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**DSE MARKET**

DSE price index	889.24 (-0.13%)
Market capital Tk	5896.64 cr
Transactions in volume	274797
Transactions in value Tk	5.38 cr

**CSE MARKET**

CSE price index	430.90 (+0.22%)
Market capital Tk	2123.88 cr
Transactions in volume	3475
Transactions in value Tk	7.78 lakh

**Supplement**  
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**NEWS BRIEFS**

**PM shocked at deaths**  
 Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed "deep shock" at the huge loss of lives and property caused by a devastating typhoon that struck the eastern Bicol region in Philippines on Thursday, reports BSS.

**Jessore BNP leader killed**  
 JESSORE, Nov 4 Local BNP leader Dilip Kumar was killed by unknown assailants at Chandpur under Kotwali thana here last night. Police recovered his body from a paddy field and sent it to Jessore Sadar Hospital for post-mortem, reports BSS.

**Pabna pry teachers demonstrate**  
 PABNA, Nov 4 Several hundred teachers of private primary schools demonstrated in front of the DC office here today to press for their four-point demands.

**One killed in road accident**  
 By Staff Correspondent  
 An unidentified person was killed when a minibus hit the tempo in which he was travelling at Rokeya Sarani in the city yesterday.

## Hasina replies to PM's 2nd letter Steps for caretaker govt must be on talks agenda

By Staff Reporter

Awami League (AL) chief Sheikh Hasina last night replied to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia's second letter specifically proposing that "effective steps to form a non-party caretaker government" for holding the next general elections should be the main item on the agenda for a "meaningful dialogue."

The letter categorically said the next three or four consecutive general elections should be held under non-party caretaker government to build a sound political process and ensure political stability in the country.

Hasina regretted that the Prime Minister in her November 2 letter "kept mum" on the issue of holding elections under a caretaker government. The government should "come forward to resolve the crisis through a meaningful dialogue," she said.

The AL chief's reply was handed over to acting Secretary General of the ruling BNP Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan at 10:10 pm at his Hare Road residence. Information and Research Secretary of the AL Abu Sayeed carried it to Bhuiyan's residence.

The Prime Minister and BNP Chairperson was in Chittagong yesterday.

Hasina's reply to the PM's letter was finalised after discussions on the issue at four party meetings in the last two days.

The letter referred to by-elections for a parliamentary seat in Magura and the Lalbagh Killings during the Dhaka City Corporation polls, and said the bitter experience of such elections had led the people to believe that elections under a party-government could not be free.

See Page 12 Col 3

## Mastans open fire inside class room: Teacher, student injured

By DMCH Correspondent

A group of mastans burst into a class room of the Dhaka Commercial Institute in the city and fired gunshots indiscriminately injuring the teacher and a student yesterday morning.

The injured student, Farhad, 20, was struck with six bullets, in his thigh and abdomen and was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in a critical condition. The teacher, Monirul Islam, injured in the leg, was treated at a clinic at Dhanmondi.

Sources said that some 20 armed youths, allegedly led by one Rafiq, suddenly entered the room when class

See Page 12 Col 3

## CSE important step in development: PM

CHITTAGONG, Nov 4: Country's second bourse got off to a formal start in the port city today with the Prime Minister making a call for linking it with the international capital market to infuse dynamism in the national economy, reports UNB.

The business hub of Agrabad in Bangladesh's commercial capital pulsed with a new hope in the trading circles as Begum Khaleda Zia inaugurated the Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE), aiming to attract foreign investment besides netting and shaping small domestic savings into investable capital.

The CSE will play a vital role in attaining this objective, the Prime Minister hoped and noted that a democratic environment alone can ensure proper growth and flourishing of man's talent, innovative power and efficiency much needed for advancement in all sectors.

"For this purpose, we have struggled for long nine years to create such a democratic atmosphere in the country. Finally, democracy has been established through spontaneous participation of the people in this struggle," she told the largely-attended inaugural function at the Hotel Agrabad in the afternoon.

