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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 770.00 (+0.46%)
Market capital Tk 5017.49 cr
Transactions in volume 133202
Transactions in value Tk 170 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 393.92 (+0.37%)
Market capital Tk 2372.59 cr
Transactions in volume 1616
Transactions in value Tk 1.87 bn

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Tadbir Culture
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NEWS BRIEFS

No congestion at Aricha: BIWTC

The Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) has said, there is no congestion of vehicles at Aricha, Nagarbari and Daulatdia ghats. In a clarification to press reports published yesterday, BIWTC also denied that 1,000 vehicles remained stranded at these three ghats on Sunday, reports UNB.

40 foreign newsmen to cover polls

About 40 foreign newsmen have so far approached for visa to come to Bangladesh to cover the February 15 parliament elections. Officials sources said those who got registered their names to cover the polls, represent international news agencies, television networks and top dailies in Asia, America and European countries, reports UNB.

39 arms seized

The law-enforcing agencies recovered 39 firearms, 56 bullets and three explosives from different parts of the country yesterday, the 47th days of countryside arms recovery drive. During the period, they also arrested 458 people on various charges including illegal possession of arms, according to Law and Order Coordination Cell of the Election Commission, reports UNB.

Sehri, Iftar timings

Ram	Feb	Sehri	Iftar
16	6	—	5:52
17	7	5:15	5:52
18	8	5:16	5:53

Fresh Opposition programme

48-hour hartal on Feb 14-15

Star Report

The mainstream Opposition announced a fresh agitation programme yesterday with a call for 'complete non-cooperation' as parliamentary elections are due on February 15.

The Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami, at separate press conferences, came out with identical programmes that include a 48-hour hartal on February 14 and 15, and a 'mass curfew' on the election day.

The leaders of the three parties called upon the people to stay indoors on the day.

The 'final phase' of the simultaneous agitation ahead of the polls starts February

10 with processions by the three major opposition parties after separate rallies in the capital.

The processions would move towards the residence of the Prime Minister to demand her resignation and cancellation of the elections.

Awami League will hold its rally at Manik Mia Avenue at 2 pm. JP and Jamaat will also hold separate rallies on the day.

The three parties would hold rallies and bring out processions across the country on January 11.

The opposition would organise rail-road-waterways barricade across the country on February 13 which would

be followed by the two-day hartal.

AL chief Sheikh Hasina, acting chairman of JP Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury and Jamaat chief Golam Azam announced the programmes at separate press conferences.

Hasina gave a call for non-cooperation by different sections of the society as regards the coming polls.

She emphasised non-cooperation from those involved in the polls process.

Hasina urged the transport workers not to carry election materials and the newscasters not to announce election results over radio and television.

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Keep indoors on polls day: Hasina

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina has called upon the people to remain indoors on the day of the coming parliamentary elections.

Announcing a fresh agitation programme of her party at a press conference in the city yesterday, Hasina accused the BNP government of playing with the fate of the people.

She also reiterated the Opposition's demand for immediate resignation of the Prime Minister and holding of a polls under a neutral caretaker government.

She warned against any attempt to 'manufacture election results through media coup' and said that the people would never accept

such results. "I am worried about the volatile situation now prevailing in the country," the AL President said.

"The ruling party is leading the country towards a state of confrontation to satisfy its lust for power," she said.

The opposition leader gave separate calls to different sections of people including government employees, members of the law enforcing agencies, teachers and those involved in election process for 'non-cooperation'.

She also cautioned the candidates in the February 15 elections about the 'consequences' of being involved in 'a mockery with the

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BNP polls manifesto today

By Staff Correspondent

The ruling BNP will announce its manifesto for the February 15 parliament elections today.

The secretary general of the party Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar will announce the manifesto at a press conference to be held at 2 pm at the party's Naya Paltan central office, a press release of the party said last night.

The manifesto of the BNP is being declared only 13 days before the polls.

According to BNP sources, the manifesto would elaborate the party's plans in the areas of economy, education, industrial and other sectors by the year 2000. It would also carry the party's achievements in various fields in the last five years. There would be no major shift in the party policies, the sources said.

JCD leader shot dead in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Feb 5: Unidentified gunmen today kidnapped a JCD leader from the C&B colony at Nasirabad here and later shot him dead, party sources and police said.

Feroz Hossain Musa (19), publicity secretary of Chhatra Dal, Lalkhan Bazar unit, was kidnapped from one of his friend's residence at the colony at about 11 am. He was gunned down at a nearby place.

Police said the body of Musa was later left at the premises of Chittagong Medical hospital by some unidentified persons. None was arrested so far in this connection.

Chhatra Dal leaders
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One dies after being arrested

A young man died of cardiac arrest after he was arrested in a joint raid by law enforcing agencies to recover illegal arms in the city suburb yesterday, reports UNB.

Security forces which, conducting a raid to arrest Abul Hashim, chairman of Harirampur Union Parishad under Uttara police station, picked up Abdur Rahman and Shamsuddin, the father and brother-in-law of Hashim respectively.

