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The Daily Star

BHADRA 7, 1403 BS. DHAKA THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1996 RABIU SAANI 7, 1417 HIJRI

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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 1148.74(+6.79%)
Market capital Tk 7801.06 cr
Transactions in volume 613463
Transactions in value Tk 11.81 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 478.00
Market capital Tk 4397.79 cr
Transactions in volume 22920
Transactions in value Tk 8592475

NEWS BRIEFS

Orientation course for MPs today

Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury will inaugurate an orientation programme for the MPs of the Treasury bench at the Sangsad Bhaban this morning. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will be present at the function. Suranjit Sengupta, adviser to the prime minister on parliamentary affairs, will preside. Former Chief Justice Kamaluddin Hossain, Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed, former Attorney General Barrister Rafiqul Huq, Advocate Sham-sul Huq Chowdhury and Barrister Amirul Islam will participate in the discussion on the programme, reports BSS.

British Under-Secy meets BNP Secy Gen

The visiting Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in British Commonwealth Office for Asia Dr Liam Fox, called on BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan in the city yesterday evening. British high commissioner to Bangladesh Peter J Fowler was also present on the occasion, according to a press release. Among others, Moshed Khan MP, Major (ret'd) Hafizuddin Ahmed MP, Joyal Abidin Faruque MP, Mashur Rahman MP and Mosharraf Hossain MP were also present during the meeting, reports BSS.

Liquor seized from Chinese restaurant

A special squad of Narcotics Control Department recovered 14 bottles of liquor and 26 cans of beer from a Chinese restaurant yesterday. Acting on a tip-off, the squad raided the Great Wall Chinese restaurant at Kakrail and recovered the liquor. They also arrested three people in this connection, said a press release, reports UNB.

Businessman missing

A businessman, who was missing for last three days, could not be traced till last night. Family sources said To-fazzal Hossain, 40, Managing Director of Messers Patwari and Sons Pioneer Ltd, has been missing since August 18. A GD was filed with Tejgaon police in this connection, reports UNB.

Ex gratia for Sonali Bank Staff

The government has decided to give Sonali Bank officers and employees ex gratia equivalent to one month's salary for the year 1994 instead of incentive bonus. An official announcement last night said the decision was taken considering the economic condition of the low-paid employees and in order to boost their work spirit as well.



Police proceeding towards the Zia Hall of the Dhaka University during yesterday's clash on the campus. — Star photo

3 hurt : Classes suspended till Saturday

5-hour JCD-police battle at DU

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University campus turned into a virtual battlefield yesterday as sporadic clashes between activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and police continued for about five hours, leaving at least three students including the JCD president injured.

More than 50 shots were fired and a provost's office was set on fire while police lobbed around 100 tear gas shells to quell the violence. The clash erupted at around 11:30 am centring the alleged assault on a Chhatra League (BCL) leader in front of the Arts Building, during a JCD-called strike. Classes at the university

were suspended till Saturday. The decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the DU Syndicate with Vice Chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed in the chair.

The newly elected JCD president, Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anney, was injured when hit by a tear gas shell in his forehead.

and was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). He was out of danger, doctors said. Of the two other injured students — Mosheduzzaman Selim, a BCL leader, was admitted to the DMCH and Benazir Ahmed Titu, a JCD activist, was

admitted to the General Hospital, hospital sources said.

Police recovered three firearms and more than 300 bullets during a raid in A F Rahman Hall, Mohsin Hall, Surya Sen Hall, Jasim Uddin Hall and Ziaur Rahman Hall. Twenty-nine persons were arrested during the raid, police sources said.

The clash erupted when police went to 'rescue' Selim, general secretary of the BCL unit at Zahurul Haq Hall. A group of youths, reportedly activists of the JCD, gheraoed him in front of the Arts Building and started beating him, witnesses said. The cause of the attack on Selim

Food import may cross this year's projection

By R M Titumir

The country will have to import an estimated 1.97 million tonnes of foodgrains this year which is 260 thousand tonnes more than the previous projection, according to a revised official estimate.

According to the World Food Programme, this may be revised further since final estimates of last year's IRR/Boro and wheat production is yet to be finalised by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

Despite nearly a million ton higher projected food production for 1996-97 over that of the last year's, the country has to import a bulk amount of food for the third consecutive year, impacting adversely on its foreign exchange reserve. Last year's food import was 2.46 million tonnes which is 490 thousand tonnes higher than that of the current year's projection.

Food aid to the country which is showing a downward trend over the years has been targeted at 648 thousand tonnes

this year. This is 95 thousand tonnes less than the previous years, necessitating 9 per cent more import.

During the current fiscal year, the country is likely to get only 30 thousand tonnes food aid from the USA, the largest bilateral food donor. Last year, the USA provided 169 thousand tonnes which was 23 per cent of the total food aid.

