



Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.
Licensee Of Federal Express Corporation
Tel # 9565114; Fax # 9565112

CHITTAGONG

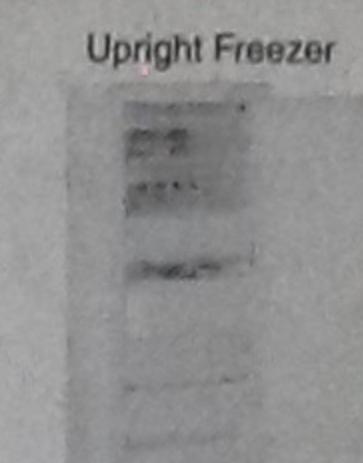
Hotel Hawaii Building
39, Agrabad C.A., Chittagong
Tel # 712127 Fax# 710106

CEPZ

Ctg. Export Processing Zone
Old Admin Building
Halishahar, Chittagong
Tel # 740108 Fax# 710106

KHULNA

K.D.A Building
Khan A. Sabur Road, Khulna
Tel # 725008 Fax# 731932



TRANSCOM ELECTRONICS LTD.
Authorized Distributor in Bangladesh for Whirlpool Appliances, USA
Dhaka : 815307-10 CTG : 718353, 723578 Khulna : 720304 Bogra : 6215

Road accident in Ctg kills medical college student

From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, June 7: A student of Feni Medical College, who came to visit Chittagong University, met with a tragic end of his life in a road accident at Hathazari Road here today.

The dead was identified as Rubul Amin 20.

Two other students of the same college, accompanying him on board an autorickshaw, received serious injuries and admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Their autorickshaw was hit from behind by a speedy bus at Amanbazar point, police said.

Police seized the bus while the driver fled the scene.

HC rule on DMP commissioner, OC Ramna, for threat to crime reporters

The High Court directed the DMP Commissioner and OC of Ramna thana yesterday to show cause within 4 weeks why they shall not be restrained from harassing 13 crime reporters of daily newspapers, reports UNB.

The division bench comprising Justice Mainur Reza Chowdhury and Justice Mohammad Moammar Hossain issued the rule upon a writ petition filed by the crime reporters.

The petitioners are Parvez Khan of Prothom Alo, Fakrul Alam of Jugantar, Shah Monwar Jahan of Dinkal, Sheikh Nazrul Islam of Daily Star, Mohsin Karim of Mukta Kantha, Mortuza Haider of Bhoror Kagoj, Mahmudur Rahman of Banglar Bani, Shamsul Salehin of Janata, Sankar Kumar Dey of Janakantha, Mesbah Ahmed and Azad Hossain of Ajker Kagoj, Harun Rashid of Sangbad and Abu Saleh Akhand of Inqilab.

In the petition they said they were threatened by DMP officials to implicate them in criminal case under the Public Safety Act and humiliate them thereby curtailing fundamental rights of freedom of press and expression.

Barrister Maudud Ahmed

See page 11 col 5

Tower collapse

From page 1

"One of the two circuits of the 132 KV transmission line may be restored tonight, reducing power crisis in that region. The other circuit would possibly be restored by peak hours tomorrow."

Our Staff Correspondent from Khulna adds: Khulna Metropolitan City experienced unprecedented loadshedding from 2 pm till 7 pm.

"Normal life in the city was paralysed due to frequent power failure. It also seriously hampered production in mills and factories of the metropolitan city."

Khulna citizens' committee brought out a procession in the afternoon to protest loadshedding during final match of Asia Cup.

Biman's direct Ctg-Jeddah flight begins

From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, June 7: Biman began direct flight between Chittagong and Jeddah of Saudi Arabia today.

A flight of Biman carrying 138 passengers from Jeddah landed at Chittagong airport at 11:15 am today. Every Wednesday a direct flight from Jeddah will land at Chittagong airport.

A direct flight from Kuwait is scheduled to land at Chittagong airport every Thursday.

Earlier, direct flight service was introduced to carry passengers from Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Qatar to Chittagong to facilitate arrival of expatriates from Chittagong.

Taj suspended from PWD

The Public Works Department (PWD) suspended Aminur Rahman Taj, a sub-assistant engineer of the Project Division-2 yesterday for violating the government service rules, official sources said, reports BSS.

The suspension order will be effective from May 29 when Taj was arrested by police following a press report published in the Ajker Kagoj. A K M Mukit Rahman, Chief Engineer of PWD said.

Taj was released on bail the same evening.

Despite being a government official, Taj has been working in the Ajker Kagoj, as a senior staff reporter for the last seven years violating the government service rule, the sources said.

The PWD also allotted him a house in Motijheel AGB colony and he has been residing there for several years.



Latifur Rahman, Chairman and Managing Director of Transcom Beverages, gives away man-of-the-series award entailing a check worth 5,000 US dollars and a trophy to Younus Youhana (left), and the Pakistan supporters watch the match by putting miniature flags on their cheeks during the Pepsi Asia Cup final yesterday.



