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DSE MARKET	
DSE price index	901.49 (+0.85%)
Market capital in Tk	112,12 cr
Transactions in volume	187555
Transactions in value Tk	3.87 cr

CSE MARKET	
CSE price index	397.49
Market capital	Tk 322,280 cr
Transactions in volume	13040
Transactions in value	Tk 3.16 lakh

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NEWS BRIEFS

BNP public meet
today

The Bangladesh Nationalist
Party (BNP) will hold a public
meeting in front of its central
office at Nayapaltan VIP road at
3 PM today. Party Chairperson
 Begum Khaleda Zia will address
the meeting, said a press
release yesterday.



Colourful processions of the Jatiyatobadi Samajik Sanskritik Sangathan (L) and Sutrapur Thana Awami League (R) in the city yesterday to campaign for their respective party candidates. — Star photo

Polls campaign ends at midnight tonight

Colourful campaign processions in city

By Reaz Ahmad

Campaign for Wednesday's general election ends at midnight tonight, reports UNB.

Political parties and candidates were carrying on a frantic last-minute campaign that began on May 22 under a restrictive code of conduct.

The three-week official electioneering witnessed hectic meetings, rallies and processions countywide.

The stage is now set with the Election Commission having taken all the preparations for the voting, sending ballot papers and boxes to the district headquarters, and making all out arrangements for ensuring law and order on the polling date.

A good number of election observers from Commonwealth, different SAARC countries, Japan and the US-based National Democratic Institute have already reached the capital to monitor the June 12 election, held under a caretaker government.

Besides, dozens of foreign journalists from different newspapers, news agencies and news media, including radio and television, are now here to cover Bangladesh's general election, set to last four months.

Leaders of the two major political parties, particularly Begum Khaleda Zia of BNP and Sheikh Hasina of Awami

League, have almost completed their electioneering after crisscrossing the entire country in last three weeks.

Apart from announcing their respective election manifestos, all the political parties have made promises to turn the country 'economically self-reliant, ending discrimination, terrorism and anarchy.'

A total of 114,749 polling booths in 25,957 polling stations will be installed across the country where 56,716,937 voters are expected to exercise their franchise. Out of the voters, 28,759,995 are male and 27,956,942 female.

A total of 2,574 candidates

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268 foreign monitors

A total of 268 foreign observers and diplomats will oversee Wednesday's parliamentary election. Election Commission sources here said yesterday, reports UNB.

The sources said 169 election observers are here from different foreign countries and organisations while 99 diplomats who will monitor the polls represent Dhaka-based High Commissions and Embassies of different countries.

The polls observers include

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With just two days left for the June 12 polls for electing the country's seventh parliament, the city wore a festive look yesterday as different political parties brought out colourful campaign processions carrying decorated election symbols, banners, festoons and posters.

Campaigners boarding traditional hackney carriages and trucks and even wearing roller skates moved along city streets to draw voters' attention, adding an extra feather to the lively ways of soliciting vote.

From the eight Jatiya Sangsad seats in this city of over eight million, 148 candidates both on party tickets and as independents in the election race, the second one under a caretaker government with the first one in 1991.

Some 25 lakh registered voters in the city are expected to exercise their franchise at 907 polling centres on Wednesday, deciding the fate of the candidates.

Of the 907 centres, some 323 were reportedly rated by the police administration as 'trouble-prone.'

Other than army personnel, some 7493 police, 2,781 BDR and 11,084 Ansar personnel are to take care of the law and order in and around these centres.

Strict measures taken by law enforcing agencies to check and avert pre-polls violence and observance of the election code of conduct by the candidates and campaigners in general contributed much to maintaining by and large a healthy atmosphere so

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EC examining allegation against President

The Election Commission (EC) is examining an allegation against the President of violating the election code of conduct.

This was stated by Chief Election Commissioner Mohammad Abu Henza at a press conference organised by OCAB in the city yesterday.

"We are examining a petition which accused the President of violating electoral code," said the CEC responding to a question.

He, however, said the President enjoys certain immunities under the Constitution from civil and criminal proceedings.

Asked if it was morally right for the President to make a promise just ahead of the election, the CEC said: "That is a different matter. Ask your conscience for the answer."

President Abdur Rahman Biswas last Thursday made a

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BNP activist shot in city

By Staff Correspondent
A BNP activist sustained serious bullet injuries when a gang shot him in Bangshali area in the old part of the city yesterday.

