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Ctg chamber wants 10-yr ban on TUs at port

CHITTAGONG, Oct 6: Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCCI) leaders submitted a set of proposals to the advisory committee of the Port Authority for smooth functioning of the country's largest sea port, reports UNB.

The 8-point proposal includes the formation of a high powered committee to look after the activities of the port and a 10-year ban on trade union activities there.

CCCI leaders said that the proposed supervising committee will be formed comprising the chairman of the Port Authority, president of CCCI, Commissioner of metropolitan police, one representative from

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12 senior police officers 'retired'

By Staff Correspondent

Twelve senior police officials of whom nine had come from the Army were sent into retirement yesterday on completion of their 25 years of service, according to official sources.

Of the remaining three, one was departmental officer (promoted from non-cadre ranks) and two from the 1973 batch of Bangladesh Civil Service.

Among the 12 retired police officials, three were holding the rank of additional inspector general (AIG), five deputy inspector general (DIG), one addi-

tional deputy inspector general, and three superintendent (SP).

The three retired AIGs are AF Kabir, Rakibul Huda, M Salam, who had already been without any work being posted as officers on special duty (OSDs).

The DIGs are Ashraf Huda, Mansurul Aziz, serving in railway and NBR respectively, Ziauddin, Aminul Islam and A Salam who had also been OSDs.

The Additional DIG, Giasuddin, was commandant of the Police Training Centre at Rangpur.

The SPs are Khadem Hus-

sain, Shamsher Ali and Saidur Rahman, also posted as OSDs prior to their "forced" retirement.

The new police chief, A Y B I Siddiqui, who took over on September 29, superseded nine officers including the three AIGs who were retired yesterday. However, the service length of these officers from the Army started from their joining the military.

According to sources in Police, induction of the military officers into police was a matter of great resentment among the

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Four secretaries under fire from cadre colleagues

By Special Correspondent

The Administrative Service Association has sent separate letters to four top civil servants, including the principal secretary to the prime minister and the establishment secretary, asking them to explain their position on their reported remarks against the bureaucracy recently.

Association sources said the letters were also sent to the finance secretary and the energy secretary who were told to reply within seven days. All four of them belong to the erstwhile CSP cadre.

Akramuzzaman, secretary general of the association, who is also a joint-secretary at the establishment ministry, sent the letters on Sunday.

It was alleged that they had

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Cairn faces growing questions regarding its operations

By Sharier Khan

British oil and gas company Cairn Energy is facing a growing number of questions from the government about its operations in the country, expenditure and sale of 50 per cent of its concerns in Bangladesh to oil giant Shell Oil without proper approval of the government, sources said.

Sources said that in recent months, the relationship between Cairn and Petrobangla became more "confrontational" over various issues. The differences have intensified over Cairn's sale of 50 per cent of its concerns of Shell, mobilisation of a rig in Gilachhari without approval of a work programme. Its unsuccessful operations in Sonadia and Haldia and other issues related to its expenditure

in Bangladesh.

High officials of Cairn's head office in Edinburgh have met government's high official to sort out the differences and to get the work programme for Gilachhari approved.

The differences widened late last month when the government came to know about Cairn-Shell's attempt to unite the bidders of the second round block bidding for oil and gas exploration to raise questions about the government's transparency in that bidding process, the sources said.

Yesterday, Cairn's local chief Richard Heaton and one of its high officials and former UK Ambassador to Bangladesh Peter Fowler met Farooque Sohan, Executive Chairman of the

Board of Investment. Sources said that the Cairn executives told the BOI chief that if the government did not approve the Gilachhari work programme, foreign investment in Bangladesh would be affected as other investors were keenly watching the government's dealings with Cairn.

Sources in Petrobangla said that Cairn was pursuing the Gilachhari work programme knowing fully well that it was a high risk zone and that there was little possibility of striking gas or oil there. "Yet it is trying hard to get the work programme approved and has already mobilised a rig to a site without authorisation because the company has other motives," said

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BNP, allies stage demonstration in city today

By Staff Correspondent

BNP and its allies are scheduled to stage demonstrations in the capital today to press release of four of their top leaders and withdrawal of cases against them.

