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VOL. VI. NO. 283 REGD. NO. DA 781

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Land Mark Building (5th floor) Gulshan # 2
Phone, Dhaka: 608735, 608796, 601925
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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 3157.46
Market capital Tk 2232.15 cr
Transactions 828801
Transactions in value Tk 41.53 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 1416.69
Market capital Tk 15402.60 cr
Transactions in volume 367385
Transactions in value Tk 18.93 cr

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NEWS BRIEFS

Commemorative stamps on Jail Killing Day
Bangladesh Post Office will issue a set of four commemorative postage stamps each valued at Tk 4 and a first day cover valued Tk 6 on the occasion of Jail Killing Day today. A special canceller will also be used. The stamps and the first day cover will be sold from all head post offices including four GPOs, reports UNB.

One dies in earth collapse
From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Nov 2: One Md Belal, 25, was killed when a big chunk of earth fell on him when he was removing earth from a hill at Chandannagar of Nasirabad under Panchlaish thana this morning. He died on the spot. Later, police recovered the body.

Contraband worth Tk 5 lakh seized
CHITTAGONG, Nov 2: Mirsarai police seized contraband worth about Taka five lakh from a truck near Sitakunda thana on Dhaka-Chittagong highway here today. A squad of district police acting on secret information halted a Dhaka-bound truck and recovered 690 mini cartons of contraband cigarettes, and 16 bales of Indian yarn. Police arrested driver and assistant of the truck, reports BSS.

Internet fair begins today
A two-day internet fair, demonstration of on-line computer networks, begins today at the Purbani Hotel under the auspices of Green Cybernet. The fair, specially designed for the business community, will demonstrate on-line chat, information gathering from across the world, electronic mail and slide show on the web development and business promotion over the internet. The fair will be open for all from 10:30 am to 5 pm on both the days, reports BSS.

Indian goods seized
SYLHET, Nov 2: Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) have seized smuggled Indian goods worth Taka four lakh. BDR sources said here. Lt Col S Islam of Bangladesh Rifles 20 Battalion told BSS the smuggled goods included saffron, sugar, beetle leaves, ginger and cosmetics. Seven persons were arrested in this regard, reports BSS.

Bank rate hike not contractionary: BB Governor

Growth rate of deposit falls below historic level to 8 pc

The latest raise in the bank rate and floor rates of deposit is not a "contractionary" move towards credit crunch or containing inflation but a bait for wooing back the deposits on flight, a top Bangladesh Bank official said, reports UNB.

It will not affect the lending by banks, Bangladesh Bank Governor Khorshed Alam told newsmen at a press conference at the Bank's conference room yesterday. The steps are designed to attract deposits to the banks as the growth of deposits registered a sharp decline, seriously threatening the future lending capacity by banks, he said.

The central bank chief said the deposit growth rate, which is historically around 15 per cent, dropped to a low 8 per cent on September 19 and despite the steps, it is likely to end up at 10 per cent at the end of the current fiscal year.

The central bank, on Wednesday, raised the bank rate to 7 per cent from 6.5 per cent and minimum interest rate for savings account to 6.5 per cent from 6 per cent and for fixed deposit to 6.75 per cent from 6.25 per cent.

"As the floor deposit rates have been raised to give incentive to the depositors, the bank rate has also been raised as a step of consequential adjustment. The bank rate could not be lower than that of the floor deposit rates," Alam said.

The governor expressed his ignorance about where the money is going and said a committee had been formed with the Bank's Economic Adviser as head to probe why the deposit is declining.

The committee is expected to submit its report within a week, he said, and then it could be said where the money is moving. He, however, ruled out that a large amount is going to the booming capital market from the banking system.

The governor also did not agree that the commercial banks are in a negative position with liquidity, saying they have necessary liquidity to meet up the current credit demands and the present step aimed at improving the liquidity position further.

He anticipated the credit requirement to increase with the upturn of the economy from this month and the banks would not have to raise their lending rates as the spread between cost of fund and lending rates remains an easy 8 per cent.

"We hope the banks will absorb the recent hike... we are sure and will ensure that the hike will not leave any negative impact on the banks' lending capacity," he said, hoping that the banks would keep their lending rates at the same level.

Giving details of the current liquidity position of the banking system, Alam said the banks had lending liquidity to the tune of Tk 1542 crore on September 26 this year, up from Tk 1374 crore a week back.

