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NEWS BRIEFS

PM visits mazar of Shah Sultan(R)

NETROKONA, Dec 22: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today (Tuesday) visited the mazar of Shah Sultan(R) at Madanpur, 10 kilometres from the town, and offered fatcha there. She planted a mahogany sapling in the mazar premises, reports UNB.

ALPP meeting Jan 2

A meeting of the Awami League Parliamentary Party (ALPP) will be held in the conference room of the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament at 11 am on January 2. Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina will preside over the meeting, reports UNB.

IAHS now member of Network

Institute of Applied Health Sciences (IAHS) has been a full-fledged member of Network, an affiliate of World Health Organization (WHO). Students of the IAHS will now get the chance to work and share experience with different member countries of Network. A total of 65 institutions engaged in community based education in different countries are the members of Network, reports UNB.

Bush to visit Somalia

WASHINGTON, Dec 22: President Bush will visit the US forces in Somalia over New Year's, the White House announced Tuesday. Bush will depart the United States on December 30 and arrive on December 31 in time to spend New Year's eve with US troops, Fitzwater said, reports AP.

157 killed in Libyan plane crash

ROME, Dec 22: A Libyan plane on a domestic flight crashed Tuesday, killing all 157 people aboard, the country's JANA news agency reported, reports AP.
 In a brief report, the agency cited unidentified civilian aviation authorities as saying the victims were of various nationalities.
 It said the plane had taken off from Benghazi, Libya's second-largest city. The report gave no further details but JANA's Rome office said the plane was a Libyan airliner flying to Tripoli, the capital.
 The type of aircraft involved was not immediately disclosed. The United Nations imposed sanctions on Libya in April for its refusal to hand over suspects in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. The sanctions include an air embargo, barring flights by foreign airlines to Libya and blocking flights by Libyan airlines abroad.
 Two Libyans are charged in the United States and Britain as suspects in the bombing, which killed 270 people in 1988. Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi has refused to turn them over for trial.
 France also wants Libya's cooperation in the investigation of four other Libyans suspected in a similar attack on a

French UTA airliner in 1989, which killed 170 people.
 Meanwhile, in Faro, Dutch and Portuguese investigators began searching through the charred wreckage of a Dutch DC-10 on Tuesday, trying to discover what caused the crash that killed at least 54 people.
 The chartered jet broke apart and burst into flames while trying to land in a storm Monday. Officials tracked down the last four missing people Tuesday morning, bringing to 286 the number who survived the crash.
 The plane had been carrying 327 passengers and 13 crew members.
 Three Dutch passengers

originally listed as missing wandered away from the wreck and went home to the nearby village of Lagos, Algarve regional Civil Governor Joaquim Cabrita Neto told reporters. He did not explain what happened to the fourth missing passenger.
 Forty-six of the dead were "burned beyond recognition," he said.
 Officials said holes in the wreckage of the DC-10, the proximity of fire-fighting equipment and plain luck contributed to the high number of survivors. Wreckage from the flight was strewn over 400 metres (yards) of the airport.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a public meeting at Muktar Para, Maidan in Netrokona yesterday.

Opposition out to hinder uplift: PM

NETROKONA, Dec 22: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today blamed the opposition for trying to hinder the government's development programmes "because they do not want welfare of the people and progress of the country," reports UNB.
 "They are misleading the people and creating hindrance in the way of our development activities," she alleged while addressing a huge public meeting at Muktarpara ground organised by the district BNP here this afternoon.
 Presided over by Jattiya Sangsad Whip Abdul Karim, the meeting was also addressed by LGRD Minister Abdus Salam Talukder, Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman, Deputy Minister for Shipping ABM Zahidul Huq, Bani Ashraf MP, Lutfuzzaman Babar MP, Abu Abbas MP and other local BNP leaders.
 The Prime Minister said that the people voted the BNP to power because it is a democratic party and its objectives are to ensure welfare of the commonman.
 "The nationalist party under the leadership of Shaheed Ziaur Rahman proved its success through implementing development programmes in different sectors, particularly in the rural areas," she said.
 Begum Zia pointed out that when the government has been proceeding with different development programmes "those who once made Bangladesh a 'bottomless basket' in the post-liberation period and exploited public exchequer during their autocratic rule are today conspiring to hinder national development."
 "They are not friends of the people," she said.
 See Page 12 Col 6

