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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 875.42 (+1.42%)
Market capital Tk 54,55 billion
Transactions in volume 179308
Transactions in value Tk 33.13 million

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 408.16 (+0.50%)
Market capital Tk 8513944390
Transactions in volume 920
Transactions in value Tk 292129.70

Supplement

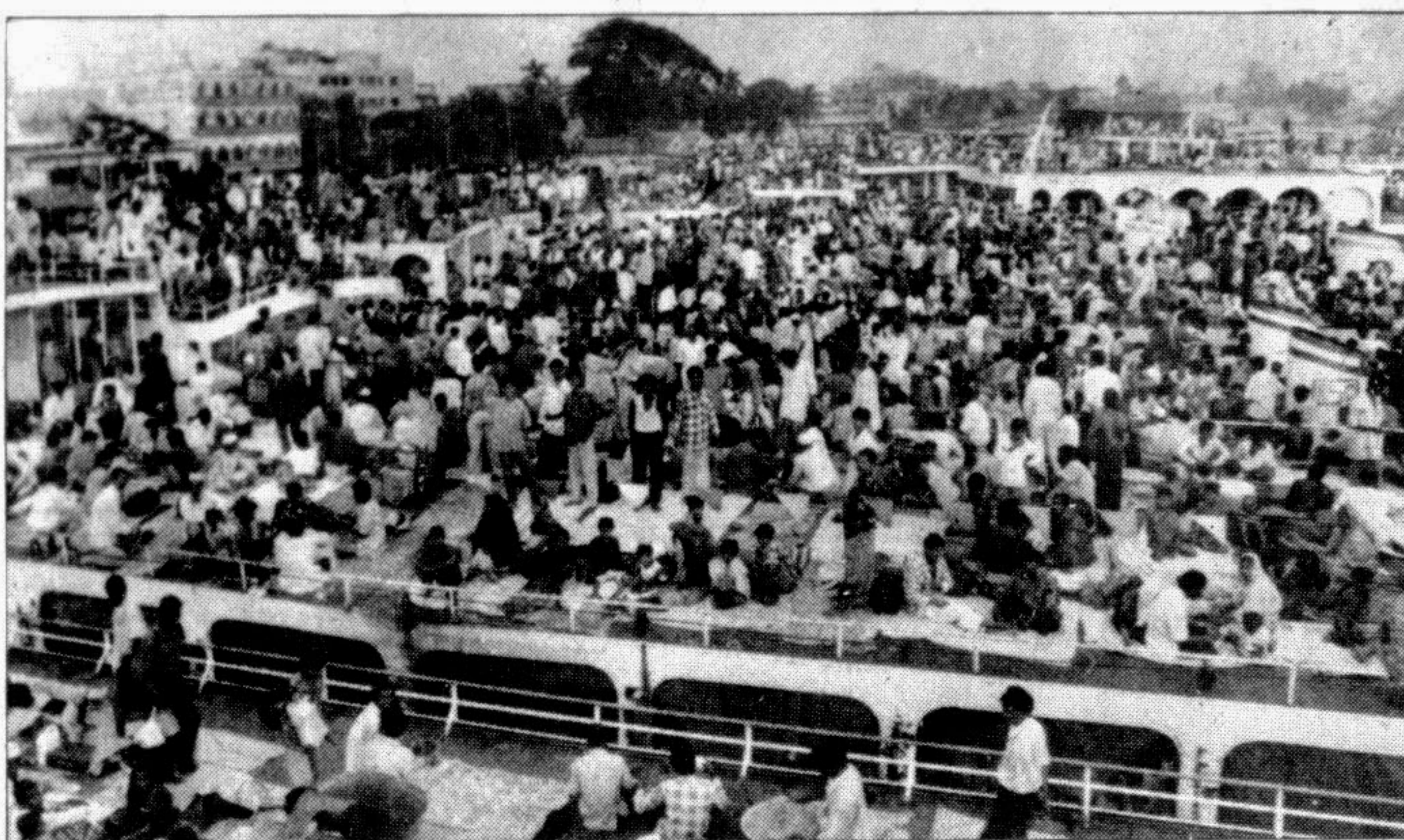
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contains one-page
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Dhaka Day by Day



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Launches crammed with home-bound passengers prepare to leave the Sadarghat terminal on the eve of the 96-hour hartal yesterday.