According to the 'Bangladesh Foodgrain Digest' of the WFP, the total projected imports comprised of 648 thousand tonnes received through food aid and 1260 thousand tons through commercial imports.

In its continuous slide, the food aid to the country went down from 1.5 million tonnes in 1990-91 to 935 thousand tons in 1994-95 and further plummeted to 743 thousand tonnes in the last fiscal.

On the contrary, the import soared to 2.5 million tonnes in 1994-95 from 966 thousand tonnes and remained at around

2.4 million tonnes, drying up the country's foreign exchange. Of the total 2.46 million tonnes food imported last year, the government and private sector traders imported 35 per cent each while 23 per cent came as bilateral aid and the WFP provided the rest 7 per cent.

According to projection for the current fiscal, the private sector import is estimated to stand at 26 per cent of the total import, down by nine per cent from the previous year while the government's share is expected to be at 40 per cent, up by five per cent from the previous year and total food aid would comprise 34 per cent of the total imports.

According to the latest projection by Food Procurement Monitoring Unit of the Ministry of Food, the gross production in 1996-97 is estimated at 20 million tonnes.

Of the targeted 20 million tons annual domestic foodgrain production, 1.8 million tons

9 steel-frame footbridges in city within 3 months

By Moshed Ali Khan

Dhaka City Corporation will build nine new footbridges at different busy intersections of the city, according to DCC sources.

The steel-frame footbridges, an imported technology from Singapore, will be assembled within the next three months at a total cost of Tk 2.7 crore, the sources said.

The bridges will be built at Dainik Bangla intersection, Malibagh intersection, Paribagh-Shahabagh intersection, Muggapara Janapath, Fulbaria crossing, Banani-Kakoli crossing, Ittefaq intersection, Hotel Elysium crossing and at Zero Point in front of GPO.

"We opted for this new steel-framed demountable bridges as we did not have much success with the concrete and prestressed structures earlier," said a senior engineer of the DCC. The DCC had taken up con-

struction work of seven footbridges in the city. All but two were completed well after schedule due to various complications arising from negligence of contractors, overhead electric lines and objection from other city service organisations, the DCC sources said.

Meanwhile, work on the ADB-funded Tk 500 crore three underpasses, scheduled to be completed in June last, is getting delayed due to complications with the underground cable network belonging to DESA, DCC sources said.

"The work is being delayed because we are facing so much problem with the organisations, particularly with DESA which has this cable network all over the city," said a DCC official requesting anonymity. It was learnt that the under construction Kawran Bazar un-

derpass will cost the DCC an additional Tk 90 lakh as the DCC has to pay the DESA to remove the cable and make room for the underpass.

"It was very difficult and time consuming to get through the DESA's bureaucratic formalities," said the DCC engineer, stressing on the need for the DCC proposed city government to handle with authority all development work in the capital.

He pointed out that the work at the Gabtoli underpass has been delayed because WASA has a network of water pipelines on the spot. The underpass at Gulistan will be completed in December while the two other, one in Kawran Bazar and the other in Gabtoli, will be opened to the public in October, the engineer said.

BAF trainer aircraft missing

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 21: A trainer aircraft of Bangladesh Airforce with two pilots on board is missing since yesterday morning, sources concerned said.

The aircraft could not be contacted after it took off at 10:45 am.

A joint search operation by the Navy and Airforce began in the Bay of Bengal near the Sandwip and Kutubdia channels.

A police official said the aircraft might have crashed near the Sandwip channel.

PLA Dy Chief of General Staff in city

The Deputy Chief of General Staff, Chinese People's Liberation Army Lieutenant General Kui Fulin arrived in Dhaka yesterday on a five-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

He is accompanied by a six-member delegation, says an ISPR release.

Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Muhammad Mahubur Rahman and other senior army officers received the distinguished guests at the Zia International Airport.

Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Zhang Xujiang and other embassy officials were also present at the airport.

Later, General Kui Fulin visited the Army headquarters and called on Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Muhammad Mahubur

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Dhaka costlier city than Delhi, Karachi, Bombay

By Staff Correspondent

Dhaka ranks as the 105th city in terms of cost of living among 121 cities around the world as judged by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) in its latest worldwide cost of living survey.

According to an EIU press release, Dhaka is on par with Colombo and Prague, but is much costlier than Karachi, New Delhi, Bombay, Tehran and Tripoli.

The costliest city is Tokyo with 179 points, while Dhaka totaled 65 points. Karachi is in the 115th position with 55 points, New Delhi is in the 118th position with 45 points and Bombay in 119th position with 43 points.

