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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

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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, ansars 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 Istiaque Ahmad, Sayed Manzur Elahi, Dr. Najma Chowdhury, Prof. Shamsul Haq, AZM Nasiruddin and Maj. Gen. (ret'd) 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



Chief Adviser Muhammad Habibur Rahman warmly received Palestinian President Yasser Arafat who made an hour-long stopover at the Zia International Airport on his way to China yesterday. — PID photo

Cooperate with EC in holding repolling

People's vigilance more important than govt security measures: CA

Chief Adviser Muhammad Habibur Rahman yesterday made a fervent appeal to all political leaders to extend their all-out cooperation to the Election Commission for peaceful holding of repolling on June 19.

In an interview with BSS, he said the government had strengthened all security measures for peaceful holding of the repolling. Vigilance of the people is far more important than security measures of the government, he stressed.

The Chief Adviser expressed his firm belief that the electorate would respond to the call of democracy during the repolling and uphold the hard earned reputation of the country.

Following is the English rendering of the Chief Adviser's interview:

Question: What do you think about the repolling in some centres in 27 constituencies? Do you have any concern in this regard?

Answer: Repolling in a total of 122 polling centres spreading over 27 constituencies will be held on June 19 next. I have no particular concern in

this regard. The Election Commission has taken all possible measures. Required number of police, ansars, BDR will be deployed in each of the centres. Magistrates will be present near the polling centres for instant redressal measures. Besides, army will be engaged in aid of the civil administration for maintaining law and order. So I have no doubt about holding of free and fair repolling. In a peaceful atmosphere.

Q: Concern was expressed in some of newspapers that some contesting political parties will try to win the elections by any means in the repolling. What is your comment?

A: I have no such apprehension. Elections will be held in free and impartial manner. People's verdict will be final. Foreign election observers will be present in almost every centre where repolling will be held. They will observe whether elections are held impartially or not. Government has strengthened all security measures so that repolling can be held in a peaceful way. Vigilance of the people is far more important than measures of security taken by the government for holding of peaceful elections. The way peace loving people of Bangladesh have participated in the general elections and maintained peace and discipline have earned praise of the people of the whole world. I firmly believe that the electorate will respond to the call of democracy and peace during the re-

polling.

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BNP urges CEC to deploy army

By Staff Correspondent

A two member BNP delegation comprising AM Zahuruddin Khan and Haris Choudhury met Chief Election Commissioner Mohammad Abu Hena at his office yesterday afternoon.

"We urged the CEC to deploy members of the army, BDR and police at each of the 122 voting centres in 27 constituencies where repolling is scheduled for June 19 and also requested him to answer our complaints of irregularities in

See Page 12 Col 2

BNP fears false voting during repolling

By Staff Correspondent

BNP Secretary General Abud 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

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, reports UNB.

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

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

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

dent HM Ershad.

The jailed JP Chairman, HM Ershad, conveyed his decision backing up Awami League to form government to his party leaders 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 to commute his sentence under Article 49 of

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 Dhamondri 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 Rol C Carrier also made a courtesy call to the Awami

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 Haq, general manager of JK Fabrics lodged the cases for attempt to murder and exploding bombs.

Police seized the baby taxi and held the driver Dewlar.

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.

Dhaka iterates support for independent Palestine

Bangladesh yesterday reaffirmed its strong support for an independent state 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 here at the Zia International Airport on his way to China.

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 Shahita 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

Foreign Secretary said the Chief Adviser reaffirmed his country's strong support for the people of Palestine and an independent state for the Palestinians with Al-Quds Al-Sharif (Jerusalem) as its capital.

Rahman expressed the hope that notwithstanding the outcome of the recent elections in Israel, the Middle East peace process will continue and lead to a fruitful conclusion. He said it was his dream that before the end of this century an independent Palestine state will be born.

In response, President Arafat expressed his appreciation for the strong support of the government and the people of Bangladesh for the cause of Palestine. He said he had been carrying extensive consultations with different world leaders in recent weeks. Apart from exchange of views with US President Bill Clinton, he had personal talks with French

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

Where women never cast votes

JHENIDAH, June 17: All efforts to cast female votes in the June 12 election in 12 villages of Shurat union of Sadar thana of the district went in vain, reports UNB.

Not a single female vote was cast during the election. The female voters of both Muslim and Hindu communities of these villages never exercised their franchise before, local people said.

The villages are Laudia, Chutlia, Ratanah, Shurat, Huda Shurat, Teghori, Banaibohu, Kaylampur, Purbakrishanapur, Krishanapur, Bagdanga and Hamdodanga.

There are 6,334 voters in those villages of whom 2,855 are females, according to officials.

Though the turnout of fe-

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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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 (11:20 GMT) and was located deep beneath the sea

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NEWS BRIEFS

Blasts in front of Ctg AL office

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 17: Several crude bombs were blasted today in front of the local Awami League office in Sher Shah Colony in the city but none was injured in the incident, police said. Police could not say who had thrown the bombs there at about 4 pm. Meanwhile, the residence of ward commissioner and local BNP leader Abdul Kader Milon at the Sher Shah Colony came under attack by some unidentified youths, police said.

Akheri Chahar Shomba July 17

Akheri Chahar Shomba will be observed on July 17 as the moon of the holy Safar month was sighted yesterday, according to a press release of the Islamic Foundation Bangladesh. The decision to observe the Akheri Chahar Shomba was taken at a meeting of the National Moon Sighting Committee held at the Conference room of the Islamic Foundation, reports BSS.

