of private clinics.

the semi-colonial backward

days. In short, the all-impor-

seems to be that the institu-

nificance.

of India reported. reports AP.

From Page 1 Col 8

ment. The promulgation of an

Ordinance to incorporate a

clause in the EC Bill saving all

by-elections to the Fifth "Pr-

cards, was inevitable. Other-

wise, all by-elections to the

present Parliament would run

into trouble in courts of law.

this regard came ahead of the

by-elections to four Parliament

seats scheduled for January 25.

ing ID cards to the voters

across the country will take at

least one year if everything

remains normal, cooperation

of all concerned including the

political parties is received

and no new crisis hampers the

EC officials said that they

task," he said, seeking anr ny-

were now at the early stage of

implementing the ID eard

system along with expanding

the EC network up to the

thana level. The commission

was currently engaged in data-

entry and registration of the

voters through prescribed

forms by further developing

the forms used in the model

polls in Dapunia in Mymen-

singh and being used for a

similar election in Tungi mu-

nicipality in Gazipur, they

added. The task is likely to be

and registration of the voters.

the EC itself would go for

preparation of the planned

laminated ID cards. For this

the authorities are thinking of

permanent election offices at

the thanas, they pointed out

that the EC would have to re-

cruit a number of people for

this and it would take time. At

this stage, the EC would put on

deputation the thana-based

government officials, specially

under the now-abolished upa-

zila system, at the thana elec-

Regarding the setting up of

floating international tender.

On completion of data-entry

completed soon, they added.

"The entire process of issu-

The government decision in

liament from the purview of ID

The Midnight File

Dini appointed Italian PM

appointed outgoing Treasury Minister Lamberto Dint Prime Minister-designate with the task of forming Italy's 54th

government since World War II. an official from the president's office said. Dini, a former central banker who has

no party affiliation and is not a member of parliament, told

reporters that his government would be made up of

technocrats independent of political parties, reports Reuter.

Police IG suspended in

Indian spy case

suspended from service in a southern Indian state after a

court found his involvement in an international spy ring, a

news reports said on Friday. The suspension of Ramon

Srivastava, the inspector-general of police, was ordered by K.

Karunakaran the chief minister of Kerala state. United News

NEW DELHI. Jan 13: A topmost police official was

ROME. Jan 13: President Oscar Luigi Scalfafo today

DOWN TO EARTH

Coaching Centres Galore in City

By A S M Nurunnabi

The publicity mechanism of Of late there has been a these centres is vastly organmarked proliferation in the ised. The results published by number of coaching centres in the city. The concept of such centres tend to create coaching centres is comparathe notion that none can qualify in the admission tests in tively new in our education Engineering, Medical, universystem. They proclaim their sities and colleges without the existence with such fervour that there is hardly a thishelp of coaching centres. Lately this notion has been roughfare in the cfty which highly boosted by means of does not carry their publicity full-page advertisements in through banners and posters. The print media are also made certain newspapers. The impression thus created of the full use of in this respect. It is widely held that they are the absolute need for dependence natural outcome of a general on coaching centres has virtually crippled the institutional fall in the standard of educaand basic purposes of education in our educational institutions, just as deterioration in the standard of treatment an government hospitals has gi-

One of the strong points of objection relating to the coaven rise to widespread growth ching classes is that a student's initiative and indivi-Since independence allocadual efforts are likely to be tion for the education sector eroded when in most cases his has gone up substantially. But problems are solved in a ready it has not brought any desired made manner by coaching change during these long years centres. Normally, the teain the kind it is being offered chers of coaching centres help or any significant improvement their students with good notes in its quality. Rather, in the on different subjects either opinion of knowledgeable ob- prepared by themselves or some of the meritorious stuservers, in inverse proportion to the rising money inflow. dents in the batch and distrithe quality has been going bute them to the students in down and further down-with the coaching classes with the kind remaining rooted in suggestions of probable questions that may figure the tests looking pre-independence for which they prepare with hints of techniques how to tant cause for such degradation answer them well. So whatever the drawbacks of the system. If tional teaching has assumed a is catching on Students. Ly secondary importance and sigand large, seem to harbour the feeling that if they do not at Most of the coaching centend coaching classes, their tres are manned by teachers objective of doing well in ex aminations will not be attained.

of government and private schools and colleges, where it In view of the mushroom is generally held, they fail to growth of coaching centres in do justice to their duties in the the city, new fdeas are being manner expected of them. On adopted to expand their organthis account perhaps there was isation and scope. In some a move sometime ago by gov coaching centres, the pressure ernment for banning private of students is so heavy that the tuition by government teachers frequency of their coaching at coaching centres. The late sessions is increased to cope of that more seems now to with the situations. On this have been consigned to hudoo. account it is alleged that some

coaching centres resort to improvisation of easy ways which, besides distribution of photo copies of ready-made notes and answers, go to the length of recording the teachers' lectures on the tape recorder and playing them back to the students as and when neces-