Bandits loot Taka one lakh, from bus passengers

From Our Correspondent
 MANIKGANJ, Dec 22: At least 10 persons were injured when a group of bandits attacked an Aricha-bound bus today at about 7-30pm at the Trirampur bus-stand on the Dhaka-Aricha Highway.
 The bandits looted goods worth over Taka one lakh including cash and gold-ornaments and managed to escape immediately.
 Witnesses said that the bandits numbering about 20 swooped on the bus blasting hand-bombs immediately after the arrival of the vehicle at the bus-stand.
 Critically injured Sadhu 30, a passenger and Abul Kalam, 28, helper of the bus were admitted to the Manikganj Sadar Hospital while the others, including the driver were given first aid at the local health centre.

Barisal BM College closed sine die

From Staff Correspondent
 BARISAL, Dec 22: The authorities announced the Barisal Mohan University College here closed for an indefinite period following poll violence.
 Bangladesh Chhatra League, the students front of the opposition Awami League, swept the election to the BM University College Students Union (BUCSU), bagging 18 out of 26 seats.
 The sine die announcement came after a group of students rampaged the college and damaged furniture following announcement of the election results this morning, college sources said.
 Officials said that the college was closed to prevent further violence and the students were asked to vacate the halls by 5 pm today.

Israeli Supreme Court upholds expulsion of Palestinians

JERUSALEM, Dec 22: The Israeli Supreme Court today upheld the expulsion of 415 Palestinians to Lebanon, it was announced here.
 The decision was taken by a panel of seven judges.
 Meanwhile, Israel's 750,000 Arabs staged a general strike today to protest the mass expulsion of Palestinians.
 The expelled Palestinians returned to their tent camp in no-man's land in South Lebanon early today after freezing weather and shells took their toll on them.
 Witnesses said the deportees, who spent their fifth cold night in South Lebanon squeezed on a strip of road, headed back to the camp before dawn after three of them fell sick and a fourth was wounded by shellfire from Israeli-backed militiamen.

Indemnity body gives itself another lease of life

By Nurul Kabir
 The Special Parliamentary Committee on the Indemnity Ordinance (Repeal) Bill yesterday decided to permit itself a further effort to prepare a unanimous report on the issue, Committee sources said.
 Although the Committee members were supposed to give their individual opinions for or against passage of the Awami League-sponsored bill at yesterday's meeting, they finally felt that a further try was necessary to reach a consensus on the issue on the assumption that a split decision would further deteriorate the relationship between the ruling BNP and the largest opposition in Parliament the Awami League (AL).
 According to sources, AL leader Samad Azad yesterday told the meeting that a split decision on the issue, right at the moment, would definitely hamper his party's consideration to join the Parliament session scheduled for January 3.
 The Awami League-led Opposition boycotted the last session of Parliament protesting the ruling party's passage of the Anti-terrorism act and the government's alleged indifference to implementation of a four-point accord including trial of the Jamaat chief Golam Azam as a war criminal.
 Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miha, Minister for Public Works, told the meeting yesterday that a sound relation between
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Over \$ 500m Japanese aid unutilised

