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DSE MARKET	
DSE price index	2135.42
Market capital Tk	14940.58 cr
Transactions in volume	803448
Transactions in value Tk	26.16 cr
CSE MARKET	
CSE price index	931.37
Market capital Tk	9720.06 cr
Transactions in volume	329280
Transactions in value Tk	7.84 cr

Supplement

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Dhaka Day by Day



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DSE relaxes circuit breaker

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) yesterday temporarily relaxed the circuit breaker system in trading of shares of certain categories of listed companies.

The decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the Council of the DSE following an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), said a DSE press release.

As per the new measure, bid limits (+/- 10 per cent) will not be applicable to any security of a listed company for successive three market days if that company furnishes "price-sensitive information" to the DSE in writing in any day.

Details on page 6

Cabinet may take up Indemnity Repeal Bill today

By Staff Correspondent

The Indemnity Ordinance 1975 could be repealed by an act of parliament passed by a simple majority under Article 80 of the Constitution or by promulgating an Ordinance under Article 93 of the Constitution, observed the Law Commission in its recent opinion on the Ordinance.

Earlier, a six-member committee, headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice, examined the Indemnity Ordinance 1975 and submitted its report to the State Minister for Law and Justice.

Officials said that the opinion of the Law Commission and the report of the Committee and the draft bill to scrap the ordinance are likely to be placed in the cabinet meeting scheduled for today.

According to the Commission, the procedure laid down in Article 142 for amendment of the Constitution need not be followed.

The Law Commission has examined the Indemnity Ordinance 1975, with reference to the paragraph 18 of the 4th Schedule to the Constitution and Article 142 of the Constitution, according to officials sources.

Justice Naimuddin Ahmed, member of the Law Commission, talking to The Daily Star said that the Ministry of Law and Justice sought the opinion of the Commission with reference to paragraph 18 of the 4th schedule to the Constitution and Article 142 of the Constitution.

Bad news for fake healers

By Shehab Ahmed

The government is planning to crack down on the mushroom growth of fake healers who often cheat people in the name of magic cure. As a first step, the Ministry of Health has drafted a proposal to reinforce a 14-year old law to penalise the 'witch doctors' advertising in the media which borders on obscenities, informed sources said.

They said the proposal is likely to be placed before the Cabinet today. If approved, the proposal may be placed before parliament in the winter session in the form of a Bill.

The proposal seeks to raise the fine for the advertisers from a mere Tk 25,000 to Tk 100,000 and two years rigorous imprisonment.

Recently there has been a spurt in advertisements even in national dailies, explaining varieties of treatment based on 'faith healing' to traditional medicines.

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Four missing, 49 injured 3 drown as night coach plunges into Jamuna

From Our Correspondent

MANIKGANJ, Oct 20: At least three persons drowned, 4 were missing and 49 injured when a night coach plunged into river Jamuna while disembarking at Aricha ferryghat early today, police and Fire Brigade sources said.

Fire Brigade said the sunken bus was carrying more than 50 passengers.

Police said the accident took place at 4 am when a Dhaka-bound passenger coach (Chattrametro-Ba-02-0019) Ananda Paribahan skidded off the ghāt smashing the railing of the pontoon number-3.

Three bodies of the passengers of the sunken bus were identified as: Ofaz Uddin, 65, saidar Ali, 56, of village South Sankarpur of Jamalpur district and Abdul Khaleq (40), of village

Shahpur under Joypur district. The bodies were found floating at noon in river Padma near Kashadah area, two km away from the ferry ghāt.

The Fire Brigade, local people, BIWTA and BIWTC employees, 49 passengers, of whom almost all were injured. They were taken to Uthuli Health Complex and Manikganj Sadar Hospital. Four passengers were still missing, according to Fire Brigade officials.

The Fire Brigade and BIWTA teams later salvaged the sunken bus at about 5 pm.

Meanwhile, Shipping Minister ASM Abdur Rob, the Deputy Commissioner and Police Superintendent of Manikganj and high official of BIWTC and BIWTA visited the spot.

Youngone given go-ahead to set up EPZ in Ctg

A Korean firm, Youngone Corporation, was yesterday given go-ahead to set up an exclusive Export Processing Zone (EPZ) on the east bank of the Karnaphuli river in Chittagong, reports UNB.

The permission was given from the first setting of the Board of Governors of Bangladesh Private Export Processing Zone held with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair at her office in the evening.

The meeting approved the project in principle as the Korean company has expressed its eagerness to set up a special zone for prospective Korean investors and also to encourage foreign and local private investment in the country.

Youngone's subsidiary, Korean EPZ Corporation (BD) Ltd, will implement the EPZ project on 2768.49 acres of land at a cost of 200 million US dollars, equivalent to Tk 8400 million, over the next ten years.