"You have seen that all sections of people of our country have involved themselves in productive initiatives and activities after the establishment of democracy."

Focusing on the state of economy now set in motion, See Page 12 Col 4

## Rail, road barricade tomorrow

The major opposition parties are learnt to have taken extensive preparations for a nationwide rail-road-waterway barricade tomorrow to press the government to announce election under a neutral caretaker administration.

A dawn-to-dusk traffic blockade will be enforced at 6 am across the country, organisers told UNB.

The Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami have announced the blockade as part of their street agitation to press for their demand.

They said workers of the three parties would stage day-long sit-in at different strategic points sealing off all the entries to the capital.

Similar barricades will be See Page 12 Col 8



Garments workers held a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday for realising their demands. — Star photo

## Myanmar defeated 2-1 Bangladesh lift maiden title in int'l meet

Sports Reporter

Sweet is the cup of joy, but for Bangladesh it was soaked in nectar as the Bangladesh booters lifted their maiden title in any international meet by defeating hosts Myanmar 2-1 in the final of the Quadrangular invitational tournament at the Yangon Stadium yesterday.

Bangladesh had earlier made into four futile finals in regional meets, including three of the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games. With this win the success-lorn national team could finally prove that some amount of desperation coupled with a bit of luck it is not impossible to uphold the aspirations of millions of football fans in the country.

It was a victory which Bangladesh will treasure for a long time. In a Cinderella run, Bangladesh, who suffered a humiliating 4-0 defeat at the hands of the same Myanmar in the tournament opener, turned the table on the ASEAN runners-up with some fine display of team spirit and flashes of individual brilliance.

No sooner had the Myanmar referee blown the final whistle, thousands of Bangladeshis took to the streets to celebrate an unprecedented victory. The Dhaka University students, who watched the final live, a complements of the cable network, brought out a victory procession in the campus soon after the match.

Thanks to Mamun Joarder and Imtiaz Ahmed Naqib, the scorers for Bangladesh. And special felicitations to captain Monem Munna, whose inspirational presence See Page 12 Col 7

## Hasina calls for halting traffic movement

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the people to make the rail-road-waterways barricade programme on November 6 a complete success by halting the movement of all motor vehicles, reports UNB.

In a press statement, she said the barricade programme had been called to press for the resignation of the government and holding of elections under a neutral caretaker government headed by the Chief Justice.

"Demonstrate your no-confidence in the government again by observing an all-out barricade programme," she said urging the people to be ready for any sacrifice for attaining their rights to vote and food.

## WB for sweeping banking reforms Legal procedures need to be changed to end default culture

By Inam Ahmed and R M Titumir

The World Bank wants "sweeping reforms" in the country's banking sector as it views that "weakness in governance" has led to the failure in countering the pressure groups that "benefit from the current situation".

The WB has also suggested quick selling off the loss-making nationalised commercial banks (NCBs) and said the people's respect for the government has eroded due to "growing incidence of lawlessness" last year.

These were contained in the Bank's Country Assessment Strategy (CAS) for Bangladesh this year signed by WB President James D Wolfensohn and sent to the government recently.

"It has not yet been able to overcome the resistance of vested interests which benefit from the current situation. Reversal of this current drain on the economy and implied fiscal liability will require sweeping banking reforms," the CAS voiced.

Urging the government to modify legal procedures to take the defaulters to task, the CAS also says that once suitable regulations and enforcing mechanisms are in place, at least one of the NCBs should be sold and the remaining ones should be restructured for sale.

Pointing out the weakness in governance, the Bank noted that rent-seeking behaviour, bureaucratic delays and the backlog in the courts prompt the citizens or businessmen to manipulate government machinery rather than rely on it.

"Growing incidence of lawlessness over the past year have further undermined the respect with which the people view the government. The next government's performance on public sector reform will serve as a litmus test of its commitment to reform," the WB said.

Committing its support for See Page 12 Col 1

## Viewers less interested in BTV programmes

By Mizan Ali

After introduction of foreign TV programmes through satellite, television viewers now spend less time on BTV casts, a recent study found.

