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# The Daily Star

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**Business**

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**Metropolitan**

Dhaka Day by Day



Perhaps most enter-  
 taining pastime in life  
 is watching people.  
 Even most mundane  
 activities fascinate us  
 when seen from a  
 distance  
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**Supplement**

Supplement on the  
 occasion of Thai Na-  
 tional Day  
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**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Ban on public meeting**

By Staff Correspondent  
 Holding of public meetings,  
 gatherings or processions have  
 been banned at Bijoy Sarani,  
 Manik Mia Avenue and  
 Panthapath in the city from  
 December 9 to December 16,  
 said a DMP press release  
 night.  
 The ban was imposed due  
 to Victory Day programmes on  
 those venues, it added.

**Tremor jolts Rangpur**

RANGPUR, Dec 4: A mild  
 tremor jolted most parts of the  
 district this morning sending  
 panic-stricken people rushing  
 out of their homes and offices.  
 The tremor commencing at  
 9.30 am, lasted for about seven  
 seconds. At least 15 people re-  
 ceived minor injuries while  
 running helter-skelter, reports  
 UNB.

**Road blockade withdrawn**

HABIGANJ, Dec 4: Road  
 blockade on Dhaka-Sylhet  
 highway enforced since  
 November 26 by transport  
 owners and workers was with-  
 drawn today. The decision was  
 taken at a meeting of  
 contending parties with local  
 leaders including Khandokar  
 Abdul Malek MP at the Circuit  
 House, reports UNB.

**Shanti Bahini informer held**

RANGAMATI, Dec 4: Security forces have arrested a  
 suspected informer and 1) as-  
 sociates of the outlawed  
 Shantibahini from different  
 parts of the hill district.  
 Acting on a tip, they raided the  
 informer's residence at  
 Navangpara in Kawkhali  
 upazila early this morning and  
 picked him up, reports UNB.

## 'Motivate people to boycott foreign goods' PM asks students to form anti-terrorism bodies

By Staff Correspondent  
 Prime Minister Begum  
 Khaleda Zia on Wednesday  
 asked students to form com-  
 mittees in each ward and  
 'mahalla' of the country to wipe  
 out terrorism and smuggling.  
 "Terrorists are not patriots  
 and must be weeded out from  
 all corners of the society," she  
 added.  
 Begum Zia said that the  
 student community must unite  
 the people against terrorism to  
 make democracy lasting and  
 ensure national development.  
 "Mobilise public opinion  
 against the terrorists by form-  
 ing anti-terrorism bodies at  
 every part of the country,"  
 Begum Zia told the students  
 who gathered at Shapla Square  
 in the city Wednesday after-  
 noon.  
 Ruling BNP's student wing  
 Jatnyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD)  
 organised the function to mark  
 the first anniversary of the  
 mass upsurge that ousted the  
 Ershad regime last year.  
 Reminding that students  
 had played pioneering role in  
 all the national movements  
 since the 1952 Language  
 Movement, Begum Zia said,  
 "the students again overthrew  
 the autocratic regime through  
 a mass upsurge last year." "If  
 you (students) could do so  
 many historic tasks, then why  
 can't you root out terrorism,  
 bred by the autocrats," she  
 asked.  
 The Prime Minister also  
 called upon the students to  
 take up terrorism as their  
 1991 issue to fight against  
 after their victory in the  
 democratic movement was  
 achieved one year ago.  
 She said the patriotic and  
 nationalist forces freed the  
 country.  
 See Page 12 Col. 3



People waiting for buses at Gabtali bus terminal as transport workers strike drove most buses off the streets for the fourth day yesterday.  
 — Star photo

## Quest for alternative politics

By DU Correspondent  
 Leaders of different political  
 parties Wednesday called for  
 an alternative political trend to  
 face the situation that has  
 arisen out of the failures of  
 BNP and Awami League.  
 The leaders were address-  
 ing a rally organised by the  
 Democratic Students Unity  
 (DSU) in front of the Jatiya  
 Press Club on the occasion of  
 the first anniversary of the  
 Mass Upsurge-1990.  
 The leaders said both the  
 BNP and AL failed to fulfil as-  
 pirations of the people and al-  
 leged that they were now en-  
 gaged in mud-slinging rather  
 than initiating efforts to fulfil  
 the commitments to the peo-  
 ple.  
 Presided over by DSU  
 leader Nasrudoza the rally  
 was addressed among others,  
 by NAP leader Pankaz  
 Bhattacharya, Nirmal Sen of  
 the Five Party Alliance, Prof  
 Shahadat Ali, General  
 Secretary of the Dhaka  
 University Teachers  
 Association (DUTA), Fayed  
 Ahmed, Convenor of the  
 Sammilta Sangskritik Jote,  
 SKOP leaders Bidhan Roy and  
 Nasim Ali, and DSU leaders  
 Shaif Ahmed, Rajekuzzaman  
 Ratan, Nur Ahmed Bakul,  
 Fazul Hakim Lala and Lutfar  
 Rahman.  
 Pankaz Bhattacharya said  
 the present situation of the  
 country was frustrating adding  
 that it even overshadowed the  
 black chapter of the autocratic  
 regime. This situation can't be  
 overcome by a political party  
 alone, he felt.  
 Referring to the need to  
 initiate an alternative political  
 trend he noted that it was  
 essential as the two major par-  
 ties failed to follow the demo-  
 cratic norms.  
 Expressing concern over  
 the terrorism at the educa-  
 tional institutions he said pol-  
 iticking with the terrorists  
 would rather cause disaster for  
 the political parties con-  
 cerned.  
 Nirmal Sen said, democracy  
 was now threatened by the au-  
 tocratic elements still present  
 in the political arena. He called  
 the present government auto-  
 cratic.  
 See Page 12 col 7

