

MQM shootings leave 8 dead in Karachi

KARACHI, Nov 19: At least eight people were killed in several shootings here today, hospital and police sources said, reports AFP.

The victims included a police constable who was hit by a sniper and a 14-year boy caught in crossfire between two groups, witnesses said.

Incidents of violence have been occurring almost daily in Pakistan's largest city despite the deployment of troops aimed at restoring peace.

Police said young militants of rival factions of the Mohajir National Movement (MQM) began shooting from rooftops in the tense Korangi area early in the morning.

The boy died instantly when a bullet hit his head. The bullet-riddled bodies of two unidentified youngsters were found in the same locality in the early hours.

"The firing is a result of factional fighting between the militants of MQM," a Korangi police officer said.

Troops and police made no effort to intervene, and no arrests were made, the officer said.

The army has been deployed in Karachi, Pakistan's commercial capital, since June 1992 under "operation clean-up" designed to root out criminals and gunmen from troubled Sindh province.

At least a dozen people have been killed and more than 50 wounded in gunbattles that have erupted in various parts of the city since the November 10 murder of Mansoor Ahmad Khan, a powerful district leader of the breakaway MQM (Haqiqi) faction.

The mainstream MQM, led by Altaf Hussain, has been feuding with the Haqiqi faction, since the start of operation clean-up.

Both MQM factions say they speak for Urdu-speaking Mohajir immigrants from India, who make up a large part of Karachi's estimated population of 10 million.

More than 2,500 people have been killed in political, ethnic and sectarian violence in Sindh province since 1986.



A woman gets first aid after shells slammed into the centre of the Bosnian capital Sarajevo Friday injuring several people. One 7-year-old boy was earlier killed by sniper fire.

— AFP photo

Film director S M Shafi dead

Noted film director S M Shafi died of a heart attack at a clinic in Gulshan in the city yesterday afternoon. He was 60, reports BSS.

He left behind his wife actress Olivia and a large number of fans and admirers to mourn his death.

Bangladesh Film Directors' Association in a statement here yesterday expressed deep shock at the death of film director Shafi.

The members of the association prayed for the peace of the departed soul and conveyed their sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

S M Shafi made several hit films including "Chhanda Hariye Gelo", "The Rain", "Bedwin" and "Dur Theke Kaye".

TS Eliot helps aspiring poet

LONDON, Nov 19: An impoverished student has resumed his English literature course after selling a rare TS Eliot first edition for 1,760 pounds (2,761 dollar), reports Reuters.

Christopher Hogg, who bought "Prufrock and Other Observations" for 1.50 pounds (2.35 dollars) in a second-hand bookshop, said after Friday's London auction: "I am in a state of utter shock. I wish I could pick something up like this every day."

The 21-year Hogg, an aspiring poet who has composed verses about his lucky find of the rare 1917 volume, now has enough money to complete his studies at King's College in London.

Purchase of TV equipment Another corruption case against Ershad

Deposed president Hussain Muhammad Ershad, serving jail terms and facing a number of cases, was produced before a Special Judge's court for the start of trial in yet another corruption case involving the procurement of television cameras and accessories by misusing official position which caused financial loss to the state, reports BSS.

Ershad is the lone accused in the Special Case No 34 of 1993, which first came up before the court in September. But on a petition from the prosecution, the court ordered re-investigation of the case in mid-May this year, the result of which will now be the subject matter of the trial.

Divisional Special Judge M Ansaruddin Sikder is the one-man bench of the special court.

Yesterday was the date for producing the accused before the court. The judge adjourned the trial till January 14, 1995.

An FIR (first information report) was lodged with Tejgaon thana on February 29, 1992, alleging that Ershad had misused his official position, causing the state to suffer financial loss to the tune of Taka 2.93 crore.

The former ruler ordered the procurement of two units of electronic news gathering (ENG) cameras for quick recording and prompt dissemination of the activities of himself and the then first lady at a cost of Taka 2.93 crore despite the fact that the National Broadcasting Authority (NBA) already possessed such equipment.

Involve prominent personalities in dialogue: Kamal

MANIKGANJ, Nov 19: Gano Forum leader Dr. Kamal Hossain today suggested that prominent personalities should be involved in the government-Opposition dialogue to make it a success, reports UNB.

"The caretaker government issue can be resolved within the existing provisions of the Constitution... a solution can be worked out by involving prominent personalities," he told a party rally at the Debendra University College campus this afternoon.

