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PM opens Fisheries Week

'Follow EU guidelines to boost export'

Problems of governance

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the exporters to boost export of frozen fish by strictly adhering to the European Union (EU) guidelines, reports UNB.

"You must remain alert to uphold the country's image while exporting frozen fish, including shrimps, by strictly maintaining the international standard," she told the exporters while inaugurating the Fisheries Week at the Krishibid Institution premises at Farmgate in the afternoon.

Hasina hoped that the exporters would maintain quality of their processed fish so that the export sector did not face any further obstacle in future. "We've restored confidence of

the EU importers of frozen fish that was lost for the negligence of the former government and for not maintaining the standard," she said.

"Frozen fish export to other countries was about to be stopped," the Prime Minister

But the government, under a crash programme, extended Tk 40 lakh bank loan facility to the processing units to improve

Nina-related floods in 1988.

macroeconomic performance.

said the size of the government

is increasing contradicting the

philosophy of market economy.

size is leading to problems re-

lating to financing the deficit

earnings increased which de-

creased domestic borrowing re-

quirement and the macro-eco

nomic stability was restored.

he said.

This increase in government

In the early 1990s, revenue

"But the macro-economic

stability has weakened since

the late 1990s," said Dr Chowd-

hury. "The size of the govern-

ment increased while revenue

stagnated resulting in increased

changed from central tax gen-

eration to local level tax collec-

tion to boost revenue collection

tributed a chapter on the indus-

trial sector, said the fast trade

liberalisation in the 1990s had

a displacement effect on import

substitute industries which

wiped out the benefit of the re-

Samad Azad

From Page 1

the foreign minister said.

"credit for these should not be

claimed by any individual. It is

the credit of all concerned", he

said. "Let us have light, light

and development. We want

unity for the development of

Sylhet region which remained

far away from the touch of de-

velopment for decades. The

people should realise who is do-

comments made by Speaker

Humayun Rashid Chowdhury,

the foreign minister said, "don't

provoke, refrain from all

provocative activities. It would

yield no benefit to anybody in

Sylhet Press Club Abdul Malik

Chowdhury, the function was

addressed, among others, by

Syed Rafiqul Haque MP, Sylhet

Pourashava Chairman

Badaruddin Kamran, Dainik

Jalalabad Editor Muktabis-un-

Noor and ex-president of the

government under the leader-

ship of Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina had been trying its best

to address the lot of the com-

monman. Giving a list of differ-

ent steps, he said, "Awami

League would fulfil all its elec-

tion pledges within the 5-year

tenure. We have confidence in

people and people have faith in

us. In the Sylhet region people

voted for the AL candidates in

the 1996 elections. We should

by Prime Minister's Advisor for

Parliamentary Affairs Suranjit

Sengupta, the foreign minister

said, "a man elected from the

Baniachang and Ajmiriganj

thanas of Habiganj district

should not interfere about the

development or any other mat-

ter of Sylhet Sadar or Derai

thana in the district of Sunam-

ganj."
"Was there any neutral en-

quiry about the incident in

which armed people attacked

the office of the TNO at Derai

thana headquarters in the pres-

ence of a VIP using flag on his

reached Sylhet by a Biman

flight this morning also ad-

dressed a seminar at the Sylhet

Chamber of Commerce and In-

dustries, inaugural function of

a branch of Al-Arafah Islami

Bank and inaugural function of

the National Fisheries Week.

Later, he also attended a num-

ber of programmes in Sunam-

ganj town. The minister is

scheduled to return to the capi-

tal tomorrow morning.

The foreign minister who

official car?"

Referring to comments made

Samad Azad said that the

club Borhanuddin Khan.

Presided over by President of

Without mentioning to some

ing what."

any way.

keep it up.

Dr Rushidan Islam Rahman,

Dr Zaid Bakht, who con-

He said the policy should be

domestic borrowing.

the quality of the processed fish through modernisation, she

She said the country earned Tk 1.156 crore during the first eight months of the last fiscal although there were obstacles on exports.

Hasina said the government had already announced the National Fish Policy.

On the basis of the new policy, she said, a national committee on fish and shrimp has also been constituted with representatives from all concerned for an integrated development of the fisheries sector.

She said the government will spend more than Tk 586 crore by the year 2002 to develop the fisheries sector with a target of earning about Tk 3805 crore from export of fish and fish products.

Earlier the Prime Minister distributed medals to the recipients for their contribution to increasing fish production.