## Transport strike drags on

By Staff Correspondent  
 The countrywide transport  
 workers strike situation re-  
 mained unchanged on the  
 fourth day Wednesday with  
 fewer vehicles plying on dif-  
 ferent long-routes.  
 A group of unruly youths  
 damaged several buses near  
 Shyampur on Dhaka-  
 Narayanganj road Wednesday  
 morning which disrupted bus  
 services for several hours, a  
 Sarak Paribahan Sramik  
 Federation source said.  
 They were possibly toll  
 collector mastans, not belong-  
 ing to any workers organisa-  
 tion.  
 See Page 12 Col. 1

## Israel fails to show up Syrians walk out of Middle East peace talks

WASHINGTON, Dec 4: Arab  
 and Palestinian delegates met  
 Wednesday for a second round  
 of Middle East peace talks but  
 quickly left when Israel, their  
 negotiating adversary, failed to  
 show up, reports AP.  
 "We are very much disap-  
 pointed the other side did not  
 appear," Syria's chief envoy  
 Muwaffak Allaf said as his dele-  
 gation departed after attending  
 the meeting at the State  
 Department for about 20 min-  
 utes.  
 Asked what the next steps  
 will be, he said, "It depends  
 on our consultation with the  
 United States, the Soviet  
 Union and other parties."  
 Without the Israelis, there  
 was not much the talks could  
 achieve.  
 The delegations began  
 arriving at the US State  
 Department even though Israel  
 said it would not attend be-  
 cause it needed until Monday  
 to prepare for the bilateral  
 talks with the Arab dele-  
 gations.  
 Prime Minister Yitzhak  
 Shamir, in a "goodwill gesture"  
 apparently intended to deflect  
 criticism of Israel's absence at  
 the opening session, Wednes-  
 day dropped his insistence  
 that Middle East peace  
 negotiations with each of the  
 three Arab delegations be held  
 on separate dates. Shamir  
 made the decision in Israel as  
 an aide, Benjamin Netanyahu,  
 prepared to present Israel's  
 position at a morning news  
 conference in Washington.  
 And Israel Ambassador to  
 the United States Zalman  
 Shoval said Israel will make  
 far-reaching proposal on  
 Palestinian self-rule when the  
 Israeli delegation arrives next  
 week.  
 Previously the Israelis had  
 said the Washington talks  
 should be limited to procedu-  
 ral matters.  
 Without the Israelis, there  
 is not much the talks can  
 achieve. But the Palestinians,  
 Jordanians, Syrians and  
 Lebanese intend to make the  
 most of its as proof that the  
 Jewish state is not serious  
 about peace.  
 "If we don't find them, we'll  
 have to discuss with the  
 cosponsors what is the next  
 step," Ghassan Khatib, a mem-  
 ber of Palestinian delegation,  
 said as he left for the State  
 Department.  
 "We are here and we are  
 ready to talk peace," Abdul-  
 Salam Majali, head of the  
 Jordanian delegation, said  
 Tuesday. "We will be there to-  
 morrow, December the 4th... If  
 we face an empty chair across  
 the peace table, the responsi-  
 bility will fall squarely on  
 Israel."  
 Hanan Ashrawi, spokes-  
 woman for the Palestinian  
 delegation, and Muwaffak Allaf,  
 head of the Syrian delegation,  
 echoed Majali's sentiments. They  
 would not say how long they  
 were willing to wait for the  
 Israelis.  
 "We do not have time to  
 waste and I think we have bet-  
 ter things to do than sit  
 around and wait. We are ready  
 and willing to start negotia-  
 tions. We will be there tomor-  
 row," Ashrawi said.  
 The Bush administration  
 tried with no result to resolve  
 the standoff in a meeting  
 Tuesday between Dennis Ross,  
 a senior aide to Secretary of  
 State James A. Baker and  
 Netanyahu.

