



VOL. VI NO. 303 REGD. NO. DA 781

AGRAHAYAN 11 1403 BS.

DHAKA SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 1996

RAJAB 12 1417 HIJRI

bengal airlift ltd
Land Mark Building (5th floor) Gulshan # 2
Phone, Dhaka: 608736, 608796, 601925
Chittagong Phone: 501896, 500976

12 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 6.00

Inside Today

Article

Should Government Interfere in the Free Market?

Column: Insight
by Kabir U Ahmed
Page 4

Focus

Law & Our Rights

World Court declares nuclear weapons threat and its use illegal
Page 5

International

Donors, Rwandan officials meet to coordinate relief efforts

Yeltsin signs decree ordering troop withdrawal from Chechnya
Page 8

Business

Entrepreneurs won't have to disclose sources of capital

DSE and CSE indices go up
Pages 6, 7

DSE MARKET

DSE price index 332.59
Market capital Tk 23680.08 cr
Transactions in volume 364750
Transactions in value Tk 2026 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 1570.23
Market capital Tk 18249.74 cr
Transactions in volume 99102
Transactions in value Tk 640.00 cr

NEWS BRIEFS

PM apprised of Rooppur N-plant

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was yesterday apprised of the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant. A high-level meeting held at the Secretariat also informed the Prime Minister about some of the problems of the plant. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Education Minister ASHK Sadeq, Energy Minister Noor Uddin Khan, concerned secretaries and officials of the Atomic Energy Commission, reports UNB.

Mizanur Rahman envoy to Spain

The government has decided to appoint Mizanur Rahman as the first resident ambassador of Bangladesh to Spain. Mizanur Rahman is holding the responsibility of Ambassador of Bangladesh to the Kingdom of Bhutan, said a PID handout yesterday. reports UNB.

Eyes of young man gouged out

Both the eyes of a young man were gouged out at a village in Keraniganj thana yesterday afternoon. Some unidentified miscreants gouged out the eyes of Nizam Uddin, 27, son of one Alaudin of village Ekoru under Keraniganj police station at around 5 pm. family sources said. The critically wounded person was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital, reports BSS.

Girl falls from 2nd floor, dies

A teenaged girl died when she fell down from the second floor of a house at Mughdapara in the city Friday night, family and hospital sources said. Rukhsana, 16, daughter of Mahmudul Huq of Sandwip, Chittagong, fell down when she was electrocuted by a powerline running by the side of the rooftop of his brother-in-law's house. She was immediately rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where the attending doctors declared her dead, reports BSS.

One held on charge of raping maid

By DMC Correspondent One young man was arrested allegedly for raping a teenage maid in a house at North Mughdapara in the city yesterday, said Sabujbagan thana police.

The arrested was identified as Salim and the other accused was absconding.

The victim aged around 14 was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), said hospital sources.

Rush of bronchitis, asthma patients in city hospitals

By Morshed Ali Khan

medicine by quacks and pharmacies, doctors said.

Dr M A Wahab, a heart and chest specialist and senior consultant physician at the Holy Family Hospital said, "bronchial asthma and chronic bronchitis are both triggered mainly by air pollution which shows a rise in the low rain period."

Doctors at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), PG Hospital, Asthma Centre at the Mahakhal Chest Diseases Institute and Hospital (CDIH), Holy Family Hospital and several private clinics and pharmacies, visited by this correspondent, said that the number of patients suffering from chronic bronchitis and asthma always showed a sudden rise in this season due to dust and other air pollutants. This year the rush of patients is greater than in the past year.

The main reasons for both the respiratory problems are rise in the level of air pollution, smoking, exposure to cold and wrong administering of

"But when it comes to

chronic bronchitis and many other respiratory problems, it is the high level of air pollution which is responsible," Dr Wahab said. Industrial pollution as well as vehicle fume and dust were rising alarmingly in the country, he pointed out.

About children suffering from 'exercise asthma' — occurring after a child does some physical exercise — top specialist physicians at different hospitals, including the only asthma centre in the country at the CDIH, advised that if the child is given an inhaler therapy before the exercise, the problem could be avoided to a great extent.

Doctors also advised that households having asthma prone patients should clean the mattresses, carpets and pillows at least thrice a week or better shift to foam mattresses which accommodate less dust.

Prime Minister Hasina, who is the Chairperson of the NEC, directed the concerned authorities to implement the thought

See Page 12 Col 7

See Page 12 Col 8

NEC meet reviews implementation of ADP

A meeting of the National Economic Council (NEC) yesterday reviewed the implementation status of the Annual Development Programme (ADP) under the Fourth Five Year Plan, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina chaired the NEC meeting, the first since her government took over, at the International Conference Centre. It was attended by ministers and secretaries to the government.

