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# The Daily Star

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## Announcement

The results of the written portion of the 17th BCS Examinations have been published on Page 8 dropping the weekly feature page Teens and Twenties. The page will appear in our tomorrow's issue.

## Inside Today

### Article

#### Of Accountability, transparency and the Fight Against Corruption

by Shah AMS Kibria  
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## International

Blistering assault on Taliban positions north of Kabul  
Chirac urges African states to call conference on Zaire-Rwanda  
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## Business

\$134.40m ADB loan for power sector likely  
DSE index registers 163-point rise  
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## DSE MARKET

DSE price index	2986.29
Market capital Tk	2121.50 cr
Transactions in volume	914355
Transactions in value Tk	49.19 cr

## CSE MARKET

CSE price index	1315.90
Market capital Tk	1416.34 cr
Transactions in volume	461365
Transactions in value Tk	12.83 cr

## Rising Stars

History Revived; Can 'Flash Gordon' Metamorphose Bangladesh Cricket?  
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## NEWS BRIEFS

### ALPP meets today

A meeting of the Awami League Parliamentary Party (ALPP) will be held today at 2:30 pm at the conference room of the ruling party on the 8th floor of the Jatiya Sangsad. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will preside over the meeting. Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah has requested all members of the ALPP to attend the meeting, reports BSS.

### French diplomat mugged in city

By Staff Correspondent  
Muggers snatched some money from an official of the Embassy of France at Gulshan in the city yesterday.

Brandishing daggers, they took away the money from Daniel Felix, an attaché of the embassy, when he was passing Road No. 108 in Gulshan at around 1:45 pm, police said.

### NDI delegation calls on CEC

A two-member delegation of the UK-based NDI, led by its Asia Programme Director Eric C Bjornlund, called on Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Mohammad Abu Hena at his office yesterday. During the meeting, the delegation members congratulated the CEC for conducting the last parliamentary elections and by-elections in a free, fair and proper manner, reports UNB.

### British army chief leaves Dhaka

British Army Chief General Sir Charles Guthrie left Dhaka yesterday after a six-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh. General Sir Charles, Mrs Charles and other members of his delegation were seen off at the Zia International Airport by Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Muhammad Mahbubur Rahman, Begum Rahima and senior army officers, reports BSS.

### Muktijoddah Dal central EC formed

The central executive committee of the Bangladesh Jatiyatobadi Muktijoddah Dal (BJMD) has been formed with Redwan Ahmed and Mesbah Uddin Sabu as its president and general secretary respectively. The 61-member committee will be coopted with 40 more members with a view to strengthening the organisation, said a press release yesterday, reports UNB.

# Seventh JS goes into second session today

By Nurul Kabir

The second session of the Seventh Jatiya Sangsad (JS) begins today at 4:30 pm, 59 days after the first session was prorogued on September 2 last.

The session begins on Friday, a public holiday, to meet the constitutional provision of holding the session within 60 days of prorogation of the previous one.

"Had it been the day after, it would have been ultra vires of a constitutional provision that obliges parliament to meet on or before sixty days from the prorogation of the preceding session," a cabinet member said.

It could not be earlier because the Treasury bench leaders concerned, especially the leader of the House Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the State

Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and the Chief Whip of Parliament, had recently been outside the country to attend the UN General Assembly session in New York," the cabinet member added.

The JS Business Advisory body headed by Speaker Huayum Rashid Chowdhury is scheduled to meet today to decide the length of the session, and the main issues to be discussed in the House during the session.

The ruling party is likely to introduce a bill seeking the separation of the judiciary from the executive and another bill seeking to bring about changes in the JS Rules of Procedure paving the way for constituting parliamentary standing committees on various min-

istries with non-minister MPs heading them, government sources said.

Besides, the session is also expected to witness heated debates on reported government stance on certain national issues especially regarding the government's alleged 'soft-corner' for India, according to the sources in the BNP high command, the main opposition in Parliament.

