

JUICE
JAM
PICKLE
KETCHUP
SHERBET

প্রাণ

SQUASH
VINEGAR
KEWRA-
WATER
ROSE-
WATER

PRAN for Health **প্রাণ**

The Daily Star

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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 902.22 (+1.77%)
Market capital Tk 58.22 billion
Transactions in volume 391288
Transactions in value Tk 67.95 million

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 425.82 (+4.30%)
Market capital Tk 990434680.00
Transactions in volume 745
Transactions in value Tk 251924.45

Supplement

Today's issue of The Daily Star contains a 2-page supplement on International Seminar on Road Safety organised by BRTA Pages 8, 9

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NEWS BRIEFS

Farakka body to stage rally in NY
Members and supporters of the US based International Farakka Committee will hold a demonstration in front of the UN building in New York tomorrow to press home their demand for an immediate agreement between Bangladesh and India for fair sharing of the Ganges water, a message received here yesterday said, reports BSS.

Acid thrown at housewife
SATKHIRA, Oct 22: A housewife of Labananbati Adarsha village in Sadar thana was injured seriously when her husband allegedly threw acid at her on Friday. According to family sources, Nurunnahar 18, married Mansur of the same village two years ago. A few months ago, she started living separate from him following a family feud. Mansur had, meanwhile, tried several times to bring her back to his house, reports UNB.

Seven injured in JCD-BCL clash
From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Oct 22: At least seven persons were injured in a clash between the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at the Govt Syed Hatem Ali College here today. Some students ransacked the staff council office of the college. The authorities have closed the college tomorrow.

Ghali proposes special session on UN financial crisis

Clinton's 5-point plan to combat crime, terrorism

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 22: US President Bill Clinton opened celebrations of the United Nations' 50th birthday here today by urging world leaders to adopt a five-point plan to combat international crime and terrorism, reports AFP.

Clinton made his plea to some 140 presidents, monarchs and prime ministers gathered here for an unprecedented display of pomp and politics held amid the tightest security New York has ever seen.

His plan included signing of a declaration on international crime and citizens' safety which Clinton said was aimed at telling criminals and terrorists that "you have nowhere to run and nowhere to hide."

Other measures included an international anti-terrorism pact, an offensive on drugs, measures to boost co-operation among national police forces, and a mechanism to track the illegal traffic of arms and hazardous materials.

Clinton, who as host was the first leader to speak, paid particular attention to the traffic in hazardous materials, saying "a lump of plutonium no bigger than a soda can is enough to build an atomic bomb."

"This is a full challenging agenda," Clinton said of his proposed programme. But we must complete it and we must do it together."

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is scheduled to address the special session marking the 50th anniversary of the United Nations in New York today (Monday).

Russian President Boris Yeltsin said today his country would send peacekeeping troops to Bosnia only if they were "under a strict mandate of the UN Security Council."

In his speech Yeltsin made clear his opposition to NATO control of the international force expected to implement any peace accord. "It is inadmissible for a regional organisation to make decisions as to the mass use of force bypassing the Security Council," he said.

The meeting, the biggest since the end of the Cold War, will neither confirm nor deny.

A senior Bangladesh Bank official, however, said he had not been informed of any repayment till today. "If they do not repay by the deadline, they will have to lose their directorship and face normal procedures by the scheduled banks to recover the loans."

The Bangladesh Bank had served notices on nine private commercial banks in August and September asking them to recover the overdue loans amounting to about Taka 150 crore taken by directors of the banks within two months. The banks are: Arab-Bangladesh Bank, National Bank, Uttara Bank, United Commercial Bank, City Bank, IFIC Bank, Pubali Bank, NCCBL and Islami Bank.

The central bank's serving officer said he had not been informed of any repayment till today. "If they do not repay by the deadline, they will have to lose their directorship and face normal procedures by the scheduled banks to recover the loans."

Three of 32 bank directors repay overdue loans

Star Report

Some of the country's leading business figures are on the list of defaulting bank directors who have been served with notices for repayment of loans.

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Flags of different countries are being raised in front of the United Nations in New York on the eve of UN special session. — AFP/UNB photo

None will be allowed to create constitutional crisis, PM says in NY

NEW YORK, Oct 22: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia categorically said that her government would not allow anyone to create any constitutional crisis in the country, reports BSS.

At a reception accorded to her by the Bangladeshis living in the US at hotel Marriot at Time Square, she said those who had created artificial political problem in the country in the name of movement would not be allowed to create any constitutional crisis.

