Modern

industrial

underway'

policy

DHAKA SATURDAY JANUARY 17, 2009

CPA mulls doubling penal rent for quick clearance of imported cars

Normal operation of the containers, he said. Chittagong Port, the gateway to country's economy, is being hampered to a large extent due to non-clearance of days back asking them to imported cars from the port sheds, according to port offi- their imported cars.

Chittagong Port Authority the penal rent soon according (CPA) over the last few months to the 'Regulations for workhas virtually worked in pushing the imported reconditioned vehicles out of the port ers do not respond positively

The CPA car sheds and adjoining platforms of haz- move to force the importers ardous goods are now to take delivery of their cars, crowded with more than doubled the shed charge 6,300 imported vehicles as apart from imposing penal total capacity of car sheds is rent on each car for overstay 2800, CPA Secretary Syed at the port shed. But the CPA doubles the penal rent. Farhad Uddin told UNB over move apparently did not He hoped that the current

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

have been temporarily kept at Port Park Yard, earmarked for

The CPA, in a fresh bid to solve the crisis, issued notices to the importers a couple of immediately take delivery of

Another CPA official said No mechanism adopted by they are planning to double ing of Chittagong Port (Cargo and Container)' if the importand quickly.

Earlier, the CPA, in its first work.

According to port officials,

shed free of charge for four

The CPA has the right to auction any vehicle if the importer does not clear it within 34 days from the date of discharge from vessel.

According to available figures, import of vehicles totaled 4716, 3736 and 4003 respectively in April, May and June last year.

Port sources said nearly 100 vehicles were cleared on average in the last week, but the rate was slower than before.

Outgoing President of Bangladesh Reconditioned Vehicles Importers and Dealers' Association (BARVIDA) Abdul Haq said they would go to court if the congestion of cars at the port would ease by this

Criminals become active again

downs. Replying to yet another

Talking to The Daily Star, Col Gulzar Uddin Ahmed, additional director general of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab),

country.

But Additional Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Abdus Salam differed on the allega-

He said the crime statistics does not show that the law and order situation has deteriotransfer possibilities, capital, he said, "The trend of rated.

lawmakers and the ninth parliament

in empowerment of women'. Venue:

Biam Foundation. Time: 9:30am.

Prize giving

compound. Time: 10:00am.

The monthly New Kallal will accord a

reception to distinguished persons

on the occasion of its first founding

anniversary. Venue: Public Library

The joint meeting of executive

committee and advisory council of

the Rajshahi University Ex-students'

Association will be held. Venue:

Ramna Restaurant. Time: 4:00pm.

Rotary Dhaka Central

seminar room. Time: 4:30pm.

ceremony

Reception

Meeting

'Expectation to the women Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1:30pm.

Weather is likely to remain dry with partly cloudy sky over

over Rajshahi division and the regions of Jessore and

and light to moderate fog elsewhere over the country from

Light rain or drizzle may also occur at one or two places

Moderate to thick fog might occur over the river basins

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over

Yesterday's highest temperature of 28.6 degree Celsius

The sun sets in the capital at 5:34pm today and rises at

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity

14.0

13.0

12.8

14.5

12.5

14.2

16.6

Min Morning

Humidityin

percentage

86

96

91

94

95

68

75

Evening

60

57

80

68

recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in

Celsius

Max

27.0

25.6

26.0

26.0

26.5

28.6

25.8

was recorded at Sylhet and the lowest of 9.0 degrees at

the country in the next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Matia hopeful of high returns from fertiliser

METROPOLITAN/NEWS

Expecting high returns from the biggest-ever allocation for agriculture sector, Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury yesterday brushed aside the notion that providing Tk 2,700 crore in fresh subsidy for fertiliser would pose a prob-

Matia pointed out that the prices of winter vegetables are still high in the market as the farmers could not use enough costly phosphoric fertiliser to

Talking to BSS, eminent economist Prof Abu Ahmed welcomed the initiative to reduce prices of fertilisers but said it might be a problem for the government to arrange the

"It is good that the government has fulfilled one of its election pledges, but the administration will be under pressure to supply the

Swechchhasebak League activist stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Swechchhasebak League activist was stabbed to death by unknown criminals at South Keraniganj on the outskirts of the capital yesterday

The dead was identified as Shaheen Miah, 25, a member of Shuvadda Union

Sources said the criminals attacked Shaheen near Malepara while he was return ing home from a rally of an Awami League-backed candi date in the upazila election at Aganagar.

