

## FBI denies possible case of anthrax in Virginia

AFP, Washington

The Federal Bureau of Investigation denied yesterday that a man under investigation at a Virginia hospital has anthrax, amid a series of scares over the deadly disease.

"As far as I know there is no anthrax case in Virginia," said FBI spokesman Paul Bresson. "He has not been diagnosed for the anthrax bacteria. It's not an anthrax case."

A doctor at Prince William Hospital in Virginia told CNN earlier Tuesday that anthrax "is an unlikely diagnosis" for the 40-year-old patient, who is in stable condition with flu-like symptoms.

The doctor said definitive results of laboratory tests conducted on the patient would be known in 24 hours.

The man went to the doctor on fears he may have been contaminated with the anthrax bacteria. He apparently worked in a building belonging to American Media, one of whose employees, Robert Stevens, 63, died Friday after apparently inhaling anthrax spores.

It was not clear whether the man in the Virginia case had been in Florida, where the anthrax outbreak occurred.

A 73-year-old mailroom employee with American Media was also admitted to hospital showing signs of infection by the same bacteria. He was in stable condition, Florida health officials said late Monday, as the bacteria was detected quickly.

The FBI has sealed off the building in Boca Raton, Florida where The Sun tabloid newspaper is located, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said.

Fleischer said Tuesday the situation remained one of "concern" and that the federal government "continues to vigorously pursue any possible lead" making sure "every health consideration is fully addressed to the satisfaction" of anyone with concerns.

Florida Health Department chief Dr. John Agwuonli told NBC television Tuesday the cases were from a single building and no indication of a wider risk for the population at large existed.

## Lanka crisis deepens as MP defects to opposition

AFP, Colombo

A Sri Lankan ruling party MP defected to the opposition yesterday as the minority government battled to remain in power amid moves to topple it through a vote of no-confidence.

The shaky coalition, however, vowed it will survive and said President Chandrika Kumaratunga would not disband parliament even though she gains those powers from midnight Tuesday.

Government spokesman Mangala Samaraweera was quoted by state-run Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation radio as saying Kumaratunga had no plans to dissolve the assembly which has another five years out of its six-year term.

The radio did not say if the government would suspend the assembly, an option already exercised by Kumaratunga in July when she faced near certain defeat.

Later she managed to win support from a small leftist party and reopened parliament on September 6. However, political analysts said the government was back to square one and was facing uncertainty.

On the face of it, Kumaratunga's party has 119 legislators in the 225-member assembly and is in a comfortable position to stave off an opposition ouster attempt. But the dissidents are troubling the government.

Ruling party legislator Bandula Gunawardena told parliament that he could no longer work with Kumaratunga's People's Alliance as it was incapable of managing the economy and had no moral right to rule.

Gunawardena crossed the floor of the House and sat with the opposition amid loud cheering from minority ranks and angry protests from government legislators.

The rebel MP said he feared for his life after his crossover.

"My family and I risk our lives, but I leave our security in the hands of my people," Gunawardena said as dozens of pro-government supporters demonstrated outside the home of another dissident of the ruling party.

They shouted slogans against former justice minister G.L. Peiris who is known to have recently crossed swords with the president over her style of managing the economy.

Sri Lanka's economy is set this year to show its worst performance since independence from Britain in 1948, with the first six months recording a dismal 0.4 percent gross domestic product growth.

