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GSP TO US MARKET

Not much done to get it back

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The USA is set to review the suspension of the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) in May but Bangladesh has not made much progress in fulfilling the requirements for regaining the trade privileges.

The American government suspended Bangladesh's GSP status in June last year citing serious shortcomings in safety standards and lack of workers' rights at the industrial units of the country. As many as 16 conditions were put forward at that time, which have to be implemented by Bangladesh to regain the trade facility during the review.

The government amended the labour law in July last year to meet one of the conditions, but has not fully implemented the new law, which provides for full freedom of association by workers.

However, Bangladesh has made progress in some areas like registration of trade unions, said Alonzo Glenn Suson, country director of Solidarity Centre of American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organisation (AFL-CIO) in Bangladesh.

More than 100 trade unions have been registered since January 2013. But at the same time there are reports of termination of trade union leaders from the factories, Suson added.

Another major condition was to recruit 200 additional factory inspectors by December last year, but the labour and employment ministry has not even published advertisements in newspapers for recruitment.

The government could only begin factory inspections by 30 teams of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology from November 21 last year. They visit factories



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visits Nurjahan Begum, a union council member of Kansat, Chapainawabganj, at Pangu Hospital in the capital yesterday. BNP-Jamaat men allegedly swooped on Noorjahan on January 22 and cut the tendons of her hands and legs.

PHOTO:

Rein in your 'terrorists' PM asks Khaleda

BSS, Dhaka Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina yesterday called upon BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia to rein in her "terrorist groups". Otherwise, she warned, stern action would be taken against them.

"You must control the terrorist groups you let loose against Awami League leaders and workers. Every person has the right to lead a peaceful life and we will take whatever measures are necessary to protect that right," she said.

Hasina made the remarks while talking to journalists after visiting the injured AL and BCL leaders at Pangu Hospital in the capital.

A total of nine party leaders and workers, who came under attack by BNP-Jamaat men before and after the January 5 polls, are undergoing treatment at the hospital.

About the BNP chief's allegation that over 29,000 SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Indo-Bangla Dispute

Sea boundary verdict in June

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in the Netherlands is expected to deliver the verdict on the maritime boundary dispute case between Bangladesh and India in June.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam said this during yesterday's proceedings of the first session of the 10th parliament.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

Jamaat hartal today

Dinajpur Jamaat men vandalise 25 buses protesting arrest of activist

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Jamaat-e-Islami has called a daylong countrywide hartal for today, protesting the death penalty for its ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami in the 10truck arms haul case.

In a statement on Friday, the Jamaat, a key component of the BNP-led 19 party alliance, announced that it would enforce the daylong hartal on Monday.

But in a surprise move, the party backtracked on its decision a day later, citing Swaraswati Puja of the Hindu community as the reason. Instead, the SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

India may try Barua in absentia

Says Indian Express OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Taking the cue from a Bangladesh court that sentenced top Ulfa leader Paresh Barua to death in the Chittagong arms haul case, India may also try the fugitive leader in absentia. SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Two goats cross the busy Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, using the footbridge at Shahbagh intersection yesterday. Ironically, many city dwellers, in contrast, are often seen crossing

Yusuf's trial at final stage

Closing arguments over his alleged war crimes begin Feb 12

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The trial of war crimes accused AKM Yusuf enters the final stage on February 12 as the International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday fixed the day for beginning of the closing arguments.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Obaidul Hassan with members Justice Md Mozibur Rahman Miah and Justice Md Shahinur Islam set the date after completing recording

of the testimony and cross-examination of the lone defence

witness in the case. The tribunal on January 30 completed recording of the testimony of 27 prosecution witnesses including the

defend Yusuf. The defence however decided not to produce further witnesses after AKM Mahbubur Rahman, elder son of Yusuf gave testimony as the first defence witness yesterday.

investigation officer and allowed three defence witnesses to

After hearing the closing arguments from both the prosecution and the defence, the tribunal will either keep the case waiting for verdict or fix a date to that end.