Begum Zia gave a brief resume of the country's latest political situation when a host of Bangladeshis requested her to appraise them about it.

She also told them that the BNP government had always shown utmost sincerity in the name of movement would not be allowed to create any constitutional crisis.

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She also told them that the BNP government had always shown utmost sincerity



Begum Zia addressing a reception accorded to her in New York Saturday by Bangladeshis living in the United States. — PID photo

'Solar eclipse omen for country's politics'

By Staff Correspondent

Curiosity, superstitions and astrological forecast surround the solar eclipse, due to be seen tomorrow (Tuesday) from 8:05 am to 11 am in the country.

If the sky remains clear, total eclipse of the sun may be observed at Hiron Point in the Sundarbans and adjacent areas.

The Ministry of Science and Technology yesterday warned the people to refrain from looking at the sun with naked eyes during the eclipse period from 8:04 am to 10:50 am as this could be harmful to the eyes, said an official handout.

The Science Museum will make arrangement for public observation of the solar eclipse at the south plaza of the Jatiya Sangsad.

As Asian superstitions go, solar eclipse is sign of unprecedented events — mostly negative and bad — a fear also vented by astrologers.

In Bangladesh, the would-be event has created enthusiasm among a section of people to observe it while also bringing forth words of caution from astrologers.

A good number of enthusiastic people including students have already left for Hiron Point to see total solar eclipse.

A team called "Solar eclipse observation and science workshop," organised by Bigyan Sangskriti Parishad, Bangladesh Astrological Association and Anusandhitshu Chakra left for Hiron Point Saturday.

The Bangladesh National Astrologers' Federation (BNAF) sees the solar eclipse as an omen of "unprecedented troubles" for the country's politics, law and order and environment and urged Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina to "resolve all disputes peacefully immediately."

"This eclipse would intensify the on-going political crisis in the country and terrorism and violence might lead to a civil war. There is a chance of natural disaster," a press release of the BNAF forecast, adding, "one can not ignore the possibility of an upheaval of some undesired forces."

The statement was issued jointly by the BNAF president Pandit Abu Hasan Jasri, Asian Astrologers Congress Secretary General Dr Mohammad

ULFA denies taking shelter in Bangladesh

NEW DELHI, Oct 22: The outlawed United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) has rejected Indian government allegations that its leaders were taking shelter in Bangladesh and Bhutan, reports BSS.

Quoting a press release issued by acting publicity secretary of the central committee of the militant outfit, Mingmatha Doimray, the Guwahati-based English daily, The Sentinel, in a report on Wednesday described the charge as "a conspiracy to suppress the two neighbours."

The report said the allegation had economic motivation as "India was not satisfied with exploiting the people of its own country but wants to perpetrate atrocities."

The statement was issued jointly by the BNAF president Pandit Abu Hasan Jasri, Asian Astrologers Congress Secretary General Dr Mohammad

Press printing fake currency found

By Staff Correspondent

Detective police unearthed a modern printing press used in producing counterfeit currency notes and other documents at Shahid Nagar under Lalbagh police station in the city yesterday.

Police said, a group of persons was engaged in producing forged currency notes of Taka and dollar, stamps, visa stickers, immigration forms and Biman tickets.

The police discovered the press following a tip off given by two persons arrested earlier.

On October 14, police had arrested Monjurul Islam alias Monju and Shaiful Islam alias Shamsu from a house at Noor Jahan Road, Moham-madpur and seized a huge quantity of counterfeit Taka and Dollar notes, immigration forms, Biman tickets and stamps.

Outer anchorage of Ctg Port now a smugglers' den

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, Oct 22: The outer anchorage of Chittagong port has reportedly turned into an 'open market' of smuggled goods brought by foreign cargo ships as anti-smuggling drive by the Customs' special team was kept in abeyance for about a year, sources said.

Some feeder vessels operating between Chittagong port and Singapore regularly and some other foreign cargo ships calling at the port, are reportedly engaged in bringing smuggled goods which are dropped at the outer anchorage, the sources added.

Around 100 mechanised boats of high engine capacity carry those goods — particularly foreign cigarettes, electronic items, crockeries and gold to the convenient points of the shore for trafficking to the city and other parts of the country, sources informed.

According to the sources, the smuggled goods reach the city through different routes including Patenga coastal area, Muralighat, Chandgao, Malumghat, Anwara, Patiya and Cox's Bazar.