Strong criticisms are being voiced against the unregulated growth of coaching centres in the city. In the opinion of educationists and guardians, the rise of tutorials and coaching centres are the most dubious distinguishing marks of the present education picture signifying a definite good-bye to true knowledge and intellection through which alone knowledge can be acquired The teaching in the existing schools and colleges being what it is at present, the students have become victims of circumstances which compel them to find no other alternative but to join the coaching centres. In this context there may be some need for coach ing centres. But what is not looked upon with favour is their steadily burgeoning growth which sometimes allow existence of coaching centres of questionable quality. It is therefore, felt that the educa tion authorities should seri ously consider the question of regulating the activities of coaching centres, particularly on such aspects as qualification of teaching staff, maximum number of students in a class room and fees to be charged by them. If the institutional edu cation fails to cater to the real needs, it will be futile to seek panacea from somewhere else in this context, the quality of institutional education needs be upgraded by all possible means so that schools like hospitals are reduced to no better than recruiting cent tres for traders pracitising ed ucation instead of medicine.



Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina being showered with petals prior to the start of a Padajatra from Hazaribagh in the city yesterday. - Star photo

Sudden decline in DSE index

By Sohel Manzur

The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) witnessed a sudden fall in its main index, closing at 631.05 points in the second week of the new year, although it had started to pick up signif icantly from the beginning and stood at 841 59 points on Monday

A little decline in the index and also in the market capital isation of the listed companies were visible on Tuesday, when the business community was busy attending a conference organised by the FBCCI on the present political situation

The speaker was expected to give his ruling on the resig nations of the Opposition MPs on the day although it was de

The fall in the index and the market capitalisation be came sharp on the following day when the opposition palit ical parties started their scheduled nine-day movement programme in demand for elections under a neutral caretaker administration

Market operators ag eed that political matters have started to have their impact on the bourse, although the economic factors are still strong enough to overcome those.

The index which closed at 840.51 points in the first week of this month started in the second week with 837.59 points and picked up to 841 59 on Monday. After a little decline on Tuesday, the in dex stood at 841 49 points and on Wednesday it plunged declined to 832.89 points, closing at 831.05 on Thursday.

Market capitalisation of the companies listed with the DSE was Tk 40 44 billion on the first day of the week. The figure went up to Tk 40.64 bilhon on Monday and closed at Tk 40.13 billion at the close of a taker prime minister to head trading on Thursday, showing a corresponding decline.

The turnover of shares was. however, the highest on the first day of the week. Some 93,701 shares and debentures worth Tk 19.04 million were traded on the day as against 22,767 shares and debentures worth Tk 6 million at the end of trading in the previous

After a fall on the following day, the turnover in both volume and value picked up on Monday standing at 75,591 shares worth Tk 14.68 million. At the close of trading on Thursday, the turnover in volume and value stood at 20,237 and Tk 3.62 million respec-

A total of 350,652 shares and debentures worth Tk 72.79 million were traded on the DSE floor last week which, the dealers feel, was good enough for the month of January, when trading normally remains dull.

Imtiaz Hussain, Vice

Chairman of the DSE, talking to The Daily Star yesterday said although market correction is one of the factors for the decline in the main index political matters have definitely had an impact on the

He said there are certain aensitive acripa like Bangladesh Tobacco Ltd. the prices of which matter greatly in determining the overall in

A slight fall in the prices of these issues contribute largely to the fall in the overall index. buse misseuth said

The DSE Vice Chairman also said that such trend would continue in the next week, but basic improvements would take place in the market after the Euromoney Conference beginning in the city on January 23.

lintiaz Hussain said the conference would really be a significant event for the bourse as foreign investors from all over the world would come here and see how the market is emerging with great poten tials despite many odds. They would have a firsthand knowl edge about the market which definitely would be something positive he added.

Crux

From Page 1 Col 5 resigned in keeping with her promise 30 days before the election, then another ruling party MP would be made the parhamentary party chief of the BNP and prime minister during the elections. Both the proposals are unacceptable to the opposition parties, he

The opposition parties slightly shifted from their original position of a neutral carethe interim cabinet but demanded a non-partisan advisory council under the President. The proposal needs amendments to the Constitution, sources concerned said

Even if the opposition parties finally give up their demand for an advisory council and agree to empower the President to run the country during the election, then also the Constitution needs amendment, a BNP leader pointed

The President has no exec utive power under the present Constitution.

