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DSE MARKET

DSE price index	1217.74
Market capital Tk	8430.16 cr
Transactions in volume	399508
Transactions in value Tk	11.79 cr

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For Consumers Convenience
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NEWS BRIEFS

Parliament adjourned till 10 am today
Parliament was adjourned till 10 am today. Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury announced the adjournment at 10:25 pm, reports UNB.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
National Board of Revenue
Dhaka
NOTICE
একজন সং মানুষ একজন সং করদাতাও বটে

The date for advance income tax payment for the 1st quarter of the current financial year is September 15, 1996. The advance income tax payable by the concerned taxpayer is to be paid through IT Form No IT 31(B) (Amended) Challan.

The taxpayers should pay the advance tax filling in the said challan form as usual by replacing the figure "74(1)" with the figure "64" in as many places as it occurs in the form. It may be mentioned that the financial limit of total income for payment of advance income tax for all classes of assessee is now Taka 1,00,000/-.

All assessee concerned are requested to pay their advance income tax for the 1st quarter of the current financial year relevant to the assessment year 1997-98 under this system by September 15, 1996. Simple interest @ 10% per annum will be leviable if the advance income tax is not paid or paid at a lesser amount than due.

DFF-19457-31/8
G-1020
National Board of Revenue

20000 Bangladeshis face deportation from UAE

By Morshed Ali Khan

More than 20,000 Bangladeshis face deportation from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) by September 30 due to a new Residence Law introduced there, according to sources at the Bangladesh Embassy in Abu Dhabi and the Ministry of Labour and Manpower in Dhaka.

Hundreds of these Bangladeshis, apparently without any valid documents, are crowding the Bangladesh Embassy everyday for obtaining 'outpasses', said Labour Attache Hedayetul Islam Chowdhury, when contacted over telephone yesterday.

The embassy was swarmed with nearly 4,000 Bangladeshis trying to obtain 'outpasses or travel documents' on August 26. Additional police force had to be called in to tackle the situa-

tion, he said, adding that the situation was almost out of hand when all of them wanted to enter the mission at a time.

The government of the UAE, which consists of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm-el-Quwain, Fujaira and Ras-el-Khaima, introduced the Residence Law and offered a temporary amnesty to thousands of illegal workers from different parts of the world and asked them to leave the country by September 30. The UAE authorities warned that they would crack down on the illegal immigrants from October 1.

There are two kinds of people who will be affected. One is who have valid documents but are overstaying in the UAE and another is people with no papers at all," the labour attache

said.

"We are now interviewing every individual without papers to determine whether they are Bangladeshis or not," he said, adding "When convinced about their nationality, we are issuing outpasses."

The UAE authorities have, however, eased restrictions on those who have documents but are overstaying by waiving the heavy fines for this. The others are now desperately trying to obtain documents.

Thousands of people from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and other parts of the world seek employment, both legally and illegally, in the oil-rich Emirates each year.

Ministry of Labour and Manpower sources told The Daily Star about 1.5 lakh Bangladeshis have been work-

ing in the UAE and in the last fiscal year, they remitted a total of Tk 2596.24 crore (624.71 million US dollars). The number does not include thousands of others who took their own initiatives to enter the country and seek employment. There are more than one thousand Bangladeshis in different jails in the Emirates on various charges, sources concerned said.

An official of the Ministry of Labour and Manpower said that the government did not have any scheme to rehabilitate those being sent back.

"All we can do, when a deportee arrives here without any money, we pay for his transport up to his family home from our welfare fund," the official said.

Flood engulfs fresh areas in 9 dists

By Staff Correspondent

The overall flood situation in six districts under Barisal division, and in Rajshahi, Chapainawabganj and Kushtia districts worsened further yesterday inundating new areas.

According to official sources, nine people, so far, died in Chapainawabganj while thousands have been marooned in the affected districts.

All the major rivers have swelled further and are flowing above danger marks.

Our staff correspondent from Barisal reports: The flood situation in greater Barisal has deteriorated further as fresh areas of the affected districts have gone under water.

At least 45 more villages under Mehendiganj thana of Barisal district have been flooded.

A huge tracts of crop lands have gone under flood water and several thousands people

took shelter on their rooftops and high lands.

In Patuakhali flood engulfed more areas in the district yesterday. A large portion of embankment in Gokhali union has been washed away.

In the worst affected Bhola, a three miles long embankment from Dasherhat to Kachia has been washed away.

About 45sq miles crop lands are still under water. The badly affected thanas are: Lalimohon, Daulatkhan and Charfashion.

