

BUDGET '95-96

Business leaders speak out
Today : Sarwar Jamal Nizam,
President, CCCI.
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Good demand marks tea sale in Ctg

G-7 to push IMF for emergency fund
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STOCK MARKET
DSE price index 725.97 (+0.38%)
Market capital Tk 43.03 billion
Transactions in volume 99192
Transactions in value Tk 19.49 million

Feature

Women on the move

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Dhaka Day by Day



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NEWS BRIEFS

Appointment

The President has appointed Mohammad Ismail Uddin Sarkar as judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. Sarkar was a judge of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court, said an official handout yesterday, reports UNB.

AL activist held in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, June 7: An Awami League activist was arrested from his residence today for his alleged involvement in Thursday's attack and arson in the town. Police said Anisur Rahman was arrested in the morning and sent to jail after the court rejected his bail petition today, reports UNB.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Daily Star has launched the "Save Dhaka" campaign to raise public awareness about the problems faced by our favourite city.

With a view to finding solutions to the existing problems The Daily Star is organising, in collaboration with the Post Graduate Centre, BUET,

A Roundtable Conference on Save Dhaka
today between
10 am and 1 pm at the BUET
(Council Bhavan).

All architects, town planners, engineers, social scientists, and citizens interested in working for the betterment of Dhaka city are

Invited to Join the Roundtable as Observers.

Direct foreign investment preferred Saifur against withdrawal of lock-in period

By Staff Correspondent

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday spoke against withdrawing the one-year lock-in period for foreign portfolio investors but offered to provide other fiscal incentives to help the growth of the country's capital market.

"I don't find any convincing rationality in the argument" to withdraw the lock-in period, he flatly said while speaking at a seminar. "But we are ready to consider every possibility of providing other fiscal incentives to help the growth of the capital market."

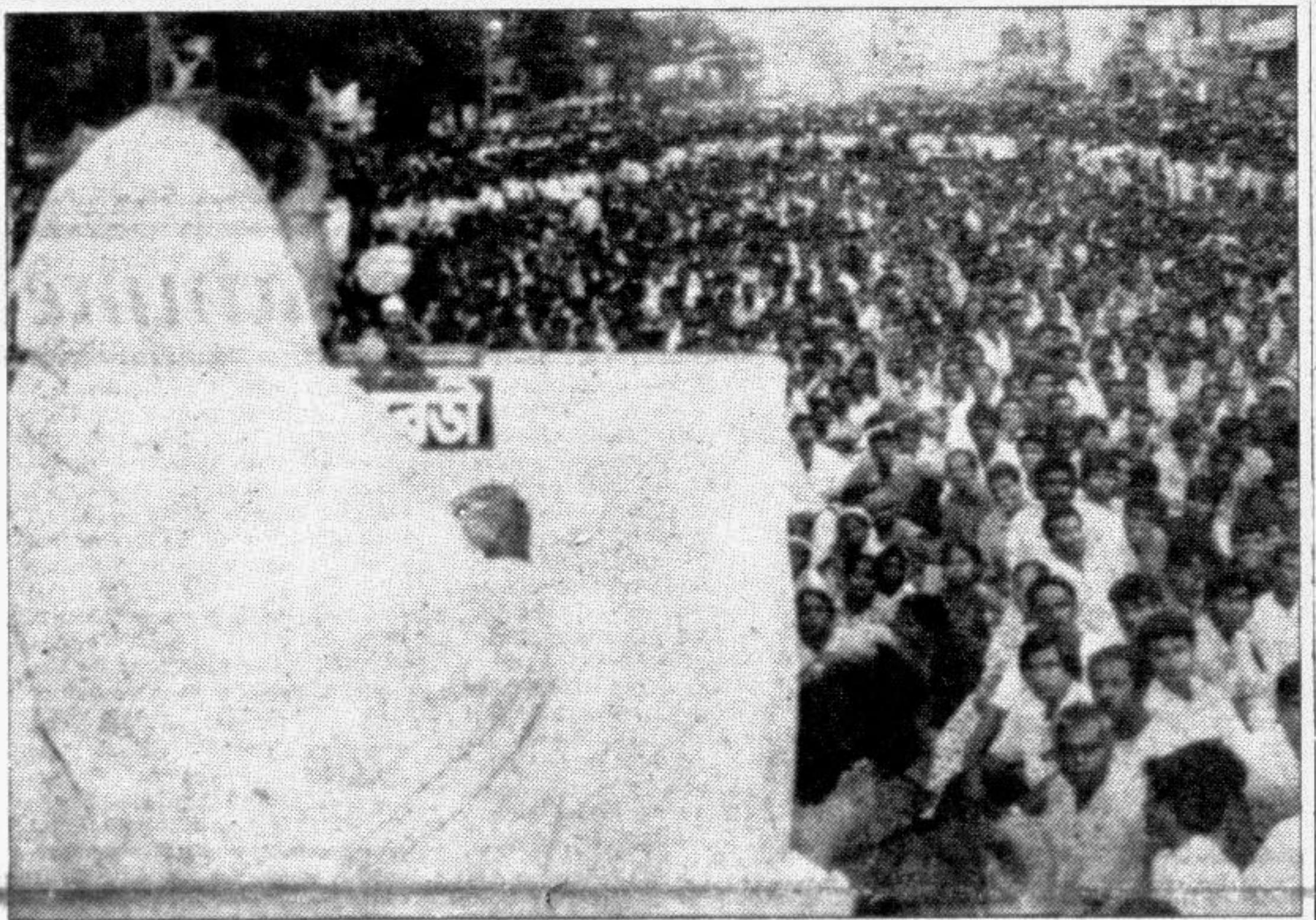
However, one of his colleagues who enjoys ministerial rank, slightly differed with the Finance Minister on the lock-in issue while the representa-