—Star photos

PSI for all imports made mandatory

Star Report

The government has made pre-shipment inspection (PSI) for all imports mandatory, NBR sources said.

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) issued a statutory regulatory order (SRO) on May 30, withdrawing the lowest limit of 5,000 dollars for mandatory PSI. It issued a letter on June 1, making the previous letter effective from the date of issuance. The mandatory PSI was introduced in February this year.

But the sudden withdrawal of the lowest limit created problems for the small importers because many of them already opened huge letters of credit (L/Cs) without PSI provision after the government's order mainly due to their ignorance about the development.

The NBR officials told The Daily Star yesterday that the limit was withdrawn since importers were abusing the PSI. As import volume below 5,000 dollars was kept out of the PSI network, the importers split the volume and opened a number of L/Cs declaring their volume below 5,000 for avoiding PSI system, said an NBR official.

He said that the government took the decision following the recommendations from major

chamber bodies. The provision of the lowest limit was also introduced following recommendations from the business community, he added.

The NBR official said the government would pay the PSI companies the minimum charge of 175 dollars. However, it would charge only one percent of the import value from the importers, irrespective of import volume. The small importers would benefit from this system, the official claimed.

The NBR sent copies of the SRO to FBCCI and Bangladesh Bank and all concerned to inform the importers, he said.

When his attention was drawn to the suffering of the small importers who have already opened L/C without PSI declaration after the date of order, the official said that it was the FBCCI's job to inform their member organisations and the business community.

Dewan Sultan Ahmed, a FBCCI director, admitted that the provision of the lowest limit was introduced following recommendations from the business community. He said the letter on the withdrawal of the limit may be sent to the FBCCI secretary, and it would take time to issue a circular

among the business people.

He, however, said the importers who opened L/Cs without PSI after the order should get some relief.

Bank branches at different business areas also did not know of the development and allowed opening L/Cs without PSI provisions till yesterday. An official of a commercial bank said they heard of the development but were yet to get any circular from the Bangladesh Bank.

Asked what would happen to those who already opened L/Cs without PSI provision, the bank official said they would be able to amend the L/Cs. The goods would not be shipped immediately after opening of the L/Cs and they have enough time.

He would inform all our branches about the government order immediately after getting circular from the BB, the official said, adding that after that the bank would not allow any import order without PSI.

The official however said if the government gave time for the order to take effect, unscrupulous importers would have opened huge volume of L/Cs by this time.

30 hurt as BCL, Shibir clash in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, June 7: At least 30 people were injured during a clash between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League and Islami Chhatra Shibir on the Sylhet Government College campus today.

Among them, 20 received bullet wounds. Condition of three were stated to be critical.

Sources informed, the clash followed a quarrel between two activists of BCL and Shibir over a trifling matter at about 11:30 am.

After about an hour, an armed group of BCL activists swooped on the rivals. Both the groups clashed on the campus for about an hour. About 60 gunshots were fired during the clash.

Later the two groups blamed each other for attack. The Sylhet city unit of Shibir held a rally at Court Point in the afternoon protesting the attack by BCL activists.

Parliamentary team of Assam due today

A 46-member parliamentary delegation of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association of the Indian state of Assam arrives in the city today on a four-day visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

Deputy Speaker Mohammad Abdul Hamid will receive the delegation at the airport.

Decision to raise power, water, gas rates worries chamber bodies

By Staff Correspondent

The Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (MCCI) and the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industries and (DCCI) have expressed concern over reported raising of power tariff in the country and water and gas rates in the city.

The government recently raised power tariff by five paisa per unit with retrospective effect from March this year and water and gas rates by five percent from next month, some newspapers reported.

MCCI President Latifur Rahman and DCCI President Attabul Islam in a joint statement yesterday said they are "extremely concerned" at the decisions. They urged the government to rescind the decision on power and gas rates till an appraisal by the agencies concerned, public representatives and trade bodies.

They said industrial units and business establishments are already reeling under adverse effects of unbridled smuggling of foreign goods, anomalies in duties and taxes, poor infrastructure, rampant corruption.

Higher power tariff with retrospective effect will have a grossly unsettling impact on financial management of any industrial/commercial concern.

"This runs counter to the laws of natural justice as well", they added.

The chamber leaders said, "This abrupt enhancement in power tariff is an attempt of the government to pass on the cost of inefficiency of power generation to the people. This smacks of monopolistic high-handedness and is inconceivable in democratic practice."

While all national trade bodies are continuously urging the government to take definite remedial steps for improvement of business environment, the rationale behind such decisions is not at all logically tenable, they said.

Bangladeshi kidnapped by Indians still missing

KUSHTIA, June 7: Tension has been prevailing in the frontier Natun Bilagathia village of Daulatpur thana here as a Bangladeshi, abducted by the Indians, remained missing even after holding a flag meeting between BSF and BDR, reports UNB.