Flood situation in Barguna and Pirojpur districts took serious turn yesterday inundating fresh areas. All rivers in the districts have registered a further rise and are flowing above danger marks. Our Rajshahi correspondent writes: The flood situation in Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj districts took an alarming turn yesterday with

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Prof Shahid Uddin new DU VC

By DU Correspondent
Pro-Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Shahid Uddin Ahmed, has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University for a period of one month, it was announced here yesterday.

Acting on the advice of the Prime Minister, Chancellor of the University President Abdur Rahman Biswas made the new appointment under Section 11(2) of the Dhaka University Order, 1973, the announcement said.

The new Vice Chancellor took over the charge from the outgoing Vice Chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed at 5:00 pm. Deans, provosts, the treasurer of the university and officials were also present on the occasion.

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Have You Seen This, Mr. Mayor?



This scene, in Babupura, Badamtali is not the result of the recent rain. The ditch has been there for months. The resultant congestion has reduced road traffic to a virtual halt. How long will the local people have to suffer before action is taken?
— Star photo

Budget may be passed today 120 demands for grants approved

By Staff Correspondent

The Jatiya Sangsad (JS) yesterday completed all procedural formalities for passage of the proposed national budget for fiscal 1996-1997. The budget is likely to be passed today.

Yesterday's session, spread over morning and evening sittings, witnessed approval of 120 out of a total of 130 demands for grants on proposed budgetary expenditures by voice votes. The ministers and state ministers concerned made the demands.

Earlier, the JS disposed of cut motions against 17 demands of grants through voice votes. The motions, moved by Opposition bench members, were also rejected by voice votes.

However, Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid, while disposing of the cut motions until Maghreb prayers, allowed some Opposition members to defend their positions in this regard.

Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury who entered the House after Maghreb recess announced his decision to apply guillotine against the cut motions to "expedite the process."

Protesting the Speaker's decision, M K Anwar of BNP drew the attention of the Chair say-

ing the Opposition members should be allowed to defend their motions in the House. He also requested the Speaker to apply guillotine from this evening.

The Speaker said that he was resorting to guillotine the cut motions "not with pleasure, but with great pains." "I am doing it in accordance with the decision of the House made earlier."

The Chair further said, "the House has to take up for discussion tomorrow the Finance Bill to be moved by the Finance Minister."

After making the statement, the Speaker put the demands for grants to vote one by one.

Earlier, in the morning session, the House witnessed a near pandemonium for a brief period as the Treasury bench members unitedly shouted against allowing floor by the Chair to BNP legislator Major (retd) Akhtaruzzaman, who had reportedly hurled abuses at Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury on August 25 last.

As soon as Akhtaruzzaman was given floor by the Deputy Speaker to defend a cut motion on a budgetary allocation, most

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Nat'l policy on newspaper industry to be formulated Govt welcomes objective, responsible criticism: PM

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said her government believes in press freedom and will "welcome objective and responsible criticism" by newspapers.

"Objective journalism will act as a pathfinder in the way of economic emancipation of the masses and establishment of rule of law and civic rights," she said.

She was addressing a special delegates' conference of the

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

"As a believer in absolute freedom of the press, I signed in June last an international declaration of Reporters Sans Frontiers on behalf of my party," she said.

In her first address at the National Press Club, the Prime Minister also said her government will implement the recommendations of the Press Commission and formulate a national policy to ensure press freedom and overall growth of the newspaper industry.

Sheikh Hasina also stressed the need for improvement of professional quality in journalism and announced a number of steps for that.

She announced a grant of Taka 20 lakh for a journalists' welfare fund, which the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) is planning to set up soon. Measures will be taken to announce a new wage board award for journalists and best efforts will be given to

solve various problems being faced by them, the Prime Minister said.

Minister of State for Information Prof Abu Sayeed addressed the inaugural session of the BFUJ conference as special guest.

With BFUJ President Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury in the chair, the inaugural session, which began at 10:30 am, was also addressed by BFUJ Secretary General M Shahjahan Mia and leaders of seven registered journalists unions affiliated with the BFUJ Secretary General of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) Azizul Islam Bhuiyan read out an obituary reference. One-minute silence was observed to show respect to the memory of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the four national leaders killed inside the Dhaka Central Jail and some late journalists. A number of ministers, high officials and some foreign diplomats were also present.

Earlier, while she was entering

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JS tidbits

By Nazmul Ashraf

It was a day of voice vote in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday. The House was filled with 'Yes' and 'No' choruses by the lawmakers during both the sittings on the day that witnessed voice vote as many as 147 times.

