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STOCK MARKET DSE price index 786.70 (+0.37%) Market capital Tk 48.72 billion Transactions in volume 158961 Transactions in value Tk 40.15 million

NEWS BRIEFS

SPGRC plans self-immolation

As many as 11 stranded Pakistanis... embark on self-immolation in front of the Pakistan Embassy in Dhaka tomorrow...

SAARC standing body meet Aug 25-26

A meeting of the SAARC Standing Committee will be held in New Delhi August 25-26, official sources said in Dhaka yesterday.

EMS with Nepal from Aug 15

The Express Mail Service (EMS) between Bangladesh and Nepal will begin on Aug 15. The service will be available in Dhaka, Khulna, Rajshahi, Chittagong and other big cities.

Hartal observed in Chandpur

From Our Correspondent CHANDPUR, Aug 12: A half-day hartal was observed today at Chandpur and Haimchar in protest against govt failure to save Chandpur from erosion by the river Meghna.

Transport strike threatened

FARIDPUR, Aug 12: Motor transport owners of 21 southern districts have threatened a 48-hour strike from August 19 to press their demands including fare hike.

BNP's 'wait and see' policy to confront Opposition

By Staff Correspondent

As the major opposition parties prepare to launch all-out agitations to press for immediate dissolution of Parliament to pave the way for general elections under a non-party caretaker government...

government to concede to their demands for dissolving the 'illegal' Parliament and declaring fresh polls under a non-party caretaker administration.

tions, is now closely watching the Opposition move before deciding its own strategy to face the situation, a senior BNP leader, seeking anonymity, told The Daily Star last night.

AL threatens non-stop hartals

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League leaders yesterday warned of massive agitations including continuous hartals to realise the demand for dissolution of Parliament and holding of general elections under a non-party caretaker government.

leaders Abdus Samad Azad, Abdul Mannan, Abdur Razzak, Tofael Ahmed, Abdul Jalil, Mohammad Nasim, Suranjit Sengupta, and Matia Chowdhury, addressed the rally presided over by AL city unit president Mayor Mohammad Hanif.

Foil BNP tactics to cling to power: Hasina

From Staff Correspondent

KOTALIPARA (Gopalganj), Aug 12: Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina today urged the party workers to foil what she called the ruling BNP's tactics to cling to power by violating the Constitution.

PM leaves for Beijing Sept 3

Prime Minister Begum Khaleida Zia is expected to leave for Beijing on September 3 to attend the much-publicised fourth World Conference on Women, reports UNB.

Stern action against illegal export of manpower

The government will take strict measures against illegal manpower export particularly to Malaysia to sustain the flow of foreign currency-earning from there through legal means, reports BSS.



The Bangladesh Railway is failing to attract passengers due to poor services coupled with increased competition from inter-district coach services. In the picture a first class compartment of the Ekata inter-city train which runs between Dhaka and Jagannathananj is seen almost empty while two attendants (R) are making good use of the comfortable seats.

Eight killed, 129 hurt in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

At least eight persons were killed and 129 others injured in road accidents in Narsingdi, Savar and Chittagong yesterday.

In another accident Aminul Hossain, 8, was killed when a Noakhali-bound passenger bus hit him at Morgapara under Sonargaon thana. He was crossing the road along with his father at the time of the accident.

Railway Authority starts operation from Sept 1

The newly constituted Bangladesh Railway Authority (BRA) will start operation from September 1 for more commercialisation of railways ensuring improved service, cost effectiveness and overall efficiency, reports UNB.



Awami League procession in the city yesterday protesting Election Commission's deferral of by-elections.

Son-in-law calls for Saddam's ouster

AMMAN, Aug 12: The defector holding Saddam Hussein's military secrets emerged from his well-guarded Jordanian sanctuary today to call for the overthrow of the Iraqi President, reports Reuter.

two daughters. After an opening statement saying he defected because of the failure of his efforts to create change and reverse the country's decline from inside the ruling circle, he appealed for Iraqis to support efforts to end the long rule of Saddam.

Polls under interim govt only way to resolve crisis, says Dr Kamal

Gano Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday stressed the need for national consensus to evolve an "acceptable solution" to the staggering political crisis, reports UNB.

JP blasts BNP 'contrivance' to prolong power

Jatiya Party leaders yesterday blasted BNP 'contrivance to prolong its power' and reiterated the party's demand for immediate resignation of the government and dissolution of the 'non-existent' parliament, reports UNB.

Ershad formally charged in radar purchase case

Deposed president Hussain Muhammad Ershad was formally charged yesterday in another case of corruption and misuse of official position as he procured radars for the Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) that caused the state to sustain a financial loss of Taka 64,04,42,918.10, reports BSS.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Md Safiuddin, who read out the charge, said Ershad, Sultan Mahmud and Montazuddin in collusion with one another and by resorting to corrupt practices, and misusing official position endeavoured to derive financial benefit amounting Taka 64,04,42,918.10 either for themselves or for others.

Police yet to start drive to arrest Fakri's abductors

CHITTAGONG, Aug 12: Police is yet to go for a drive to round up the armed goons and their alleged backers responsible for the sensational abduction of millionaire Taher Ali Fakri.

find out the dens of those armed elements and to catch hold of them. Meanwhile, all information about their identity and movement reportedly reached the police authorities.

Fair polls not possible under present EC: Jamaat

Jamaat-e-Islami secretary general Matur Rahman Nizami yesterday said free and fair election is not possible under the existing Election Commission, reports UNB.

FC accounts in Deutsche mark, yen allowed

Bangladesh Bank has authorised the commercial banks to maintain foreign currency (FC) accounts of the Bangladesh nationals working abroad in Deutsche Mark and Yen, reports UNB.

Johnson completes historic double

GOTHENBURG, Aug 12: With seemingly historical inevitability, Michael Johnson sped to the world 200 metres title on Friday and a dream he has nurtured, cherished and triumphantly fulfilled, reports Reuter.

his place in the history books. The powerful Texan, with the instantly recognisable straight-backed style, clocked 19.79 seconds in Friday's final, the fifth fastest time in history.



Michael Johnson of the USA waves on the podium during the award giving ceremony for men's 200 m final at the World Championships in Athletics in Gothenburg, Sweden Friday.

BCL calls strike in educational instts today

By DU Correspondent The Chhatra League (S-P), student wing of the Awami League will observe a strike in all educational institutions in the country today to press its demand for trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Boat capsized in Meghna: 7 bodies recovered

NARSINGDI, Aug 12: Bodies of the seven people who drowned in the Meghna river Friday following a boat capsized near Alokballi in Sadar thana were recovered by local people today, reports UNB.