Opposition sources, however, said they would consider withdrawing resignations and returning to Parliament if the question of amendments to the Constitution arises.

Sources both in the ruling party and the Opposition said that they had no contacts among them yesterday to discuss the latest situation. Both sides said that "the

ball is in the other's court.

Hasina

From Page 1, Col 7

upon the Prime Minister to keep her words. 'I think you (PM) would stick to your words. But, you have to resign just after the announcement of election schedule, not 30 days before the polls, and hand over power to a caretaker government," the AL chief said.

Hasina said when the ruling party claimed that the country was witnessing development in all fields why was it afraid of going for elections quitting The fact is that the devel

opment efforts of the BNP gov ernment are just limited to the television news.... development does not benefit the people in general," she asserted.

Hasina said BNP was refuctant to relinguish power be cause it could not give the people anything without cor ruption and terrorism

Awami League if voted to power, would arrange elections under a neutral caretaker government, she said.

Hastna said since people are the main source of power, they would decide who should run the country. But BNP does not want to allow the people to exercise this authority, she

During the rally, FK M lqbal, a central leader of JSD (Rab) and a former commissioner of the locality, and JASAS leader Kalimuddin Jhantu met Sheikh Hasina and joined Awami League along with their followers.

After the rally, a padaajatra was staged. The participants paraded different city streets and dispersed in front of the Jauva Press Club.

ID cards unlikely

tioned fund.

About the government fund of Taka 300 crore for implementing the ID card system, strengthening the EC and computerising the electoral process, they said the EC authorities would ask for the disbursement of fund as and when necessary. They, however, said until now the EC has not asked for disbursement the sanc-

BFUJ demands fifth wage board

Blingladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) yesterday demanded of the government to form the fifth wage board for working journalists and employees of the newspaper industry, reports BSS. in a statement the BFUJ

acting president Monjur Ahmed and secretary general Amanullah Kabir said increase in the prices of essentials including house rent in the recent years has been causing hardship to the journalists.

The Fourth Wage Board award declared four years back now fails to cope with the rise in price. Meanwhile salaries and allowances of the government employees have been raised on several occasions in line with the price hike, the leaders said.

The BFUJ leaders called upon the journalist community to launch united movement to realise the demand of the formation of the fifth wage

Nasım From Page 1 Col 8

League chief softened her stand demanding resignation of the Prime Minister with the announcement of election schedule and elections under a nen-partisan advisory council headed by the President,

"The present political crisis could be resolved through acceptance of this proposal.

Duma stops short of move to halt Chechen war centre with withering rocket Russian troops to the north

MOSCOW Jan 13 The Russian parliament urged the Kremlin today to stop the war in Chechnya and seek a negoti ated end to the conflict, re ports AFP.

In non-binding resolutions after a two-day debate, the State Duma or lower house. said it was indispensable to end the crisis in Chechnya. and to increase parliamentary control of the government

But the Duma stopped short of any censure of the Russian military's performance in the breakaway Caucasian republic. or any legislative proposal aimed at forcing the Kremlin to stop the fighting there. It also voted for a law to

curb the military's ability to undertake "tasks not corresponding to their functions" such as Chechnya type situa-

Earlier however, it rejected a stronger proposal which would have banned increase of Russian*troops within the Russian Federation except when the country was threat ened by foreign forces failed motion could

musici only 172 votes in the 450 scat assembly - 54 short of the number needed to pass. The lawmakers also decided to set up a commission

to investigate the causes of the crisis in Chechnya. Al' from Grozin adds The

Russian army pounded the city 7 killed

village in Santia thana, 'Id Lalon, 14, of village Kajuria in Shahjadpur thana and Abdus Sattar, 40, of Jamtoli in Kamarkhand thana of Sirajganj district, and Abdul Haque, 15. of Pagla in Dhaka. Identity of two others could not be known immediately.

Of the injured, 12 were admitted to Bera Thana Health Complex and 11' sent to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH). Seven others were given first aid.

Hospital sources said the condition of those admitted to RMCH were stated to be critical. They are: Ozifa Khatun, 18, Kalu Joardar 24. Motaleb, 36, Hares Ali, 38. Ansar Ali, 42, Azizul Huq. 13. Habibur Rahman, 38. Abdur Rashid, 42, Rustom Ali, 49, Ahsan Ali, 28 and Delwar Hossain, 32.

Driver and helper of the bus fled immediately after the accident.

