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The Daily Star

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DSE MARKET

DSE price index	2283.06
Market capital Tk	16011.94 cr
Transactions in volume	714348
Transactions in value Tk	25.95 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index	986.42
Market capital Tk	10617.03 cr
Transactions in volume	406960
Transactions in value Tk	9.82 cr

Supplement

One-page supplement on 'Oral Rehydration Therapy' Page 9

NEWS BRIEFS

Navy chief meets President

Chief of Naval Staff Rear Admiral Mohammad Nurul Islam called on President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday. The Navy Chief stayed with the President at his residence office for some time, said an official handout, reports UNB.

British army chief in city

Chief of General Staff of British Army General Sir Charles Guthrie arrived in Dhaka yesterday on a six-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh. ISPR said. He is accompanied by his wife and a two-member delegation. Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Muhammad Mahbubur Rahman, Begum Rahman and other senior army officers received the guests at the Zia International Airport, reports BSS.

Privatisation board chairman transferred

Chairman of Privatisation Board Muhammad Matiur Rahman has been transferred and appointed Secretary of Statistics Division, while Wahidul Haq, Director of National Security Intelligence (NSI), has been appointed acting Director General, says a government handout.

Transport strike in Cox's Bazar

COX'S BAZAR, Oct 26: Transport owners and employees have called an indefinite strike on Teknaf-Cox's Bazar Highway from tomorrow. Locals said the strike was called following Saturday's attack on two buses and assault on transport workers by a section of students of Ukhiya College in the district, reports UNB.

Tk 60,000 snatched in Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, Oct 26: Armed snatchers took away Tk 60,000 from a petrol pump manager while he was carrying the money to a bank at Badur-tola under Panchlaish thana yesterday, police said.



MEMO FOR WEEKLY HOLIDAY: The National Garments Workers Federation (NGWF) yesterday submitted a memorandum to Labour Ministry demanding weekly holiday for the garment workers. Before submitting the memorandum, the garments workers held a rally at Tophkhana road in the city. The NGWF leaders condemned the violation of human rights, ILO conventions and labour laws of the country in the garments sector. — Star photo

Raphel tells Prime Minister Dhaka on right track to woo investors

NEW YORK, Oct 26: US Assistant Secretary of State Robin Raphel has said that Bangladesh is taking right steps to encourage investment by foreign investors, reports UNB.

During a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Friday afternoon, the US official expressed her satisfaction over the interest shown by leading US businessmen about Bangladesh.

Raphel called on the Prime Minister at her hotel suite and discussed matters relating to promotion of business and bilateral relations. She said US-Bangladesh business will be boosted in the coming days.

A group of more than 50 leading US businessmen met with Sheikh Hasina earlier in the day.

The State Department official congratulated Hasina for her government's steps for opening up the country's economy and hoped that this would help Bangladesh in promoting foreign investment.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina raised the issue of double taxation and said early conclusion of a treaty on the avoidance of double taxation would facilitate more investment in Bangladesh.

Reciprocating, Ms Raphel said, "It is important" and gave the assurance that she would push for it in favour of Bangladesh.

Raphel appreciated the government plans giving emphasis on energy sector and also on poverty alleviation and expansion of education.

She said Bangladesh should improve its relationship with

My suggestion on student politics misunderstood, says President

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed said that all the political parties should arrive at consensus on issues of vital national interests, reports UNB.

Referring to the current expression of thoughts and views in the press on his suggestion for a moratorium on student politics on the campus, the President regretted that his suggestion was misunderstood and even misinterpreted by a section of the people including students.

Justice Ahmed, talking to a Jatiya Ganotantrik Party (JAGPA) delegation yesterday, said he never denied anywhere the historic role played by students on vital national issues since the Language Movement of 1952 till 1990.

The main topic of discussion with a delegation of the Left Democratic Front on October 13 was how the terrorism in education should be tackled.



