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DSE MARKET

DSE price index	1622.28
Market capital Tk	11,203.88 cr
Transactions in volume	997016
Transactions in value Tk	28.39 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index	635.92
Market capital Tk	5030.61 cr
Transactions in volume	205705
Transactions in value Tk	2.35 cr

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NEWS BRIEFS

Gujral leaves for home

Indian External Affairs Minister I K Gujral, left Dhaka yesterday morning for home at the end of a four-day official visit to Bangladesh. He was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Abdul Hasan Chowdhury, Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan, Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Shafi Sami, and Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Dev Mukherji were also present at the airport, reports BSS.

Biswas assents to four Bills

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday gave assent to the four Bills passed by Parliament. The Bills are: Law Commission Bill, 1996; Bangladesh Private Export Processing Zone (EPZ) Bill, 1996; Appropriation Bill, 1996; and Finance Bill, 1996, reports UNB.

Talk on CTBT

A talk on 'India and CTBT' will be held at the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) auditorium tomorrow. Professor of Political Science of Kalyani University, West Bengal, Dr. Tarun C Bose will open the discussion at 4.30 pm. BISS Chairman Barrister AKH Morshed will preside, reports UNB.

Father, son electrocuted

BRAHMANBARIA, Sept 9: An old man and his son were electrocuted at Pirmout village of Sadar thana on Sunday. Police said Mosharrar Ali, 60, was electrocuted when he tried to save his son Khairul Islam, 8, who came first in contact of a electric wire. The bodies were sent to Sadar Hospital for Autopsy, reports UNB.



Classes resumed at the Dhaka University yesterday.

— Star photo

DU classes resume after 20-day closure

By DU Correspondent
Classes at the Dhaka University resumed yesterday after a 20-day unscheduled closure. Earlier administrative activities at the university resumed on Saturday.

All academic and administrative activities at the University remained suspended following a series of clashes between the student fronts of the ruling Awami League and Opposition BNP over gaining control of the residential halls. The university authorities have already postponed all on-going examinations till September 12 and deferred the examinations scheduled to begin on September 15 till September 23.

A 'peace agreement' was signed among Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCDB), Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Ganobandha League (GL) on Saturday. See Page 12 Col 4

By-polls by and large fair: CEC No evidence in support of BNP complaints regarding 2 seats

By Morshed Ali Khan

Chief Election Commissioner Mohammad Abu Hena has said the September 5 by-elections in 15 Jatiya Sangsad constituencies were by and large free and fair although those were conducted under more challenging conditions than that of the June 12 Parliamentary elections.

All steps were taken to avert influence of the ruling party on the administration, because it becomes very difficult to conduct the election under a party government. Abu Hena said in an exclusive interview with The Daily Star yesterday at his office. It may be mentioned that this newspaper in an editorial published on Sunday, asked the EC to make public detailed facts about all the centres while complaints have been raised, especially those at Laxmipur and Mirsharaj. The CEC said that on August

13, he had written a letter to Prime Minister and Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina advising her that no Minister or State Minister should visit the centres under any protocol. "I told her that if they wanted to go, they should keep away from all state facilities," the CEC added. The CEC said that he had also issued instructions to all DCs, SPs and TMOs not to extend any facilities to them except ensuring their personal security from a distance. This also applied to opposition MPs, especially the Chairperson of BNP, Begum Khaleda Zia, he said.

The CEC expressed his satisfaction at the respect shown to his letter and said that when the Prime Minister went to Bogra and Mirsharaj she did not use any state facility. A handful of others who went to different



Mohammad Abu Hena

A new chapter in Indo-Bangla ties has opened: Gujral

By Staff Correspondent



Indian foreign minister I K Gujral at the press conference yesterday

Indian External Affairs Minister I K Gujral has said there is an enormous amount of political will on the part of the two new governments in Dhaka and Delhi to take initiatives to enhance mutual understanding and cooperation.

"I am now going back with the belief that a new chapter in our relations has opened up... We should not be prisoners of the past. Both the governments do not carry the baggage of the past," Gujral told a press conference prior to his departure for home yesterday morning at the end of a four-day official visit to Bangladesh.

