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VOL. V NO. 290 REGD. NO. DA 781 KARTIK 29 1402 BS, DHAKA MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1995 JAMADI-US-SAANI 19, 1416 HIJRI 12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 5.00

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CSE MARKET
 CSE price index 427.74 (+0.10%)
 Market capital Tk 2115.60 cr
 Transactions in volume 1260
 Transactions in value Tk 1.86 lakh

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NEWS BRIEFS
JCD, BCL clash at Ullapara College
 From Our Correspondent
 SIRAJGANJ, Nov 12: At least 12 students were injured when the activists of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Awami League backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) clashed on the Ullapara Government Akbar Ali College campus today. The clash was sequel to the previous quarrel between the two student bodies.

40 arrested in Cox's Bazar
 From Our Correspondent
 COX'S BAZAR, Nov 12: Cox's Bazar district police in a special drive today arrested 40 people from different places of the district on various charges. Police also recovered a locally-made gun from a house at Maizpara village under Sadar thana. One Nur Mohammad was arrested. Thirteen people were arrested from Sadar thana, 10 from Chokoria, five from Moheshkhali, four from Ukhia, five from Ramu and two from Teknaf thana.

Bus services resume
 From Staff Correspondent
 SYLHET, Nov 12: Buses and minibuses started plying on Sylhet Sunamganj route this afternoon after three days' suspension following clashes between rival groups of transport workers. At least 25 vehicles were damaged in a series of clashes between the transport workers on Thursday and Saturday. The feuding groups reached a settlement after a transport worker leader arrested yesterday was released on bail today.

Over 100 injured: 19 held

Armed clashes mark second day of hartal

By Staff Correspondent

At least 100 people including 12 policemen were injured in armed clashes at Narayanganj and Patuakhali and sporadic incidents in the capital on the second day yesterday of the six-day hartal programme of the major opposition parties.

At Narayanganj, 60 people — 10 of them police personnel — were injured as supporters of the hartal and its opponents clashed.

In the city, at least 15 people including two policemen were wounded in sporadic clashes and bomb explosions. Police picked up 19 pickets during the day.

Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami called the hartal to press for holding general elections under a neutral caretaker government.

Flood-hit Rajshahi Division, however, has been exempted from the purview of the country-wide hartal.

Yesterday's hartal was from 6 am to 3 pm in the city and from 6 am to noon in the rest of the country. Hartal will be observed from 6 am to 2 pm in the city and for half-day elsewhere today.

Our Narayanganj Correspondent reports: A clash broke out as activists of the pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Juba Dal allegedly opened fire on a procession of the Jatiya Party-backed Jatiya Chhatra Samaj at around 10:30 am at Chashara in the town, witnesses said.

During the clash, both the sides used firearms, cocktails and other lethal weapons. General Secretary of Chhatra Samaj, Narayanganj unit, Ripon Bhuiyan received bullet injuries in his eyes. He was shifted to Dhaka for treatment.

To protest the attack, Awami League and Jatiya Party held separate rallies near the Chashara intersection at around 11:45 am. The rallies also came under attack from Missionpara area. The offices of Chhatra Dal and Juba Dal are situated in the area.

In retaliation, the pro-hartal activists also started firing at around 10:30 am at Chashara in the town, witnesses said.

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A pro-hartal procession in the city yesterday. — Star photo

PM renews call for dialogue with Hasina

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia last night sent her third letter to the Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina reiterating her call to sit for a dialogue with open mind to resolve issues relating to the current political problem over holding the next elections.

"With a view to solving the present crisis you are free to raise any issue as part of your agenda. But for the purpose of a fruitful dialogue, it will not be proper to impose any pre-condition," the PM stated in her letter which the BNP Office Secretary Nazrul Islam Khan handed over to the AL General Secretary Zillur Rahman at the latter's Gulshan residence in the city at about 8 pm.

The AL leaders would meet this afternoon to decide if Hasina would reply to the PM's latest letter. AL sources

PM has closed door for dialogue: Hasina

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina yesterday said that the Prime Minister had closed the door for dialogue by stating that there was no neutral person to run the country.

"From her (PM) speeches, people have clearly realised that she is not sincere to resolve the crisis through dialogue... She is making contradictory statements only to confuse the people," Hasina said.

The AL president was addressing the presidents and general secretaries of the party's 15 thana units of the city at the party central office at Bangabandhu Avenue, says a press release.

Hasina said the people and the opposition political parties want elections under a neutral caretaker government for free and fair polls.

"People want a system for transfer of power (through vote, but the PM is reluctant to realise it as she is blind for power," Hasina alleged. "The PM is pushing the country towards confrontation and anarchy avoiding the paths of negotiations."

She also alleged that the government had resorted to repression on the Opposition using police and party terrorists to stay in power illegally.

The AL Chief declared that there would be no elections without a caretaker administration. "We will realise the demand for polls under a caretaker government through agitation," she asserted.