By S Y Bakht
 Over 500 million US dollars in Japanese aid to Bangladesh remained unused until this month, according to Toshio Saiki, the Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh.
 In an exclusive interview to The Daily Star, the envoy revealed that 530 million dollars of committed Japanese aid to Bangladesh remained unutilised.
 Out of a 500 million dollar allocation for seven projects, only 35 per cent of the amount had been disbursed. Loan agreements for these had been signed, the earliest one in 1987. In addition, out of total of a 440 million dollar debt relief grant assistance for all loans upto 1987, nearly 46 per cent remained unused.
 In a unique arrangement, repayment of all Japanese loans by Bangladesh is returned in cash as debt relief grant can be used for various purposes.
 If the committed assistance cannot be utilised speedily and efficiently, "ambassador Saiki warned "we must cut back our aid commitment."
 During the hour-long interview, the Japanese envoy also noted the problems in implementing projects, problems and prospects for foreign investment and the future trend of Japanese aid to Bangladesh.
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Dhaka, Moscow form JEC in January

Bangladesh and Russia yesterday agreed to develop a broad based bilateral relation, particularly in the fields of trade and economic cooperation in view of the global change, reports UNB.
 The agreement was reached at an official meeting between the two countries at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday morning.
 The two countries decided to sign an agreement in January for establishing a Joint Economic Commission (JEC) when a Russian high powered delegation is due to visit Bangladesh. Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations will lead the delegation.
 The visiting Russian Deputy Foreign Minister, Georgy Fridrickovich Kunadze, led a five-member delegation at the talks while the Bangladesh side was headed by Foreign Secretary Reaz Rahman.
 The two sides noted with happiness that the talks were held in the backdrop of 20th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Dhaka and Moscow.
 A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen after the meeting that lasted for two and a half hours that the talks reviewed entire gamut of bilateral relation as well as regional and international issues of common concern.
 The two sides discussed at length bilateral relations including promotion and expansion of mutual cooperation in the trade, energy, textile, jute and civil aviation.
 They also discussed resumption of trade between the two countries which remained suspended since the collapse of the Soviet Union last year.
 The Russian delegation showed keen interest in importing Bangladesh items

PM instructs Ministry of Industries to cut spending

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday instructed the Ministry of Industries to reduce expenditures in the management of corporations and departments by bringing efficiency, reports BSS.
 The instruction was given at a review meeting of activities of the Ministry of Industries and corporations under it held at the Prime Minister's Secretariat with Begum Zia in the chair.
 The activities and problems of industries in BSCIC estate, leather industries, shrimp cultivation projects, sugar and food industries corporation and steel engineering corporation were discussed at the meeting.
 The meeting also discussed progress of different projects in annual development programme under the Ministry of Industries.
 The meeting was informed that 497 industrial units had been disinvested as per industrial policy of the government. The meeting was also informed that so far 1555 industrial units had been identified as sick.
 Among others, Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman, Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan, Planning Minister Zahiruddin Khan and concerned secretaries of different ministries were present.

Menon returns home Jan 9

Rashed Khan Menon, General Secretary of Bangladesh Workers Party, will return home on January 9 after four months treatment in London and Bangkok, reports UNB.
 Menon, a member of parliament, was shot at and badly wounded by armed miscreants outside his party office at Tophkhana Road on August 17.
 A warm reception will be given to Menon by the party when he will return Dhaka from Bangkok at 12-50 pm at Zia International Airport, said a party press release.
 He will also be accorded a mass reception at Tophkhana Road at 2-30 pm on the same day.
 A reception preparatory committee was formed with Haider Akbar Khan Rono, acting chief of the party.

370 more Rohingyas go home

From Our Correspondent
 CHITTAGONG, Dec 22: A total of 370 more Rohingya refugees of 96 families today was sent back to Myanmar.
 With this, the total number of refugees repatriated stands at 4399.



Sheikh Hasina addressing a public meeting at Shanir Akhra on the outskirts of the city yesterday.