Shamsuddin died of fear soon after his arrest at about 3 am, police said. Hashim's father was released after his

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THE ONE THAT GOT THROUGH ... Bangladesh 'A' pacer Anisur Rahman clean bowls MCC's last man CP Metson through the gate at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. The locals startled the visitors by 7 wickets. Details on page 10.

— Star photo

CEC fears greater bloodshed if elections not held

The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) yesterday expressed his firm resolve to go ahead with his mission to stage poll on February 15 despite the violence and rowdiness sweeping the country, reports UNB.

All possible measures have been taken to ensure a smooth holding of election, Justice A K M Sadeque said while exchanging views with the editors of national dailies and news agencies in the conference room of the Election Commission (EC).

He thought if election is not held, there will be far greater bloodshed and confusion in the country than burning, bloodletting, killing and destruction of property being perpetrated at present in the runup to election.

Pointing at the Commission's constitutional obligation to hold election, within

90 days of the dissolution of parliament, the CEC said: "We can under no circumstances renounce election as we cannot forsake independence and democratic dispensation, notwithstanding violence and vandalism being unleashed in the country. We must hold election to keep democratic system and constitutional process running."

Failure to hold elections will cause collapse of the Constitution. The loss suffered by the country due to breakdown of constitution will be infinitely more, he said.

Any attempt to obstruct the holding of election is a punishable offence in the eyes of law. Those who are trying to sabotage election would be held responsible for destroying democratic system and constitutional process, the CEC observed.

As he made the observation, the opposition parties who stayed out from the fray simultaneously threw tough action plans like hartal, gherao, siege and non-cooperation to resist what they said 'one-party farcical election'.

Asked if the EC had taken action against anyone of those who are trying to sabotage February 15 poll, Justice Sadeque replied in the negative. He unhesitatingly admitted the Commission's failure in this regard.

Referring to arrangements made to ensure holding of polls, the CEC said all possible steps had been taken for smooth voting. He said police and other law enforcing agencies would be deployed around the polling centres to ensure safety of the voters and to help maintain law and order.

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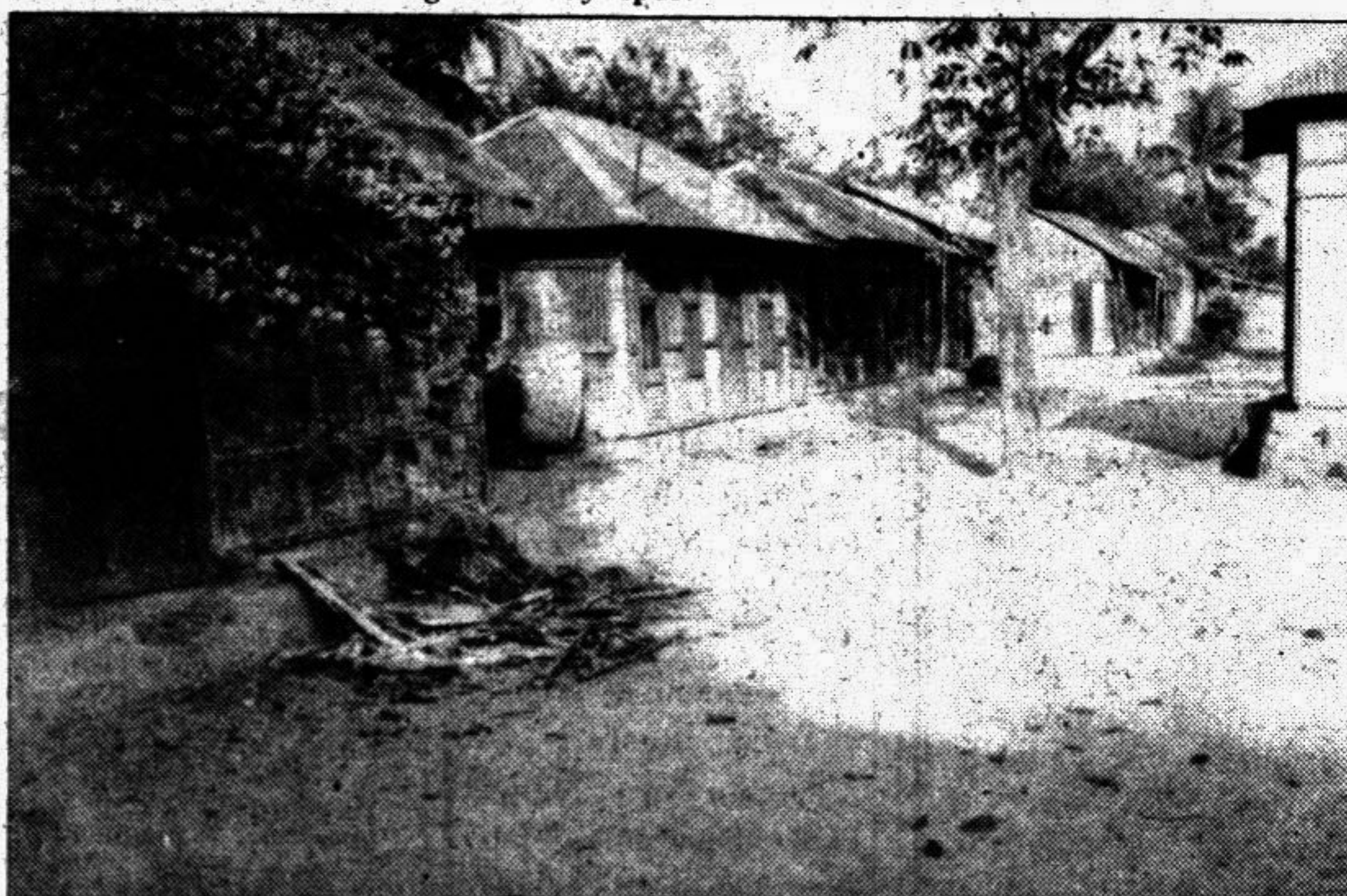
Securitymen retaliate attack in Narayanganj