Asked whether it is a sign of stagnation as the liquidity is increasing while the credit is not expanding, the government noted that it is a normal pattern in this time of the year. No it is not a sign of stagnation, he said.

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Jail Killing Day today

Black event in human history: President

The nation will observe the Jail Killing Day today with a renewed pledge to safeguard the country's independence and democracy.

Rich tributes will be paid to the memory of the four national leaders and key organisers of the Liberation War, Sayed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed, M Mansur Ali and AHM Quamruzzaman, who were killed inside the Dhaka Central Jail on November 3, 1975.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed has described the killing of four national leaders in Jail 21 years ago as a black event in human history.

"The killing of Sayed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed, Capt (Retd) M Mansur Ali and AHM Quamruzzaman in jail for political reason earned hatred from all quarters," he said in a message yesterday.

The President said that the consequence of such cruel event never earns good result.

He paid rich tributes to the memory of the four national leaders and prayed for the peace of their departed souls.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said that the government was determined to preserve the rights to justice and other fundamental rights of the people.

In a message on the occasion of the Jail Killing Day, she said that the people were now vocal for the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu and the four in the jail.

"Trial for heinous crime like killings must be held under the existing law of the land," she said adding "otherwise, people will lose respect and faith in law."

See Page 12 Col 1

Repression on women

10 special courts start functioning

Star Report

Ten special courts set up exclusively for cases relating to repression on women and children manned by judicial officials of the rank of district and sessions judge started functioning last week, official sources said yesterday.

Of the 10 courts, six are in the six divisional headquarters and four in Comilla, Rangpur, Mymensingh and Kushtia.

Ten judicial officials posted in these courts have started work as presiding judges, the sources said.

Abdul Gafur has been posted as judge of the special court in Dhaka, they added.

BB sets up fraud detection cell

Bangladesh Bank has created a fraud-detection cell within its jurisdiction to check financial fraud in the money market, the central bank governor announced yesterday.

Talking to newsmen in the bank's conference room, the governor, Khorshed Alam, said the high-powered cell had been set up recently, but no formal announcement was made earlier.

He disclosed the creation of the cell in reply to a query whether the central bank itself should investigate into the corruption in the banks or the Anti corruption Bureau should do that job.

Alam said the initial inspection could be made by the

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Alleged snatcher beaten to death in city

By DMC Correspondent

An alleged snatcher was beaten to death by a mob and two of his accomplices were injured at Satmasjid Road in Dhanmondi residential area in the city yesterday morning, police sources said.

The deceased was identified as Dildar Ali alias Delwar, 30.

He was fatally injured in a mass beating and succumbed to his injuries at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), police said. Two of his five accomplices — Alamgir, 28, and Masud, 25 — were admitted to the DMCH with injuries.

Police said that five muggers in an auto-rickshaw attacked one Partha Sarathi Nandi of Indira Road as he was waiting for a rickshaw in front of Uttara Bank at Satmasjid Road after withdrawing Tk 60,000.

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AS WINTER TIPTOES IN: Those who sleep under the open sky now need some cover. A young mother stitches kantha to stave off the cool night air on the pavement near the Curzon Hall of Dhaka University. Her mother helps with the threads. Pavement dwellers in the area recently faced an eviction drive by the authorities. But they returned to their 'sleeping quarters'. — Star Photo: Enamul Huq

PM to donate eyes posthumously

Govt to ensure safe transfusion of blood

The government is taking initiative to introduce a transfusion policy to ensure safe and scientific transfusion, collection and preservation of blood, said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday, reports UNB.

The government will undertake a coordinated effort for the development and modernisation of blood banks and extending healthcare facilities, she said inaugurating National Voluntary Blood Donation and Posthumous Eye Donation Day at the Osmani Hall in the city yesterday afternoon.

Sandhani, a voluntary blood donor and posthumous eye donation organisation, arranged the function. On November 2 in 1978, Sandhani collected the first bag of donated blood.

Addressing the function, the Prime Minister said the government was trying to ensure people-oriented medicare system and going to introduce a National Health Policy to reach health service to all.

Anaemia is a complex problem of commonman, particularly anaemia of the pregnant women is a matter of big concern, she said calling upon the people to donate blood voluntarily to save thousands of lives.

Every year the country needs some 2.5 lakh bags of blood, for this reason, safe blood collection, preservation and timely transfusion is essential, she added.

