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# The Daily Star

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**STOCK MARKET**

DSE price index	717.82 (+0.99%)
Market capital Tk	42.55 billion
Transactions in volume	122091
Transactions in value Tk	18.52 million

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**NEWS BRIEFS**  
**PM visits mazar of Enayetpuri**  
 CHAUHALI, Sirajganj, June 3: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia visited the mazar of Hazrat Shah Sufi Enayetpuri (R) here today and offered prayers. Works Minister Barister Rafiqul Islam Mia and Forest and Environment Minister Akbar Hossain accompanied the Prime Minister, reports BSS.

**DU probe body on fake admission**  
 The Dhaka University authorities have constituted a five-member probe body to investigate into the fake admissions in different departments of the university. The high-powered committee headed by Dean of the Commerce Faculty Prof ABM Khaled has already started its functioning, reports UNB.

**Diarrhoea claims 30 in Khulna**  
 KHULNA, June 3: Diarrhoea that broke out in January has claimed 30 lives and affected 4,500 others in the district so far. Civil Surgeon office sources said the disease is spreading fast as people are using contaminated pond water due to scarcity of drinking water.

**Boy falls from roof, dies**  
 By DMCH Correspondent  
 A teenaged boy, who was injured seriously after falling from the first floor of a building, died at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday. Almas Sumon, 14, a student of class seven, fell from the roof top of his residence at the city's Nawabganj Road Friday morning.

## Bosnian Serbs free 121 peacekeepers

# NATO, EU ministers for rapid action force

PARIS, June 3: European and NATO defence ministers on Saturday sought to iron out their differences over establishing a rapid deployment force to bolster UN peacekeepers in Bosnia, after recent attacks by Serb fighters, reports AP.

Ministers from 15 NATO and European Union nations were invited by a French government intent on preventing further bloodshed among its 3,800 soldiers in Bosnia, the largest contingent in the ex-Yugoslav republic of the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

Shot, captured, chained as human shields to potential NATO air strike targets, the troops have faced rising attacks after a cease-fire expired last month between the Serbs and the Muslim-led government. The three-year-old war has left an estimated 200,000 people dead or missing, despite the presence of UN troops.

"The United Nations has been humiliated," British Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said "because it hasn't had the proper capability to protect itself."

With a rapid deployment force, "We'll have the mobile capability and the ability to ensure proper protection for UN personnel," he told reporters upon entering the meeting.

The talks, hosted by French Defence Minister Charles Milon, aimed to decide how the proposed 5,000-member force would operate, where it would be based and who would command it. French defence officials were suggesting it would likely be under UN aegis but with some French and British authority involved.

There were some reservations about the rapid reaction force. Sweden's defence minister, Thage Peterson, said his country backed the idea. But after the meeting's first hour, his spokesman said on condition of anonymity that there was disagreement over the force's command and mandate.

Belgian Foreign Minister Erik Derycke said in Italy Saturday that he saw legal problems. "We have to see how (that force) can be fitted into the mandate of the United Nations." He said Russia would likely issue objections.

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Some of the 121 released UN peacekeepers wave out of a bus crossing the border between Serbia and Bosnia yesterday after being freed by the Bosnian Serbs who had taken them hostage last week. — AFP photo

## Child labour in garment sector

# Substantive progress made on drafting new MOU

By Staff Correspondent

Substantial progress was made on formulating a new revised memorandum of understanding (MOU) to eliminate child labour from the garment sector at a joint meeting yesterday, according to meeting sources.

"Positive progress has been made to resolve the two outstanding issues at the meeting," said one source who attended the meeting.

The two remaining unresolved issues relate to rehabilitating the retrenched children and setting up an independent monitoring system to verify compliance with the ban on the use of child labour.

Held at the Dhanmondi office of the Unicef, the meeting was attended by US Ambassador David N. Merrill, Unicef Representative Rolf C. Carriere and ILO Representative Paul J. Bailey while the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BGMEA) President Redwan Ahmed, MP, led a team of executive committee members of his association.

At the nearly four-hour-long meeting, which began at 4pm, detailed discussions were held on possible ways to rehabilitate the retrenched children and provide them with appropriate schooling opportunities, the sources said.

This was the second round of formal meeting among all the parties negotiating the contents of the revised MOU. The move was initiated after the BGMEA, in an extraordinary general meeting on May 17 rejected the earlier MOU.