Hasina also thanked the people for observing the second day of the six-day hartal and urged them to make rest of the hartal programme a success.

100 tolas of gold seized from Chief Purser of Biman

By Staff Correspondent

The Customs authorities at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) yesterday seized gold bars and valuables worth about Tk 5 lakh from the possession of the Chief Purser of a Bangladesh Biman flight arriving from Dubai.

According to Customs officials at the airport, the Chief Purser, M Hossain Badal, 50, was caught with 10 bars of gold weighing about 100 tolas on his return from a routine trip to Dubai.

He was carrying the bars inside the cover pocket of the coat hanger and money bag, they said.

The Customs authorities

C'wealth sets 2-yr deadline for Nigeria to improve HR record

AUCKLAND, Nov 12: The Commonwealth has given Nigeria two years to improve its political and human rights record or be expelled from the organisation, New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger said today, reports AFP.

On Saturday Nigeria was suspended from the organisation after the hanging of nine minority rights activists.

Reuter adds: The son of executed Nigerian human rights activists Kensoro-Wiwa appealed today for a peaceful solution to the Nigerian crisis as a mark of respect to his dead father.

Kensoro-Wiwa and eight minority rights activists from Nigeria's Ogoni people were executed last week, prompting international condemnation of the military government and Nigeria's suspension from the Commonwealth.

Wiwa said: "I appeal to the Nigerian authorities, the Nigerian people and the Ogoni people to seek a peaceful outcome to their troubles as a mark of respect to the memory of my father."

Looking exhausted and emotionally drained, Wiwa said: "My father achieved more in his lifetime than most men could ever aspire to. He knew as his good friend (Nigerian writer) Wole Soyinka wrote: 'The man dies who stays silent in the face of evil.'"

"I know that my father's work and legacy will be cherished and remembered. I hope that in particular his call for a non-violent and peaceful approach to the problems in Nigeria will be respected."

Meanwhile, a decision by the 52-nation Commonwealth suspend Nigeria for the hanging of nine minority rights activists is too little and comes far too late, a Nigerian opposition movement said here Saturday.

The National Democratic Coalition of Nigeria (NADECO) called for an international tribunal to bring those responsible for "atrocities and genocide" to trial.

NADECO, which spearheaded opposition moves in Nigeria in mid 1994, held a meeting here Saturday attended by exiled opposition leaders including General Dan Suleiman.

PM's third letter

By Staff Correspondent

Following is The Daily Star translated version of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia's third letter to Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina, sent on November 12.

"Sincere thanks for your letter dated 4 November, 1995. As I was out of Dhaka, your letter reached me 5 November '95. (Though I was able to see the letter printed in the newspapers on the 5th morning).

"Your view, that I did not respond to the main points of your letter of 30 October 1995, is not correct. The fundamental concern of your letters and of mine, were how to hold a free, fair and peaceful election by solving the current political crisis, and to solve through discussion whatever impediments that exists for reaching that goal and thereby consolidate the democracy that has been

Dialogue move still to make a headway

By Nazmul Ashraf

Prime Minister and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia's latest move to resolve the long-persisting political impasse through dialogue with Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina is still to make a headway as both the leaders are inflexible on their respective stands.

"The PM is not flexible on the idea of a neutral caretaker government as demanded by Hasina and it seems that she would rather go for an interim government, headed by a BNP lawmaker, to conduct the next general elections in line with her previous commitment to resign 30 days before the elections," an influential minister told The Daily Star last night.

Begum Zia last night sent her third letter to Sheikh Hasina repeating her call to resolve all political problems with open mind and asked the latter to raise at the proposed dialogue anything relating to the current political crisis. Without mentioning the caretaker issue in her letter, the PM said, "It would not be wise to set any pre-condition for the sake of a meaningful dialogue."

On the other hand, the AL President was still sticking to her earlier stand not to sit for talks unless the PM accepted in principle the idea of a caretaker government.

Referring to Begum Zia's

Teesta boat capsized 2 bodies recovered, 50 still missing

RANGPUR, Nov 12: About 50 people are still reportedly missing in the boat capsized that took place in the river Teesta at Gangachhara under the district yesterday, reports BSS.

District administration and army have been conducting joint search and so far recovered two bodies. The capsized boat was also salvaged.

G-5 yet to meet Hasina

By Staff Correspondent

The group of five eminent citizens (G-5) failed to get an appointment with Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina till yesterday.

The group on Saturday night sought an appointment to meet Sheikh Hasina after a meeting with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia earlier on that day.

A spokesman for the group told this correspondent last night that it had no meeting with the AL president yesterday.

"We are still waiting for a meeting with Sheikh Hasina,"

Transport strike called off

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Nov 12: Transport strike on 13 routes in greater Barisal and Patuakhali district was called off this afternoon. Bus owners and workers withdrew the strike after the authorities assured them of taking legal actions against the persons who are responsible for the attack on their offices.

