

সাদা সিমেন্ট, মোজাইক, সিংক ও পাউল  
আকর্ষণীয় ও কমমূল্যে  
সাদা সিমেন্ট: জাপান, মালয়েশিয়া -  
মার্বেল চিপস: পাকিস্তান, চায়না, ভারত -  
কিচেন সিলিং সিংক: স্পেন, সুইজারল্যান্ড -  
সোসেম, পাউল: ইংল্যান্ড -  
মার্বেল ও ব্রোকেন মার্বেল: পাকিস্তান ও মালয়েশিয়া -  
ঘাইটী মোজাইক ও স্যানিটারী সামগ্রীর একমাত্র বিশ্ব পণ্ডিত  
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# The Daily Star

**NIRMAN TILES**  
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## BNP, Opposition blame each other for failed dialogue

# Ninian packs up

Star Report



Sir Ninian Stephen

Commonwealth emissary Sir Ninian Stephen, who arrived here more than a month ago to facilitate a 'productive dialogue' between the two conflicting political camps, is set to leave for home tomorrow, his delicate mission having apparently failed.

The news of the immediate departure plans of the Commonwealth Secretary General's special envoy after nearly 35 days spent on a most difficult assignment came last night as both the ruling party and the Opposition blamed each other for failure of the tortuous talks designed to end the current political standoff.

A handout released to the media yesterday evening stated that the special envoy of Commonwealth Secretary General Chief Emeka Anyaoku will read out a statement at a press conference at 10 this morning at the state guest house Padma.

The handout also stated that Sir Ninian would not be answering any questions from the journalists.

It was not known what ex-

Ninian as a facilitator followed an agreement between Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Leader of the parliamentary opposition Sheikh Hasina to a three-point plan put forward by Chief Emeka after the latter's return from a five-day visit to Dhaka September last.

The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Secretary General and one of the four government negotiators Abdus Salam Talukdar told The Daily Star last night: "The Opposition has created the present political crisis by making an unconstitutional demand for holding elections under a non-partisan caretaker government."

"Even then we gave a long rope to the Opposition with a view to resolving the problem. But the Opposition failed to cooperate," Talukdar said and added: "We did our best to accommodate the Opposition to produce a leak-proof electoral system."

On the other hand, political



The three Nepal Communist Party (United Marxist and Leninist) candidates Siddhi Lal Singh (R), journalist-turned politician Raghu Pant (C) and Mitharam Sherma Bajgain (L) at the victory march in Patan city on the outskirts of capital Kathmandu Friday following victory in the November 15 mid-term parliamentary polls. — AFP photo

## Export of samples worth \$1500 allowed annually

Exporters will henceforth be allowed to export product samples worth up to US dollar 1,500 annually without official permission, reports UNB.

This will be a substantial rise from the existing limit of only Tk 5,000.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Task Force on exports at the Ministry of Commerce today (Saturday).

Raising the limit of export samples was a long-standing demand being pursued by the exporters. The World Bank had also been pressing for lifting all limits on export of samples.

The Task Force meeting, See Page 12 Col 3

## Ctg Industrial Fair '94 opens today

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 19: A week-long industrial fair organised by the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry in cooperation with the German Federation of Small Business and Technonet Asia, opens here tomorrow.

Around 100 organisations, See Page 12 Col 2

## Bullish trend continues Market cap at DSE crosses \$ 1b mark

By Staff Correspondent

Buoyed by strong interest from both domestic and foreign investors, market capitalisation of the companies listed at the Dhaka Stock Exchange hit the one billion US dollar mark, for the first time, yesterday.

With the DSE All Shares Price Index hovering at 849.85, the total market capitalisation stood at over Tk 4,026 crore at the end of trading yesterday.

The turnover in volume on the day stood at 1,45,179 shares while the turnover in value was a little over Tk 2.22 crore. A total of 80 issues were traded, of which 66 gained, nine declined and five remained unchanged.

The number of listed securities at the DSE stands at 166, with 153 companies, six mutual funds and seven debentures.

Increased interest from domestic and foreign investors has fuelled a bull run at the stock market in recent years. Private companies are also showing greater interest in floating shares through the DSE.

