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STOCK MARKET

DSE Index 775.25 (+1.51%)
 Market capitalisation Tk 45.37 billion
 Turnover in volume 75730
 Turnover in value Tk 23.87 million

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Dhaka-Delhi water talks to resume this month

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh and India will resume talks on sharing of the Ganges waters at the Foreign Secretary level sometime this month.

This will be the third round of talks in a continuing attempt to solve the vexed problem straining relations between the two neighbours.

Addressing a post SAARC summit press briefing yesterday, Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan also ruled out press reports that the water issue was being discussed linking it with transit or other matters.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and her Indian counterpart Narasimha Rao had a 'good meeting' during the SAARC summit where they discussed the Ganges water sharing issue and other bilateral problems, he said.

The Foreign Secretary further said that in line with the briefings given by their respective prime ministers he and his Indian counterpart Salman Haider already had two rounds of talks on the Ganges issue in New Delhi. The first round was held on the concluding day of the SAARC summit on May 4 and the second on May 5.

Giving details of the water talks he said, "It is an ongoing exercise. Therefore, in the interest of negotiations, it would not be helpful to divulge the developments while the process of talks are on."

The Foreign Secretary brushed aside speculations in a section of the press that the talks on the water sharing issue were linked with any other issue. "It was discussed on its own merit," he said. "Apparently he was referring to reports saying that it was linked with the transit issue."

He said "We are discussing with the Indians the matter of the Ganges water. We are not discussing any other matter. We are not linking water with any issue as reported by X, Y or Z newspapers."

Continuing he said, reaching an agreement on the Ganges issue 'is uppermost in the mind of the government' and it is a subject of paramount importance.

The Foreign Secretary went on "We want and assured quantum of water supply under an agreement."

Responding to a question the Foreign Secretary said, "There is a due understanding and appreciation of the water problem by Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao and other top leaders. We found seriousness and willingness of the Indians to settle the issue."

Giving a detailed outcome of the recently concluded SAARC summit, Farooq Sobhan said, the consensus of leaders for a



President Abdur Rahman Biswas (R) is welcomed to the Guildhall on Saturday by British Prime Minister John Major on his arrival at the reception and banquet to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. —AFP photo

Biswas attends luncheon at Buckingham Palace

LONDON, May 7: President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Begum Hosne Ara Rahman today attended a luncheon hosted by Queen Elizabeth II at the Buckingham Palace in honour of the visiting heads of state and government attending the 50th anniversary celebrations, marking the end of the World War II, reports BSS.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh exchanged pleasantries with Biswas and Begum Rahman and other dignitaries before the luncheon.

Earlier in the morning, President Biswas and Begum Rahman joined other heads of state, government, kings and other dignitaries at a Thanksgiving service at the St Pauls Cathedral here.

On Saturday, President Biswas and Begum Hosne Ara Rahman attended a reception hosted by British Prime Minister John Major for the

Solution to water issue will take time: India

NEW DELHI, May 7: India will attempt to resolve a nagging dispute with Bangladesh over the sharing of water from the river Ganges. External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee said here today, reports AFP.

The foreign minister in an interview with the Press Trust of India rejected allegations that New Delhi was deliberately stalling the issue, the cause of a bitter dispute between India and its populous South Asian neighbour.

"It is a complex problem and will take time (for a settlement), Mukherjee said of the row which erupted almost a decade ago.

Mukherjee said Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda



Tagore's 134th birthday today

By Staff Correspondent

Today is the 134th birth anniversary of poet Rabindranath Tagore.

Tagore who excelled in all the genres of Bangla literature, was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1913.

The "Rabindra Jayanti" will be celebrated across the country through musical soirees, dances, dramas and discussions.

In observance of Tagore's birth anniversary elaborate programmes have been drawn up both at the national and local levels.

The radio and the television will air exclusive programmes while the newspapers will publish special supplements to mark the occasion.

On this occasion, President Abdur Rahman Biswas, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia

Humayun Rashid joins AL

By Staff Correspondent

Former Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury yesterday formally joined the Awami League.

The joining ceremony took place at the premises of the Dharmamandi office of the Awami League.