PM Leaves for NY tomorrow

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will leave Dhaka for New York early tomorrow to attend the 51st session of the United Nations, reports UNB.

The Prime Minister is expected to address the UN General Assembly as a special guest at 3 pm on October 24.

During her nine-day visit to the United States, Hasina will meet some senior officials of the Clinton administration, top business executives and chiefs of UN bodies.

The Prime minister will also visit Boston on October 28 to deliver a speech at the Harvard University.

Diplomats in Dhaka attach importance to the Prime Minister's visit as the second round of government's economic diplomacy after the Beijing tour last month.

During her stay in New York, Hasina would invite investments in Bangladesh by both multi-national companies as well as non-resident Bangladeshis.

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MCCI for power import before next dry season

By Staff Correspondent

The Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) has urged the government to go for import of power from the neighbouring countries, including India, before the next dry season when, he pointed out, load-shedding would increase.

In a statement yesterday, President of the MCCI Samson H Chowdhury said import of power is, however, only a short term measure. The authorities should immediately explore the terms and conditions for importing power.

"Quite obviously, import is not the long term solution. For reasons of national security too, the country must be self-sufficient in energy. A comprehensive plan for self-sufficiency in power generation, therefore, ought to be launched under a crash programme," he stressed.

He pointed out that the average load-shedding time was now between five to six hours a day.

"The daily loss to the garment industry alone due to load-shedding is about Tk 40 million," Chowdhury said, adding that with the onset of the dry season and constraints in gas supply to the power stations, the condition would further deteriorate.

According to Energy Ministry experts, there will be a load-shedding of 450 MW in the next dry season.

The MCCI chief said load-shedding and low voltage have been causing serious production dislocations all over the country and therefore, new investment would remain uncertain unless the situation improved.

Referring to the Power System, Master Plan, he said that the peak demand would increase from the present level of about 2000 MW to 3149 MW in

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AL conspiring to destroy BNP : Khaleda

BNP chairperson and leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia has said that the Awami League government wants to revive one-party rule in the country by eliminating the BNP through terrorism.

"This is why they are killing BNP leaders and workers after assuming power," she said while addressing a reception accorded to her by the Madina chapter of the BNP at a hotel on Friday, according to a party press release in Dhaka yesterday.

Begum Zia alleged that so far more than 100 BNP men had been killed in the 'state or party terrorism' and said the killing of Jubodol worker Tuhin in Motijheel police custody was the latest example of the ruling party's terrorism.

"Terrorism and democracy cannot run together," she said. The BNP chairperson said that for the sake of democracy

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Anticipatory bail for Morshed Khan, 8 others

By Staff Correspondent

M Morshed Khan MP Chairman of the Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd, A Rahim Chowdhury, Managing Director of the Bank and seven others were granted anticipatory bail by the High Court Division of the Supreme Court yesterday.

The Bureau of Anti Corruption filed a case with Motijheel thana in the city on Saturday against M Morshed Khan, A Rahim Chowdhury and some high officials of the AB Bank Ltd in connection with sanctioning of a loan of Tk 3.5 crore by the bank.

Granting anticipatory bail the High Court Division in its order said, "Pending hearing of the substantive application by regular bench on the re-opening of the Court, the opposite parties are directed not to arrest the petitioner till 27.10.96."

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Ex-Havildar Yunus gives confessional statement

Havildar (ret'd) Sheikh Mohammad Yunus Ali, arrested in connection with the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, made a confessional statement before a magistrate yesterday, reports UNB.

He made the statement under Section 164 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) to Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Saidur Rahman.

Yunus, the security guard of Bangabandhu, was earlier produced before the court in the afternoon on expiry of his third police remand.

The Metropolitan Magistrate recorded the statement for more than two hours from 3:15 pm. Yunus was learnt to have described the bloody incidents of August 15, 1975.

Yunus, who was on security duty at Bangabandhu Bhaban at Dhanmondi on the day, was arrested on October 7 this year. He was under CID custody for 13 days on police remand in three terms.

Suranjit takes oath as MP

Parliamentary Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister Suranjit Sengupta, who was elected in the October 15 by-elections from Habiganj-2 Constituency, was sworn-in as MP yesterday at the Jatiya Sangad Ehaban, a press release of the Sangad said here, reports BSS.

Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid conducted the oath of office. Chief Whip Abul Hasanat Abdullah, Secretary of Parliament Secretariat Abul Hashem and other senior officials of the secretariat were present on the occasion.

ECNEC okays eight projects ADP implementation improves by 3pc

Implementation of the current annual development programme (ADP) gained a little momentum marking a 3 per cent point rise in its pace in first two months over last fiscal year's level, reports UNB.

This was disclosed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) held yesterday in the cabinet room of Bangladesh Secretariat with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Speaking on the occasion the Prime Minister directed the ministries, divisions and executing agencies concerned to expedite implementation of ADP maintaining proper quality and standard of the projects.