US Assistant Secretary of State Ms Robin Raphel called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Grand Hayat Hotel in New York Friday. —PID photo

Target-oriented programmes must to ensure women's rights: Kibria

Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria yesterday said target-oriented and practical programmes are essential for ensuring fundamental rights of women and alleviating poverty of women in the country, reports UNB.

He termed the Food for Education Programme, a poverty-alleviation measure, as a populist programme used for political motive in which the teachers are seen more busy in wheat distribution than in teaching. "We should redesign the programme," he suggested.

Kibria was addressing the inaugural session of a three-day National Convention on Women and Poverty organised by a study and research group, Women for Women, at the auditorium of the Academy for Planning and Development at Nilkhet in the city.

"Women should be incorporated in the stream of development through programme-based planning," he said and sought active participation and cooperation from women's organisations in developing a pragmatic plan for it.

The Finance Minister stressed the need for attaching top priority to women education for alleviating their poverty.

Speaking at the function, Agriculture, Food, Disaster Management and Relief

Yasmin murder case: Hearing shifted to November 2

RANGPUR, Oct 26: Hearing of the Yasmin murder case which was scheduled to be held today in the Special Judge's Court here was shifted to November 2.

Md Akil Matin, judge of the Special Court shifted the date following a prayer by the Public Prosecutor.

According to sources, the court, on November 2 may frame charges against the nine accused, six of whom are now on bail and three in jail *hajat*.

Some eminent lawyers from Dhaka including Barrister Amirul Islam and some others from Dinajpur will appear for the prosecution, the sources said. The case was first taken up by a court in Dinajpur.

The law ministry has given

'Flow at Farakka 55000 cusec in leanest period'

Delhi talks this week on terms, quantum of water

The political and technical spadework outlining the broad terms and the quantum of Ganges water to be shared in the proposed accord between Bangladesh and India is likely to be done during the forthcoming visit of Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak to the Indian capital.

Razzak leaves for Delhi tomorrow on a three-day official visit. He will hold talks with his Indian counterpart Janteshwar Mishra, External Affairs Minister I K Gujral and other top leaders. He is likely to pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Deve Gowda.

Chief Minister of West Bengal Jyoti Basu, who is a key figure in the Indian political scene, is also scheduled to be in New Delhi during the Bangladesh minister's visit and is expected to hold talks with him.

Experts noted that the flow of water at Farakka point was still swelling up to 55,000 cusec or more during the lean period, based on which the past accords and agreements between the two countries were signed.

The availability of 55,000 cusec water at Farakka point during the leanest period is almost similar to that in the mid-Seventies although there has been some "human interventions" at the upper reaches of the Ganges, the experts pointed out.

Although officials in both Dhaka and Delhi are tight-lipped on the proportion of water-sharing, they intend to agree that considering the volume of water still available at Farakka point, India should not be having any difficulty in arriving at an accord which can provide "a very significant quantum of water" to Bangladesh during the dry season, observers say.

"For India it would be a litmus test of friendship. It is also a matter of showing political goodwill based on fair international law," said a source.

8 killed in road accident near Brahmanbaria

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Oct 26: Eight persons including a mother and her baby were killed and at least ten injured when a bus hit an auto-tempo and fell into a road side ditch at Urshura, five kilometers off the town this afternoon, police said.

The bus was going to Cox's Bazar from Sylhet after offering *fateha* at the mazar of Hazrat Shah Jalal.

The dead included the driver of the auto-tempo and six of its passengers and a bus passenger.

Auto-tempo driver Zakaria, 22, and two passengers of the three-wheeler died on the spot on the Sylhet-Chittagong highway, three died on way to Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital and two others died at the hospital.

Four of the dead were identified as Shahana Begum, 25 and her baby, Khokon Miah, 25, and Tota Miah, 65, all passengers of the auto-tempo. Three others could not be identified. Two of them, both aged about 30 were passengers of the auto-tempo and the other, aged about 60, was a passenger of the bus, police said.

