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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 837.81 (+0.48%)
Market capital Tk 52.20 billion
Transactions in volume 273364.50
Transactions in value Tk 43.13 million

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 385.43 (+1.52%)
Market capital Tk 8079038970 billion
Transactions in volume 1079038970
Transactions in value Tk 392512.30 million

NEWS BRIEFS

One hurt in blast while making bomb

PABNA, Oct 10: A local BNP worker was injured while he was making hand-bomb at his residence in Satiari area of the town this morning, police said. The victim identified as Hatem Ali, 25, son of Azgar Ali, was admitted to Sadar Hospital with serious injuries in his left hand. Later, he, however, fled from the hospital to avoid arrest, reports UNB.

Customs officials demonstrate in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Oct 10: Around 400 officers and employees of the Chittagong Customs House demonstrated in front of their office yesterday demanding withdrawal of the cases filed by the Anti-corruption department against 13 customs officials. Later they held a rally chaired by the convenor of the custom house officers and employees coordination council Nasir Uddin.

CU admission date extended

CHITTAGONG, Oct 10: The last date for admission into the masters degree (final year) courses for the session 1992-93 of the University of Chittagong with late fee of Tk 100 has been extended till October 28 from October 16, a university press release said here today, reports BSS.

IDNDR Day today

The International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) Day will be observed today in the country as elsewhere in the world. The theme of the day this year is "Women and Children-Key to Prevention" the Disaster Management Bureau will hold a seminar on the theme of the day today, reports BSS.

Mubarak, Assad begin talks

DAMASCUS, Oct 10: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak began talks today with Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad during a surprise visit to discuss Middle East peace efforts. Mubarak's trip followed talks between Syrian Foreign Affairs Minister Farouq Al-Shara and US officials in Washington to try to push stalled Syrian-Israeli peace talks forward, reports Reuter.

A number of accords to be signed with Iran today

Bangladesh and Iran will hold official talks this morning to explore new areas of cooperation particularly in economic fields, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will lead the Bangladesh side at the talks at the International Conference Centre (ICC).

Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, who flew in Dhaka yesterday afternoon on a four-day visit, will head

his country's delegation.

The talks will cover the entire gamut of bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues of common concern.

The two leaders are expected to review the steady development of bilateral relations in various fields, including trade, political, economic and cultural cooperation since 1974 when the two countries established diplomatic relations.

They will also review the progress of bilateral relations under the Joint Commission set up in 1989.

Matters relating to more jobs for Bangladeshis in Iran are likely to come up for discussion at the official talks. About 10,000 Bangladeshi doctors, engineers, skilled and semi-skilled workers are now employed in Iran.

President Rafsanjani's visit is likely to be featured by signing of a number of

Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and agreements between the two fraternal countries on fostering cooperation in different fields.

The accords are likely to be initiated on setting up an oil refinery in Bangladesh, shipping lines, air services, agriculture, culture, checking drug trafficking, curbing terrorism, environment, avoidance of double taxation, and protection and promotion of investment and trade.

Bangladesh, Iran and Turkmenistan will sign an agreement on transit trade.

Minister for External Economic Relations of the Central Asian Republic, Baayramovich, will arrive in Dhaka today to initial the planned tripartite agreement which will facilitate Bangladesh to export goods to Central Asia.

The two leaders will exchange views extensively on the evolving situation in

Bosnia-Herzegovina as Bangladesh and Iran want a peaceful solution to the problem that will ensure territorial integrity and independence of the Muslim republic in former Yugoslavia.

Iran has already endorsed the Bangladesh Prime Minister's proposal for an emergency OIC summit on the Bosnian issue.

They will also take up Kashmir problem, situation

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5.4pc growth this fiscal likely: WB

Bangladesh has achieved remarkable macro-economic progress in recent years and the annual growth rate is expected to remain healthy at about 5.4 per cent in 1995-96 compared to five per cent during the previous fiscal, a new World Bank (WB) report says, reports BSS.

The report was presented at a World Bank sponsored country seminar titled "Bangladesh: A new horizon

(See also Page 6).

for investors" held in Washington on Monday.

Speaking on the occasion, Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman said "the stage is now set for investment in Bangladesh. The host of structural adjustment reforms and stabilisation programmes have created an ex-

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Banquet in honour of Rafsanjani at Bangabhaban Dhaka, Tehran to increase cooperation in all fields



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia receiving Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani on his arrival at the Zia International Airport yesterday. — PID photo

Bangladesh and Iran last night called for increasing allround bilateral cooperation and consolidation of historic ties based on centuries' old cultural values shared between the two fraternal countries, reports BSS.

The visiting President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and President Abdur Rahman Biswas also stressed that cooperation among the developing countries, particularly Islamic countries, became all the more necessary in the prevailing global context.

