



VOL. VI NO. 227 REGD. NO. DA 781

The Daily Star

BHADRA 24, 1403 BS.

DHAKA SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1996

RABIUS SAANI 24, 1417 HIJRI

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must for development,
Mannan says
Unprecedented rise in
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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 1390.85
Market capital Tk 96254 cr
Transactions in volume 796006.80
Transactions in value Tk 19.53 cr

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Barren Turfs, Courts
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NEWS BRIEFS

Gujral meets Khaleda today

The visiting Indian External Affairs Minister, IK Gujral, will make a courtesy call on the BNP chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in parliament. Begum Khaleda Zia, at her residence in the city today, a BNP press release said last night. Senior BNP leaders will remain present during the meeting, the press release added, reports BSS.

Card phone booth installed at M irpur

A card phone booth was installed at the bus stand of Mirpur No 11 in the city yesterday. The number of card phone booths in the country now stands at 1178. Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim inaugurated the booth by talking to local MP Kamal Ahmed Majumder, reports BSS.

2 Indian MPs meet CPB leaders

Indian parliament members Geeta Mukherjee (CPI) and Chitta Basu (Forward Block), who are in the city with the visiting Indian delegation, called on leaders of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) yesterday. CPB leaders Shahidul Islam Chowdhury, Mujahed Islam Selim, Jasimuddin Mandal, Muniruzzaman, Shah Alam and Manzurul Ahsan Khan received the visitors at the CPB office. During the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on matters of common interest between Bangladesh and India, reports BSS.

Phensidyl seized, one arrested

Police seized 122 bottles of banned phensidyl syrup and arrested one person from Gariaagar area under the city's Kotwali thana yesterday. Acting on a tip-off, Detective Branch police arrested one Sultan Hossain and recovered the phensidyl from his possession at about 2 pm. Another squad of special police arrested one Mohammad Jashimuddin on charges of terrorism from Suhrawardi Hospital area yesterday, reports BSS.

Water accord before lean period: Gujral

By Staff Correspondent

Indian External Affairs Minister IK Gujral said yesterday his country has agreed in principle to reach an accord with Bangladesh for settling the water-sharing issue before the onset of the next lean season.

The water-sharing issue has been discussed to the satisfaction of Bangladesh. I am accepting in principle Bangladesh's position on the matter, he said.

Gujral was talking to newsmen after he emerged with Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad from a 90-minute talks between the two sides. Officials of both the countries were also present.

Asked whether there were discussions on the quantum of

replied, "Mechanism will be set in motion to work out the details."

Continuing he said, "There is a different mood. Political will is backing both sides in resolving outstanding problems between the two countries."

Earlier, the Indian Minister described the talks, "as very friendly, very warm and very productive."

The two sides discussed all issues including water-sharing, trade, Chakma refugees, land boundary, security and visa," he said.

Gujral said "no" when asked if the question of transit was discussed.

Asked how would they decide on the quantum of water, Gujral

replied, "Mechanism will be set in motion to work out the details."

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Delhi to remove all
non-tariff barriers
on Dhaka's goods'

Indian External Affairs Minister IK Gujral yesterday said all non-tariff restrictions on exports from Bangladesh will be withdrawn and 50 per cent tariff on 13 broad categories of products will be reduced, reports UNB.

The details will be worked out at an official and professional level meeting in New Delhi this month, he said during a meeting with Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed at the latter's Secretariat office here in the afternoon.

Gujral also assured that 100 crore Indian rupees' suppliers credit would be provided for promoting industrial investment in Bangladesh, which will include, among others, the BMRE of Chittagong Steel Mills.

See Page 12 Col 1

EC office gherao Tuesday AL govt emerges as vote dacoit: BNP

Badruddoza Chowdhury told the rally.

He

charged

the

Awami

League

government

with

unleashing

terrorist

activities,

killings

and

repression

on

the

people

throughout

the

country.

BNP

secretary

general

Abdul

Mannan

Bhuiyan

announced

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programme

at

a

big

protest

rally

in

front

of

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Jatiya

Press

Club

in

the

city

yesterday

to

protest

alleged

rigging

and

terrorism

during

a

pre-planned

rally.

These

initiatives

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been

a

reported

'crash'

in

rice

prices

across

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country.

"This

is

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procurement

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but

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have

decided

to

extend

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rice

procurement

drive

from

this

month

to

give

price

support

to

the

farmers

,"

said

Food

and

Agriculture

Minister

Matia

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Rice procurement drive extended due to price fall

Star Report

The government has decided to extend the current rice procurement drive and increase the procurement target from three lakh metric tons to four lakh tons.

The government is also planning to start a new rice procurement drive from this month to give price support to the farmers who had been witnessing stagnation in grain prices, according to an authoritative source.

These initiatives came as there has been a reported 'crash' in rice prices across the country, sources said.

"This is not the procurement season, but we have decided to buy grains to give price support to the farmers," said Food and Agriculture Minister Matia

See Page 12 Col 2

BNP city body dissolved: Khoka new convenor

A convening committee of the City BNP was formed yesterday with Sadeq Hossain Khoka MP as convenor, reports UNB.

Salahuddin Ahmed, Maj (Rtd) Kamrul Islam, Maj (Rtd) Abdul Mannan and Ekhlas Uddin Mollah were made joint convenors of the committee.

A party press release said the city BNP committee was dissolved as its tenure had expired earlier. Its president Mir Shawkat Ali was made a member of the convening committee.

Other members of the committee are: Mirza Abbas, Barrister Abul Hasnat, L Salam, Sadur Rahman Sayeed, Kazi Abdul Bashar, A Wadud Master, Mejbah Uddin Sabu, Ehsanul Haq, Setu, Shamsul Huda, Chowdhury, M Alam, Tarikulah Sikdar, Fazlur Rahman, Abu Naser Chowdhury, Habibur Rahman Bhuiyan, M A Malek.

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BCL, Shibir clash in Cox's Bazar: 1 killed

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, Sept 7: An activist of Islami Chhatra Shibir was killed and eight others were injured in a gunfight with alleged Chhatra League workers today at the Farid Ahmed College at Eldgah, about 35 kms off the town.

Joynal Abedin, who was hit with a bullet, died on way to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital. Witnesses said that Chhatra League activists had cut off one of the wrists of the victim when he was injured.

Witnesses said the two rival groups were scheduled to today for a resolution of an earlier dispute. But, instead, they started a gunfight at around 11:30 am. At one stage, the Chhatra League activists also allegedly disconnected the telephone line of the Principal of the college and locked his room.

A tensed situation is prevalent.

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Iraq fires missiles against US warplanes

BAGHDAD, Sept 7: Iraq said today it fired surface-to-air missiles against US warplanes policing the no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq but added that no planes were shot down, reports Reuter.

"Iraqi air defence men have confronted the hostile (American) aircraft by firing surface-to-air missiles," state television said quoting a defence ministry spokesman. It did not say when the incident took place.

Meanwhile, the United States said today it could not confirm that Iraq had fired surface-to-air missiles against US warplanes policing no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq.

Body to probe kidnapping of Kalpana Chakma

The government has formed a three-member inquiry committee to investigate the kidnapping of Kalpana Chakma, reports BSS.

The committee is headed by retired judge of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court, Justice Md Abdul Jallil. Two other members are Md Sakhat Hossain,