Two of the injured persons were admitted to the hospital with serious injuries and the rest were released after first aid. Shamsul Haq, father of the dead baby was among the two admitted to the hospital.

The bodies were sent to the Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy. A case was filed.

Our Jhilmihali Correspondent adds: A girl was crushed to death and 12 others injured in a road accident near Porahata under Sadar thana at 9:30 am today.

Police said, the microbus (Dhaka Ja-4342) crushed Nasima Khatun, 13, to death and plunged into the roadside ditch. Twelve passengers of the microbus were injured. Of them

Arrest of alleged terrorist sparks protest!

By Staff Correspondent

A group of youths went on rampage in the city's Farmgate area following arrest of an alleged member of a terrorist group in Tejgaon yesterday.

Tejgaon police arrested eight teenagers when a gang of about 50 started damaging vehicles and shops at Farmgate and In-dira Road protesting the arrest of an Anwar, 38, a member of a group locally called "Swedish Aslam Group," police said.

Anwar, a fugitive wanted in 15 cases, was arrested by police during a raid in the second floor of the Farmgate Super Market at about 12:30 pm, police said. Anwar was an armed member of the Swedish Aslam Group.

Anwar is facing charges like attempt to murder, extortion and other acts of terrorism in the 15 cases earlier filed

Thakur gives confessional statement, sent to jail

Taheruddin Thakur and a retired tank operator made confessional statement in CMM Court yesterday on the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib and four national leaders, reports UNB.

Details of the confession could not be known. However, sources said he mentioned names of some ministers of the Mushtaque government and some military officials involved in the August 15 and November 3, 1975 incidents.

Thakur, the then minister of state for information, made the statement under Section 164 of the Criminal Procedure Code at the court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Habibur Rahman in the afternoon after three weeks in police custody.

He was produced before the CMM Court at 12 noon after the expiry of his last eight days' remand in the Bangabandhu murder case. UNB court correspondent reported.

After recording the confessional statement made by Thakur, said to be one of the masterminds of the August putsch, the magistrate sent him to Dhaka Central Jail at 6:30 in the evening.

A state minister of both the Mujib and the Khandaker Mushtaque governments, Taheruddin Thakur was arrested on October 3 from his city residence. He was brought on police remand for 15 days in the jail-killing case in three terms while eight days in the Bangabandhu killing case.

Abu Musa Majumdar, a retired tank operator of Bangladesh Army, also made confessional statement when he was produced before the same court after the expiry of his second remand.

He was arrested on October

Police, mob clash in front of DSE: 15 hurt, 21 held

By Staff Correspondent

At least 15 people, including three policemen, were injured during a clash between police and some people in front of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) at Motijheel yesterday.

Police lobbed tear gas shells and made baton charges on the mob to bring the situation under control, police said adding they arrested 21 people from the spot.

The clash started when the police tried to rescue a suspected snatcher at around 4 pm. The angry people, most of them young investors at the stock market, caught on Hiba Miah, 35, red-handed when he allegedly snatched Tk 18,000 from one A. K. M. Faizul Kabir, at around 3:45 pm, police and witnesses said.

