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STOCK MARKET

DSE price index	852.67 (+0.52%)
Market capital Tk	52.99 billion
Transactions in volume	494695.75
Transactions in value Tk	54.83 billion

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



The Only Store that Sells Grameen Check Page 3

Implement legal and administrative reforms by '96

The Daily Star Roundtable

By Staff Correspondent

Participants at a roundtable yesterday identified implementation of legal and administrative reforms and ensuring law and order as the priority agenda for 1996 to accelerate growth and reduce poverty.

The participants, including ministers, politicians, bureaucrats, economists, business leaders, and NGO and donor representatives, emphasized the need for making the best use of public resources, stepping up the attack on poverty and for energizing the private sector for faster economic growth.

They also stressed on arriving at a political consensus on economic issues and bringing about more accountability and transparency in the government's policy framework.

"Political consensus is

needed on major areas of economic policies... and there has to be more accountability and transparency in the policy framework," said M Morshed Khan, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister, adding that unless the total political leadership agree on the reforms it would be difficult to implement it.

The Roundtable on "Priority agenda for 1996: Options and challenges" was organized by The Daily Star at the Hotel Sonargaon and was moderated by its Editor, Mahfuz Anam.

Initiating the discussions on stopping losses by the state-owned enterprises (SOEs), Finance Secretary, Nasimuddin Ahmed emphasized the need for bringing about a corporate culture in the public sector organisation.

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The Daily Star organised a roundtable on 'Priority Agenda for 1996: Options and Challenges' at a city hotel yesterday. — Star photo

Free campuses from terrorism, PM tells VCs

The members of the Bangladesh University Parishad, the standing committee of vice-chancellors, yesterday called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office and discussed the problems of the vice-chancellors, teachers, students and universities of the country, reports BSS.

The Prime Minister said terrorism had to be completely eliminated from all the educational institutions. She said there were many to extend help to the development of the universities but the atmosphere must have to be maintained for carrying on education.

The vice-chancellors highlighted the problems relating to pension fund, development of libraries, improvement of laboratories, student scholarship, improvement of computer and telephone system and training.

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Threats can't stop me, says Hasina

Awami League president Sheikh Hasina yesterday vowed not to retreat in face of threats, saying her party was committed to realise people's demands and establish their rights to food and franchise at any cost, reports UNB.

"BNP will not be able to stop this agitation of the people by any threat or terrorism... I'll not leave the people in face of threats," she told a party rally at the Mirpur-10 'Gol Chakkor' before leading a mass procession.

Hasina said the ruling party was conspiring to obstruct the ongoing agitation, even to remove her from the path of agitation. "It will be easier for them to continue to deprive the people of their basic rights, if they can get

rid of me." She said: "My father sacrificed his life for the people of Bangladesh. I'm also ready to give blood for the emancipation of the people."

The crowd listened to the Awami League chief braving the rains, many of them taking shelter under roofs and verandas of nearby shops and markets.

Calling upon the people to make an all-out success of the AL grand rally in the capital tomorrow, Hasina said the agitation will continue until the BNP government concedes the demand for a caretaker government to conduct national election.

"The autocratic, corrupt and terrorist BNP government will not be allowed to hold any elections," she

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Opposition stages mass processions

By Staff Correspondent

The three major opposition parties organised mass processions in different parts of the city yesterday to press their demand for holding the general elections under a neutral caretaker government.

Braving the rains Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina led a massive procession to drum up support for the opposition anti-government agitation programme. Top leaders of the party and its front organisations participated in the procession.

The procession that began from Mirpur Gol Chakkor ended at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar after passing through the main thoroughfares. The processionists carried a big boat

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JS session prorogued BNP welcomes Mizan Chy's formula

By Staff Correspondent

The ruling BNP yesterday expressed its willingness to discuss the formula for a caretaker government proposed by Jatiya Party acting chairman Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury on Monday to overcome the present political stand-off.

We welcome the formula of Mizan Chowdhury. Let us sit across the table and settle the issue," said Home Minister and BNP standing committee member Abul Matin Chowdhury in the concluding day of 21st session of Jatiya Sangsad.

