

Inside Today

Article

ME Peace Accord  
Remains  
Unimplemented

Column: Spotlight On  
Middle East  
by Muslehuddin  
Ahmad

Page 4

International



Benazir says in an  
interview, Pindi to help  
solve int'l crises

Asia needs to check  
increasing military  
expenditure for  
peace

Page 5

Business

Liaison with foreign  
banks can help build  
confidence, Standard  
Chartered Bank official  
tells The Daily Star

Clinton urges Japan,  
EC to open markets  
further

Pages 6, 7

Women On  
The Move

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women: Strength, Potentials and Obstacles; Opening the Windows of the Mind; Bangladesh Women Get Ready for Beijing; One Girl's Dream Begins to Come True

Page 8

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



An Auction with a  
Difference

Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

EC asks candidates  
to submit posters

The Election Commission has asked all mayor and commissioner candidates in January 30 elections to submit two copies of all the electioneering posters to the respective returning officers by January 16. The EC in a press release yesterday urged all to cooperate in smooth, fair and neutral holding of the election, reports UNB.

Clinton's stopover  
in Kiev

KIEV, Jan 12: US President Bill Clinton makes a stopover in Kiev this evening to support Ukrainian leader Leonid Kravchuk in a deal to rid the former Soviet republic of nuclear arms. But Kravchuk could still face stiff opposition from a parliament suspicious that the deal announced by Clinton at this week's NATO summit will jeopardise Ukrainian interests, reports Reuter.

Rao to go  
Germany Feb 3

NEW DELHI, Jan 12: Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao will pay an official visit to Germany from February three, after attending the World Economic Forum meeting in Davos, Switzerland on January 29, reports PTI.



The Dhaka-bound bus from Faridpur which fell 30 feet from a bridge on the Dhaka-Aricha highway yesterday killing 18 people on the spot and seriously injuring 26 others. — Star photo

## 18 killed, 50 hurt as bus falls from bridge

By Staff Correspondent

At least 18 persons were killed and 50 others injured in the new year's worst road accident at Shibaloy on the Dhaka-Aricha highway yesterday.

The accident took place when a Dhaka-bound bus fell from a small bridge at around 7:30 am.

Twenty-six of the injured were in critical conditions.

Witnesses said the passenger-packed bus No. Dhaka Ch-4488, belonging to Subarna Paribahan, which was coming from Faridpur, hit the guard rails of a bridge while making way for a truck coming from the opposite direction and plunged almost 30 feet.

There was thick fog at the time of the accident.

Eleven passengers died on the spot. Seven others, including the driver, succumbed to

their injuries shortly after they were taken to different hospitals.

All other passengers also received injuries.

The dead were identified as Advocate Alimuzzaman (40), Tarun Kumar Basu (34), Tarun Saha (38), Sharif Lal Dey (30), Babul Dey (30), Bacchu Chowdhury (42), Palash (25), Rezaul (16), Sattar Mollah (40), Mohiuddin Chowdhury (41), Hafez Amzad (45), Jalil Khan (50), Golam Sarwar Milon and his brother Suman (14) of Monipur in Mirpur, Ahmad Ali (40) of Gopalganj and Mona of Faridpur.

The bodies were taken to the Manikganj hospital, some 22 kms from the spot.

Some of the critically injured passengers were identified as: Jamaluddin (40) of Gourdia

Health Complex, Abdur Rashid (30) of Pangsha, Rajbari, Swapan Kumar (30) of Faridpur, Matur Rahman (33) of Dhupkhola, Nilkamal (30) of Shibaloy, Babul (30) and Yunus (25), both from Tangail, Yakub Ali (35) of village Diashuk in Barisal and Shahidul Islam (27) of Faridpur. They were all admitted to the Manikganj Sadar Hospital.

Nital Chandra Kundu (35) of Khanakhanpur, Rajbari, Shahidul Islam (40) of Faridpur, Nasima Akhter Renu (55) of Gurulaximpur in Faridpur and Anwar Hossain (35) of Faridpur were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Some of the passengers of the ill-fated bus were heading for the Biswa Jatra, to be held

See Page 12 Col 6

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