


STOCKS		COMMODITIES		ASIAN MARKETS				CURRENCIES					
DSEX	▲ 1.60%	Gold ▲	\$1,191.19 (per ounce)	MUMBAI	▼ 0.84%	TOKYO	▼ 0.20%	SINGAPORE	▲ 0.54%	USD	77.15	EUR	80.21
4,360.49		Oil ▲	\$59.22 (per barrel)	28,799.61		19,869.76		3,539.95	▼ 1.24%	GBP	112.27	JPY	0.64
CSGX	▲ 1.24%									SELL TK	78.15		0.67
8,146.08													

নব আনন্দে জাগো
বাংলা নববর্ষ ১৪২২
উপলক্ষে আমাদের সকল গ্রাহক,
সুভানুধ্যায়ী ও সমগ্র দেশবাসীকে
শুভেচ্ছা



Star BUSINESS

DHAKA THURSDAY APRIL 16, 2015, e-mail: business@thedailystar.net

Garment exporters going green to grab more orders

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

Bangladesh's garment sector is moving towards green building initiatives to impress the growing tribe of eco-minded international retailers, and in the process, grab more work orders.

So far, 14 garment factories from Bangladesh have received LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification from the United States Green Building Council, according to Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association.

Of the factories, five were conferred the platinum status, five gold, one silver and the other three received just the normal certification from the US agency.

Fifty more factories are in queue to receive the LEED certification, as they have

already passed the selection criteria, according to BGMEA.

LEED is a green building certification programme that recognises the best-in-class building strategies and practices.

To receive LEED certification, building projects must satisfy prerequisites and earn points to achieve different levels of certification.

Prerequisites and credits differ for each rating system, and teams choose the best fit for their project.

By the end of 2016, more than 150 factories are expected to be given the LEED certification, according to Shahidullah Azim, vice-president of BGMEA.

The construction of more green factories means higher export growth of garment items from Bangladesh, he said.

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GDP growth will not be less than 6.5pc: Kamal

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The planning minister said economic growth this fiscal year will at least be 6.5 percent, which is much higher than the World Bank's estimate of 5.6 percent.

"The GDP growth in the current fiscal year will be between 6.5 and 7 percent and in no way will it go below 6.5 percent," Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said at a press briefing at the NEC auditorium yesterday.

Citing the estimate of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, he said the GDP growth in the first nine months of the current fiscal year was 6.5 percent.

The WB in its Development Update last week said the GDP growth may be 5.6 percent owing to the political unrest in the past three months.

The multilateral lender also estimated that due to the political turmoil the country suffered losses of \$2.2 billion, of which the service sector counted 68 percent, industries 25 percent and agriculture 7 percent.

Although the planning minister acknowledged that the economy has suffered losses for the turmoil, he said the damages were "slight"; it would cost the economy roughly 0.1 percent of the GDP.

The minister said even amidst the strikes and blockades, production in agriculture, industries and factories went on; the exporters also continued their export activities.

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Stocks return to black

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Stocks returned to the black yesterday amid increased participation of investors after falling for three consecutive sessions.

DSEX, the benchmark index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, rose 68.87 points or 1.6 percent, before finishing the day at 4,360.49 points.

The price indices shot up riding on bargain opportunities in many scrips, IDLC Investments said. "Investors cautiously started moving in the market from the sideline lured by cheap prices," the merchant bank said.