Kibria tells seminar in city

Economic growth a must for alleviating poverty

By Staff Correspondent

Finance Minister SAMS Kibria has said economic growth must be accelerated for alleviating poverty. "If the growth remains stagnant or shows a downward trend, the overall poverty will continue," he said while inaugurating a three-day workshop on "Poverty and Finance in Bangladesh: Reviewing two decades of Experience" at Hotel Sheraton in the city.

The workshop, jointly organised by Proshika, BIBM and CDF, is being participated by some 60 economists, researchers, bankers and experts from local and international organisations and NGOs.

The finance minister stressed the need for boosting investment, particularly foreign investment since he noted, domestic investment would remain low for a long time due to low domestic savings.

Pandemonium in JS, walkout over DU incident

By Staff Correspondent

The Jatiya Sangsad session yesterday was marked by a pandemonium in the evening with BNP legislators obstructing the telecommunications minister in making a "statement" in the House in the midst of general discussions on the proposed budget for fiscal 1996-97.

The pandemonium followed a walk-out by Opposition BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami members in the afternoon sitting protesting what they called the Chair's refusal to entertain an adjournment motion on the incidents on the Dhaka University campus earlier in the day that left some JCD leaders and activists injured.

Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid, who was presiding over the afternoon sitting had rejected the opposition move citing the Rules of Procedure. A discussion on the national budget was scheduled, he had said.

However, the Jamaat members returned to the House a few minutes after the walk-out.

while the BNP lawmakers returned after the Maghreb recess, and Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury resumed general discussion on the proposed budget.

The pandemonium ensued when Tele-communications Minister Mohammad Nasim sought the floor on a point of order to protest some remarks by a BNP legislator during the budget discussion.

Replying to the AL accusation that the sons of former prime minister and leader of the Opposition in parliament Khaleeda Zia had indulged in corruptions during the BNP rule, BNP MP Mohammad Shahidul Islam said: "The son of late President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had received bullet injury while leading a bank robbery in the city."

As soon as the BNP legislator finishes his speech at 8:25 pm, the Tele-communications Minister sought the floor on a point of order."

See Page 12 Col 4

Administrative reform body underway: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday announced that a reform committee was being formed to take realistic measures to remove anomalies and irregularities in the administration, reports UNB.

"Constitution of the committee is underway," she said while addressing hundreds of government employees at the International Conference Centre (ICC), seeking their cooperation in building the country.

Hasina said her government was committed to creating an atmosphere in the administrative setup where the officials and employees can discharge their duties and responsibilities properly for the welfare of the nation.

The government has already constituted a Pay Commission for the government officials and employees in its bid to maintain election commitment, despite the fact that it took over power only two months back, she said.

The Prime Minister recalled the contribution of government

officials and employees in restoring people's franchise and asked them to devote themselves to building the nation, making it self-reliant.

It is time for building the nation," she said. "Our main concern is to develop the country, not enjoy the power. Your cooperation would strengthen our efforts to make the country economically strong."

Referring to various demands put forward by the employees under the banner of Sangjukta Sarkari Karmachari Samannaya Parishad, Hasina said she had instructed the officials concerned to look into their problems and anomalies faced by them.

The Prime Minister said the government, despite its resource constraint, was thinking about undertaking a housing project for employees under which the employees will become owners of flats after paying a certain amount as rent.

Apart from considering a salary-hike, she said, the gov-

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'Implement SAARC plan on children'

ISLAMABAD, Aug 21: Minister of State for Social Welfare, Women and Children Affairs, Dr Mozammel Hossain yesterday called upon the SAARC member countries to review the implementation status of the Colombo Resolution on Children and adopt the Rawalpindi Resolution for the survival, development and protection of the children of South Asia, reports BSS.

He said the on-going SAARC conference on children would be able to find a new direction and vision beyond the year 2000.

Dr Mozammel Hossain was making a statement as the leader of the Bangladesh delegation attending the third SAARC ministerial conference on children of South Asia, began in Rawalpindi yesterday morning.

Prime Minister of Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto inaugurated the three-day conference at a local hotel here. A 20-member delegation from Bangladesh is participating in the conference.

The leader of the Bangladesh delegation said that the South Asia had witnessed a great change over the last decade and the wave of democracy and free market policies swept over the region. Children in SAARC countries were being affected by the changing socio-economic scenario, he added.

Explaining the action plan undertaken by the government, the state minister told the conference that his country was committed to the development of the children and thoughts on child development received attention in the country's national policy. He said in pursuance of the country's Constitution and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the government adopted a national child policy to ensure the security and welfare of the children.

JS tidbits

By Nazmul Ashraf

During the 15-minute disorder in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, a good number of Treasury bench members including several ministers were seen acting as bandmasters by moving their hands when the Opposition BNP lawmakers were hitting the tables with files.