## Dhaka closely watching Ukraine situation

Bangladesh is closely watch-  
 ing the events in Ukraine and  
 the question of recognising it  
 as an independent state will be  
 decided in due course of time.  
 A Foreign Office spokesman  
 said this Wednesday while  
 talking to UNB on the situation  
 in the second largest Soviet  
 Republic seeking secession  
 from the disintegrating  
 socialist state.  
 The Ukrainian people cast  
 massive 'yes' votes in referen-  
 dum on Monday for inde-  
 pendence from the Soviet  
 Union, now a federation of 12  
 republics after breakup of  
 three Baltic states.  
 In Monday's referendum,  
 92 per cent voted for inde-  
 pendence of Ukraine.

## Anniversary of Suhrawardy's death today

The 28th death anniversary  
 of Hussain Shaheed  
 Suhrawardy will be observed  
 with befitting manner today  
 (Thursday), reports UNB.  
 Various socio-cultural group  
 have chalked out elaborate  
 programmes to observe the  
 day.  
 The day's programmes in-  
 cludes placing of wreaths at  
 the mazar in the morning,  
 discussion meeting, Quran  
 recitation and milad.  
 In a message on the eve of  
 the death anniversary of  
 Suhrawardy, President Biswas  
 said the only way to pay due  
 homage to the great late  
 leader, the champion of  
 democracy, was to strengthen  
 our democratic base and con-  
 solidate independence and  
 sovereignty.  
 The President also said the  
 contribution and dedication of  
 Suhrawardy to the welfare of  
 the people of this region would  
 be remembered.  
 See Page 12 col 8

## Supreme Soviet okays union treaty

MOSCOW, Dec 4: The na-  
 tional legislature Wednesday  
 approved Mikhail Gorbachev's  
 plan to preserve the country  
 in some sort of union, but the  
 outlook for the proposal still  
 remains bleak, reports AP.  
 By a vote of 108-5, the na-  
 tional Supreme Soviet passed a  
 resolution to endorse  
 Gorbachev's Union Treaty,  
 with only minor revisions in  
 the wording of the document.  
 It was a small and expected  
 victory for Gorbachev one day  
 after the Soviet leader ap-  
 pealed to lawmakers of all leg-  
 islatures across the country to  
 approve the treaty. Gorbachev  
 warned that the disintegration  
 of the country would lead to  
 "catastrophe."  
 But the document still must  
 be approved by legislatures in  
 the republics, and only seven  
 have said they will sign it.  
 With Sunday's landslide ap-  
 proval in Ukraine of a referen-  
 dum on independence, that  
 key republic now seems lost to  
 Gorbachev's new "Union of  
 Sovereign States."  
 Russian President Boris  
 Yeltsin also reportedly has ex-  
 pressed reservations about  
 signing the treaty without  
 Ukraine.  
 Yuri Kalmykov, head of the  
 national legislative committee  
 working on the treaty, said the  
 Supreme Soviet had com-  
 pleted its work on the docu-  
 ment, which redefines the re-  
 lationship between the re-  
 public and increasingly weak-  
 ened central government.  
 "We are not returning to it,  
 unless of course, the republics  
 ask us to correct or detail  
 something," he told reporters  
 after the vote.  
 Asked what would happen if  
 the Union Treaty is not signed,  
 Kalmykov mentioned the eco-  
 nomic treaty that has been  
 signed by 10 of the republics  
 to form a sort of common  
 market in the former Soviet  
 Union.  
 "All the republics which  
 have announced their inde-  
 pendence will look for inde-  
 pendent solutions to their  
 problems," he said. "However,  
 taking into account ethnic, in-  
 ter-republic and purely eco-  
 nomic things, I think that  
 some political union is neces-  
 sary."  
 The treaty is Gorbachev's  
 plan to replace the Kremlin-  
 imposed pact.  
 See Page 12 col 7

## Workers block Dhaka-Tangail Road for 3 hrs

From Our Correspondent  
 GAZIPUR, Dec 4: The  
 Dhaka-Tangail Highway was  
 blocked for three hours at  
 Tongi Wednesday afternoon as  
 workers held a meeting  
 protesting the arrest of the  
 joint convenor of the Jute  
 Mills Workers and Employees  
 Action Committee.  
 Special Branch police and  
 Uttara police raided a house in  
 Uttara sector-3 and arrested  
 Abdul Mannan, who is also the  
 general secretary of the  
 Nishat Jute Mills Workers  
 Union, at around 5am today.  
 Workers of the Tongi  
 Industrial Area came out with a  
 banner.  
 See Page 12 col 6

