\$103.17

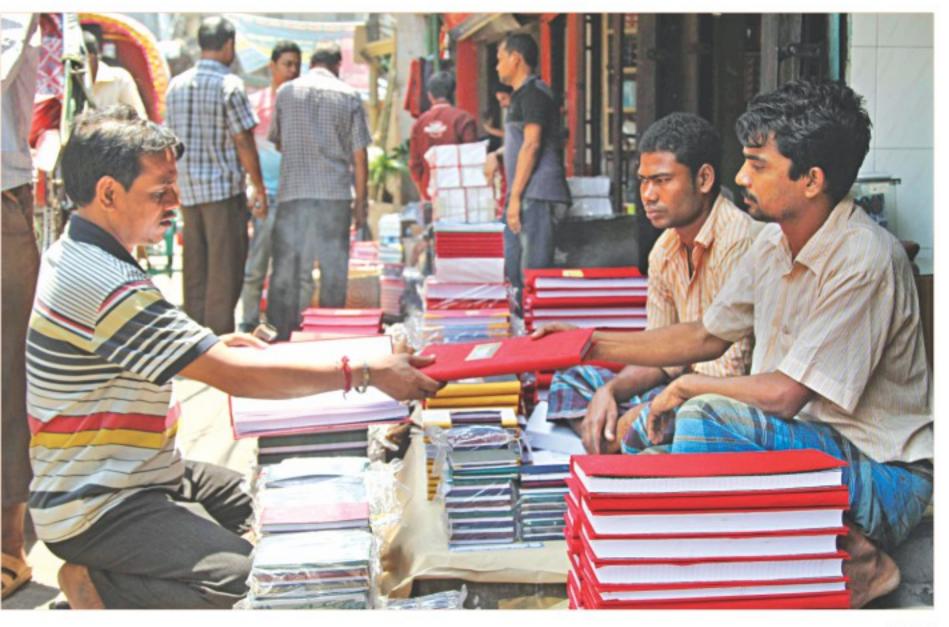
(per barrel)

09612001122



BUSINESS

DHAKA MONDAY APRIL 14, 2014, e-mail:business@thedailystar.net



but, so far, the labour and

employment ministry has taken

only 25 first-class inspectors

through the Public Service

recruitment quota, Mikail

Shipar, secretary to ministry of

labour and employment, says

is due to the need to amend

the PSC rules to recruit

manpower for non-cadre

inspectors were recruited

without amending the PSC

rules, he said: "The ministry

gets 50 percent quota. If I want

to recruit 200 inspectors I

need 80 percent quota. So we

need to amend the PSC rules

for recruitment of non-cadre

When asked how the 25

The delay in meeting the

Commission (PSC).

A man buys a register from a roadside vendor in Old Dhaka yesterday ahead of Pahela Baishakh, the first day of Bangla New Year, which the businesses mark by commencing a new ledger book and locking up old ones.

Govt again fails to meet GSP conditions

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

The country has once again failed to fulfil the required conditions for reinstatement of GSP status to the US markets within the deadline of April 15, mainly due to bureaucratic tangles.

The commerce ministry is now set to submit a report which does not contain any account of substantial progress with respect to the 16-point action plan provided by the US for regaining the generalised system of preferences.

This is the second time that the government has failed to make an impression on the Obama administra-

tion. The first progress report submitted in November last year disappointed the US so much that the second deadline of April 15 was set, a month ahead of Obama Administration's review of the suspension decision.

One of the major conditions was to recruit

MAJOR FAILURES

Govt so far recruited 25 inspectors against 200 demanded by the US

The EPZ law is yet to be amended to allow trade unionism

The killers of labour leader Aminul Islam were not arrested

Govt is yet to formulate rules to implement the amended labour law

Mahbub Ahmed, senior secretary of the commerce ministry, could not be reached despite several attempts by phone.

posts.

Another major condition was to amend the laws of the export processing zones (EPZs) to allow the workers of such special additional 200 factory inspectors by this deadline, economic zones the right to demonstrate to

Realtors call for relaxing lending rules

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Realtors yesterday urged financial institutions to provide more loans to the real estate sector due to the higher demand.

"Investment in our sector is highly secured as the loans are backed by tangible assets," Shafiq Rahman, chairman of a standing committee of Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh, said in a keynote presentation.

He spoke at a seminar on "Secure and Prospective Investment: Real Estate Industry of Bangladesh", organised by REHAB at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the city.

The current demand for housing in urban areas is 30,000 units annually and is expected to cross 60,000 units in the next five years, he said, adding that the real estate sector is now only producing 17,000-18,000 units per year.

READ MORE ON B3

Govt ready to offer subsidy to renewable energy: minister

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

.......

The government stands ready to provide subsidies to the renewable energy sector to encourage exploring alternatives to costly fossil fuels, State Minister for **Energy and Power** Nasrul Hamid said vesterday.

"We have to take a decision on it. We have to decide about subsidies in rural and urban areas. Otherwise, there might be wastages," he

The state minister spoke at a roundtable on the revised renewable energy policy, at Bidyut Bhaban in the capital. The Energy and Power magazine organised the discussion in association with the power division and German international cooper-

ation agency GIZ. READ MORE ON B3

Tech glitch halts DSE trade, stocks fall

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

A technical glitch suspended trade on the Dhaka Stock Exchange for more than two and a half hours yesterday, and the regulator asked the bourse to immediately submit a report on it.

"We asked them to explain why and how the malfunction took place," said Saifur Rahman, spokesman and an executive director of Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission.

"They (DSE) informed us of the

matter from time to time, but we sought a report from them," added Rahman, who also visited the prime bourse after the technical glitch stopped trade. Some brokerage houses informed the

DSE management that they were disconnected from the trading server although they logged in on the server in due time; they were unable to re-log in the server, the bourse said in a press statement.

Share transactions that usually take place between 10:30am and 2:30pm

came to a halt at around 10:35am.

However, the problems were resolved and trading resumed on the premier bourse at 1:15pm and closed at 3:15pm. Meanwhile, stocks finished in the

red. DSEX, the benchmark general index of the DSE, lost 19 points or 0.41 percent to close the day at 4,573 points.

DSES, the shariah index of the premier bourse, slightly rose by 0.75 points or 0.07 percent to close at 1,020.96 points.



Congratulations



Selima Ahmad, Founder of Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BWCCI) and Vice-Chairperson of Nitol-Niloy Group has been honoured with the prestigious "Oslo Business for Peace Award-2014".

It is a matter of pride and joy for BWCCI and all women of Bangladesh.

The Board of Directors, Members and all Staff Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BWCCI)

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