



PHOTO: STAR
Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury and US Ambassador James F Moriarty yesterday visit a paddy field of a farmer who successfully utilised urea fertiliser at Sidr-hit Gouranadi upazila in Barisal. (Story on page 16)

4 held with firearms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested four criminals and seized three firearms and four bullets in the city early yesterday.

Three of the arrestees -- Sohel Hossain Sohad, Shahadat Hossain Majumdar, and Mohammad Nahid -- are accomplices of top listed criminal Shahzada of Khilgaon.

A team of Rab conducted a

raid at the house of Sohel at South Khilgaon around 3:15am and arrested the three and recovered a pistol and three bullets.

Another team of Rab arrested Mohammad Faruq Hossain Russel and seized a pistol and bullet at Madinabagh in Sabujbagh early yesterday.

Meanwhile, Rab also seized a pipe gun in abandoned condition in another drive at Shantibagh early yesterday.



26th April, 2009
25th
Death Anniversary
of
Firdaus Alam
•
Today
and
Everyday
Many Remember
You
- Iftekharul Alam

Ctg port to be upgraded to int'l standards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

To keep pace with the international maritime trade and face challenges of the twenty-first century,

Chittagong port would be upgraded to international standards through implementation of its various development projects. To this end Chittagong

Port Authority (CPA) would continue efforts following guidelines of the shipping ministry, said CPA Chairman Commodore RU Ahmed. The CPA chairman was

speaking at a view exchange meeting held at Chittagong Port Training Institute auditorium on the occasion of the 122nd founding anniversary of Chittagong port yesterday.

Describing the achievements in overall activities of the port, the chairman said the turnaround time of ship now came down to 2.48 days from 7.1 days (in early 2006) and dwell time (average stay time of containers) to 18.28 days from 26.6 days.

The port handled a record amount of 28.2 million tonnes of cargoes in 2008 against 27 million tonnes in 2006.

The port also handled 31652 imported vehicles in 2008 against 17342 in 2006. He said the CPA achieved 100 percent growth in capacity building and enhancing efficiency in the last two years.

He also gave details of different ongoing projects like introduction of Container Terminal Management System (CTMS), appointment of global operators at NCT on Supply, Operate and Transfer (SOT) basis by the year 2010, and construction of an Inland Container Terminal (ICT).

The chairman also informed that rules were formulated to control unplanned growth of Inland Container Depots (ICDs).

He informed that a separate salary structure for the CPA employees is now under active consideration of the ministry.

He agreed that there should have a proper Trade Union Management as per international labour rules.

CPA Member (Engineering) Captain Jobair Ahmad, Member (Marine and Harbour) Captain S Arif Mahmud, Member (Finance) Md Harun Meah and other high officials of the CPA were present at the meeting.

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