Professional blood donors, most of whom have dangerous contagious diseases, meet the major portion of blood demands, said Hasina suggesting collection of safe blood from the voluntary donors.

She called upon all concerned to initiate a social movement for voluntary blood donation and posthumous eye donation and come forward to donate blood and eyes.

In the function, the Prime Minister, who is a voluntary blood donor and enlisted donor of Sandhani, announced that she would posthumously donate her eyes also.

Expressing concern over the increase in blindness, Hasina said it is a matter of grave concern that more than 10 lakh people of the country are blind. The figure burgeons with some 40,000 children becoming blind every year.

The Prime Minister said blindness was on the increase in the country for malnutrition and for different types of accidents. About 50 per cent of the total blind population of the country are suffering from

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Razzak optimistic of water accord with India

Kunal Ganguly writes from New Delhi

There are words of optimism at last. But it appears that a wiser Bangladesh delegation to the crucial Ganges water sharing talks wants to have more than Indian diplomatic niceties and promises.

Over several cups of tea and dozens of bottles of mineral water, water experts from Bangladesh and India discussed the crucial issue for three days.

"I have reasons to be optimistic," said Bangladesh's Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, at the end of the talks in New Delhi.

Razzak declined to elucidate on the reasons for being optimistic or comment on why an agreement could not be reached, but Indian officials said that before any firm word can be given to Dhaka, the federal administrations in New Delhi must get it cleared from the government in West Bengal which will be directly affected by any deal.

Also, the Communist-run government of Chief Minister Jyoti Basu is now an important player in the New Delhi government which it backs.

The officials said that if New Delhi manages to convince Basu, then the agreement can be arrived at a summit between Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart HD Deve Gowda.

The issue of sharing of the water resources between the two neighbours is not recent.

The whole furor started in April 1975 as India built a barrage at Farraka, 11 miles from Bangladesh's northern frontier. It was used to divert water from the Ganges into the Hooghly river to keep the Calcutta port operative during the dry season (January to May).

The surface water availability of the Ganges river is about 446 million acre feet (MAF) and about 21 MAF during the dry season. India said that it needed to release approximately 40,000 cusec of water into the Hooghly-Bhagarati for flushing silts and improving the navigability of the port.

On the other hand, Bangladesh says that it needs the water in the dry season for irrigation and maintaining navigability of its rivers.

A formal agreement was signed in 1977. Under the agreement, India had to release 38,000 cusec of water a day. The agreement was valid until 1988, but after 1988 there was no agreement on the sharing of the

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Ruling party wants to eliminate BNP: Khaleda

Leader of the Opposition and BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday said the government speak of democracy, but does not believe in democratic dispensation, reports UNB.

"They do not abide by principles of democracy... They want to cling to power by eliminating BNP through repression," she said while talking to a delegation of Jatiyatabadi Mahila Dal that called on her at 29 Minto Road, her official residence.

Convener of Mahila Dal, Begum Khurshid Jahan Huq MP, led the delegation. Former state minister Prof Jahannar Begum and former MP and Convener of city Mahila Dal Selima Rahman were present.

The BNP chairperson said the government is now busy with implementing the commitments given to "those who had brought it to power through vote dacity and conspiracy."

"The people will not allow this government to implement these pledges against the country's interest," she added.

The Leader of the Opposition said the people did not vote for the Awami League in the June 12 election. They voted for the

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Col Rashid's wife arrested

Star Report

Zobaida Rashid, wife of Col (ret'd) Rashid, an absconding accused in the August 15 killing case was arrested from their Gulshan residence late last night, according to Gulshan police.

Police said that she was first taken to Gulshan thana and later shifted to the Police Hospital at around 1:00 the same night.

Earlier police had cordoned off their residence.

Talking to The Daily Star, a senior police official had earlier

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HSC students have to wait a yr to start degree level classes

By Aminul Islam

The students who pass Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations have to wait for about a year to begin classes at the degree level after their admission, according to official sources.

The HSC examinations are normally held in June and are completed in about a month's time and then results are published usually within three months. Sometimes, it takes even more time.

The students, who come out successful in the examinations, have to wait another eight to ten months to begin their classes in the universities or in other degree level colleges after completion of admission procedures.

The academic session in the universities starts from July. The students, who have passed the HSC examinations this year will begin classes in the universities in July next year, said officials of universities.

