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GSP review in December
US decision after hearing on measures taken by Bangladesh

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Washington may give Dhaka another opportunity in December when it will have a hearing on the reinstatement of tariff-free access of Bangladeshi products to the US market.

Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque said the US would then review the reinstatement of GSP facility for Bangladesh.

Talking to reporters after about a 90-minute meeting with US Ambassador to Dhaka Dan Mozena, he said they had discussed in detail about the road map given by the US as well as how Bangladesh was advancing towards improving its workers' safety

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Gas field trouble over

Contractors withdraw obstructions after 5 days

STAR REPORT

After terrorising workers of US oil company Chevron in Moulvibazar gas field for five days, a group of five contractors yesterday withdrew its blocking of the movement of Chevron vehicles in Srimangal.

The five local contractors backed by a powerful parliamentarian have been demanding what Chevron says is "exclusive control over the total supply business, jobs, etc."

According to a Chevron letter to Petrobangla on Tuesday, the situation could lead to an unavoidable shutdown of the gas field.

The Moulvibazar field supplies 75 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) gas to the gas-starved nation.

Following Chevron's complaints to the government, Srimangal Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Mohammad Ashfaqul Haq Chowdhury and other high officials had a meeting with the contractors yesterday. Later, a representative of the contractors told Chevron officials that they were withdrawing their blocking of Chevron vehicles' movement on the basis of talks with the UNO.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Jesun new Spelling Bee champion

SHAHNOOR RABBANI

Sunjack Jesun, class-X student of St Joseph Higher Secondary School, Dhaka, has been crowned champion of this year's The Daily Star Spelling Bee.

The finale, held in front of a capacity audience in the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, was aired last night on Channel i.

The competition among six finalists was neck-and-neck even until the last buzzer word. Sakib Aleem of Academia Dhaka finished as the 1st runner up, trailing Sunjack by narrowest possible margin, 10 points.

Sunjack had been a part of this competition during its inaugural edition in 2012, where he made waves for getting the second highest score in the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



Sunjack Jesun, second from left, receives the trophy of The Daily Star Spelling Bee contest. The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam, left, Director of Channel I Shykh Seraj, third from left, MD of Fast Group of Companies Hafiz Ahmed, fourth from left, Director Marketing of GSK Consumer Healthcare Soumendras Das, handing over the trophy, DGM of MetlifeAlico Syed Hammadul Karim, second from right, and CEO of Champs21.com Russell T Ahmed, right, were also on stage to congratulate this year's best speller of the country.

PHOTO: STAR



The gold seized from a Biman flight at Shahjalal International Airport yesterday. Nobody was arrested in this connection.

Biggest-ever gold haul

Customs officials seize 124kg gold bars at Shahjalal airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials at Shahjalal International Airport seized 1,064 gold bars weighing around 124 kilograms from the luggage chamber of a Biman flight yesterday.

"This is the biggest ever haul at the airport in the 42 years history of Bangladesh," said Wazed Ali, assistant commissioner of customs.

No one was arrested in connection with the seizure.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4

Prof Anwar testifies at war tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Alleged Al-Badr leaders Chowdhury Mueen Uddin and Ashrafuzzaman Khan had led the abduction of several intellectuals from the Dhaka University campus on December 14, 1971, another prosecution witness testified before a tribunal yesterday.

Eminent historian Syed Anwar Husain told the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

SQ Chy's trial at closing stage

Tribunal allows him to produce unlisted witness

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Exercising its inherent power, the International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday allowed war crimes accused Salauddin Quader Chowdhury to produce an unlisted witness even though there was no provision to allow such witnesses in the war crimes law.

The case moved to the closing argument stage as the witness testimony recording was closed yesterday.

Amid prosecution's note of dissent, the tribunal judges,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

RANA PLAZA COLLAPSE
Savar pouura mayor held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Criminal Investigation Department yesterday arrested Savar municipality mayor Refayet Ullah from the capital's Malibagh area in connection with the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

PLAIN-CLOTHES COPS JS body warns against arrest on false charges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Plain-clothes policemen of different police stations in the capital and its outskirts are engaged in various illegal activities including extortion, and the arrest of innocent people on false charges.

The parliamentary standing committee on home ministry made the observation at a meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday.

The committee asked the inspector general of police present in the meeting to stop such illegal activities of civil teams of the force.

"We often receive allegations that civil teams of the police at different police stations arrest innocent people and

SEE PAGE 2 COL 8

PRE-EID TRIPS DCs asked to reduce public sufferings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Communications Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday sought cooperation from the DCs to minimise public sufferings on roads and highways across the country ahead of the Eid-ul-Fitr.

"We hope that the DCs will cooperate with us, like they did last year, so that people's sufferings, which usually mount before the Eid due to additional traffic on roads, can be kept to a tolerable level," he told reporters after his working session with the deputy

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with International Labour Organisation (ILO) that the newly amended labour law falls short of international standards?

Yes (15%)
No (85%)

TOTAL VOTES: 163

TODAY'S POLL
Do you think there is any necessity for the government to form a separate police wing to assist deputy commissioners in conducting mobile courts?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING July 25

Fajr	Azhan	Jamaat
3-56	3-56	4-01
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-49	7-00
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

সাউথ পয়েন্ট স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ এর গৌরবজ্জল পদক্ষেপ। শিক্ষক-শিক্ষার্থীরা শিক্ষা সফরে এখন "নাসায়"

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সাউথ পয়েন্ট স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ

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