Humayun Rashid in brief speech said, he was joining the AL being imbued with the ideals of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He expressed confidence that the Awami League under the leadership of Sheikh Hasina would be able to tide over the present chaos and crisis confronting the country.

Sheikh Hasina expressed her thanks to Chowdhury for repositing confidence in her leadership.

Tremor reminds need for observatories

By M Anwarul Haq

At least three seismic observatories need to be procured and set up at three selected places in the country to detect and monitor earthquakes, experts say.

The need for setting up these observatories was felt once again when a tremor shook different parts of the country Saturday, they pointed out.

Presently, the country does not have any seismic observatory worth the name either to record or even register the strength of a tremor, however mild or intense. The lone seismic observatory located at Anubagan of Paharali in Chittagong has become totally

7 killed in road accidents

By DMCH Correspondent

Seven people including two children were killed in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Pabna and Sirajganj yesterday.

Three people were killed in two road accidents on the same spot near Kaula bridge under Cantonment thana in the city early yesterday.

In the first incident, two helpers of a truck parked beside the road were killed on the spot when a speeding Tongi-bound truck hit the vehicle at about 12:30 am yesterday, police sources said. The helpers were repairing the truck.

The victims were identified as Rafique, 35, and Kashem, 31, medical sources said.

Shortly after the incident, a

NEWS BRIEFS

DU Eid holiday begins today
 By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka University goes on a 49-day Eid-ul-Azha and summer vacation from today.

The classes will resume on June 25. But examinations will be held during the vacation.

The administrative offices and the library will, however, reopen on May 16.

Meanwhile, most of the resident students left their dormitories.

JCD-Shibir clash
 From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, May 7: At least seven students were injured in a clash between the activists of the Islami Chhatra Shibir and the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at Fenchuganj thana headquarters this afternoon.

100 houses gutted
 From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, May 7: Over 100 kutcha houses were gutted in a fire that broke out last night in the Shilpara area of South Halishahar. The origin of the fire and the loss of property were yet to be ascertained, the fire brigade said.

3 JCD men held
 JAMALPUR, May 7: Police detained three activists of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) with firearms from the Raigate area of the town today.

Saudi forces on alert as Iranians reject ban

MAKKAH, May 7: Saudi security forces today maintained an alert to prevent political rallies during the pilgrimage here as Iranian pilgrims sought a way to circumvent the ban, reports AFP.

"We are determined to protest if conditions are right to help this rally achieve its goal which is to speak out against the forces of arrogance," the United States, an Iranian delegate said on condition of anonymity.

We reject the ban imposed by the Saudis against the protest, and we are determined to challenge them because this demonstration is a duty, the official said.

Lankan investor gets citizenship

The government has granted citizenship of Bangladesh to Sri Lanka citizen HT Harsha Calder and his family members, reports BSS.

The citizenship was granted as per amendment to the Bangladesh Citizenship Act in 1990 under which a foreigner can be given citizenship if he makes investment of five lakh US dollars or equivalent amount in Bangladesh currency.

HT Calder and his partner Liu Chiu Leung Alvin, a citizen of Hong Kong have jointly set

Liquid heroin recovered in city

By Staff Correspondent

Heroin in liquid form is now being smuggled into the country.

The Narcotics Control Department (NCD) officials have unearthed the use of this new kind of heroin following an investigation into the matter.

The NCD investigators aided by the detectives of the police department recovered four plastic bottles containing two litres of Pakistan-made

Norwester claims one, injures 150 in Sherpur

By Staff Correspondent

SHERPUR, May 7: A minor girl was killed and at least 150 people were injured when a norwester accompanied by hailstorm swept over two thanas of the district yesterday, reports UNB.

Kazali, 12, of Rohacharpara village in Dadar thana died as their house collapsed during the fury of the storm that lasted for about five minutes from 7:30 pm.

Some 7,000 thatched houses were damaged by the storm leaving 3,000 families

Fertiliser: Probe body seeks time

By Krishna P Roy

The judicial enquiry commission on recent fertiliser crisis has sought extension of time by two months to prepare a report on the issue, sources said.

The government had constituted a one-member enquiry commission headed by Justice B I Chowdhury on April 11 and had given one month's time for submitting its report.