From now on, ADP review meeting will be held every three months to identify bottlenecks

and advise appropriate remedial measures. Cost and proper guidelines so that ADP is implemented timely and effectively, Hasina told the meeting.

After an overall review of the progress in implementation of the development programme, the ECNEC meeting took a number of decisions to expedite further the implementation of ADP.

An amount of Tk 940 crore has been spent during the July-August period under the ADP for 1996-97 fiscal year, which is 8 per cent of the size of the total development budget of Tk 12,500 crore.

During the corresponding period of the last financial year (1995-96), a total of Tk 571 crore was spent. The amount

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Docs in Rajshahi dist on strike

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Oct 20: The doctors in Rajshahi district have begun an indefinite strike protesting the assault on one of their colleagues by miscreants last night.

The Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) Rajshahi district unit, the Rajshahi Medical College Teachers Association, the Internist Doctors Association and the Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Association, Rajshahi district unit, gave the call for the strike that started today.

According to police, some identity extortionists led by one Babul went to the private chamber of Dr. Taimur AK Mahmud, Asstt. Professor of Medicine of RMCH yesterday afternoon and demanded toll from him.

When refused, they left the place but later at about 8:30 pm they returned and attacked Dr.

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Corruption case against Majid-ul-Haq

By Staff Correspondent

The Bureau of Anti-Corruption yesterday lodged a case with Motijheel thana against former BNP Minister, Major General (ret'd) Majid-ul-Haq.

Anti-Corruption officer Md Ahsan Ali in the FIR said the former minister had misused government vehicles causing a loss of Tk 20.03 lakh to the national exchequer, according to police.

The case was filed under Section 5 (2) of the Corruption Prevention Law of 1947, police added.

Anwar tells Daily Star Govt planning to construct bridges over Padma, other major rivers