BNP leaders KM Obaidur Rahman, MP, and Nurul Islam Manzur and Shah Moazzem Hossain of Jatiya Party (Z-M) were arrested in connection with the jail killings of November 3, 1975. Jagpa chief Shaful Alam Prodhan was arrested while leading a procession protesting the arrests of the three.

The demonstrations are also designed to protest filing of cases against some other leaders of the BNP and its allies in the Seven-Party Alliance and "mismanagement" in the distribution of relief materials among the flood victims.

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The search for survivors yesterday in Monday's building collapse in the city's Lalbagh area resulted in recovery of the body of yet another victim, a nine-year-old girl. —Star photo

Bldg collapse Body of another child found

By Staff Correspondent

The death toll from Monday's building collapse in Islambagh area under Lalbagh thana in the city yesterday rose to three when body of a nine-year-old child was recovered from the rubble.

The dead was identified as Kulsom, daughter of Abdul Sattar, a resident of a nearby house of the collapsed two-storey building, fire service sources said.

Of the two children killed earlier on Monday one was Sumon, the 12-year-old son of Noor Mohammad, the owner of the building, who being a mason constructed the building. The other was Jannat Ara Begum, a two-year old daughter of a tenant living in that building.

The incident also left five persons injured, of which two were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Hashu, 20, one of the two admitted at the DMCH was released yesterday while Lucky, 24, was

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Jail Killing Case Three arrested leaders granted divn in jail

By Court Correspondent

BNP leaders KM Obaidur Rahman MP and Nurul Islam Manzur and Jatiya Party leader Shah Moazzem Hossain were produced before the court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka yesterday.

The court fixed November 4 for their next appearance and also ordered the authorities of the Dhaka Central Jail to ensure their proper treatment. It also advised the jailor to take necessary measures for giving them division as per the Jail Code. They were later granted first class division.

The three leaders were arrested on September 29 in connection with the Jail Killing Case.

Barrister Rafiqul Islam Man appeared for Obaid and Manzur while advocate Syedul Islam Syed appeared for Moazzem.

The lawyers prayed before the court for granting First Class Division to the three leaders in the jail and for measures for their proper treatment. No bail petition was moved on behalf of any of the three accused.

Defending their clients, the lawyers said that the accused were not listed in the FIR and were arrested in connection with an incident which occurred 23 years ago. Investigation of the case began in 1996 but no charge was brought against them during the last two years, they said.

"I do not believe in the politics of killing. I was an active participant in the Independence War and all the subsequent mass movements. I have been implicated in the case for political harassment," Obaid said in

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Shantu Larma didn't turn up for meeting

By Special Correspondent

A crucial meeting between Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) affairs minister Kalparanjan Chakma and Regional Council for CHT chairman designate Jyotirindriyo Bodhipriyo Larma could not take place at Khagrachhari yesterday.

The meeting was aimed at breaking a standoff between JB Larma and the government following the PCJSS chief's refusal to accept the interim RC whose 22-members including the chairman were nominated by the government on September 6.

According to information received from Khagrachhari last night JB Larma did not turn up for the meeting. His aides said that he did not receive any letter to attend the meeting.

Deputy Commissioner of Khagrachhari said the itinerary of the minister included the meeting with the RC chairman between 7 to 9 pm.

The programme was distributed to all concerned, he said.

Earlier the minister had said the government would consider taking alternate measures if the standoff with Larma continues on RC. But he did not elaborate.

Inquiries say 9 including 7 DU boys kidnapped businessman

By DU Correspondent

A hall-level committee, formed to investigate the abduction of a businessman from the city's Madhubag area on September 17, found nine persons including seven students of Dhaka University (DU) responsible, sources said.

The committee submitted the report to the Vice-Chancellor of the university yesterday. Another committee, formed by the university authorities to look into the incident, is yet to submit its report.

Of the accused, five are students of the Surya Sen Hall, two of other halls of DU while the rest two are outsiders, sources

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BNP body to conduct polls for party chief

By Staff Correspondent

BNP has formed a three member committee to conduct election of the party's Chairperson.

Headed by Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar, two other members of the committee are Khandakar Mahub Uddin Ahmed and Barrister Nazmul Huda, said a party press release, signed by BNP joint secretary general Haris Choudhury, last night.