Lankan troops kill 15 LTTE rebels

COLOMBO, June 17: Sri Lankan troops killed more than 15 Tamil Tiger rebels today in an ambush in the northern Jaffna Peninsula, the defence ministry said. The early morning clash occurred at Sorapattu in the Thamarachchi district of the Jaffna Peninsula, heart of the rebels' world — be homeland in the north and east, the ministry said, reports Reuters.

Body recovered

From Our Correspondent

KHULNA, June 17: The body of a day labourer identified as Ranga Mia, 32, was recovered from an abandoned railway compartment. Police said he died of heart attack. The body has been sent for autopsy.

Lebed emerges kingmaker, Zhirnovsky flops

Yeltsin's edge over Zyuganov



Vladimir Zhirnovsky



Boris Yeltsin



Gennady Zyuganov

MOSCOW, June 17: President Boris Yeltsin headed for a narrow first-round victory today over his communist rival in the Russian election and the two men immediately sought to forge political deals to win the runoff, reports Reuters.

With nearly 90 per cent of Sunday's vote counted, Yeltsin led communist arch-foe Gennady Zyuganov by 34.80 per cent to 32.31, setting the stage for a decisive second-

round ballot in July.

While maverick ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirnovsky flopped, law-and-order General Alexander Lebed became overnight the man of the moment and kingmaker, taking a strong third place in an election which will decide the future of reforms in Russia.

The key to the final outcome — which, on balance, appeared to favour Yeltsin — lay in where the one-third of vot-

ers who opted for Lebed or other eliminated candidates would transfer their allegiance in July.

Lebed took 14.38 per cent of the vote, pushing liberal economist Grigory Yavlinsky and Zhirnovsky into fourth and fifth place respectively.

Yeltsin, 65, wasted no time in wooing the tough-talking retired paratrooper for whom he has expressed admiration and

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 enforcing agencies were put on full alert to thwart any attempt of violence.

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

MP-elect of IOJ supports BNP

By Staff Correspondent

The lone MP-elect of Islam Oikya Jote, Md Golam Sarwar, yesterday met BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia and lent support to her party, a party press release said.

But the press release did not mention where the meeting was held. Begum Zia thanked Golam Sarwar for extending support to her party, the release added.

Sarwar was elected from Barguna-2 constituency.

আপনি কি এইচবিএফসি প্রদত্ত ইনসেনটিভ পেতে আগ্রহী?

- ★ ইনসেনটিভ পেতে হলে ঋণের মাসিক কিস্তি নিয়মিত পরিশোধ করুন।
- ★ চলতি অর্থ বছরের ১২টি কিস্তি ৩০শে জুন' ৯৬ তারিখের মধ্যে সঞ্চিত ব্যাংক শাখায় এইচবিএফসির ব্যাংক হিসাবে জমা (ক্রেডিট) হলেই আপনি সুদের উপর পাবেন ইনসেনটিভ।
- ★ চেকের মাধ্যমে কিস্তির টাকা পরিশোধে ইচ্ছুক গ্রাহীরাগণ এমনভাবে চেক জমা করুন যাতে চেকের অর্থ ক্লিয়ারিং হয়ে ৩০শে জুন' ৯৬ তারিখের মধ্যেই এইচবিএফসির ব্যাংক হিসাবে জমা হয়ে যায়।
- ★ ঋণের কিস্তি জমা দেয়ার সময় ঋণ হিসাব নব্বর, ঋণের ক্যাটাগরী (একাধিক ঋণ থাকলে), গ্রাহীর নাম ও ঠিকানা, জোন ভিত্তিক পৃথক মেমো বই, ঋণটি মাস্ট অথবা জেনারেল ডা স্টিক ও নির্ভুলভাবে মেমোতে লিখে টাকা জমা করুন। কারণ কোন একটি তথ্য ভুল থাকলে জমাকৃত টাকা ঋণ হিসাবে জমা না হয়ে সাসপেন্স হিসাবে জমা হয়ে যায়। ফলে ঋণের হিসাব হালনাগাদ এবং ইনসেনটিভ প্রদানে বিঘ্নের সৃষ্টি হয়।
- ★ পূর্বে যারা ঋণ গ্রহণ করেছেন তাদের ঋণ পরিশোধ আচরণ সন্তোষজনক না হওয়ার কারণে বর্তমানে অধিকাংশ জেলা সদরে ঋণ প্রদান বন্ধ রয়েছে। সুতরাং ব্যকোসহ নিয়মিত কিস্তি পরিশোধ করে নিজে লাভবান হোন, আইনগত সমস্যা এড়িয়ে চলুন এবং অন্যকে ঋণ পাবার সুযোগ করে দিন।
- ★ খেলাপী ঋণ গ্রাহীদের বিরুদ্ধে আইনগত ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের প্রক্রিয়া অব্যাহত রয়েছে। ভবিষ্যতে এই প্রক্রিয়া আরো দ্রুত ও কঠোর করা হাড়া এইচবিএফসির কোন বিকল্প থাকবে না। সুতরাং খেলাপী কিস্তিসহ নিয়মিত ঋণ পরিশোধ করুন।

বাংলাদেশ হাউস বিল্ডিং ফাইন্যান্স কর্পোরেশন

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