"We hope a new draft MOU can be agreed upon soon by all the parties concerned," said a BGMEA source involved in the talks. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday.

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## Border talks in Delhi likely mid-June

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, June 3: Bangladesh and India may hold border talks at a high-level by the middle of this month for resolving the border issues created recently, according to sources concerned.

The director generals of the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and the Border Security Force (BSF) of India are likely to lead their respective delegations at the talks to be held in Delhi, the sources said.

The recent border trouble in Asalong sector in Khagrachhari district and other important issues will figure at the talks.

The DG of the BDR will visit Asalong area on June 6. The trouble along the 13 km-long Asalong border followed the deployment of BSF personnel and digging of trenches after a clash between two groups of farmers from India and Bangladesh.

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## STOL service expected to begin next week

By Staff Correspondent

The country's first-ever privately run airline will go into operation on the domestic routes from next week, connecting the southern divisional headquarter of Barisal with the capital Dhaka.

Aero Bengal Airlines, one of several private airlines recently sanctioned by the government, brought in two Chinese Y-12 aircraft on May 30 for pressing into commercial operation on the domestic routes, so far the domain of the national flag carrier Biman Bangladesh Airlines.

The 17-seater short take-off and landing (STOL) aircraft will fly between the capital's Tejgaon airport and Rahmatpur airport, Barisal.

Explaining the company's plans to the media in a press briefing at the VIP room of the domestic terminal at the Zia International Airport yesterday, HBM Iqbal, Chairman of Aero Bengal, hoped the Prime Minister would kindly inaugurate the maiden flight sometime next week.

It would take only 22 min.

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## Delhi puts off plan to hold polls in Kashmir

NEW DELHI, June 3: India's Parliament approved today a government proposal to extend the five-year direct federal rule in strife-torn Jammu-Kashmir state for another six months, reports AP.

The government thus put off the first state legislative elections in eight years in Kashmir it planned to hold in July.

The Muslim militants have been waging a separatist war in India's only Muslim-majority state since late 1989 that has killed more than 11,500 people.

The government is prepared to resolve the Kashmir issue through dialogue but will not agree to the rebels' demand for independence. SB Chavan, the interior minister, said in Parliament.

Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao last month offered to consider a demand for wide autonomy for the state-short of independence.

Several opposition leaders said the elections there could not have been free and fair as the fear of gun prevails.

## 185 Bangladeshis detained in Thailand

BANGKOK, June 3: Some 185 Bangladeshis are languishing in Thai detention centres on charge of illegal immigration, a competent source here said.

The source who wanted not to be named told UNB that a large number of Bangladeshis, falling prey to false promises of unscrupulous manpower exporters, are facing uncertainty in Thailand.

Those innocent Bangladeshis, misguided by alleged human traffickers, continue to pour into Thailand in batches with the hope of getting jobs in neighbouring Malaysia. Many of them reportedly carried tampered passports and visas.

Some groups, active in the Thai capital, were reportedly committing the mischievous deeds in collaboration with several "well-organised rings" in Bangladesh.

About 5,000 such ill-fated men are now hiding in Thai forests bordering with Malaysia

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## BUET student shot dead on campus

By Staff Correspondent

A final year student of the Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET) was shot dead on the campus yesterday morning.

Ahmed Ullah, a Civil Engineering student and General Secretary of the Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF), BUET unit, was gunned down by unidentified assailants in front of the teachers' quarters near Bakshi bazar.

Meanwhile, police lobbed tear gas shells when the general students brought out a procession on the campus at noon to protest the killing. The protesters ransacked a number of university offices and damaged vehicles.

Two students identified as Asif and Mahubul were arrested during a clash between the protesters and police, Ramna police said.

Campus sources said, two unidentified youths shot Ahmed in his left chest and right hand at about 9:40 am.