Security guard robs old man of Tk 1,000

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

stabbed a tea stall owner and snatched Tk 1,000 from him in The annual prize giving ceremony the city's Dhamondi area early and cultural programme of yesterday. Vigarunnisa Noon School and The victim, Hasan College will be held. Venue: School

> stall in front of the City College, said he went out of his shop at about 3:00am and when he was passing a market nearby, the security guard attacked him. Hearing the screaming of

> hold of the guard, Babu, 19, with a knife. Later, he was handed over to the police. The tea stall owner was



Birth anniversary of Vivekananda

today

METRO DESK

The 147th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda will be

celebrated today, says a press release. On the occasion, the

Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission has taken up elaborate

programmes. begin with Mangalarati and prayers at 5:00am. Special puja, devotional songs and recitation from the scriptures will be held at 8:00am. Prasad will be

distributed at 12:00 noon. The other programmes and the Ideal of Vivekananda'



Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon forms a human chain at Shahbagh in the city yesterday demanding that all polybag factories be closed to stop the use of polybags.

BNP likely to lean on the young

FROM PAGE 1

"The [party] overhaul will start soon and will apply to every tier," she told reporters at her Gulshan office.

The efforts to rebuild BNP and shake off the taint of corruption might culminate in a national council in April or May. The last time BNP had a council was around 15 years back, said insiders.

Over the years, almost all committees down to the grassroots level have become largely ineffective, and this, political observers say, was one of the reasons for the huge polls defeat.

"We are working to organ- sway. ise the national council within the next three to four months. Before that, we will hold councils at different levels to reconstitute the local committees," an aide to the BNP chief told problem. The Daily Star.

dedicated leaders will be given the responsibility to steer the party out of troubled waters.

Of 11 standing committee members that BNP has at the candidates enough time to present, Khandaker Mahbubuddin is 84 years old, RA Ghani 78, M Saifur Rahman 77, M Shamsul Islam 77, Chowdhury 69.

Chowdhury have long been feared they fared terribly post.

thinking of a convincing loss,

in other words a mismatch,

after home side were bundled

out for 152 runs, the Tigers

turned the match on it's head

thanks to an outstanding

bowling effort. Backed by a

dazzling fielding display they

turned a 'supposed one-sided

were in ruins, losing five wick-

ets for six runs following a

magnificent seam bowling

display from the two new ball

bowlers Mashrafe Bin Mortaza

and Nazmul Hossain. Kumar

Sangakkara kept hopes alive

arm spinner Shakib Al Hasan's

double strikes again turned

scoreboard, still 39 runs short

of the target; nobody expected

anything other than a victory

for the Tigers. But Muralidaran

changed the whole scenario to

make sure that this tour will be

but as a batsman.

With 114 for eight on the

the table on the home team.

for the favourites before left-

At the start the Lankans

affair' into a superb game.

FROM PAGE 1

suffering from old age compli-

To fill vacuum, a good grassroots level might be picked for the central commit-

would be the yardstick. Khaleda Zia plans to attend

said party sources. leaders said they are not sure changes it made to its constiwould work as many leaders Election Commission.

the BNP chief said since Though her term ended in Khaleda Zia herself favours 1995, she continued in the post radical changes in the party, there should not be much

with 'bad image' still hold

Mostly young, honest and the party to start choosing steps to hold a council to elect prospective candidates for the next parliamentary election ing committee member Abdul from now.

> They argue this would give conducting the election. their constituencies.

Many leaders tainted by Moudud Ahmed 70 and Matin graft and crime allegations in 1999, and since then there

punished the bowler with his

unorthodox batting as he

was Rubel who conceded

scene that has hardly ever

been the norm for teams

the Tigers as he started the

carnage when Sri Lanka came

in to chase a moderate total.

The all-rounder flung himself

to his left and gathered the ball

brilliantly before hitting the

target to send back Sanath

Jayasuriya in the very first ball

Nazmul Hossain's show as the

From then on it was

of the innings.

Shakib also set the tone for

winning against the Tigers.

over to silence the crowd in the partnership.

So close, yet so far

young man.

Big Bowl.

against those of Awami League-led grand alliance.