Mentioning that during his stay here he had meetings with the entire gamut of Bangladesh leadership, including the President-elect, the Prime Minister and leaders of various political parties, he said he found a common response to the idea of building closer relationship between the two neighbours for the mutual benefit of the two

peoples. Gujral said that there was a feeling that SAARC must immediately do something and there was tremendous anxiety, "that we must catch up fast as a region."

Asked how close was a solution of the water-sharing issue, he replied, "as close as my heart."

Responding to questions on the issue, he said he was hopeful that an accord on the water-sharing could be reached "even before the next dry season."

When asked if Bangladesh had sought a specific quantum of water and how much could be agreed upon in an accord, Gujral evaded a direct reply and said experts would decide that.

Pressed further, he said the quantum of water will be decided by the experts on the basis of three factors. They would examine what was Bangladesh's exact requirement, how much was available and what was the 'actual ground reality on both

sides' during the dry season.

The Indian minister said that during his visit he had talks with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and other leaders on all major issues that concern Bangladesh, including water, trade and commerce.

Asked if transit was discussed, Gujral replied, "I have not discussed the issue transit with anybody. This government (of India) has never demanded transit. I do not know about the past."

He, however, added, "Bangladesh is a sovereign state. And it is the policy of the government and people of Bangladesh to decide what is in their best interest."

Replying to a question if he had found any difference in the attitude of the present and past governments in Bangladesh, Gujral said he did not.

I do not differentiate between parties. It is an internal affair. What party is good, it is

DMC reopens today

Dhaka Medical College (DMC) will reopen today after a 25-day closure, reports UNB.

The decision was taken at the Academic Council meeting of the college held on the campus yesterday. But the decision to open the dormitories for the residential students will be taken after formulating new regulations.

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd professional MBBS examinations of the college will begin today. Classes will, however, commence on September 28.

The college was declared closed following a clash between pro-Awami League Chhatra League and pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal on August 14.

DU Senate elects VC panel Sept 25

By DU Correspondent

The acting Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, Prof Shahiduddin Ahmed, has called a special meeting of the Senate on September 25. The VC called the meeting as per Article 11(2) of the Dhaka University Order, 1973.

A three-member VC panel will be elected in the Senate session, according to Article 11(2) of the DUO, 1973, says a DU press release.

One murdered in city

By DMC Correspondent

One person was murdered in Rayer Bazar area under Dhanmondi thana in the city yesterday.

A mobile Police team found the body of Anwar Hossain Pintu, 40, near Tali Office crossing at about 3am. Police suspect he was stabbed to death. The tendons of his hands and legs were also cut police said.

Pintu, father of two, resided at Mitali Road in the locality. The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately. However, police said, Pintu, who was unemployed for a long time, had enmity with his step brother, Amlak Hossain, over a land dispute.

Dhanmondi police arrested one Mohammed Ali, 32, in connection with the murder. Police said they were interrogating Ali.

The body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy. A murder case has been filed with Dhanmondi thana in this connection, police said.

Armed Forces had no link with murder of Bangabandhu: PM

BOGRA, Sept 9: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina here today said her government is pledged to build a modern, well-trained and disciplined armed forces to protect independence and sovereignty of the country, reports UNB.

"We want to train up the armed forces as national asset, not as partisan," she told the members of the 11th Division at a Darbar in Bogra Cantonment this morning.

The Prime Minister said the present government would formulate a transparent and appropriate administrative policy to modernise the armed forces by removing bureaucratic complexities of the British period.

She said the armed forces as the symbol of independence and sovereignty must be kept above unwanted interference from any quarter, she said.

It is quite essential to keep the army free from any political influence in order to give it an institutional shape, the

Prime Minister added.

"The Army is a national institution," she said, adding that her government would do everything to restore its image and make it professionally skilled.

Hasina said the government would not allow any quarters to use the armed forces for political purposes.

