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Bearish sentiment at **DSE** continues Pages 6,7

DSE MARKET

2015.10(-4.08% DSE price index 14607.69cr Market capital Tk Transactions in volume

Transactions in value Tk CSE MARKET

924.93(-4.47%) CSE price index Market capital Tk Transactions in volume

Transactions in value Tk

NEWS BRIEFS

M ajor leaves today

By Staff Correspondent British Prime Minister John Major leaves this morning at the end of his three-day official visit to Bangladesh

John Major will address a press conference at the Zia International Airport prior to his departure.

He will be seen off by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Major will depart with his entourage at 10 am for Pakistan capital of Islamabad on the third and last leg of his three nation South Asian tour that started in India.

Bus strike in Jhenidah

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH, Jan 11: Bus and Minibus Owners' Association of the district began an indefinite transport strike on Jhenidah-Kushtia road today in protest against the yesterday's incident in which about 40 vehicles were

damaged. A mob damaged the vehicles yesterday following a death in a road accident near Amtali bus stand. All vehicles were off the road today.

Restaurant owner beaten to death

BHOLA, Jan 11: A restaurant owner was beaten to death and his brother was seriously wounded when some miscreants attacked them at Jugir Gol area here today, police and hospital sources said. Restaurant owner Alamgir succumbed to his injuries on way to the Bhola Sadar Hospital while his brother Hanif. 14. was admitted to the hospital. Police suspect the miscreants beat Alamgir and his brother as they declined to sell sweetmeat in credit, reports UNB.

Trawler looted

mercilessly.

Sehri, Iftar timings

Dhaka, London to explore new areas of cooperation in trade, investment

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Prime Minister Bangladesh and Britain Sheikh Hasina at her office. have agreed to explore newer The two leaders had an excluareas of bilateral cooperation sive meeting for about half an in trade, industry and investment to the benefit of both.

Britain also expressed its

desire to take advantage of the

growing 'climate of opportunity'

for foreign investment in

This was said by Foreign

Secretary Farooq Sobhan while

cial talks between leaders of the

briefing newsmen after the offi-

two countries at the Prime Min-

ister's Tejgaon office yesterday.

talks. British Prime Minister

John Major called on

Prior to the nearly one-hour

Bangladesh.

At the official talks, Sheikh Hasina was assisted by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad. Finance Minister SAMS Kibria. Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, besides Foreign Secretary Faroog Sob-

POUSH 29 1403 BS.

John Major led his country's side which included the British

High Commissioner in Dhaka. The talks focused on a wide range of bilateral and multilat-

eral issues of mutual interest for further strengthening economic and political ties between the two countries.

John Major said UK is keen to expand trade relations with Bangladesh and that in the near future, some high-level delegations would visit Bangladesh to explore trade opportunities. A British trade fair would be organised in Dhaka in March, he added.

He also mentioned that Prince Charles would visit Bangladesh on February 26.

The British Prime Minister emphasised learning of the English language and English teaching in Bangladesh. He as-

sured that a new programme would be designed and British assistance provided for teaching of English language and training of English teachers

He assured of more assis-

tance in social sectors. Sheikh Hasina mentioned that the Bangladesh expatriate community in UK was contributing around 1.5 billion pound sterling to the British economy. There are nearly 10,000 Bangladeshi restaurants in Britain, actively contributing to its economy, she noted.

Hasina pointed out the problems regarding visa faced

See Page 12 Col 3

General elections if BNP MPs forced to boycott or resign: Mannan

By Staff Correspondent

in Malaysia

50 administrative posts

lying vacant at DU

By M M Aminul Islam

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said yesterday that if his party was compelled to boycott or resign from parliament, there must be general elections under a caretaker government, not by-polls under the present one.

RAMADAN 2 1417 HIJRI

He expressed surprise at Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's 'threat' fo hold by-polls if the opposition BNP remained absent from parliament for 90 consecutive days.