Since around 1992, the interest of the local investors grew because of increased returns from the listed shares and because of the sharp drop in bank interest rates on saving accounts and other savings instruments, market observers noted.

On the other hand, foreign investors, looking at emerging markets for a better return, started to invest at the DSE and until October last invested an estimated 160 million dollars.

DSE officials are expecting that foreign portfolio investment at the DSE would cross the 250 million dollar or Tk 1,000 crore mark by year end.

"This is a sign of tremendous confidence that the small investors have in the economy, as without them coming forward the foreign investors would also have been reluctant," said Imtiaz Hussain, vice chairman of the DSE.

"People are confident and See Page 12 Col 6

## One dies, 25 hurt as soccer fans clash in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 19: Soccer-related violence at the Chittagong stadium and its adjoining areas this afternoon left one person killed and 25 others injured, witnesses said.

The deceased — Md Shafi, 25, alias Khoka — was identified by Abahani officials as one of their supporters.

The injured were admitted to city clinics. The violence started minutes before the end of a match between arch-rivals Abahani and Mohammedans at around 5:30 pm when rival supporters started throwing brickbats at each other.

The clash then spread to the surrounding areas and police dispersed the clashing fans by resorting to lathi-charge.

Later the clash again started at the CRB point outside the stadium, when Abahani supporter Shafi was attacked by rival fans. Abahani officials claimed.

When contacted, police could not confirm the death of Shafi.

Abahani led Mohammedans by two goals to nil when the trouble began.

## NEWS BRIEFS

**President hosts dinner for judges**  
President Abdur Rahman Biswas hosted a dinner for the judges of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh at Bangabhaban last night. Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Mirza Golam Haifz, Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and judges of the Appellate and High Court divisions attended the dinner, reports UNB.

**Hasina concerned**  
Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed grave concern over the siege of the Bangladesh army personnel in Bihar of Bosnia and urged the government, United Nations and other international forums to take immediate action. In a statement, Hasina expressed resentment over the launching of Napalm bombs by the Serb army on the Bosnian people and urged the international organisations to ensure the security of 1200 Bangladesh peacekeeping army, reports UNB.

**Hartal observed in Jaintapur**  
From Staff Correspondent  
SYLHET, Nov 19: A half-day hartal was observed at the thana head-quarters of Jaintapur today to press various demand, including immediate supply of gas and electricity, nationalisation of the Jaintia college and stopping corruption in the land attestation of fees.

**DU MA exams postponed**  
By DU Correspondent  
All Master's degree (traditional system) examinations, 1991, of Dhaka University, scheduled for tomorrow, have been postponed. A university press release issued yesterday said, the examinations have been postponed because of unavoidable reasons. The new dates of the postponed examinations will be announced.

**Call for hartal in Sirajganj today**  
SIRAJGANJ, Nov 19: Privatisation of Industries Resistance Committee called a six-hour hartal in the district tomorrow protesting government decision to privatise the Royapur Kwami Jute Mill, reports UNB.

## Bangladeshi troops run out of supplies Serb jets pound Bihac again

SARAJEVO, Nov 19: Serb jets launched an air raid on the Muslim-controlled Bihac enclave in northwestern Bosnia on Saturday, the second such attack in two days, a Bosnian army spokesman said, reports Reuter.

Bosnian army spokesman Asaf Dzanic said in Sarajevo that one of the Serb aircraft

nian government troops.

Friday night's statement condemned the attack on the (UN-designated) safe area of Bihac by aircraft belonging to the so-called Krajina Serb forces, which involved the dropping of napalm and cluster bombs in southwest Bihac, in clear violation of Bihac's status as a safe area.

The council also condemned shelling by the Croatian Serbs as a "flagrant violation of the territorial integrity" of Bosnia and demanded that all parties, particularly the Krajina Serbs, cease all hostile actions.

**'Delicate game'**  
Meanwhile, in Paris Defence Minister Francois Leotard today renewed French criticisms of Washington for undermining an arms embargo on Bosnia's Muslims, saying European nations would pull

## Dhaka concerned

WASHINGTON, Nov 19: The Clinton administration has provided Congress with plans for ending the arms embargo on Bosnia unilaterally and providing up to 5 billion dollar worth of military aid, while warning of the "serious implications" this would have, a Pentagon spokesman said on Friday, reports Reuter.

had been shot down over the town of Cazvin.

