

CPA mulls doubling penal rent for quick clearance of imported cars

UNB, Chittagong

Normal operation of the Chittagong Port, the gateway to country's economy, is being hampered to a large extent due to non-clearance of imported cars from the port sheds, according to port officials.

have been temporarily kept at Port Park Yard, earmarked for containers, he said. The CPA, in a fresh bid to solve the crisis, issued notices to the importers a couple of days back asking them to immediately take delivery of their imported cars.

shed free of charge for four days. 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.

Matia hopeful of high returns from fertiliser price cut

BSS, Dhaka

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 problem 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 BSS.



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.

suffering from old age complications. To fill vacuum, a good number of leaders from the grassroots level might be picked for the central committee.

Khaleda Zia plans to attend around half the councils at the grassroots level to perk up the morale of local leadership, said party sources.

against those of Awami League-led grand alliance. As part of the makeover plans, BNP will also recast its associate bodies.

Nine of the 11 associate bodies have remained without valid committees for up to 12 years. Even if it was not for rebuilding itself, BNP will have to hold national council within six months after the first sitting of the ninth parliament to ratify the provisional changes it made to its constitution to be registered with the Election Commission.

Criminals become active again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criminals have become active in the country again by taking the advantage of reluctance shown by the law enforcement agencies. Police sources said indecision among the law enforcers during the transition period and fears of transfer have led to their reluctance.

Intelligence sources said many terrorists and godfathers have started returning to the country after the political change and the criminal activities are taking places at their directives. Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, IGP Nur Mohammad, however, assured the people of an immediate change in the present law and order situation.

crime has always ups and downs. Replying to yet another question, the police chief said the godfathers, against whom cases have been filed, would be arrested soon.

Swechhasebak League activist stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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

So close, yet so far

FROM PAGE 1 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 its head thanks to an outstanding bowling effort.

out on top to ensure a night-marish experience for the young man. The right-hander brutally punished the bowler with his unorthodox batting as he smashed three fours and a six to secure twenty runs in the over to silence the crowd in the Big Bowl.

wickets falling in one end but never lost his temperament and associated with Jehan Mubarak to repair the fatal damage.

'Lasik surgery can cure 30pc people with eye problems'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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

Advertisement for 'DHAKA TODAY' featuring a roundtable on human rights, prize giving ceremony, reception, meeting, view exchange, and workshop.

Weather forecast for Dhaka: 'No change in temperature'. Includes a table with temperature and humidity data for various locations.

Security guard robs old man of Tk 1,000

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Local people caught a security guard of a market after he stabbed a tea stall owner and snatched Tk 1,000 from him in the city's Dhamondia area early yesterday.

Security guard robs old man of Tk 1,000

Shakib checked the next over with a maiden but again it was Rubel who conceded twelve runs this time as Sri Lanka reached the target in 48.1 overs to burst into joy, a scene that has hardly ever been the norm for teams winning against the Tigers.

Death anniversary

Today is the 16th death anniversary of M A Matin, former joint chief controller of Export and Import during the Pakistan period, says a press release.

Death anniversary

Today is the third death anniversary of Alhaj AKM Golam Quader, a businessman and a freedom fighter, says a press release.



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.

AL looks for fresh blood

FROM PAGE 1

AL has 73 organisational districts with 25 councillors from each district, and an additional 25 councillors are selected by the party president. The number of councillors to a national council is 1,850 -- excluding the 73-member central and 166-member national committees.

AL looks for fresh blood to the new generation, according to a close aide to the party president. More than a half of the 228 AL lawmakers were elected to the parliament for the first time through a landslide victory in the recent election.

AL might also reorganise most of its metropolitan, district and upazila unit committees, which have been functioning with expired committees for years. The party could not elect new committees in more than 10 districts for over 10 years.

'Modern industrial policy underway'

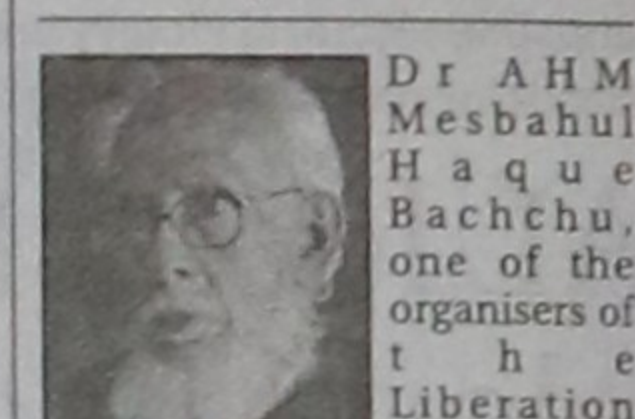
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

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 Jodi and Sarbajin 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.

Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, C'naubaganj



Dr. A.H.M. Mesbahul Haque Bachchu, one of the organisers of the Liberation War, a former Awami League lawmaker and vice-president of District Sports Association, passed away due to old-age complications at his residence in Chapainawabganj town early yesterday at the age of 89.

AKM Golam Quader

Today is the third death anniversary of Alhaj AKM Golam Quader, a businessman and a freedom fighter, says a press release. He was also an officer of Bangladesh Biman. Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.