RMG sector uses 81pc US quota in 10 months

By Govinda Shil

The country's ready-made garments (RMG) sector has utilised 100 per cent of the US quota in two categories of items and more than 81 per cent on an average in other 21 categories during the first 10 months of the current quota year (1995).

The quota was fully utilised in export of night wears and Terry and other pile towels under category 351/651 and category 363, according to sources in the Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BGMEA). Over 5.5 lakh dozens of night wear and 1.86 crore dozens of towels were exported till November 8. During the corresponding period last year, 89.2 per cent and 55.3 per cent of the quota of the two categories were utilised.

The sources said that utilisation of quotas was 94.72 per cent in knit shirts and blouses, 97.93 per cent in males' and boys' shirts (not

145 returnees from Pakistan detained for interrogation

By Staff Correspondent

The 145 people who arrived in Dhaka from Karachi Saturday have been detained for examining their travel documents, a high official of the Home Ministry said yesterday.

High officials of the Ministries of Foreign and Home Affairs, Civil Aviation and Bangladesh Biman, when contacted, said that they were investigating into the matter, without elaborating.

However, when asked if

Bangladesh to purchase 60 rly coaches from Iran

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman, now in Tehran leading the Bangladesh delegation to the second session of the Iran-Bangladesh Joint Commission, held meeting yesterday with a number of ministers including Foreign Minister Dr Ali Akbar Velayati reports BSS.

A message received here from Tehran said that Saifur Rahman discussed with Dr Velayati the various steps taken up for the implementation of MOUs which were concluded during President Rafsanjani's visit, particularly those in the energy sector. Various issues facing the Islamic ummah, particularly the latest development in Bosnia Herzegovina also were discussed.

Saifur earlier called on Iranian Minister for Road and Transportation Ali Akbar Torkan and exchanged views on cooperation in the road and transport sector. He emphasised the need for immediate establishment of air and shipping links between the two countries to facilitate trade and economic cooperation.

The Iranian minister said that he would discuss the possibilities of further cooperation during his forthcoming visit to Bangladesh. Torkan is expected to visit Bangladesh soon, the message said.

Saifur also called on Mohsen Nourbakhsh, Governor of Bank Markazi (central bank of Iran), and apprised him of the various economic measures undertaken by the government.

He said Bangladesh had recorded greater macro-economic stability and also emerged as an attractive partner for foreign investment.

Nourbakhsh, who earlier served as Iran's Finance Minister, said that he was following Bangladesh's achievements in various economic sectors.

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed the operation of bail of Hemayetuddin alias Auranga, reports BSS.

Justice Latifur Rahman of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court stayed the operation of bail of Hemayetuddin till November 20, a press release of the Attorney General's office said. The stay was granted in response to a submission made on behalf of the authority at the chamber of Justice Rahman.

Hemayetuddin Auranga, a

Multi-storied car shed at Ctg port likely

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, Nov 12: The Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) is contemplating construction of a multi-storied car parking shed inside the jetty for imported vehicles, sources said.

A senior official of the port talking to The Daily Star today said "such a contemplation came in the backdrop of a rush of imported vehicles which caused congestion at port sheds."

The number of imported vehicles has now gone up to about 30,000 from about 6,000 earlier. The port has a capacity to accommodate only 1500 vehicles but 2500 vehicles are now parked inside the jetties as importers are very slow to take delivery of the official said.

The CPA had reserved the F-shed for imported vehicles. But with the increase in imports in recent years, vehicles are now kept in the space between jetty No 1 to jetty No 4, beyond the F-shed, the official said.

The proposed multi-storied parking centre will also protect vehicles from pilferage and natural calamities besides solving the congestion problem.

Acting Chairman of Chittagong port Zahiruddin Mahmud said that some importers had been using the port sheds as display centre of vehicles by taking slow delivery.

"We are now trying to tighten port rules by imposing four times penal rent on the vehicles left after 21 days of unloading from the ship," Mahmud said.

Meanwhile, sources say some of the vehicle importers don't have showrooms in the city and they have turned the port sheds into vehicle market where customers frequently enter to choose and bargain. They take delivery of the vehicle after it is sold.

Some organised groups linked with unloading of vehicles are allegedly engaged in pilferage of spares in collusion with a section of stevedores, sources said.

Notice To Resume Work

This is to bring to the notice of the striking employees of Rhone-Poulenc Rorer Bangladesh Ltd that the Ministry of Labour & Manpower, Government of Bangladesh, has, by their order no. Labour-8/10(1)/95 dated 12th November, 1995, prohibited the strike resorted to by the workers of the Factory of the organization since 21st August, 1995.

The striking workers are, therefore, asked to resume work immediately. The Management will be constrained to take legal disciplinary action against those workers who would fail to report for work immediately.

Administrative Officer
 Rhone-Poulenc Rorer Bangladesh Ltd
 Tongi, Gazipur

RHONE-POULENC RORER