They were speaking at a banquet at Bangabhaban President and Begum Biswas hosted in honour of President and Madame Rafsanjani, on the first day of their four-day state visit to Bangladesh.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, Cabinet minister, Supreme Court Judges, Iranian Foreign Minister Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister for Rural Development and Reconstruction Gholam Reza Ferouzesh, Minister for

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Ctg bourse takes off with Tk 4 cr turnover

By Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, Oct 10: Chittagong Stock Exchange, the second bourse of the country took off today with a "strong" floor trading amid much enthusiasm of its members, brothers, buyers and sellers of shares and elite of the city.

The much expected floor trading started with 30 of the 33 listed companies participating in the cry-out operation system in a rented office at Kaspia Plaza in Agrabad commercial area of the port city. The total turnover was Tk 3,92,512 in value with 1,085 shares changing hands.

The packed trading floor was opened at 10am by Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury, MP, President of CSE, who, in a brief speech heartily welcomed all present on the occasion.

Today's floor trading continued from 10 am to 1:30 pm.

After the first round of floor trading, the CSE President, briefing newsmen said that the platform and operations of the CSE would always

be kept transparent. "Our aim is to ensure a transparent platform."

Chowdhury informed that the CSE would be formally inaugurated by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia by the end of this month or during the first week of next month. The date for the formal inauguration was set for October 16 but was deferred due to the hartal programme of the opposition political parties.

The CSE got its declaration on February 12 this year and was incorporated on April 1 heralding a new era in the economic activities in the port city. Paid up capital in the CSE is Tk 2096 million and market capitalisation is Tk 7,957.

The CSE president said the cry-out system would be replaced by screen-based trading from July, 1996 in the second phase. In the 3rd phase, scriptless central depository system would be introduced while in the fourth phase, satellite linkage would be established for global

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BCL leader shot dead in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 10: A BCL leader was shot dead last night at Boalkhali thana area, police said.

Police recovered the body of Abul Monsur, 27, from near a pond at West Horonadi union under Boalkhali this morning.

Monsur was identified as a BCL leader of Boalkhali unit, police and party sources said.

Police said Monsur was killed by some unidentified miscreants while party sources blamed the activists of a rival political party for the murder.

Meanwhile, some vehicles were damaged by agitated supporters of BCL at Kanungopara road under Boalkhali, witnesses said. A tense situation prevailed in the area.

Special police contingents were deployed there to prevent any outbreak of violence.

Iran agrees to mediate water sharing issue

Iran has agreed to mediate the Dhaka-Delhi water sharing issue, reports UNB.

Visiting Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia that "if necessary, Iran is ready to deal this issue through its good offices with India."

The Iranian President also suggested that Bangladesh could be benefited through the application of international rules and regulation on common rivers.

Earlier Begum Zia sought Iran's cooperation in solving the issue when President Rafsanjani wanted to know the cause of severe floods in Bangladesh and also enquired about the Ganges water-sharing problem.

Iran has a good relationship with India and can persuade Delhi to resolve the issue, she said as she called on him at the State Guest House Karatao yesterday evening.

Begum Zia apprised the Iranian President that onrush of water from upstream caused flood havoc in Bangladesh this year.

She said 13 out of 16 dis-

tricts of the country's northern part were severely affected by the late-autumn flood that kept millions of people in distress.

"Last year, there was a severe drought in northern Bangladesh because of meagre flow of water. But this year, there is excess of water," Begum Zia said, adding "both flood and drought are causing serious damage to crops in the country."

Referring to the Ganges water-sharing issue, Begum Zia said there had been some short-term agreements with the neighbours on the flow of water of the Ganges, but in last several years, there had been no agreement on water.

The Prime Minister said her government had been pursuing the neighbours to resolve the issue of sharing water of the international river.

Ctg chamber signs 3 accords with Iranian chamber

CHITTAGONG, Oct 10: The entrepreneurs of Iran and the port city of Chittagong today signed three accords for joint ventures in LP gas, cement klinker and bitumen, reports UNB.

Officials said three Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) were signed by the Iranian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry for joint-venture investment here.

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Both Rafsanjani and Begum Zia described the existing Dhaka-Tehran relations as excellent. Begum Zia said the visit of Iranian head of state would further strengthen the ties between the two nations.

The Iranian President, flashing smiles on lips, told the Prime Minister that his country had repeatedly invited her to visit it. "But you couldn't make time due to

"As it is an international river, Bangladesh has every right to get the just share of Ganges water," she said and regretted that there had been no positive response from the other side.

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The Iranian President, flashing smiles on lips, told the Prime Minister that his country had repeatedly invited her to visit it. "But you couldn't make time due to

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Two presidents exchange views

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday said the historic visit of Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani will further consolidate the already existing close and friendly relations between the two brotherly countries, reports UNB.

The two presidents had a courtesy meeting shortly after the ceremonial reception accorded to President and Madame Rafsanjani at Bangabhaban.

President Rafsanjani said this visit will further deepen the cordial relations between the two fraternal countries.

He maintained that negotiations and official talks would lead to greater cooperation and understanding for mutual benefit of the peoples of Bangladesh and Iran.

Biswas described the visit of the Iranian President as a reflection of the deep fraternal relations between the two Islamic countries.

Bangladesh highly values her friendship with Iran, which is bound by common ties of Islamic faith and values and cultural heritage, he said.