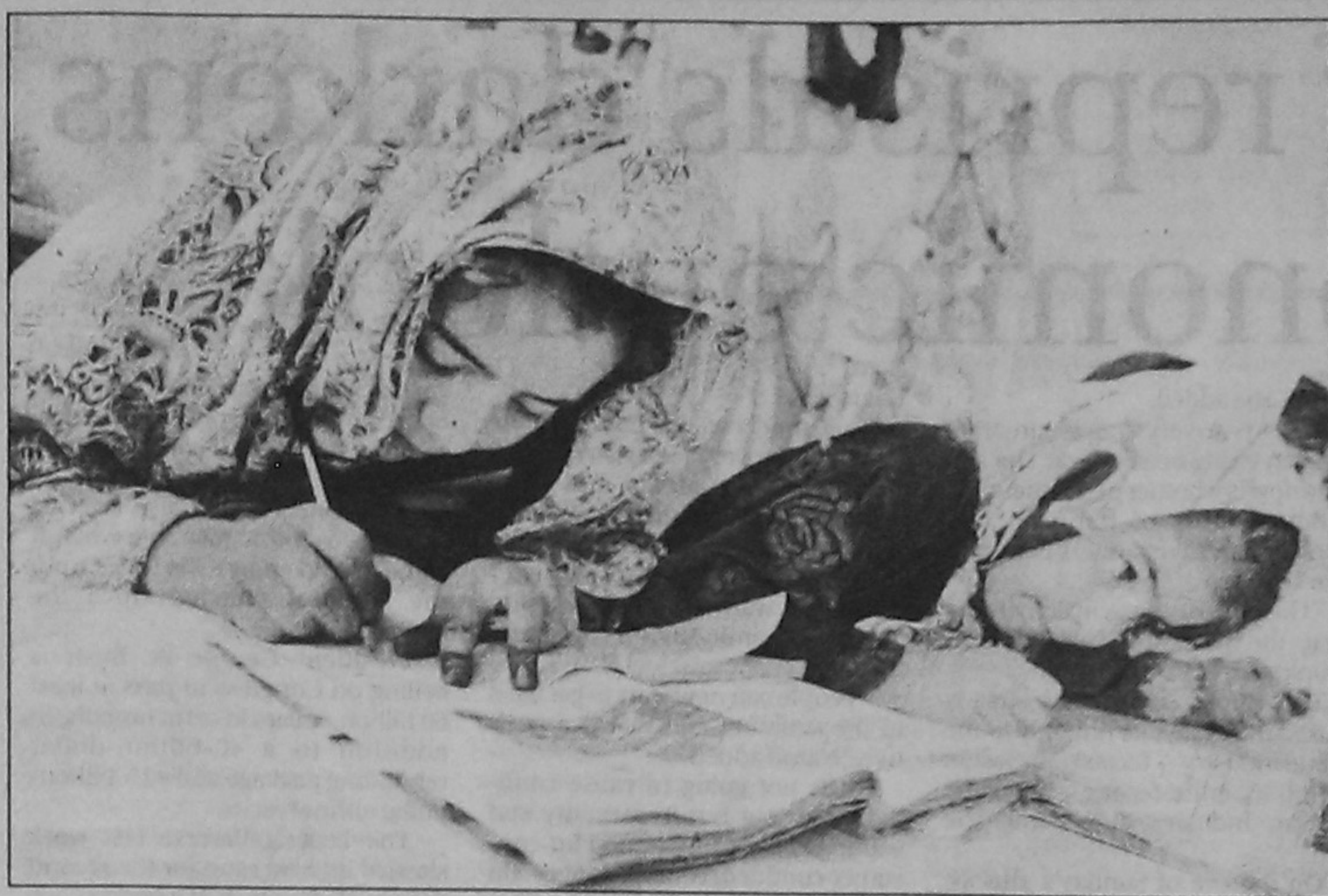
Full-year economic growth is expected to be around zero.

However, the tiny Colombo stock exchange rallied on news of the MP's defection and support for the opposition's bid to oust the government.

Stock analyst Elton Ebert said the blue chip Milanka Index rose 4.1 percent after Gunawardena's defection amid investor expectations of a change of government.

The dramatic defection was a serious blow to Kumaratunga as her government is set to face a crucial vote of no-confidence on Thursday.

The opposition has vowed to bring the one-year-old government down with more defections, although the ruling party says it is confident of staving off the ouster move.



