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United Front

by Alok Verma
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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 930.46 (+0.34%)
Market capital Tk 6317.83 cr
Transactions in volume 207201
Transactions in value Tk 5.87 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 403.77 (+0.40%)
Market capital Tk 3379.51 cr
Transactions in volume 3475
Transactions in value Tk 15.63 lakh

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day-by Day



Stage set for repolling in 27 constituencies

A comprehensive preparation has been undertaken to maintain law and order during repolling tomorrow in the suspended polling centres, report agencies.

With the stage set for repolling, Chief Election Commissioner Mohammad Abu Hena in a statement last night urged all citizens to be on maximum alert so that no untoward incident takes place during the voting in 122 centres of 27 constituencies.

The CEC also called upon all people, irrespective of religion, caste, opinion and party affiliation, to come forward to ensure security of voters during the balloting.

"Besides police, airways and BDR, army personnel will also discharge their sacred duties, but only cooperation from

people can ensure security in the polling centres," he said.

Fresh ballots and other necessary papers were sent to 11 districts on Sunday while representatives of the remaining two districts received the papers yesterday.

Election to all 300 Jatiya Sangsad seats was held on June 12 simultaneously. Results of 273 seats have already been published. But voting was declared postponed in 122 polling centres of 27 constituencies for various reasons.

A meeting of the advisory committee on law and order and national broadcasting yesterday directed the concerned authorities to take all necessary steps to hold the coming re-elections freely and properly.

With adviser of the care-

taker government, Dr. Muhammad Yunus in the chair, the meeting also reviewed overall law and order of the country.

Members of the advisory committee Barrister Syed Istiique Ahmad, Sayed Manzur Elahi, Dr. Najma Chowdhury, Prof. Shamsul Huq, AZM Nasiruddin and Maj. Gen. (retired) AR Khan attended the meeting.

An official handout said last night that manpower would be increased manifolds in each centre than before for maintaining law and order on the repolling day.

This was informed at a meeting on law and order during repolling held at the Ministry of Home Affairs with Home Secretary Syed Rezaul Hayat in the chair yesterday.

The BDR Director General

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BNP fears false voting during repolling

By Staff Correspondent

BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukdar yesterday alleged that a particular party was preparing to "occupy polling centres to cast false votes" in the repolling at 122 centres in 27 constituencies tomorrow.

"Some press reports also substantiate our apprehension," he said in a statement.

Talukdar demanded that the Election Commission and other authorities concerned take proper steps to stop "recurrence of vote-rigging" so that people could cast votes freely.

He called upon the people to guard against any conspiracy to change election results.

Meanwhile, a BNP press release alleged that Awami League-backed "terrorists" attacked BNP candidate from

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dent HM Ershad.

The Jatiya Party yesterday formally requested President Abdur Rahman Biswas to invite Awami League, which emerged as single largest party in June 12 election, to form government through his lawyers.

said the press release.

With JP giving ladder, the Awami League is now on a vantage position to form government with the strength of 164 MPs — AL's 135 combined with JP's 29.

Our Staff Correspondent adds the defence lawyer of jailed former president and Jatiya Party chief HM Ershad has said two applications were filed for his release, one to the President yesterday afternoon, said a party press release.

Party's acting Chairman Mianzur Rahman Chowdhury and secretary General Anwar Hossain Manju made the request in concurrence with their leader, deposed Presi-

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JP's letter to Biswas for inviting AL to form govt

The Jatiya Party yesterday

formally requested President Abdur Rahman Biswas to invite Awami League, which emerged as single largest party in June 12 election, to form government through his lawyers.

said the press release.

Reaffirming its support to the Awami League, the Jatiya Party in a letter made the request to the President.

JP presidium member Sayeed Tareq carried the letter to the President yesterday afternoon, said a party press release.

Our Staff Correspondent adds the defence lawyer of jailed former president and Jatiya Party chief HM Ershad has said two applications were filed for his release, one to the Pre-

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Resident chiefs of WB, Unicef meet Hasina

World Bank representative in Bangladesh, Landell Mills, made a courtesy call to Awami League president Sheikh Hasina at her Dhamondi residence in the city yesterday afternoon, reports BSS.