As part of the makeover number of leaders from the plans, BNP will also recast its associate bodies.

Nine of the 11 associate tee. In that case, dedication bodies have remained without and loyalty to the organisation valid committees for up to 12

years. Even if it was not for around half the councils at the rebuilding itself, BNP will have grassroots level to perk up the to hold national council morale of local leadership, within six months after the

first sitting of the ninth parlia-Meanwhile, a few senior ment to ratify the provisional how much the revamp move tution to be registered with the The last national council

was held in 1993 and Khaleda However, a leader close to Zia was elected chairperson. without being re-elected till In the face of severe criticism

BNP policymakers want that year, the party initiated its helmsman. The then stand-Salam Talukder was tasked with

But as none had filed canreorganise the party and its didature against her, Khaleda associate organisations in became the party chief, obviating the need for a council.

The two-year term expired were allowed to contest the has not been any move to hold RA Ghani, Saifur and Matin December 29 election, and as election to the chairperson's

and associated with Jehan

It was another brilliant

before Shakib gave the big

breakthrough to bring his side

catch with one hand to put an

end to Sangakkara's fighting

knock (a 133-ball 59) that

featured six boundaries, but

Maharoof remained unbeaten

till the end on 38 off 76 balls

Muralidaran's unbeaten 16-

ball 33 which made the differ-

it was all about frustrating

batting from the Tigers where

only Rokibul Hasan showed

unbeaten 43 off 107 balls that

saw only one boundary after

Sri Lankan put them into bat

spirited second half made

everyone forget just how poor

In the end however, the

It was however

Earlier, in the first session.

with the help of two sixes.

He took a magnificent

back in contention again.

out on top to ensure a night- wickets falling in one end but

marish experience for the never lost his temperament

The right-hander brutally Mubarak to repair the fatal

smashed three fours and a six fielding effort, this time from

to secure twenty runs in the Nayeem Islam that broke the

Lanka reached the target in Sangakkara to bring the frus-

48.1 overs to burst into joy, a tration on the home side

With robotic accuracy and some character during his

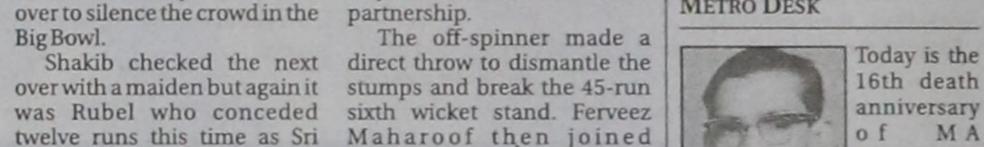
damage.

Sports Association, passed away due to old-age complications at his residence in

host of relatives and admires to mourn his death. He was buried with state honour at his family graveyard

at Baliadanga village yesterday. Chapainawabganj district Awami League and different political, social and cultural

Death anniversary





chief controller of Export and Import during the Pakistan period, says a press

Gonopathagar committee will offer prayers at his grave.

AKM Golam Quader



anniversary of Alhaj AKM Golam Quader, a businessman and a freedom fighter, says a press

He was also an officer of

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

AL looks for fresh blood

FROM PAGE 1

the advisory council as well, for their 'controversial' roles during the post 1/11 period, the sources added. They said one of the AL

joint general secretaries Obaidul Quader or Syed Ashraful Islam might replace incumbent General Secretary Abdul Jalil. Some of them however said

the new general secretary might even be elected from among the central leaders who are not holding any cabinet portfolio.

A good number of the younger AL lawmakers are also likely to be appointed as chiefs of many parliamentary standing committees while many grassroots level leaders might be included in high level party committees, considering records of their performances in recent years, the

sources added. Encouraged by the younger generation AL nominees' performance in the recent parliamentary election as most of them managed to win, Hasina plans to gradually hand over the party's leader-

according to a close aide to the party president.

the parliament for the first dent. The number of council-

from the leadership anyway, even if the national council would have been held on time.