Villagers beaten up, houses ransacked



A ransacked house in village char Sayedpur.

— Star photo



The village wore a deserted look

— Star photo

From Our Correspondent
NARYANGANJ, Feb 5: A number of people were injured when security personnel conducted raids at Char Sayedpur, a village under Sadar thana, in alleged retaliation for the assault on some colleagues.

Local people alleged that the securitymen went into action in Uttarpara, Madyapara and Purbapara of Char Syedpur and ransacked houses and beat up people.

Three people were reportedly picked up by them.

The security personnel allegedly retaliated after three of their colleagues were beaten up by the villagers on Saturday during an arms recovery mission. The villagers reportedly mistook the plainclothesmen as miscreants.

When contacted, civil and police administration said they were not aware of any such incident.

The DC, Nazrul Islam, when contacted by The Daily Star, said...

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PM due tomorrow: Hartal called One killed in Feni clash

Star Report

A young man was shot dead and at least 44 people were injured and a thana Election Commission office was ransacked in anti-election violence in some parts of the country yesterday.

A candidate was injured and another assaulted by anti-polls activists while another withdrew from the polls race on the day.

UNB news agency reported from Feni that a youngman was killed and four people were injured in a clash between the workers of BNP and Awami League at Bonga Bazar in Daganbhuiyan thana yesterday, centring the Prime Minister's scheduled electioneering tour of the district.

The victim, identified as Nasiruddin (22), was hit by bullet during the clash and later succumbed to injuries shortly after his was admitted to the Feni Sadar Hospital.

Pro-Awami League Chhatra League claimed Nasir as their activists. The BNP claimed that the four persons injured in the clash were their activists.

The clash erupted at about 4 pm when some Awami League activists attacked a BNP rally at the bazar, organised to drum up support for the Prime Minister's ensuing visit to the district.

The attackers damaged the dais and the microphones. Several gunshots

were fired during the two-hour clash. Tension was prevailing in the area.

Opposition political parties have called a 9-hour hartal in Feni district tomorrow and the day after to foil the electioneering tour of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

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Mother, four children slaughtered in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Feb 5: Four children along with their mother were found slaughtered this morning in their house at Mannar Gaon, eight kilometers from Duara Bazar thana under Sunamganj district.

The woman was identified as Rani Bala Das, 30, and her

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HC rule for transfer of Manzur murder case

By SC Correspondent

The High Court Division yesterday directed the government to show cause within seven days as to why the Manzur Murder Case should not be transferred from the Court of the Dhaka District and Sessions Judge Abdus Salam to any other competent Court of Sessions in Dhaka.

The court also ordered

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Show cause on EC to cancel nomination of BNP candidate

By SC Correspondent

The High Court yesterday ordered the Election Commission to show cause as to why it should not be given a direction to remove the name of Zahir Uddin Swapan from the list of candidates in the coming parliamentary elections as on admitted facts he has interest in a government contract.

The court also directed

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5 killed, 17 hurt in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

Five persons were killed and 17 others injured in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Comilla and Sirajganj yesterday.

Our DMCH Correspondent reports: An unidentified man was killed when a town service bus ran over him near the Gullistan cinema hall in the city yesterday morning.

The victim aged about 50 was crossing the road when the bus hit him at about 11 am, police said adding that the body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy.

Police arrested the driver, Md Akhter Hossain, 25, and seized the bus.

Meanwhile, two people, including a minor boy, were killed in separate road mishaps in Feni yesterday.

Witnesses said Ruhul Amin (9) was run over by a speeding truck on the Dhaka Trunk road in the town last morning.

In another accident, an unnamed truck driver was killed when the truck fell into a roadside ditch on Feni Bypass in the afternoon.

In Sirajganj, a rickshaw-puller was killed and his passenger seriously injured when a tank lorry hit the three-wheeler at Furbu Delua in Ullapara thana on Nagarbari-Bogra road yesterday.

Police said Sorman Ali (29), the rickshawpuller, and the passenger Abdur Rahman were critically injured when the lorry knocked down the rickshaw.

Sorman succumbed to his

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Star Fashion '96



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