The Gano Forum chief demanded that details of the Commonwealth-brokered dialogue between the government and the Opposition be made public.

He criticised the Awami League for forging an alliance with "autocratic JP and anti-liberation Jamaat" on the issue of a caretaker government and urged it to shun their company.

Dr. Kamal said his party wanted a peaceful solution of the current political crisis and was ready to extend any sort of cooperation towards holding a fruitful dialogue.

District Gono Forum President Ansar Ali Chowdhury presided over the rally, which was also addressed by Md Zahiduddin, Safiuddin Ahmed Manik, Pankaj Bhattacharya, Shamsuddin MP and Moulana Ahmedur Rahman Azmi.

Walie Ashraf

From Page 1 Col 8
Khaleda Zia and Speaker Shah Razzak Ali condoled the death of ATM Wali Ashraf MP.

In separate condolence messages they said late Ashraf was a dedicated social worker and journalist. He always fought for the cause of the people. His death is a great loss to the country.

They conveyed their heartfelt sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

BNP: Khaleda

From Page 1 Col 7
jecting the ruling party formula for smooth holding of general elections.

The Prime Minister said the BNP is rooted in the people and the soil of the country and warned all to guard against those who had betrayed the people and the soil in the past.

She listed different development programmes in the education, communications and industrial sectors undertaken by her government.

State Minister for Social Welfare Fazlur Rahman, State Minister for Establishment Aminul Haq, Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu, MPs Alamgir Kabir, Shamsuddin Ahmed, Azizur Rahman, Akhtar Hamid Siddiqui, Roushan Elahi and Lutfunnesa Hossain and a number of the BNP leaders also addressed the meeting.

The Prime Minister planted a sapling at the school premises as part of her tree planting campaign. She also distributed cattle, goats and chicks among distressed families.

Earlier in the morning, Begum Zia also addressed another huge public meeting at the Manda Pilot High School premises in Naogaon district.

Later, on her way back to Dhaka, the Prime Minister dropped in the hut of poor Fazlur Karim Master of Chargaat and enquired about their wellbeing.

The Prime Minister also assured the poor family of every support.

Surprised to see the Prime Minister at their hut, the old mother and other family members of Fazlur Karim and villagers thanked the Prime Minister for dropping in their hamlet.

Begum Zia also assured blind Jahangir Alam of all assistance to help make his family self-reliant.

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The Midnight File

Jiang Zemin in Vietnam

HANOI, Nov 19: Chinese President and Communist Party Chief Jiang Zemin arrived in Ho Chi Minh City today for a four-day official visit to Vietnam, officials at the city's Tan Son Nhat Airport said. He was welcomed by the city's Communist Party secretary, Vo Tran Chi, a member of the ruling politburo, and by the chairman of the people's committee, Truong Tan Sang. Jiang and his 150 strong delegation flew in on a Chinese Boeing 747 from Jakarta, reports Reuters.

Single-party rule ends in Mozambique

MAPUTO, Nov 19: After 19 years of single-party rule, Mozambique's parliament will be closely split between two main parties, the National Elections Commission announced today. The ruling leftist Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) won 44 per cent of parliamentary seats while the former rebel Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) won 38 per cent, according to final results from the October 27-29 ballot. The Democratic Union, a rightist coalition that could support RENAMO, took 5 per cent. There are 250 seats in parliament. Incumbent President Joaquim Chissano was re-elected with 53 per cent of the vote while RENAMO leader Afonso Dhlakama won 34 per cent in the separate presidential ballot, runoff by winning more than 50 per cent of the vote, reports AP.

Hamas blames Fatah for Gaza massacre

JERUSALEM, Nov 19: The militant Islamic Hamas movement blamed Yasser Arafat's self-rule authority for what it termed the "massacre" of 13 Palestinians in Gaza on Friday, but said it did not want the incident to trigger a civil war, reports Reuters.

PLO Chairman Arafat's Fatah faction, announcing it was now in a state of alert, countered the accusation by saying Hamas and the Islamic Jihad group had crossed the red line by conspiring with "foreign parties" against national unity.

In a leaflet sent to international news agencies, Hamas said the killing by Palestinian police of at least 11 people in Gaza city did not "differ in any way from the crimes of the Zionist enemy (Israel) and its treacherous army."

A scuffle between Arafat's Palestinian police and worshippers outside a mosque erupted into the most violent internal clashes since self-rule began in Gaza in May.

Police, hit by rocks and bottles, opened fire on angry worshippers, and shooting spread in other parts of the city.

