

BUY AN APARTMENT

PROPERTY LAKE FRONT

DHANMONDI R/A
ROAD NO-10(NEW)
1900sq 3 BED

THE NAME MOST TRUSTED PROPERTY HEIGHTS

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT LTD

12 R K MISSION ROAD DHAKA
TEL: 880 7 958415, 958416
9583117, 9583128-9 9559412-3

VOL. VI NO. 86 REGD. NO. DA 781

The Daily Star

CHAITRA 30 1402 BS,

DHAKA FRIDAY, APRIL 12 1996

ZILQAD 23, 1416 HIJRI

16 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 5.00

MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE

WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF
ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA,
BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESSWARI GREEN,
MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE
OF DIFFERENT TYPES.

NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.
199, TEJGAON 1/A, DHAKA.
TEL: 605957, 607363 SHOW ROOM: 861985

Inside Today

Article

Ensuring a Meaningful Election

by Rehman Sobhan

Bofors, Hawala and Polls

Column: Between The Lines

by Kuldip Nayar

Page 4

International

South Koreans vote for new parliament

Tamils form 32km human chain urging govt to halt attacks

Page 5

Business

Two pvt banks yet to waive loan interest of distressed raw jute borrowers

Rapid economic growth in Asia to continue: ADB

Pages 6, 7

DSE MARKET

DSE price index	812.94 (-0.19%)
Market capital Tk	5518.31 cr
Transactions in volume	154207
Transactions in value	Tk 3.82 cr

Weekend Magazine

Pahela Baisakh, Cultural Misconceptions, Nothing if not serious, My Cuckoo Tongue—A short story, and Muslims in America
Pages 13-16
AND
Rising Stars and Teens, and Twenties
Pages 8&9

Parties urge CEC for code of conduct

Ten days to update voters' list

By Staff Correspondent

The Election Commission yesterday agreed to update the voter's list during the next 10 days, following requests from different political parties, according to official sources.

Leaders of various political parties including BNP and Awami League had separate meetings with Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Mohammed Abu Hena at the latter's office earlier on the day.

The election schedule is likely to be announced after the 10-day period, the sources said.

Later, in an announcement the Election Commission yesterday requested those who are eligible to be voters but yet not enlisted in the voters' list to apply immediately in pre-

scribed forms to the relevant authorities.

An Election Commission press release said that those who are willing to enrol their names in the voters' list should contact District Election Officer or registration officer in thana level.

Works are on for enrolment, correction or cancellation for conducting the coming polls in a free and fair manner, it said.

The leaders of the political parties while meeting the CEC also requested for a code of conduct for the ensuing elections, promulgation of fresh ordinance barring loan defaulter's candidature in the polls, recovery of illegal arms and enlisting of names not in-

cluded in the voters' list.

The BNP team comprised of party secretary general Abul Kalam Talukdar, Zamiruddin Sircar, Rafiqul Islam Mia, Ziaur Rahman and Haris Chowdhury.

The four member AL delegation included the party's president members Abdus Samad Azad, Abdul Mannan, Tofael Ahmed and Amir Hussain Amu.

Jatiya Party leader Mantrul Haq Chowdhury, also met the CEC.

The delegation of the Left Democratic Front included Rashed Khan Menon, Hasanul Haq Inu, Nirmal Sen, Bimal Biswas, AFM Mahbubul Haq, Mujahidul Islam Selim, Abdullah Sarker and Dilip Barua.

See Page 12 Col 3

AL to formulate policies on nat'l consensus: Hasina

Sheikh Hasina, seeking restoration of the Awami League to power, said if her party got mandate in the coming elections, it would introduce effective policies for all sectors on the basis of national consensus, reports UNB.

"In consultation with all we will frame proper policies for industry, labour, education and health to restore discipline in all these sectors," she told a spontaneous gathering at Jalirpar bus stand on way back to the capital from Gopalganj.

Hasina said her party, if voted to power, would stamp out corruption, build up non-partisan administrative system and separate the judiciary from the executive.

"We will return the people's power to them by establishing the rule of law, and a transparent and accountable government," pledged the Awami League president.

She said her party would build a strong local government system run by elected representatives to expand people's power everywhere.

See Page 12 col 8

5 killed, 35 hurt as train hits bus in Faridpur

FARIDPUR, Apr 11: Five people were killed and 35 others injured when a Rajbari-bound train hit a bus at Modhukhali Bazar level crossing today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the train hit the Sathira-bound bus, "Sohag Paribahan," when it was crossing the railway track at about 1:20 pm. There was no gate man during the incident, they said.

The bus overturned twice leaving five of the passengers dead and all others injured.

Ishaq Ali Bhuiyan, 28, a bank staff of Shibabala thana of Manikganj district and Hasina Begum, 60, of Jhikargachia of Jessore district died on the spot while Sandhya Sen, 20, of Darmapasha of Sunamganj district and two unidentified men succumbed to their injuries at Faridpur General Hospital.

Two of the injured were

sent to Dhaka in critical condition, 13 to the General Hospital and the rest to Magura, and Modhukhali thana health complexes.