Smuggled goods are also reportedly brought aboard some scrap-ships which arrive here from foreign ports, sources informed.

A few cargo ships were raided by the anti-smuggling team of Customs Department last year and smuggled goods worth crores of taka were seized. Even a black-list of some feeder vessels engaged in smuggling was prepared at that time but later it was reportedly suppressed due to mysterious reasons, informed sources said.

Moreover, the anti-smuggling team of Chittagong Customs hardly go for patrolling at the vulnerable points including Patenga and other city areas while earlier, it was a regular routine work of anti-smuggling team, sources said.

Recently, a special contingent of Chittagong Metropolitan Police Detective branch, in a sudden raid at Karnaphuly river recovered huge smuggled goods including cigarettes after an hour-long exchanges of fire with the smugglers.

However, both Customs and police officials blame each other for playing a silent

Leather industry to be declared export-oriented

Leather industry will be declared a cent per cent export-oriented industry, reports BSS.

This was told at a meeting of the commerce ministry, held yesterday to discuss matters relating to the expansion of exports of leather and leather goods.

Commerce and Information Minister M Shamsul Islam presided.

The meeting discussed various aspects of development of the leather training institute and common facilities centre and other issues for the development of leather industry like extension of duty-bond facility and loan facility.

The meeting expressed the hope that extension of all facilities applicable for fully exportable industry would help the expansion of the

Key indicators show upward trend at DSE

The stock market appears to have successfully shielded itself from the lingering political unrest in the country as the key indicators during the July-September period bettered over the previous quarter, reports UNB.

Supply of securities markedly improved, so did the trading and prices, according to the latest market review of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the capital market watchdog.

Four new companies and one mutual fund were listed with Dhaka Stock Exchange during the last quarter, altogether floating Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) worth Tk 1,137 billion, a 65.5 per cent rise over the previous quarter.

There has been an additional supply of 5.7 million tradeable securities in the Dhaka bourse as a result of the buoyancy.

The period also saw a surge in fresh right issues rising by a record 414.50 per cent to Tk 276.8 million from the previous quarter's Tk 53.8 million.

Along with the primary market, the secondary market too showed uptrend during the first quarter of the current fiscal year when the daily trading went up significantly and price index peaked as well.

Cinemas at risk of turning into inferno

By Dr Nizamuddin Ahmed

Cinema halls with hot and sticky interiors of highly combustible materials, congested seating for about a thousand people who are ignorant about, and indifferent to, safe fire practices, have to be rated as high-risk fire hazard buildings with the potential to kill a very large number of people.

People will mainly die because of the panic (which is common among untrained and unprepared populace), the smoke-logging in the enclosed dark interiors and the inability to escape systematically and in time. In those dark, enclosed interiors, the viewer is veritably seated in a time-bomb where a fire could trigger off any time.

Foyers and lobbies are so inadequate that viewers are compelled to use the street. Any degree of panic in these ill-planned cinema houses would spell a frightful calamity.

