review the possibilities of his country's investment and establish business link here.

tus of share money deposit A/C against the paid up share of the company and its activities in the last two years in which it found violations of rules and regulations of the SEC.

rules/regulations/procedures change Ordinance, 1969."

Power tower collapse One confesses

stealing parts, base plates

the case of Pabna power tower collapse has said two men in mask used to encourage him to steal parts of the tower in exchange of money, reports UNB.

confessional statement before First Class Magistrate Moloy Kumar on Thursday, said he had stolen the base plates and parts of the tower, encouraged by the two masked men who visited him on six occasions at night.

"masked visitors" had assured him a good amount of money for stealing the tower parts which he sold for Tk 1,600 to a shop owned by Krishna at Radhanagar in the town. Krishna is also a co-accused in the case. However, Chunnu did not

say anything about being paid any money by the "masked visi-

accused in the tower collapse case.

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They also hoped, again showing unanimity in their expectations, that the national team will keep up the spirit.

Giving his reaction over the victory, Awami League General Secretary and LGRD Minister Zillur Rahman said it was really a matter of national pride. "Our boys have done a big job," he said, adding that they had distributed sweets to celebrate the victory.

Top ranking BNP leader Khandaker Delwar Hossain told The Daily Star that they were very happy about the victory. "The victory would definitely contribute to raising our status at the global level," Delwar said, and hoped that the Bangladesh team would reach

Jatiya Party Secretary General Anwar Hossain Monju said, "We are really proud about

the Bangladeshi cricketers victory.

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Let's make things better

Feni killings: 5 held

The transport workers have enforced the strike in 13 different routes, including Tangail-Dhaka since Wednesday last after six buses were damaged allegedly by some students of Sadat University College.

District administration, local units of political parties and transport workers held two rounds of talks last night to resolve the crisis but failed to come out with a solution. No

The crisis ensued after some transport workers had allegedly beaten up a student, Sadek Hussain, on Tuesday night at Puratan Bus Stand in the town. In protest, the college students put up a barricade on Dhaka-Tangail road the next morning.

Diarrhoea claims 5 in Bhandaria

five people died of diarrhoea in Bhandaria thana of the district in the last 48 hours ending this evening, unofficial sources said, reports UNB.

be identified immediately. They are: Al Amin, 12, of Telikhali village, Nasrin, 11, of Madashi village and Abdul Majid Mia 65, of Darulhuda village of Bhandaria thana. Official sources admitted the

outbreak of the diarrhoea in the thana but did not confirm the deaths.

tivist of BNP-backed JCD. Tushar, and a leader of the party's youth front Juba Dal, Nasir. Four special squads of police are simultaneously reaching for the accused in every part of the town and other areas in the

district, said Kamrul Islam, Of-

ficer-in-Charge of Sadar thana. Asked on the issue, Deputy Commissioner Noor Mohammad told The Daily Star that police was very active to arrest the accused but they were yet to be arrested as they were frequently changing their hide-

The DC, however, hoped that the accused would be arrested within the stipulated time.

Replying to a question, he said that property of the accused would be attached in case of failure to catch them

Meanwhile, police is considering newer strategy for arrest-

ing the accused. "In first two days, uniformed police moved in their vehicles while on the third day they used plainclothes and moved in requisitioned private cars. A more effective method would be

adopted now", said one of the

police officials leading the operation. General Secretary of the district Awami League Joynal Abedin Hajari, MP denying his party workers' alleged involvement in the killings, said that police was unnecessarily harassing the party workers. "Both the murders are the outcome of intra-party conflicts of

the BNP", he told The Daily He alleged that police was simply creating panic through massive raids for arresting the accused. "They should go for secret operation and refrain from harassing the innocent people", he added

BNP leader Joynal Abedin condemned the arrest of those not named in the FIRs of the

two murder cases and demanded their immediate release. "We want arrest of only the accused", he said.

The Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong separately met leaders of the rival sides on Wednesday and sought cooperation from both in maintaining peace and stability in the area, both the sides, however, gave

He said both the parties were determined not to let any attack on them go unchallenged.

said, adding, he was preparing to face the situation.