AFGHAN GIRLS STUDY IN A CLASSROOM FOR REFUGEES AT A SCHOOL SET UP IN AN AFGHAN PRIVATE HOME UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE UNHCR IN THE SOUTHEASTERN IRANIAN CITY OF ZAHEDAN YESTERDAY. THE UNHCR OFFICE BASED IN ZAHEDAN SUPERVISES SCHOOLS AND CARPET WORKSHOPS FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES. WITH US-LED MILITARY STRIKES TAKING PLACE AGAINST AFGHANISTAN, AID AGENCIES FEAR MANY AFGHAN CIVILIANS WILL BE FLEEING INTO NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.

## Kashmir separatist group urges calm as anti-US protests continue

AFP, Srinagar

Violent anti-American protests continued yesterday in Indian-administered Kashmir, where the main separatist alliance appealed to Muslims not to get swayed by sentiments following US-led attacks on Afghanistan.

A dozen Kashmiris were injured when police used force to disperse anti-US demonstrators across Kashmir, police and residents said.

However, the intensity of the small demonstrations did not match Monday's anti-US protests around Kashmir that left 20 injured.

At Bijbehara, 50 kilometres south of Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar, angry protesters Tuesday attacked traffic and police with stones and batons, injuring a policeman.

Police later fired tear-smoke shells to disperse the mob, which shouted "Down with America!" and "Your life, my life, Taliban."

Police also clashed with anti-US demonstrators at the northern town of Baramulla, 55 kilometres north of here. Several parts of Srinagar were also shut down Tuesday by angry youth.

Indian-administered Kashmir's main separatist alliance meanwhile tried to pacify the agitated population.

"Our sympathetic appeal to the people is to keep sentiments aside at all costs and exhibit unity," the All Party Hurriyat Conference (APHC) said in a statement.

"It is necessary to prevent Indian rulers from deriving any political benefits from our insensitivities," it added.

APHC's seven-member executive committee member, executive vice-president Pervez Musharraf's co-operation with the US war on terrorism, declared after the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington that left more than 5,000 dead.

The APHC expressed sympathies with the people of Afghanistan and urged the world community to give preference to diplomatic efforts over military action to find a "peaceful solution to the prevailing crisis."

"Violence is always sparked by injustice and usurping the rights of others," the APHC said. "Until the root causes (of violence) are addressed, establishing everlasting peace will remain a dream."

The amalgam grouping said terrorism should not be accepted by anyone no matter what its shape.

"State terrorism is also assuming a dreadful face, and is becoming a cause of devastation in many places," the release said.

The APHC last week condemned the October 1 suicide bombing of the Kashmir legislature, calling the blast that left 38 dead "tragic and deplorable."