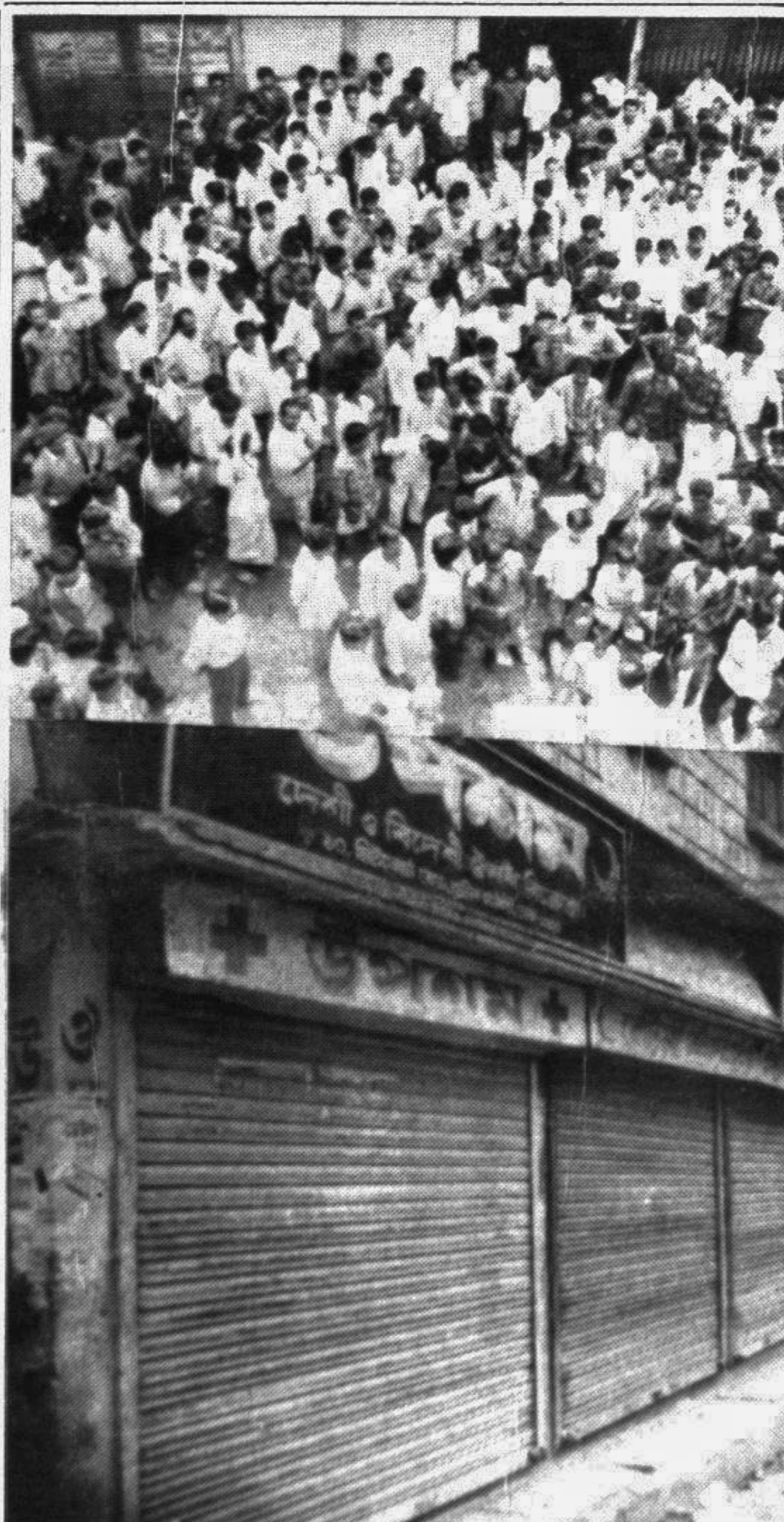
by Mizan Ali

The government is assiduously considering integrating the country's communication network with the rest of the world. Minister for Communications Anwar Hossain Manju has said.

"For this, we are also planning to construct bridges over the river Padma and other major rivers," the minister said while talking to the Daily Star yesterday.

The government has already taken steps for a feasibility study of a bridge over the Padma, he said, adding that Chinese foreign assistance has been earmarked for that purpose under instruction from the Prime Minister.

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Almost all the shops, mainly of medicine, in Mitford area in the city remained closed till 2 pm yesterday as the shopowners were protesting extortion. They brought out a procession and held a rally in the area demanding action against the extortionists.

— Star photo

Voting for UNSC non-permanent seat today India-Japan tough contest likely

By M Anwarul Haq

Bangladesh along with other member-countries of the United Nations are scheduled to take part in electing five non-permanent members of the 15-member UN Security Council today.

The outcome of the voting would, however, be known in Bangladesh later, possibly tomorrow, because of the time difference.

India and Japan are heading for what observers feel a tough contest for the Asian seat being vacated by Indonesia.

Voting will take place through secret ballot for the 185-member General Assembly.

The elections for the 10 non-permanent members are held in a staggered manner and this year, five non-permanent seats are being contested. Members elected will assume their seat for a two-year term beginning January 1, 1997.

Both Japan and India are very serious about winning the Security Council seat and there have been hectic lobbying worldwide for soliciting members support.

India was last elected to a non-permanent seat for 1991-92 while Japan was a member in 1992-93.

Bangladesh itself was elected

a non-permanent member of the Security Council for the 1979-80 term, defeating Japan, while it lost in the mid-eighties while contesting against Malaysia.

According to diplomatic observers, both India and Japan have laid strong claims to the seat this time. India as a leading exponent of the 114-member non-aligned movement (NAM) is expecting the support of a large number of its members. Japan, on the other hand, now has the second biggest economy in the world and wields considerable influence.

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LDP hopes to regain grip on power dashed

TOKYO, Oct 20: Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's Liberal Democratic Party narrowly failed to win a majority in Japan's general election today and was considering forming a grand coalition of four parties, reports Reuters.

Final figures showed the LDP had 239 seats, 12 short of the 251 it needed to govern alone in the 500-seat lower house.

The result dashed LDP hopes of regaining the grip on power it has enjoyed for most of the postwar period, and signalled more of the political turmoil that has plagued Japan since the 1993 election that put the LDP out of office.

In the end, Japan's 98 million voters decided to neither

give the conservative LDP a mandate to govern alone nor gamble on throwing power in untested political parties.

The election, held under a new system to clean up politics, had offered Japan the chance to end the lethargy caused by three years of unwieldy coalition wrangling.

But the hopes fizzled out into an inconclusive result likely to lead to more years of politics as usual and hamper efforts to reform the economy and bureaucracy.



The Hindu community observed Kumari Puja yesterday.

—Star photo

Arms recovered from DU hall

By DU Correspondent

Police recovered a Chinese rifle, a cut-rifle, 74 rounds of bullets and 18 petrol bombs during a surprise raid on the Chhatra League-dominated Zahurul Haq Hall of the Dhaka University.

Police raided some 'identified rooms' of the hall. No one was arrested during the raid conducted from 2 pm to 3 pm.

Police recovered the Chinese rifle and 57 bullets from room number 217. The cut-rifle and 15 bullets were recovered from room number 173 and 18 petrol bombs were recovered from room number 216.

UNB adds: Police arrested an outsider from an employees' club adjacent to the university's SM Hall in the early hours yesterday. The arrested, Mizan, was identified as a Chhatra League (S-P) activist.

Footover bridge at Sadarghat opens

A footover bridge at Sadarghat area of the city was opened to pedestrians yesterday. Mayor of Dhaka Mohammad Hanif inaugurated the bridge built at a cost of Taka 45 lakh, reports BSS.