Viewers now spend one hour or less on an average on BTV programmes against about two hours earlier. But their total time watching TV programmes has increased to 3 to 4 hours from 1 to 2 hours earlier, showing greater interest on foreign TV programmes, the study done by the Mass Communication and Journalism Department of Dhaka University said.

"Poor" standard is the See Page 12 Col 7

## No illegal Bangladeshis in Pakistan: Dhaka Islamabad duty-bound to take back Biharis

Bangladesh yesterday officially denied the existence of Bangladeshi illegally living in Pakistan and said that the government of Pakistan "is duty bound to take back" all Pakistani still stranded in Bangladesh, reports BSS.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, "we are not aware of the existence of Bangladeshis illegally living in Pakistan."

"What we know is that," said the ministry, there are Bangla-speaking Pakistanis settled and living in Pakistan for decades.

It said that Bangladesh government was surprised and considered as "unfortunate" the remarks of the Pakistan federal interior minister made on Tuesday in his country's National Assembly on Pakistanis still stranded in Bangladesh.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in a press statement yesterday, said that the government of Pakistan "is duty bound to take back all stranded Pakistani citizens in Bangladesh" who had clearly expressed their option to go back to Pakistan after the Liberation of Bangladesh.

It said that Pakistan "is duty bound" to take them all back under an agreement of 1974 to which Pakistan is a signatory and to fulfil the commitments the government of Pakistan subsequently made to the government See Page 12 Col 8

## 2-day workshop on agri sector begins today

A two-day national workshop on the problems and prospects of the agriculture sector begins at the Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons auditorium in Dhaka today, reports UNB.

Senior government officials, eminent experts from home and abroad, top World Bank and donor community officials, NGO representatives, members of the private sector and academics will take part in the workshop, jointly organised by the Agriculture Ministry and World Bank (WB).

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman will inaugurate the workshop on 'Bangladesh's Agriculture in the 21st Century'. Agriculture and Food Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan will be the special guest on the occasion.

A WB press release quoting its Chief for Agriculture Operation Ridwan Ali said, See Page 12 Col 2

## LTTE abandons de facto govt offices in Jaffna

COLOMBO, Nov 4: Tamil rebels abandoned the offices of their de facto government in northern Sri Lanka today in the face of a government onslaught as the United Nations appealed for aid for up to 400,000 people fleeing the fighting, reports AFP.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said it was pulling out its offices from its northern stronghold of Jaffna with the army barely 4.5 kilometers away.

An LTTE statement from London late Friday said the offices, which formed part of a de facto independent state since 1990, would be relocated at the Namarachchi in the peninsula's south.

Tamil sources and military analysts said the decision showed the rebels were expecting the army, which launched a massive offensive in Jaffna on October 17, might wrest Jaffna town in a do-or-die battle.

The rebel move came as UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros Ghali appealed for massive assistance for up to 400,000 people fleeing the area.

Boutros-Ghali on Friday called on "all concerned to facilitate relief assistance to the affected population by humanitarian organisations," spokesman Juan-Carlos Brand said in New York.

There was no reaction on the appeal from Colombo. Tamil politicians here, however, welcomed the UN concern.

Tamil sources said thousands of civilians were fleeing Jaffna peninsula by boat to the LTTE-held Kilinochchi in the mainland with barely any personal belongings.

A senior government official in Kilinochchi, 320 kilometers (200 miles) north of here, said nearly 60,000 refugees had poured into the area from Jaffna.

Editorial on page 4

## Exporters' rally today

The associations of export-oriented garments and other industries of Bangladesh will hold a rally at the Panthapath in the city this morning to protest against the on-going political impasse, reports BSS.

The organisers said that they would hold the protest rally to save the export-oriented industries from ruination.

Garments and other export-oriented industries are in "a precarious state" due to the prevailing unrest, the organisers said.

The rally will start at 10 am at the Panthapath, said a press release of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters' Association.