Another report from Sirajganj adds: An old man was killed and five people were injured in a road accident on Bogra-Nagarbari highway at Srikona in Ullapara thana yes-

Shukur Ali, 62, a pedestrian, died on the spot yesterday morning when hit by a microbus after it collided with a Nagarbari-bound truck coming from the opposite direction.

of Grozny said they were confident of taking the city within

the next few days.

building

Chechen fighters said they

still held the presidential

palace, the symbol of their in-

dependence drive, but admit

ted it was difficult to get sup-

plies through to the defenders

remaining inside the smashed

Ctg police seize

smuggled sarees

By Staff Correspondent

lice team seized smuggled sa

rees valued Tk lakh and de-

tained two persons yesterday

A Chittagong Detective po-

A press release of the

Chittagong Metropolitan Police

(CMP) received in Dhaka said

the two persons - Mohammad

Malek of Chandpur and Alam-

gir Hossain of Fatikchhari -

were in the truck which ca

rried huge quantity of cotton

sarres believe to have been

20 hurt in clash

over land

From Staff Correspondent

20 people were injured in a

clash over land dispute be-

tween two rival groups of vil-

lagers at Kamalbazar of Sylhet

been admitted to the MAG

Osmani Medical College

about 4 pm in which both the

groups used lethal weapons.

Police visited the spot

Hospital with severe injuries,

Of the injured, six have

The clash took place at

sadar thana this afternoon.

SYLHET, Jan 13 At least

smuggled from India.

and artillery lire today trying to grind down rebel Chechen troops still holding key post tions in the shattered capital Russian commanders ap-

peared to be using their massive artillery strength to try to break the Chechen resistance and clear the way for Russian ground attacks. Fierce fighting flared around the railway station and the presidential palace was again hit by con centrated artillery fire.

It was the second day of major artillery attacks with dozens of Grad rockets slamming into southern districts of the cuy where Chechen fighters were concentrated. Relying on artillery to destroy rebel positions would help limit Russian losses among their in-

Huge Russian columns with dozens of armoured vehicles were again seen today moving up to Grozny as the army brought in more reinforce-

Pvt jute mills employees put off programme

The leaders of the private jute mills combined bargaining agent (CBA) coordination committee and Patkal Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad had a meeting with Jute Minister ASM Hannan Shah at the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) headquarters yesterday, reports BSS.

An official handout said last night that after discussion the labour leaders agreed to postpone their planned hartal and siege programme on January 15 and 16.

UAE supports Pak stand on Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, Jan 13: Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, left here late today after wide-ranging talks with Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, reports AFP.

The state-run Pakistan Television said the two sides discussed measures for promoting bilateral relations and exchanged views on regional and international issues.

It said Bhutto briefed the UAE President on what it called the "increasing genocide" of the Kashmiri people at the hands of Indian security forces.

The United Arab Emirates has supported Pakistan's call for a plebiscite in Kashmir. where Muslim militants are waging a movement to secede from India.



with Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto (R) through interpreter (C), in Islamabad yesterday. Zayed arrived here Thursday for a two-day official visit. Asifa Bhutto, daughter of Benazir, is on her lap. - AFP photo

NEW DACCA INDUSTRIES LTD

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Shinepukur Jute Spinners Ltd (SJSL) has offered rights shares to its existing shareholders on 1:125 basis at par @ Taka 100/- per share for diversifying its business into real estate and property development and in the proposed Hyatt Regency 5 star hotel project details of which have been provided in the "Offer to Shareholders" dated 26th December 1994.

Existing shareholders have been given the option to renounce their rights in full or in part in favour of any sane adult person(s).

In order to give an opportunity to interested investors to participate in Beximco Group's diversification and expansion of SJSL, New Dacca Industries Ltd. (NDI), a shareholder of SJSL, intends to renounce part of it's rights to any interested investor(s) on a "first come first served "basis at a price of Tk 10/- for renunciation of it's option of rights to each new share.

However, in accordance with Group's policy, NDI will retain minimum 50% share in SJSL.

Interested investors may collect renunciated forms from IFIC Bank Ltd., Federation Branch, Motijheel C/A., Dhaka against payment latest by 15th January 1995. Renunciated forms are also available from the members of the Dhaka Stock Exchange Ltd

Interested investors are advised to carefully study the "Offer to shareholders" issued by \$JSL dated 26th December 1994 prior to making any investment decision. This announcement in no way should be treated as a promotion on behalf of SJSL, the issuer

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Metgheel C/A. Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd. 90 Kakrail Dhaka-1000 Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1208. PABX. 500092-4 Commercial 500091 (Direct), Fax No. 88-02-863035, GPO Box No. 3257, Cable DAILYSTAR, DHAKA