"It seems that the blueprint for establishing one-party rule by forcing BNP out of parliament has been finalised." Mannan Bhuiyan said in a statement last night.

"The dream for holding bypolls with the motive of establishing one-party rule by getting the sycophants elected is bound to be shattered ... We hope they would realise the essence of our statement and refrain from playing with fire," he said.

The PM said at a function in the city on Friday that by-polls would be held if parliament seats fall vacant due to BNP lawmakers' absence from the House for 90 working days in a

Mannan Bhuiyan said "we've not boycotted parliament, nor we have resigned. We're remaining absent from See Page 12 Col 2

100 Bangladeshis held

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 11: Malaysian authorities have arrested 100 illegal immigrants from Bangladesh near the border of its northern Kelantan state and Thailand, a police of ficial said today, reports AFP. The immigrants were wait-

Gold worth Tk 10.89 lakh seized at ZIA

By Staff Correspondent Customs Surveillance team at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) seized gold chains worth

about Tk 10.89 lakh from a pas-

senger yesterday morning. The customs team found the chains weighing around 2.32 kilograms in the suitcase of the passenger identified as Nurul Amin, 45, who arrived at ZIA from Dubai by an Emirates

The customs team challenged the passenger when he was crossing the Green Channel of the airport.

flight at 10 am, airport sources

A departmental case has been filed in this connection.

At least 50 administrative

posts in Dhaka University are

vacant for years, hampering

No initiative has yet been

taken to fill up the vacant posts.

official sources said. Instead,

retired persons have been reap-

pointed to some of the vacant

posts and in some cases, offi-

cials designated for other jobs

have been given additional du-

ties as temporary management.

These officials have been tak-

ing charge allowance against

normal functioning of the uni-

versity.

these posts.

ing for their agent to transport them to central Selangor state and Kuala Lumpur when they were arrested by soldiers late Friday, according to a police official in Kelantan. "The illegal immigrants

have been detained at a police district headquarters and will be handed over to the immigration authorities," the official was reported saying by Bernama News Agency The Bangladeshis, aged 20 to

50, had sneaked across the border late Friday. There are more than a mil-

lion illegal foreign workers in Malaysia, mainly from Indonesia. Bangladesh, the Philippines, Thailand, Pakistan, India and Myanmar.

Malaysia is setting up special squads to lead a campaign against the illegal workers. The nation-wide crackdown is expected to start later this month immigration officials said.

Malaysia deported 1,500 illegal workers from Indonesia last week to clear detention camps ahead of the intensive search for a million others believed to be in the country.

Development, Controller of

Examination, Director, Student

Adviser and Counselling

Librarian, Director, Dhaka

University Grantha Sangstha,

Inspector of Colleges, Public

Relation Officer. Director.

Physical Training Centre, Chief

Instrument Engineer, DU Press

Manager, Chief Medical Officer.

Law Retainer, Deputy Registrar

(3 posts), Deputy Director of

Accounts, Deputy Controller of

Examination (two posts)

Executive Engineer, DU

Engineer, Deputy Director TSC.

Deputy Controller of

Examination (two posts).

Assistant Controller of

Examinations (4 posts). Section

Officer (in the office of the regis-

trar). Store Officer (Registrar of-

fice), Assistant Engineer,

Accounts officer, Assistant

Instrument Engineer, Physical

Instructor, Complex Engineer.

Swimming Coach, Store Officer

(DU Press), Assistant Librarian

See Page 12 Col 7

posts), Senior

bring BNP back to parliament By Reaz Ahmad

Fresh AL move to

Ruling Awami League has initiated a fresh move to bring BNP legislators back to the Jativa Sangsad, sources in the AL said.

AL organising secretary and Post and Telecommunication Minister Mohammed Nasim initiated talks with some senior BNP leaders on Friday last, the sources said. AL Chief and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina assigned Nasim for making the fresh move, the source added.