Deputy Commissioner of the district, Station Master of Modhukhali Station visited the spot. The train, however, reached its destination safely.

Meanwhile, the bodies were sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Probe body

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Railway authorities have formed a three-member departmental chief-level inquiry committee to probe the accident.

The Railway Inspector of the government will, however, carry out a separate inquiry, into the accident.

The railway authorities expressed shock and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

SAARC Secy-Gen arrives today

By Staff Correspondent

Secretary General of SAARC Naem U Hasan arrives in Dhaka this afternoon on a four-day official visit to Bangladesh. Hasan, a Pakistani diplomat, assured the office of the Secretary General of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation on January 1 this year. He succeeded Y K Silwal of Nepal.

The first visit to Bangladesh by Hasan is being described as a familiarisation trip.

He will call on President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Chief Adviser Habibur Rahman tomorrow.

Hasan will have official talks with Foreign Secretary Farook Sobhan the same day. The activities of the 7-nation organisation will be reviewed at the meeting.

The progress of the South Asian Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA), which became operational last December, will also be discussed.

The SAARC Secretary General's other programmes include a visit to the SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC) and the SAARC Meteorological centre.

He will attend a dinner to be hosted by the Foreign Secretary and a lunch by the Vice Chairman of the SAARC Chamber.

Hasan leaves Dhaka on April 15.

Violation of laws will benefit none: Salam

By Staff Correspondent

BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukdar said yesterday that a code of conduct for the political parties was urgently needed to develop a democratic culture in the country.

Talking to a group of newsmen at his chamber at the party's Naya Paltan central office in the city yesterday evening, Salam Talukdar stressed that the political parties should reach consensus on issues of national importance. But, he regretted, such consensus could not be reached in many cases.

Referring to BNP leaders' meeting with the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) yesterday, Talukdar said the existing laws as regards elections covered everything (for holding fair polls). "Laws can provide many things. But the question is if the political parties will abide by those," he said adding violation of laws

See Page 12 Col 4

Export earnings may fall short of target

Country's export earnings may fall short of the target by about 400 million US dollars in the current fiscal due to order losses as well as disruptions in production and shipment in recent months of political unrest, reports UNB.

According to a preliminary estimate by the Bangladesh Bank, the import trade is also likely to drop by a similar amount in fiscal 1995-96.

Bangladesh Bank Governor

Khurshed Alam said at a meeting with members of a leading chamber yesterday that export might fetch between 3.5 billion and 3.6 billion US dollars this year against the projected amount of 3.9 billion dollar.

Till January, he said, export was growing at the rate of 12 per cent but dropped sharply in the following month. "At the end of the year, we are expecting an export growth of 5-6 per cent," he said.

Alam, however, said his hunch was that Bangladesh could reduce the shortfall by at least 200 million dollars with "some extra zeal and effort."

On import, he forecast a bill of 6.2 billion US dollar at the end of the current fiscal against the original target of 6.8 billion.

"While apprehending a lower import, the Governor ruled out the possibility of food crisis during the year."

He said there is "enough stock" of foodgrains at the moment. "Some food aid is also coming... There will be no food deficit, if food situation is being well taken care of."

The Governor further said that food prices would come down in the coming months.

BGMEA demands 4 months' working capital for each garments unit

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) yesterday demanded of the government to give four months' working capital to each garments factory at lowest possible simple interest rate repayable within three years.

BGMEA President Redwan Ahmed in a press statement expressed his deep concern

See Page 12 Col 5

JP to announce election manifesto soon

By Staff Correspondent

The Jatiya Party is expected to announce its election manifesto soon, according to party sources.

The sources said that the manifesto may outline a strategy to secure the release of jailed party chairman and former president HM Ershad.

Meanwhile, a 10-member candidate selection board for party nomination for the ensuing elections has already been finalised with party chairman HM Ershad as its head, the sources said.

The other members of the board are: Mizan Chowdhury, Roushan Ershad, Moudud Ahmed, Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Anwar Hossain Majum, Shah Moazzam Hossain, Col (ret'd) M A Maleque, Nazim Rahman and Sardar Anjad.

4 killed in city incidents

By DMCH Correspondent

At least four persons, including a 10-year-old girl, were killed in separate incidents in and around the city yesterday.

One Fazal Karim, 40, died in a road accident at Dhania under, Demra thana in the morning.

Fazal, who was travelling in an auto-rickshaw, sustained fatal injury when a truck hit the vehicle around 10 am. He succumbed to his injuries on the way to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), hospital sources said.

Ratan Khan, 50, a mason, died after falling from the rooftop of a building at Kachukhet in North Kafrul in the afternoon. He died on the spot.

See Page 12 col 7

7 young women held at ZIA

Immigration officials at the Zia International Airport arrested seven Mauritius-going young women in the early hours yesterday while producing fake travel documents, reports UNB.

Airport sources said 6 others women of the group fled the scene.

