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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 790.85 (+0.10%)
Market capital Tk 5205.41 cr
Transactions in volume 119863
Transactions in value Tk 1.84 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 303.44 (+0.07%)
Market capital Tk 2405.81 cr
Transactions in volume 350
Transactions in value Tk 27911

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



**Opposition parties plan
President to be urged
to cancel polls**

By Reaz Ahmad and Mizan Ali

The major opposition political parties are planning to request the President to send the army personnel back to the barracks and urge him to cancel the scheduled parliamentary elections, according to sources.

Army was called in to assist the civil administration in the arms recovery drive at the initiative of the Election Commission.

Confirming the Opposition's plan to request the President, Organising Secretary of the Awami League Mohammad Nasim told The Daily Star that they were thinking in that line but the decision had not been finalised.

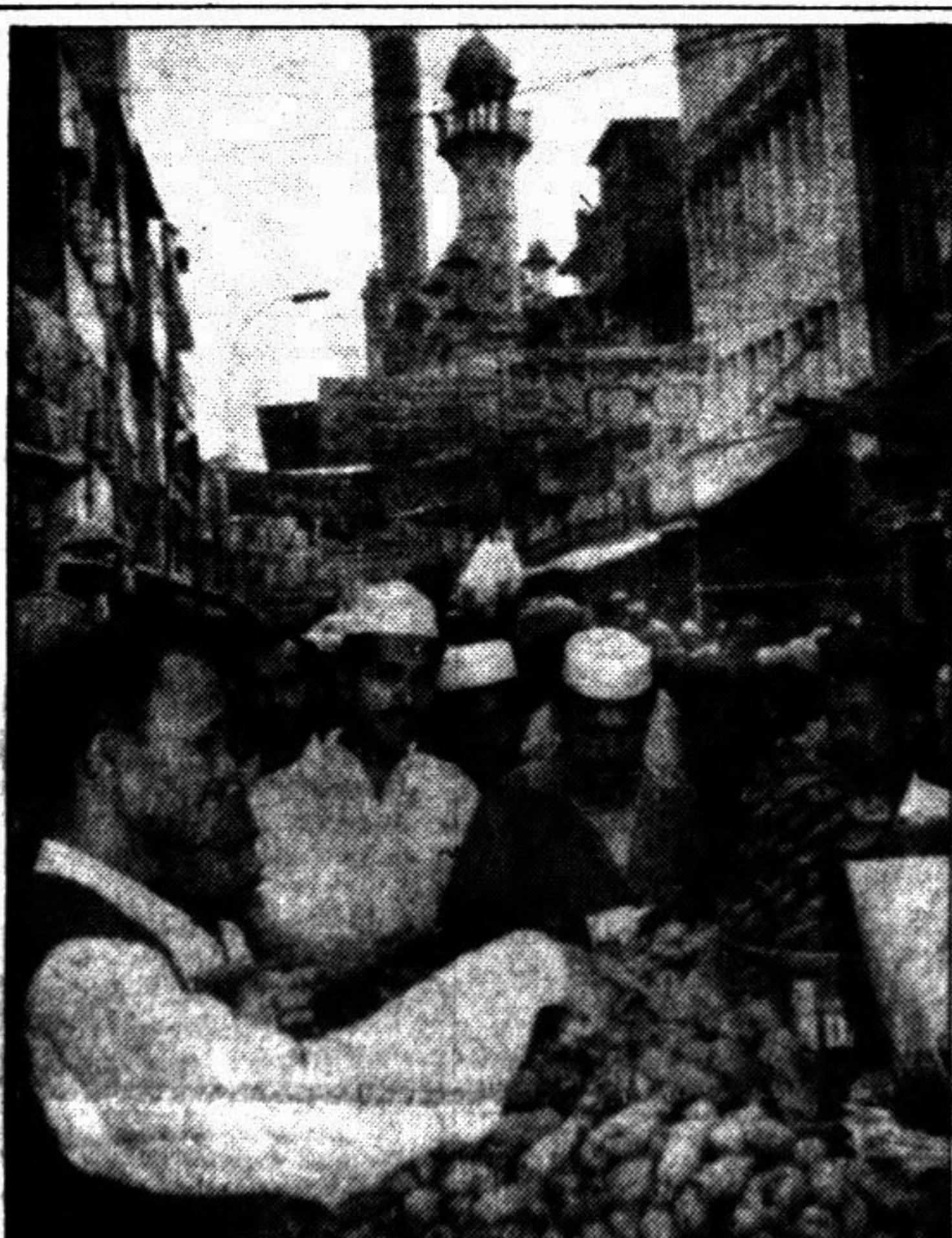
The Opposition had earlier issued a statement calling upon the President, who