Talking to The Daily Star last night Nasim said, "I am having talks with BNP leaders for the last two days over telephone. I am hopeful.

Nasim declined to name the BNP leaders but other sources said Opposition Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar Hussain and BNP Secretary General Abdul

See Page 12 Col 2

Yasmin murder more witnesses

testify From Our Correspondent RANGPUR, Jan 11: Seven more witnesses in the Yasmin

rape and murder case today submitted their depositions in the Special Court. Rangpur. All the witnesses identified the three main accused on the

dock during hearing in the packed court. With the seven witnesses, the number of witnesses submitting depositions rose to 26 today.

court sources said. There are forty-four witnesses in the case. The next hearing will be held on January 19 and 20. The seven witnesses are: Selina Shahadat, first class Magistrate, Dinajpur, Advocate Azizul Islam, Dinajpur Bar As-

sociation secretary. Wazed Ali.

a former OC. Mafizul Islam. a

villager of Daashmile, journalists Kamrul Huda Helal, Sajedur Rahman and Selim Ahmed Public prosecutor Gazi Rahman, assisted by Azizur Rah

man Mustazir conducted the prosecution case while Majibar Rahman and some others ap peared for the defence.

Barisal Polytech closed after BCL-JCD clash

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Jan 11: Barisal Polytechnic Institute was declared closed for an indefinite period from today.

The decision was taken by the Vice Principal in absence of the Principal following a clash between Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Jatiatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists at the Institute at about 10.30 am this morning. All resident students were asked to vacate their hostels within 5 pm this after-

The clash was a sequel to a previous incident between activists of BCL and JCD on the campus. A large number of crackers

were exploded and some gun shots were heard during the clash, police said. One Saikat, a 2nd year stu-

dent of the Institute, was admit ted to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital with bullet injury, hospital sources Soon after the clash police

rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control. A tense situation is prevailing on the campus. Police was

deployed on the campus to avert further clash.

Gas Purchase & Sales Agreement with multinational group signed

purchase at the International Conference Centre yesterday.

Bangladesh yesterday singed a Gas Purchase and Sales Agreement (GPSA) with a newly syndicated multinational group of companies from the US, UK and the Netherlands, marking its entry into offshore gas pro-

duction. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her British counterpart John Major witnessed the signing ceremony at the Prime Minster's Tejgaon office.

The agreement, envisaging 197 million US dollar invest ment plan for exploration and production of gas from the Sangu Gas Field in Block-16 in the Bay of Bengal, was signed with the main contractor Cairn

Energy plc. of UK.

By Staff Correspondent

Two other partners, Halliburton of the US and Holland Sea Search of the Netherlands. were also signatories to the

agreement Under the agreement Bangladesh will purchase 160 million cubic feet (cft) of gas daily from April, 1998, when commercial production will start at the Sangu field, some 35 km off Chittagong Port.

Bell Gammel of Cairn Energy, Norman Chamber, CEO of Halliburton, Dr Mike Watts of Holland Sea Search and Dr Abdul Jalil Khan, Secretary of Petrobangla, signed the agree-

Chairman of Halliburton and former US Defence Secre-

tary Dick Chenney was also

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her British counterpart John Major witnessing signing of the agreement for gas

present. Other distinguished persons who were present at the signing ceremony were Foreign Minis ter Abdus Samad Azad, Finance Minister SAMS Kibria, Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed. Energy Minister Nooruddin Khan. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, US ambassador to Bangladesh David N Merrill, British High Commis-

sioner David Walker. Talking briefly to the press British Prime Minister John

Major said that the accord marked a "major boost" in British investment in See Page 12 Col 1

aid sought for development Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina vesterday sought con-

Continued British

- Star photo

tinued British assistance for Bangladesh's development sectors, reports UNB.

we need the support from our longstanding friends like the United Kingdom in our endeavour to mobilise investment and economic assistance. Hasina said at a banquet hosted by her in honour of British Prime Minister John Major at State Guest House Jamuna.