Yusuf, historically known as the founder of infamous Razakar force and nayeb-e-ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami, is facing 13 charges of genocide and crimes against humanity committed in greater Khulna during the Liberation War in

Of the charges against the 87-year-old accused, the then deputy chief of Jamaat, which vehemently opposed the birth of Bangladesh, seven are for genocide, which left



Language: stepping back

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

It makes sense, before one goes into an examination of the controversy generated by governor general Mohammad Ali Jinnah on the language question during his visit to Dhaka in March 1948, to step back a little and observe the Bangla language issue as it developed before and after the partition of India. It has to be made clear that the demand for Bangla as a language of the state was not a sudden occurrence but a well-thought out proposal from a number of Bangalee individuals in the mid to late 1940s.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1





RASHED SHUMON

ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশন

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিচছর রাখুন

আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন

আইসিসি ওয়ার্ল্ড টি-২০ উপলক্ষে মহানগরবাসীর প্রতি আহবান

আসন্ন আইসিসি ওয়ার্ল্ড টি-২০ ২০১৪ উপলক্ষে বাংলাদেশের ভাবমূর্তি বিশ্বদরবারে সমুজ্জল করার লক্ষ্যে হযরত শাহুজালাল (রঃ) আন্তর্জাতিক বিমানবন্দর হতে বাংলামটর এলাকা তৎসহ খামারবাড়ী গোলচক্কর হতে আগারগাঁও হয়ে শের-ই-বাংলা জাতীয় ক্রিকেট ষ্টেডিয়াম এবং পার্শ্ববর্তী এলাকা, মাটিকাটা হতে কালশী রোড হয়ে মীরপুর ১০ নম্বর গোলচক্কর ও পার্শ্ববর্তী এলাকার সড়কসমূহ ও উহার উভয় পাশে বিদ্যমান সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি/স্বায়ত্তশাসিত/ব্যক্তিমালিকানাধীন ভবনের দেয়ালসহ প্রাচীরগুলো নতুন করে ১৫ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৪ সালের মধ্যে মেরামতসহ রং করণের জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের প্রতি আহবান জানানো যাচ্ছে। যে সমস্ত মালিক/প্রতিষ্ঠান/অবস্থানকারী/দখলকারগণ ভবনের দেওয়াল ও প্রাচীর রং করতে ব্যর্থ হবেন সেক্ষেত্রে সিটি কর্পোরেশন নিজস্ব উদ্যোগে রং করবে এবং এতে ব্যয়িত খরচ সিটি কর্পোরেশন আইন ২০০৯ এর তফসিল ৩ মোতাবেক তাদের নিকট হতে আদায়ের প্রয়োজনীয় আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থাগ্রহণ করা হবে।

এতদ্যতীত আইসিসি ওয়ার্ল্ড টি-২০ ২০১৪ উপলক্ষে ঢাকা মহানগরীতে অবৈধ ব্যানার/ফেষ্ট্রন/প্লাকার্ড/ড্যাংলার/তোরণ ইত্যাদি অপসারণ করার জন্য এবং নতুন করে স্থাপন না করার জন্য নগরবাসীকে বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

আইসিসি ওয়ার্ল্ড টি-২০ ২০১৪ উপলক্ষে ঢাকা মহানগরীকে দৃষ্টিনন্দন তিলোত্তমা নগরী হিসেবে বিশ্ববাসীর কাছে উপস্থাপন করার জন্য ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশন মহানগরবাসীর সর্বাত্মক সহযোগিতা কামনা করছে।

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জিডি-৫৪১

প্রশাসক ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশন

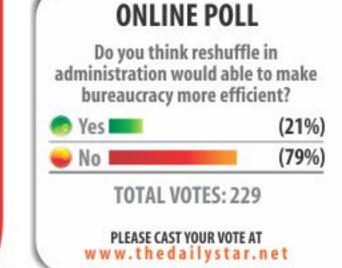
Cold gets you slim

THE TELEGRAPH ONLINE

It is usually a signal to reach for a jumper or turn up the heating, but it seems shivering may also be an effective way to stay slim.

A new study from scientists at Sydney University has found that placing volunteers in







victim to killing and forced

disappearance in one month?

