

BUDGET '95-96

Business leaders speak out
Today : Mansurul Aziz, President of Bangladesh Cement Traders' Association. See details on page 6

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UK minister satisfied with the pace of economic reform in India
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STOCK MARKET

DSE price Index	705.06 (-1.05%)
Market capitalisation Tk	41.76 billion
Turnover in volume	91337
Turnover in value Tk	14.17 million

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NEWS BRIEFS

Bangladesh troops in Bosnia safe

According to the latest report received from Bosnia, all members of the Bangladesh military contingent including military observers are safe and sound there. In view of the present tense situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bangladesh army headquarters is maintaining constant contact with them, reports BSS.

Khaleda condemns Irfan's killing

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday condemned the killing of Bosnian Foreign Minister Irfan Ljubljanic by the Serbs. In a message to the Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic, Begum Zia called upon the international community to use all its influence so that peace and order could be restored in Bosnia-Herzegovina maintaining its sovereignty, unity and independence, reports UNB.

32 hurt in Sirajganj

College clashes

SIRAJGANJ, May 29: Post-election clashes between supporters of the Chhatra Dal and the Chhatra League at Sirajganj University College compound left 32 students injured today. The clash erupted following today's students union election in the college. Rival groups used guns and cocktails during the clash. Eight supporters of the JCD and seven of the BCL were seriously injured with splinters, police said. According to unofficial result, the BCL captured three of the 18 posts of the college unions including VP, GS and Assistant Female Secretary while JCD bagged the rest posts, reports UNB.

Shahjalal varsity reopens

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, May 29: Classes in the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology resumed today, after a 24-day Eid-ul-Azha, Buddha Purnima and summer vacation.

Boy killed

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, May 29: An unidentified minor boy was killed when a speeding truck hit him at Chiknagul on the Sylhet-Tamabil road this morning. Police recovered the body and sent it to the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical college hospital morgue.

Serbs remain defiant

West sends troops to rescue peacekeepers

SARAJEVO, May 29: Increasing pressure on rebel Serbs who are holding 367 peacekeepers hostage, Western nations sent thousands more troops toward Bosnia today and tried to salvage the confused UN mission, reports AP.

Isolated and desperate, the Serbs showed no signs of releasing hostages until they get promises there will be no more military action like the NATO air raids against Serb ammunition dumps on Thursday and Friday.

European Union foreign ministers assembled in Brussels to debate the next step. The United States reaffirmed its support for the UN pres-

ence in Bosnia, and the United Nations promised new suggestions to revamp the mission within 24 hours.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, en route to The Hague for a meeting with US, British, French and German counterparts, issued Moscow's strongest condemnation yet of the treatment of UN peacekeepers. Russia has been traditionally allied with Serbs.

Meanwhile, a shell slammed overnight into the headquarters for the UN commander in Bosnia, the first time the headquarters had been shelled. Spokesman Lt Col Gary Coward said the United Nations considered it

an errant shell. No one was hurt.

Heavy fighting was reported north of Mostar in southwest Bosnia-Herzegovina. Local army sources said Serbs appeared to be trying to cut the road between Split and Sarajevo, the key artery for any new troops getting into Bosnia.

Personnel on the ground in Sarajevo were unimpressed with the dispatch of more troops, urging a quick and unified decision on what to do.

Britain has announced that it would send up to 6,200 more troops to Bosnia, including some crack units.