"Government efforts to attract foreign investment are beginning to pay dividends. It still needs a big push," she said. Welcoming British

Prime Minister. Hasina said Bangladesh and Britain have See Page 12 Col 4

Trade ties can be widened: Major

British Prime Minister John Major yesterday said the firm and excellent relationship between Britain and Bangladesh can be widened further in the field of trade and investment through mutual cooperation.

"The current contact in the field of gas and energy could act as a magnet for others who wish to invest in different sectors of the country," he said at a banquet hosted in his honour by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at State Guest House Jamuna.

"Trade is vital not just to enrich the merchants, but for prosperity of the whole society It helps the whole society to march towards prosperity." he

Trade, investment and development are related with the See Page 12 Col 4

The important posts which fell vacant are Registrar Director Planning and BNPPP meet

on Tuesday By Staff Correspondent A meeting of the BNP Parliamentary Party (BNPPP) will be held on Tuesday at 3 pm at the committee room of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad

Bhaban, said a press release. Leader of the Opposition and BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia will preside over the meeting. Opposition chief whip Khandakar Delwar Hossain re quested all MPs belonging to the BNP to attend the meeting.

Meanwhile, a joint meeting of the convenor and joint convenors of the BNP city unit and presidents and general secretaries of the party's front organisations have been called for today at 11 am at the BNP central office, the press release further said.

ICC committee concludes visit

ODI and Test status likely for Bangladesh

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh has maximum potentials among the associate members of the International Cricket Council (ICC) to join the elite group of nine Test playing countries and will probably be receiving the One-Day International (ODI) status from coming

Dr Ali Bacher, chairman of the ICC Development Commit tee and one of the leading personalities in international cricket, said this while talking to the local press last evening at the end of his two-day visit to Bangladesh. Bacher was leading a two-member delegation to evaluate the cricketing infrastructure in the country in view of Bangladesh's petition for Test and ODI status.

Chaired by the Bangladesh

Star photo

Cricket Board (BCB) president Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP. two other members of the ICC Development Committee -Pakistan Cricket Board Chief Executive Majid Khan, BCB vice-president Syed Ashraful

Speaking to the press, Dr near future which will imply See Page 12 Col 3

Haque, and BCB members were present at the briefing.

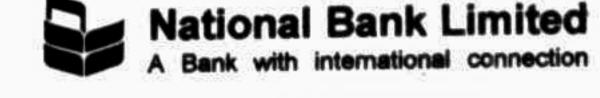
> Bacher, who is also the Chief Executive of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, said that as chairman of the committee, he has so far visited USA. Bermuda, Holland, Denmark, Kenya and Bangladesh in this regard during the last six months and found Bangladesh the most deserving to emerge as a Test-playing nation in the

We heartly congratulate MR. MOHAMMED A. AWWAL Director, National Bank Ltd.,

on being elected as the District Governor

for 1998-99.

Rotary District 3280 Bangladesh





Major tells business leaders

Khaleda urges Major to simplify immigration procedure

Leader of the Opposition and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday met with British Prime Minister John Major and discussed with him matters of mutual interest, re-

called on the visiting British Prime Minister at the residence of British High Commissioner to Bangladesh David C Walker. BNP sources said Begum Zia discussed with John Major issues relating to the country's

ports UNB The former prime minister, accompanied by party leaders.

present political and economic scenario in a "very cordial atmosphere".

See Page 12 Col 6

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Jan 11: Dacoiti looted fish and valuables worth Tk two lakh from a trawler or river Tetulia under Daulatkhan Thana of Bhola district on Friday. A gang of dacoit numbering about 10 to 15 swooped on the trawler Etimer Khedmat and beat up the fishermen on board

Ramadan	Jan	Sehri	Iftar
2	12	-	5:34
3	13	5:20	5.35
4	14	5:20	5:35