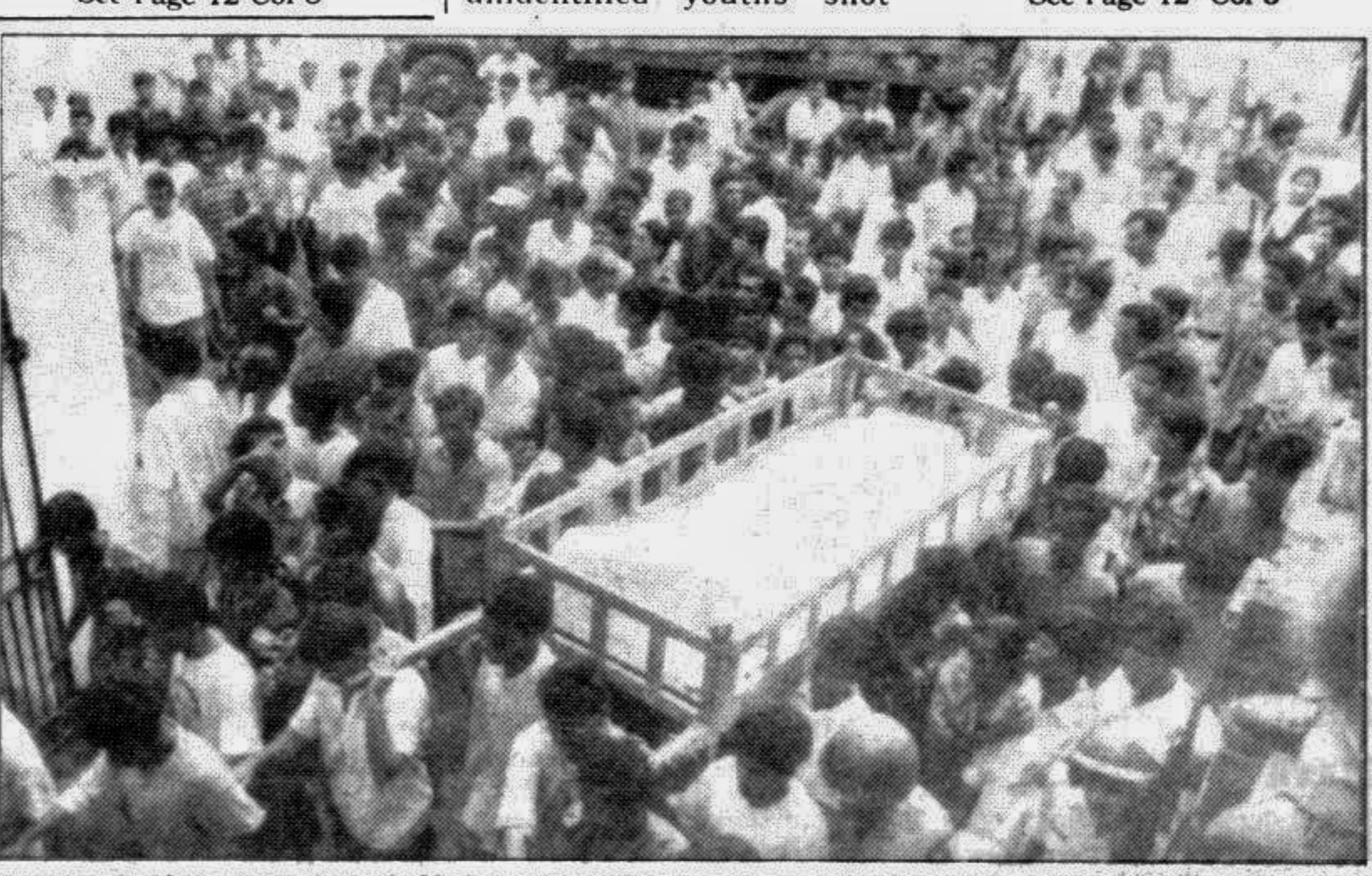
A resident of the Ahsanullah Hall, Ahmed hailed from Tungbari under Munshiganj district.

The cause of the murder could not be known immediately. But some sources said Ahmed was killed because of previous enmity.

Doctors at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) declared Ahmed dead when he was taken to the hospital with serious bullet wounds at about 10:15am.

According to campus sources, two youngmen called Ahmed from his hall yesterday morning. They had their breakfast at a canteen on the BUET campus. Later, they proceeded towards Bakshi bazar when all of a sudden the accompanying youths pulled out firearms and fired on him. The

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Students of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) brought out a procession with the body of Ahmed Ullah, a final-year student, who was shot dead on the campus yesterday. — Star photo

## Opposition wants to keep people poor: PM

ENAYETPUR (Sirajganj), June 3: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today said all government efforts are directed towards improving the lot of commonman, increasing production and ensuring development, reports UNB.