The arrested said Reaz Overseas, a manpower recruit-

See Page 12 Col 3



Residents of Nakhalpara in the city demonstrating in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday demanding regular supply of water in the area. — Star photo

Police raid Dhaka College hostels: Bullets recovered

By Staff Correspondent

Police recovered five bullets during raids in the hostels of Dhaka College early yesterday.

A special police team while conducting the raids also seized a microbus parked in front of the International Hostel, police said.

UNB adds: The bullets were recovered from a room of the International Hostel. S M Zayed, GS of the college students union, was said to be the resident of the room. He was not available during the raid.

Meanwhile, the law-enforcing agencies rounded up 155 people from different parts of the city on various charges. Of them, 22 were wanted criminals.

Fire at city market

By Staff Correspondent

A fire broke out at a market in Malibagh area in the city last night.

The fire reportedly originated from an electric short circuit at the ground floor of Anarkali Market at around 10:40 pm, fire service sources said.

Pakistan, India clash today at Sharjah

Sports Reporter

The Pepsi Cup cricket tournament begins at Sharjah today with traditional rivals India and Pakistan appearing in the inaugural match of the triangular meet at 10:30 am (BST).

Star Sports will telecast today's match live from the Gulf state of Emirates. South Africa, making their first appearance in the desert venue, is the other contender in the fray.

As the match kicks off at the Sharjah Cricket ground, millions of sub-continental cricket fans will get into a fresh emotional warfare.

For Asharuddin, the Indian skipper, it will be a do-or-die battle to keep his top job in tact while for his counterpart Amir Sohail, if won, it will be another feather in his cap following capture of the Singer Cup at Singapore last week.

See Page 12 Col 2

Field-level admn to be recast

Star Report

A list of 240 officials has been prepared for posting as TNOs as part of the caretaker government's move to recast the field level administration, according to some sources.

Sources in the Establishment Ministry, however, said that a three-member committee had been formed on April 8 to fix the criteria for the posting of TNOs while a four-member committee for that of the DCs. The recommendations of the committees are to be finalised shortly.

According to another source, a 'fit-list' containing 240 names have been prepared to be posted as TNOs. Of them, many claimed to be too senior for the posting as the rest were at least four batch junior to them.

At present, 240 TNOs out of 260 in the country have already completed three years or more in this post.

Of the 64 DCs, 35 had already completed three years or more in their present capacity and would also be replaced, the source added.

The field-level administration

is being reorganised in view of the coming Jatiya Sangsad elections and many of the DCs and TNOs are to be replaced, one source noted.

Secy-level changes made effective

Meanwhile, administrative changes in four ministries were made effective from yesterday.

Habibur Rahman, who was given a contract appointment for two years by the BNP government, was replaced by Dr Shawkat Ali as Secretary of the Establishment Ministry. Habibur Rahman was brought to the Ministry of Industries as its Secretary, in place of Dr Ali.

Habibur Rahman was given contract appointment in June last prior to his retirement.

MA Reza, Chairman of the Land Settlement Board, was given additional charge as Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication. The post of secretary of the ministry became vacant following the

See Page 12 col 7

Provisional budget for first quarter likely

By Staff Correspondent

Finance and Planning Adviser Dr Wahiduddin Mahmud yesterday said the government has instructed Bangladesh missions abroad to rebuild the confidence of foreign businessmen in Bangladesh and to persuade them to renew their contracts with the country's business circle.

"We have already instructed our missions abroad, specially in the USA, to ensure maximum cooperation of business people to renew their contracts and establish their shattered confidence in Bangladesh," Dr Mahmud said at a meeting with members of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) at the chamber office, MCCI President Samson H Chowdhury presided.

Governor of Bangladesh Bank Khurshed Alam and high officials of the Finance Ministry were present at the meeting.

The Adviser also hinted that a provisional budget will be formulated for the first quarter of the next fiscal year, removing anomalies in duties.

"We have not decided about next year's budget. Before the next government takes over we will have a budget of a kind and within that framework we will have a provisional budget for the first quarter," the Adviser said.

"We will not be making major changes across the table in taxes. We will make small changes and if required will remove the anomalies. We have asked the NBR to hold consultation with trade bodies," he said.

He assured that he would do whatever needed and permitted under the caretaker

See Page 12 Col 1

Industrial space available at multistoried BSCIC Electronics Complex, Mirpur, Dhaka.

Facilities

- Stand by Generator
- Electric Sub-Station
- Two heavy duty passenger lifts
- Two heavy duty goods lifts
- Underground parking space
- Show room and Display centre
- Information centre
- Common workshop facility
- Training Centre
- Other standard industrial safety
- Rentable space at each floor 10,000 sq ft
- Total rentable space 72,000 sq ft. Each block covers 2500 sq ft and maybe further divided
- EPZ facilities may be extended for joint venture/export oriented industries
- Rent Tk 7= (Seven) per sq ft per month
- Arrangement for V-Sat may be made, if wanted by the entrepreneurs

For other information please contact

BSCIC/P.R.D.-3/96(14)

General Manager (Technology)
Bangladesh Small & Cottage Industries Corporation
128, Malek Mansion, Motiheel C/A,
Dhaka-1000.
Telephone: 9560191/9553481