She said her government and her party believe that some miscreants were involved in the assassination of Bangabandhu and the armed forces as such had no connection with the conspiracy.

The vested quarters, the Prime Minister said, tried to link the killing with the armed forces.

Referring to a "campaign" that the Awami League would not help strengthen the armed forces, Hasina said: "I want to make it clear that the Awami League is determined to build a modern, educated and well-disciplined armed forces as dreamt

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BNP to gherao EC office today

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) in scheduled to gherao the office of the Election Commission in the city today to press its demands which include resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner.

The party will hold a rally at the Bangla Motor crossroad at around 11 in the morning and the march towards the EC Secretariat at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar to lay a siege.

The programme is being organised to protest against alleged 'vote rigging' and 'terrorism' in the just held by-election and press for re-election in two constituencies of the Jatiya Sangsad — Laxmipur-2 and Chittagong-1, and immediate stepping down of the CEC for what it called him failure to hold the by-polls in a free and fair manner.

The programme was announced by BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan MP at a rally in the city on Saturday last.

Earlier, soon after the by-polls on September 5, BNP held a rally in the city protesting 'rigging' in Laxmipur-2 and Chittagong-1 constituencies. It had also organised rallies and brought out processions in different parts of the country on September 8.

Salman committed suicide, says autopsy report

By Staff Correspondent

The autopsy report of film star Salman Shah said that his death was a case of suicide, according to a senior police official here yesterday.

Police got the autopsy report from the Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday, the official said.

Meanwhile, the Detective Branch (DB) has taken up the unnatural death (UD) case which was lodged by Salman's father Kamruddin Ahmed Chowdhury with Ramna thana in connection with the death. An assistant commissioner of the DB started investigating the case yesterday, police sources added.

Chowdhury Md Shariar alias Oin, who was known as Salman Shah, died at his 10th floor apartment at Eskaton Plaza under Ramna thana in the city Friday noon.

Police sources added that Salman's wife Samira was now staying with her father in their relative's house in Dhanmondi area in the city. However, police kept vigilance on Samira, Abul Hossain, who was private secretary to Salman and two maids who were reportedly in the flat when Salman allegedly committed suicide.

It was earlier reported that Salman had conflict with his wife for the last couple of months because of his alleged relationship with a film actress.

JCD activist in Sylhet remanded

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Sept 9: Arif Hossain Oin, arrested from near the venue of reception to Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury Sunday, was taken on a five-day remand by Kotwali thana police today.

The Sadar thana magistrate granted the remand when he was produced in the court today. Police on suspicion arrested Arif, reportedly an activists of JCD, on Sunday morning from the premises of the shrine of Hazrat Badruddin, during the reception.

Three cases, including one under the Arms Act, were filed against Arif.

Heading JS standing bodies Proposal to amend rule to be discussed today

By Nurul Kabir

The parliamentary standing committee of the Rules of Procedure of the Jatiya Sangsad is likely to finalise today its proposal for an amendment to a rule, seeking to make non-minister MPs heads of JS standing bodies on the ministries, sources in the Sangsad Secretariat said.

The 12-member standing committee, headed by Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, is scheduled to meet at 11:00 this morning to consider the issue.

The committee would also consider a proposal for an increase in the number of members of standing bodies on each ministry from 10 to 12, the sources added.

The Speaker is the ex-officio Chairman of a 12-member parliamentary standing body meant for taking care of the JS Rules of Procedure. The standing body, comprising members from both Treasury and Opposition benches of parliament, was

constituted by the House during its first session which ended earlier this month.

The JS body nominated a three-member sub-committee at its first meeting last month to prepare the draft of an amendment seeking formation of the parliamentary standing committees on the ministries with non-minister MPs heading them. Headed by State Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Matin Khasru, the sub-committee members included Chief Whip of the Opposition Khanaker Delwar Hossain and Treasury bench member Rahmat Ali.

Abdul Matin Khasru on Saturday said that the sub-committee had already submitted its report to the Speaker.

If the full-fledged committee accepts the sub-committee report, it would be placed in the House for final approval.

"We have proposed that the

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