Hamas said in the statement it held the Palestinian authority responsible for "this ugly massacre".

But it said: "Hamas will not accept that anybody belittles the Palestinian blood, threaten our unity or light the flames of civil war."

One commits suicide in city

By DMCH Correspondent
A teenaged girl reportedly committed suicide while two persons were injured in separate incidents in the city yesterday.

Selina Yasmin, 18, daughter of Nizamuddin of Central Bashabo, ended her life by hanging herself with a scarf early yesterday.

The cause of the suicide was not known immediately. In another incident, Yasin, 20, and Shah Alam, 25, were stabbed when they refused to pay a gang of extortionists in Monipurpara in the afternoon.

Both victims are employees of Crystal Embroidery at Monipurpara.

They were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Tamils

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Police started interrogating the detainees last night, sources said.

The Immigration authorities detained the four at Zia International Airport on charge of possessing forged Bangladeshi passport Friday afternoon.

They arrived in Dhaka from Singapore by a Singapore Airlines flight.

Nepali CP

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With the counting completed in 175 constituencies, the NCP-UML has so far won 83 seats, followed by the NC with 62 seats. The royalist Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP) has bagged 17, Nepal Peasants' and Workers' Party (NPWP) has four, the pro-Indian Nepal Sadbhavana Party has three, and independents have garnered six seats of which two are left-leaning.

The support of the dissident NC candidates would give the communists the necessary majority of 103 seats in the 205-seat parliament to form the new government.

Hasina

From Page 1 Col 5
Opposition's sincere efforts, the country has plunged into a deep crisis because of the ruling party's intransigent attitude.

Hasina said the demand for a caretaker government was aimed at ensuring the people's right to vote and food, their security, political stability and economic progress.

Ninian leaves tomorrow

From Page 1 Col 4
advisor to Sheikh Hasina and one of the official Opposition negotiators SAMS Kibria told The Daily Star. The BNP is to be blamed for the failure of the talks. The central theme of the Opposition demand was to have elections under a non-partisan, caretaker government, because it would have helped the nation build a stable political institution for holding polls in a free and fair atmosphere.

Referring to the BNP proposal for a multi-party interim government for holding elections, Kibria said, "If we agree to a bipartisan or even a multi-party administration to conduct the elections, it would not be above controversy. It is our principled stand. We want to create a durable non-partisan institution to conduct general elections," Kibria said.

Sir Ninian spent a busy evening yesterday. Sources said he communicated with the Commonwealth Office in London and conveyed his concluding briefing to Secretary General Chief Emeke.

Leaders of both the Awami League and the ruling party called on Sir Ninian separately. Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad and Kibria visited him at the Meghna guest house at 6:30 pm.

Later, Sir Ninian and Lady Ninian, along with Dr. Anafu, had a private dinner at the residence of Rafiq Ahmed Khan, Director General in the Foreign Ministry, who is co-ordinating the emissary's visit.

BNP leaders LGRD Minister Salam Talukdar, Communications Minister Col Oli Ahmed and Chief Whip Khandakar Delwar Hossain, led by Deputy Leader of the House Prof

India ready for talks with Pakistan

NEW DELHI, Nov 19: Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao has said that India was ready for talks with Pakistan to resolve bilateral issues, reports Xinhua.

"Let us now sit and discuss, for four years," he said while addressing assembly election meeting in Mandya, Karnataka state, Friday. Since division in 1947, both India and Pakistan have been confronting with each other.

Admitting that all the issues could not be settled immediately, Rao said that he was ready for long-term talks with Pakistan. "May be over ten years we might be able to solve them by sitting together and holding discussion."

"I am ready for talks. The government is ready for talks and the people of the country also favour such talks," he added.

Pakistan foreign minister recently has also expressed Pakistan's desire to hold talks with India.

The two countries' main dispute is over Kashmir and their viewpoints on it at the moment are widely divergent.

WP congratulates Nepalese CP

By Staff Correspondent
Leaders of the Workers Party of Bangladesh yesterday congratulated the leaders of the Communist Party of Nepal (UML) on their success in the general elections in the Himalayan kingdom.

In a message, Worker's Party President Amal Sen and Acting General Secretary Bimal Biswas said the victory of the Nepalese Communist Party will enable it to change the fate of the nation.

Industrial fair

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including some foreign multinational companies will participate in this "Chittagong Industrial Fair '94" to be held at the Chittagong Stadium premises, said the CCC&I president, Abul Kalam while briefing newsmen today.