Leader of the House and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who entered the House amid thunderous table thumping was seen signalling a TV cameraman in front of the Chair to move his lens towards the table hittings by the Opposition BNP lawmakers.

The cameraman, who was taking a shot of Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim, was seen drawing the PM's attention to other TV cameramen taking shots of the Opposition MPs from the visitors' galleries.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof. Badruddoza Choudhury and M. Saifur Rahman were seen trying to listen to Mohammad Nasim by keeping their ears to the speakers on their respective tables. Nasim could not be heard due to table-hittings and shouts by the BNP legislators.

The table-hittings over. See Page 12 Col 4

List produced in JS

29 MPs were loan defaulters before polls schedule

The Finance Minister yesterday produced in Parliament a list of 29 defaulters before the announcement of the election schedule, reports UNB.

Replying to a question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of the Awami League Shah AMS Kibria said the MPs had taken loan from four nationalised banks.

The list of defaulters is as follows: ASM Abdur Rab (JSD) Tk 53.90 lakh; Anwar Hossain Manjuro (JP) Tk 9.21 lakh; Barister Nazmul Huda (BNP) Tk 5.00 lakh; Abdul Kader Siddiqui (Bir Uttam/AL) Tk 9.32 lakh; KM Obaidur Rahman (BNP) Tk 36.37 lakh; Captain Tajul Islam (AL) Tk 375.38 lakh; KM Shamim Osman (AL) Tk 13.48 lakh; Nurul Amin Talukder (BNP) Tk 73.69 lakh; Syed Masud Reza (AL) Tk 485.90 lakh; Abdul Mannan (AL) Tk 53.51 lakh; ABM Abul Kashem (BNP) Tk 00.80 lakh; Wajuddin Khan (AL) Tk 4.41 lakh; Abul Hasnat Abdullah (AL) 20.02

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CID takes over case of Tareq's disappearance

Star Report

The case filed with Gazaria thana in connection with the disappearance of Tareq was transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) yesterday, said the Superintendent of Police (SP) of Munshiganj.

The SP, talking to The Daily Star over phone also said that the vessel from which Moinuddin Kashem said Tareq is reported to have jumped at the Meghna ghat was identified as 'MV Shajib' but its crew members were yet to be interrogated by the police. The vessel had already left the ghat by the time police was informed of the incident.

See Page 12 Col 2

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড

ঢাকা

একজন স্ব মদুম একজন স্ব করদাতাও বটে

জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সিগারেটের প্যাকেটের গায়ে বাংলা ভাষায় সংবিধিবদ্ধ সতর্কীকরণ 'ধূমপান স্বাস্থ্যের জন্য ক্ষতিকর' এই শব্দাবলী মুদ্রিত না থাকিলে বাংলাদেশে সিগারেটের আমদানি নিষিদ্ধ বলিয়া গণ্য করা হয়। যে কোন রাডের, যথা-৫৫৫, বেনসন, অ্যান্ড হেজ্জেস, ইত্যাদি সিগারেটের প্যাকেটের গায়ে যদি বাংলা ভাষায় উক্ত সতর্কীকরণ শব্দাবলী মুদ্রিত না থাকে তবে এই ধরনের সিগারেট অবৈধভাবে আনা হইয়াছে বলিয়া শুদ্ধ আইন, ১৯৬১ এর ধারা ১৬ ও ৩২ এর লংঘন হিসাবে গণ্য হইবে। এইরূপ সিগারেটের পরিবহন, মজুদ, বিক্রয় শুদ্ধ আইন ও বিশেষ ক্ষমতা আইন মোতাবেক শাস্তিযোগ্য অপরাধ।

২. ফেরিওয়াল, দোকানদার, মজুতকারী ও পরিবহনকারীকে উপরোক্ত সংবিধিবদ্ধ সতর্কীকরণ শব্দাবলী বাংলা ভাষায় মুদ্রিত না থাকা সিগারেটের পরিবহন, মজুদ ও বিক্রয় হইতে বিরত থাকিতে এতদ্বারা কঠোরভাবে সতর্ক করা হইল।

৩। চোরচালান প্রতিরোধ কেন্দ্রীয় ট্যাক্স ফোর্সের সকল সংস্থাকে উপরোক্ত সংবিধিবদ্ধ সতর্কীকরণ শব্দাবলী বাংলা ভাষায় মুদ্রিত না থাকা সকল সিগারেট আটক করিয়া সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যক্তিবর্গের বিরুদ্ধে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের জন্য এতদ্বারা নির্দেশ প্রদান করা যাইতেছে।

চোরচালান প্রতিরোধ কেন্দ্রীয় ট্যাক্স ফোর্স
ডিএফপি-১৮৬৩১-২১/৮
জি-১৭৭
জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, ঢাকা