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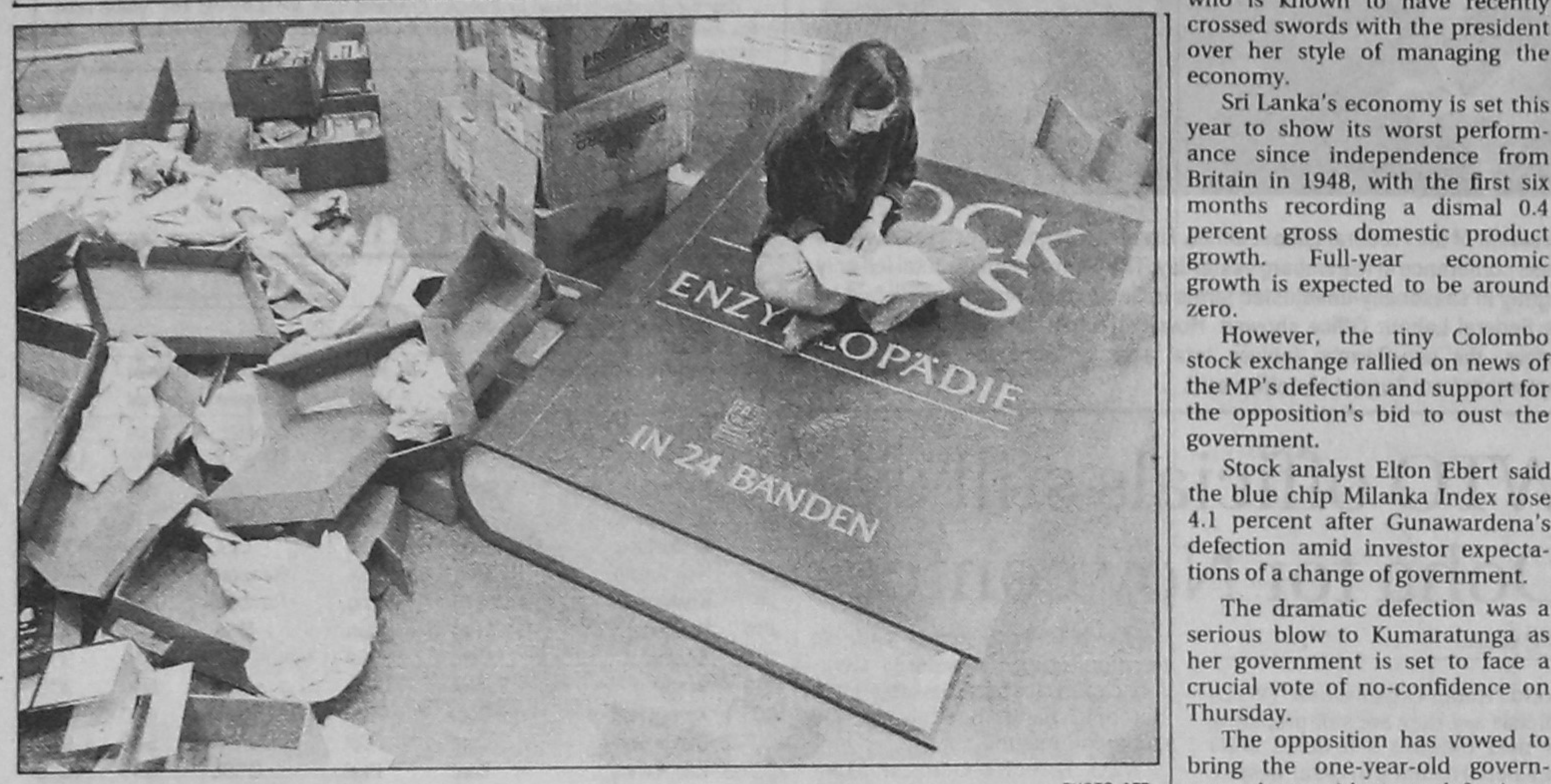
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AN EMPLOYEE FLICKS THROUGH AN ENCYCLOPAEDIA NEXT TO EMPTY BOXES AS PREPARATIONS FOR THE OPENING OF THE 53RD FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR ARE IN FULL SWING, FRANKFURT YESTERDAY. SOME 7,000 PUBLISHING COMPANIES FROM 105 COUNTRIES WILL PRESENT THEIR PRODUCTS AT THE WORLD'S BIGGEST BOOK FAIR UNTIL OCTOBER 15.

## BBC apologises for reporting Tony Blair's travel plans

AFP, London

The BBC apologised to British Prime Minister Tony Blair yesterday after a correspondent speculated on television about the premier's overseas travel plans, despite pleas not to do so for security reasons.

Downing Street complained to BBC director general Greg Dyke after comments by war correspondent Kate Adie.

A spokesman for Blair said: "We are aware of the Kate Adie report and we are making a formal complaint at the highest level to the BBC because repeated representations at a lower level have been unsuccessful."

The BBC said the incident had happened "inadvertently" and added: "This should not have happened and we have apologised to the prime minister's office."

A spokesman said: "We have again reminded all our staff that the BBC will not be the first to break directly any embargo regarding the prime minister's travel plans, nor would we encourage others to do so."