Cinemas at risk of turning into inferno

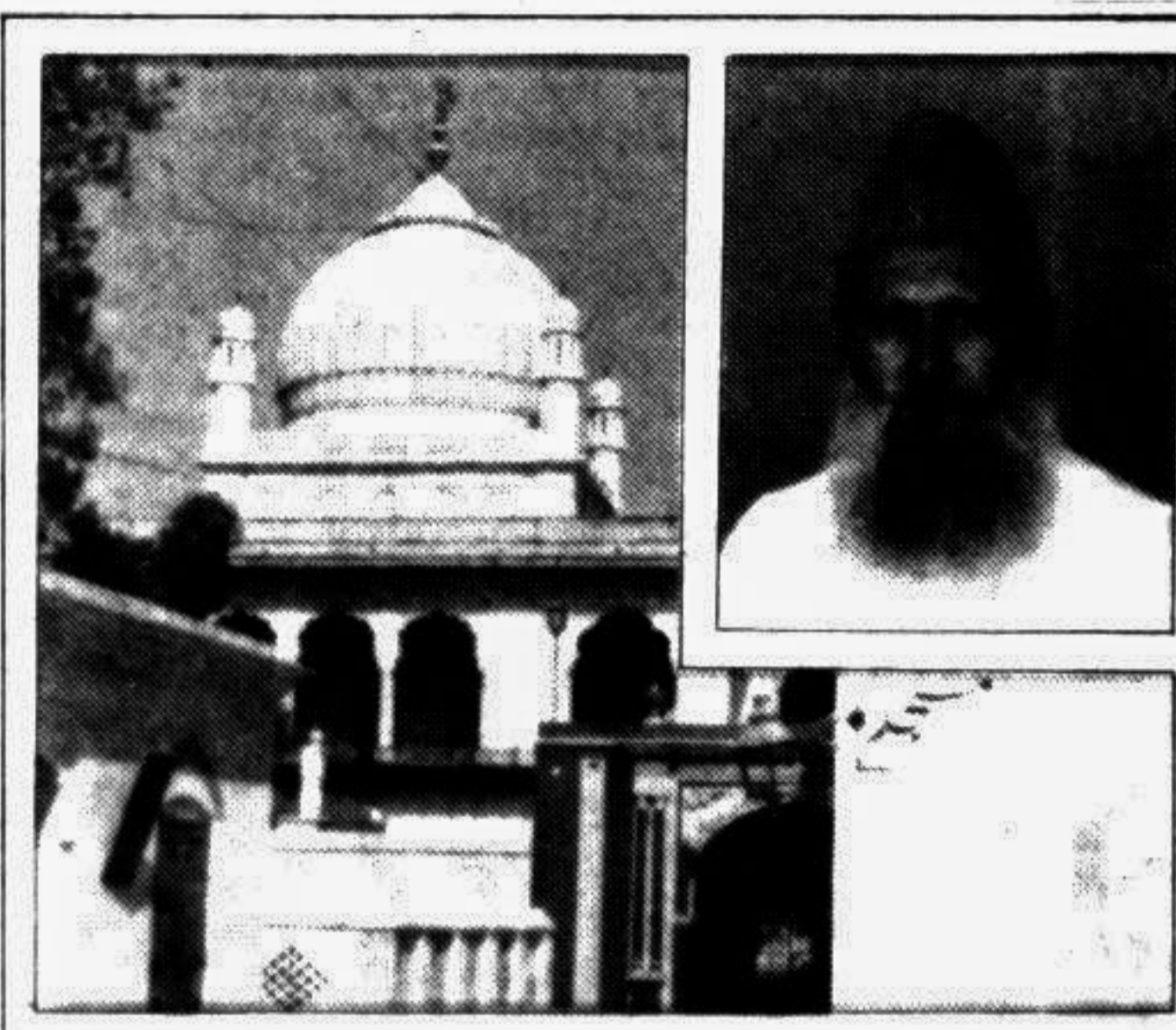
Collapsible gate of a cinema hall in the city seen locked during the show. — Star photo

9 dacoits held in city

By Staff Correspondent

Police yesterday rounded up nine dacoits from a bus near Peer Jangi Mazar in the city and seized arms and ammunition from their possession.

A special team of the CID police rushed to the bus stand of S Alam Paribahan at Peer Jangi Mazar yesterday morning and arrested the



হযরত মুজাদ্দেদে আল ফেসানী (রহঃ) -এর আওলাদ গদিনিসান সিরহীন্দ শরীফের খলিফা হুজুর বাংলাদেশ সফরে এসেছেন

হযরত ইমাম রব্বানী মোজাদ্দেদে আলফেসানী হযরত শেখ আহমদ ফারুকী (রঃ আঃ) -এর খানকা-ই-আলীয়া মোজাদ্দেদীয়ার সাক্ষাদানশীন এবং খলিফা হযরত সৈয়দ মোহাম্মদ ইব্রাহীম মোজাদ্দেদী সাহেব ভারতের পাঞ্জাবের সিরহীন্দ পাক রওজা শরীফ হতে বাংলাদেশ সফরে এসেছেন। হুজুরের এটা প্রথম বাংলাদেশ সফর।

তিনি বাংলাদেশের নকসুবনীয়া মোজাদ্দেদীয়া তরিকার আশেপাশ মোতয়াছিবীনদের সাথে সাক্ষাৎ করার জন্য বাংলাদেশ এসেছেন।

হুজুর বর্তমানে ঢাকা শহরের উত্তরা মডেল টাউনের ৪নং সেক্টরের ১০নং রোডের ৩৯নং বাড়িতে অবস্থান করছেন। হুজুরের ফোন নং-৮৯৩৩৮৫

আগ্রহী ভক্তবৃন্দ উক্ত ঠিকানায় যোগাযোগ করতে পারেন।