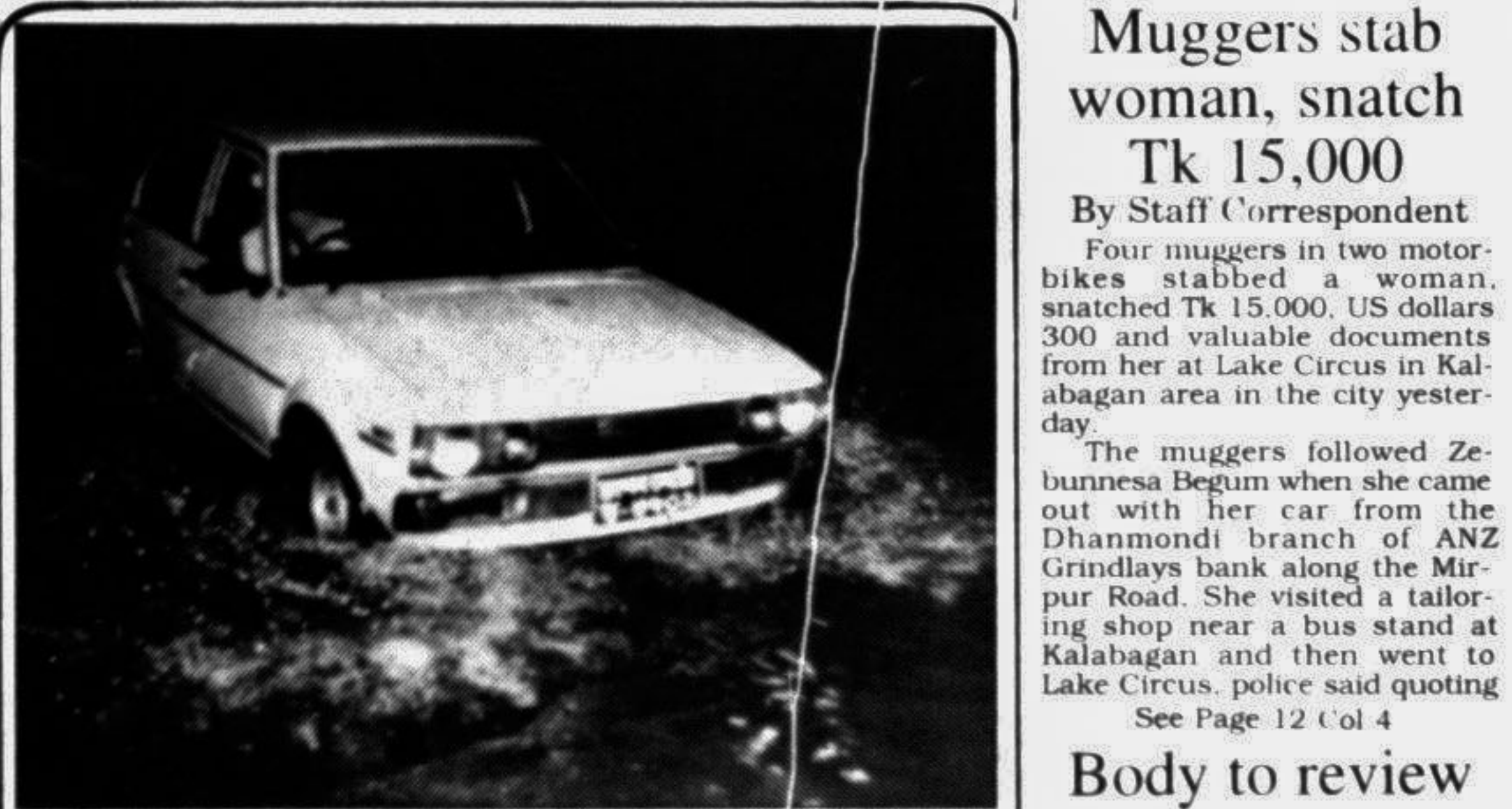
However, some investors said, the clash started when

Hasina trying to introduce single-party system: Khaleda

Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia has accused Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of working on a design to introduce a single party system in the country, reports UNB.

In an interview with the Saudi Gazette on October 20 during her visit to Saudi Arabia, she charged the present government with unleashing repression against her party and its workers.

"She is following the same approach of trying to eliminate the BNP like Hussain Mohammad Ershad," Begum Zia said making a blistering attack on the Awami League government.



Some city streets went under rainwater yesterday. —Star photo

Muggers stab woman, snatch Tk 15,000

By Staff Correspondent

Four muggers in two motorbikes stabbed a woman, snatched Tk 15,000, US dollars 300 and valuable documents from her at Lake Circus in Kalabagan area in the city yesterday.