AL Secretary accuses the Star Editor of bias against Hasina

Zillur Rahman, General Secretary of Bangladesh Awami League has accused SM Ali, the Editor of The Daily Star of "toeing the lines of the BNP/Jamaat axis" in his commentary published in this paper last Sunday.
 In a statement issued yesterday, the AL leader also repeated the charge that the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Community issued after the visit of Begum Khaleda Zia to New Delhi "gave Indian Government legal and inevitable excuse to push back hundreds and thousands of Muslims" into this country.
A rejoinder
 Below is the full and UNEDITED text of the statement issued by the AL General Secretary:
 My attention has been drawn to a commentary by Mr. S.M. Ali, the editor of Daily Star, in its issue of 20th December 1992. Anyone who has time enough to read such commentary cannot but come out with the impression that far from being honest in comments on various statements of Jana Netri Sheikh Hasina, it is as if a statement made on party-political line towing the lines of BNP/JAMAT axis.
 Mr S.M. Ali is unfortunately caught by the mischief of his own sermons. If anyone could
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'Govt has failed to protect minorities'

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina yesterday blamed government inaction and instigation by fanatics for flareup of communal violence in different parts of the country following the demolition of Babri Mosque in India, reports UNB.
 Addressing a rally at Shanir Akhra, badly affected by violence in backlash to the Ayodhya incident, Hasina alleged the government totally failed to give protection to life and property of the minorities.
 The Awami League President criticised the ruling party for not arresting those involved in looting, arson and destruction of property and religious places.
 "Why the government has not yet applied the Anti-terrorism Act against the culprits?" She questioned.
 "Islam is a religion of peace, and it does not sanction intolerance for other faiths," said the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament. She called for maintaining communal harmony at any cost.
 See Page 12 Col 6

Ishaq rejects plea for dissolving parliament

ISLAMABAD, Dec 22: Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan brushed off opposition demands to dissolve parliament today, telling legislators that the country's political crisis should be solved through democratic means, reports AFP.
 In a speech opening the parliamentary year, Khan implicitly rejected a demand by former Premier Benazir Bhutto to sack the government, saying the opposition should follow democratic traditions.
 "Political issues should be settled politically through political institutions," the President told a joint session of parliament.
 Bhutto's People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) has been waging a campaign for elections and a senior opposition figure warned Monday of a bloodbath unless Khan used his powers as President to oust the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড
 ঢাকা

"পাছ লাগান পাহের পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশ বাঁচানঃ- প্রধানমন্ত্রী

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১৫ই ডিসেম্বর, ১৯৯২ তারিখ হইতে সরকার ৩ বৎসর মেয়াদী জাতীয় বিনিয়োগ বন্ড বাজারে ছাড়িয়াছেন। আয়কর অধ্যাদেশের ৪৫ অথবা ৪৬ ধারার অধীনে যে সকল করদাতা কর অবকাশ ভোগ করিতেছেন তাহাদের কর্মমুখে আয়ের কমপক্ষে ১৫% এই বন্ডে বিনিয়োগ করিবার শর্ত রহিয়াছে। সংশ্লিষ্ট আয় বৎসর সমাপ্ত হইবার ৯ মাসের মধ্যে এই বিনিয়োগ সম্পন্ন করিতে হইবে। যে সকল করদাতা এখনও এই বিনিয়োগ করিতে পারেন নাই তাহারা ৩০শে জুন, ১৯৯৩ এর মধ্যে উল্লিখিত শর্ত পূরণকল্পে এই বন্ডের মাধ্যমে বিনিয়োগ সম্পন্ন করিতে পারিবেন। উল্লেখ্য, এই শর্ত পরিপালনে ব্যর্থ হইলে কর অবকাশের সুবিধা বাতিলযোগ্য হইবে। এই বন্ড বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক এবং সোনালী ব্যাংকের সকল টেকারী শাখা হইতে ক্রয় করা ও ভাংগানো হইবে। প্রয়োজনে, এ বিষয়ে অতিরিক্ত তথ্য জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ডের কর অনুবিভাগ হইতে জানা হইতে পারে।

ডিসেম্বর (শি) ২২০৩৯-২০/১২
 শি-১৬৫৮

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড

[Earlier Story on Page 5]