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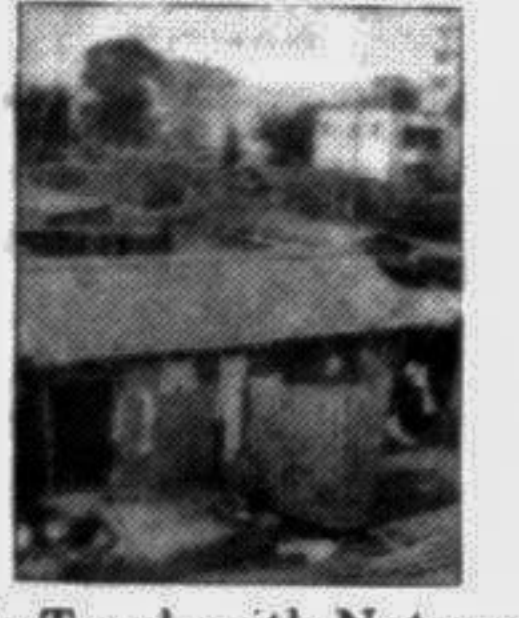
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STOCK MARKET
 DSE price index 837.55 (-4.71%)
 Market capital Tk 52.06 billion
 Transactions in volume 32235
 Transactions in value Tk 35.79 million

Supplement
 One-page supplement on Children's Rights
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 Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS
Talks on Chakmas in Delhi Oct 5
 AGARTALA, Sept 28: A high level meeting on the third phase of repatriation of Chakma refugees, sheltered in camps in South Tripura district, would be held in New Delhi on October 5. Director, Relief and Rehabilitation, RCM Reddy told PTI here today that the meeting was being organised by the Union Home Ministry.
CU vacation
 CHITTAGONG, Sept 28: All classes of Chittagong University will remain closed from September 30 to October 15 on account of Durga Puja and autumn vacation, a university press release said last night. The offices of the university will also remain closed from October 1 to 4, reports BSS.

Students lock up college bldg in Ctg
 CHITTAGONG, Sept 28: A group of angry students today locked up the administrative building of the Government Commerce College after the college authorities refused to accept their demands, college sources said. The students locked up the building as the authorities expressed their inability to accept their demand to admit 100 students into the HSC 1st year.



Awami League President Sheikh Hasina addressing the party's grand rally at the Manik Mia Avenue in the city yesterday afternoon. — Star photo

PM herself violated Constitution: Hasina Accept demand by Oct 15

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina has issued an ultimatum to the BNP government to accept by October 15 the 'people's demand' for a caretaker administration for holding the next general elections.

The deadline was given at the party's grand rally at Manik Mia Avenue in the city yesterday afternoon.

Hasina warned that if the demand is not met within the deadline, they would go for a 96-hour hartal throughout the country from October 16.

Hasina said there would be no voting under this government and asked the Prime Minister to step down forth-

with conceding to the demand for a neutral caretaker administration.

"There will be no voting under this corrupt, terrorist, killer and vote-dacoit BNP regime," she told cheering and slogan-shouting supporters at the mammoth rally.

People want immediate removal of this 'illegal' regime and want a neutral caretaker government for fair polls, Hasina said.

"BNP has no right to stay in power, any more. It lost the legitimacy with the resignation of the Opposition MPs."

Referring to Begum Zia's claim of upholding the Constitution, Hasina accused the

PM of "violating" it time and again.

"Begum Zia violates the Constitution at every step, yet she laments that its sanctity is at stake. She does this only to cling to power," she said.

Sheikh Hasina pointed out that the Prime Minister had violated Articles 11, 22, 27, 29, 31, 32, 67 and 70 of the Constitution on different occasions, endangering democracy and the people's right to vote.

Reiterating her demand for elections under a caretaker government she said, late president Ziaur Rahman made the fifth and sixth constitutional amendments to legalise his illegal takeover of

power." Similarly, former president HM Ershad legalised his illegal takeover of power through the seventh amendment.

"If they could have amended the Constitution for their personal interests, why can't the Constitution be amended in the interest of the masses," Hasina asked indicating the amendment needed for the caretaker government.

The rally was also addressed by AL central leaders including Abdus Samad Azad, Zillur Rahman and Begum Sajeda Chowdhury.

The AL chief blasted the Prime Minister for

Opposition calls 48-hr, 96-hr hartals in Oct

By Staff Correspondent

The main opposition political parties yesterday called for 48-hour hartal in all six divisional headquarters on October 7-8 and a 96-hour hartal across the country from October 16.

The Awami League (AL), the Jatiya Party (JP) and the Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) announced their identical programmes from separate grand rallies in the city.

The Opposition gave the programmes as part of their on-going agitation to press the demand for the immediate dissolution of Parliament, general elections under a non-party caretaker government and resignation of government 90 days ahead of the elections.

The identical agitation programmes also include mass contact, rallies, demonstrations and processions throughout the country between October 9 and 15.