The Chair put to voice vote 130 demands for budgetary grants and cut motions on 17 such demands. Besides, 113 cut motions were guillotined.

All but four of the Opposition BNP legislators left the House soon after Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury started applying guillotine on their cut motions.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof Badruddoza Choudhury, Opposition Chief Whip Khandakar Delwar Hossain, Jamiruddin Sirat and M Shamsul Islam of the BNP were seen sitting in the Opposition bench and heard mildly pronouncing 'No' while the demands for grants by ministers were put to voice vote.

Sometimes, the 'No' sound could not be clearly heard. In such a case, a ruling party MP told the Speaker that the demand (No. 60) was passed

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People to reject AL in by-polls: Khaleda

MIRERSARAI, Chittagong, Aug 31. BNP chairperson and Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia today said there is no alternative to BNP for achieving peace, progress and development of the country, reports UNB.

"People will give their verdict in favour of the BNP, rejecting the anti-nationalist forces in the coming byelection, because they want peace and development," she said.

Begum Zia was addressing election rallies at different places of Chittagong constituency where byelection will be held on September 5.

On the fourth and final day

of her electioneering trip to Laxmipur and Mirersarai, the BNP chairperson addressed a number of public meetings and wayside gatherings till Saturday midnight.

Begum Zia said the so-called government of national consensus was formed only to grab public property, not to develop the country.

"BNP did not join this consensus because it believes in country's development and people's welfare, not misappropriating their property."

The post-liberation government had created the Rakhi Bahini to unleash repression on the opposition, she said adding that the present government is also creating Rapid Action Force on the same model.

The BNP chairperson said they (Awami League) could not do anything for the country's development in the post-liberation period. That's why they are repeating some old pictures in Bangladesh television everyday.

She said Bangladesh was known as "bottomless basket" during the Awami League regime. They also introduced black laws like the Special

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BNP's founding anniversary today

The 18th founding anniversary of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) will be observed throughout the country today, reports BSS.

The BNP and its front organizations have drawn up week-long programmes to observe the day. Central metropolitan.

See Page 12 col 6

Gujral to explore resumption of JRC meet: Salman Haider

CALCUTTA, Aug 31. Foreign Secretary Salman Haider, said today that the possibility of resumption of Joint River Commission (JRC) meeting would be explored during External Affairs Minister I K Gujral's visit to Bangladesh on September 6, reports PTI.

The last JRC meeting was held in early 1995.

Haider told newsmen here today that bilateral talks between the two countries would be held on all outstanding issues, including river water sharing and the issues would be sorted out. "We will have to constantly endeavour to improve our bilateral relations."

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Slow progress of JSRP Jt Govt-IDA task force may be formed

Star Report

A joint task force with members from the government and the IDA is likely to be formed to investigate the reasons for the slow progress of the Jute Sector Reform Programme (JSRP), according to highly-placed official sources.

This was agreed in a meeting between government officials and a World Bank mission earlier this month, the sources said.

The JSRP was initiated three years ago under the 250 million US dollar Jute Sector Adjustment Credit (JSAC) from the IDA, the soft-term lending arm of the World Bank.

The task force will also identify the problems that the programme faced during its implementation so that corrective measures could be taken.

The WB representatives in

the meeting maintained that the JSAC programme, which is scheduled to end in December next, could be extended as requested by the government if some important components of the project like privatisation of at least one public sector jute mills and closure of another couple of mills were implemented by September 30 this year, the sources said.

Meanwhile, the government has decided to off-load the Hafiz Textile Mills to get the 50 million dollars floating tranche of the credit.

The Hafiz Textile Mills was ready to be divested, but the process got stalled as the final government clearance was not forthcoming.

The Bank had stopped releasing of the second and third

See Page 12 col 8

DSE price index sets new record

By Rafiq Hasan

The All Share Price Index and market capitalisation in the Dhaka Stock Exchange set new records yesterday, reflecting the continued buoyant trading for several weeks.

The Market Capitalisation crossed the US Dollar 2 billion mark while the All Share Price Index crossed the 1200 mark yesterday for the first time.

The All Share Price Index at the DSE stood at 1217.74 points yesterday marking a rise of more than 20 points in one day brisk business. The market capitalisation reached Tk 8430.16 crore which is equivalent to more than US dollar 2 billion.

Since January this year, the DSE market capitalisation gained 57.98 per cent while the All Share Price Index increased by 385.18 points.

A total of 5 lakh 39 thousand shares and debentures worth more than Tk 11 crore 79 lakh exchanged hands yesterday.

Out of 132 issues traded, share prices of 83 increased and

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