tive of a Hong Kong-based portfolio fund manager, with stakes in the Bangladesh capital market, termed it only a minor 'distraction' for the foreign investors.

They were speaking at the "National conference on capital market development and privatisation" organised by the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) at a local hotel.

M Morshed Khan, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister, was the special guest at the inaugural session. Sultanuzzaman Khan, Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and DCCI President R Maksud Khan also spoke on the occasion.

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Awami League president Sheikh Hasina addressing a public meeting in the city's Gulistan area yesterday to mark the historic 7th June. — Star photo

AL's demonstration day on June 15

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina yesterday announced a "demonstration day" on June 15, the day the Jatiya Sangsads goes into budget session, to press home the demands for dissolution of Parliament right now, handing over of power to a non-party administration for conducting elections and enlisting all eligible voters before the next polls.

She, however, did not elaborate on the demonstration day which, party sources said, would be observed across the country.

"Each and every worthy voter must be enlisted through simplified form as we have suggested and nothing should be done to deprive the people of their constitutional right to vote," she told a big public meeting at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city, organised as part of the party's 7th June programme.

The AL chief said that a proforma of the AL-proposed voter registration form she had produced at a press conference on Monday, was submitted to the Election Commission Secretariat yesterday.

Hasina asked the Speaker to accept the resignation letters of 147 opposition MPs, submitted in December last. Those were rejected unconstitutional following the Prime Minister's directive just to let the BNP cling to power, she added.

"This corrupt, inefficient, and vote dacot BNP government is now looking for ways to rig the next elections. Accordingly it is politicising the EC and the administration and robbing people's franchise through an unrealistic and complicated voters' registration method," Hasina alleged.

She reiterated her allegation that the BNP was striving to stay in power at all costs so that its leaders could continue making money through corrupt practices. The ruling party was now collaborating with deposed president Er-

Elimination of child labour

Negotiators reach accord on revised MOU

By Staff Correspondent

Negotiators in a meeting in the city yesterday have tentatively agreed on a framework for a revised draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) to eliminate the use of child labour from the country's garment sector.

"We have tentatively agreed on a framework to formulate a revised draft MOU at the meeting," said a well-placed source involved in the talks.

He said that the draft is expected to be finalised at the next meeting, which would also include government representatives. The date for that meeting is yet to be fixed, but it would be held sometime next week, he added.

All the negotiating parties, in principle, agreed to resolve the two remaining outstanding issues relating to rehabilitation of the retrenched child workers and setting up an independent monitoring mechanism to verify compliance with the ban on the use of child labour

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AL submits memo to CEC

A delegation of the Awami League yesterday met the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and submitted a proposal suggesting preparation for fresh voter list by simplifying the voter registration form, reports UNB.

Members of the delegation were: Md Qamruzzaman, Rahmat Ali, Begum Matia Chowdhury, Barrister K S Nabi and A F K Sadeq.

During the meeting, the AL leaders discussed with the CEC various aspects of the voter registration process. They suggested enlistment of inmates in jails, slum-dwellers and expatriate Bangladeshis as voters.

They also favoured a joint meeting between the Election Commission and political parties to make future elections free and fair.

Justice A K M Sadeque received the proposal and assured that he would consider

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Best nat'l teachers honoured 92pc children enrolled in schools, says PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday said the government measures have created unprecedented levels of consciousness about primary education, reports UNB.

"Now 92 per cent of children are being enrolled in schools and the rate of dropout has reduced to 20 per cent. Attendance and admission of girls have increased. Literacy rate also increased by 10 per cent in last four years," she said.

Begum Zia was addressing a prize distribution ceremony on the occasion of the National Primary Education Week-1995 at the Osmany Memorial Hall in the city yesterday.