Meanwhile, Downing Street refused to confirm press reports that Blair, who had been engaged in a frantic round of shuttle diplomacy to shore up the US-led coalition against terrorism, was set for another trip Tuesday evening.



AUSTRALIAN ACTRESS NICOLE KIDMAN ARRIVES IN BERLIN YESTERDAY FOR THE PREMIERE IN GERMANY OF 'MOULIN ROUGE' BY DIRECTOR BAZ LUHMAN.

## TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES OCTOBER 09, 2001

TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES OCTOBER 09, 2001										Day's Market - October 09, 2001					Non Traded Issues					
Company	FV/ML (TLN)	DSE		CSE		Financial Performance		Company	FV/ML (TLN)	DSE		CSE		Company	FV/ML (TLN)	DSE		CSE		Financial Performance
		Price	Turnover	Price	Turnover	Last AGM	DPS			Price	Turnover	Price	Turnover			Last AGM	DPS	Price	Turnover	
<b>BANK</b>																				
AB Bank Ltd.	100/5	232.50	-0.32	232.25	15330	218.00	Not Traded	26/10/00	21.6	12.5										
IFIC Bank Ltd.	100/5	374.00	-0.80	373.20	325	390.00	Not Traded	05/07/99	23.3	—										
Islami Bank Ltd.	100/10	2779.00	-0.73	2800.00	286	2766.00	-1.21	2800.00	—	—										
National Bank Ltd.	100/20	275.25	0.00	275.25	14744	273.50	-2.41	280.25	8340	—										
Pabali Bank Ltd.	100/10	89.00	-1.11	90.00	970	90.00	Not Traded	30/09/00	124	—										
Rupali Bank Ltd.	100/10	89.00	-1.11	90.00	970	90.00	Not Traded	12/05/01	-24	—										
UCBL	100/5	160.75	-1.38	163.00	3190	161.00	-1.52	164.00	600	15/09/99	15.6	—								
United Bank Ltd.	100/10	338.50	-3.06	342.25	110	342.00	Not Traded	19/12/00	19.3	—										
UDL Ltd.	100/20	500.00	0.00	500.00	60	492.00	Not Traded	22/05/01	46.7	30.0										
Eastern Bank Ltd.	100/20	300.00	1.01	297.00	90	—	Not Listed	05/08/01	28.6	—										
United Leasing Co. Ltd.	100/20	602.00	-0.63	603.00	21	—	Not Listed	10/05/01	36.0	—										
United Finance and Inv.	100/50	265.50	-1.12	266.50	1150	267.75	Not Traded	20/03/00	28.3	20.0										
N C Bank Ltd.	100/50	225.75	-0.59	226.00	2775	224.50	-2.28	229.75	10800	21/11/00	18.1	12.0								
Social Investment Bank	100/50	400.25	0.88	396.75	3050	400.00	1.27	395.00	1650	07/04/01	72.0	30.0								
Prime Bank Ltd.	100/50	282.75	-0.62	284.50	7950	282.00	-1.57	286.50	4250	08/08/01	52.3	25.0								
Dhaka Bank Ltd.	100/50	379.00	1.27	374.25	2500	375.00	Not Traded	26/05/01	57.0	25.0										
N C Bank Ltd.	100/50	225.75	-0.59	226.00	2775	224.50	-2.28	229.75	10800	20/05/01	23.4	—								
Social Investment Bank	100/50	400.25	0.88	396.75	3050	400.00	1.27	395.00	1650	07/04/01	72.0	30.0								
Dutch Bangla Bank Ltd.	100/50	417.50	1.67	420.00	8900	510.00	Not Traded	—	14.8	—										
<b>INVESTMENT</b>																				
ICB	100/5	100.00	9.89	91.00	5	150.00	Not Traded	02/11/00	12.7	5.00										