· Later, she inaugurated the "fish exhibition" at the Krishibid Institution premises and released fish fry at the Sangsad Bhaban lake.

who wrote on the future of deep

tubewell irrigation, said private

operation of deep and shallow

tubewells have failed to meet

the contingency need for sup-

plementary irrigation during

chapter on the crisis of solid

waste management in urban ar-

eas, said the cities are in

pitiable condition regarding

cleanliness because of non-

performing of duties of people

concerned, lack of coordination

between different departments

of the city corporations and

corporation does not manpower

or that it lacks equipment. It is

the non-accountability that is

creating the situation," he said.

chapter on governance and de-

velopment, said the prerequi-

site to good governance is a

long-term vision of the ruling

party having specific action

programmes. The institutional

changes should be brought

about in line with the vision, he

MM Akash, who wrote a

"It is not true that the city

Sayed A Hye, co-author of a

the Aman season.

Strike at DU protesting raise

By DU Correspondent

All administrative and academic activities of the Dhaka University remained suspended yesterday due to a day-long strike called by Ganotantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) protesting raise in the tuition fees and other charges of the students.

All examinations scheduled for yesterday were earlier post poned by the university authorities. The transport facilities also remained inoperative due

nounced a fresh strike programme on July 26 and 27 in a rally held in front of the DUCSU building on the day.

the university authorities to withdraw the decision to raise tuition fees.

ation also has called a strike with the same demand on July

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) brought out a procession and later held a rally on the campus in support of the demands of the general students.

under the banner of the Committee for Resisting Increase of Tuition Fees have also called a two day strike on the campus on July 26 and 27.

Heath policy

From Page 1

ties at the village level and im-

prove reproductive health fa-

ensure all time presence of the

physicians and availability of

medicine and equipment at

thana health complexes and

policy to improve health ser-

vices at different hospitals, and

strengthen the population con-

taken for ensuring special

healthcare services for the re-

tarded people, evolving cost ef-

fective and accountable system

human resources development

to strengthen the health and

authorities to introduce treat-

ment of complicated diseases in

the country to stop the patients'

the Prime Minister said the na-

tional health policy will be an-

nounced to ensure proper

healthcare services at all levels.

floods. Hasina said all min-

istries concerned have been di-

rected to remain alert and take

effective measures to save the

candidates fighting to succeed

resigning Prime Minister Ryu-

taro Hashimoto made their fi-

nal public appeals in nation-

ally televised speeches today,

all vowing to pull Japan out of

its deepest recession since the

end of World War II, reports AP.

Democrat Party convenes to-

morrow to choose a new party

president. The winner is virtu-

ally certain of being elected

prime minister in a later vote

by Parliament because the LDP

commands a comfortable ma-

jority in the powerful lower

media surveys of the 414 voting

LDP members showed party es-

tablishment favourite Keizo

Obuchi closing in on the major-

ity needed to win on a first bal-

lot. If no candidate wins a ma-

jority, a second ballot will be

by Kyodo News released late

Wednesday showed Obuchi with

almost 200 votes — far away

A survey of party members

held immediately.

Today's speeches came as

house.

Japan's ruling Liberal

people from flood.

Referring to the recent flash

Receiving the health policy

going abroad for treatment.

The policy will also guide the

family planning services.

Steps will be taken under the

Besides, measures will be

Measures will be taken to

cilities and treatment.

union health centres.

trol programmes.

Gas reserve

From Page 1

with a figure on the reserve of the structure after drilling only one well," a top executive of Occidental, the exploration company drilling at the site, told The Daily Star vesterday when asked about the gas reserve at the Bibiana structure. "We have drilled one well at the site so far," he added.

Some officials of Petrobangla when asked about the reserve at the Bibiana structure, said that it was impossible to estimate the reserve of a structure from a single well.

US company Occidental is now preparing to drill some more wells at the Bibiana structure, sources said. Besides, it is also carrying out additional seismic survey at Bibiana to locate the boundary of the gas zones, government officials

Visa problems

From Page 1

cially with the US Embassy in

The government handed over the note following a discussion on the matter at the first meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Foreign Ministry held on

At the meeting some members of the committee drew the attention of the Foreign Minister to the reported harassment and ill-treatment of Bangladeshi visa applicants by

US visa officers and other staff. The Charge d'Affaires has said this is not the intention of the US embassy to cause any harassment and it is not their policy to harass the people. He assured that they would definitely ensure that such inci-

dents do not take place. The CDA, however, requested the Foreign Office to bring to their knowledge any specific allegation against any official. An official of the US em-

bassy said about 200 Bangladeshi nationals seek US visa everyday and claimed that 60 per cent of them obtain visa.