The 21st session of the fifth Jatiya Sangsad (JS) was prorogued yesterday after 10 days of business beginning on

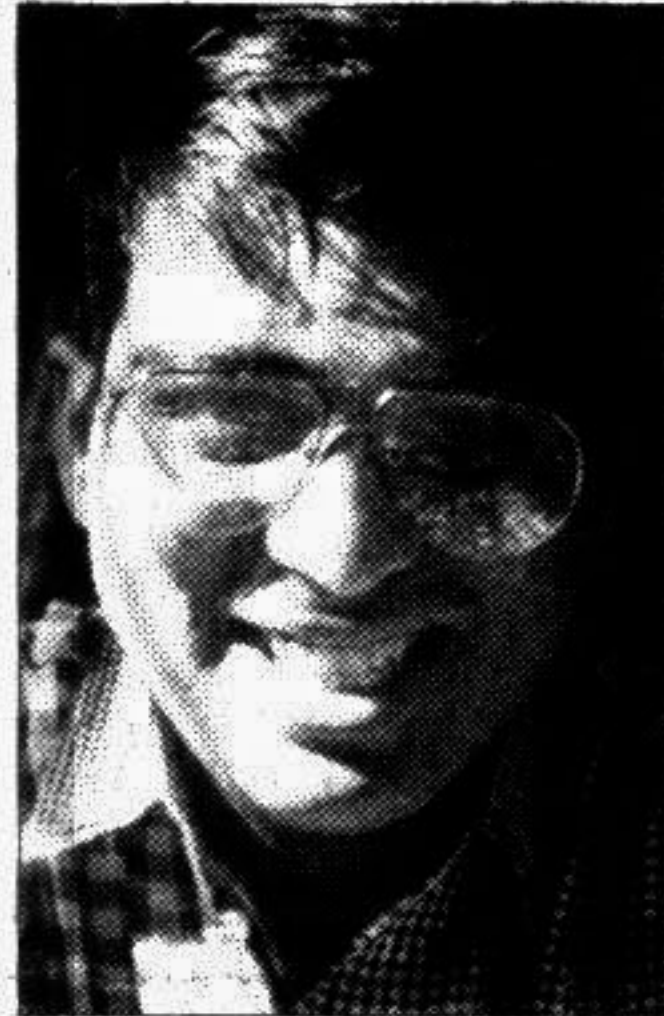
September 6. Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali read out the prorogation order of the President.

Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, addressing the leaders and workers of his Party's labour front on Monday, said under the parliamentary system, a caretaker government could be formed with the Prime Minister resigning and expressing her reluctance to continue along with her cabinet.

The President would then nominate a competent person, in consultation with all political parties, to head the government, said Mizan

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World Chess Anand takes lead



NEW YORK, Sept 26: Chess challenger Vishwanathan Anand crushed titleholder Garry Kasparov in the ninth game of the Professional Chess Association World Championship Monday, reports AP.

All eight previous games had been draws. The victory for Anand puts him in the lead, 5-4.

The result ignited interest in what had been up until now a disappointing contest for many chess fans. It also raised the possibility that Anand might unseat Kasparov, who has held the title for almost 10 years. (Details on page 11).

Old man killed in city gunfight

By DMCH Correspondent

Four persons were killed and at least ten others injured in separate incidents in the city yesterday.

One Abdul Goni Bakaul, 70, died during a gun battle

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Talukdar refutes Hasina's statement

BNP Secretary General Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar yesterday refuted the statement of Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina that the Prime Minister had violated the Constitution by allowing a Jatiya Party member of Parliament to join the BNP, reports BSS.

Talukdar termed the statement of Sheikh Hasina as 'ridiculous and funny' saying that such statement indicated Hasina's ignorance of the Constitution of the country.

He said the Awami League chief mentioned Article 70 of the Constitution to substantiate her statement. But the BNP Secretary General pointed out that in fact there was no such bar in that article to restrict any member to change his party affiliation if he decides to do so.

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Political motive behind attack, says Morshed's father

By Staff Correspondent

Advocate Azizullah Bhuiyan, father of JCD leader Abu Morshed, who was shot at a city court premises Monday, alleged yesterday that political influence was behind the attack on his son.

"An anti-group of my son tried to tarnish his image filing several cases against him since 1991. All these cases were false, fabricated, and conspiratorial," he said.

Morshed, joint secretary of the Dhaka city unit of Jatiyatobadi Chhatra Dal, is now undergoing treatment at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Unidentified gunmen had him at the premises

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Awami League President Sheikh Hasina addressing a public meeting at the intersection at Mirpur No.10 yesterday. — Star photo

Mirza Abbas-led faction shifts transport strike

The 48-hour countrywide transport strike, called by the Bangladesh Sarak Parishad Samity (Abbas), has been shifted from September 28-29 to 29-30 amid opposition criticism, reports UNB.