1st ICB Mutual Fund	100/10	239.00	0.00	239.00	30	196.50	Not Traded	02/11/00	16.2	21.0										
7th ICB Mutual Fund	100/50	150.00	0.00	150.00	50	145.00	Not Traded	02/11/00	16.3	13.5										
8th ICB Mutual Fund	100/50	135.00	-8.78	140.00	18	135.00	Not Traded	02/11/00	15.9	12.5										
1st BSRS Mutual Fund	100/50	99.00	-1.00	100.00	740	91.00	Not Traded	—	—	—										
AFS	12/500	1.07	-0.93	1.061425200	—	1.07	3.50	—	—	—										
<b>ENGINEERING</b>																				
Atab Automobiles Ltd.	100/5	231.00	-0.65	232.50	265	220.00	Not Traded	14/12/00	18.9	16.0										
Azee Pipes Ltd.	100/5	157.25	-1.41	159.50	4120	158.00	Not Traded	15/05/01	7.35	10.0										
Olympic Industries Ltd.	100/5	133.00	-1.08	133.90	670	134.00	-2.90	138.00	30	09/10/00	-2.5	—								
BD, The Aluminium Ltd.	100/10	198.75	-1.26	201.50	1388	200.00	Not Traded	12/09/01	12.4	15.0										
Eastern Cables Ltd.	100/5	141.75	-1.90	144.50	5210	147.00	Not Traded	23/06/01	10.7	12.0										
Singer Bangladesh Ltd.	100/5	335.00	-0.81	336.00	65	118.00	Not Traded	28/05/01	7.2	8.00										
Atlas Bangladesh Ltd.	100/5	145.00	-3.33	150.00	95	—	Not Listed	14/12/00	8.76	10.0										
BD, The Aluminium Ltd.	100/10	198.75	-1.26	201.50	1388	200.00	Not Traded	12/09/01	12.4	15.0										
Ansar Galvanizing Ltd.	100/5	159.00	-0.78	160.25	1750	175.00	Not Traded	08/03/01	14.4	10.0										
Quasem Drypels Ltd.	100/50	22.80	-1.30	23.10	66300	22.70	-1.73	23.10	319750	14/12/00	1.13	10.0								
Renwick Jewellers Ltd.	100/5	20.00	6.67	18.75	100	—	Not Listed	26/11/00	-24	—										
National Texts Ltd.	100/10	550.00	0.02	545.00	50	—	Not Listed	31/03/01	8.2	35.0										
BD, The Aluminium Ltd.	100/10	198.75	-1.26	201.50	1388	200.00	Not Traded	12/09/01	12.4	15.0										
Ansar Galvanizing Ltd.	100/5	159.00	-0.78	160.25	1750	175.00	Not Traded	08/03/01	14.4	10.0										
Kay & Que (BD) Ltd.	100/50	161.00	-3.16	166.25	3950	168.00	-6.67	180.00	100	28/09/00	1.61	—								
Wonder Land Toys Ltd.	100/50	26.50	-8.62	29.00	750	28.00	Not Traded	20/12/00	-5.9	—										
Modern Furniture	100/50	23.00	-4.17	24.00	30000	23.20	-3.73	24.10	1500	02/08/01	1.87	16.00								
<b>FOOD &amp; ALLIED</b>																				
Alpha Tobacco Ltd.	100/50	50.00	-1.38	50.00	3600	—	Not Traded	20/03/01	2.82	30.0										
Azee Pipes Ltd.	100/5	157.25	-1.41	159.50	4120	158.00	Not Traded	15/05/01	7.35	10.0										
Olympic Industries Ltd.	100/5	133.00	-1.08	133.90	670	134.00	-2.90	138.00	30	09/10/00	-2.5	—								
BD, The Aluminium Ltd.	100/10	198.75	-1.26	201.50	1388	200.00	Not Traded	12/09/01	12.4	15.0										
Eastern Cables Ltd.	100/5	141.75	-1.90	144.50	5210	147.00	Not Traded	23/06/01	10.7	12.0										
Singer Bangladesh Ltd.	100/5	335.00	-0.8																	