Hazi Delwar Hossain, 40, was attacked when he was returning to his house at 34, Hazi Abdulla Sarker Lane, at around 1 am after election campaign for Sadeq Hossain, the BNP candidate contesting

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BNP plans to rig polls in 105 seats: Hasina

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, June 9: Awami League president Sheikh Hasina today alleged that the BNP, for what she called the plunder of national resources and ruining the national economy.

The AL chief addressed public meetings at Iwardi (Pabna), Natore, Gopalganj, Bagha, Charhat, Kahal, Nandigram, Dhopchachia, Almidighi, and Manda. She flew to Iwardi this morning by a chartered plane from Sylhet after offering fetea at the mazar of Hazrat Shah Jalal (R) there.

They had staged a mock election in February last to cling to power and are going on now with a blue-print to win the June 12 polls any how," she alleged while addressing a huge election-project meeting at Shahabazar in the city.

In her last-day campaign swing covering five districts in the northern region, Hasina made fervent appeals to people to vote Awami League to power to establish a self-reliant economy, end corruption and to ensure rule of law.

She also bitterly criticised

AL's main power contender, the BNP, for what she called the plunder of national resources and ruining the national economy.

The AL chief addressed public meetings at Iwardi (Pabna), Natore, Gopalganj, Bagha, Charhat, Kahal, Nandigram, Dhopchachia, Almidighi, and Manda. She flew to Iwardi this morning by a chartered plane from Sylhet after offering fetea at the mazar of Hazrat Shah Jalal (R) there.

Thousands of people including women joined the meetings from far flung area chanting slogans in favour of Hasina, Awami League and the party election symbol 'boat'.

The meeting at Shahabazar was presided over by Mohammad Moniruzzaman, president of the Rajshahi city

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Reply befittingly with ballot bombs: Khaleda

CHITTAGONG, June 9:

Former prime minister Begum Khaleda Zia today asked the people to hurl their ballot bomb on those who indulged in destructive activities causing limitless suffering to common man, reports UNB.

You (people) have a powerful bomb in your hand. Give befitting reply to them (Opposition) through your ballot bomb," she said.

Begum Zia was addressing a series of election meetings in different parts of the port city. Thousands of people from all walks of life attended the meetings to listen to her.

The BNP chairperson said the peace-loving people of the country had tolerated a lot and they did not want anarchy.

You were held hostage by the terrorists. Now is time to make a counter bomb attack. Ballot is this bomb. June 12 is the day for charging the ballot bomb on those who destroyed

the economy and created immense suffering for the people," Begum Zia said.

The BNP chief said people's ballot bombs would herald an era of development, peace, production, safeguard of independence and sovereignty while their (Opposition) bomb is aimed at destruction of the country.

"You cannot even sleep in peace if you fail to resist the vested quarters. You cannot open your shop and free the nation from the slavery if you do not reject them through ballot in the ensuing polls," she told the gatherings.

During the four-hour-long campaign, Begum Zia addressed huge meetings at Steel Mill Gate in North Patenga, Boakkhal, Kalurghat, Baddhara Hat, Station Road, Shuvapur and Kadamtali. Besides, she went on a mass-contact at different places in the port city.

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One killed, 90 hurt in pre-polls violence in 4 districts

Star Report

One person was killed and over 90 were injured in pre-polls violence in Bhola, Sylhet, Narayanganj and Jhenidah yesterday.

According to UNB, one man was killed and 20 others were injured in a pre-polls violence between two rival political parties in Bhola Sadar thana yesterday, police said.

The dead was identified as Nuruzzaman Shukur, 40, leader of Bhola district unit of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). He claimed him as a worker of the party.

Bhola district BNP Joint Secretary Mostafa Kamal claimed that a group of mis-

creants of Awami League had suddenly attacked their party workers and killed Shukur.

Our Staff Correspondent from Sylhet reports: At least 50 persons, including police officials, were injured in a clash at the Jakiganj thana headquarters yesterday afternoon. Of the injured, 20 were admitted to the Thana Health Complex.

Awami League and Jatiya party nominees for the June 12 election were holding meetings at the thana headquarters.

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Ctg: Campaign in high gear

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, June 9: Chittagong city and its surrounding areas wore a festive look as election campaign reached its climax here.

Innumerable posters have been pasted in and around the city. Election symbols hanged and camps erected mostly near the roads and highways continued playing of election related songs.