Sheikh Hasina was re-elected as stitution. the president of the party for the sixth time since 1981.

submerged in an anti- outside the party. government movement, and in last year the due date was emboldened by her success in just three days before the national election, preceding which there was a state of

districts with 25 councillors from each district, and an More than a half of the 228 additional 25 councillors are AL lawmakers were elected to selected by the party presi-

AL has 73 organisational

departmental secretaries and the treasurer of the party are elected to their posts by the councillors of triennial counon December 26, 2002 where cils, according to the AL con- electing a new leadership, AL

Although the next two of the country, had a plan to session of ninth parliament, to triennial councils were sup- transfer some of the senior ratify the provisional changes posed to be held on December leaders to the party's advisory it brought to its constitution in 26, 2005 and 2008 according to council ahead of the last order to comply with the the party constitution, AL national council held in 2002, amended Representation of could not hold those on time but could not do that due to the People Order.

leader preferring anonymity. Hasina already hinted to

her close party associates that she has plans to bring radical changes to the organisation, according to the sources.

AL might also reorganise committees for years. The party could not elect new committees in more than 10

districts for over 10 years. Apart from the reason of also must hold its national The sources said Hasina, council within six months of

Like all other parliamentary political parties, AL also But this time around, got registered with the Election Commission before leading the party to the land- the recent poll by bringing the slide electoral victory, her provisional changes to its vulnerability to the pressure is constitution in order to meet

their health.

UNB, Chittagong

cials.

sheds.

phone. As the car sheds are full, the additional imported vehicles an importer can use the port month.

Criminals have become active in the country again by taking the advantage of reluctance shown by the law enforcement agencies.

sion among the law enforcers their directives. Talking to The Daily Star during the transition period and fears of transfer have led to their reluctance. As a result, crime rate has increased in the country. According to Police lawandordersituation.

ranking from inspector to improved soon as the law police super (SP) would be enforcement agencies are transferred very soon, and intensifying their efforts to later officials at the deputy inspector general (DIG) level would be reshuffled. PHQ sources said the situation generally deterioinspector general of police

Headquarters (PHQ), officials

Sunday last with all the SPs and directed them to work more professionally. But the IGP's directives could not inspire them to become professional due to transitional period and

people are passing their days amid deep concern over the deteriorating law and order

situation followed by

After the national polls,

sources said.

increased criminal activities. Especially, the incidents of 'Lasik surgery can cure 30pc people with

eye problems'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eye specialists at a programme yesterday said around 30 percent low-vision people, who use high-powered spectacles, will be cured completely by dint of 'Lasik' (laser-assisted in-situ keratomileusis) eye

surgery. Even the people do not need to use spectacles after the surgery, they said, adding that the Lasik eye surgery is a safe and modern treatment which is being conducted within few

seconds. They said this at the programme at Gulshan Club in the city to mark the first anni-

versary of Lasik Sight Centre. Noted eye specialist Dr Rashid Hayder said, "During the last one year, we completed the surgeries of around 1,500 people. All of them are now

happy for not using glasses and contact lenses." A total of 30 percent lowvision people, especially the young generation people who are near-sighted, far-sighted or

have astigmatism, can be cured fully through the surgery, he added. Cornea Anterior Segment Surgeon Dr Syed A Hassan said one can return to his or her

normal life and eliminate dependence on glasses only by receiving Lasik eye surgery. Dr Niaz Rahman at the programme said, "Lasik is a magic surgery. It is a perma-

nent refractive correction. It is becoming popular day by day." People can receive the advantage of Lasik eye surgery by spending Tk 40,000 only at the Lasik centre, said Dr

Mahbubur Rahman

Chowdhury. Inaugurating the Lasik Society of Bangladesh, Editor of Prothom Alo Matiur Rahman said modern treatments like Lasik eye surgery will have to be spread out among common people so that they can be awareness of

tion have increased rapidly.

Intelligence sources said many terrorists and godfathers have started returning to the country after the political change and the criminal Police sources said indeci- activities are taking places at

> yesterday, IGP Nur Mohammad, however, assured the people of an immediate change in the present "The situation would be

tackle the situation", he said, adding, "In the transitional period, the law and order rates a bit, but it is not alarm-(IGP) held a meeting on ing." The IGP, however, declined

> to make any comment on the possible reshuffling of police personnel. Asked about the incidents of snatching, robbery and

killing in and around the

Odhikar will release its annual

human rights report 2008 and

organise a roundtable on the report.

Venue: National Press Club. Time:

Lux-Channel i super star

The grand final of the Lux-Channel

Super Star 2008 will be held. Venue:

Bangladesh-China Friendship

Orientation programme for the

Independent University Bangladesh

(IUB) students of Spring 2009.