The muggers followed Zebunnesa Begum when she came out with her car from the Dhanmondi branch of ANZ Grindlays bank along the Mirpur Road. She visited a tailoring shop near a bus stand at Lake Circus, police said quoting

Two Zairean towns fall to rebels

BUKAVU, (Zaire) Oct 26: Tutsi rebels were reported today to have seized two towns in eastern Zaire and aid workers said some 200,000 Rwandan refugees were on the move, reports Reuter.

Military sources and state radio in Burundi said the town of Uvira at the northern end of lake Tanganyika had fallen to the rebels after two days of battle with Zairean forces.

Aid workers in Goma, eastern Zaire, and in Geneva said Tutsi fighters had also captured the town of Rutshuru 50 km from Goma City, the capital of north Kivu province.

The complex multi-sided conflict convulsing much of eastern Zaire appeared to be spreading through the 1.1 million Rwandan refugees based in the area.

For the first time, large number of Rwandan refugees were reported to be on the move in the Goma region north of here.

Rutshuru is only 10 km away from sprawling camps home to 700,000 Hutus.

Some 200,000 refugees from Kibumba camp near Goma are heading down the road towards the city," said a Nairobi-based UN official, who declined to be identified.

He said aid workers described the town of Rutshuru as a war zone and added it appeared the attackers were former Tutsi residents of the Masisi region near Goma.

Nearly 300,000 Rwandan and Burundian refugees were uprooted from camps in south Kivu province by fighting in the past week.

Meanwhile the United Nations will send planes to the eastern Zairean town of Bukavu today to evacuate some 100 UN and other aid workers due to worsening security, officials said.

Bas Xyav Dong was admitted to a private clinic in the city for treatment.

Girl rescued from Tanbazar brothel

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Oct 26: A teenage girl was rescued from the town's red-light area late last night a day after she was 'sold out' to a mistress there, police said.

Narayanganj thana police rescued Ashunoor alias Asma, 16, from the Tanbazar brothel at about 11 pm and arrested Ruma, 30, a mistress for forcing the girl into prostitution.

Ashunoor, hailing from Chuadanga district, has been working for a tailoring shop at Mouchak in Dhaka for the last one year.

On October 24, when Ashunoor went to the Mouchak Market to buy some accessories for the tailoring shop, an unidentified woman lured her with a lucrative job. Later, the woman took Ashunoor to Tan-

Pre-winter shower cools down stifling heat

By Staff Correspondent

A dying depression on the Bay triggered heavy showers in the coastal belt, the capital and different parts of the country yesterday.

But the rains that cooled down the stifling heat for the past few days, disrupted city life during the rush hour in the evening.

Thousands of commuters were stranded at different parts of the city and shopping centres, waiting for transports, especially rickshaws, as the streets went under water.

Taking advantage of this rickshaws and auto-Rickshaws charged extra fare.

Once again the water logged streets focussed attention on the city's choked sewer system and blocked canals, unable to bear the load of a heavy rainfall, the Meteorological office recorded 33mm fall between 6 pm and 9 pm.

The welcome shower, brewed by a weakening depression in the North by heartened the farmers, and nature lovers, meteorologists said.

A weather expert told The Daily Star that with yesterday's rainfall, an unusually hot autumn retreated to make room for the cool touch of the pre-winter weather.

Earlier, in the sultry late afternoon, the water logged

Body to review law & order situation in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Oct 26: A 17-member committee was formed at a meeting here today to review the law and order situation of the Chittagong division with the Commissioner Shakhawat Hossain as Chairman, reports BSS.

The Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) was made vice chairman while city mayor and parliament members were made advisers of the committee.

Mayor ABM Mahiuddin Chowdhury, who is also the adviser of the divisional law and order committee, said the government was determined to curb terrorism for the greater national interest.

He said that terrorism had posed a threat to the normal life of the people as well as overall development of the country. He said government was eager to curb terrorism maintaining utmost neutrality.