Prime Minister to the ROK President inviting him to visit Bangladesh for which President Kim thanked Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

NAM meet

From Page 1

economies to refrain from the use of trade and investment to achieve non-economic and/or domestic objectives such as those relating to labour standards, intellectual property rights, human rights, health and environment.

trade and investment pose a danger for the multilateral economic system and the trade and investment prospects of developing countries," the document

क्निध्रे विगु अश्कार्

প্রিয় দেশবাসী,

এই দেশ আমার, আপনার, আমাদের সবার। দেশের সমস্যা ও সাফল্যে আপনিও সমান অংশীদার। তাই আপনাকে জানাতে চাই - কেন এই বিদ্যুৎ সংকট।

বিগত বছরগুলোতে ক্রমবর্ধমান চাহিদার সাথে সঙ্গতি রেখে বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন এবং গ্যাস সরবরাহ বৃদ্ধি করা হয়নি। যার ফলে আজ সারা দেশে লোড শেডিং হচ্ছে।

এই সংকট মোকাবেলায় বর্তমান সরকার সর্বাত্মক চেষ্টা চালাচ্ছে

এপ্রিল মাসের মধ্যে ৫৮ কিলোমিটার দীর্ঘ আশুগঞ্জ-বাখরাবাদ গ্যাস পাইপ লাইনের কাজ সমাপ্ত হচ্ছে। এর ফলে দেশের উত্তর - পূর্বাঞ্চলের গ্যাস চট্টগ্রাম অঞ্চলে সরবরাহ সম্ভব হবে এবং গ্যাস চালিত বন্ধ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্রগুলো পুনরায় চালু হবে। ফলশ্রুতিতে মে মাসে বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন উল্লেখযোগ্যভাবে বৃদ্ধি পাবে।

মনোহরদী-নরসিংদি এবং মেঘনা-বাখরাবাদ এই দুইটি গ্যাস পাইপ লাইনের নির্মাণ কাজ দ্রুত সমাপ্তির পথে। এ নির্মাণ কাজ শেষ হলে গ্যাস চালিত বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র সমূহের উৎপাদন বৃদ্ধি পাবে।

> এ বছরের জুলাই মাসে রাউজান-এর নতুন দ্বিতীয় বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন কেন্দ্ৰ চালু এবং বেশ কয়েকটি বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন কেন্দ্রের পুনর্বাসন সমাপ্ত হলে শীঘ্রই আরো অতিরিক্ত বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ সম্ভব হবে।

এছাড়া সরকারী এবং বেসরকারী উদ্যোগে বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন ও গ্যাস সরবরাহ বৃদ্ধির লক্ষ্যে ব্যাপক কর্মসূচী হাতে নেওয়া হয়েছে।

বিদ্যুতের এই সংকটকালে কৃছ্জ্বতা সাধন করুন। প্রয়োজনের অতিরিক্ত বাতি, ফ্যান, এয়ারকুলার বন্ধ রেখে বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহারে মিতব্যয়ী হোন এবং আমাদের সহযোগিতা করুন।

थ अश्किए काएतर

বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড 🔳 ঢাকা বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ কর্তৃপক্ষ 🔳 পল্লী বিদ্যুতায়ন বোর্ড

with the committee chairman Abdul Mannan in the chair. Truly skipperlike

It was at this point that we all started fancying the inglorious prospect of being saved by Malaysia's cricket phobe rain for, the sky started weeping in the nick of time for us - just before the 20th over. Had it come an over later, our ICC Trophy hopes would have met with another prolonged postponement following yet another premature ouster.

Although abandonment and the subsequent sharing of the points was good enough a settlement for us to be among the last four, destiny evidently had other design and befittingly, a passage to the semifinal with a victory that smacked character and valour. Just when chips were very much down. Akram with those little pockets of will power and application from his peers swung the course of the match decisively in our favour. In fact, they made light of the run-a-ball challenge in the end reaching the target with eight

balls to spare. Apart from a thumping entry into the semifinal, yesterday's victory over Holland, had other savoury features: Revenge of our defeat in the last ICC meet as well as the loss in one of the prep matches this time around; time to work on the jittery nature of batting; and lastly the emergence of belief in one's ability through the test of character under pressure. We hope all these will brace Bangladesh's quest for the ICC

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Email: dstar@bangla.net

Akram's triumph

determined captain ended the long chase, hitting the winning runs off Nota with a delicate steer past the gully fielder for three runs.