## Accused in Milon murder case held

By Staff Correspondent  
 A special squad of detective  
 police arrested Llaqat from  
 Sabuj Sangha Club at New  
 Eskaton Road in the city and  
 recovered a foreign-made  
 9mm pistol with seven bullets.  
 Llaqat is one of the seven  
 absconders against whom po-  
 lice had earlier filed charge-  
 sheet in connection with Dr  
 Milon Murder case under  
 Sections 147, 148, 149 and  
 302 of the Criminal Penal  
 Code.  
 The Chief Metropolitan  
 Magistrate of Dhaka, through a  
 public notice in a Bengali daily  
 on November 25, summoned  
 Llaqat.  
 See Page 12 Col. 3



Llaqat

## No clue to Mukhter's death found till yesterday

By Staff Correspondent  
 Police Wednesday interro-  
 gated Mary Janet Shyamoli  
 twice to find out the clue to  
 the death of former upazila  
 chairman Hafez Mukhter  
 Hossain.  
 The two sessions of the in-  
 terrogation could not lead to  
 any new evidence that could  
 turn the case, said police.  
 Earlier, police decided to  
 shorten Shyamoli's remand  
 and produce her before the  
 Chief Metropolitan Magistrate  
 court Wednesday. But higher  
 police officials later decided  
 to continue the interrogation.  
 M Shamsul Haque, Assistant  
 Commissioner of Police at  
 Tejgaon thana conducted the  
 interrogations.  
 See Page 12 col 8

# Terry Anderson, the last US hostage, freed

BEIRUT, Dec 4: Terry  
 Anderson, the last American  
 hostage in Lebanon, was freed  
 Wednesday after an ordeal of  
 nearly seven years-longer than  
 any other Western captive in  
 the Middle East, a Lebanese  
 government official said, re-  
 ports AP.  
 The Cabinet member con-  
 firmed an earlier report by the  
 Islamic Republic News Agency  
 that Anderson was freed  
 somewhere in Lebanon at 10  
 am (0900 GMT) and was on  
 his way to the Syrian capital,  
 Damascus.  
 "It's all over for Terry. He is  
 out. He is on his way to  
 Damascus with heavy Syrian  
 army escort. Congratulations,"  
 said the Cabinet member, who  
 requested that he not be  
 named.  
 The minister is close to the  
 command of the Syrian army,  
 which has troops deployed as  
 peacekeepers in Lebanon.  
 The minister was inter-  
 viewed by telephone at his of-  
 fice.  
 It was not clear how long it  
 would be before Anderson, 44,  
 arrives in Damascus, where he  
 would be turned over to US  
 Ambassador Christopher Ross.  
 The drive from Beirut nor-  
 mally takes 2 1/2 to three hours.  
 However, weather conditions  
 were expected to cause some  
 delay as the mountainous road  
 was partially blocked by an  
 overnight snowstorm.  
 Anderson's release leaves at  
 least two other Westerners  
 missing in Lebanon, two  
 German relief workers.  
 Anderson, chief Middle  
 East correspondent for the  
 Associated Press, was kid-  
 napped March 16, 1985.  
 During his six years, eight  
 months and 18 days in captiv-  
 ity, his father and brother died  
 of cancer. His daughter Sulome  
 was born three months after  
 his abduction.  
 Anderson was born in  
 Lorain, Ohio, and worked for  
 The AP in Tokyo and  
 Johannesburg before he was  
 assigned to Beirut.  
 IRNA, monitored in Cyprus,  
 was the first to report  
 Anderson's release, attribut-  
 ing its information to an in-  
 formed security source. It also  
 had been the first to an-  
 nounce the releases of  
 Americans Joseph Cleppio  
 and Alann Steen on Monday  
 and Tuesday.  
 The news agency did not  
 say where exactly Anderson  
 was freed and made to refer-  
 ence to the two Germans.  
 "Oh God! Oh God!" John  
 Anderson, Terry Anderson's  
 younger brother, said as he  
 listened to televised reports  
 that his brother had been re-  
 leased.  
 "We're overjoyed, naturally.  
 He's free at last," John  
 Anderson, 36, said. "Nothing  
 better could happen."  
 Anderson's sister Peggy  
 Say, who has been at the fore-  
 front of the campaign to have  
 him and the other hostages re-  
 leased, was overjoyed at the  
 news.  
 "I am ecstatic. It is a bonus  
 that I will be here with the  
 other families," Mrs. Say said  
 in Germany.

## Shafiul Azam dead

SM Shafiul Azam, a former  
 minister and cabinet secretary,  
 69, died of "acute inflammation  
 of lung" at Royal Free Hospital  
 in London Wednesday, family  
 sources said here last evening,  
 reports BSS.  
 He was admitted to the  
 hospital as he was suffering  
 from "now-husking lym-  
 phoma" and heart ailments.  
 Azam, who was the chair-  
 man of United Commercial  
 Bank Ltd (UCBL), left behind  
 his wife, two sons and a  
 daughter.