96-hr hartal begins

By Staff Correspondent

A 96-hour hartal, the longest ever in the country, begins this morning except in Rajshahi division at the call of the major opposition political parties.

Flood-hit Rajshahi division and vehicles carrying relief materials there have been exempted from the hartal.

The four-day hartal, adding to a Friday holiday prompted a home-going spree in the capital city.

Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami called the hartal as part of their on-going agitation programme to press their demand for dissolution of parliament and holding of general elections under a neutral caretaker government.

Ambulance, medicine and food shops, vehicles carrying newspapers and journalists, kutcha bazar, fire brigade, electricity, gas, water and conservancy services will remain outside the purview of the hartal. The hartal has

been relaxed for rickshaws from 6 pm till midnight tonight.

The government has planned to deploy some 4,500 police and BDR personnel in Dhaka city to maintain peace, according to highly placed official sources.

Editorial on page 4

The government has identified 54 city points as troubled areas, the sources said.

Meanwhile the three major parties have taken preparations and called upon the people to make the hartal a success.

The Dhaka city unit of Awami League yesterday held an extended meeting to discuss preparations to make the 96-hour hartal a success. Party chief Sheikh Hasina addressed the meeting as chief guest, while the city unit president and Mayor of Dhaka Mohammad Hanif was in the chair.

Jatiya party Acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury in a statement last night urged the people to observe the hartal to lead the on-going agitation for caretaker government to success.

Jamaat-e-Islami publicity secretary Abdul Kader Molla in a statement also called upon its leaders and workers as well as people in general to make the hartal a success.

A large number of working people left the city for home yesterday, rather in a festive mood, to spend the five consecutive 'holidays' created by the four-day hartal.

Out-going inter-district buses were seen packed with passengers while there were relatively lesser number of passengers in the in-coming ones.

Many of the city roads, usually having menacing traffic jams, were free yesterday. There was no usual evening 'one-km jam' on the Ele-
See Page 12 Col 2

10-pt directive to keep Sectt functioning

By Staff Correspondent

The authorities have taken special measures for smooth functioning of Bangladesh Secretariat, the administrative nerve-centre of the government, during the 96-hour hartal.

Official sources said that the Home Ministry has issued a circular incorporating 10-point directive for all concerned to facilitate normal attendance of the officials and employees during the non-stop general strike called by the Opposition.

According to the circular, the officers and the employees will be allowed to stay at the Secretariat office rooms during night hours from 15 to 18 October.

The management of the Secretariat canteen has been advised to arrange adequate food while the authorities concerned have been asked to ensure uninterrupted sup-
See Page 12 Col 8

36 Pak army officers held for 'backing fundamentalists'

ISLAMABAD, Oct 15: About 36 Pakistan army officers including several top ranking officials have been arrested, news reports quoting Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said here today, report agencies.

But the premier refused to disclose details of the allegations against the officers, telling editors of the national dailies at a meeting here Saturday that investigations were still underway.

"We will not leak selective bit of information but will make a full disclosure when the investigations are complete," a local daily The Nation quoted Benazir as telling the editors.

She did not give number of the detained officers nor the charges against them. The Ministry of Defence here also made no comment.

But The Nation daily, quoting informed sources, said the officers had been

accused of supporting Islamic fundamentalists.

It said about three dozen officers were arrested about two weeks ago, and that they included a major general, a brigadier and a colonel. They had been taken to the southwestern city of Quetta, it said without elaborating.

Reuters says, Benazir had been asked to comment on a statement by Senator Tariq Chaudhury, a member of a party allied to the ruling Pakistan People's Party, that senior army officers were under arrest.

The Nation said Major General Zaher-ul-Islam Abbasi, working as Director General of Infantry at general headquarters had been arrested with a Brigadier General, a colonel and three dozen army officers on September 26.

A military spokesman refused to confirm the details

carried by The Nation, but another officer, who asked not to be named, said Abbasi had been correctly identified.

Abbasi previously served as military attache at the Pakistani embassy in New Delhi and was expelled after being declared persona non grata, The Nation said.

"These officers have been accused of supporting fundamentalists and making efforts for bringing about Islamic revolution," the newspaper added.

The English-language daily Frontier Post said Amin Minhas, chief of the Islamabad-based Tanzeem-ul-Islami group, had fled to Britain after he was charged under a public order ordinance in August.

The paper linked the departure of Minhas, a former army major turned Islamic scholar, with the arrest of the army officers.