Eightyseven stalls have been set up this time, up from 75 stalls set up in the fair in 1993, the Chamber president said.

The fair has also drawn participants from Dhaka, Rajshahi, Kushtia, Comilla and tribal weaving industries. The products to be displayed mainly include textiles, toiletries, handicrafts, tea, milk, leather, aluminium goods, medicines, electrical.

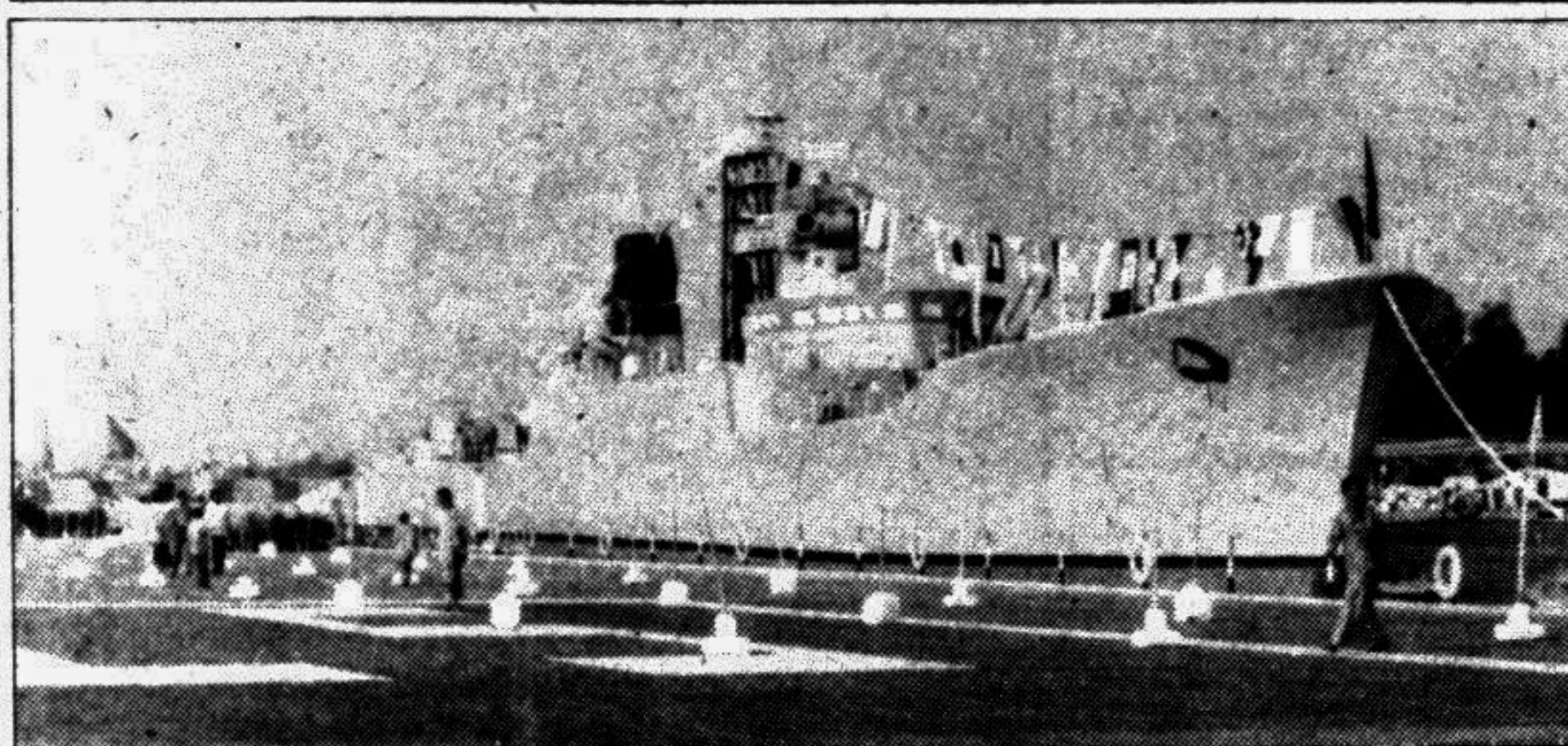
The Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al Noaman will inaugurate the fair at 3 pm tomorrow.

Several cases were filed with the Sadar thana.