Venue: C-9, IUB campus. Time:

Bapa organises a view exchange

meeting on environmental hazards

in Gendaria. Venue: Gendaria ward

commissioner's office. Time:

Conference Centre. Time: 7:30pm.

IUB orientation

View exchange

Roundtable

10:00am.

10:30am.

4:00pm.

Workshop

UNB, Dhaka

Kushtia, Met office said.

midnight to morning.

the country.

Srimongal.

City/Town

Chittagong

Cox's Bazar

Rajshahi

Khulna

Barisal

Sylhet

Dhaka

6:43am tomorrow.

killing, snatching and extor- crime has always ups and

Speaking about recent criminal incidents in banks, he said there are some specific professional gangs who are used to rob the banks or snatch money from the cus-

tion of crime rise in the city.

DA

question, the police chief said the godfathers, against whom cases have been filed, would be arrested soon.

said there are various causes including unemployment, poverty and addiction behind the increase of crimes in the

price cut BSS, Dhaka

lem for the new government.

"The government has the ability to afford the subsidy. If we did not have the requisite money, we would not have taken such a step," she told

There is a saying that the framers will return Tk 3, if Tk 1 is spent on them, the agriculture minister said. She hoped the people will get the benefit of the government steps soon.

"Earlier, we gave subsidy on fertiliser and succeeded to provide the people with rice at Tk 10 per kilogram," she said and hoped that the government would be able to lower rice prices by reducing fertiliser prices this time also.

increase output.

money required for the job.

money," he said.

Swechchhasebak League.

Local people caught a security guard of a market after he

Hawlader, 75, who runs a tea

the old man, local people rushed to the spot and caught

admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with stab



The day's programmes will

include a film show at 4:30pm, a discussion on 'Modern world at 6:00pm and a cultural programme at 8:00pm.

a memorable one for himself not as a devastating bowler seamer took three wickets to ensure Sri Lanka experienced It was the 46th over and the worst batting debacle in

devastating seam movement,

young Nazmul bowled in one

channel to tempt the batsmen

while pace spearhead

Bangladesh captain their history. Mohammad Ashraful kept faith in rookie Rubel Hossain as the young paceman from Bagerhat had a brilliant debut in the previous game by mopping up the tail against the Mashrafe kept up the pressure same opponents. Muralidaran

however decided to make it a

'do-or-die' effort and came

at his end by bowling out his Sangakkara helplessly saw the Tigers batting was.

ship to the new generation,

time through a landslide lors to a national council is victory in the recent election. some of the central AL leaders member national commit- mittees, which have been said most of the senior leaders tees. The president, presidium functioning with expired would have been excluded members, general secretary,

The last council of AL was held

emergency in the country.

1,850 -- excluding the 73- most of its metropolitan. Talking to The Daily Star member central and 166- district and upazila unit com-

who is also the prime minister the first sitting of the first because in 2005 the party was pressures from within and

almost minimum, said a senior the criteria for registration.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban Industry Minister Dilip Barua yesterday said the present government is going to adopt a modern and permanent

industrial policy for the overall growth of the country. The policy would help save the sick industries and create new employment opportunities as the government is

aiming at full employment in the country, he added. The minister talked to local newsmen while he was visiting some Buddhist temples, including Buddha Dhatu Jadi

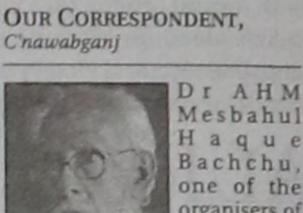
and Sarbajanin Buddha Bihar. in the hill town. Blaming the previous government's failure, Dilip said the country's total industry sector was run under a temporary policy for a long time that created de-industrialisation and

threw the labour class in a jobless panic situation. "But we are planning to set up more light, medium and heavy industries in the private sector in order to industrialise

the country," he told newsmen. He further said tourismbased industry like hotels, restaurants and handicrafts might get the government

Obituary

assistance in the CHT areas.



Mesbahul Haque Bachchu, one of the organisers of t h e Liberation War, a former Awami League lawmaker

Chapainawabganj town early yesterday at the age of 89. He left behind his two daughters, three sons and a

and vice-president of District

organisations expressed shock at his death.



16th death anniversary of MA Matin, former joint

release. On the occasion, Beraid



Bangladesh Biman.