Licences of 20 clinics cancelled, 120 labs served with notices

By Mizan Ali

The Directorate of Health in a recent drive cancelled licences of at least 20 private medical clinics as they failed to maintain the required standard, according to official sources.

Besides, notices have been served to 130 private diagnostic centres to stop their activities as they are operating without licence.

Prof Ahsanullah, Director of Hospitals and Clinics, while talking to The Daily Star yesterday, confirmed these but said "The Directorate is not empowered to enforce the decisions."

"All income generating clinics and diagnostic centres are required to register themselves with the Directorate of Health under the Medical Clinic and Private Hospital Ordinance 1984," he said.

Since the Ordinance did not provide the Directorate of Health with magisterial powers, it cannot enforce its directives, he explained.

The Directorate also lacks adequate manpower and other logistic support to carry out its job, he said.

The number of registered diagnostic centres throughout the country stands at 833, while the number of private medical clinics is 402, according to the Directorate.

Registration fee for an income generating hospital is Taka 5000 and for a diagnostic centre is Tk 1000 for one year. The registration has to be renewed after one year. ECG, X-Ray and other vital equipment have to be registered with Directorate with a fee of Taka 1000 each.

JMB project Construction work of main bridge begins

BHUAPUR (Tangail), Oct 15: The construction work on the main bridge of Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge project began today with the inauguration of the pile driving work at the Bhupur end of the bridge, reports BSS.

Communications Minister Oli Ahmed attended the function as chief guest. State Minister for Land Kabir Hossain, Shahjahan Siraj MP, Khondkar Buruddin MP, Abdus Salam MP and Secretary of Jamuna Bridge Division Mohammad Ali and Project Director of the main bridge YB Kim of South Korean Hyundai Company also spoke on the occasion.

Ambassador of South Korea to Bangladesh and consultants of the bridge project were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Oli Ahmed said about 26 per cent work of the river training, a major component of
See Page 12 Col 1

PM opens Dhaka Nat'l Medical College in city

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday opened Dhaka National Medical College in the compound of Dhaka National Hospital in the city, reports UNB.

Addressing the function the Prime Minister said the government has set up new medical colleges and is also encouraging more medical colleges in the private sector.

She urged the doctors to strengthen their spirit of service to humanity considering the misery of the common people. "A physician's profession is not merely a job, it involves human greatness and an outlook of service."

The Prime Minister said work is going on to convert the 100-bed hospitals into 250 beds and the 50-bed ones into 100 beds in the greater districts. Besides, the number of beds in thana health complexes are being raised to 50 from the existing 31.

Begum Zia said steps have been taken to introduce nuclear medicine and other allied treatment facilities so that complicated diseases could be treated in the country.
See Page 12 Col 3

1348 selected for lecturers under BCS (Edn) cadre

By Staff Correspondent

A total of 1,348 candidates have been selected provisionally for appointment as lecturers of various subjects under the Bangladesh Civil Service (general education) cadre.

The results were announced yesterday by the Bangladesh Public Service Commission (PSC) on the basis of the 16th BCS (special) Examinations-1994.

The selection is subject to fulfilling necessary formalities like health examination and police verification, says a PSC press release.

Letters will be sent to the selected candidates in due time asking them to appear before a medical board to be
See Page 12 Col 8

Letter: PM may take more time

By Nurul Kabir

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is likely to take some more time to write to Awami League (AL) chief Sheikh Hasina for settling the political disputes across the table, sources close to the premier said yesterday.

"She is likely to wait for a few days to see the fate of the move for a negotiation made by the group of five eminent citizens", an influential leader of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) told this correspondent, on the condition of anonymity yesterday.

The BNP policy-makers hinted early last week that the Prime Minister may write the letter either before the beginning of the Opposition called 96-hour hartal, or before her departure for the United States of America on October 20. She is scheduled to address the United Nations' General Assembly in New York.

While talking to this correspondent yesterday, the BNP leader, who is also a minister, said a letter merely inviting the AL chief to a dialogue would not help resolve the crisis unless there was a "sound basis for the discussion."
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Islampur College closed to avert JCD-BCL clash

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Oct 15: The Islampur Degree College was closed sine die today apprehending more clashes between the activists of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL).

Yesterday, clashes between the two groups left two JCD members injured. Besides, several shops were ransacked and looted, police said.