Addressing a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday acting Secretary General of the samity Kafiluddin Ahmed said the date for the strike was shifted so that nobody can take advantage of our programmes.

Turning down the Awami League allegation that Mirza Abbas led Samity has called the strike to foil its grand

rally tomorrow, Kafiluddin said the strike was aimed at drawing the government attention to the neglected transport sector and to realise the BSPS's 12-point demand.

"We called the strike on September 14 while the Awami League announced the date for its rally on September 18," the BSPS leader told the newsmen.

Mirza Abbas, flanked by the BSPS leaders, also attended the press conference and warned the government of greater action programme if their demands were not met by tomorrow.

Bomb blasts rock northern India again: 8 hurt

NEW DELHI, Sept 26: A bomb exploded in a railway station in northern India yesterday injuring seven people, in the fourth incident in 24 hours, reports AP.

There was no passenger train on the railroad station when the blast occurred at Panipat, 100 kilometers (60 miles) north of New Delhi, Press Trust of India news agency said.

Another small bomb exploded on a main railway line in New Delhi yesterday morning, injuring a 9-year-old boy. Police said it was set to disrupt train traffic.

'Reforms failed to bring financial discipline'

By Staff Correspondent

The government's Financial Sector Reform Programme (FSRP) has failed to produce encouraging results as financial discipline in the banking sector could not be restored.

This was said in a study by researchers of the Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM), presented at a seminar here yesterday.

"Discipline in the financial sector has deteriorated in terms of loan classification and provision. Commercial banks both in the public and private sectors failed to show any appreciable change in management operation," the

BIBM study paper said.

According to the study, classified loans of all banks increased from 20 per cent to 35 per cent of the total outstanding loan during 1990-94. Provisioning short fall has gone up from 32 per cent to 40 per cent of required provision. Operational efficiency, profitability and productivity in the banking sector declined during the period mainly because of large scale provisioning of classified advances.

Share of rural deposit increased but the share of rural and agriculture credit decreased.

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Palestinians ordered to quit Libya within 48 hours

SALLOUM (Egypt), Sept 26: Libyan leader Moammer Gaddafi has ordered all Palestinians to leave the country, Libyan official said here today, reports AFP.

"On Sunday, authorities sent letters to all the Palestinians in Libya ordering one group to leave the country within 24 hours and the remainder within 48 hours, a Libyan border official said requesting anonymity. Three thousand Sudanese

are also to be expelled from Libya on the order of Gaddafi, a senior Sudanese official said in Khartoum today.

About 300,000 Sudanese are to be deported from Libya as part of internal measures by the Libyan authorities. Salah Mohamed Osman Amaseeb, the acting secretary general of the Sudanese Expatriates Bureau said.

The Salloum border post (with Egypt), Panos Moutzias, Cairo representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees told Reuters.

Libya has expelled hundreds of Palestinians in recent months to protest against the Palestinian self-rule agreement with Israel which it considers a capitulation to the Jewish state. Moutzias said the latest movement of Palestinians, which he heard about from

reliable sources inside Libya, could be a response to the accord initiated between Israel and the PLO in Taba on Sunday.

He said on a trip to Salloum on Monday to distribute food and blankets to the 21 Palestinians currently stuck at the border he saw 12 tents set up on the Libyan side, which border guards told him would be used to group Palestinians before their expulsion.

Arafat's appeal

TUNIS, Sept 26: Yasser Arafat appealed today Moammer Gaddafi to stop the expulsions of Palestinians. "I appeal to my brother, the President Moammer, to make the right decision concerning his Palestinian brothers and allow them to return to their place of residence in Libya," Arafat told AFP.

ইসলামী মূল্যবোধ
সমৃদ্ধ আধুনিক সমাজ গঠনের
অঙ্গীকার নিয়ে আত্মপ্রকাশ করছে
আল-আরাফাহ ইসলামী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

শুভ উদ্বোধন

বুধবার ২৭শে সেপ্টেম্বর, ১৯৯৫

১৬১, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা
রহমান ম্যানশন, ঢাকা

আল-আরাফাহ ইসলামী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
শরীয়া ও আধুনিক ব্যাংকিং-এর এক অনন্য সমন্বয়