He said two low-flying planes had attacked civilian targets.

About 1300 poorly-equipped Bangladeshi peacekeepers are near Bihac and are running out of food and other supplies.

Earlier, the United Nations Security Council on late Friday condemned "in the strongest possible terms" an attack on the Bosnian city of Bihac by Serb aircraft based in the Krajina region of Croatia.

The council on Saturday, in a separate action, is expected to give NATO lighters authorisation to chase Serb aircraft into Croatia in future and bomb them, if necessary, at Udbina airport in the Krajina.

Serb forces early on Friday launched an air strike on Bihac in defiance of NATO air power as they advanced against Bos-

tingent in the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR) are currently deployed in Bihac area."

He called upon the United Nations to make all necessary measures to fully protect the safety and security of all UN peace-keeping forces in Bosnia under the UNPROFOR and also to ensure fresh supplies to them.

The spokesman said that the situation was under constant review of the government.

Quoting latest reports, he, however, said all Bangladeshi personnel in Bihac "are safe and sound."

## Nepali CP seeks support of Cong dissidents

KATHMANDU, Nov 19: The Nepal Communist Party-United Marxist Leninist (NCP-UML), emerging as the clear winner of parliamentary elections here, is seeking support from other parties to form the next government, reports AFP.

The NCP-UML has started talks with former supreme of the ruling Nepali Congress (NC), H Ganesh Man Singh, who heads a group of Congress dissidents, to discuss the possibility of a coalition, sources close to the dissidents said.

So far, about 20 pro-Singh dissident NC candidates have won seats in the November 15 election and another four are expected to win after the final vote results are announced next week.

See Page 12 Col 8

## Gear up agitation for caretaker govt: Hasina

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the people to gear up the present agitation for parliamentary polls under a non-party neutral caretaker government to overcome the present crisis, reports UNB.

"We have given enough concession in our latest proposal to resolve the crisis through dialogue. But the ruling party's proposal will virtually make the government ineffective and deepen the crisis," she told a function at 29 Minto Road.

The Awami League President said, "We have made our all-out efforts to resolve the crisis by ensuring election under a non-party caretaker government reflecting the aspiration of the people and the desire of majority of Parliament members."

But, she said, despite the

## Arrested Tamils placed in police remand

By Staff Correspondent

The four Indian Tamils arrested Friday were placed on a five-day police remand yesterday.

Cantonment police produced them before a metropolitan magistrate yesterday morning and prayed for a 10-day remand. The magistrate placed them on a five-day remand.

See Page 12 Col 8

## BNP won't give in to any threat: Khaleda

CHARGHAT (Rajshahi), Nov 19: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today made it clear that the BNP government would not give in to any threat and uphold the democratic process in the country, reports UNB.

"We believe in democracy and the Constitution. The crisis created by the Opposition has to be solved within the constitutional framework," she asserted while addressing a huge public meeting at the Charghat Pilot High School ground this afternoon.

The Prime Minister told the crowd that the Opposition wanted to unseat an elected government and replace it by an unelected one which is clear violation of the Constitution and contradictory to parliamentary democracy.

"We have established an accountable government after

nine years of struggle against an autocratic regime," she reminded and said there was no welfare of the people during the authoritarian rule because democracy was absent.

The Prime Minister urged the people to foil all conspiracies against democracy, saying, "Some quarters have banded to disrupt the ongoing development activities and democratic process initiated by the present government."

Begum Zia called upon the people to resist those hindering the development programmes aimed at welfare of the masses and progress of the country.

Her call came in the wake of the Opposition agitation and threat of paralysing the administration with nonstop hartals to press the government to concede to their demand, reports UNB.

See Page 12 Col 6

## Police raid JU halls: Five JCD leaders held, arms recovered

By JU Correspondent

Five Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders were arrested and arms ammunition recovered in a pre-dawn police raid in five residential halls of the Jahangirnagar University yesterday.

During the three-hour operation which began 3 am, police recovered one revolver, 40 rounds of bullet about 50 crude bombs, two ramdas and one sword.

