

Border markets miss schedule

Dhaka ready, Delhi drags its feet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Border markets between Bangladesh and India will not start today as the Indian side is taking too much time to set the modus operandi in this regard, commerce ministry officials say.

Earlier on February 2, Bangladesh and India decided to launch the markets at three selected border points from Pahela Baishakh, the Bangla New Year, to facilitate trade between the people living in remote frontiers.

"Bangladesh has completed the necessary formalities and is ready to launch such markets for the benefits of those who are living on either side of the border," Commerce Minister Faruk Khan told The Daily Star yesterday.

He said his ministry has also finalised the modus operandi of running the border markets. "We sent it to India about a month ago and are still waiting for their response," Faruk said, terming opening of the markets a useful idea as it would increase trade volume between the two neighbours.

The minister hopes the Indian side will complete all formalities and the markets will be launched soon.

Farun Khan and Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh Rajeet Mitter elaborately discussed the issue at a meeting at the commerce ministry in February. They decided to start the markets on a pilot basis on three border points on Pahela Baishakh.

The border points are between Sonarhat under Goain Ghat in Sylhet and Linkhat in India; between Lawar Ghar under Taherpur upazila in Sunamganj and Kalia Char in India; and between Balia Bari under Bajitpur upazila in Kurigram and Naliakata in India.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

এসো হে বৈশাখ, এসো এসো

লোকজ শিল্প আমাদের সোনালী ঐতিহ্য । আমাদের সংস্কৃতির আদি

পরিচয় পাওয়া যায় এর প্রচ্ছন্ন ছাপে। বাংলা নববর্ষের প্রাতঃলগ্নে

আমাদের সোনালী কৃষ্টি-সংস্কৃতি, লৌকিকতা, লোকাচার ফিরে

আমাদের সম্মানিত সকল গ্রাহক, পৃষ্ঠপোষক ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের

বাংলা নববর্ষের শুভেচ্ছা

ফিরে আসুক। আমরা দৃঢ় সংকল্পবদ্ধ।

CANT HOUSE

Khaleda's writ petition won't be sent to CJ

HC rejects petition STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court bench yesterday

rejected a petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia for sending to the Chief Justice her earlier writ petition challenging a government notice that asked her to leave the cantonment house.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Barge-mounted power plant case against Hasina quashed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) in a verdict yesterday quashed the proceedings against Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the barge-mounted power plant corruption case filed by the Anti-corruption Commission (ACC) during the last caretaker government.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

War trial not to be 'motivated'

Caution noted personalities but back speedy legislation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A cross-section of eminent personalities including legal experts yesterday suggested swift adjudication of the war crimes trial, while noting that the criminals must not be able to dodge justice, and the people must not get the impression that the trial is motivated by partisan politics.

At a roundtable they said the suspects are campaigning against the trial both at home and abroad, while the government seems not strategic enough to respond to it.

The daily Prothom Alo organised the roundtable titled "Trial SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Jamaat on Pak side

Admit its leaders but oppose war trial STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong city unit Jamaat-e-Islami leaders yesterday said Jamaat was in the Pakistan's side during the liberation war of Bangladesh and they don't accept the issue of trying war criminals.

"None of our organisations was involved in war crimes and trial of war criminals is a mockery as the issue is now settled one," said city unit Jamaat ameer Mohammad SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

SHIP-BREAKING

8 proposals to cut down risks

NUR UDDIN ALAMGIR, Ctg

The Department of Environment (DoE), Chittagong has recommended that ships be cleaned before bringing those for dismantling to avert accidents, which very often cause human casualties in the ship-breaking yards.

The department also recommended being informed about hazardous materials in ships before beaching the ships for scrapping.

These are among eight specific recommendations put forward by the DoE to its headquarters in Dhaka on April 8.

After a field level survey from January to March, the DoE has come up with the recommendations to save environment from pollution and streamline the uncontrolled industry.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

bates

Fire again at Garib and Garib factory

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Another fire broke out at Garib and Garib Sweater Factory at Bhogra in Gazipur sadar upazila yesterday just one and a half months after a devastating blaze left 21 workers burnt to death and many others injured.

At least 10 workers and fire fighters were wounded in the fire this time.

Fire service officials said a large number of sweaters, and machinery were gutted.

The fire originated from the third floor of the six-storey fac-

tory building around 1:30pm and quickly spread to the second and fourth floors. Deputy Director of local fire service Shahidul Islam said

cause of the fire could not be known immediately. Eight units of fire service from Gazipur, Tongi, Kurmitola and

Mirpur, joined by workers of the factory, took more than three hours to douse the flames. Recurrence of fire at the factory angered its workers, and they

beat up its knitting section in-charge Abdul Mannan. The workers later demonstrated in front of the factory build-

ing and barricaded Dhaka-Mymensingh highway for about an SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



বায়তুল মোকাররম ও ঢাকা নিউমার্কেট ব্যতীত আমাদের কোথাও কোন শাখা নেই



give massive subsidy in installing solar panels to encourage people to use solar power?

O No (16.4%)(1.1%) No Comments Total votes: 537

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the government should form a powerful body to take necessary steps to handle unrest in RMG sector whenever it occurs?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-40	5-15
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-21	6-24
Esha	7-45	8-15
Source: Islamic Foundation		





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