

EBL Execution Loan

any purpose loan for salaried executives

Please visit or call our nearest sales & service centre at: Dhaka - 180220, Chittagong - 707579

EBL

Simple Math

The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

TODAY'S ISSUE 24 PAGES

PHILIPS

DVD Player Play Every Thing

TK. 7,990/-

DVD 532K

TRANSOM

Dhaka: 8110163, 8821192, 8500413, Chittagong: 837669

REGD. NO. DA 781

VOL. XV NO. 114

DHAKA SATURDAY MAY 14, 2005

COMMITTED TO
People's Right to Know

www.thedailystar.net

BAISHAKH 31, 1412 BS

RABIU SANI 4, 1426 HIRI

24 PAGES PRICE: Tk 7.00

WORKER'S DEATH IN ROAD CRASH SPARKS 5-HR VIOLENCE 200 hurt, 100 vehicles damaged in Sreepur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sreepur in Gazipur district yesterday burst into violence as a few thousand garment and transport workers clashed with each other following the death of a garment worker in a road accident early yesterday.

More than 200 people, including

police and ansar personnel, were injured and over 100 vehicles were damaged during the five-hour violence starting at 5am.

Communication between Dhaka and 20 northern districts remained snapped for about five hours as the agitators blocked three kilometres of the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway,

stretching from the FS Sweater Factory to local office of the Rural Electrification Board in Keoa area.

Witnesses and police said Habibur Rahman, 26, a worker of the FS Sweater Factory, died on the spot after an undetected vehicle had run over him at about 5am. Another

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



PHOTO: STAR

Garment workers enraged by the death of a colleague, inset, in a road mishap at Sreepur of Gazipur yesterday go on the rampage, damaging over 100 vehicles on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway.

India to join Nov 13-14 Saarc Summit

UNB, Dhaka

India last night confirmed its participation in the 13th Saarc (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) Summit in Dhaka November 13-14 as proposed by host Bangladesh.

Indian External Affairs Minister Natwar Singh telephoned Foreign Minister M. Morshed Khan at about 9:30pm and said they want to attend the summit on the proposed dates in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

CJ should step down, says Rokonuddin

Chaos marks Bar Council meet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The chief justice should step down on ethical grounds as a former additional judge of the High Court (HC) has filed a case against him, raising questions about his neutrality, Vice-chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council Barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud said at a press briefing yesterday.