Though the commission is supposed to submit its report on or before May 11, it began functioning on May 2.

"We have to go through the entire production and distribution system to find out the causes behind the fertiliser crisis. It needs time," said a staff of the commission office

City Jubo League leader shot dead

By Staff Correspondent

A Jubo League leader was killed at Bangram under Sutrapur thana in the city last night.

Some unidentified gunmen shot Mahbubur Rahman Chowdhury Tanjil, a central leader of Jubo League, when he was returning to his residence at Shasi Mohon Bashak Lane at about 9:30pm, police sources said.

CONSUMER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Manufacturer of the world famous soft drinks: PEPSI, SEVEN-UP and MIRINDA Announces the new prices of their brands as follows with effect from May 07, 1995.

BRAND	PACK SIZE	PRICE
PEPSI	1000 ML	TK. 18.00
	250 ML	TK. 7.00
	207 ML	TK. 6.00
SEVEN-UP	1000 ML	TK. 18.00
	250 ML	TK. 7.00
	207 ML	TK. 6.00
MIRINDA	1000 ML	TK. 18.00
	250 ML	TK. 7.00
	207 ML	TK. 6.00

The valued customers are requested to pay the above prices for their drinks from the effective date.

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ঢাকা মহানগরীর কোরবানী পশু হাটের সকল ইজারাদার/বিক্রেতার অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, তাহাদের মধ্যে কেহ কেহ টাকা/ইজিলা চালিত নৌকা হাটে কোরবানী পশু জোবপূর্বক তাহাদের হাটে নিতে বাধা করেন এবং হাসিল আদায় করেন এবং ব্যবসায়ীগণকে তাহাদের পছন্দমত হাটে বাইতে দেওয়া হয় না, এমনকি সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ইজারাকৃত হাট হাটে হাসিলকৃত পশুর পুনরায় হাসিল আদায় করা হয় বলিয়া অতীতে অভিযোগ পাওয়া গিয়াছে এবং বর্তমানেও অভিযোগ পাওয়া যাইতেছে। ইহা অত্যন্ত আপত্তিকর এবং গুরুতর অপরাধ।

এমতাবস্থায়, সিটি কর্পোরেশনের যে কোন ইজারাকৃত হাট কর্তৃক হাসিলকৃত পশুর পুনরায় হাসিল আদায় না করা এবং কোন ব্যবসায়ীকে তাহাদের টাকা/ইজিলা চালিত নৌকা আটকাইয়া তাহাদের পছন্দমত হাটে বাইতে বাধা প্রদান না করিবার জন্য কঠোরভাবে হুঁশিয়ার করা যাইতেছে। কোন ইজারাদার/বিক্রেতা এই ধরনের অভিযোগ পাওয়া গেলে তাহার জমাকৃত ইজারার টাকা এবং জামানত বাজেয়াপ্তকৃত ইজারা বাতিল করা হইবে।

সিনিয়র এক্সট্রা অফিসার
 ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন, ঢাকা।

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Maid's death suspected as a murder

By Staff Correspondent

Suspecting it to be a case of murder, detective police yesterday interrogated the two women detained in connection with the mysterious death of their maid at a city apartment in Bangla Motor area Friday.

Monowara Begum 35, who was a maid in a flat at Concord Tower in Bangla Motor area, died after an apparent fall from the fifth floor of the 15-story building. Ranna police took the detainees — Rokhsana Chowdhury, 45, mistress of the house where Monowara worked as a maid, and her daughter Sharmin Chowdhury, 15, alias Farah — in two-day remand Saturday.

The case has now taken an intriguing twist although initially Monowara's death appeared to have been an accidental one. Police investiga-

tions have revealed anti-social activities. "Rokhsana was involved in anti-social activities for several years," a senior police official said. A number of cases were previously lodged against her.

The investigators said that the probe was proceeding with the suspicion that the death of the maid might have been a pre-meditated murder. They are trying to pinpoint the exact motive behind the suspected killing.

The Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) authorities yesterday handed over the body of Monowara to her relatives.

Meanwhile, the detained women were in the custody of Ranna police until last night. Detective police interrogated