Pak embassy

From Page 1 phasising that he holds the brotherly people of Bangladesh in high esteem and could not

even think of hurting their feel-The clarification also quoted Zaki as saying that during his stay in Dhaka he kept highlighting the common bonds between the two peoples and the need to carry them forward for mutual benefits.



A photo exhibition on the life and contributions of late Tajuddin Ahmed, first prime minister of Bangladesh, was organised by Muktijuddha Jadughar in the city yesterday.

in tuition fees

to the strike. Meanwhile, GCO has an-

Speakers at the rally urged

Bangladesh Chhatra Feder-

Awami League backed

A section of general students

life was paralysed in the district due to dawn-to-dusk hartal today called by the Greater Khulna Development Action Committee to press its demand for construction of a bridge over the Rupsha river and its completion before the end of the vear 2000.

ent socio-cultural and professional organisations.

brought out during the hartal

La Nina

So far the rains have claimed 48 lives and caused ex-

tensive damaged to crops and But in Southeast Asia, farm-

ers and meteorologists are looking forward to the onset of Large swathes of the region

have been devastated by droughts caused by El Nino. with thousands dying of famine in parts of Indonesia and the Philippines after crops shrivelled in the fields.

LDP chooses new party chief today

Obuchi far ahead of rivals

striking distance of the 207

needed to sweep the election in a

A poll in a major newspaper today also showed the LDP's ap-

proval ratings at an all-time

low as anger rises over the gov-

ernment's failure to remedy the

sagging economy - and the par-

ty's apparent failure to come up

As they have in the past week of campaigning, the can-

didates offered similar solu-

under Hashimoto and a party

stalwart backed by the LDP old

guard, vowed today to fix the

economy by first cleaning up

the bad debt plaguing banks.

then cutting taxes and boosting

mer Chief Cabinet Secretary

Seiroku Kajiyama, 72, and

Health Minister Junichiro

Koizumi, 54 — have offered

much the same proposals.

though Obuchi has offered the

The other candidates — for-

Obuchi, 61, foreign minister

with a reformist leader.

tions to Japan's problems.

public spending.

most detailed ideas.

TOKYO, July 23: The three from his two rivals and within

Tajuddin's leadership

sify every progressive movement of the Bengali national-Movement of 1952 till the Lib-

among those who played the active role Recalling the tragic death of this great leader. President Shahabuddin said the portraits of four national leaders, who were killed in the jail, were hung at the Bangabhaban last

Most speakers, however, observed that late Tajuddin Ahmed was not given due place

Zillur Rahman said the principle.

is unquestionable. Tajuddin Ahmed was next to Bangabandhu." Editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam said

Hartal observed in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent KHULNA, July 23: Normal

The hartal call was supported by all political parties including the ruling AL, differ-

A big procession, participated by over five thousand people from all walks of life and all political parties, were

building. They demanded withdrawal From Page 1 of the authorities' decision to has also been swamped with some 30 of its 64 districts al-

ready inundated.

other charges.

and his supporters.

we could give right place to right From Page 1 person in the history." he said.

Both Bangabandhu and

"All must come forward to

Tajuddin fell victims to con-

spiracy and removal of Tajud-

din Ahmed from the cabinet

was also a part of that conspir-

tell the truth for the sake of re-

vealing the true history." Mah-

Prof Anisuzzaman regret-

Prof Rehman Sobhan said

fully said, "We did not give him

what was due for him :.. and

late Tajuddin was closely asso-

ciated with the events at the

most crucial time of the country

and gave a successful leader-

of the late leader to preparing

the Awami League's election

manifesto, declaration of inde-

Motiur Rahman said the con-

spiracy that started soon after

the independence, became suc-

cessful on August 15, 1975 by

killing of Bangabandhu. This

pendence and the Constitution

Editor of Bhorer Kagoj

He recalled the contribution

what he got was not his due."

acy, he said.

fuz Anam said.

think this should be followed

by all of us. The President said, to intenism, starting from Language eration War, Tajuddin was

year as a mark of respect to

in the national history.

place of Tajuddin Ahmed is just after Bangabandhu, adding the late leader was the man of great The place of Bangabandhu

"None will be undermined if

conspiracy was carried out through killing of four national leaders inside the Dhaka Cen-Although Tajuddin Ahmed

of Bangladesh.

was neither a minister nor a leader of Awami League just before August 15, 1975, he was killed as the enemies knew his strength and capability

He called for finding out the diary in which Tajuddin had written the history of the Liberation War before his death in

Prof Khan Sarwar Murshid said repealing of the Indemnity Act has paved the way for trial of the killers of Bangabandhu and hoped that trial of the killers of Tajuddin and three other national leaders would soon start.