Rokonuddin also demanded

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

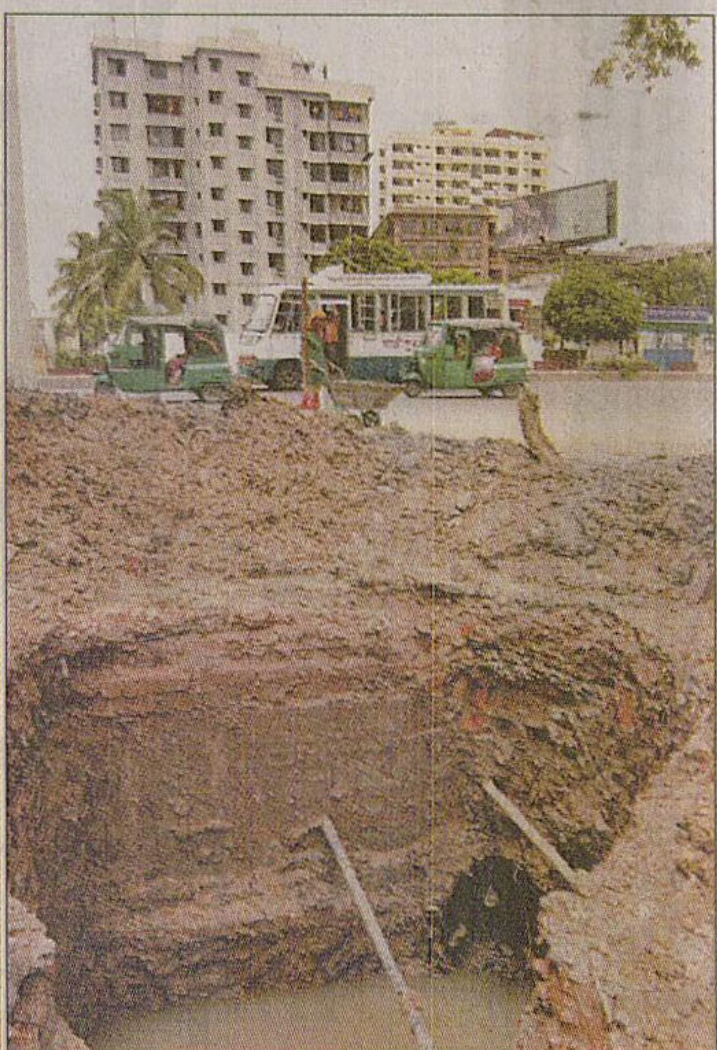
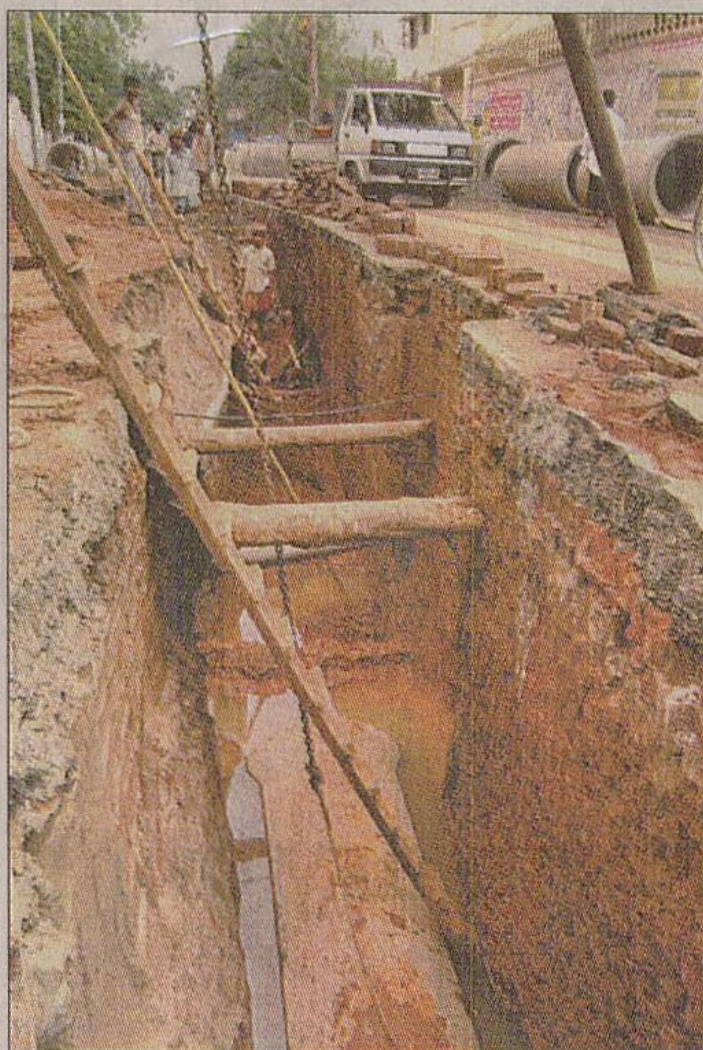


PHOTO: STAR

The drawn out road-digging by Wasa to install sewer lines on Central Road, left, and in front of Willes Little Flower School at Kakrail adds up to traffic congestion on the city thoroughfares. Many other areas including Moghbazar and Gulshan also suffer this nuisance that typically starts ahead of the monsoon.

DUTY-FREE ACCESS TO US MARKET Hard job, but Dhaka should not lose heart, says Rocca

BDNEWS, Dhaka

US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs Christina Rocca yesterday said it will be a "hard job" for Bangladesh to get duty-free access to the US market.

"I'm not so hopeful, it'll be a very hard job, but you should keep trying," Rocca was quoted as saying by a leading businessman, who attended a breakfast meeting with her at the American Club in

Gulshan.

