



CAPITAL MACHINERY
Import more than doubles thanks to garment factory remediation
PaGE B1

AFTER DEFEAT
I wanted to curl up, says Clinton about her reaction after losing to Trump
PAGE 9



Sudanese problem hurting BJMC

Honorary consul general to Sudan 'working against' Bangladesh's jute export to the African nation

SAJJADUR RAHMAN
Amin Abdellatif, honorary consul general of Bangladesh to Sudan for last 25 years has allegedly been working against the country's jute exports to Sudan.
The issue has been going round not only in the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) but also in the textiles and jute ministry, foreign ministry and even the Prime Minister's Office, sources said.
"We have received complaints about Amin. We have sent those to the jute and textile ministry. What I can say is that we'll not go against the national interest," said Mahmudul Hassan, chairman of BJMC.
"We will take actions after investigation," said Hassan, a bureaucrat who has been posted in the BJMC in August this year.
Sudan is a major export destination for BJMC's products since the Middle East countries have almost stopped importing the products and demand is low in many places in the world.
Documents obtained by The Daily Star show that Amin worked against

Bangladesh's exports in May this year over the supply of 60,000 bales B Twill Jute bags (sacks) to two government organisations in Sudan -- Agricultural Bank of Sudan (ABS) and Sudan Cotton Company (SCC).
These organisations in Sudan had set a precondition in their tender that only BJMC-manufactured jute bags were to be bought.
However, Amin took up the issue with the ABS authorities and challenged the mandatory procurement of BJMC-manufactured bags, according to the documents obtained by The Daily Star.
The ABS then floated a fresh tender in August to buy 1,00,000 B Twill Jute bags.
But on August 31, just four days before the opening of the bids, Amin sent a letter to the ABS authorities in which, misleading and false information was provided, like high prices of BJMC's products and the company's capacity, or the lack of, to deliver 1,00,000 bales on time.
The Sudanese businessman also reportedly got the opening of the bids rescheduled to September 25.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



A youth jumps over the median of a street at Jatrabari, ignoring the danger of vehicles approaching at speed. Reluctance to follow traffic rules and jaywalking often contribute to accidents in the capital. The photo was taken on Tuesday.
PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Jamdani finally gets recognition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Jamdani, a traditional fabric of the country, has been recognised as a Geographical Indication (GI) product of Bangladesh, a move that is expected to facilitate its weavers to brand the indigenous cloth in a better way at home and abroad.
The Department of Patents, Designs and Trademarks (DPDT) yesterday registered Jamdani as the country's first GI product and handed over a certificate to the chairman of the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) during a ceremony.
SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Ensure security, let them harvest crops

HC asks govt, wants report on what steps taken after attack on Gaibandha Santals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to ensure security and free movement of the Santals in Gaibandha's Gobindaganj.
The directive came 11 days into the eviction of around 1,200 families of the indigenous community from Sahebganj sugarcane farm in Gobindaganj.



Responding to a writ petition filed by three rights organisations on Wednesday, the court asked the authorities concerned to allow the Santal families to harvest paddy from the farmland.

In case anyone other than the Santals has already harvested paddy from the land, the local administration must take steps to return it to the indigenous people. If necessary, the administration itself would harvest the crop for the Santals, petitioners' counsel Abu Obaidur said, citing the HC order.

The HC ordered the authorities to submit a report to it within 10 days on the legal steps taken over attacks on Santals, he said.

Our Gaibandha correspondent reports: a case has been filed against 500

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

EU expects strong EC

Visiting European Parliament delegation hopes next polls will be fully participatory

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The visiting European Parliament delegation expects that proper democratic process will be followed in forming a strong Election Commission in Bangladesh to hold the next general elections in a fully participatory way.

At a press briefing at the EU office in Gulshan, they also urged the government not to narrow down the fundamental citizen rights while ensuring security. They urged ensuring proper balance between security and the guarantee of freedom of expression.

The six-member trade delegation of the European Parliament led by Bernd Lange, chair of the committee on international trade, has been in Bangladesh since November 14.

They also discussed political issues

SEE PAGE 17 COL 4

NEWS ANALYSIS

PICKS FOR WHITE HOUSE Trump misusing his freedom

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Donald Trump keeps stunning the world. His win in the presidential election by defeating Hillary Clinton sent a shockwave across the globe.

Anti-Trump protest is erupting across the US. People are agitating in the streets as they believe "Trump is unfit to serve. His scapegoating of so many Americans, and his impulsivity, bullying, lying, admitted history of sexual assault".

More than five million Americans signed a petition urging electors not to vote for Trump on December 19 to formally elect him president.

Liberal forces across the globe are still reeling from the shock of his win in the bitterly fought election on November 8.

In such a situation, Trump in a week sent another big blow to the forces worried over his election win by picking right-wing firebrand Stephen Bannon as his chief strategist and adviser in the White House.

His choice of Bannon has set the tone of his government. The choice sparked outrage not only in the US but also in many parts in the world.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



TOP QUOTE

"Of course the political situation is quite stable [now]. But of course ... as you are going to hold next general elections ... you have to establish an EC. We hope it'll be done in a proper democratic way."

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT MEMBER
BERND LANGE
At a PRESS BRIEFING IN DHAKA YESTERDAY.



All-round Riders halt Bulls' run

SPORTS REPORTER
The Rangpur Riders put an end to Barisal Bulls' three-match winning streak by beating them by 12 runs at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium yesterday.
The Riders, who were decimated by the Dhaka Dynamites in their last game, put in a fine performance against the odds and they have Mohammad Mithun, Liam Dawson, Shahid Afridi and Mohammad Shahzad to thank for that.
While Mithun scored a brilliant 44-ball 62 and Dawson and Afridi put in amazing all-round performances, Shahzad was extremely smart with his keeping.
SEE PAGE 17 COL 1



PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

A mustard oil vendor and his assistant, on the pickup, with their mobile oil mill in Motijheel area of the capital recently. They sell mustard oil after extracting it from the seeds right before the customers with the machine to assure that the oil is pure.

Oil mill on the move

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

It's a mobile oil mill. Now Uttara, now Motijheel. But wherever it goes, it instantly creates a strong customer base because the oil is fresh and pure.

This diesel-run mini mill does not use any complicated equipment or sophisticated technology.

Put some mustard seeds into the opening on its top and, within a few minutes, the popular and pungent dark yellow oil will start dripping down from an outlet at the bottom of the expeller. Collect it in containers or bottles, and it's ready for sell.

The man behind this innovative entrepreneurship is SM Khaled Masud, 45, from Tangail.

He says he knows that a number of branded cooking oils are available on the market, but many consumers are sceptical about their purity. He also knows that if he can ensure quality, consumers will put their trust in his product.

So about six months ago, he came up with this venture -- Gram Banglar Khanti Sarishar Teler Mill (Country-style Pure Mustard Oil Mill).

And for consumers, who are worried about rampant adulteration, "seeing is believing".

"Adulterated food is everywhere. Now that I've seen the process, I can say that this oil is pure," said Miraj Hossain, a resident of Haji Camp area near the airport where the oil mill was "set up" last month.

Samir Mridha, 60, was carefully watching the process as he was waiting for his turn.

"Most of the mustard oil available in the market has artificial ingredients in it for extra pungency," he alleged, adding that those oil are also mixed with "palm oil".
SEE PAGE 17 COL 1