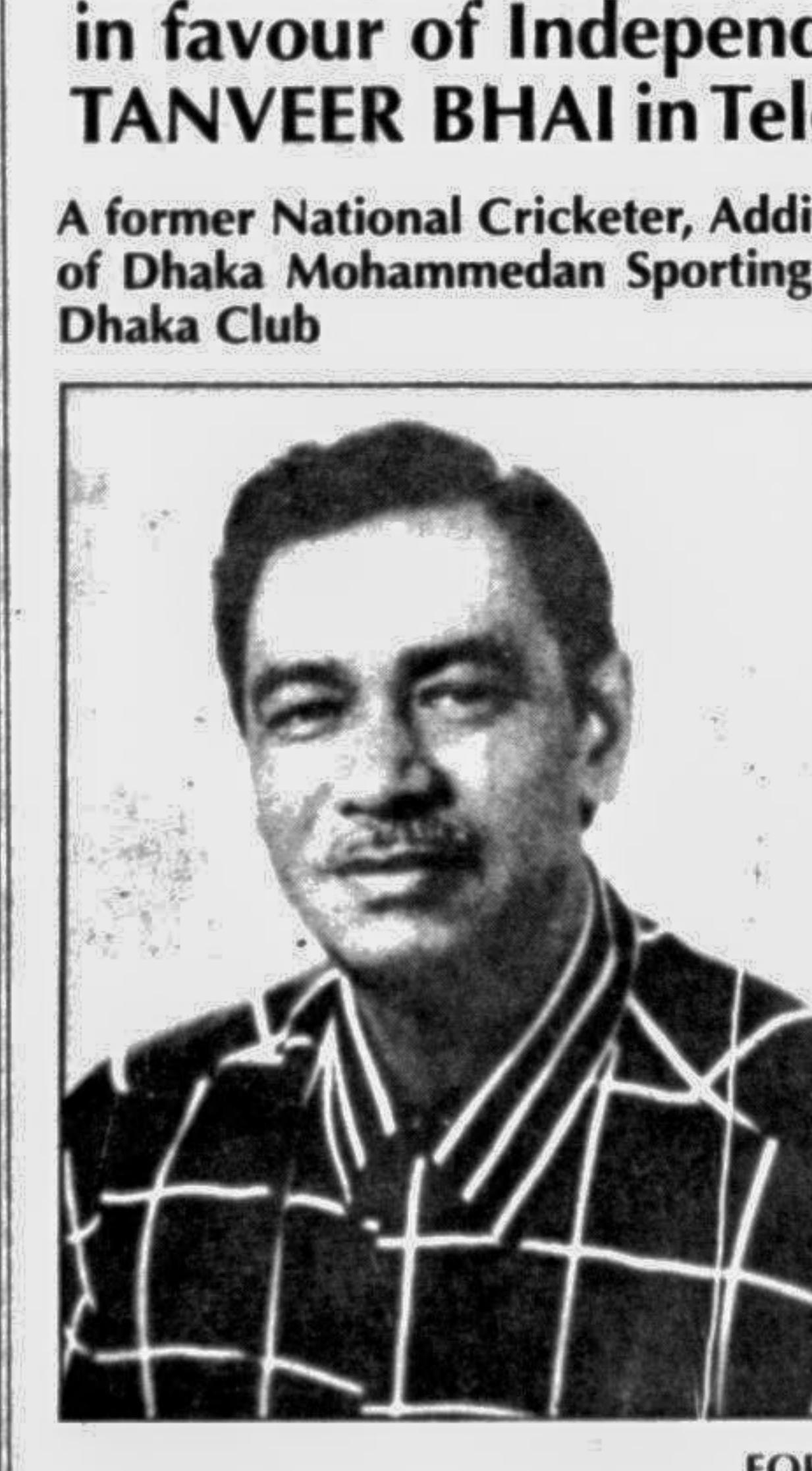
Man-to-man publicity from election camps is also on to woo vote in favour of respective party candidates. Campaigners are approaching people of various walks of life while the party candidates mobilised local youths and female workers to go for door-to-door

stendencies are in the city and rest 12 located outside. According to political observers, dual fights are likely in 10 constituencies and triangular fights in five constituencies.

A total of 28,19,753 voters will exercise their franchise, of whom 14,87,446 are male and 13,32,307 are female. Polling will be held in 1342 centres of the district where 6,131 booths have been set up, an election official said.

Forces have been deployed in all 469 vantage points of the district and 17 control rooms, including three in the city, have been opened to monitor

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SC hearing on Ershad's speech over Radio, TV today

By SC Correspondent

The Appellate Division yesterday ordered stay of the High Court Division order directing the authorities concerned to telecast and broadcast the speech of former president HM Ershad over the radio and television along with the other party leaders till 11:30 am today.

Justice Latifur Rahman of the Appellate Division, upon a stay petition of the government, also fixed the matter for hearing today in the full bench of the