Local apparel manufacturers and exporters at the hour-long meeting pleaded for Bush administration's steps to waive \$330 million paid as duty every year for Bangladesh garments.

BGMEA President Annisul Haq, BTMA President MA Awal, BKMEA President Fazlul Hoque and Sohail F Rahman of Beximco Group and US Ambassador Harry K Thomas

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Injured Bangladeshi UN peacekeeper dies in Congo

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One of the six Bangladeshi UN peacekeepers injured in Thursday's militia ambush in the Democratic Republic of the Congo died at a hospital in Bunia, principal town of the trouble-torn Ituri region, early yesterday.

Private (Gunner) Nur Mohammad of Bangladesh Army passed away at 1:00am from a severe bullet-hit in the stomach, an Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) release said.

Nur hailed from Raipura upazila of Narsingdi. He and five other Bangladeshi blue-helmets were wounded when a local militia waylaid their convoy at around 6:15 Thursday evening in Geiti, some 50km off Bunia town in eastern Ituri, according to ISPR and the United Nations peacekeeping mission (Monuc).

Some 40 blue-berets from Bangladesh were travelling in the convoy of two armoured cars and four jeeps that came under the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

BOGRA ARMS HAUL Cases in limbo since Feb on HC order

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

All lower court proceedings in Bogra arms haul cases have remained suspended since end-February on a High Court ruling.

A High Court bench comprising Justice Mohammad Abdur Rashid and Justice Syed Rifat Ahmed on February 27 stayed the proceedings until disposal of a prayer by Atiqur Rahman Dulu to clear him of the charges pressed in four cases lodged in connection to the haul.

Since then, all proceedings in the cases under trial at the Fourth Special Tribunal Court of Bogra have

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Move finally for green signal to Korean EPZ

SHARIEH KHAN

After keeping Korean investors in limbo for more than three years, the government is finally considering giving green signal to the country's biggest and lone private Korean Export Processing Zone (KEPZ) in Chittagong.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia may hold a meeting with the KEPZ authorities later this month prior to awarding them the licence to launch operation, sources at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said.

The BNP-led four-party alliance

government has so far refrained from awarding this licence although the KEPZ-- formed by Korean company Youngone-- has spent around Tk 100 crore to develop the KEPZ infrastructure located in a hilly site by the Karnaphuli river.

Although there is no official explanation for this, unofficially it is said the BNP looks at the Koreans as 'beneficiaries' of the previous Awami League (AL) government.

The AL government handed over 2,500 acres of land to the Korean investors and completed most formalities to let them start the

KEPZ back in 2001.

The KEPZ, by its size and investment profile, stands out from all other EPZs in the country. It plans to install 500 industrial units with an investment of \$1 billion and provide jobs to more than one lakh people.

Unlike the other EPZs, this world-class export processing zone lays out an ideal plan of having dorms, recreational facilities like golf course, school, training centres, convention centres and guest houses accommodating one lakh people.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

On all AKTEL Pre-Paid

10 SEC PULSE!

from 1st min

BTTB incoming FREE

for 1st min

TK 2 per min all day

for 3 AKTEL Friends & Family (F&F) numbers

As low as

33

paisa per pulse

10 sec

10 sec

10 sec

10 sec

10 sec

1st in Bangladesh

NOW Tariff for all AKTEL Pre-Paid

All Figures in Taka per min*		Peak 8am-8pm	Off-Peak 8pm-12mn	Night Bird 12mn-8am
Outgoing to	AKTEL	5.00	4.00	2.00
	AKTEL F&F From May 15	2.00	2.00	2.00
	Other Mobile	6.00	5.00	2.50
	BTTB	6.00+BTTB	5.00+BTTB	2.50+BTTB
Incoming from	Any Mobile	FREE	FREE	FREE
	BTTB	First minute FREE		
		2.00	1.50	1.00

*Excluding VAT

Enjoy 180 & 365 days' validity for Tk.300 & Tk.600 recharges respectively

A TM Company

www.aktel.com

AKTEL

GSN

CLEARLY AHEAD

এক ধাপ এগিয়ে