Police made the raid following frequent violence between two factions of the JCD on and around the JU campus during the last two weeks.

The arrested JCD leaders are Ahsan Habib, Asadullah Asad, Sabbir Hossain, Lenin and Kazim.

Police sources said that the five were wanted in different cases for their alleged involvement in terrorist activities.

Violence between two factions of the JCD — known as 'local' and 'non-local' — left at least three persons injured

during the second week of this month.

Witnesses said the police, in the presence of a magistrate, entered the halls at about 3 am yesterday. Some high officials of the police from Dhaka were also present during the raid in five halls — Al Beruni, Shaheed Salam Barkat, AFM Kamaluddin, Maulana Bhasani and Mir Mosharrar Hossain halls.

Meanwhile, different student organisations of the JU yesterday protested terrorist activities on the campus. The Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) submitted a memorandum to Vice Chancellor Prof Amirul Islam Chowdhury demanding preparation of a list of the terrorists and their immediate arrest.

The VC told this correspondent yesterday that the university administration was determined to restore normalcy on the campus and keep the university open in any situation.

## Walie Ashraf MP dead

ATM Walie Ashraf, MP, who was suffering from lung cancer, died at the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) in Dhaka last night. He was 56, reports BSS.

He was elected in the last general election on BNP ticket from Bancharampur under Brahmanbaria district.

Ashraf returned home yesterday morning from Singapore after a month-long treatment there. He felt indispose in the evening and was immediately rushed to the CMH where he breathed his last at 8:30 pm, family sources said.

He left behind his wife, a son, two daughters and a host of relations and admirers to mourn his death.

His body will be kept at the CMH till the arrival of his son from London. Decision on namaz-e-janaza and burial of Ashraf will be taken later, family sources added.

## Attempt on Khulna JCD leader's life

From Our Correspondent

KHULNA, Nov 19: An attempt was made on the life of the president of the Khulna district unit of the JCD, Waheduzzaman Chanchal, near Mina Masjid at the Roypara crossing around 10 am today.

The pro-BNP JCD leader, reportedly on a bit-list of the pro-Jamaat Chhatra Shibir, escaped unhurt as none of the two shots fired by unidentified gunmen hit their mark.

According to an FIR filed with Kotwali thana, three strangers opened fire at Chanchal with a sawed-off rifle while he was going towards the City Law College in a rickshaw.

It further stated that Chanchal quickly got down from the rickshaw and entered a nearby house.

Having failed in their attempt the assailants made good their escape by a motor-bike.

The JCD leader accused four Chhatra Shibir activists for the incident.

Khulna district and city units of the JCD brought out a procession protesting the incident and demanded immediate arrest of the accused.

## 'Average height of people decreasing'

By Staff Correspondent

President of NGO Forum and Executive Director of Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) Dr Fazle Hasan Abed yesterday said that the average height of the people has decreased due to malnutrition.

Speaking at the inaugural function of a planning workshop on sanitation promotion through the non-government organizations (NGOs) he said that besides food shortage absence of proper sanitation was a major factor behind malnutrition in the country.

The inaugural function of the day-long workshop was also addressed by Director of the NGO Affairs Bureau Nazrul Islam, former director of the ADAB Dr Shamsul Islam and Director of the NGO Forum for Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation SMA Rashid.

Besides, Executive Director of Caritas Jeffrey Pereira, VERC Executive Director Sheikh A Halim and Director of the Unnayan Sahajog Team (UST) Hamidul Huq were present at the workshop.

Fazle Hasan Abed said that sanitation campaign was still a donor-driven programme.

He pointed out that the government was attaching priority to providing potable water to the rural people and making arrangements for their access to safe sanitation.

NGO Bureau Director Nazrul Islam said the NGOs should immediately send their project proposals to the government on how they could be involved in the sanitation drive.

Dr Shamsul Huda said the NGOs had played an important role in changing the attitude of the people in their sanitation habits.

Representatives of the Grammen Bank, Proshika Manobik Unnayan Kendro, ASA, Rangpur-Dinajpur Rural Service, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, MCC, UNICEF and Enfants Du Monde took part in the workshop.