The meeting had threadbare discussion on problems usually faced at the time of implementation.

Among the issues discussed in the meeting were delay in the approval and revision, land acquisition and transference thereof, non-availability of foreign aid in time with acceptable preconditions and difficulties in appointing contractors and advisors.

The meeting had threadbare discussion on problems usually faced at the time of implementation.

The visit of the West Bengal Chief Minister is taking place at the invitation of Bangladesh Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad who earlier visited Calcutta.

When contacted, Indian High Commission sources confirmed the schedule of the West Bengal Chief Minister. The sources also said that Basu will be accompanied by some top officials of West Bengal including Home Minister Buddha Dev, Finance Minister Ashim Das-

Jyoti Basu arrives November 27

By M Anwarul Haq

Chief Minister of the Indian state of West Bengal Jyoti Basu is scheduled to arrive here on November 27 on a five-day visit to Bangladesh, official sources said yesterday.

The visit of Basu, whose party, the CPI (M), is a component of the 13-party United Front coalition government of Prime Minister Deve Gowda, is considered crucial in shoring up the proposed water sharing agreement between Dhaka and New Delhi.

The water sharing issue is due to figure prominently in Basu's official meetings which may also include subjects on land boundary demarcation, trade and other issues.

Jyoti Basu, whose ancestral home is in Baradi, Sonargaon, some 40 kilometres from Dhaka, will also spend some time there. The house is being spruced up. He also came to Bangladesh in 1988 on a private visit.

It was learnt that the West Bengal Chief Minister would be

See Page 12 Col 1

KPM forced to cut production due to short supply of gas

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 23: Karanaphuly Paper Mill (KPM) is limping with a forced production cut by 50 per cent due to short supply of gas, official sources said.

It is now producing 50 tons of paper daily against a capacity of 100 tons, the sources said.

The KPM resumed partial production on Friday last after a shut down for 19 days due to non-availability of gas from Bakhraab Gas Limited. The KPM is now being supplied with only 2 million cubic feet gas daily against its requirement of 10 million cubic feet, the sources said.

The short supply of gas compelled the authorities to operate a boiler with furnace oil, they said.

During the 19 days of shutdown, the KPM suffered a production loss of about Tk 12 crore, the sources said.

BNP calls hartal in Khulna today

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Nov 23: The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and its front organisations have called a half-day hartal in the city tomorrow protesting the killing of Jubo Dal leader A S Nasir.

Nasir was hacked to death about 11 am on Wednesday.

In support of tomorrow's hartal a torch procession was brought out in the city this evening later they held a rally where speakers condemned police for failure to arrest the persons responsible for killing.

The accused are still at large under the cover of a group of ruling party leaders, they alleged.

40 injured as AL, BNP clash in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 23: At least 40 people were injured in clashes between the activists of ruling Awami League and opposition BNP in the town today, witnesses said, reports UNB.

They said some 30 people were injured when the two parties were locked in a clash on the town's SS road at about 5:30 pm. Earlier, the Awami League brought out a procession after holding a rally at Bazar town premises. Some processionists damaged a sweetmeat shop on the adjacent Mujib Sarak.

Police lobbed two tear gas shells to bring the situation under control.

Later, Masum of the Juba League and Hafiz of the Chhatria League, were attacked by opponents with randao and hockey sticks.

Police were posted in the trouble spots to guard against further untoward incident.

Earlier in the morning, Tikka Khan of the BCL received serious injuries when BNP men allegedly attacked him with randao and Chinese axe while he was going to the town by a rickshaw. He was admitted to the Ibhina Sina Hospital.

BCL supporters brought out a protest procession and sacked the Medinova Clinic on SS road, owned by a BNP supporter. They also damaged and looted a stationary shop of a Juba Dal leader at Borobazar.

Trading picks up at CSE

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 23: After a dull spell last week, trading at the country's second bourse here picked up today.

Turnover at Chittagong Stock Exchange today rose to Tk 6 crore from Tk 5.59 crore recorded on Thursday last, according to official sources.

Out of 63 issues traded today, 32 gained and 31 suffered losses.

The case, in brief, is that the former ruler in collusion with Rahmatullah, had allotted 49 plots of RAJUK with dishonest intention and to obtain pecuniary benefit either for himself or for others, a press release from the office of defence counsels said.

