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Budget 96-97: A Confidence Building Step

by Md Matiul Islam
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Women in rich, poor countries work for longer time, but get less pay, ILO report
says
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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 1147.55 (+2.8%)
Market capital Tk 7872.86 cr
Transactions in volume 700228
Transactions in value Tk 15.6 cr
CSE MARKET
CSE price index 460.45 (+0.02%)
Market capital Tk 1191.51 cr
Transactions in volume 264915
Transactions in value Tk 2.22 cr

Metropolitan

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NEWS BRIEFS

ALPP meets today

A meeting of the Bangladesh Awami League Parliamentary Party (ALPP) will be held at the Jatiya Sangsad at 10 am today. Awami League President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will preside over the meeting, reports UNB.

Woman electrocuted in city

A middle-aged woman was electrocuted at her residence at Kazirbagh Lane of Hajaribagh in Lalbagh thana in the city yesterday. Police said Afia, 35, died on the spot as she was placing clothes on a live wire at about 12:15 am. A UD case was filed with Lalbagh police, reports UNB.

Minor boy drowns in Jamalpur

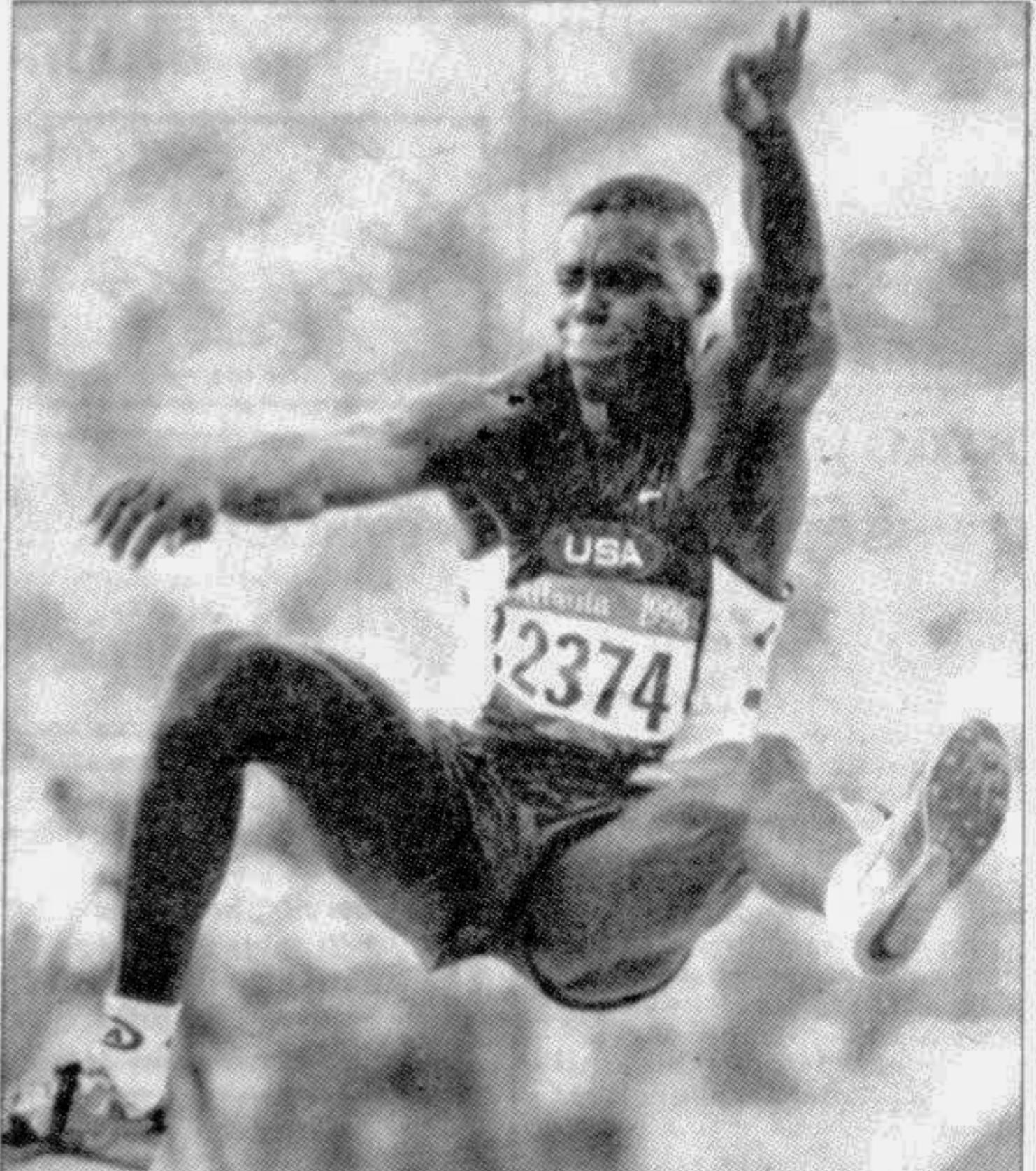
JAMALPUR, July 30: Two people, including a minor boy, died in separate incidents in Sadar thana of the district today. Witnesses said Arif, 3, son of one Jamir Uddin, drowned in a pond nearby his residence at Dapuria village this morning. In another incident, Dulal, 30, of Chandra village in the thana was electrocuted as he came in touch of a live wire while ploughing in a land, reports UNB.