Landell felicitated Sheikh Hasina on her party's winning majority seats in the June 12 parliamentary polls.

The World Bank representative expressed the hope that his bank's assistance for poverty alleviation and economic activities of Bangladesh would remain uninterrupted.

Sheikh Hasina thanked the World Bank representative for his visit. Party foreign affairs secretary Abul Hasan Chowdhury, MP-elect was also present.

Earlier in the morning chief of UNICEF mission in Bangladesh Roi C Carrier also made a courtesy call to the Awami

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Humayun Zahir murder: Witness shot in city

By Staff Correspondent

A businessman and one of the witnesses in Humayun Zahir murder case was injured when some unidentified persons shot him at Kakrail in the city yesterday.

Jahangir Alam was bullet hit in his right leg and left thigh as the miscreants fired shots while he was getting into his car parked in front of the Scout Bhaban at about 1:30 pm, witnesses said.

He was admitted to the Pango Hospital.

The miscreants numbering three to four came by an autorickshaw and fled away from the spot exploding several hand bombs.

Motijheel thana duty officer said two cases were filed in this regard. Azizul Huq, general manager of JK Fabrics lodged the cases for attempt to murder and exploding bombs.

Police seized the taxi and held the driver Dewar.

Duty officer of Motijheel thana admitted that Jahangir was one of the witnesses of Humayun Zahir murder case. He said, the Detective Branch (DB) is investigating into the matter.

Powerful quake rocks Indonesia

CANBERRA, June 17: A undersea earthquake, with a magnitude estimated at 7.6, rocked eastern Indonesia tonight, the Australian Geological Survey said, reports AP.

Seismologist Ken Muirhead said the quake hit at about 9:20 pm Australian eastern time (1120 GMT) and was located deep beneath the sea.

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Dhaka iterates support for independent Palestine

Foreign Secretary said the Chief Adviser reaffirmed his country's strong support for the Palestinians with Al-Quds Al-Sharif (Jerusalem) as its capital, reports BSS.

The re-affirmation came from Chief Adviser Muhammad Habibur Rahman during his talks with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat who made an hour-long stopover at the Zia International Airport on his way to China yesterday.

On arrival at the airport, President Arafat was warmly received by the Chief Adviser.

Also present at the airport to receive the Palestinian President were Foreign Secretary Farook Sobhan and Palestinian Ambassador in Bangladesh Mohammad Shaha Zarab.

President Arafat, who was accompanied by senior advisors, and the Chief Adviser went to the VIP lounge of the airport where they had talks assisted by their aides.

Later briefing newsmen, the

President Jacques Chirac, British Prime Minister John Major and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, he added.

He said he had recently received a personal message from Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany. Besides, he said he had extensive talks with Arab leaders. There had been strong support for the Middle East peace process for upholding all aspects of the Middle East Peace Accord, he pointed out.

President Arafat said the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Cairo from June 21 to June 23 was expected to extend its full and unequivocal support to the cause of Palestine and Palestinian people.

He said it was evident that the entire international community now fully stand committed to the peace process.

The European Union is also expected to extend its full

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SADF formally opens

The South Asian Development Fund (SADF) formally opened in Dhaka yesterday, aiming to promote projects which will benefit more than one member countries of the 7-nation SAARC, reports UNB.

Establishment of the regional fund was officially announced at the first meeting of the SADF governing board which began at a local hotel in the morning.

The announcement was

made by Khairul Huda, the managing director of the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB), who has been appointed the first chairman of the SADF board.

At a pre-meeting press briefing, Huda said the governing board, during its 2-day session, would primarily determine the future course of action of the Fund.

He said the Board would

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Security tightened in trouble-prone areas of Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 17: Security has been tightened in most of the trouble-prone areas here against the backdrop of some sporadic incidents post-election violence that left several persons injured in the past three days, administration sources said.

The security measures were taken ahead of the repolling in three constituencies of Chittagong tomorrow.

Returning Officer and Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong Nazrul Islam told this correspondent this morning that law enforcement agencies were put on full alert to thwart any attempt of violence.

The incidents of violence were mainly reported from Gosalibanda, in the city, Noapara of Raozan and some other places under Mirsharai and Rangunia, police said.

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