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by Dr Dhaman Chowdhury

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DSE MARKET	
DSE price index	1121.91 (+1.15%)
Market capital Tk	7000.02 cr
Transactions in volume	379134
Transactions in value Tk	9.02 cr
CSE MARKET	
CSE price index	458.71 (+1.00%)
Market capital Tk	4182.57 cr
Transactions in volume	30100
Transactions in value Tk	8.05 cr

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NEWS BRIEFS

AL jt meet today

A joint meeting of the Bangladesh Awami League and its front organisations will be held today at the party central office at 23, Bangabandhu Avenue in the city at 11 a.m. AL General Secretary Zillur Rahman has requested all concerned to attend the meeting, a party press release said, reports BSS.

Admission procedure

All government and private colleges as well as madrassah this year will follow the same admission procedure of the last year. Marks obtained in all previous public examinations will be the only basis for admission into intermediate, degree and honours classes. Government, in this regard, has already issued a circular to all heads of the institutions, said an official handout yesterday, reports UNB.

2 electrocuted

By Staff Correspondent Two labourers were electrocuted while installing water pipelines at Pallabi in the city yesterday. One of the victims was identified as Yunus Miah, 30. The identity of the other, aged about 29 could not be known immediately, police said.

According to Police, the accident occurred when they touched an underground electric cable near plot No. 9 at about 12.30 pm.

Pedestrian succumbs to stab injuries

By DMC Correspondent A pedestrian stabbed by muggers at Khilgaon Friday night died at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday. Ayanal, 40, was attacked by a gang of muggers at Khilgaon Chowdhurypara at about 9.30 pm Friday. The muggers assaulted Ayanal and also stabbed him when he refused to give them money.

Bomb rocks Atlanta: Two die



Victims of the blast are attended to by medics after an explosion rocked Centennial Park, built for visitors to the Olympic Games in downtown Atlanta, Georgia, early yesterday.

— AFP/UNB photo

ATLANTA, July 27: A pipe bomb in a park killed two people and injured 110 today in a bloody attack on revellers at the Atlanta Olympics which US President Bill Clinton condemned as an "evil act of terror", report agencies.

It was the worst attack on the Olympics since 11 Israeli athletes were killed by Palestinian guerrillas at the Munich Games in 1972.

"We will spare no effort to find out who was responsible for this murderous act. We will track them down. We will bring them to justice," a grim-looking Clinton said in a statement at the White House.

The explosion happened as thousands of people were visiting the Centennial Park, especially built for the Olympic Games which were opened last week by President Bill Clinton.

FBI spokesman Woody Johnson said police were trying to clear the area when the bomb went off.

He added that the bomb had been hidden in a paper bag near a stage in the park where a rock group was performing.

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Govt to ensure political order for successful economic drive: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government would ensure political order to initiate a successful drive in the economic arena, reports UNB.

"My government is determined to provide this much-needed conducive political order based on the principles of rule of law and capable of gaining strength over time through broad consensus on governance," she told an international seminar.

"At the same time," the Prime Minister assured, "We are committed to pursuing continuity and stability in economic policies so that the best can be made out of the conducive political order."

The three-day seminar on "Learning from East Asia: Lessons for South Asia" has been arranged at a local hotel by the Centre for Policy Dialogue, a local thinktank, to discuss the factors contributing to a rapid development in

the East Asian states.

Pointing at the economic miracle of the East Asian countries, Hasina said while evaluating the growth experienced in these countries, more often than not, an emphasis is placed on the conducive effects of political stability.

Frequently, the Prime Minister said, such a stability is taken as connotive of socio-political status quo or continuation of a power-that-be at the seat of power of the state.

"On the contrary, learning one hard way in our country over the last 21 years, we have come to believe the basis of stability is rule of law, assurance of personal freedom and respect for democratic rights, values and institutions and not continuance of the status quo that may be wrought raw and hard on the society by a coercive drawing power from muscle, conceit and white terror."

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Budget today

By Staff Correspondent The national budget for fiscal 1996-97 will be announced today with an estimated revenue earning of about Taka 17000 crore and expenditure of about Taka 12000 crore.

This will be the first budget of the Awami League government which came to power last month after 21 years.

Finance Minister SAMS Kibria will present the budget at the Jatiya Sangsad at 3 pm, an official announcement said. The budget speech of the finance minister will be telecast and broadcast live from the Sangsad, the announcement said.

The finance minister earlier indicated that the budget would reflect Awami League's pledges made in its election manifesto and put emphasis on agriculture and export-oriented industry sectors. He had said that subsidy would be given to the agriculture sector.

It is expected that the budget would aim at achieving a GDP growth rate of six per cent.

Announce pay commission soon: Khaleda

Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday demanded immediate announcement of pay commission for workers and employees, reports UNB.

She also demanded reopening of mills and factories, which were closed recently, in the greater national interest and for enabling the workers earn their bread and butter.

Begum Zia was addressing leaders of different units of BNP's labour front Jatiyatabdil Sramik Dal at the party's Kakkral office in the city last night.

The BNP chairperson urged the government to protect the industries by maintaining stability in the industrial belt.

She blamed the ruling party workers' wing for occupying CBA and Sramik Dal offices in different parts of the country. She alleged that the elected

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Flood may hit more areas in Dhaka, adjoining dists

already been inundated by the flood water.