## Dhaka to ratify SAPTA soon

Bangladesh is expected to announce shortly the ratification of the SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) poised for the formal kickoff next month, reports UNB.

The instrument of ratification of the SAPTA is now being examined by the concerned law department, official sources said yesterday.

The SAPTA, a trading arrangement on concessional tariff among the South Asian countries, was adopted at the seventh summit of the seven-nation regional cooperation forum in Dhaka in 1993.

Six other members of the association have already ratified the offshoot of the SAPTA due to go into operation on December 8.

## Ban on import of 'dirty dozen' pesticides demanded

A group of NGO activists yesterday demanded a ban on the import of 12 harmful pesticides, prohibited in respective producing countries, but in abundant use in developing countries like Bangladesh, reports UNB.

They also urged the authorities to promote alternative pest control and ecological agriculture for better environment and more crops.

"The dirty dozen is creating immense hazards to environment and public life," said Dr Kazi Farouk Ahmed executive director of Proshika, an NGO at a press conference at its office in Dhaka.

He said it is possible to increase the crop production to 72 maunds of rice per acre from the present production of 30 maunds by adopting the environment friendly and cost effective farming system.

"About 5,000 farmers are using our method and producing 72 maunds of rice per acre for the last five years," he said urging the government to popularise the method through the Department of Agriculture Extension to produce surplus rice.

Referring to the latest findings of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Dr Ahmed said the net benefit from pesticides proved to be negative when impact on human health and related expenses were considered.

IRRI's publication "Pesticides: Rice Productivity and Farmers Health: An Economic Assessment" has strongly endorsed the reduction in use of pesticides which are actually causing yield loss, he said.

It has been proved that the researchers' or policy makers' perceptions of crop loss due to pest infestations are usually higher than the actual loss he said adding pest related loss is only 10 per cent in Bangladesh.

The press conference was also addressed by Mohiuddin Farouk Secretary General of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA), Mahbub-ul Karim, head of the Institute for Development Policy Analysis and Advocacy (IDPAA) and Kushi Kabir, chairperson of Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB).

Dr Ahmed said the IRRI research shows that rice insecticides accounted for nearly 15 per cent of the global crop insecticides market in 1988. With 2400 million See Page 12 Col 3

**রাজউক বাণিজ্যিক প্রুট নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

মতিঝিল সম্প্রসারিত বাণিজ্যিক এলাকার মনোরম পরিবেশে কমবেশী ১ (এক) বিঘা আয়তনের ১ নং রাস্তার ৪ নং ও ১০ কাঠা আয়তনের ২ নং এবং একই এলাকার ২ নং রাস্তার ১০ কাঠা আয়তনের ১১ ও ১৫ নং বাণিজ্যিক প্রুটগুলি বর্তমানে যে অবস্থায় আছে সে অবস্থায় প্রকাশ্য নিলামে ৯৯ বৎসরের লীজের ভিত্তিতে বরাদ্দ দেওয়া হইবে।

উপ-পরিচালক (এস্টেট) কর্তৃক আগামী ২৬-১১-৯৫ইং তারিখে বেলা ২:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত ইচ্ছুক নিলাম ডাককারীদের নিকট হইতে রাজউকের নির্ধারিত ফরমে দরখাস্ত গ্রহণ করা হইবে। নিলামের শর্ত ও নিয়মাবলীসহ দরখাস্তের প্রুটি নির্ধারিত ফরম টাকা ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) মাত্র নগদ মূল্যে (অফেরতযোগ্য) জনতা ব্যাংক, রাজউক ভবন শাখা, ঢাকা থেকে পাওয়া যাইবে।

আগামী ২৭-১১-৯৫ইং তারিখ উপরোক্ত প্রুটগুলির নিলাম ডাক সকাল ১০:০০ ঘটিকায় রাজউক ভবনের ৪র্থ তলায় সন্ধ্যা কক্ষে অনুষ্ঠিত হইবে।

ডিএক্সনিং-২৭০৯১/৪/৯৫  
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**চেয়ারম্যান**  
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