SSC candidates go on rampage at Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Nov 19: Private SSC candidates, outraged by a government order, clashed with police and stormed several schools during a violent protest in the town today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said ten of the protesters were injured, one seriously, in a series of clashes with police and also with transport workers.



Preparations are afoot for holding the Armed Forces Day public display of military hardware at the National Parade Ground from November 21-26. This picture of a Navy ship model was taken yesterday.

—Star photo

Export of samples

From Page 1 Col 5
presided over by the Commerce Minister M Shamsul Islam, reviewed different hurdles facing the country's export trade.

A senior official of the commerce ministry said the Task Force set up a committee headed by Vice Chairman of the Export Promotion Bureau to suggest ways to strengthen the Export Credit Guarantee Scheme, specially for markets which are less attractive to local exporters.

The committee, composed of representatives of Bangladesh Bank and the Sadharan Bima Corporation, is due to submit its recommendations to the Task Force at its next meeting after a fortnight.

The meeting also resolved to discuss with other concerned ministries on how to shorten the export ban list. At present, the ban list includes 21 items.

The issue of non-payment of insurance claims of the frozen food industries, affected by the 1991 cyclone, also came up for discussion at the meeting. The Task Force decided to pursue the matter urgently with the Ministry of Finance.

The Task Force also requested commercial banks to arrange requisite credit supports to jute exporters during the jute season.

Savimbi offered safe passage to Lusaka

HUAMBO, Angola, Nov 19: The government on Saturday promised to let UNITA rebel leader Jonas Savimbi get out of Angola safely to sign a peace treaty ending 19 years of civil war, reports AP.

Fierce fighting raged in central and northern Angola as Sunday's scheduled treaty signing approached. UNITA said its leadership was trapped in the country by government air attacks.

Government artillery boomed north of Huambo and the army fought with UNITA. Aid workers trapped in Uige said fighting continued for the northern city.

Diplomats who mediated the UN-sponsored peace deal urged Savimbi to sign with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Sunday's pact, which would lead to power-sharing by the government and the rebels, is to end fighting that has killed more than 500,000 Angolans since independence from Portugal in 1975.

A truce was called on Wednesday to allow the signing to go ahead but UNITA claimed government troops broke it within hours. On Friday, they

claimed all airports in rebel-controlled areas were being bombed, preventing Savimbi from leaving for Lusaka.

The government denied it was violating the truce and a statement issued in Lusaka gave an "absolute guarantee" the army had quit fighting throughout Angola.

Bus mishap kills 58 in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 19: Fifty-eight people were killed when a bus veered off the road and plunged down a mountainside in a remote part of South Africa's eastern Cape province early today, a police spokesman said, reports AFP.

Only three people survived the horror smash, which occurred in rainy, misty conditions, the spokesman, Major Johan Venter, added.

He said accident occurred at 3:45 am (0145 GMT) on notorious Satansek Pass between the towns of Elliot and Engcobo.

Stock exchange

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nothing can stop this momentum, not even politics."

The average daily turnover in value jumped from around Tk 13.96 lakh in 1992-93 to Tk 86.62 lakh in 1993-94 and Tk 1.54 crore during the first four months of the current fiscal.

The monthly turnover in value in July was Tk 16.96 crore, in August Tk 46.63 crore, Tk 26.80 crore in September and Tk 57.54 crore in October.

During October 3,434,641 shares and debentures were transacted. It was 79.5 per cent higher in volume and 89.9 per cent higher in value than that of the corresponding period of 1993 and 60.08 per cent higher in volume and 53.42 per cent in value compared to the previous month.

During October, the DSE All Shares Price Index was 734.85 on the opening day and went up to 803.56 by month's end. The average price-earnings (PE) ratio stood at 12.61 times and the market capitalisation of all listed companies stood at Tk 3,901 crore as of October.

দি সোর্ড অব টিপু সুলতান

আপনাদের খিয় টি ভি সিরিয়াল দি সোর্ড অব টিপু সুলতান আগামী ২৭ শে নভেম্বর রোববার থেকে বাংলাদেশ টেলিভিশনে যথারীতি সম্প্রচার শুরু হবে।

ইহু বিজ্ঞাপন দাতাগণ সরাসরি অথবা বিজ্ঞাপন এজেন্টের মাধ্যমে যোগাযোগ করুন।

মেডোনা এডভারটাইজিং সিমিটেড
৩০, বিজয়নগর, ঢাকা।
ফোন : ৮০১৪৪২, ৪১০৬০৬, ৪০৬০০৬