is also the Supreme Commander of the armed forces, to send the army back to the barracks.

Meanwhile, the three major opposition parties at a joint meeting last night resolved that they would safeguard the Constitution and democracy by foiling the ruling BNP's bid to hold a one-party election under a 'blueprint' and unseating the 'autocrat' prime minister.

The meeting, held at the residence of AL presidium member Abdus Samad Azad, also called upon the parties agitating against the BNP government to launch a massive movement by mobilising

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Brisk sale of iftar items in a city area just before sunset on the first day of Ramadan yesterday. — Star photo

**Hearing of candidates at EC
'A unique chance to become MP'**

By Staff Correspondent

they came one by one for the hearing.

Ohajuddin, who had filed nomination for Mymensingh-11 constituency pleaded that he did not know how to fill up the nomination form and so there were mistakes in it.

But the CEC rejected his appeal saying a long time was given for submission of nomination papers.

Three nomination papers were kept for review following "applications from different quarters". The EC will review those at a meeting later in the month, sources in the EC said.

The petitioners appeared before the court comprising the Chief Election Commissioner, the Election Commissioner and some officials of the EC Secretariat.

Most of the rejected nomination papers were either for being 'incomplete' or 'defective' or the candidates were found to be bank loan defaulters.

As an EC official called out the names of the petitioners.

**Price hike marks
beginning of
Ramadan**

By Staff Correspondent

Prices of essentials shot up significantly on the first day yesterday of the holy month of Ramadan.

Different varieties of fish, meat, edible oil, sugar, pulses and vegetables were selling in the city markets at much higher prices than in the last few days.

Beef was being sold at Taka 70 and mutton at between Taka 110 and 115 per kg at the New Market instead of Taka 60 and Taka 90. At the Mohamadpur market the price of mutton rose Taka 150 yesterday. The Dhaka city corporation had earlier fixed the price of beef at Taka 60 and mutton at Taka 90. Price of a medium-sized chicken rose from Tk 60 to Taka 90.

At the fish market, a dozen of small Koi worth Taka 60 was sold at Taka 240. Rui or Koi earlier sold around Taka 150 per kg was sold at between Taka 200 and 225 yesterday.

Price of small size shrimps rose from Taka 150 per kg to Taka 200 and that of medium size from Taka 200 and 225 yesterday.

The PM met senior party leaders after yesterday's regular weekly cabinet meeting to give a final touch to the draft of her speech.

Meanwhile, the PM is scheduled to visit the mazar of Hazrat Shahjalal at Sylhet today before kicking off her party's official election campaign.

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**Sit-in didn't
take place**

By Staff Correspondent

The planned sit-in by some 50 smaller parties and alliances before the Prime Minister's office to demand her resignation did not take place yesterday.

Sources in some of those parties claimed that none came for the programme following "understanding" with the ruling party. But the sources did not say what sort of "understanding" was reached.

Leaders and representatives of the so-called parties and alliances who had gathered at the Election Commission secretariat in the city for polls symbols at an impromptu meeting threatened to withdraw party candidates from the polls if the Prime Minister did not resign immediately.

Khalilur Rahman Majumder and Khandaker Mahtab Uddin who are contesting the forthcoming polls had told reporters that the meeting also decided to hold a sit-in before the Prime Minister's office on Monday.

Faruque Ahmed from Chandpur-5 whose nomination paper was rejected on the ground of being a loan defaulter claimed that he was not a loan defaulter.

When the CEC asked for relevant papers Kalu said that he had made a "verbal arrangement" with the bank for repayment of the loan he took in 1993.

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