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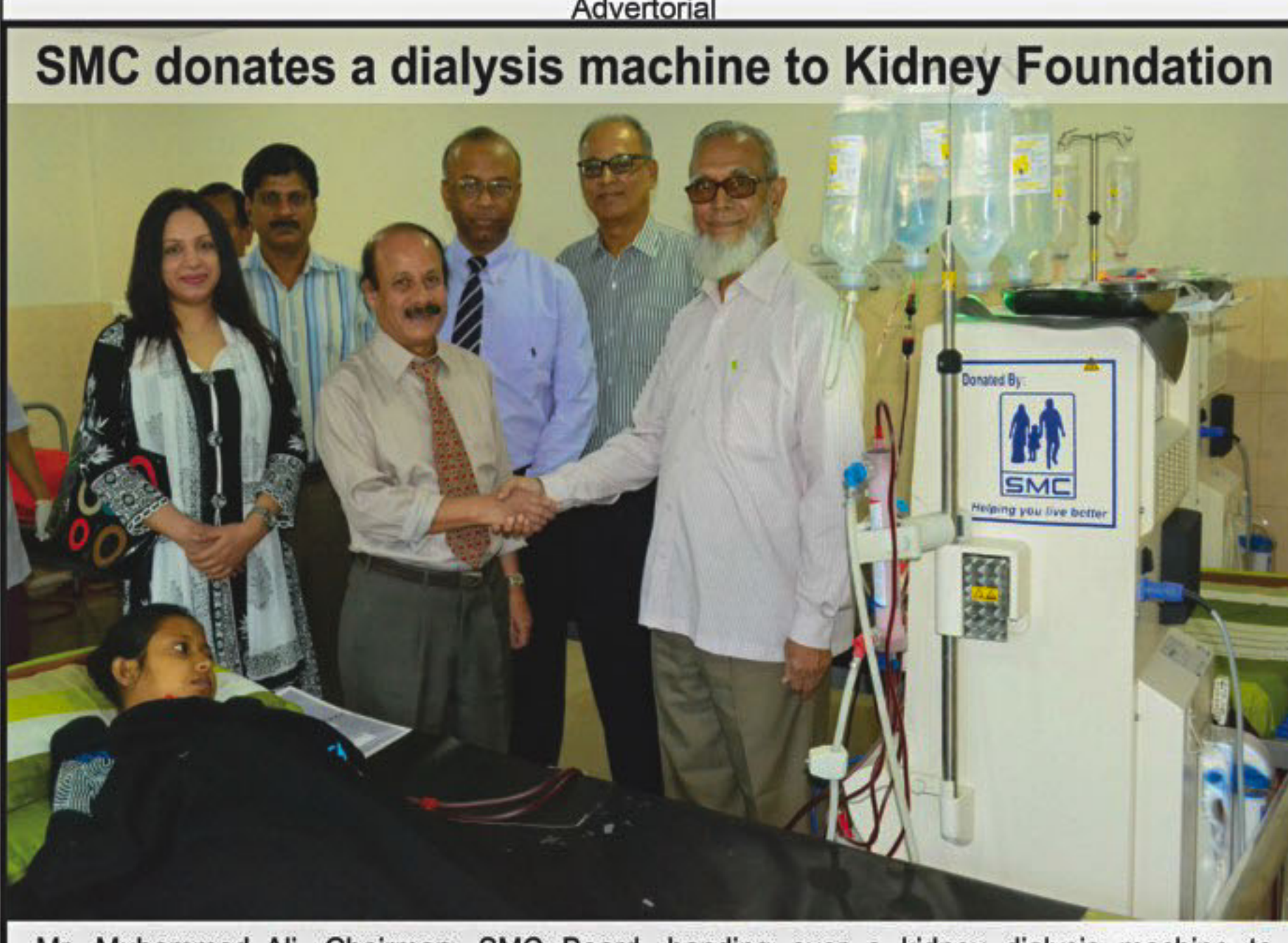


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SMC donates a dialysis machine to Kidney Foundation



Mr. Muhammed Ali, Chairman, SMC Board, handing over a kidney dialysis machine to Prof. Harun-Ur-Rashid, President of Kidney Foundation Hospital and Research Institute at Mirpur, Dhaka on 13-04-2015. This dialysis machine will be utilized to provide free or subsidized services to suffering kidney patients.

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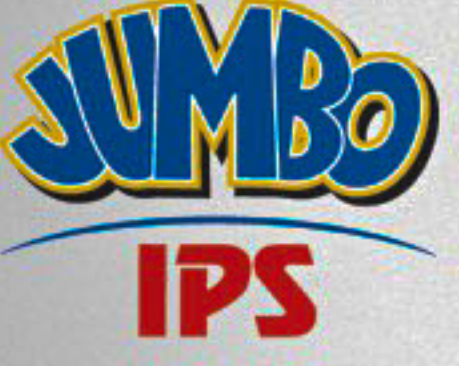
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