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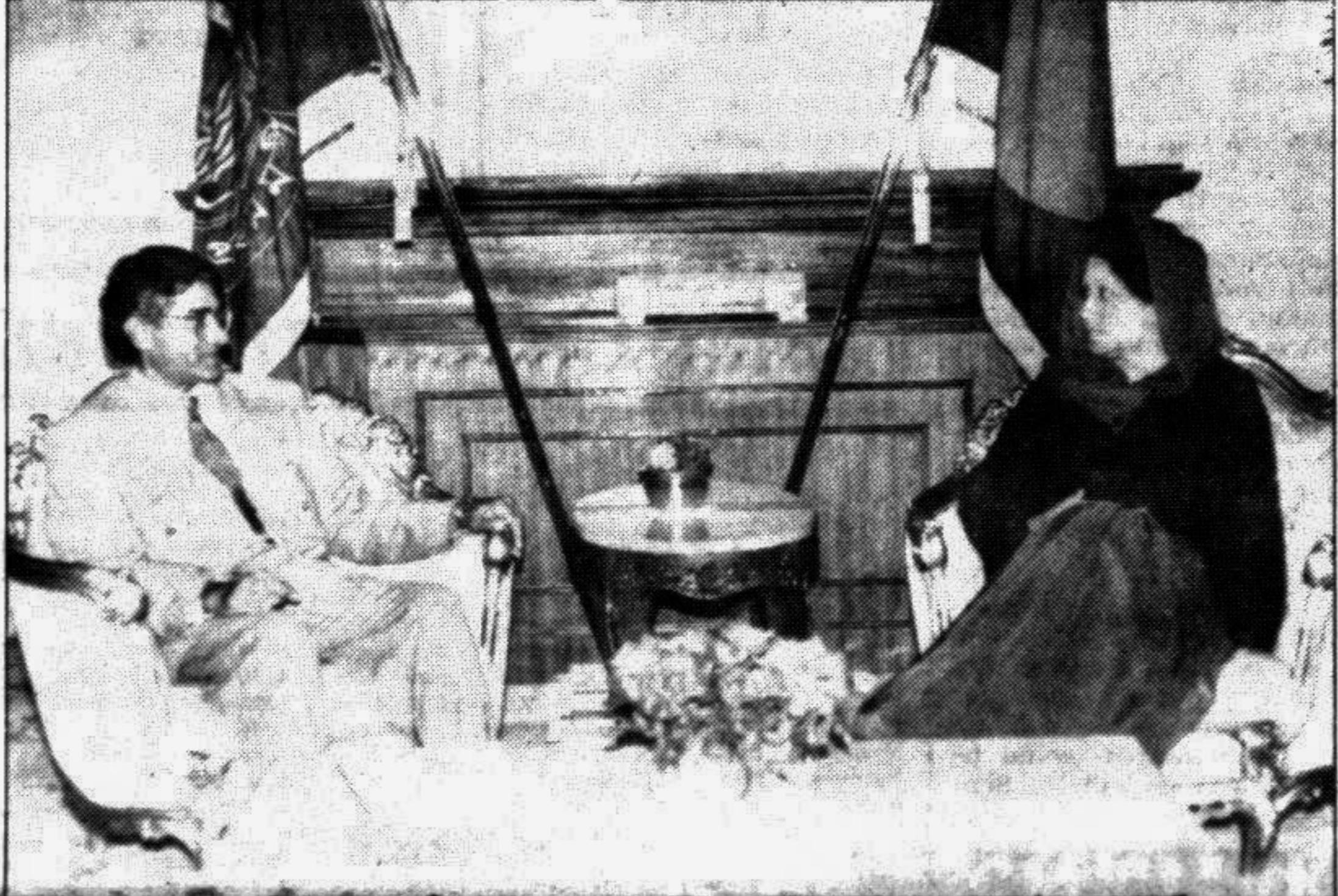
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Professor Nabi Dad Khan, special emissary of Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office in the city yesterday.

— PID photo

Writ filed against anomalies in registration form

A writ was filed in the High Court yesterday challenging certain provisions of the voters' registration form as illegal and unconstitutional, reports UNB.

Advocate Aminul Gani Tito filed the petition while Advocate ABM Nurul Islam moved it on behalf of the petitioner.

The petitioner pointed out mainly two points — fixation of the date, January 1, 1995, to be eligible to become a voter upon attaining 18 years of age, and place of registration of a voter.

Advocate Nurul Islam, submitting before the court wondered how the Election Commission could set the date with retroactive effect to count 18 years for a person to become a voter when the voter registration began about five months later, on May 25.

Under this provision, about 22 lakh people will miss the

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Pak special envoy briefs PM on Kashmir situation

Pakistan Prime Minister's special envoy Prof Nabi Dad Khan yesterday called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and apprised her of the latest situation in the Kashmir valley following the Charar-e-Sharif carnage, reports UNB.

Pak Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Prof N D Khan, who arrived here in the morning as special envoy of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, said Indian leaders were issuing threats which created a "serious situation" in the Indian-controlled Kashmir.

The envoy informed the Prime Minister that he would also fly to Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei to brief the leaders of those Muslim countries on the prevailing situation in Kashmir.

He said Pakistan's Foreign Minister Sardar Assef Ahmed Ali is also requesting an emergency meeting.