"Great Persian poets like Ferdousi, Hafez, Sheikh

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Opposition on text of letter PM must accept idea of caretaker govt

Opposition leaders yesterday said they would welcome a letter from the Prime Minister if she concedes to the concept of neutral caretaker government, reports UNB.

When contacted, Awami League presidium member Amir Hossain Amu said Awami League and other opposition parties were waging a movement to realise the demand for a neutral non-party caretaker government to oversee the next parliamentary election.

"We hope that the Prime Minister will write a letter to the Opposition by accepting the concept of neutral non-party caretaker government. If she does so, it will demonstrate her political will to resolve the crisis," Amu told UNB.

Quoting AL President Sheikh Hasina's remarks that she would reply to the Prime Minister's proposed letter, Amu said Sheikh Hasina's comment made it clear that the opposition would respond positively if the PM takes a positive initiative.

Jatiya Party acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman

Chowdhury, however, said the envisaged letter might be another stunt on the government side to create 'smokescreen' and divert people's current movement.

Chowdhury urged the government to 'read the wallwritings' and come forward with a specific proposal to resolve the persisting political problem, otherwise the government would be held responsible.

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15th BCS exams: 783 appointed

The government has given appointment to 783 persons at the beginners' level of 16 service cadres as per recommendations of Public Service Commission on the basis of 15th BCS examination, reports BSS.

One hundred and eighteen persons were recruited in Administration, 15 in Foreign Affairs, 28 in taxation, 15 in Audit and Accounts, 50 in Information, 69 in Police, 29 in Agriculture, 32 in Economic, six in Cooperatives, 16

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Opposition parties differ on withdrawal of 96-hr hartal

Leaders of the major opposition parties yesterday expressed differing views on withdrawal of the country-wide four-day hartal from 16 this month, called by them earlier.

Awami League (AL) General Secretary Zillur Rahman said his party has no plan to consider the government appeal to withdraw the hartal, while leaders of the Jatiya Party (JP) and the Jamaat-e-Islami hinted that they were reviewing the programme in view of the devastating flood in the northern areas of the country.

The AL, the JP and the Jamaat called the hartal to realise their demand for dissolution of Parliament and holding of the next general election under a non-party caretaker government.

Acting Secretary General of the ruling BNP Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan recently appealed to the opposition parties to withdraw the hartal on "humanitarian ground". Mannan told reporters on Saturday that the hartal would affect transportation of

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A car lies underneath the debris of a shopping centre in the port city of Mauzanillo, in the state of Colima, Mexico, Monday. An earthquake measuring 7.5 on the open-ended Richter scale hit the states of Colima and Jalisco on the western coast of Mexico, leaving some 60 people dead and more than 100 injured. — AFP/UNB photo

Hasina blames poor planning for recurrent floods

DINAJPUR, Oct 10: Awami League president Sheikh Hasina today called the BNP government "relief thief" and asked it to resign immediately after handing over power to a neutral caretaker government, reports UNB.

"The relief thief government has no right to stay in power any longer. This government have plundered all the money of the relief fund," she told a public meeting at the Fulbari College ground.

Hasina said the government is responsible for the repeated devastating flood in the country because of its "unplanned" construction of embankments and roads.

She suggested dredging of river beds and draining of water.

On the second day of her

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Major rivers fall further Diarrhoeal diseases attack thousands

By Staff Correspondent

At least 12 people died of diarrhoea and 2,335 were attacked with the disease yesterday in the 14 flood-hit northern districts, according to official figures.

Four persons drowned in flood water in Gaibandha district.

The overall flood situation in the affected districts improved further yesterday as water levels of major rivers continued to fall. Flood Information Centre said. But our correspondent reported from Sirajganj that the situation deteriorated there with inundation of more areas as Korota, Ishamoti and Fuljori, all tributaries of the Jamuna swelled.

The Brahmaputra and the Ganges continued to fall at all

points while rivers in the Meghna basin marked rise at some points and fall at others. All rivers in the south eastern hill basin except the Muhuri recorded fall.

According to Disaster Management and Flood Control centre here so far 2,062 tonnes of wheat and 8,600 tonnes of rice have been sanctioned for the flood hit districts. Besides, Tk 33.50 lakh was sanctioned as gratuitous relief and Tk 20,000 as house building grants.

Meanwhile, Health Minister Kamal Ibne Yusuf in an emergency meeting at his office yesterday renewed health-care facilities in the affected areas to combat diar-

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World Chess

Kasparov retains title

NEW YORK, Oct 10: Gari Kasparov retained his world chess title Monday when he held on to draw the 17th game of his championship series with Viswanathan Anand, raising the score to 10-7 in his favour, reports AP.

The winner of the 20-game Professional Chess Association contest must score 10.5 points, but match rules state that in the event of a 10-10 tie, Kasparov would keep his title.

It is Kasparov's fifth successful defence of the title he won in 1985.

The 18th game, scheduled for Tuesday, will decide the division of the 1.35 million dollars prize fund, which was reduced from 1.5 million dollars. Match spokesman

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