"We shall definitely ask the government to explain in the House its position on certain national issues including sharing of Ganges water with India, the reported government plan to give transit route to and import of power from the same country, its position on the reported Indian move to change

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## Prime Minister tells press on return Visit successful, tremendous response from US investors

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday turned her visit to the United States successful and said that she received encouraging response from foreign investors for investment in Bangladesh.

"We succeeded in our mission to draw attention of investors in the United States and I am optimistic about growing foreign investment in the country in the coming days," she said at a press conference at the conference hall of Ganobhaban in the evening.

The Prime Minister returned home early morning yesterday ending her trip eight day to the USA. She addressed the 51st session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and seized the opportunity in pursuing the government's economic diplomacy. She had a series of meetings with select groups of

leading US entrepreneurs. Besides, Sheikh Hasina also had talks with UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros Ghali as well as some other world leaders and representatives of various UN bodies and high officials of the US State Department.

The Prime Minister also signed the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, adopted by the UNGA two months back.

Sheikh Hasina said she made it "crystal clear" to the US investors that economic emancipation of the people of Bangladesh is my government's main goal."

The Prime Minister, flanked by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad and State Minister for Information Abu Sayeed said, "We received tremendous

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### Gunmen kill PDB man, take away Tk 5 lakh in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 31: Unidentified gunmen shot dead an employee of the Power Development Board (PDB) and snatched about Tk 5 lakh drawn from a bank at noon today at Bibirhat of Muradpur area in the city, police said.

The dead was identified as Mohammad Amanullah, 35.

Police said the armed snatchers had attacked the PDB staff while they were getting into a jeep with a bag of money drawn for giving salaries to PDB employees.

The snatchers opened fire on the PDB employees and then fled by a car taking the bag of money.

Amanullah succumbed to his bullet wounds on the spot and the other staff ran for safety during the gunfire, police said.

The snatchers had waylaid the PDB employees in front of the bank after coming by a car, police added.

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### Russia keen to help set up water treatment plants

A high-level delegation of Russia yesterday expressed eagerness to provide cooperation in setting up water-treatment plants in medium and large scales in Bangladesh's urban areas, reports UNB.

The delegation, led by Russian Ambassador in Bangladesh Eduard Shevchenko, expressed their interest when they called on LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman at his office in the city yesterday.

They also showed interest to supply Russian-assembled portable bridges under technical project assistance.

Zillur Rahman told the delegation that the government was bringing about significant reforms in local government institutions with a view to alleviating poverty and creating employment opportunity by involving rural masses.

The government has taken up special programme to connect the remote areas with district headquarters under road-construction network for rural infrastructure development.

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## Proposed Trans-Asian Railway

# Bangladesh, India differ on route to Myanmar

By S Y Bakht, back from New Delhi

Bangladesh and India differ over the possible route of the proposed Trans-Asian Railway (TAR) through Bangladesh to Myanmar.

The differences between the two countries on the TAR route surfaced at a meeting of senior government officials in preparation for the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure in New Delhi earlier this week.

The route is being finalised by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

At the meeting, Bangladesh proposed extension of the TAR network's southern corridor

ment officials was earlier inaugurated by Indian Surface Transport Minister T G Venkatraman at the Vigyan Bhawan conference centre.

The two member Bangladesh delegation at the meeting was led by M Abul Quasem, Joint Secretary, Roads and Railways Division, Ministry of Communications. Anwarul Islam, Superintending Engineer of the Roads and Highways Department, was the other member of the delegation.

Bangladesh endorses the proposed TAR network route in the southern corridor over Bangladesh as endorsed in the 52nd session of the ESCAP and

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## Basu to discuss transit, water issues during visit to Dhaka

### Star Monitoring

Jyoti Basu, the chief minister of the Indian state of West Bengal, has expressed his desire to discuss a number of issues, including water sharing, economic relations, transit and the use of Chittagong Port, during his visit to Bangladesh sometimes this month, according to BBC.

In an interview with the BBC Bengali service broadcast last night, Basu also said he was optimistic about the outcome of his forthcoming visit to Dhaka.

He, however, avoided a direct reply to the transit issue saying, "I am going to speak to the people of a sovereign state," and added that both sides had their own issues to discuss.