AL chief Sheikh Hasina announced the programme at Manik Mia Avenue, JP acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury at Panthapath and Jamaat Ameer Gollam Azam at Shapla Chattar.

The 96-hour hartal will be the longest hartal during the rule of the BNP government.

Earlier, the Opposition called a 72-hour hartal throughout the country from September 16 and a 32-hour hartal from September 2. Another daylong hartal was

Opposition ruining country, says PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia sharply reacted to the Opposition's fresh action plans, saying they are deliberately and wilfully ruining the country through hartals and other anti-people programmes, reports UNB.

Referring to yesterday's hartal calls of opposition parties for October 7-8 and 16-19, she said they want to push the country into an abyss and destroy the country socially, economically and politically.

Begum Zia was talking to a large number of teachers of the Dhaka University who came to her for an exchange of views last night.

During the nearly four-hour-long free and frank discussion, the teachers dis-

— Star photo

Arafat, Rabin sign accord

WASHINGTON, Sept 28: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO leader Yasser Arafat signed an accord at White House ceremonies today establishing Palestinian self-rule in most of the West Bank, reports Reuter.

Rabin and Arafat signed a 400-page West Bank peace document at a White House east room ceremony presided over by President Bill Clinton and attended by Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein in a display of conciliation and congeniality between Israel and its former enemies.

Rabin was especially dramatic in extending an olive branch to Palestinian leader Arafat, his foe in four Middle East wars from 1949 to

Accept demand without delay: Jamaat

By Staff Correspondent

Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami Gollam Azam yesterday warned of launching an all-out agitation if the demand for an interim government is not immediately accepted.

Saying that Jamaat is 'ready' for an understanding, the Jamaat chief added: "There are still time to concede to the demand peacefully, otherwise people will force (BNP) to accept the demand."

"The BNP should concede to people's demand so that we are not compelled to call for hartals which increase sufferings of people," the Jamaat chief said while addressing a grand rally at Shapla Chattar.

The rally was also addressed among others by

Dissolve JS, pave way for interim govt: JP

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Party acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury yesterday urged the government to immediately accept the demand for elections under a neutral caretaker administration to avert an all-out agitation.

"People want immediate handover of power to either the Chief Justice Court or any other person acceptable to all," said Mizan Chowdhury while addressing a grand rally of the party in the city.

Held at Panthapath, the rally was also addressed by among others, party leaders Begum Raushan Ershad, wife of JP chief former president HM Ershad, Moudud Ahmed, Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Shah Moazzem Hossain, Anwar Hossain Manju, Abul Hasnat and Col (ret'd) Abdul Malek.

Mizan Chowdhury said the government was repeatedly speaking of dialogue and also expressed its willingness to resign before the next elections. "Dissolve Parliament immediately to pave the way for formation of a caretaker government," he demanded.

He also announced party's next course of agitation including a 48-hour hartal from Oct 7 in six divisional headquarters and a 96-hour hartal throughout the country from October 16. He asked his party activists to work in their respective areas to make the programme a success.

Raushan Ershad, president member of the JP, said the people were in movement for a caretaker gov-



Two people were killed, 63 others injured and hundreds of houses damaged during storms in Sirajganj and Pabna districts.

Flash floods grip 4 dists 2 die as storms lash Sirajganj, Pabna

By Staff Correspondent

Two people were killed, 63 others injured and hundreds of houses damaged during storms in Sirajganj and Pabna districts.

Meanwhile, flash floods, caused by heavy rains, gripped four northern districts.

Two persons died and 23 others received injuries when a storm lashed four villages in three thanas of Sirajganj district early yesterday.

Quoting official sources, news agency UNB says, the storm that lasted five minutes, damaged some 200 houses at village Bawalkhola in Kazipur thana, at Khaga and Shonagachha villages in Sadar thana and at Khudrason

in Tarash thana.

Rabeya Begum, 45 of Bawalkhola village and Osman Ghani, 35 of Kudrashon, died in house collapse.

Eleven people were injured in Sadar thana, seven in Kazipur thana and five in Tarash thana.

Forty people were injured and at least 400 houses, including five schools, damaged when a storm with a strong velocity lashed Baraigram and Chatmohar thanas in Pabna early yesterday.

Some 5,000 people of seven villages in these two thanas were affected as their houses collapsed in the storm that lasted 15 minutes

Save Dhaka, Clean Dhaka campaign in 12 areas of city today

By Staff Correspondent

As part of the ongoing "Save Dhaka, Clean Dhaka" campaign, Bangladesh Scouts will carry out programmes in 12 areas of the city this morning.

The campaign started on September 22 under the joint collaboration of the Bangladesh Scouts, Youth Directorate, Dhaka City Corporation, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and The Daily Star.

In a related drive State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain will inaugurate a cleaning campaign today in front of Faridabad School in the morning under the aegis of Maitry Samajkallyan Sangha.