JCD

From Page around 10 am. Pintu group organised a procession and held a rally in front of the DUCSU

raise tuition fees and other charges of the students of DU. They also demanded release of JCD president Shahiduddin Anney, now detained in the Dhaka central jail. The other faction backed by

Anney, brought out a separate procession protesting the decision to raise tuition fees and Activists of Anney group chanted slogans against Pintu

Detective police picked up

two activists of Anney group from the spot. They were released later.

income tax cut worth 6 trillion

yen (42.6 billion dollars) and 10

trillion yen (70.9 billion dollar)

in new spending to kickstart

ing the bad loans. But the prob-

lem is that may not be enough

to ensure the economy will pick

ority is restoring economic

growth" aiming at a target of 3

per cent annually. He vowed to

give the rest of his 30-year ca-

reer to restoring health to

Japan's once-vibrant economy.

way but I will devote my life to

economic recovery,' the 72-

year-old Kajiyama said.

ment bureaucrats.

may stumble along the

For his part, the outspoken

Koizumi — who has played the

role of maverick reformer in

the race - vowed to implement

drastic reforms of the political

system, including cutting by

almost half the number of Par-

liament members and govern-

"The first priority is resolv-

Kajiyama said his "top pri-

economic growth.

up," said Obuchi.

A large contingent of police rushed to the campus and brought the situation under

From Page 1

The Bank also questioned

cash incentive provided to the knitwear industry. "If there are policy distortions which are adversely affecting this sector, the solution is to address them rather than pay subsidies from scarce fiscal resources," the Bank said. The Bank said "certain ex-

penditure allocations are steps in the wrong direction." These allocations include

About the fund for sick industries, it said this sends wrong signals to healthy enterprises and creates a moral hazard as sick industries should be asked to seek redress under the Bankruptcy Act.

BNP MPs From Page 1

liamentary standing commit-

Other allegations made at the meeting include large-scale repression on BNP leaders and

Pak condition for signing CTBT

Kashmir dispute must be addressed meaningfully

The United States, mean-

In a brief statement on the

while, urged Pakistan to sign

steps of Pakistan's Foreign

Ministry building, Talbott said

that the test ban treaty figured

in negotiations, but neither he.

our objectives . . . to give you a

box score every time we meet."

sides are meeting again is a

clear sign that "we're not fin-

the United States it will accede

Talbott told reporters.

"It is not in the interest of

He said the fact that the two

AFP adds: Pakistan has told

nor Ahmed, would elaborate.

Treaty.

the Comprehensive Test Ban

ISLAMABAD, July 23: Two days of talks between Pakistan and the United States on the prickly nuclear issue ended today with a promise to meet again in August in Washington. reports AP.

US Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott left the final round of talks with Pakistan's Foreign Secretary Shamshed Ahmed saying "the foreign sec-retary and I have been dealing with very, very tough issues that go to the very core of Pakistan's most vital national security interest."

Neither side would elaborate on the talks, although government sources here said Pakistan pressed for international

Khaleda asks partymen to stand against govt repression

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday criticised the government for its failure to mitigate the sufferings of the people and asked the party workers to stand against the repression on political opponents, reports UNB.

The government has resorted to repression on opposition workers and leaders." Begum Zia said while addressing a group of party workers at her official residence in the evening. Nasiruddin Patwari who was freed from jail recently led the party workers.

Recalling the peaceful halfday hartal in the capital on-July 16 demanding solution to power-water-gas crisis and improvement of law and order. Begum Zia said that the ruling party terrorists had resorted to attack on the BNP activists during the hartal hours.

Pointing to the flood situa tion she said the ruling party leaders are busy with attending civic receptions when the most part of country is engulfed by devastating flood

"The real character of Awami League has again been exposed by its activities", she

Two shot as BCL, Shibir activists

clash at IU From Our Correspondent KUSHTIA, July 23: Two per-

sons received bullet wounds when activists of the BCL and Chhatra Shibir clashed on the Islamic University campus to-Witnesses said the clash began when gunshots were fired at

a BCL procession near Administrative Building. Both sides traded over 100 rounds of gunshots during the hour-long clash.