Local people said some Indian armed men alongwith BSF members abducted Monirul Islam Patol, 25, from his house at dead of night on June 1, by exploding bombs and firing several gunshots. Two villagers were injured during the attack. Another boy Jewel, 10, was kidnapped by the terrorists group from village Mohiskundi the next day.

In retaliation, Bangladeshis crossed the border and picked up Indian citizen Narayan the following day.

Meanwhile, BDR and BSF held a flag meeting at Sikarpur in Karimpur thana of Nadia district in India on Monday to exchange their citizens.

After the meeting, Bangladeshis freed Narayan and Indians Jewel, but Patol was still missing, creating panic among the villagers.

Karala enclave tense as flag meeting fails

KURIGRAM, June 7: Tension is still mounting in the Karala enclave here as a commander level flag meeting between BSF and BDR failed today, reports UNB.

During the five-hour meeting from 10:30 am, BSF denied killing or injuring the Bangladeshi nationals intruding into the enclave but they asserted that they would not open fire on the Bangladeshi people in future.

Indian border guards dismissed the demands of giving compensation for injured people saying that they opened fire on smugglers at an Indian village when the villagers and people of Kishamat Karala enclave assaulted seven BSF men.

Gully

From page 1

total of 277 when suddenly they lost three quick wickets and the match went Pakistan's way. And, Moin Khan must be a proud captain holding the Asia Cup for the first time.

Pakistan were forced to get onto their backfoot at the quick dismissal of Imran Nazir but the master batsman Saeed Anwar with a contrasting partner in Shahid Afridi on the other end continued to repair the innings with shots that were worth miles, say hours, to see. Jayasuriya handled his limited attack with intelligence and his field placings and bowling changes were superb. The Pakistanis, aided by the sloppy fielding, the terrible catching to be precise, thrived on their good fortune and progressed in a workmanlike manner.

Runs were not scarce either. When Saeed and Youhana negotiated well with the guile of Murali Tharun the Lankans must have seen ominous signs. Yet when Youhana presented a return catch to Chandana, Pakistanis were far from a satisfactory position with even six wickets in hand. As the Sri Lankans saw their chances of containing the Pakistanis to a reasonable total, a plucky Moin and a burly Inzamam put the Sri Lankan bowling to the sword. Suddenly, the ground was on fire as the willow of the two batsmen chased after anything within its reach. When the liberal calculations indicated a total around 250 or less, Moin and Inzamam delighted the full house smashing crackers all around the corner. In the last three overs, they plundered an astounding 56 runs without being separated.

Sri Lanka had a shock in the first over when Kaluwitharana fell to the machination of Saeed Anwar and the greed of his captain Jayasuriya for a third run. Atapattu tried to hold the innings together with the help of De Silva, Arnold and Chandana in the process. But as Wasim Akram returned for his second spell, a tired Atapattu snicked to the wicketkeeper but not before completing his enterprising hundred. And then Chandana's furniture was disturbed by the same bowler, whom he hit for a near-six with disdain earlier. The ratio of balls and runs became gradually interesting but Sri Lanka were left with fewer wickets. Wasim cleared up the tail much to the relief of the Pakistanis camp to wind up what was really an entertaining match.

SRI LANKA'S 250-2 (20 overs) vs PAKISTAN'S 250-6 (20 overs)

Pakistan lift Cup

From page 1

Zoya dropped Moin while he was on 16 and Chaminda Vaas again floored street smart Pakistan cricketer with the addition of one run to his name. The impact was devastating and the wily wicketkeeper batsman, better known for his improvisation during the end game, went on to clobber most of the 56 runs in the last 18 deliveries.

Moin hammered fours massive sixes and three fours in his blazing undefeated knock. He also dominated a 104-run fifth wicket stand with Inzamamul Huq, who scored a beefy 66-ball 72 that included five fours and a six.

Inzamam also had his share of fortune after completing a breezy 50 off 52 balls. Let down by Sri Lankan captain Jayasuriya to cover while on 57, the big man had the left-arm spinner pay the price in the most ruthless way. He clobbered 15 runs from the first five deliveries of Jayasuriya in the final over that included a boundary through extra cover followed by a straight six.

To add to Jayasuriya's woes, Moin whacked the last ball of the innings for a six over long on and, in the process, took the score to somewhere that one stage looked beyond Pakistan's reach.

Atapattu completed his fourth one-day century off 124 balls hitting 10 exquisitely timed boundaries. But his departure in the 43rd over effectively evaporated Sri Lanka's hopes of a turnaround.

Pakistan however needed the brilliance of marvelous Wasim Akram, considered the best bowler in the world when it comes to picking up wickets at crucial moments.

Wasim was wicketless in his first spell but showed his class by claiming two wickets when it mattered most. After successfully enticing Atapattu to edge an outswinger into the safe hand of Moin, he removed a menacing looking Chandana with a yorker.

Moin Khan was the natural choice for the man-of-the-final, pocketing 2000 US dollars while the man-of-the-series award went to Younus Youhana, who scored a staggering 295 runs in the tournament. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over the coveted trophy to