The Prime Minister sought cooperation from the people irrespective of their party affiliation.

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Cellular phone monopoly
SC dismisses Hutchison's writ

The Supreme Court has dismissed a writ filed by a company seeking leave to appeal against a High Court judgement on monopoly in the cellular telephone business, reports UNB.

Hutchison Bangladesh Telecom Limited, which is the sole operator of the cellular phone system in the country, had filed the writ on May 9 against the judgement of the High Court.

A division bench of the High Court on May 8 rejected a writ filed by the company against an international tender notice of the Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board inviting entrepreneurs to operate cellular radio telephone systems in the country.

The tender notice was published on July 27 last year in a

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Russian engr of Ghorasal power plant found dead

By DMCH Correspondent

A Russian engineer was found dead at his flat in the Ghorasal Power Plant premises at Palash, Narsingdi on Tuesday.

Police recovered the body of Kouznetsov Alexandre, 33, from the Russian Experts Residential quarters and sent it to BIRDEM in Dhaka.

The body was later brought to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy.

Sources say, the leader of the experts team at the plant, Victor E Goroduraski, asked for Kouznetsov who did not report to office Tuesday morning.

When the plant officials went to Kouznetsov's flat they found it locked from inside.

They broke open the door as there was no response and found Kouznetsov's body on his bed.

Ideologically JP, BNP are akin, says Manju

Jatiya Party Secretary General Anwar Hossain Manju yesterday said categorically there would be no national election in future with any political party in power, reports UNB.

"There will be no credible election without the main opposition parties — the Awami League, Jatiya Party and the Jamaat — in Parliament ... And I believe nobody likes to commit a political suicide by participating in any election under a party government," he said while talking to a group of reporters in his office in the city.

Manju said his party would welcome any government offer for a dialogue to discuss the modalities for handing over of powers to a neutral, caretaker government ahead of the next election.

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Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia giving away a medal to a child at the prize distribution ceremony of the National Primary Education Week-95 at the Osmany Memorial Hall in the city yesterday.

— PID photo

9 killed in Chittagong road accident

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 7: At least nine people were killed and eight injured in a road accident at Fakirhat under Sitakundu thana, on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway early this morning.

The dead could not be identified immediately, police said.

Seriously injured Mohammad Sobuj, 35, Abdul Mannan, 40, Serajul Islam, 40, Aktheruzzaman, 45, Jamaluddin, 35, Alauddin, 18, Sultan Ahmed, 40, and Abdul Kasem, 40, of Lakximpur district were admitted to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Meantime, the police recovered a dead body of a young girl from Charpara Beel in Sarsibari thana of Jamalpur, three days before the Eid-ul-Fitr.

Phool Banu's mother, Rahima Bewa, identified the body as that of her daughter. She buried the body after necessary autopsy and a murder case was also filed with the police.

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Police and Fire Brigade personnel later recovered the bodies.

The driver fled the scene. A case was filed with Sitakundu thana.

Separate cases were filed with the local police.

Rajuk Commercial Plot Auction Notice

Most ideally located Commercial-cum-Residential plot Nos 37 and 39 of Road No 45 Gulshan North CA with two sides road facilities measuring more or less 619 Sq Metre (9 katha 4 chata) and 596 Sq Metre (8 katha 14 chata) respectively will be allotted for 99 years lease on open auction.

Applications on prescribed form with terms and conditions to be obtained from Janata Bank, Rajuk Bhaban Branch, Dhaka on payment of Tk 500 (Taka five hundred) only in cash for each set (non-refundable) and will be received by the Deputy Director (Estates) from the intending bidders up to 2.00 PM on 25.6.95 for plot No 37 and up to 2.00 PM on 27.6.95 for plot No 39 respectively.

The auction will be held on 26.6.95 for plot No 37 and on 28.6.95 for plot No 39 in the Conference Room, 3rd floor of the Rajuk Bhaban, Dhaka at 10.00 AM.

Chairman
Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha
Dhaka.

DFP-14370-6/6

G-894

Shrimp exporters for quota system

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Frozen Foods Exporters' Association (BFFEA), in an emergency general meeting (EGM) yesterday, decided to introduce a quota system in the shrimp sector.

The BFFEA also decided not to buy unhealthy shrimp from the farmers starting June 11 with a view to ensuring the quality of products.

These decisions come in the wake of a recent European Union threat to stop imports from Bangladesh unless the quality of shrimp is assured.

At the end of the EGM, Dr Afzaluzzaman, president of the association, briefed journalists about the outcome of the meeting, held at a city hotel last night.

The association would be formed to prepare and submit a report within three months recommending ways to implement the quota system.

Introduction of the quota restrictions has become necessary because the supply of

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