Bangladesh will achieve self-sufficiency in all sectors within next five years if the present trend of development continues unhindered, she said.

Addressing a large public meeting at a char near the mazar of Hazrat Shah Sufi Enayetpuri here, the Prime Minister also allayed the fears of any food shortage in the country. Adequate quantity of rice has been imported to meet any eventuality, she said.

The Prime Minister criticised the opposition parties for resorting to hartals, strikes, blockades and other anti-development programmes causing immense suffering to commonman and obstructing the development and production.

"The opposition parties during the time of their rule did not do anything for the welfare of the people. Now they are obstructing our development activities,"

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## 2 JP MPs from Sylhet join BNP

DOARA BAZAR, Sunamganj, June 3: Two Jatiya Party MPs, Sharfuddin Khasru and Advocate Abdul Majid, from the greater Sylhet region today formally joined the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) at a public meeting here, reports BSS.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman and Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury attended the meeting as chief and special guests respectively.

Khasru and Majid were elected MPs on Jatiya Party tickets in the 1991 parliamentary elections from the Golapganj-Banabazar and Doara Bazar-Chhatak constituencies.

Welcoming them to the BNP, Saifur Rahman said that with the joining of these two MPs, the development process, particularly in the Sylhet region, would be further intensified.

After announcing his joining the ruling party, Khasru said, "Although I was an opposition

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## BCS exams results announced

By Staff Correspondent

The results of the 15th BCS (Bangladesh Civil Service) examinations 1993-94 were announced yesterday.

The Bangladesh Public Service Commission (PSC) in a press release, said, the successful candidates were selected provisionally and the candidates would be informed of medical tests after the formation of a medical board by the Director General of the Health Directorate.

The top ten successful candidates according to merit are: Reaz Hamidullah; Roll-D1-7307, Asad Alam Siam; Roll-D1-8178, Aminul Haq; Roll-D1-5809, FM Borhanuddin; Roll-D1-8272, Junaed Ibrar Nazib; Roll-D1-5688, Khadaker Mohammad Talha; Roll-D1-9108, Noureen Ahsan; Roll-D1-8016, Md Nazrul Islam; Roll-D1-4521, Nure Helal Saifur Rahman; Roll-D1-5716 — all in Foreign Service cadre and Rinaul Molla Ahmad Ziauddin Razi; Roll-D1-1828 in Administration cadre.

## Six kidnapped children rescued: 4 held

By Staff Correspondent

Four kidnappers were arrested and six children rescued from a city hotel late Friday.

Police in a swoop on the Hotel Famous at BCC Road under Sutrapur thana arrested the four persons. They are allegedly members of an international child lifters' gang.

The kidnappers picked up the children from Bani Bazar under greater Sylhet district and brought them to the hotel to smuggle them out of the country, police said.

Police rescued Kabir Ahmed, 15, Shamim Ahmad, 12, Delwar Hossain, 12, Babul Ahmad, 15, Abu Sayed, 12, and Ali Jahan, 12.

## Ershad had secret contacts with Khaleda, Hasina, claims Maudud

Jatiya Party leader Maudud Ahmed has disclosed that deposed President Ershad had maintained secret contacts with Sheikh Hasina and Begum Khaleda Zia, and kept the two ladies apart while he was in power, reports UNB.

"The strategy of keeping the two ladies apart was the corner stone of Ershad's politics..." Maudud says in his book, 'Democracy and the Challenge of Development: A Study of Politics and Military Interventions,' released yesterday.

He says: "At least twice, in secret, Ershad had met Hasina. He once took her on a long drive to assure her that Sheikh Mujib would be restored officially as the founding father of the nation and that the trial of his killers would be arranged."

"Ershad also maintained a link with Khaleda Zia," he claims in his book but does not elaborate.

Maudud, who served as Prime Minister and Vice-President under Ershad, said that throughout his rule Ershad had adopted a policy of ignoring and actively undermining both Khaleda Zia and the BNP, and simultaneously dealing with the Awami League as the principal contender for power.

Ershad played his political cards on these premises and, thereby, nurtured the AL on the one hand, and hit and taunted the BNP on the other.

"In the process he was able to develop a tacit understanding with the AL who regarded

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