The biennial national council of the party is likely to be held by the end of this month, party sources told UNB.

The last biennial national council was held in 1993 when Begum Zia was re-elected BNP Chairperson unopposed.

'Peace parade' at Adamjee Jute Mills postponed

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Oct 6: Leaders of rival workers' groups at the Adamjee Jute Mills (AJM) have postponed their 'peace parade' scheduled for today.

None of the labour leaders, backed by the ruling Awami League and the opposition BNP and Jatiya Party, was available to explain the reason for dropping the unique programme. But police said, perhaps, they found the programme redundant as normalcy has already been restored at the AJM.

The 'peace parade' was agreed upon at a tripartite meeting of the labour leaders, police and the AJM officials on Sunday to create a congenial atmosphere at the mill premises and encourage the rival workers co-exist peacefully.

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Story from Chapainawabganj NGOs ready to lend, borrowers unprepared

From Naimul Haq

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Oct 6: Funds for micro-credit schemes are ready with the non-government organisations but disbursement is yet to start in flood-hit Chapainawabganj and neighbouring districts.

Sources at the regional offices of Grameen Bank, Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) and ASA, when contacted said, funds are ready but the main borrowers who are supposed to seek loans are yet to return to their homes.

BRAC's Regional Manager Shahera Banu, told The Daily

Star yesterday that they have decided to allow individual members of a samity to withdraw up to 50 per cent of their savings money in view of the devastating floods this year.

"We are prepared to provide funds to the victims but the borrowers are not yet ready to take loan," she said.

"We have also approved a house-building fund of about Tk 50 lakh for Chapainawabganj. The loans would be interest free," she added.

BRAC, a leading NGO working in the region, has also ap-

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Rubel Murder Case Law ministry rules out special tribunal

By Staff Correspondent

Law ministry officials yesterday ruled out the possibility of constituting any special tribunal for the trial of Rubel murder case saying that it would be violative of certain provisions of the Constitution.

"The High Court Division of the Supreme Court may, however, direct any judge of a subordinate court to try a pending case on a point of general public importance," a top official of the ministry noted.

The CID already chargesheeted 14 persons including Assistant Commis-

sioner of DB Police Akram Husain and ward-level Awami League leader Mukul Begum for the murder of Shamim Reza Rubel, in DB custody on July 23. The 12 others chargesheeted accused are policemen.

The case would proceed as per normal law, law ministry officials said when asked about the home ministry's request to explore the possibility of setting up a special tribunal for the trial of Rubel Murder Case.

"If any special tribunal is set up for trial of a single case that

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The Happiest Mosquito in the Whole World



It's probably the most unfortunate part of any rainy season. With rain comes water, loads of it. And with water come mosquitoes. Hordes of deadly disease-carrying mosquitoes, all set to spread the worst diseases you could possibly think of. It's literally party time for them. And it's also the time for you to be that extra bit careful.

Danger Lurks In Every Corner

Almost unavoidably, water in the rainy season manages to creep into every corner of your home. Just the ideal spots for a mosquito to breed. In the corners, in old unused pots, in the backyard, in the kitchen, under the sink, etc. Where there's water, there's danger.

The more the mosquitoes, the greater the chances of virulent diseases like Malaria, Dengue, Diarrhoea, Gastroenteritis, Cholera, jaundice and Typhoid spreading. Diseases, that usually raise their ugly heads at such times.

Home Hygiene — The First Step

Keeping your home clean is never

enough at such times. What's more important is to keep it disinfected. Regular spraying of disinfectants is one way of doing it. Not letting water accumulate in hidden places and corners is another. Simple to do, both are effective ways of keeping mosquitoes at bay.

Personal Hygiene — The Best Step

A clean safe person always stands the best chance of avoiding diseases. Always insist on boiling your water before consumption. Use effective mosquito repellents at home.

What's More

Prevention is any day better than cure. To stop infection and germs dead in your tracks, here are a couple of musts. Dip your clothes in an effective antiseptic after washing. Wash your hands with an antiseptic soap. And always keep a bottle of antiseptic liquid within your reach. Because finally, it's hygiene that'll decide what the rains have in store for you. A happy ending, or a sad one.

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