When pressed by the BBC, he said, "I am a politician and not an astrologer ... I am the chief minister of West Bengal."

Stressing the need for talks with the Bangladeshi side, he said, "I am an optimist and without talking to them, what can I say."

Basu, who is scheduled to meet Indian Foreign Minister K Gujral today, told the BBC that he had talks with Gujral before and after his recent visit to Dhaka.

## AL, BCL activists hold up train in Kushtia

### From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Oct 31: The activists of Awami League and its student wing Chhatra League held up the Jamuna Inter-city Express train here today in protest against the suspension of the Titumir Inter-city Express train service in the Khulna-Daulatdia ghat route.

They urged the Railway authorities to restore the service for the convenience of the people of Poradah, Kushtia, Kumarkali, Khoksa and Pangiha.

All other train services between Poradah and Rajbari could not operate due to the barricade.

## Serniabat killing Capt Nurul Huda remanded again

Captain (retd) Nurul Huda, arrested on charge of Abdur Rab Serniabat killing, was again remanded yesterday for five days. reports UNB.

It was produced before the CMM court at the end of a 8 days police remand.

Captain Huda was arrested on October 22 in the Serniabat murder case filed by the deceased's daughter-in-law, Sahana Begum, with Ramna police on October 21.

Serniabat was killed during the August 15, 1975 coup in which country's independence leader, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib, was also assassinated along with his family members.

## Account to deposit honorarium for Ershad opened

### Star Report

An account has been opened following clearance from the Home Ministry and approval of the Ministry of Law and Justice and the Sengsab Secretariat, the sources said.

Sources in the JP said the honorarium and other financial benefits, amounting to about Tk seven lakh, has been released, but the cheque for the amount is yet to be deposited in the account.



**A TALE OF TWO CITIES** A slum, complete with its 'amenities', compete with the villas and glitter of Gulshan. Behind the glitter of Gulshan Circle No 2, with its expensive restaurants, fast food shops and shopping malls, the 'shanty town' rivals the rich with its own version of shopping street, complete with cafes and restaurants, rent-a-car service and bazaar. The Dhaka City Corporation owns the land, originally marked as a park. But some of its employees had a different concept. They moved to the open space to build their own quarters. The small shops remain closed during the day. They are opened in the evening when the unpaved street comes to life with dealers of contraband liquors. The road has also become a parking lot for rent-a-car services as well as a ware house for a number of traders dealing in from building materials to rice.

— Shehab Ahmed with Photo by AKM Mohsin

# Garment units in Bangladesh declared free of child labour

from the clothing industry and placing them in the special schooling programme a 'commendable achievement'.

US Ambassador in Dhaka David N Merrill, who was a key figure in negotiating a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to free the industry from child labour, also appreciated the achievement and thanked the BGMEA members.

The underaged workers have been placed in the schools with stipend under the MOU signed by the BGMEA, UNICEF and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to cleanse the garment industry of child labour.

Redwan said after the total elimination of child labour and their ultimate absorption in the school programme, the industry was now open for inspection by international agencies, local dignitaries and the press.

Earlier, the truce declared in CHT on August 10, 1992 was extended for 30 times so far, officials said.

But no news of further extension of the truce in CHT either by Shantibhumi leaders or the government was announced till the writing of this report late tonight.

Mahe Alam, Secretary for Labour and Manpower, called the elimination of child labour

### Indian share scam

Harshad Mehta,

15 others

chargesheeted

NEW DELHI, Oct 31: Federal detectives here today charged 16 bankers and stock brokers with illegal securities deals during the biggest capital market swindle in Indian history, reports AFP.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) charged Harshad Mehta, a stock broker, a former chief of State Bank of India

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### Time for depositing house rent of Hajj pilgrims extended

The last date for depositing money to rent houses in Makkah for the Hajj pilgrims has been extended up to November 16 from October 31, said an official announcement yesterday, reports UNB.

People who are interested to perform Hajj under government management are requested to deposit Tk 16,000 in the scheduled bank within the stipulated time.

In case of non-payment of

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