See Page 12 Col 7

Some personal questions to Queen Sophia

By Staff Correspondent

Surprise awaited Queen Sophia of Spain during her visit to Mograpara in Sonargaon the hub of Jamdani saree and the once world famous Muslim.

As she went there to visit the Grameen Bank projects, this correspondent, accompanying the Queen and her sister, recorded the conversation between the Queen and the poor and simple women working with loans from the Bank.

In their own way, they tried to fathom the woman in the Queen, beginning with some very personal questions through an interpreter. Does the King and the queen have domestic quarrels? Does he beat her? Does he love her?

The Queen, however, was not taken aback and smilingly replied that there were arguments but no violence and King Juan Carlos loves her very much.

A woman with eight children asked Sophia how many children she had. Well, only three, she said.

Another asked if there was any dowry in her marriage with the King. She said there had been some.

The Queen talked to them in

See Page 12 Col 7

SC refuses to accept Benazir's 2nd petition

ISLAMABAD, Nov 23: Pakistan's Supreme Court refused for a second time today to accept a petition by ousted Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto against her dismissal, reports Reuter.

State-run television said the court registrar had told Benazir's lawyer Aitzaz Ahsan he could appeal against the decision if he was unhappy with the refusal.

Ahsan filed an amended petition in the Supreme Court on Thursday, deleting portions of the original which the registrar had criticised as frivolous and scandalous.

Ahsan said at the time he had refiled the petition to save time, but did not accept that the one submitted earlier had contained anything inappropriate.

He said he had written a letter to the registrar along with the amended petition to place on record Benazir's disagreement with the court's rejection of the original.

The first petition's 42 pages contained blistering criticism of President Farooq Leghari for dismissing the National Assembly and ousting Benazir Leghari installed a caretaker government to hold fresh elections on February 3.

Meanwhile, Benazir began a train journey from Rawalpindi

to Lahore today to rally support against her dismissal on charges of corruption and misrule.

Witnesses said Benazir's train pulled out of the main station at Rawalpindi, near Islamabad, as she waved to about 1,000 supporters waving green, black and white flags of her Pakistan People's Party (PPP).

"Long live Benazir, down with Farooq Leghari," they chanted as Benazir, wearing a pink sweater and a white headscarf above her traditional shalwar kameez, boarded the Tezgaan Express at 8 am (0300 GMT).

Armed police were out in force at the station.

Trading picks up at CSE

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 23: After a dull spell last week, trading at the country's second bourse here picked up today.

Turnover at Chittagong Stock Exchange today rose to Tk 6 crore from Tk 5.59 crore recorded on Thursday last, according to official sources.

Out of 63 issues traded today, 32 gained and 31 suffered losses.

The case, in brief, is that the former ruler in collusion with Rahmatullah, had allotted 49 plots of RAJUK with dishonest intention and to obtain pecuniary benefit either for himself or for others, a press release from the office of defence counsels said.

See Page 12 Col 7

Brisk trading at DSE

By Staff Correspondent

Trading at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) resumed yesterday following suspension on Thursday and weekly holiday on Friday.

According to DSE authorities, trading on the floor was suspended on Thursday due to lack of quorum of DSE members. But others sources concerned said the members were reluctant to be present on the floor protesting the untoward incident on Wednesday.

A large number of small investors engaged in kerb market operation sieged the DSE building on Wednesday protesting sharp fall in prices of most of the issues for several consecutive days.

The DSE All Share Price Index gained by 25.55 points and market capitalisation increased by Tk 182 crore as more than 3.64 lakh shares and debentures exchanged hands during brisk trading on the

See Page 12 Col 3

7 killed, 32 hurt in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

Seven persons were killed and thirty-two injured in road accidents in Dhaka, Jessore and Jhenidah yesterday.

Our DMC Correspondent reports: Three persons were killed and another was injured in two road accidents in the city yesterday.

Two of the deceased aged about 25 could not be identified. They were killed when a truck hit two rickshaws and a minibus on the Begum Rokeya Sarani near the Election Commission office under Tejgaon thana at around 12:30 pm, police said.

Mohammed Mofizur Rahman was fatally injured and died on way to the DMC.

Police sent the body to the DMC morgue for autopsy.

Our Jessor Correspondent says: Three persons were killed and 30 others injured in a bus accident near the Fulshara bazar on the Jessore-Chowgachia road yesterday.

According to police and witnesses, the accident occurred when a passenger bus bound for Jessor fell into a roadside

See Page 12 Col 3

Degree (spl) exams results announced

Results of the Special Examination of Degree (Pass) and Subsidiary and Certificate Course of