In some universities, it takes about one and a half years to start academic courses due to session jam. In Jahangirnagar University, the session begins in January.

"But this year, we are trying to start the session from July next," the Vice Chancellor of the university said while talking to The Daily Star last night.

The HSC examinations this year were held in June and the results were announced in mid October.

There are around 1,56,000 seats in the universities and degree level colleges in the country, according to data available from the Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (BANBEIS).

This year, a total of 1,27,000 students came out successful which shows that around 29,000 seats at the degree level will remain vacant.

Admission tests in Dhaka University will be held in February or March, officials of the university said.

When contacted, Prof Aminul Islam, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts of DU, said it was not possible to take classes of two different batches in the same year due to shortage of teachers and non-availability of class rooms.

"Moreover, we wait for the admission tests of the BUET and medical colleges," he said.

Crash programme to beautify city

A crash programme was unveiled in an interministerial meeting yesterday for giving a facelift to the capital city by enhancing its natural and structural beauty, reports UNB.

Addressing the meeting in the conference room of his Ministry, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman urged concerted effort of the service organisations and cooperation of the city dwellers in beautifying the city protecting its environment.

He said the government of Sheikh Hasina had started making the Dhaka into a world-class capital city by enhancing its natural and architectural beauty.

The Minister said special programmes had been undertaken to develop the parks of the city by creating a greenbelt planting saplings on the dividers and along the city streets, developing its lakes by re-excavation and making the lakeside areas as excursion centres.

The Road-32 of the Dhanmondi residential area will be widened under the programme in line with the structural beauty of the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum as well as for people's rally at national functions, he told the meeting.

Also, process of setting up a floating restaurant in Dhanmondi lake will start soon, he said. Besides, a greenbelt will be made to enhance the beauties at lakesides.

State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Syed Abul Hossain, City Mayor Mohammad Hanif, representatives from different ministries and chiefs of the concerned service organisations were present.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

চৌরাসচালান প্রতিরোধ কেন্দ্রীয় টাঙ্ক কোর্স

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড

ঢাকা

জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সিগারেটের প্যাকেটের গায়ে বাংলা ভাষায় সংবিধিবদ্ধ সতর্কীকরণ "ধূমপান স্বাস্থ্যের জন্য ক্ষতিকর" এই শব্দাবলী মুদ্রিত না থাকিলে বাংলাদেশে সিগারেটের আমদানি নিষিদ্ধ বলিয়া গণ্য করা হয়। যে কোন ব্রান্ডের, যথা-৫৫৫, বেনসন আন্ড হেজেস ইত্যাদি সিগারেটের প্যাকেটের গায়ে যদি বাংলা ভাষায় উক্ত সতর্কীকরণ শব্দাবলী মুদ্রিত না থাকে তবে এই ধরনের সিগারেট অবৈধভাবে আনা হইয়াছে বলিয়া স্ক্র আইন, ১৯৬৯-এর ধারা ১৬ ও ৩২-এর লঙ্ঘন হিসাবে গণ্য হইবে। এইরূপ সিগারেটের পরিবহণ, মজদু, বিক্রয় স্ক্র আইন ও বিশেষ ক্ষমতা আইন মোতাবেক শাস্তিযোগ্য অপরাধ।

২. ফেবিওয়াল, দোকানদার, মজদুকরী ও পরিবহনকারীকে উপরোক্ত সংবিধিবদ্ধ সতর্কীকরণ শব্দাবলী বাংলা ভাষায় মুদ্রিত না থাকা সিগারেটের পরিবহণ, মজদু ও বিক্রয় হইতে বিবৃত থাকিতে এতদ্বারা কঠোরভাবে সতর্ক করা হইল।

৩. চৌরাসচালান প্রতিরোধ কেন্দ্রীয় টাঙ্ক কোর্সের সকল সংস্থাকে উপরোক্ত সংবিধিবদ্ধ সতর্কীকরণ শব্দাবলী বাংলা ভাষায় মুদ্রিত না থাকা সকল সিগারেট আটক করিয়া সফটওয়্যার ব্যক্তিগণের বিরুদ্ধে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের জন্য এতদ্বারা নির্দেশ প্রদান করা যাইতেছে।

চৌরাসচালান প্রতিরোধ কেন্দ্রীয় টাঙ্ক কোর্স

ডিএসপি-২৪৯০-০১/১০

৯-১৪১০

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, ঢাকা