The clashes started following an altercation between the two groups over occupying a bench in one of the class rooms of the Islampur Degree College. At one stage of the altercation, two JCD members, Shahin
See Page 12 Col 6

PM making mockery of situation: Hasina

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina yesterday blasted the Prime Minister, for what she said, making a mockery of the prevailing political situation.

"The Prime Minister is making mockery of the prevailing political crisis that she (PM) herself created", Hasina said in response to the PM's statement at a public meeting Saturday.

"Such a gesture of the Prime Minister reminds one of the old proverb, 'When Rome was burning Nero was playing the flute,' she added.

Hasina was addressing an extended meeting of her party's Dhaka city unit at the party office. The meeting reviewed preparations for the 96-hour hartal.

"It is a joke", Hasina also said responding to the Prime Minister's comments made at the public meeting about her (Hasina's) threat of a sit-in front of the PM's residence.

"When people are concerned about the political situation, the Prime Minister is cutting jokes", Hasina said.

"Why sit-in in front of my residence? Come inside, have
See Page 12 Col 3

tea," the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had said in the public meeting at Chhainawabganj.

"We know hartal increases public sufferings, but the Prime Minister forced us to go for it," Hasina said.

"We call hartal to protest her corruption, lust for power and stubbornness... She (PM) is responsible for people's sufferings. We will call off the hartal as soon as the government accepts the demand for caretaker administration," Hasina said.

The former Leader of the Opposition in Parliament announced that her party if voted to power, would hold elections under caretaker government. "We have that courage."

"I never asked the Prime Minister to resign just for change of power. I want people to cast their votes freely," she said.

The Awami League president reiterated that their agitation would continue until the government conceded to the demand for holding of general elections under a
See Page 12 Col 3

Massive rehabilitation scheme for 13 flood-hit dists

The government yesterday adopted a massive rehabilitation programmes for the country's flood-stricken northern districts to provide the affected people with work, food and money to rebuild their devastated homes, reports UNB.

A high-level meeting with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair reviewed the flood situation and relief operation in the 13 severely affected districts and decided to launch the programmes on large scale as the flood waters are receding.

The meeting discussed the supply situation of relief goods, housing and agriculture rehabilitation, diarrhoea and sanitation condition and
See Page 12 Col 7

reconstruction of roads, bridges and culverts in the northern districts.

It was informed that army personnel and the civil administration have jointly been distributing properly relief materials, preparing the lists of the flood-affected people.

The meeting decided that the relief works would continue in the 13 districts along with Kurigram and Lalmonirhat in November. For the purpose, a quantity of 25,000 tons of rice will be allocated and each family be given 20-kg rice per month.

The text relief programme is also continuing in the areas while the Food for Work and Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) programmes will be started soon.

The meeting also decided that Tk 7.50 crore would be given to one lakh families as house building grants in the 13 districts. Families whose houses were damaged completely will be given Tk 1,000 while Tk 500 for partly damaged houses.

Apart from the housing grants, the government will soon undertake housing rehabilitation credit programme.

Agriculture Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan told the meeting that his ministry had already started an agriculture rehabilitation scheme involving Tk 13 crore. Also, rabi crop rehabilitation programme is being undertaken in the affected districts.
See Page 12 Col 7



Welfare Association for the Blind brought out a procession in the city yesterday to mark the World White Cane Safety Day.

42.62 pc pass Jessore Board HSC exams

The results of the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) Examinations of 1995 held under Jessore Education Board were published yesterday, reports BSS.

A total of 92,470 students appeared in the examinations, of whom 39,409 came out successful.

The percentage of pass is 42.62.

Of the successful students 7,613 were placed in the first division, 26,385 in the second division and 5,411 in the third division.

The percentage of pass in the science group is 52.83, in the humanities group 40.10 and in the commerce group 49.10.

Rubayet Adnan of Barisal Cadet College topped the list
See Page 12 Col 6

of successful candidates in science group securing 920 marks with letters in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Statistics. He was followed by Mohammad Rajibul Hoq and Ashiq Mohammad Tariq Masrur Khan, both from Jhenidah Cadet college securing second and third position respectively.

Nasrin Sultana of Patuakhali Government College and Ishrat Jahan of Government Women's College, Jessore jointly topped the first position in humanities group securing 865 marks each. The second and the third positions went to Mosammat Dilshad Surma of Shaheed Smriti College, Pirojpur and Mohammad Ishaque Ali of
See Page 12 Col 6