Poisonous gas kills 2 Bangladeshis KL probe body on camp deaths

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 28: The government has set up an 11-member panel to investigate allegations that illegal foreign immigrants are ill-treated in detention camps, a newspaper reported Thursday, reports AP.

The panel will include opposition party members, voluntary groups and people from "all walks of life."

Deputy Home Minister Megat Junid Megat Ayub was quoted as saying.

The alleged abuse came to light last month when Tenganita, a women's rights group, released a report saying many Bangladeshis, Indian, Pakistani, Myanmar, Indonesian and other workers have died in the camps during the last two years.

Based on interviews with about 350 inmates, Tenganita said the workers lived in unsanitary conditions that bred contagious diseases and were often hit and kicked around by wardens.

The government has denied the allegations. It said about 45 people died in nine camps across the country since 1993, but attributed the deaths to the victims' previous illnesses or malnutrition and exhaustion during their arduous journey through tropical jungles while sneaking into Malaysia.

However, an independent investigation was promised

after demands by opposition leaders.

Megat Junid was quoted as saying by the Star newspaper that the 11-member investigation will be led by Zulkifli Mahmood, former director general of the Anti-Corruption Agency.

Meanwhile, two Bangladeshis and two Malaysian workers died after inhaling poisonous gas Thursday while cleaning a barge in a dockyard, officials said.

Four other Malaysians and two Myanmar also breathed in the gas and were hospitalised, said hospital officials speaking on condition of anonymity.

Chinese troupe performs in city

By Staff Correspondent

The Qinghai Song and Dance Troupe, a visiting cultural team from the People's Republic of China, began their nine-day tour of Bangladesh yesterday with an enchanting performance at the Osmany Memorial Hall in the city.

The artistes, from the western provinces of China, enthralled the audience for almost an hour with their rich repertoire of songs and dances, both traditional and contemporary, reflecting the ethnic diversity and natural beauty of the region.

The programme was inaugurated by...

3 die in luxury coach plunge near Meghna Bridge

Three passengers, including a senior lawyer, were killed and 12 others injured when a luxury coach plunged into a ditch near Meghna Bridge on Dhaka-Chittagong highway Wednesday night, reports UNB.

The company which owns the bus identified the dead as SM Mahmudul Huq, 60, Rahmatullah, 42, and MK Sen.

Mahmudul Huq was a prominent labour lawyer of Chittagong while Rahmatullah hailed from Narayanganj. Particulars of the other could not be gathered.

DUCSU polls: No sign yet of resolving stalemate

By M M Aminul Islam

The Dhaka University authorities are still not announcing a date for the DU Central Students Union (DUCSU) polls apparently because of two differing views held by the major student bodies.

The last DUCSU election was held on June 6, 1990. It completed its term on June 8, 1991. But the election could not be held in due time, in spite of two attempts by the university authorities, due to violent protest from some student organisations.

When contacted, Vice Chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, however, refused to say anything immediately and asked this correspondent to contact him a few days later.

At present, the student organisations in the DU have taken two different positions on the atmosphere for the DUCSU polls.

Both sides want immediate announcement of the election date but the issue which has created a stalemate is the atmosphere in the university.

One side claims that the atmosphere is congenial enough for holding the DUCSU polls. But the other says that a healthy academic atmosphere has to be ensured before holding the polls.

President of the pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Fazlul Haq Milan said, "The atmosphere in the university is congenial for holding the DUCSU election."

"Apprehending certain defeat, Awami League-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) is not willing to go for election and the atmosphere

issue is a pretext for this," Milan told this correspondent.

President to the BCL Enamul Haq Shamim said, "DUCSU election is a must, we also want the DUCSU election to be held every year, it should be part of the academic activities of the university."

But, he said, "a healthy academic atmosphere is the

ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা '৯৬ সচিবালয়
 রত্নানি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরো
 ১২২-১২৪, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা
 ঢাকা-১০০০

ষ্টল/প্যাভিলিয়ন বরাদ্দ
 বাণিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয় ও রত্নানি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরোর যৌথ উদ্যোগে ঢাকার শেরে বাংলা নগরস্থিত প্র্যানিং কমিশনের দক্ষিণ পশ্চিম পার্শে ১৯৯৬ সালের জানুয়ারী ০২-২০ সময়কালে ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা '৯৬ অনুষ্ঠিত হইবে।

২। বিভিন্ন সেক্টর কর্পোরেশন, পণ্য উৎপাদন ও রপ্তানিকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে এই মেলায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাইতেছে।

৩। মেলায় ষ্টল/প্যাভিলিয়ন বরাদ্দের নির্ধারিত আবেদনপত্রের ফরম এবং অন্যান্য তথ্যাদির জন্য অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা '৯৬ সচিবালয়, রত্নানি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরোর সদর দপ্তরে যোগাযোগ করিবার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

৪। আবেদনপত্র জমা দেওয়ার সর্বশেষ তারিখ ৩১ শে অক্টোবর, ১৯৯৫ইং।

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