Flood situation in Daulatpur, Shitalay, Ghor, Harirampur and Madaripur districts took an alarming turn yesterday following rise of water above dangermarks in the major rivers, report agencies.

According to Flood Information Centre, the low-lying areas of the capital have already been flooded while more areas in and around Dhaka and Narayanganj may be inundated soon.

The Dhaka-Aricha highway may go under water at several points.

Vast tracts of low-lying areas around the capital, including Mirpur in the northwest, Rampura and Madaripur in the east and Kamrangirchar have

two places aggravating overall flood situation in the affected areas.

The situation in Shibchar and Sadar thanas of Madaripur district and Jajira, Noria and Vederganj, Goshaidighi and Sariapur sardar of Sariapur district will deteriorate.

But the situation in Munshiganj, Goalunda, Pangsha and Rajbari sardar of Rajbari district, Charbhadrasan and Sadarupur of Faridpur, and Narshingdi, Khishoreganj, Comilla and Brahmanbaria districts remained unchanged.

The flood situation in the northern districts like Bogra, Sherpur, Sirajganj, Jamalpur, Tangail and areas outside Pabna Irrigation Project in

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Another jail escapee arrested in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, July 27: Selim Haider, one of the 13 escapees from Dhaka Central Jail was arrested by Kotwali thana police this evening.

According to police, he sought shelter in the house of Assaduzzaman Litu, Commissioner of Ward No-24. But the Ward Commissioner who is a leader of Juba League, refused to give shelter to the fugitive.

The jail escapee who was serving ten years' RI for murder and facing trial in another murder case was bound for Benapole for going to Calcutta tomorrow.

Police said he was caught at Niral residential area at about 7 pm near the ward commissioner's residence.

The fugitive hails from village Kushangol under Nalchity PS of Jhalakati district, police said.

The AL and the BNP made a good number of common

pledges before the June 12 parliamentary elections on major issues in the fields of economy, commerce and industry, agriculture, administration, health, education and foreign policy.

The commitments include elected setting up of local government bodies at the thana and district levels, eradication of terrorism, removal of illiteracy and unemployment, realisation of due share of the Ganges waters, non-renewal of the 25-year treaty with India, patronising the private sector and encouraging foreign investments and continuing the policy of market economy.

Both the leaders, however, blamed each other's party for not extending cooperation in this regard.

Besides, introduction of pension scheme for the elderly citizens and free education for

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JCD-BCL clash in JN Varsity: Two injured

By Staff Correspondent

At least two students of the Jagannath University in the city were injured in a clash between the activists of the pro-BNP Jatiyatabdil Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the pro-Awami League Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday.

The two identified as Kamal Hossain, 25, and Mehedi Hasan, 25, reportedly belonging to BCL were taken to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

They are the second year students of the Department of Philosophy.

According to police and witnesses, several bombs were exploded during the half an hour clash that began on the campus at about 2 pm. Chase and counter chase between the rival groups created panic in the area.

The leaders present at the meeting included Touhidul Islam John and Mohammad Nuru

'All party' meet at DMC

Cases filed by rivals to be withdrawn by July 31

By Staff Correspondent

An "all-party meeting" at the Dhaka Medical College yesterday decided to withdraw by July 31 all cases against their respective student activists filed by rivals in connection with the July 10 incident to restore normalcy on the campus.

The meeting, held with principal of the college, Prof A B M Ahsanullah in the chair at his office was attended by leaders of the Dhaka Medical College Students Union (DMCSU) and all the student organisations at the college, said a press release signed by Prof Ahsanullah.

The leaders present at the meeting included Touhidul Islam John and Mohammad Nuru

ruzzaman Khan Khoshru Vice-President and General Secretary respectively of the DMCSU, Mohammad Moshikur Rahman Bitu and Mohammad Anwarul Huq, president and general secretary of the DMC unit of Chhatra League, Mohammad Redanul Islam and Ashraful Alami Nishu, convener and joint convener of Jatiyatabdil Chhatra Dal, the press release said.

Meeting sources told The Daily Star that the administration made it clear to the student leaders that the future elections to the students union in the college could be held if normalcy was restored and examinations

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5 killed in Sylhet bus collision

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, July 27: Five persons were killed on the spot and 50 injured, 10 of them seriously, in a head-on collision between two buses at Brahmanbaria-Sylhet highway today.

Of the injured persons 35 have been admitted to the Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, according to official sources.

A passenger bus from Sylhet was on its way to Srimangal when collided at about noon with another Sylhet-bound bus from Habiganj.

As both the vehicles were in high speed, those fell on roadside low lands, causing death of five people on the spot.

Of the dead only one has so far been identified as Mubashir Ali, 32, of village Chiniamon under Balaganj thana.

Body to probe import of 'rotten rice'

A two-member enquiry committee headed by retired Justice Mohammad Habibur Rahman has been formed to probe the allegations that some quantity of rice imported by the Food Ministry in the fiscal year 1994-95 and 1995-96 were rotten and unfit for eating, reports BSS.

A PID handout said yesterday different quarters had raised the allegations that some quantity of rice imported by the Food Ministry in 1994-95 and 1995-96 were rotten and uns