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— PID photo

AL rejects JP's demand for updating old list

By Special Correspondent

The Awami League has dismissed the Jatiya Party's demand for updating the existing voter list, saying that the electoral roll prepared under the Ershad regime was faulty.

There is no scope to update and use the voter list prepared during the rule of the past government — that, too, was faulty", said AL general secretary Zillur Rahman.

"We need a flawless new electoral roll where all the eligible voters will be enlisted."

The 1991 JS and 1993 city corporation polls were held under that list.

Zillur was giving his reaction to The Daily Star yesterday on the JP demand, contained in a memorandum submitted by its leaders to the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunday. The JP demanded cancellation of the ongoing voter registration and

asked the Election Commission (EC) to prepare the electoral roll by updating the existing voter list, saying that the electoral roll prepared under the Ershad regime was faulty.

The AL general secretary, however, was critical of the present voter registration process, terming it 'very much complicated.'

He feared that due to flaws in the registration system, about 50 per cent of the eligible voters would remain out of the list.

"A large number of voters would also be deprived the right of casting their votes according to their choice," said Zillur, especially pointing to the 'anomalies' in Item 11 of the registration form.

He said that the clarification issued by the EC on that

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Anniversary of Zia's death today

By Staff Correspondent

The 14th anniversary of the death of President Ziaur Rahman will be observed today.

On this day in 1981, Zia was killed by a group of army officers at the Chittagong Circuit House.

The ruling BNP, its front organisations and different socio-cultural organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes.

The BNP programmes include hoisting the party flag at half mast, placing wreaths at the mazar of Zia and offering *fateha* there at 9 am.

The party will also hold a discussion meeting at the auditorium of Shilpkala Academy at 4 pm today.

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3 ministers meet PM to discuss situation in admin

Three ministers yesterday had a meeting with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, reportedly discussing with her the present situation in the administration, reports UNB.

Agriculture Minister Major Gen (Rtd) Majid-ul Haq, Communications Minister Col (Rtd) Oli Ahmed and Telecommunications Minister Tarique Islam attended the meeting, sources said.

The meeting is believed to have discussed the situation arising out of the transfer of Secretary Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alangir and action programme threatened by the BCS (Admn) Cadre Association.

The sources indicated that the government might revise its order regarding the transfer of Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alangir.

Barisal Medical College closed sine die

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, May 29: The Sher-e-Bangla Medical College here was closed *sine die* today.

The decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the College Academic Council held with Principal Abdul Karim Mollah in the chair.

Resident students were asked to vacate their hostels by 2 pm today. However, the examinees were asked to appear at their examinations in the college.

Clashes, explosions of bombs, chase and counter chase were continuing for the last four days between the BCL and the JCD activists on the college campus, at the hostels and outside the college area.

Two students were stabbed and at least 15 to 20 injured. Sporadic clashes were going on even though police was present on the campus.

It is learnt that a meeting was held at the college last night, attended by representatives of the college authority, district administration, political parties and student bodies, to stop the unrest but it

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Titumir College student shot on BUET campus

By Staff Correspondent

A student received bullet injuries during clashes at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) in the city yesterday morning.

The victim Qamrul Huda, 22, was identified as a student of Titumir College.

Around 15 gunshots were fired by unidentified persons near the Ahsanullah Hall of the University at about 10:30 am. The cause of firing could not be known.



The city's Gulistan area on the second day of the transport strike yesterday.

— Star photo

Berthing congestion at jetties hampering export, import

By Staff Correspondent

Many cargo vessels have remained stranded at the outer anchorage of Chittagong port for the last few days due to a serious berthing congestion caused by shortage of adequate container-handling equipment and increased volume of imports.

Expressing concern at the situation, Redwan Ahmed, MP, president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BGMEA), said in a statement yesterday that inadequate container-handling capacity of the Chittagong port is creating serious dislocation and delay in clearance of imported consignments for the garments industry. Consequently, the shipment of garments has

Port Authority official told The Daily Star that the berthing congestion for the past three months has been especially acute because of a sudden rise in the volume of foodgrain imports caused by a bad Aman harvest and persistent drought. The government issued emergency instructions to give berthing priority to vessels carrying cereals.

In his statement, the BGMEA chief added that owing to the congestion incoming ships remain at the outer anchorage for a minimum period of six days while unloading takes another five to six days because of poor handling facilities.

Redwan Ahmed mentioned that while a vessel requires six

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