BCL activists Akhter and

Ahmed Ali, a mason working in

the campus, received bullet wounds. Both the injured were admit ted to the Kushtia General Hos-

control

WB: Budget

parency, the Update pointed

continuation of the 25 per cent

the Tk 1.3 billion fund to support production of jute goods both in the public and the private sectors, the Tk 60 crore allocation for sick industries and the increase in defence expendi-

mediation on the Kashmir disto the CTBT only when vital sepute with neighbouring India.

this part of the world will remain totally elusive." Ahmed told reporters. Ahmed said the United States had assured 'they share

curity concerns are safeguarded.

is addressed meaningfully, pur-

posefully, we believe that the

cause of peace and security in

"Unless the Kashmir dispute

our concerns' and Washington was 'convinced' the Kashmir dispute has to be addressed. He said President Bill Clinton said in a letter to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif that Pakistan and India should re-

sume dialogue and 'Washington will use its influence' towards progress in settling the Kashmir issue.

Student beaten to death

From Page 1

young man had only a pair of jeans, without shoes and shirts. A hospital official said the dead body was not registered. The doctors and other wit-

nesses said there were no injury marks on the body. "We cannot say anything about the cause of the death before autopsy," said a doctor. A

A DMCH source quoting a relative said Shamim was picked up by a group of plainclothesmen from in front of his house on Siddeswari Road at 4-30 p.m. They dragged him inside a vehicle, kicking and

Neighbours told The Daily Star that Shamim was brought back to his neighbourhood at around 7:30 pm and beaten up in public. They claimed that some 100-150 people, including Shamim's relatives, gathered "innocent boy"

lice were asking Shamim to say that he had illegal arms in his possession.

taken to their office. Three plainclothesmen who took the lifeless body of the

young man to the DMCH told the doctors that his details would be given by others who, they said, were on way to hospi-

President of Dock Jatiya Sramik League Abdul Khaleque Chowdhury is heading the 51member committee. On the other hand, 22 trade

a coalition protesting the in-

stallation of the private container terminal and demanded cancellation of the project. The coalition consisting of both the pro-AL CBA and BNPbacked trade union bodies have threatened to launch a move-

come and they wanted to take the body away from the hospital. The on-duty DMCH officials decided to keep the body at the dead room of the hospital under lock and key, hospital sources At 12:15am, Daily Star re-

But "the others" did not

porters saw a number of plainclothes loitering around the DMCH and a number of police vans and unmarked vehicles parked in front of the emergency gate.

Late last night, DB officials were allegedly trying to "reach a compromise" with Shamim's family. Neighbours quoted family members to say that some police officials were using strong languages at Ramna police station where they went to lodge a complaint. DB Assistant Commissioner Akram Hossain and Hayatul Islam Thakur were present there. Thakur was the one who picked up Shamim.

Ershad goes to Rangpur_today.

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad is going to Rangpur today to visit the flood affected areas of his home district, re-

Flood

From Page 1

The overall flood situation in Comilla district deteriorated further with heavy shower and onrush of hilly waters which engulfed more areas at Sadar. Chouddogram and Lakhsam thanas. The Bijoypur section of Comilla-Chandpur highway went under water today while thousands of people remained marooned.

Our Netrokona correspondent said road communication between Netrokona and Durgapur Sadar remained snapped for the second day today as a large portion of the road went under swirling flood waters at Gujakhali point.

Meanwhile, official reports received here yesterday said flood situation in Dhaka, Mymensingh, Manikganj, Narayanganj, Faridpur, Rajbari, Madaripur, Munshiganj, Gaibandha, Sirajganj, Kurigram, Bogra, Feni and Chandpur districts had deteriorated.

শামসুন নাহার হল রজত জয়ন্তী উৎসব '৯৮ ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

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Bangladesh Rice Research Institute

Gazipur ANNOUNCEMENT

BRRI-DAE Workshop Postponed The BRRI-DAE Workshop on "experiences with modern rice cultivation" scheduled to be held on 26-28 July, 1998 has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. The next date and schedule will be informed in due time. The BRRI authority regrets

> Dr M A Hamid Miah Director General

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to announce this postponement.

workers across the country politicisation of the administration, filing of false cases against Begum Zia, party MPs and others in the party and ruination of the national economy, deterioration of the law and order, repression on women and children, signing of black accord on the CHT and enactment of black laws for its implementation and rigging of votes in all elections held under the present government.

nurse added that the yougman looked as if he was in a slum-

punching him indiscriminately.

and tried to persuade police not to beat whom they called an The witnesses also said po-

Reached over telephone, DB officials at Minto Road declined to give any detail other than that one Shamim had been

TUs split

union bodies at the port formed

ment from August 5 if the project is not scrapped by July 31.