Akram, who came in to bat at number five with Bangladesh reeling at 15/4 in reply to a notso-impressive Holland total of 171, engaged in a brave rescue operation with an experienced Minhazul Abedin Nannu putting on 39 runs for the fifth wicket before heavy rain, a common phenomenon in this part of the world, intervened the proceedings in the 19th over, only to make going diffi-

cult for Bangladesh. But, much to the frustrations of this cricket-crazy nation, the rain almost washed out the semifinal hopes of Bangladesh, who after being deprived of a certain victory against Ireland in a rain-affected affair on Wednesday, as it fell for a short period of time, as if to raise the asking run-rate beyond any comfortable chase. When the match resumed after more than two hours of weather-forced injunction, Bangladesh were given an ever daunting task of scoring a run-

a-ball 84. Nannu, who made a fighting 20 off 49 balls, appeared to have wilted under the pressure of the soaring asking run-rate and eventually ran himself out while chasing a non-existing single. Slow left-armer Enamul Haq quickly followed Mindire straits with 84/6.

christened himself with the spirit of a true leader, found a much-sought ally in a wily Saiful Islam to guide the rocking boat to the coast, rotating the wheels with immaculate efficiency. Together they put on a priceless 52 runs for the seventh wicket before Saiful departed for an enterprising 18 off 20

balls, leaving Bangladesh five runs short of victory which Akram collected in style without further damage.

were swept with scores of greet-

land was something special.

With their brawny goings in the tourney, Bangladesh not only ousted two World Cuppers - United Arab Emirates and Holland — from the meet, but also brightened their prospect for a place in the elite echelon of the nine Test-playing na-

The vociferous couple of ates, who thronged the ground ing the rain and the red eyes of thorities, joined in a tearful but joyous celebration on the field after Akram picked up the

winning runs. While at home, millions of

cessful saga of Akram. A placard which read: "Guys, we love you all. Eight down. Two more to go" was faxed along with many a wishing to the victorious Bangladesh team. News offices

This is for the third time Bangladesh made it to the semifinals of the ICC Trophy, a qualifying tourney among the associate members for a passage in the World Cup. But unlike the previous two occasions, yesterday's win against Hol-

PABNA, Apr 4: An accused in Mohammad Chunnu, in a

Chunnu claimed that the

tors" after the "assigned job" was done. Till Thursday, police interrogated six out of the total eight

Rare gesture

in England in 1999.

the World Cup tournament.

the victory. Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Matiur Rahman Nizami was enthusiastic enough to issue a press statement hailing

Transport strike in Tangail

From Our Correspondent TANGAIL, Apr 4: Transport services between Tangail and rest of the country, including capital Dhaka remained suspended for the third consecutive day today due to a strike enforced by transport workers.

fresh move was taken today.

The district administration also asked the students to join the talks but they demanded such talks be held in the college premises.

PIROJPUR, Apr 4: At least

Three of the deceased could

PHILIPS

From Page 1 cused in the killing of an ac-

> 'conditional assurance', said the DC, who was also present at the meetings.

"I also apprehend fresh trouble if the Opposition deadline can't be maintained", the DC

Earlier, the DC's move to meet leaders of both the parties together to reach an understanding failed as they did not respond on grounds of their preoccupation.

Samad Azad From Page 1

The Bangladesh Foreign Minister returned home last

"Such conditionalities on

Besides, a good number of National Professor Syed Ali

lah Faruque will preside over different sessions.

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In an eventful match.

hazul, leaving Bangladesh at But Akram Khan, who has

thousand Bangladeshi expatrito inspire the home team brav-Malaysian immigration au-

cricket zealots who were glued to any radio set, erupted into ecstasy soon after the sensational victory. Numerous sports fans of this success-starved nation took to the streets in a rare euphoria, waving the adored red and green flag restlessly. While the saner section was grouped in every nook and corner of the country to talk about the suc-

ings for the team on frontier.

They will now have to beat Scotland in the second semifinal on April 8 to attain the cherished goal. The top-down three finishers will qualify for the next World Cup to be held in England in 1999.