Shantibahini agrees to extend truce

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, July 30: Shantibahini leaders have agreed to extend the ceasefire in the Chittagong Hill Tracts by two months until September 30 in a bid to continue the peace process.

According to highly placed sources, the agreement came in response to a letter sent recently by the government with a proposal for extending the truce due to expire tomorrow.

Lewis leaps into history



Carl Lewis, the former 100m sprint winner and a hattrick gold winner in the long jump, leaps for a record fourth Olympic gold in the event on July 29. — AFP/UNB photo



Atlanta 1996

ATLANTA, July 30: Carl Lewis soared into Olympic history Monday, landing a huge jump early and daring everyone to beat it, report agencies.

No Olympian since Owens in 1936 had won four track golds in one year, and none has done it since.

Lewis won the 100m in the 1988 Seoul Olympics when Ben Johnson was disqualified for using steroids. Lewis also won the long jump that year, and he took the silver in the 200. In the 1992 Barcelona Games, Lewis won the long jump for the third time and again anchored the

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PM tells seminar on poverty alleviation

The poor themselves can be main driving force if organised

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday reiterated her government's commitment to wipe out poverty from the country, reports UNB. Inaugurating a panel discussion on "National Budget from the Perspective of Poverty Alleviation" she further attributed the causes of poverty to the absence of accountable multi-party democracy and flowering of transparent, accountable administration.

Organised by the Institute

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for Development of Policy Analysis and Advocacy, Proshika, the panel discussion was held at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium.

The Minister for LGRD Zillur Rahman also spoke at the inaugural session, which was presided over by Dr Kazi Faroque Ahmed, Chairman of Proshika.

Detailing other causes of poverty, the Prime Minister said inadequacy in education, scarcity in resources, disparity in the facilities and opportunities between men and women, defective marketing system and pollution in environment have combined to contribute to this menace.

Referring to the economists' call for increasing growth rate in agriculture and

industrial sectors, expansion of social sectors like education and health, employment generation and for families suffering from acute poverty, she said nobody would disagree with the three-fold work-programme suggested by them.

She, however, stated the poor could constitute the principal driving force behind poverty alleviation if they were organised and allowed participation in the decision-making processes.

Prime Minister noted with

JCD, BCL to help remove outsiders from DU halls

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka University authorities and two major student organisations have decided that no outsiders would be allowed to stay in the varsity dormitories.

The decision came following reports that some outsiders had entered the Shahidullah Hall on July 29.

A meeting of the provosts of residential halls was held at 7 pm yesterday with the Vice Chancellor in the chair.

The meeting asked all outsiders and non-students to leave the hall immediately and

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great delight that poverty-stricken multitudes living in rural areas and urban slums were being organised and made conscious due to participatory development programmes launched by NGOs.

As a result of these programmes a significant success has been achieved in the field of poverty alleviation, she added.

She committed government's necessary support and cooperation to expedite and expand this success of NGOs and grass-root level peoples' organisations.

The Prime Minister said it is possible to achieve victory against poverty within a short span of time if there is cooperation between the government and the NGOs.

The Prime Minister noted with regret that it was due to deterioration in the relationship between the government and the NGOs during the previous regime that the NGOs' role in the poverty alleviation could not be as effective and extensive as it could be.

She expressed her government's effort at combining accountability and transparency with the work programmes of the NGOs and at formulating rules and regulations consistent with demands of present age in the interest of taking effective steps to drive out

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Business leaders urge Japanese investors

Relocate sunset units in Bangladesh

Japanese investors have been invited to relocate their sunset industries in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

Leaders of the country's business community at a meeting with the visiting Japanese economic mission in Dhaka yesterday particularly requested the Japanese entrepreneurs to relocate spinning mills being shifted to some south-east Asian countries.

They also invited the Japanese team to invest in various sectors, like telecommunication, power, gas, electronics and electric goods, plastic and PVC products, food and beverage, jute and natural gas-

based chemical complex and a possible transit airport in Dhaka.

The meeting was arranged by the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) and the Board of Investment (BOI) of Bangladesh government.

The Japanese side assured that the issue of relocation would be discussed in details during a visit to Dhaka of another high powered Japanese economic mission in November.

Japanese side expressed satisfaction over the present government's economic policies giving priority to private

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Post-budget press confce

Sufficient incentives for investors: Kibria

By Staff Correspondent

Sayeed also spoke at the press conference.

Kibria further added that restoration of law and order and good governance are the key to create investment climate.

The incentives, along with restoration of law and order and reforming the judiciary will add to investors' confidence.

The finance minister said investment in industry, infrastructure and human development is essential for growth.

"This calls for use of foreign assistance and foreign investment," he said while addressing a post-budget press conference at the NEC auditorium.

"It is not up to us to determine flow of foreign assistance. All we can do is ensure proper use of foreign aid. But foreign investment will depend on whether we can create a conducive environment for investment."

Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed, Food, Agriculture and Relief and Disaster Management Minister Matia Chowdhury, and State Minister for Information Abu

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